

SALVATIONIST

ESSENTIAL READING FOR
EVERYONE LINKED TO
THE SALVATION ARMY

www.salvationarmy.org.uk/salvationist

15 September 2012

No 1364

Price 60p



INSIDE THIS WEEK

Record SATCoL profits

Wellingborough

PAGE 5 >>>

Songs of exaltation

Govan

PAGE 6 >>>

PLUS LOTS MORE!



BACK TO

CHURCH

SUNDAY

PAGES 12 & 13 >>>

Harvest feature
PAGE 14 >>>



■ TV'S 'LEAVING' AND THE WAY OUT OF TEMPTATION

■ THE SANDWICH PEOPLE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

■ TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF 'WHERE'S WALLY?'



■ CELEBRATING NATIONAL CUP CAKE WEEK

■ JOKES AND PUZZLES IN GIGGLE IN THE MIDDLE

■ 'THE PIRATES! IN AN ADVENTURE WITH SCIENTISTS!' DVDs TO WIN

■ PATCH'S PALS WITH PERCY THE PENGUIN

THIS WEEK'S QUOTES FROM THE PAPERS

THE GRAVESTONE THAT CARRIES ITS OWN ONLINE BIOGRAPHY

Technology has transformed the traditional gravestone. Instead of just the name, age and dates of birth and death of the deceased, a unique barcode attached to the grave will provide an instant link to a memorial internet page with pictures and biography. The first person to have his grave marked with a QR barcode is Tim Tuttiett...

Mr Tuttiett's widow, Gill, had the £300 code installed on his headstone in the churchyard at St Mary's in Lytchett Matravers, Dorset.

The Times

CRIME PRAYS... GANG LEADER AND JUNKIE BECOMES A VICAR

As a heavily tattooed gang leader, Mark Rowan was more used to dealing drugs than spreading the Good Word (sic).

But now he has found that crime does pray – and has turned his back on his former life to become a vicar...

Mr Rowan – who had previously only went (sic) to church 'to steal lead from the roof' – found God during a prolonged spell inside [prison]...

He said of his former life: 'People were kicking doors of my family homes with shotguns and baseball bats, contracts were out on my life – for me to come out the other side unscathed is a miracle.'

Metro

WAVE POWER

With regard to your item mentioning the lack of Masses on Cunard liners... readers might like to know that the Holland America line usually provides this service as well as a Sunday service for Protestants and a Passover service for Jews.

John Woodhouse, in a letter to *The Tablet*

POSTER DEPICTS A WEE JESUS FOR CHRISTMAS

The ecumenical charity ChurchAds.net launched its Christmas advertising campaign [with a poster portraying] the infant Jesus as a child's doll, next to the slogan: 'Godbaby. He cries. He wees. He saves the world.'

The Bishop of Bradford, the Right Rev Nick Baines, said that the image 'will surprise some and disturb others, which is exactly what the real Jesus did. And it forces us beyond the tinsel to the human reality of God among us.'

Church Times

TERRITORIAL HEADQUARTERS Tel: 0845 634 0101

SALVATIONIST 101 Newington Causeway, London SE1 6BN

Tel: 020 7367 4890 Fax: 020 7367 4691 Email: salvationist@salvationarmy.org.uk Web: www.salvationarmy.org.uk/salvationist

A registered newspaper published weekly by The Salvation Army (United Kingdom Territory with the Republic of Ireland) on behalf of the General of The Salvation Army and printed by **benhamgoodheadprint Limited**, Bicester, Oxon. © Linda Bond, General of The Salvation Army, 2012. The Salvation Army Trust is a registered charity. The charity number in England and Wales is 214779, in Scotland SC009359 and in the Republic of Ireland CHY6399.

EDITOR Major Stephen Poxon Tel: 020 7367 4901 MANAGING EDITOR Stephen Pearson Tel: 020 7367 4891

ASSISTANT EDITOR Major Jane Kimberley Tel: 020 7367 4892 ASSISTANT EDITOR Claire Anderson Tel: 020 7367 4894

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT Laura Barker Tel: 020 7367 4893 DTP DESIGNER Colin Potter Tel: 020 7367 4895

DTP OPERATOR Denise D'Souza Tel: 020 7367 4896 GRAPHIC DESIGNER Jonathan Carmichael Tel: 020 7367 4883

ADMINISTRATOR Stella Merino Tel: 020 7367 4881 ADVERTISING Tel: 020 7367 4883 Email: advertising@salvationarmy.org.uk

DISTRIBUTION Salvationist Publishing and Supplies (Periodicals), 66-78 Denington Road, Denington Industrial Estate, Wellingborough NN8 2QH

Tel: 01933 445451 Fax: 01933 445415 Email: keith.jennings@sp-s.co.uk

THE SALVATION ARMY FOUNDER William Booth GENERAL Linda Bond TERRITORIAL COMMANDER Commissioner André Cox

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AND PUBLISHING SECRETARY Major Leanne Ruthven



With me and with my Father not alone



'We have experienced a movement of the Holy Spirit with waves of people moving to the mercy seat with hardly any appeal taking place... He wants to come with the unimaginable, the unexpected and the impossible. So we will wait on the God who loves to surprise us.'

(General Linda Bond, in her keynote address to the International Conference of Leaders, 2012)

SHOULD you happen to have a copy of *Salvationist* dated 6 June 1992 lying around (you may not have tidied up for a while), you'll see it mentions 'Stephen Poxon, of Hartlepool Citadel' on the front page, then goes on to report a testimony I shared in the Durham and Tees divisional congress in Middlesbrough (attendance at which, incidentally, meant I missed my first FA Cup Final since 1975, but I'll forgive the Army for that... one day).

The gist of the article is that I ceased from my wandering and going astray – well, playing football instead of going to meetings; I never really got up to much else – partly as a result of a question posed by Territorial Commander Commissioner John Larsson, as he was then, in *Salvationist*

a year earlier, asking people to consider officership.

The moral of the story is twofold. First, it is always a good idea to read *Salvationist*. Even I, waiting on crosses as a centre forward rather than promoting the cross as a soldier, had kept up that habit and it – and John Larsson – helped keep me in the ranks.

Secondly, it is never a bad idea to consider returning to church – hence the Back to Church feature on pages 12 and 13.

A gentle word, though, to the wise. Every so often, I make my way, incognito, to choral evensong – although the incognito bit is becoming increasingly difficult as a number of Anglicans recognise me from copies of *Salvationist* passed to them by those hoping to proselytise.

I mention this because, for me, the beauty of going to church and not being known is that evensong becomes what, essentially, it should always be – an individual meeting with God in a way that is personal, private and peaceful.

I know we do things differently in the Army, but – please – if and when newcomers sidle through your doors on Back to Church Sunday, resist the temptation to make them sign on every dotted line you can lay your hands on. And don't, for God's sake, ask them which instrument they play. Just let them be – with God.

The author Naomi Wood – an atheist – agreed to accompany me to an Army meeting if I would go with her to a nightclub. She's 27 and a hip young thing, whereas I'm 46 and not. The thought of turning up at a nightclub frightens the life out of me; in much the same way some people feel about turning up at the citadel. A handshake, a smile, a cup of tea and a Jaffa Cake will perfectly suffice. Don't let's – with kindness and enthusiasm – inadvertently discourage our guests and visitors from ever again coming back to church.

MAJOR STEPHEN POXON, EDITOR

NEWS

Pages 4 – 7 & 10 >>>>

IHQUKIndonesiaEasternEuropeLavenham
WellingboroughGovanKinlochLevenErsrine
CradleyHeathFileyPortGlasgowCranwell
BridlingtonEdinburghGorgieNelsonHythe
KnottingleyRotherhamBicesterSherburnHill
PontefractMirfield

SUMMER SCHOOL NEWS

Pages 8 & 9 >>>>

LondonSouth-EastBelfastTemple
NorthScotlandWestMidlandsNorth-Western

HEARTS ON FIRE

Guided by God's word
Page 11 >>>>

FEATURE

One simple idea...
or seven!
Pages 12 & 13 >>>>

FEATURE

Fields white unto harvest
Page 14 >>>>

BIBLE STUDY

Down, but not out!
Page 15 >>>>

NEW COMMITMENTS

Pages 16 & 17 >>>>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Army people, engagements
and tributes
Page 18 >>>>

LETTERS

Page 19 >>>>

ADVERTS

Pages 20 – 23 >>>>

Displays celebrate summer of sport

IHQ

LINKS between The Salvation Army and the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games are being celebrated through artistic presentations at International Headquarters.

On the ground floor, in full view of the thousands of people who pass by every day, is a stylised representation of a mountain biker. Designer Berni Georges (Communications Section) prepared plans which were turned into reality by staff at Hadleigh Employment Training Centre, with the centre clients playing a key role at every stage – including the construction at IHQ.

Hadleigh Farm hosted the Olympic Mountain Bike event in August – the first time a church denomination has hosted an Olympic event.

Some of the clients worked under the guidance of carpentry tutor Brian Barker to create the mountain bike installation – cutting the wood, sanding the surfaces, painting the pieces and then, at IHQ, helping with the assembly. To watch a video of the display being put together visit IHQ's website (sar.my/hadsculpt).

Kevin Sims (Communications Section) says: 'It was wonderful to see the excitement of the clients as they put the pieces together. They took a real pride in their work and were a huge credit to themselves, to the training centre and to the staff who treated them with such love and respect. When we first came up with the idea of a mountain bike "sculpture" our main thought was of how it could grab the attention of the general public. The boost it so obviously gave to the clients from the training centre was an unexpected but wonderful bonus!'

Posters by the installation give some information about the work at Hadleigh Farm. This is supplemented by more information downstairs in Gallery 101, next to the public café.

The gallery is also hosting Aim High, an exhibition of submissions – collected in conjunction with the Sport for Good programme – that reflect



one of the seven Olympic and Paralympic values: Respect, Excellence, Friendship, Courage, Determination, Inspiration and Equality.

Salvation Army centres across the United Kingdom Territory with the Republic of Ireland

submitted pieces for the exhibition reflecting a wide view of the brief. Some centres went for very obviously 'Olympic' themes while others simply allowed the clients to express themselves on paper. Works by formerly homeless residents at

Booth House Lifehouse, which is a little more than three miles from the Olympic Park in London, are featured alongside pieces from people linked to centres that offer services to unemployed and elderly people.

The exhibition also includes works by other artists that reflect the Olympic/Paralympic values, examples of ways in which The Salvation Army is grasping the opportunities presented by London 2012 – such as the Torch Relay and sport-themed issues of *The War Cry* and *Kids Alive!* – and a mountain bike constructed by clients from Recycles at Booth House Lifehouse, Swindon.

The exhibition and the mountain bike installation are on display at IHQ until late September. Gallery 101 is open from 8.30 am to 4.30 pm Monday to Friday, and on Saturday 22 September, when IHQ participates in Open House London. – A. R.

Same social issues 100 years on

UKT

A SURVEY commissioned on the centenary of William Booth's death revealed families face the same social issues they did 100 years ago.

The YouGov survey, commissioned by The Salvation Army, revealed one in five parents is worried about the affordability of basic needs, such as food and clothing, and a further fifth are worried about getting into debt. Another main concern for more than a third of parents is the working opportunities for their children. One in ten UK adults also admitted being worried about providing three nutritious meals a day for themselves or their family.

A century ago, through its work, the Army found the main issues people faced were the lack of ability to buy food and clothing; the fear of losing their homes; the lack of jobs and employment opportunities; the health and social dangers of a heavy-drinking culture.

Communications Secretary Lieut-Colonel Marion Drew (THQ) says: 'One hundred years on, we know anyone can find themselves facing these very real social concerns; what matters is there's a way out for people that offers hope and the belief that they can make a better life for themselves and their family.'

'People are at the heart of everything we do. The Salvation Army is devoted as an organisation to working alongside people, offering practical support to those who are vulnerable or in need. We don't judge or condemn; we offer a hand up and seek to carry on Booth's legacy to fight for marginalised people and those without hope.'

The survey also revealed how nearly one third of

UK adults are worried about the drinking culture among young people and one in seven parents said their biggest concern for their children is them becoming involved with harmful or illegal drugs.

■ Case study taken from *In Darkest England And The Way Out* by William Booth (1890)

Youth, aged 16. Sad case; Londoner. Has slept here every night for a month. Before that slept in Covent Garden Market or on doorsteps. Been sleeping out six months, since he left Feltham Industrial School. Was sent there for playing truant. Has had one bit of bread today; yesterday had only some gooseberries and cherries, i.e. bad ones that had been thrown away. Mother is alive. She 'chucked him out' when he returned home on leaving Feltham because he couldn't find her money for drink.

■ 21st-century case study

Luke, 16, South of England. 'I recently went to a local Salvation Army church homeless and hungry. I was kicked out of my family home after committing a string of petty crimes and was regularly hungry. My relationship with my mother had been getting progressively worse as she was becoming increasingly alcohol dependent and I know my behaviour was becoming more problematic. The team at the church welcomed me in and gave me food parcels. This practical help and support from The Salvation Army has provided me with a safe space to come to and helped to alleviate the constant worry about where my next meal is going to come from.'

Lieut-Colonel Drew adds: 'The Salvation Army still recognises that in 2012 anyone can find themselves facing grief and despair. Family breakdown, unemployment, poverty, homelessness and drug and alcohol dependency are just some of the reasons why people can lose everything they value, including their dignity.' – A. R.

Earthquake hits Salvation Army communities

Indonesia

SALVATIONISTS were among the victims of an earthquake that brought devastation to Indonesia. Five of the six people killed in Lindu District were members of The Salvation Army. Many others have lost their homes.

The earthquake, measuring 6.2 on the Richter scale, caused devastation across Central Sulawesi Province. Initial reports suggested that Kulawi, Tuwa and Salua Districts had suffered the worst damage but it soon became clear that Lindu had also been badly hit. News was not getting out because all communications were down and

the only access road to Lindu was badly damaged.

Divisional Commander Major Yusak Tampai (East Palu) says that Salvationists make up 90 per cent of the population in Lindu and Kulawi. In Salua about half the community members are Salvationists.

The Army's Compassion in Action Team undertook a rapid response to supply food and medical services in Kulawi, Tuwa and Salua.

Territorial Commander Commissioner Basuki Kartodarsono was in the province when the earthquake struck. When the news from Lindu came through he visited the district, accompanied by Major Tampai. The visitors travelled by helicopter, which was provided by Helivida (Helimission).

'It was sad to see the devastation,' writes Major Tampai, adding: 'It was a moving

experience to visit and pray with Salvationist families in their tents.'

He explains that Tuwa has been provided with government aid and that many donations have reached Salua and Kulawi as they are located on the main road. Relief supplies cannot get through to Lindu until the road – nothing more than a track for motorbikes – is reopened, although there is some hope that this will happen soon.

Hundreds of homes have been significantly damaged, along with 25 public buildings including a Salvation Army school and five corps.

Meetings are taking place to work out the details of the immediate response. Chief Secretary Colonel Mike Parker says that more news and specific requests for support will emerge 'as soon as the co-ordinating group has completed its work'. – A. R.

Record SATCoL profits

Wellingborough

AT their recent Annual General Meeting, the directors of the Salvation Army Trading Company Limited (SATCoL) reported their accounts for the year ending 31 March 2012, showing a record year for the company, culminating in its Gift Aid donation to the United Kingdom Territory with the Republic of Ireland of £7,758,367.

In receiving the cheque from Chairman Lieut-Colonel Ivor Telfer and Managing Director Trevor Caffull, Territorial Commander Commissioner André Cox congratulated the company on the outstanding success of its operations over the previous 12 months. The TC recognised that the company was at the forefront of the textile recycling and reuse industry and noted the significant growth in the number of SATCoL charity shops around the territory, each of which provides the general public with a window into the work of The Salvation Army.

Trevor outlined plans for continued shop expansion and declared that more than 2,000 employees and volunteers are totally committed to helping SATCoL provide resources to enhance the mission of The Salvation Army.

The most recent contribution has taken the total Gift Aid generated by SATCoL to more than £31million in the past five years. SATCoL – which incorporates not just the clothing



collection division and charity shops, but also the entire SP&S business – operates from a 55,000-square-foot location in the town. Its influence, however, spreads across the whole of the United Kingdom with more than 5,000 textile collection banks and nearly 150 charity shops.

Lavenham: The annual Carnival Songs of Praise at the main marquee on the Village Recreation Ground – organised by the corps – attracted a capacity congregation of more than 160 people, including residents and tourists. Members of the community selected hymns and gospel

The Territorial Commander is pictured receiving the cheque from Lieut-Colonel Telfer and Trevor. They are joined by co-directors (from back left) Major Melvyn Jones, Beverley Phillips, Major John Warner, Commissioner Silvia Cox and John Stubbings. – T. C.

songs and introduced their choice and testified as to the reason for their selection. The Songs Of Praise Brass Band, comprising Salvationists from surrounding corps and friends from local brass bands, accompanied the singing, led by Retired Bandmaster Eric Walker. – G. A.

Army provides ongoing flood response

Eastern Europe

THE country of Georgia is dealing with damage caused by unprecedented storms that have caused flooding and other damage throughout the summer. The Salvation Army has provided assistance since the floods began in May and is still offering help.

In May the Army responded to flooding in Lagodekhi and Tbilisi, providing food, water, rubber boots and teams of people to help with the clean-up operation. In July, the Kakheti Region was hit by sustained rain and hail, causing widespread flooding that destroyed crops, killed farm animals and damaged more than 3,000 homes.

Flooding in August mainly affected the Kakheti Region again, causing further turmoil to farmers who were preparing for harvest time and forcing many people from their homes. Roads have been blocked and some houses have had their roofs blown off.

The Army has organised a response out of Lagodekhi Corps, working closely with the Government and the Georgian Red Cross to ensure that assistance is not duplicated. The Government is providing food and the European Union and Salvation Army are providing blankets and pillows. – B. C.



Songs of exaltation

Govan

A LARGE congregation arrived in anticipation of the programme for the songster and singing company weekend with guest soloist and conductor Kerry Sampson-Lester (Regent Hall). Kerry excelled in her vocal solos, showing versatility in her repertoire including 'A Christmas Lullaby', 'Poor Wandering One' and 'If I Were A Bell'. The singing company contributed 'Dare To Be A Daniel' and 'Jesus Reigns'. The songsters brought 'God Of My Praise' and 'War On The Floor'. Corps officer Major Rita Pearce challenged the congregation with thoughts from Scripture. Joint contributions by the sections included 'All Rise', led by Kerry, and 'When You Believe', led by Singing Company Leader Matt Ramsay, which was repeated at the conclusion of the weekend.

Songster Sergeant Elma Stewart led Sunday morning worship themed He's Always Been Faithful. God's presence was felt from the songsters' opening song, 'My Life Must Be Christ's Broken Bread', through to the final massed presentation of 'O Jesus, I Have Promised'.

Kerry shared her testimony before singing 'There Is A Saviour'.

On Sunday afternoon the songsters and singing company presented 'Proclaim The Glory Of The Lord' and 'Jesus, What A Saviour', 'Siya Kudu Misa' and 'Hallelujah, Salvation And Glory'.

Throughout the weekend the singing company featured seven vocal soloists. Other participants included piano accompanist Brian Allan and vocal soloist Matt Ramsay.

Pictured during the weekend are Matt Ramsay, corps officer Major Rita Pearce, Kerry, Major Robert Pearce and Songster Leader Chic Ramsay. – M. R.



Summer music builds bridges

Erskine

THE audience experienced a fantastic evening of music and testimony at the Music For A Summer's Evening concert. Many people joined the congregation as the corps continues

to build bridges and develop meaningful relationships in the community.

The musicians (pictured from left) are Stuart Dunsmore (mandolin), Major Catherine Wyles (vocal, DHQ), Bobby Weir (piano, Airdrie), Philip Henderson (euphonium, Clydebank), Ross McGregor (vocal) and Graham Dunsmore (guitar). – K. S.

Village corps fundraises

Kinlochleven

A TWO-DAY photographic display of Old Kinlochleven attracted a number of visitors to the hall. The display included pictures and information of earlier days in the village and the corps.

Guests for the weekend Lieut-Colonels Alan and Alison Burns (Scotland Office) and divisional leaders Majors Denis and Olive Lomax supported a Saturday evening programme featuring the choir (pictured), band and children.

Funds raised from the events went towards the Big Collection. – J. M.

Candidates gain qualifications to facilitate job search

Cradley Heath

COUNCILLOR Ann Shackleton (Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council) presented BTEC Level 2 Warehousing and Storage Principles Certificates to 17 successful candidates at an awards presentation at the corps. The candidates participated in an Employment Plus Work programme, delivered by QTT, a professional training company.

Following the presentation the delegates had the opportunity to mingle with councillors and representatives from Employment Plus and QTT and received further encouragement in their job search.

Corps officer Captain Liz Hancock is pictured with Councillor Shackleton (right), course delegates and representatives from Employment Plus and QTT. – L. H.



Filey Corps holds its inaugural Flower Festival, raising more than £450 for the Big Collection; more than 100 people attended

Exhibition celebrates 130 years of witness

Port Glasgow

COMMISSIONERS Robin and Shona Forsyth led the 130th corps anniversary weekend, which began with a splendid programme from Airdrie Band and an encouraging message from Commissioner Robin Forsyth. The commissioners also led worship on Sunday with testimony and songs reflecting on the past and inspiring the congregation to look to the future under God's guidance.

The corps also held an exhibition showing soldiers of the port who lived, worked and witnessed in the town over the years. Provost Robert Moran (Inverclyde Council) opened the exhibition. – J. S.



Cranwell: When Sleaford Band led the annual songs of praise on The Green, the band's corps officer, Lieutenant Margaret Gargett, read the Scriptures and the Rev Eric Horner dedicated a bench provided by the parish council. – N. M.



Gorgie competes with international festival

Edinburgh Gorgie

THE corps held its own festival weekend to coincide with the Edinburgh Festival. As is customary, the corps held an open-air concert in the heart of the city centre at a time when the city is full of international visitors.

The band presented a concert of secular music with spiritual themes to attract a large audience. Guest Commissioner Dick Krommenhoek (Finland and Estonia) took a moment to engage with the crowds during the concert. He asked members of the audience to participate and a pastor from India prayed that all Christ's believers would lead others to his feet.

A festival that evening featured Commissioner Krommenhoek at the piano and conducting the band in Eric Ball's 'The Triumph Of Peace'. The songsters sang a number of the commissioner's works.

On Sunday the commissioner introduced two new congregational songs he has written.

Corps officer Major David Betteridge is pictured with Bandmaster Keith Johnston and Commissioner Krommenhoek. – K. R.

Tigers impress Mayor as they rise to challenge

Bridlington

THE Mayor of Bridlington (Councillor Michael Charlesworth) visited the corps after naming The Salvation Army as his chosen charity for the year. He is pictured with Priya Aujila, Clare Westmorland and Ellie Walkington who spent a week helping out at the hall. The 11-year-olds are the Hot Tigers team taking part in the Humber-side Police Lifestyle Challenge that aims to involve young people in worthwhile community activities.

During their time at the corps they made up food parcels and hygiene packs for homeless people, served refreshments to visitors, entertained lunch club members with a contemporary dance routine and raised £40 from tabletop sales. – L. E.



Hythe youth football club celebrates a 10-6 victory against a slightly older team from New Romney. The player of the match was Anastasia Layton who is holding the ball

Nelson: Central North Fellowship Band delighted the congregation with a Saturday concert. The evening raised £110 for Phoenix, a charity that supports families in need in the community. – J. L.

London South-East Divisional Youth Officer Captain Lynne Clifton reports

YOUNG people gathered for summer school in the beautiful surroundings of Dorton House School, Sevenoaks.

Lieutenant Mark Scott (Raynes Park) introduced the theme for the week – Streaming. He spoke to students about the need to connect with God and allow the Holy Spirit to surge into their lives to enable them to be all that he wants them to be and to allow the Spirit’s power to stream out to others.

The broad range of subjects on offer to students included dance, brass, media, leadership, sport, contemporary worship and vocal as well as, for the first time, urban music and journey of creativity.

A number of guests visited the school including Steve Murray, a professional mime artist who led workshops and shared how God had been with him through difficult times in his life and enabled him to grow as a person. In the evening he presented a powerful mime performance.

On Thursday evening Phil Wall (Raynes Park) clearly communicated God’s word and challenged everyone to go deeper in their relationship with God.

The leadership group organised the Acts Factor talent night, which was an incredible time of celebration, diversity and, above all, fun! Other activities included a formal meal, crystal maze, sports and Caribbean nights.

The week concluded with an outdoor celebration where family and friends joined with the school in the sunshine as the students shared some of their talents and experiences.



London South-East: Students dressed for the formal meal

Belfast Temple Jeremy Harkcom (Belfast Temple) reports

THE summer school music camp at Castlewellan Castle had an Olympic theme, Fit4Life, with a Bible focus on 1 Timothy 4:8: ‘Physical exercise has some value, but spiritual exercise is valuable in every way’ (*Good News Bible*).

On Saturday students from various corps in Northern Ireland and beyond gathered in eager anticipation. The overall excitement increased as students and staff joined in praise and worship.

Following earlier auditions, band and choir rehearsals commenced. Alternative activities included dance for girls and IT for boys.

Each day ended with everyone gathering for worship, which was lively and flamboyant and aided by the worship band, invoking times of testimony, challenge and blessing. This was followed by Coach – a chill-out-and-chat hour. Throughout the week students and staff used a prayer room.

On Sunday, rehearsals contin-

ued intertwined with Bible study and student electives, which included glee, worship band, drama, timbrels and stomp – rhythmical dance with footballs and timbrels. The glee club composed a song for the school and produced a pop-style video to go with it.

In the evening most of the school went to the seaside town of Newcastle to present an open-air meeting to hundreds of bystanders.

Each day a group of students led morning prayers before rehearsals, Bible study and electives.

On Monday evening the boys and girls split for evening worship. The boys’ worship consisted of games with guest speaker Alan Thompson (Belfast Temple). The girls’ worship evening, led by Heather Wright (Belfast Temple), was a relaxed pyjama party with hot chocolate and marshmallows and the heart-warming video *Team Hoyt* – the story of Dick Hoyt and his wheelchair-bound son.

To add a competitive edge to the week the students and staff were split into four teams – red, white, green and blue. Most evenings, before worship, there would be various activities in which the teams competed against each other. Monday was a trip to the leisure centre for football and dodgeball.

On Wednesday morning the school enjoyed various outdoor activities including sumo wrestling and a bouncy castle assault course. This was followed by a march and open-air meeting and an open day, where the public

and parents of students could view the various activities.

At the Thursday talent night, individuals and groups performed to gain points for their teams. On Friday evening there was a disco and everyone dressed up to fit in with the Musicals theme.

The final Saturday festival at Orangefield Presbyterian Church, Belfast, included presentations of awards and concluded with the ‘A’ Band and Chorus singing ‘Gaelic Blessing’.

Top Boy 2012, Callum Dickson (Belfast Sydenham), said of the week: ‘I was challenged to think how I could make a difference in the lives of others and what I could do to bring them to know Jesus as their saviour.’

North Scotland Callum Thompson (Kirkwall) describes his experience

SUMMER school was a new and exciting adventure for me. Although I have been on the staff team at junior camp for the past three years, this was my first time at Lagganalia Outdoor Education Centre, Kincaig, as a camper. The first evening was spent blowing up air chairs, the main hall being turned into a sea of squeaky clouds.

The centre provided outdoor activities, which included canoeing, mountain biking, abseiling and gorge-walking. Canoeing was great because there were races and challenges, but there was also time to just float along the crystal-clear water and enjoy the sunshine. Mountain biking proved challenging as it required confidence and technical skills, which we were taught. However,



Belfast Temple: Open-air witness at Newcastle



North Scotland: Time for reflection in a sea of clouds

it didn't prevent one of the staff having the most spectacular crash at the lowest possible speed. Having abseiled before, it wasn't much of a challenge, but it was an opportunity to encourage those who hadn't. Gorge-walking, the highlight of the activities for me, allowed time to enjoy natural slides and jumping into the water.

Our Bible studies focused on Acts and the book *You Were Made To Make A Difference* by Max Lucado and Jenna Lucado Bishop. It was really encouraging to hear how God is using young people to make a difference to the lives of those who are suffering and how we too can make a difference, just as in the Early Church.

Other activities included table tennis, an Olympics-themed quiz and Wii games. This great week spent with old and new friends blessed and challenged me.



West Midlands: Outreach in the park through dance

West Midlands DYO Captain Martyr Watson reports

TIME and space to explore God's word and uplifting worship were at the heart of our summer school at Old Swinford Hospital School, Stourbridge. At the welcome meeting the theme Boundless was introduced. Students briefly reflected on the width, length, height and depth of God's love and were reminded that God wanted to meet with them in power during the week. The ALOVE Bible study material proved a great resource with its depth and flexibility for all age groups.

On Saturday afternoon the whole school joined in an alternative Olympics. In the evening the divisional drama cell presented a summer pantomime, *Happily Ever Twisted*.

On Sunday morning the school explored the beginning of Acts and focused on the amazing power of the Holy Spirit. In the afternoon, guest speakers from William Booth Lifehouse, Birmingham, and Birmingham Aston 614UK spoke to the students and a staff associate shared her experience of ALOVE's Essential programme.

The following day Major Estelle Blake (Faith House, London) spoke to three groups about human trafficking. In the evening there was a silent 1980s disco. On Tuesday students went into the park for outreach shared through drama, brass, dance, singing, timbrels, children's games and conversations. In the evening, stand-up comedian Andy Kind performed to younger students first and then

to the seniors after they had completed a 'pub-less' quiz.

A reflections meeting on Wednesday morning preceded an evening celebration. A number of the main study groups shared the work they had done and in the prayerful environment many students shared in testimony. Thursday evening featured a heroes and heroines buffet and dance.

On Friday the school worked

on the programme for the final celebration at Stourbridge Town Hall. Before this the school took time to pray and reflect on a week that had been full of fun and challenge, laughter and tears, honest conversations and deep fellowship. The celebration gave a realistic snapshot of the week and concluded with the unaccompanied singing of the final verse of the Founder's song.



North-Western: Identifying key words in a workshop

North-Western DYO Ryan Parkin reports

AN enthusiastic group of young people met at Quinta Hall, Oswestry, for the Break-a-Way Summer School. Adopting ALOVE's Boundless theme, the young people explored mission and social justice through various workshops including music, art, drama and mission studies. Several of them opted in to an awards programme in which their studies contributed towards an accredited Youth Achievement Award, which would be continued over the next 12 months.

Highlights of the week included an Olympics day featuring various field games and pool-based competitions. On Tuesday Callum McKenna (Ellesmere Port) led three teams in a chocolate-making competition. Each was challenged to create a chocolate bar, complete with packaging and a TV commercial. The teams were rewarded for taste, creativity and consideration of fair-trade issues. Late on Wednesday evening, a dramatised secret gathering attempted to simulate what it would be like to worship under persecution. Delegates

and staff were required to deliver a 'secret knock' to access the candlelit worship gathering, where prayers were offered for Christians across the world who face persecution. A mock raid scattered the faithful worshippers back to their dormitories with something to think about!

On the last day, activities moved to Wrexham where the young people and staff shared their faith with shoppers in the town centre, through music, improvised drama, balloon modelling and by serving refreshments from the division's emergency vehicle. In the final celebration at Wrexham hall, friends and family sampled some of the highlights from the week. These included songs with lyrics written by the young people arranged to contemporary music, along with profound testimonies shared through drama.

Summer school week was the start of a journey of mission and social action for the young people. Some committed to a whole year of mission and social justice projects in their home communities which will conclude in August 2013 with a trip to a Salvation Army project in Malawi.



Enthusiastic children attend the Olympic-themed Messy Church at Rotherham featuring a morning of sports and crafts

Families attend worship

Knottingley

AS it was not feasible to run a five-day holiday club, the corps held a family day instead.

Fifty parents and children enjoyed stories and activities based on the parables of Jesus, including a treasure hunt, potting plants, making cards and a buffet lunch. The day concluded with Knottingley's Got Talent! when several children showed off their dancing and acrobatic skills, performed magic tricks and told jokes.

Several families with young children now attend Sunday worship and some of the parents have become involved with the planning of the regular family events. Having heard stories of the hard work but sheer enjoyment of the holiday clubs, they are already planning childcare for their younger children so that a holiday club can be held once again next year.
– M. T.



More than 50 children at the Joy Story holiday club at Bicester learn about Jesus and the gospel through the 'Toy Story' films

Fun-filled week

Sherburn Hill

NEARLY forty children attended the Sports-themed holiday club. Throughout the week the children engaged in a variety of activities including games, quizzes, crafts, songs and watching DVDs.

The week concluded on Sunday with a celebration meeting, attended by many of the children and members of their families as well as corps folk. The children took



part in the meeting and were presented with prizes to complete a fun-filled week.
– A. R.



Children at Pontefract enjoy the Celebration holiday club, which focused on the Diamond Jubilee and the Olympic Games



Children from the On Your Marks holiday club at Mirfield celebrate the Olympics with games and activities, including egg-and-spoon races and throwing competitions; each day was based around a Bible story and included the enthusiastic singing of worship songs

Guided by God's word



by Territorial Commander
Commissioner André Cox

READ about the hope generated by yet another announcement of a scheme to ease the credit crunch. The same newspaper talked about the deepening financial crisis impacting the economies of major European countries where markets are reacting as if the eurozone is on the verge of break-up.

Where do we turn in times of trouble – particularly as we are facing the prospect of a global financial meltdown? The secular press bombards us with messages swinging from desperate hope to manic depression.

Sometimes – though it saddens me to say so – I feel we Christians can be more influenced by what we see and hear around us and less by what God says to us through his word. How often are we guilty of echoing the pessimism we sense around us? Is it the case that we all-too-easily vacillate between hope and despair? If our hope is placed in politicians or financial markets then we are sad indeed! As Christians, we know that our lives are not in the hands of people, yet our voices seem silent and rarely do we hear the declarations of hope.

In the Lord's Prayer we pray 'Give us

today our daily bread' recognising both our need and God's provision. Is that confidence expressed by the way we live our lives and the choices we make daily?

Jesus has this to say to his followers: 'Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin

*'By choosing our
treasure, we choose
a master!'*

destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in Heaven... For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also' (Matthew 6:19–21 all quotations from *New International Version*).

If we are shortsighted regarding the things we covet, then we expose ourselves to the fear and uncertainty of our generation. Jesus warns us that we can have the outward appearance of faith yet be hypocritical in our pursuit of the things of this world. By choosing our treasure, we choose a master!

What things mark us out as being different to those who profess no

Christian faith? In the turmoil, noise and seemingly endless uncertainty of modern life, we have to admit to the struggle we face when it comes to quiet times or opportunities to meditate on the word of God.

We state in the first of our doctrines that 'we believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and that they only constitute the Divine rule of Christian faith and practice'. We make the following promise in the soldier's covenant: 'I will be responsive to the Holy Spirit's work and obedient to his leading in my life, growing in grace through worship, prayer, service and the reading of the Bible.' The question is, do we really do that?

The Spiritual Life Commission called all Salvationists to 'a renewed and relevant proclamation of and close attention to the word of God and to a quick and steady obedience to the radical demands of the word upon Salvationists personally and upon our Movement corporately'.

How important it is that we keep the word of God at the centre of our lives! I sometimes wonder how people would respond if asked to define a Salvationist. I am certain many would describe us as being active, pragmatic people with our sleeves rolled up who wade in and get on with the job. Fewer, I think, would classify us as contemplative, reflective meditators – people who radiate calm and who nurture personal spiritual growth and development.

The psalmist makes a bold statement that can be ours as well: 'I have not departed from your laws, for you yourself have taught me. How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! I gain understanding from your precepts; therefore I hate every wrong path. Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path... Your statutes are my heritage for ever; they are the joy of my heart. My heart is set on keeping your decrees to the very end' (Psalm 119:102–105, 111 and 112).

Much has been achieved by people who have been spurred to action by their faith in God's word. As Salvationists, we should be making a significant difference to our world by demonstrating through the lives that we live that the word of God is true and that what God has said, he can and will do! ■

ONE SIMPLE IDEA... OR SEVEN!

Major Stephen Poxon invites consideration of Back to Church Sunday

WHAT was it that made shepherds leave their flocks, fishermen abandon their nets and a tax collector clamber down from a tree? The answer is that the shepherds in question, the fishermen and the tax collector all had one thing in common – they were invited.

At the heart of Back to Church Sunday (BTCS) is a really simple idea – inviting someone to discover (or rediscover) for themselves the love of God, starting with an invitation to church.

BTCS, a Church of England initiative first launched in Greater Manchester in 2004, now includes churches across denominations worldwide, including many Salvation Army corps. Around 77,000 people made their

way back to church in 2011 as a result of a simple invitation. Since 2004, a quarter of a million people have responded to invitations. Thousands more might respond – if only they were invited!

WHO MIGHT YOU INVITE?

Feedback from BTCS 2011 is positive and encouraging. Here are some of the responses received by churches up and down the country:

- 'I was thanked for sending the invitation and told: "I have wanted to come back for some time and this just gave me the nudge I needed"
- 'Most noticeable was the increased number of children, which changed the atmosphere'
- 'She wouldn't let me not come! I really

'BTCS is... a fantastic, simple way of asking friends, family, neighbours – former corps members – if they would like to accompany you to a meeting one Sunday'

enjoyed it. Now that I'm back I will keep on coming'

- 'If church is as good as this every week, I'll be back'

The beauty of BTCS is that it is a fantastic, simple way of asking

friends, family, neighbours – former corps members – if they would like to accompany you to a meeting one Sunday. The Church of England estimates that around three million people would come back to church if only someone took the trouble to invite them.

Back to Church Sunday 2012 takes place on 30 September and the shortest step in personal evangelism couldn't be simpler. BTCS offers high-quality, low-cost invitation cards, meeting plans (if required) and opportunities and advice for media coverage and publicity.

Of course, people can be invited back to the Army any day of the year, but BTCS can help by acting as a focus. Taking part is as easy as 1, 2, 3, 4:

1. Register your corps
 2. Order your invitations and resources
 3. Pray
 4. Invite
- It's about inviting someone you love to something you love.

STATISTICS TO CONSIDER

■ 35 per cent of the population attend a church service on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, rising to 42 per cent in London. This clearly indicates that millions of people – not necessarily regular churchgoers – retain some kind of spiritual awareness or interest

■ In 2009, 43 per cent of the population attended a place of worship for a memorial service for a loved one or a friend

■ 17 per cent made their way into a church building simply to find a 'quiet space' in the middle of busy lives

This speaks of the fact that many people still turn to the Church when they feel in need of solace and consolation.

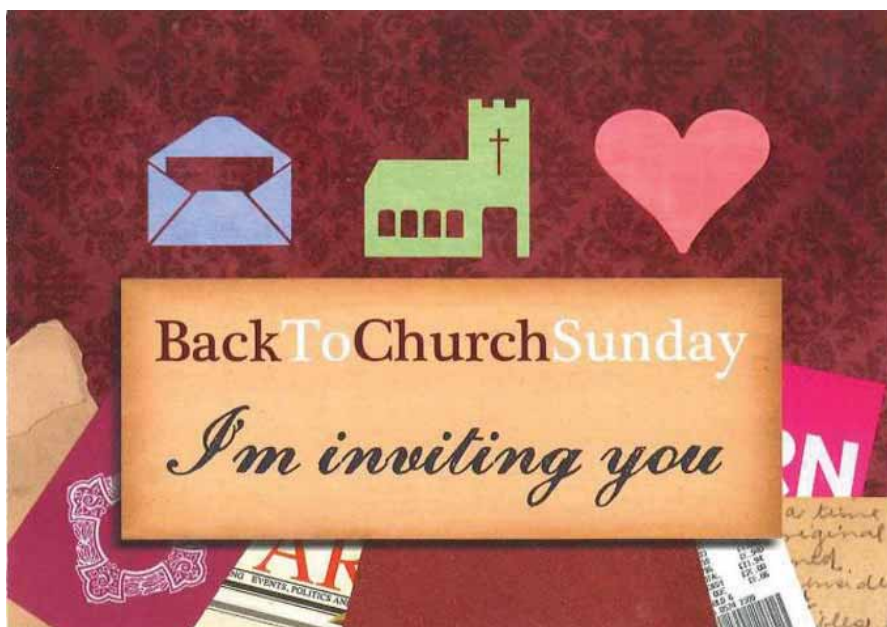
Bearing this in mind, BTCS represents an opportunity to help others in their search for faith, meaning and direction in life. There is some sort of hunger for truth 'out there'. Who knows what a friendly invitation might mean to someone who may be waiting for the gentle 'nudge' referred to earlier?

How many corps would benefit from unlocking the potential of an invitation? How might the Kingdom grow? Back to Church Sunday is all about invitation – it reaches the people who are not yet in church through the people who are.

Corps wishing to go beyond a one-off BTCS invitation are warmly encouraged to liaise with the Back to Church

Sunday organisers on seven consecutive invitational 'moments', running from September to February 2013. Each 'moment' will provide a distinct opportunity to connect issues of faith with our culture.

The pilot launch of Seven Moments offers invitees increased opportunities



to link up with the life of their local corps and it is acknowledged that some people might wish to respond to all seven, while others might prefer

- Remembrance Sunday
- Two Christmas invitations
- New year invitations
- Valentine's Day events

'Back to Church Sunday is all about invitation – it reaches the people who are not yet in church through the people who are'

At this stage, Seven Moments is very much on trial. However, the potential is there to be explored. Resources can be adapted to a Salvation Army setting. ■

just to 'sample' one or two. It is also acknowledged that some moments may work really well when tested, and others less so.

The Seven Moments are

- Back to Church Sunday
- Harvest

Answers to questions and queries about BTCS are available by emailing team@backtochurch.co.uk or calling 0845 859 0006

Further information is available at www.backtochurch.co.uk



BackToChurchSunday

30th September 2012

Fields white unto harvest

As Salvationists prepare to celebrate Harvest, Major Anthony Colclough shares thoughts on sowing and reaping

AUTHOR and activist for the poor Shane Claiborne once recounted the tale of two men chatting. One of them has a question for God. He wants to ask why he allows poverty, war and suffering to exist and why so many have not heard the good news about Jesus. His friend encourages him to ask God. The fellow shakes his head, saying: 'I can't. God might ask me the same question.'

In his book *The Irresistible Revolution: Living As An Ordinary Radical*, Claiborne goes on to say: 'Over and over, when I ask God how all these injustices are allowed to exist in the world, I can feel the Spirit whisper to me: "You tell me why we allow this to happen. You are my body, my hands, my feet."

I am reminded of Jesus' instructions to his disciples in Luke 10:2: 'The harvest is great, but the workers are few... ask him to send more workers into his fields' (*New Living Translation*).

Are we workers for God? Do we help spread his light and love within our homes, our communities, in our places of employment, schools and colleges – perhaps even across the world? Do we lift up those we are able to help? Do we

encourage? Are we helping to build the Kingdom of God right here on earth?

Or do we grumble instead at the injustices that surround us – the pain, the suffering? Do we ever simply watch others at work, instead of lifting up our spade to plant seeds of the Spirit? Are we maybe so consumed by our own existence that we inadvertently overlook the broader picture?

'Let's become workers for Christ, turning over the soils of injustice and sowing seeds that will bear fruit'

There are many times when I've been less of a worker and more of a 'bench-warmer'. Recently, I've felt God stirring my heart as I have reflected on the territory's harvest theme: The Harvest Field...

I encourage you to pray for the Spirit to direct you towards ways of using the resources prepared by THQ's Evangelism Department for Harvest Festival this year – to seek to discover

harvest fields and set to work. Let us look for ways of serving God; working against suffering and pain and bringing others to know Jesus. Let's become workers for Christ, turning over the soils of injustice and sowing seeds that will bear fruit. Let's walk the walk of faith, approaching this world with Christlike love and compassion.

Maybe circumstances conspire to hinder our good intentions – we feel we lack money and resources, or time and strength. We might need to challenge those lies! Even from a little, a lot can spring up. Look at the mustard seed – one of the smallest seeds out there. When it is nourished and allowed to grow, it grows to a plant of tremendous size.

Mother Teresa had these encouraging words about the quandary some of us find ourselves in: 'If you can't feed a hundred, then feed just one.'

Let us be workers together in his name!

A PRAYER

Father, thank you so much for your son, Jesus, whom you sent to us to become a living example of purity, of compassion, of love. Without Jesus there would be no redemption, there would be no hope. Thank you for your great mercy. May the Spirit usher us forward to a new understanding of what it means to serve you. Draw us closer inward as we express the character of Christ more and more outwardly. May we get off our spiritual benches, which have collected dust, and pick up our spades, rakes and rusty hoes and get back in the field and labour for you. May we help turn pain into healing, suffering into relief and despair into hope. May our lives glorify you while we bring your message of redemption and hope into this dark and fallen world. We praise you, we glorify you and we seek you always with humble hearts lifted towards your throne. Direct us in ways we can serve you and give us the ways and means of bearing fruit for your Kingdom. ■

Harvest resources for use in corps are available from Major Colclough on 020 7367 4933 or by emailing anthony.colclough@salvationarmy.org.uk

■ **Major Colclough is Mission Development Officer, THQ**

Down, but not out!

Mitch Menagh presents the second of two studies linked to the Big Collection

ONE of the most famous parables Jesus told is that of the good Samaritan (Luke 10:25–37), a very clear lesson, among other things, about being down but not out.

It all starts when an expert in the law asks Jesus: 'What must I do to inherit eternal life?' (v25 all quotations from *New International Version*). Let me stop you right there! This was an 'expert' in the Jewish Scriptures. He, more than most in the crowd, should have known the answer. What does Jesus do? He answers with a question (see v26), and turns it around to make the man think for himself.

The expert announces that a person needs to love God with all their being and should not forget to love their neighbour. To truly love others, you have to have the love for God that is complete and unselfish. This expert in the law knew that.

He gives the right answer but wants to make sure that he is not looking foolish, so he asks Jesus: 'Who is my neighbour?' (v29).

We may wish to define a neighbour as 'a person in need of one's help'. It's not just about the person living next door! For the follower of Christ, that can be

the person in desperate need who may be down and our willingness to help and support can prevent them becoming out.

Jesus uses this great parable to answer the man's question in a manner that would have the greatest impact.

Interestingly, there's not much description of the victim. Dare I suggest that he isn't really the focus; rather, it's more about him being down and

*'To truly love others,
you have to have the
love for God that is
complete and unselfish'*

who comes to his aid that matter. He is attacked, robbed and tossed aside as though he is worthless. How degrading and demeaning that must have been!

The Salvation Army encounters similar people through its social and community services – people who have been attacked, perhaps physically, but certainly emotionally, psychologically and spiritually. They too feel tossed aside and worthless. Such people are all around us, and though their wounds might

not be visible they are desperate for a neighbour.

As the man is lying by the side of the road, battered and bruised, a priest passes by (v31), as does a Levite (v32). These are people who should have known better, but seemed to take the view that someone else would help. How could they pass by? But – hallelujah! – that 'someone else' comes along and does everything possible to ensure the man isn't left down and out.

Today, it could be the drug addict with tears in their eyes as they have 'just one more hit'; the hardened drinker who says 'this is my last drink'; or the dysfunctional family, fleeing yet again from their poverty and hardship or another anti-social neighbourhood. In their agony, emotional distress and desperation, they all experience that feeling of being down and out – that is, until they encounter the compassionate servant of God who stretches out the arm of unconditional love and puts the heart of the gospel into practice.

Society may be content to pass such people by, but God forgive us if we ever think of passing by on the other side.

The good Samaritan simply saw a neighbour. He didn't have to do anything, yet what he did was life-changing. He ministers to and seeks to deal with the man's need. He could have left it at that, but he went further and took him to a place of refuge, a local inn. He then passes the man who was down to another person to take over the ministering – integrated mission,

perhaps? No longer is he down and out, but he's made to feel cared for and loved, without prejudice. Isn't that our mission?

Jesus stops at this significant point and looks right at the so-called 'expert'. Which one is the neighbour? The neighbour was the one who stopped and took time to care and provide for the man's

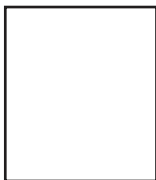
need – or, as the expert replied: 'The one who had mercy on him' (v37).

For the Christian, being a neighbour is about watching out for those people who – often due to unforeseen circumstances – are down. But our ministry, and who and what we are called to be, suggests that with Christ, they are never out.

Let's go and do likewise! ■

■ **Mitch is Director of Homelessness Services, THQ**

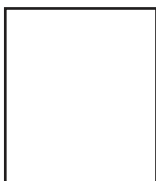
NEW COMMITMENTS



Dot Haddon
Soldier

CARNFORTH

DOT was welcomed as an adherent member after being invited to the coffee morning with her husband. She started to join other activities as well as the Sunday meetings. Her husband, Barrie, became a soldier last year, but at that time Dot was content with being an adherent member. She later felt God calling her to become a soldier and attended soldiership classes. Her faith and commitment grew and she now volunteers at various corps activities. Corps officer Captain Angela Tucker enrolled Dot as a soldier. – A. T.

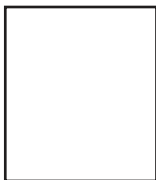


Lynne Windle
Soldier

CARDIFF ELY

LYNNE started working in the crèche two years ago and began asking about The Salvation Army. Community centre manager Ray Saunders, corps officer Major Gordon Atter and Cadet Joyce Baynes talked with her and answered her questions. They invited her to Sunday meetings, which led to more questions. Not long after the new corps officer, Major Edwin Tucker, was appointed, Lynne had an experience in the hall which led to her decision to be dedicated to God and to become an adherent member.

At the divisional celebration led by General Linda Bond, Lynne asked to become a soldier. She was enrolled by Major Tucker and publicly welcomed into the corps family. – E. T.



Paul Midgely
Gary Price
Adherent members

RAMSGATE

PAUL started to attend the corps on special occasions. Later he went to Sunday worship and expressed his desire to become part of the corps fellowship.

After a request for information about The Salvation Army, Gary started attending the meetings. He quickly became involved and now helps to make tea and coffee after Sunday morning worship. He wanted to be an adherent member and wears his badge with pride. Paul and Gary were welcomed as adherent members by corps officer Major John Watson. – J. W.



Joel Huntingdon
Scott Huntingdon
Junior soldiers

EASINGTON COLLIERY

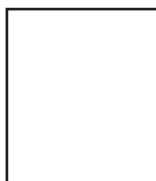
BROTHERS Joel and Scott were enrolled by corps officer Major Sheila Leonard at the officers' farewell meeting. They are the first junior soldiers to be enrolled at the corps for some years. They attend the corps with their parents, but as there is no Sunday school, they attend one at Shotton Colliery with their grandmother. Friends from Easington, Horden and Shotton were all present for the enrolment. – M. S.



Sam Innes
Soldier

SUNDERLAND MILLFIELD

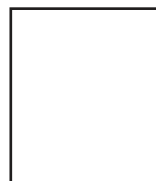
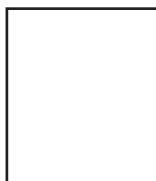
SAM'S decision to become a soldier was influenced by corps anniversary events and the 'I'll Fight' Congress. He testified: 'The singing of the Founder's song, "O Boundless Salvation!", at both gatherings challenged me to such an extent that following soldiership classes I was thrilled to kneel at the mercy seat and sign the soldier's covenant.' Sam was enrolled by corps officer Major Steve Naylor. – E. F.



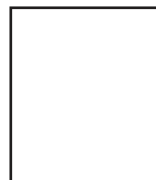
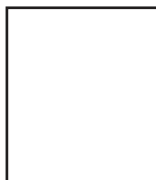
Mary Anne Kane
Adherent member

FORT WILLIAM

MARY ANNE's first contact with the Army was through Cameo. She enjoys the fun of Cameo and the fellowship found within morning worship. She was welcomed as an adherent member by corps officer Major Jim Brown. – J. B.



Joanne Bates
Janice Robson



Francis Smith
Ann Burgoyne
Adherent members

BURNLEY

JOANNE was invited to the corps Costa café church to speak about her work. After her visit she continued to attend café church every month and joined a house group that studied *The Purpose Driven Life*. Joanne had a life-changing encounter with the Lord during the course and has been eager to attend all the discipleship groups in order to deepen her faith.

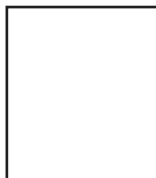
Janice was a junior soldier at another corps but did not attend the Army for a number of years. After moving to the area she attended Sunday worship at the corps. She made a decision to become an adherent member after taking part in a Journeys course and has made tremendous progress in her personal life. She testified to having been helped by the Holy Spirit to pray and witness to her faith.

Francis was an adherent member many years ago but circumstances led her to worship at another church through her involvement with the guides and brownies. A year ago she knew it was the right time to return to the Army and is taking her place helping in the lunch club and attending groups which help her to grow spiritually.

Ann also was an adherent member a number of years ago and she too has been worshipping at another church. She had a growing sense that the Lord was telling her to find a place of worship nearer to her home and went to a Sunday morning meeting at the Army from time to time. She testified to the presence of God in her life and said on Pentecost Sunday she received confirmation from God that the corps was where she should be.

All four were welcomed as adherent members by corps officer Major Lorraine O'Neill. – V. G.

NEW COMMITMENTS



**Holly Bayliss
Emily Shepherd**
Soldiers

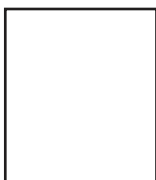
ENFIELD

IT was standing room only as General Shaw Clifton (Retired) enrolled Holly and Emily as soldiers. Family and friends travelled from many parts of the UK to support the teenagers as they made their commitments.

After much thought Holly made the decision to become a senior soldier. She testifies to God's love and protection in her life and looks forward to influencing others to know the love of God.

Emily, who is part of a Salvationist family, decided to take the next step in her Christian development.

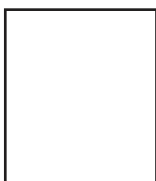
The General – who previously served as the corps officer – challenged all present to recommit their own lives to Christ. – A. R.



Smilo Chikengezha
Soldier

COVENTRY CITY

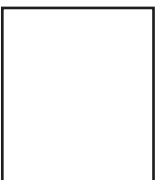
SMILO was enrolled as a soldier by corps officer Captain Colin Bain. He has played in the YP band for some time and gave his testimony thanking God for his salvation. – C. B.



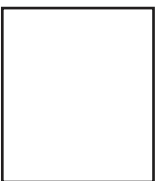
Vera Riley
Soldier

OLDHAM ROUNDTORN

SHORTLY after becoming an adherent member, Vera felt a strong call from God to make the further commitment of becoming a soldier. Vera's joy is infectious and she enthusiastically embraced the membership classes in the same spirit, supported by her friend Brenda Woolfenden. As part of her inspiring testimony, she chose the song 'I Am Thine, O Lord' and thanked her sister, family and friends for their continued support. She was enrolled by corps officers Lieutenants Ian and Wendy Hall. – I. H.



**David Bolton
Millie Wheeler**

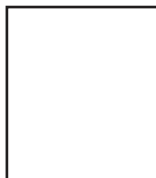


Dave Alder
Adherent members

READING CENTRAL

CORPS officer Major Iain Hudson welcomed Millie, David and Dave as adherent members.

Millie was invited to attend worship meetings by her sister who has been a soldier at the corps for several years. David and Dave attend the corps with their wives, who are also adherent members. – P. B.



**Susan Bond
John Baker**
Adherent members

CHELTENHAM

SUSAN'S life changed when God directed her to the corps. In her testimony she said: 'From that day onward I have never felt alone or afraid. I've been accepted, unconditionally. I truly believe that Jesus walked me to the corps and gave me a new life.' Susan committed her life to the Lord through the ministry of an Alpha course.

John has attended the corps for many years, but after completing an Alpha course he testified to having 'rediscovered what he had lost' and witnessed to his re-energised faith.

Susan and John were welcomed as adherent members by corps officer Captain Steve Smith. – S. S.



Cameron Hamilton
Junior soldier

KIRKCALDY

CAMERON was born into a Salvationist family and attended the meetings with his parents. He decided that he wanted to become a junior soldier and spoke to corps officer Captain Carrie James. Along with corps youth worker Leanne Westwater, Captain James prepared Cameron for junior soldiership and enrolled him, much to the delight of his parents and grandparents and a packed hall. He asked the captain if everyone could sing his favourite song 'Go'. – D. A.



**Godwin Matetar
Jamie O'Connor**
Junior soldiers

BIRMINGHAM CITADEL

IN his testimony Godwin said he likes wearing his junior soldier uniform to show people he respects God and wants to be a Christian to learn more about Jesus.

Jamie said he wants to be a good junior soldier and show he is kind and caring. He likes to sing with the singing company and wants to share God with his friends at school. He will try his best to live the way Jesus tells him, even though he knows it will not be easy.

Godwin and Jamie were enrolled by corps officers Majors Mandy and Steve White. – G. D.



Emily Evans
Junior soldier

HARLOW

EMILY first went to a fancy dress party at the corps, and the following day attended the Sunday meeting with her mum. Since then she has been involved with the corps and decided that she wants to follow Jesus. YPSM Ruth Howes prayed at the mercy seat as Emily signed the junior soldier's promise and later presented her with a Bible from her friends. Corps officer Major Glenda Holifield enrolled Emily as a junior soldier. – P. H.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ARMY PEOPLE

APPOINTED

Effective 1 January 2013:

Major Ian Harris, Divisional Commander, South-Western; **Major Jean Harris**, Divisional Director of Women's Ministries, South-Western; **Major Martin Hill**, Editor-in-Chief and Publishing Secretary, Communications Service, THQ.

LOCAL OFFICER APPOINTED

CS Timothy Cook, Strood.

NEW CPR

Hazel Thompson, Stotfold.

MARRIAGE

Bandsman Alan Cartridge to **Beryl Martin** at Sunderland Millfield by Major Steve Naylor.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Diamond: **B/Reservist John and S/Reservist Mrs Gwyneth Belfield**, Reading Central (20 September).

Golden: **Bandsman Rankin and Songster Mrs Pat Berry**, Hinckley (29 September).

DEDICATED TO GOD

Seren Sophia, daughter of Tom and Emma Songhurst, at Merthyr Tydfil by Captains Liz and Neil Duquemin; **Maisie-Grace**, daughter of Matthew and Rachel Roberts, at Sherburn Hill by Majors Dawn and Howard Evans.

BEREAVED

Captain Peter Renshaw, THQ, of his mother Audrey Line; **Bandsman Mervyn Whitelock** of his wife Marion, **Brenda Medway** of her sister, both Skewen; **Anne Francis**, Guisborough, of her mother; **Bandsman Andrew Sims**, Staple Hill, of his sister Della Taylor; **Barbara Matthews**, Gillingham, of her husband Alec.

ENGAGEMENTS

GENERAL LINDA BOND:

International College for Soldiers, Sun 16 Sep; Sunbury Court (General's Consultative Council), Mon 24 - Th 27; UK, East Midlands, Fri 5 Oct - Sun 7; Czech Republic (All Europe Congress), Th 11 Oct - Mon 15

THE CHIEF OF THE STAFF

(COMMISSIONER BARRY SWANSON)

AND COMMISSIONER SUE SWANSON:

International College for Soldiers, Mon Tu 18 Sep**; Sunbury Court (General's Consultative Council), Mon 24 - Th 27; India South Eastern, Mon 1 Oct - Sun 7**; UK, London South-East (divisional adult and family rally), Wed 10**; ICO, Th 11

THE TERRITORIAL COMMANDER

(COMMISSIONER ANDRÉ COX)

AND COMMISSIONER SILVIA COX:

London Central (divisional welcome to territorial leaders and candidates farewell), Sun 16 Sep; Bognor Regis (New Horizons), Wed 19 - Fri 21; Northlands Lifehouse, Cardiff (opening), Wed 26;

RETIRED OFFICERS

Birthdays congratulations: **Major Dorothy Davis**, Filey (90 on 21 September); **Major Ernest Ablett**, Colchester (95 on 21 September); **Captain Cyril Rowland**, Verwood (80 on 21 September).

Retirement addresses: **Majors Graham and Maureen Kinsley**, Reigate; **Majors Denise and Robert Barham-Hall**, Shildon; **Captain Margaret Warner**, London; **Major Josie Abbott**, Tunbridge Wells.

PROMOTED TO GLORY

Joan Russell, Shildon; **Maureen John**, Skewen.

Major Florence Badman from Warrington on **6 September**.

A niece, Mrs Jennifer Caie, lives in Combe Down. A close friend, Major Joan Blundell, lives in Warrington.

OFFICIAL GAZETTE

UK Territory

RETIREMENTS FROM ACTIVE SERVICE

Effective 1 September:

Major Ian Cook out of Newark in 1991 and last appointment Programme Support Officer, East Midlands.

Major Rachel Tickner out of Leeds Central in 1979 and last appointment Child and Family Care Services Officer, THQ.

ANDRÉ COX,

Commissioner,
Territorial Commander

William Booth College (welcome to cadets), Sat Sun 30; Czech Republic (All Europe Congress), Th 11 Oct - Mon 15

THE CHIEF SECRETARY

(COLONEL DAVID HINTON)

AND COLONEL SYLVIA HINTON:

Bognor Regis (New Horizons), Fri 14 Sep - Sun 16; William Booth College (welcome to cadets), Sat Sun 30; West Scotland (divisional officers retreat), Mon 1 Oct - Wed 3; Territorial Advisory Council, Fri 5 - Sun 7; Czech Republic (All Europe Congress), Th 11 - Mon 15

Commissioner William Cochrane: Sunbury Court (International Moral and Social Issues Council), Tu 18 Sep - Th 20; UK, Cannock, Sat Sun 23; Sunbury Court (General's Consultative Council), Mon 24 - Wed 26

Commissioners Alistair and Astrid Herring: Sunbury Court (General's Consultative Council), Mon 24 Sep - Th 27

Commissioners Amos and Rosemary Makina: Malawi, Fri 14 Sep - Sat 22

TRIBUTES



MRS EDITH (LAURA) BULLOCK, BURTON UPON TRENT

LAURA was a kind, determined and gracious lady who was always grateful for what people did for her. She attended the Army as a girl and after marriage attended church with her husband. After his death, she responded to an invitation given by a couple who conducted monthly meetings at her sheltered housing complex and became a regular attender at Sunday evening meetings, over-60 and luncheon clubs and the home league. She also valued the opportunity to go on holiday with the over-60 club.

After Laura became a soldier, the soldier's covenant was prominently displayed in her room at the care home where she latterly resided. She was always prepared to witness for the Saviour. – K. A.



MAURICE McMINN, WHITEHAVEN

MAURICE was born in 1931. He married Deanne and they had two children. In recent years Maurice became a grandfather and great-grandfather. Maurice was enrolled as a soldier at Workington in 1976 and was No 1 on the roll when the corps closed in 2004. He then transferred to Whitehaven, but ill-health prevented him from attending as frequently as he would have liked.

Maurice is remembered for selling *The War Cry* in towns across Cumbria. He touched countless lives through this ministry, offering friendship, a listening ear, a helping hand and the good news of Jesus Christ to anyone who wanted it. – M. S.

Commissioners Robert and Janet Street:

Portugal, Mon 17 Sep - Wed 19; Sunbury Court (General's Consultative Council), Mon 24 - Th 27

International Staff Songsters: Hawick, Sat Sun 23 Sep

International Staff Band: Sheringham, Sat Sun 30 Sep

**husband will not accompany

ON THE AIR

BBC Radio Bristol, Cornwall, Devon, Gloucestershire, Guernsey, Jersey, Somerset Sound, Swindon and Wiltshire and online at bbc.co.uk/devon: *Sounds Of Brass* (7.05 pm) on Sunday 16 September will feature music by Lieutenant Colonel Dr Ray Steadman-Allen OF to mark his 90th birthday.

BBC Radio 2 (88-91 FM): *Sunday Half Hour* (8.30 pm) will feature Birmingham Citadel Band and Songsters on Sunday 23 September.

No discharge in this war

FURTHER to Major Shaun Skinner's letter (*Salvationist* 25 August), I do not think there is any need to give consideration to how officers who have retired from active service are designated.

The designation 'officer in retirement' is, to my mind, both acceptable and adequate. It indicates that one remains an officer whereas the term 'retired officer', rather like 'retired bank manager',

can be seen to indicate what one used to be but no longer is.

One of the principal features of officership has always been availability, and being an officer in retirement does not mean that one's availability has ceased completely. It will of course depend on individual circumstances.

But whether I shall be called an officer in retirement or an officer on reserve, the fact remains that there is no discharge in this war.

David Pickard,
Major,
East Dulwich

Band stirs my heart

I WAS interested to read the letter from Major Victor Ross (*Salvationist* 11 August) headed 'Salvation is our business'. I belong to a corps that holds evening meetings. Although these are less well attended than the morning meetings, God has often made his presence felt.

Frequently our band can be heard marching to and from the open-air meeting, a valuable service, and although health prevents me from joining in, it stirs my heart to see and hear the musicians marching down the street.

I am glad that I grew up in an Army that held directory meetings and corps cadet classes – and I still have the certificates, which I was proud to achieve – but more importantly, I can call

to memory passages of Scripture and our doctrines, which I had to learn all those years ago.

During my 18 years as YPSM I was privileged to be responsible for the corps cadets, who were given experience of platform ministry.

I am glad that our division has recently re-formed the youth band and chorus and it is lovely to see the young people of our corps becoming senior soldiers and taking on leadership positions.

Major Ross wrote about the importance of the crest. I am always saddened to see the shield used in its place, for while the shield says who we are it does not say what we are. I have often used the crest as a teaching tool and on our wall it serves as a constant reminder that the cross is the centre of our existence; I hope we never lose it.

Yvonne Ascott,
Harlow

Rediscover radical beginnings

A NICE sharing of views has been taking place in the Letters section of *Salvationist*, stimulated by the article printed in the 23 June issue entitled 'Change or Die'.

I especially liked the view of Cliff Howes (11 August) that the change-or-die message is simplistic. How much can we change and remain true to Christ?

I agree with him that the most important task for the Army today is for us to rediscover our 'spiritual and radical beginnings'.

We welcome the unsaved into our halls, but we must not become so 'sinner-friendly' that we change the gospel to accommodate the culture. We must continue to identify sin as sin while preaching the good news of the grace of God available to every sinner through Christ.

Fred Wakefield,
Captain,
Rolla,
USA

Digital photography course was great

THESE are certainly interesting times in which we live. If, like me, you are a pensioner, the technological revolution and the complexities of the computer may have passed you by – so much so, that it's your grandchildren who are calling the shots!

Digital cameras too, with their sensors, megapixels and memory cards could hardly provide a greater contrast with the old-fashioned, reliable box brownie or even the throwaway models available at any airport in a last-minute quest to grab a dozen holiday snaps.

What a pleasant surprise then to find The Salvation Army running a four-day Digital Photography Course at Sunbury Court. Here were a group of Salvationist instructors, eager and willing to impart their knowledge to a disparate group of 40 Christians keen to get the most out of their cameras.

Instructors Bob Hall, George Gallagher, Derek Ricketts and Rob Stokes gave of their time, energy and attention without reward, even paying their own expenses and awarding trophies to those students who produced the best results. Such kindness, empathy and generosity are hard to find these days and, along with all the others who attended the course, I would like to express my deep gratitude.

Hopefully, those who received such great tips will now be able to bring sharpness and professionalism to some of the future images appearing in *Salvationist*.

Bill Hamilton,
St Albans

Readers sending letters by email should include their name, full rank if applicable and full postal address

■ Please remember, letters for publication in *Salvationist* should be carefully thought out, logically presented and charitably expressed

■ Not all letters can be printed

■ The Editor reserves the right to edit letters or print extracts

■ Write to *Salvationist* (Letters), 101 Newington Causeway, London SE1 6BN or email salvationist@salvationarmy.org.uk



CD OF THE WEEK

Major Stephen Poxon reviews *All The Best Tunes*

The Founder is reported to have said, when someone queried his adaptation of music-hall melodies to Christian lyrics: 'Why should the Devil have all the best tunes!' Hence the inspiration for the title of this CD.

It is easy to like this CD from the start. Its beauty lies in its simplicity. It does not pretend to be anything other than a well-chosen selection of familiar favourites. The 12 tracks immediately commend themselves to anyone wishing to indulge in a spot of easy listening. I challenge any listener not to sing along at some point! I would recommend it as an aid to reflection in, say, one's personal devotions.

I hesitate to choose favourite tunes and songs, but, for the purposes of review, I would highlight three: 'Great, Great Morning', sung with power and conviction by Govan Songsters, 'Mid All The Traffic', played sensitively by the International Staff Band, and 'How Much More', John Larsson's beautiful tune that was so successfully married to words from John Gowans.

This CD was not designed to be overtly modern or upbeat. That, though, will only serve to make it attractive to those who simply wish to enjoy afresh some of the most popular devotional music the Army has ever used in worship.

■ *All The Best Tunes* is available from SP&S and sold as part of a 2013 calendar and CD set priced £8.99 (plus £4.95 postage and packing)

BIBLE VERSES

Praise the Lord. Sing to the Lord... praise his name with dancing and make music to him... For the Lord takes delight in his people; he crowns the humble with victory. Let his faithful people rejoice in this honour and sing for joy.

(Psalm 149:1-5 *New International Version*)

PRAYER

Dear Lord, we thank you for the lovely gift of melodies and words that lift our hearts and minds to you. Please accept our humble worship and receive our renewed devotion. Amen.

PICTURE OF THE WEEK



Blowly morning, Portland Bill. Picture: JOHN LONG