



OCTOBER 2024

salvos

online *e-news*

CONNECTING SALVOS IN MISSION

Want to know what's happening within The Salvation Army as it happens? Go to salvosonline.org.au for all the latest news, leadership updates, missional stories, features, viewpoints, reviews, history articles and more.

World leaders complete whirlwind trip of Australia

By Lauren Martin

General Lyndon and Commissioner Bronwyn Buckingham circumnavigated Australia last month, touring six states in seven days, delivering a message of revival, starting within the heart of the movement – our people.

In a series of inspiring messages to thousands of people across the Australia Territory, The Salvation Army's world leader said he believed a 'new wave' of the Holy Spirit was poised to be unleashed upon the movement.

He challenged people attending rallies to consider where Jesus stood in their lives – is he 'present', 'prominent', or 'pre-eminent'?

"If God is hovering over the movement because he's preparing us for the next chapter, he's going to be looking for men and women who are not content with 'present', not content with 'prominent', but are all-in with the pre-eminence of the King in their lives."

He said he sees evidence that The Salvation Army is entering a new chapter of mission and ministry.

"God the Holy Spirit is on the move, within the movement. There's a hovering, there's a stirring, there's a dissatisfaction, there's a hunger for a new wave, and that's a beautiful thing. And there's a sense in which God is calling us as his people to position ourselves to be ready for what it is that he needs us to be and to do in the world in these days."

Salvationists from Perth to Hobart, Brisbane to

NEWS



General Lyndon and Commissioner Bronwyn Buckingham give the thumbs up with Salvation Army mascot 'Shieldy' before the Tasmania Division rally in Hobart on Friday 30 August. Photo: Neha Bogati

Adelaide, and Sydney and Melbourne responded by kneeling in worship.

Next generation impact

Children and young people took part in each rally, with a prayer from 11-year-old Bella Stobie in Perth speaking a powerful word over the Australian Salvation Army and over the General and Commissioner Buckingham.

"We pray that everywhere there is a red shield, that they would brightly shine the love of Jesus. We want everyone in Western Australia to know Jesus as their Saviour and best friend," she said.

Her prayers didn't stop at her divisional border. Bella prayed that The Salvation Army in Australia would be a 'mighty Jesus army': "Give us courage, give us boldness and give us a big faith to turn this country ▶

NEWS

upside down with the love of Jesus,” to which those gathered added a resounding, “Amen.”

At many rallies, Commissioner Bronwyn shared her passion for the next generation of The Salvation Army rising up and being given the opportunity to experience the Holy Spirit in authentic ways. She told of her own salvation experience – the first time she gave her life to Christ, at the mercy seat during a Salvation Army meeting when she was a child. “I was only eight years old, but that was real for me because I can take myself back to that moment right now and feel those feelings, and it tells me that the decision of a child for Jesus is real. And we must never, ever underestimate what the Holy Spirit is doing in the hearts of children and that they have so much to teach us who are older.”

Celebrating people

A highlight of the world leaders’ visit was the opportunity to celebrate people within the movement. A new Australia Territory award – the ‘Cutmore Award’ – was introduced at the first rally in Sydney. During the week, 17 Salvation Army officers, auxiliary-lieutenants and mission leaders were surprised at rallies with the award, which honours pioneers of new faith expressions.

The award is named after Commissioners Ian and Nancy Cutmore, Australian officers who helped to pioneer The Salvation Army’s work in Papua New Guinea more than 60 years ago.



General Lyndon and Commissioner Bronwyn Buckingham stand with Bella Stobie, 11, as she prays during the Western Australia Division rally in Perth on Tuesday 27 August. Photo: Peter Mazanec

The first recipients were the Cutmores themselves, who were surprised and delighted when the Australian Territorial Commander, Commissioner Miriam Gluyas, visited their home and presented them with the award – personally named the Pioneering Award.

Only a week after the General’s visit, the Cutmores were promoted to glory within days of each other, after having given a combined total of nearly 140 years of service to The Salvation Army.

Nancy Cutmore was promoted to glory on 8 September, with Ian joining her in heaven on 10 September.

At the final General’s rally in Melbourne, the ‘Regeneration Award’ was also introduced and awarded to Lieutenant Paul Trotter, who has ‘reimagined’ the work of Colac Corps in southern Victoria.

The Buckinghamhs also participated in a series of Officers Councils in each state throughout their tour.

Staff encouraged

And it wasn’t just faith movement leaders who were honoured. At a staff gathering in Sydney, the General described everyone who worked for The Salvation Army as ‘game-changers’, saying they played a significant role in the Army’s mission.

“I want you to understand how important you are. You are a significant part of enabling The Salvation Army to do what it is doing. You are game-changers!” he said.

“You are bringing salt and light and aroma and hope and life around the planet because of the commitment that you’re making to do the job you’re doing to the very best of your ability.

“God is honoured by it. The Bible suggests that your work is an act of worship that blesses the heart of God. Think about that.

“When God sees you doing your stuff, he sees you contributing to the work of The Salvation Army.”



General Lyndon Buckingham presents Envoy Bill Hunter with the Cutmore Award at the Queensland Division rally in Brisbane on Thursday 29 August. Photo: Jaiden Ivers

NEWS

Parramatta Corps celebrates 140 years of vibrant service

By Lauren Martin

Members and friends of the Parramatta Corps in Sydney's Greater West gathered over the weekend of 21-22 September to celebrate its 140th anniversary and God's unwavering faithfulness.

The anniversary celebrations began with a Saturday night dinner attended by 170 people.

The special guests were Melbourne Project 614 Corps Officers Majors Brendan and Sandra Nottle, who spoke from their experiences of ministering in an inner-city context.

"Brendan spoke a lot about the roots of The Salvation Army and what we are called to do," said Corps Officer Major Kylie Collinson. "We are called to serve the marginalised in our community."

The theme of the weekend was 'Ordinary People, Extraordinary God', and stories of God's great faithfulness in using Parramatta Corps members to further his Kingdom on earth were shared and celebrated.

On Saturday night, the corps awarded four people with awards corresponding to The Salvation Army's four mission pillars.

Anthony Eden, the corps' Audiovisual Team Leader, was awarded the Building Healthy Communities award for his work building the corps' online ministry. This was necessary when COVID-19 hit and Sunday meetings went online, but it has grown into a thriving community!

The head of the corps' pastoral care team, Dorothy Griffin, was presented with the Caring for People award for the way that she cares for people in the Parramatta Corps community through visits, phone calls, cards, meals and other ways.

The Working for Justice award was presented to Parramatta Moneycare Financial Counsellor Vispi Irani, who works closely with the wider corps, Doorways and ministry teams to provide holistic support to people in need.

And the Faith Pathways award went to Bing Bing Tan who assists with the corps' English Conversation Classes and runs a Chinese discipleship group.

On Sunday, 180 people gathered for the meeting, including former corps officers and corps members who had returned to Parramatta Corps to attend the celebration.

Major Kylie said there have been many changes over the past few years, with the construction of a new building and the COVID-19 lockdown interruptions, but the corps is healthy and flourishing and moving forward.

"We want to acknowledge the past, but we are so aware that God has positioned us now in a new space for new things to happen, with different ministries and ways to connect with our Parramatta City community."



Parramatta Corps Officers Lieutenant Sarah Walker and Major Kylie Collinson, with NSW/ACT Divisional Commander Major Kim Haworth and Project 614 Corps Officers Majors Sandra and Brendan Nottle.
Photo Steve Haworth

STORY OF HOPE



Dillon Resetar at Project 614 Corps in Melbourne ... a place where he has found belonging.

Dillon finds belonging and a family at Project 614

Dillon Resetar is a regular at Melbourne's Project 614 Corps. He counts the faith community as his family. He shared his story recently with *Salvos Online* journalist LAUREN MARTIN.

I started coming here because I utilised this place when I was in my younger teens, back when I was 18 and living on the streets in the city here. I've come so far now.

Project 614 has a church service on Sundays, and they have other supports here, which is great too – like NDIS, Centrelink and all these services that are provided, even like counselling.

Brendan [Major Brendan Nottle, Corps Officer] is a really good friend who supports me and encourages many people to come here and use this venue. It's great to see.

Jesus has always been with me – all my life – but when I went through my rebellious teens, I sort of lost direction and got off on the wrong path.

As I got older, in my late 30s, I remembered about God, and it sort of hit me for six and put me in the right place. I had a choice – which way do I want to go? On the path of destruction? Or towards him?

So, I chose the right way, thank God. He means a lot to me. He has always been there supporting me ... always there, like I said.

I do a lot of study. I study eschatology [study of the End Times]. I'm a King James Version Bible reader, and I do a lot of studies on YouTube and things like that. I also help people understand the real meaning of the parables in the Gospels and stuff like that. It's great.

We have great functions here at Project 614 – like the Magpies AFL footy team that comes here and the NRL Melbourne Storm. And they have really great Christmas luncheons at Christmas, for people like me who have been abandoned or who have got no family supports – and so like it's like a little family. Everyone supports everyone.

You get to meet people here, too, so it's a good place of connecting. I like that, people that come through the place.

I'd like to leave you with a parable from God from Scripture, as it's one of my favourites:

“We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification. For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, the reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me” (Romans 15:1-3 KJV).

Going to College? Then & Now

by Major Peter Collins

By Kirralee Nicolle

In his reflection on his and his ancestors' involvement in The Salvation Army Training College in Melbourne, Major Peter Collins depicts shifts in Salvation Army culture and training study programs and the rise and fall of broader theological and societal movements.

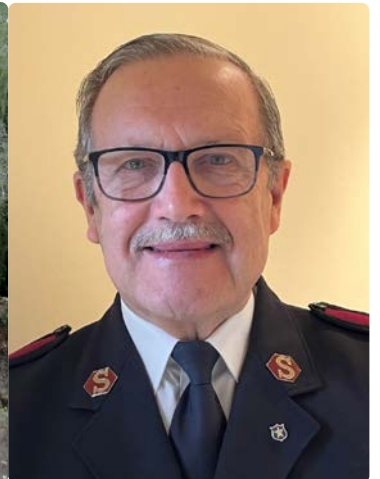
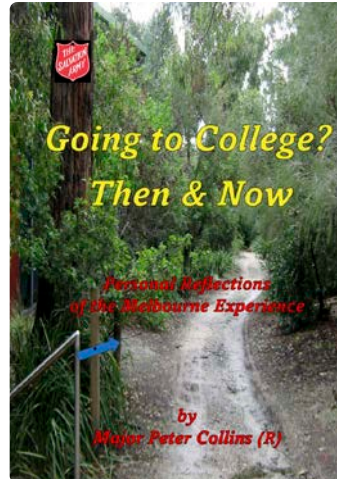
As a third-generation officer, Peter entered training college as part of the 1975 Overcomers session. He details his, at times, amusing, often meaningful and heartfelt memories from his years at the training centre at 68 Victoria Parade and then 303 Royal Parade, Parkville.

This included his experience of evangelistic door-knocking in the Carlton housing commission flats, a task that he hadn't initially wanted to undertake.

"This seemed to me an invasion of the privacy of the ... tenants," he wrote. "I complained about this incursion, but the good Captain asked me to comply with the training requirement. I was allocated the top floor, and so I bypassed the lift and reluctantly and slowly climbed the stairs. When I knocked on the first of the twenty doors, a dear pensioner lady opened the door and, seeing the uniform, exclaimed, 'Oh, Salvation Army – I am so pleased to see you! No one comes to visit here anymore. Please come in'... Half an hour later, after tea and refreshments and a prayer, it was time to leave and return to the bus via the lift, and in a thoughtful and thankful frame of mind!"

Peter also highlights the changes in college life using letters and notes from across the decades, including, in the beginning, a rather harsh letter from then Commissioner Thomas McKie to Peter's maternal grandmother, Ruby Spiller. In this letter, Thomas reminds Ruby that should she "be found unsuitable for the position of a field officer", she should be prepared to go back to her

BOOK REVIEW



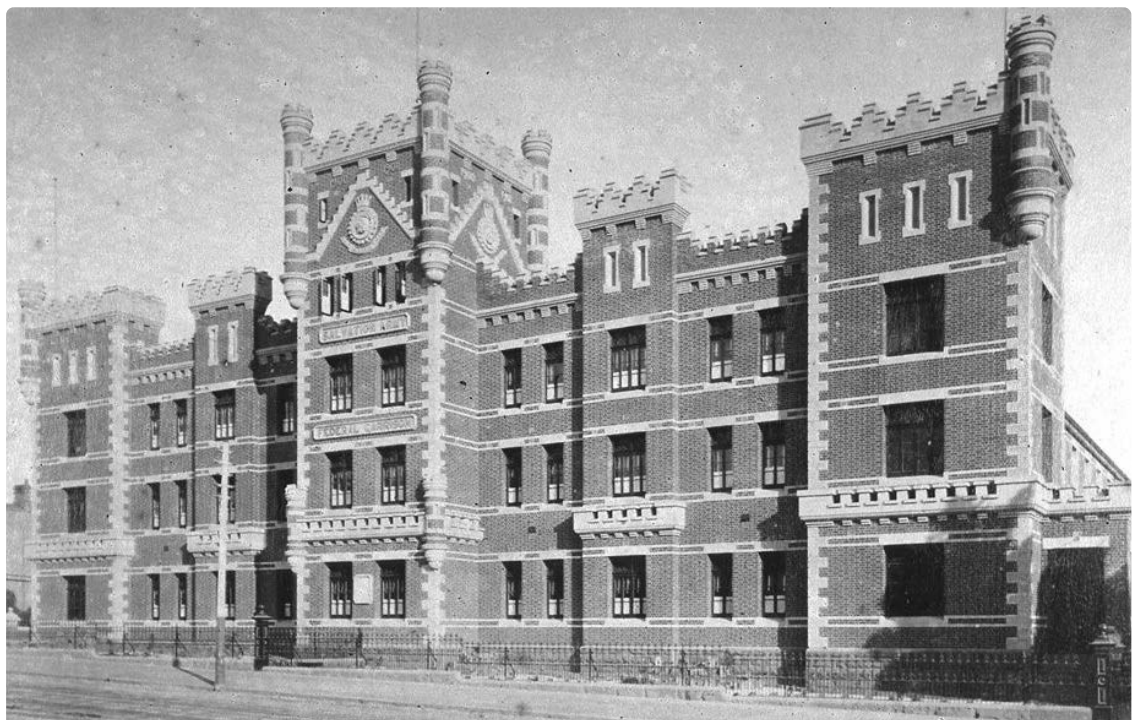
Major Peter Collins' new self-published book is available now.

corps "and be a good and true soldier of Jesus in The Salvation Army" and "not consider the Army responsible in any way for any pecuniary loss ... sustained".

This stern introduction is later contrasted with accounts of practical jokes, game-based learning and budding relationships between officers at the training colleges.

Peter's account will appeal to those who have also attended Salvation Army training colleges or have had family members attend, as it captures the nostalgia and camaraderie of college life well. It will be an exceptionally sentimental read for anyone who attended alongside Peter.

This self-published book by Balranald Books is available by contacting Peter at margpedro@gmail.com.



The old Salvation Army Training College in Victoria Parade, East Melbourne.

ENROLMENT

Four senior soldiers a 'privilege' to enrol, says Marion Corps Officer

By Anthony Castle

Major Chris Clarke said the four people enrolled as senior soldiers at Marion Corps (SA) recently brought "passion and energy" to The Salvation Army.

The dynamic corps in Adelaide's south is known for actively expressing God's love in the community, providing holistic support to people with various needs.

Corps Officers Majors Cherie and Chris Clarke enrolled the four new soldiers – Alison Fallaize, Lisa Maria Hoggard, Paul Tanner and Maria Anderson – during a special Sunday morning service on 25 August.

"All four, through their life experience and varying skills and abilities, bring so much passion and energy to The Salvation Army," Chris said.

"It is exciting to witness their love for Jesus and their willingness to engage in building a community that is Jesus-centred, Spirit-led and reveals hope.

"It's a privilege to stand beside them in ministry and now join members of the church who are active in delivering our Local Mission Plan."

Alison and Lisa are active in many of the corps teams that respond to community needs, particularly the



One of the new senior soldiers signs their Articles of War certificate.

children's ministries and youth-focused programs. Lisa is also a valued member of the Sunday Worship Team.

Alison, the Corps Business Administration Assistant, supports the corps' practical day-to-day operations and is a valued member of the Marion Corps Leadership Team.

Maria is employed as the Divisional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Engagement Coordinator for the South Australian/Northern Territory Division and, together with Paul (Ministry Assistant Alice Springs), is currently serving the community in Alice Springs.

"It was beautiful that, as their home church, we could witness this significant event in their discipleship journey," Chris said. "They are much loved at Marion and feel very much a part of our church family."



Marion Corps Officers Majors Chris and Cherie Clarke with the four new senior soldiers in front of The Salvation Army flag bearer (from left): Alison Fallaize, Maria Anderson, Lisa Marie Hoggard and Paul Tanner.