

# Salvationist

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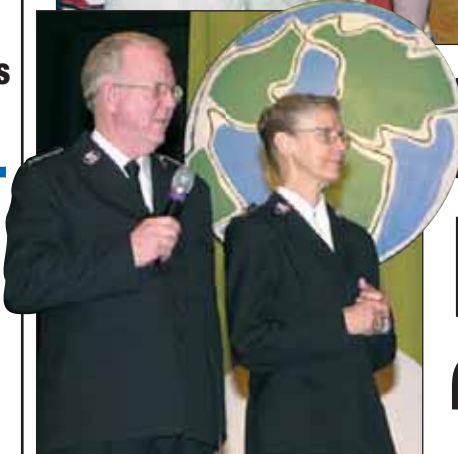
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## Biggest-ever Roots tackles 'real world'

Report by **MATTHEW CARPENTER**

**A** BLISTERING heatwave enveloped sleepy, seaside Southport as more than 4,000 people – 500 more than attended last year's event – bathed in the multitudinous rays of God's love at Roots 2002, filling the Southport Theatre and Floral Hall Complex.

Intimate, articulate worship; power-filled, to-the-point preaching; haunting, vivid life testimony and graphic no-holds-barred drama challenged delegates across four packed-to-the-doors venues to get obsessed with God's Kingdom.

'Roots is a cry to God to rend open the heavens, rip apart the ceilings of our centres and pour down his Spirit upon his Salvation Army,' enthused Mission Team Leader Russell Rook. 'Our hope is that nothing will ever be the same again.'

Themed The Real World, the four-day convention styled around six main sessions challenged delegates to bring in and live out the gospel among the dust and grime of an imperfect world.

Territorial Commander Commissioner Alex

Hughes (pictured at the convention with Commissioner Ingeborg Hughes) captured the mood at the opening session, calling for 'The Salvation Army to be The Salvation Army; a Movement supremely focused on presenting Christ'.

In the 1,650-seat theatre, Andrew Grinnell's Mission Team band led vibrant, all-age worship from a huge sound stage dominated by canary yellow banners, closed-circuit TV cameras, speaker stacks and multimedia screens.

Praise was no less vibrant amid the ballroom beauty of the glass-domed Floral Hall, where Territorial Lay Evangelists Mike and Jenny Clark fronted a heady mix of modern songs and traditional hymns accompanied by the soulful sounds of Roots Brass.

Flag-waving, creative, prayer-focused praise abounded in the modern Christ Church venue, featuring a fresh blend of interactive, participatory worship and Spirit-filled, challenging drama.

Such was the demand

**More on pages 4 and 5 >**

## NEW SOLDIERS

**William Donaldson**, Belfast Citadel; **Lesley Ann Ferguson**, Bellshill; **Linda Carter**, Chester; **Kathleen Stupniki**, Lorraine Hills, Eastbourne Old Town; **Hayley Jones**, Merthyr Tydfil; **Cara Ross**, Newark; **Robin Whiteley**, **Barbara Whiteley**, Swindon Gorse Hill; **Elaine Thornthwaite**, Whitehaven.

## NEW ADHERENTS

**Margaret Robertson**, Bellshill; **Adeline Price**, Newark; **Jean Thomson**, Pokesdown; **Val James**, **Audrey Curtis**, **Lynne Roberts**, **Sheila Roberts**, Uxbridge; **Linda Bundy**, Walsall.

## PALACE RECEPTION

**Territorial Commander Commissioner Alex Hughes**, **Major Alan Dixon** (Territorial Ecumenical Officer) and **Major Mike Parker** and **Alan Sage** (South and Mid Wales DHQ) will attend a reception for representatives of different faiths hosted by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh at Buckingham Palace on 10 June.

## APPOINTED

**David Rice**, Director of Risk Management, THQ, effective 1 May.

## APPOINTMENT

**Major George Warren**,



## Reinforcements

**HOLDING their promise certificates are three smiling new junior soldiers at YEOVIL – Bethany Westlake, Matthew Lush and Andrew Pippard. They were enrolled by Cadet Graham Slader who returned to the corps to lead meetings prior to his commissioning. – R. L.**

Harwich, Chairman of Churches Together in Harwich and District.

## LOCAL OFFICERS APPOINTED

**CT Barbara Myers**, Bradford Citadel; **CS Joanne Arif**, **JS Sgt Vicki Doyle**, Maltby; **RS Richard Taggart**, Manchester Central; **JS Sgt Carole Kerr**, Leadgate.

## MARRIAGE

**Bandsman Simon Clark** to **Daisey Orpwood** at Poplar by Majors David and Sandra Dalziel.

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

*Blue Sapphire*: **Rtd CS/ B/S/Reservist Frank** and

**S/Reservist Mrs Kella Playle**, Harwich (5 June).

*Golden*: **Major Thomas and Mrs Beatrice Bailey** (7 June); **B/S/Reservist Sid and Rtd HLT Mrs Betty Whitehouse**, Hadleigh Temple (21 June).

## DEDICATED TO GOD

**Mia Jessica Faith**, daughter of Ben and Mrs Lynette Hyde, at Chelmsford by Major Clifford Bradbury; **Imogen Lucy**, daughter of David and Mrs Melanie Carter, at Winton by Major David Bennett; **Thomas Peter**, son of Roy and Mrs Julie Brownlow, at Ripley by Div Envoy Kevin Wibberley;

**Amelie Grace**, daughter of Darren and Mrs Karen Budd, at Maidenhead by Captain John Martin; **Alexander Ian**, son of BM Jason and Mrs Agnethe Smelvaer (Jackson, USA Southern), at Bedlington by Major Philip Wilbraham.

## BEREAVED

**Major Pamela Edwards**, Burton-on-Trent, of her sister, Jean Roberts; **Major Graham Buckle**, Australia Southern, of his father; **Captain Mark Bearcroft**, Northampton Central, of his mother; **Winnie Dicker**, Harlow, of her brother; **Betty Franklin**, Eastleigh, of her husband, Arthur; **Ann Morrison**, of her

## Engagements

**GENERAL JOHN GOWANS and Commissioner Gisèle Gowans** UK, Westminster Abbey, Sun 26 May  
**ICO**, Sun 2 Jun  
**USA Southern**, Wed 5 - Mon 10  
**USA Western**, Tu 11 - Th 20

**THE CHIEF OF THE STAFF (Commissioner John Larsson) and Commissioner Freda Larsson** Mexico, Fri 24 May - Sun 26  
**ICO**, Fri 7 Jun

**UK, Royal Albert Hall** (Gospel Arts Concert), Sat 8  
**UK, Sudbury**, Sat Sun 16  
**Sweden and Latvia**, Th 20 - Sun 23

**Commissioners Todd and Carol Bassett**: Karlsruhe, Germany (10th anniversary celebrations), Fri 24 May - Sun 26  
**Commissioner Patricia Bird**: Ghana, Mon 29 Apr - Fri 31 May

## Territorial Leaders

**THE TERRITORIAL COMMANDER (Commissioner Alex Hughes) and Commissioner Ingeborg Hughes** William Booth College (farewell meetings), Sun 26 May  
**St George's Chapel, Windsor** (ecumenical service), Sun 2 Jun  
**St Paul's Cathedral** (Queen's Golden Jubilee service), Tu 4

**South-Western Division** (installation of divisional leaders), Wed 5

**Royal Albert Hall** (Gospel Arts Concert), Sat 8

**William Booth College** (music leaders councils), Sun 9

**Buckingham Palace** (reception), Mon 10

**Sunbury Court** (territorial leaders conference), Tu 11 - Sun 16

**THE CHIEF SECRETARY (Colonel Ray Houghton) and Colonel Judith Houghton** William Booth College (farewell meetings), Sun 26 May

**Cannock**, Sat Sun 2 Jun

**Royal Albert Hall** (Gospel Arts Concert), Sat 8

**Sunbury Court** (territorial leaders conference), Tu 11 - Sun 16

**International Staff Band** (executive officer Lieut-Colonel Peter Wood): Royal Albert Hall (Gospel Arts Concert), Sat 8 Jun; William Booth College (music leaders councils), Sun 9

**International Staff Songsters** (executive officer Major William Cochrane): Royal Albert Hall (Gospel Arts Concert), Sat 8 Jun; William Booth College (music leaders councils), Sun 9

husband, Don, **Richard Morrison**, **Caroline Morrison**, **Elizabeth Morrison** and **John Bell** of their father, all Eastbourne Citadel; **Anne Markham** and **Peter Glover**, both Leicester Castle, of their mother, Betty; **Joan Jefferies** of her husband, Cyril, **Songster Christine Gorman** of her father, both Swindon Gorse Hill; **Barbara Barter**, Southampton Shirley, of her stepmother, Songster Glad Roberts.

## RETIRED OFFICERS

*Birthday congratulations:*

**Mrs Aux-Captain Edith Taylor**, 5 Bourneville Road, Weston-super-Mare BS23 4BE (84 on 1 June); **Mrs Major Ivy White**, 33 Candleford Place, Stockport SK2 5NZ (80 on 2 June); **Mrs Brigadier Audrey Harrington**, 26 Crofton Avenue, Orpington BR6 8DU (93 on 4 June); **Brigadier Gertrude Reid**, 18 Florence Gardens, Benfleet SS7 2PJ (96 on 4 June); **Mrs Lieut-Colonel Eva Hoyle**, 1st Floor Flat, 4 Cerne Court, Clifton Road, Bournemouth BH6 3NZ (82 on 4 June); **Mrs Brigadier Olive Wright**, 39 Homerose House, Cottage Grove, Southsea PO5 1DU (87 on 5 June).

*Retirement addresses:*

**Brigadier Lily Roberts**, Eton Lodge, 62 Westgate Bay Avenue, Westgate-on-Sea CT8 8SN; **Brigadier Amy Field**, Primrose Lodge, 42 St Catherines Road, Bournemouth BH6 4AD.

## Promoted to Glory

**Mrs Lieut-Colonel Jill Bearcroft** from a **Christchurch hospital**, on 3 May.

*Lieut-Colonel Norman Bearcroft lives at 15 Aston Mead, Christchurch BH23 2SP.*

**Mrs Major Marion Spinney** from her home, on 3 May.

*Major John Spinney lives at 29 Brunwins Close, Wickford SS11 8EA.*

# Salvationist

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## THE SALVATION ARMY

**Founder:** William Booth **General:** John Gowans  
**Territorial Commander:** Commissioner Alex Hughes  
**Editor-in-Chief and Publishing Secretary:** Lieut-Colonel Alan Bateman



# Silk cut

**F**OR me, Roots defies interpretation. Whatever criteria you judge it by, it's the UK Territory's most successful annual event. But I can't make up my mind whether it's our least or most 'Army' occasion.

You're hard-pressed to find a Salvation Army uniform (at least of the blue serge variety). It was never planned that way. Those attending over the past few years have voted with their suitcases. Democracy rules after 137 years? This year, for the first time, even the officers attending were officially permitted to go with the flow and wear what they liked, unless they were taking part on the platform (pick the bones out of that one).

Nor do flags feature much. So yellow, red and blue are not the dominant colours. In fact *no* colour is dominant. And that probably says it all. But as far as the spirit of the event is concerned, that's certainly yellow, red and blue. William Booth would feel at home.

So, does Roots point the way ahead? Or are its 4,000 fans a territorial minority whose influence is dissipated when spread among the 40-odd-thousand UK Salvationists who do not make the journey to Southport? How significant a proportion is 10 per cent ... a tithe?

I was not at Roots this year. I was on a last-minute, budget-priced holiday on the Mediterranean island of Malta (one of the few places in Europe where there is no Salvation Army, but you shouldn't read too much into that!). My thoughts did stray to Southport, though, partly as a result of picking up a 40-year-old paperback in the hotel lounge. Titled *Now Thrive The Armourers*, it's a novel based on the military exploits of the 'Glorious Gloucesters' during the Korean War.

The book's dedication page features a quote from the prologue to Act II of William Shakespeare's *Henry V*:

*Now all the youth of England are on fire,  
And silken dalliance in the wardrobe lies:  
Now thrive the armourers ...*

There's nothing overtly militaristic about Roots. But there's no silken dalliance either. The Salvation Army's armourers need have no redundancy fears just yet. And it's not only the Army's youth who are on fire!

Captain Charles King, Editor



## Ladies' night in community hall

**A** JOINT concert given by Nottingham Memorial Halls Band and Bagthorpe Ladies' Choir (see picture) in Selston Community Hall benefited the village charity committee.

The choir brought memories of yesteryear with 'Rose Of England' and

'We'll Gather Lilacs' and sang numbers from *Cats* and *Les Misérables*.

The band played 'Able', 'Dance Before The Lord' and 'The Salvation Army Patrol'. A Bible presentation by Band Sergeant Trevor Hopwood led naturally into 'Procession To Covenant'.  
- S. M.

## Corps 'will never be the same'

**T**HE prayer room at **BIRKENHEAD** was a peaceful and comfortable place to sit and listen to music, to read or watch videos during the 24-7/SA prayer week.

On the evening of the opening day Hannah Triggs (pictured) had the honour of lighting a candle which reminded users that Jesus is the Light of the World.

A prayer wall marked out as bricks invited people to write their requests and prayers of thanksgiving and praise. Although the wall will be painted at a later date, the prayers will remain.



Everyone had different yet precious experiences and the corps will never

be the same again because of the work God did that week. - H. B.

## Seekers at new mercy seat

**C**ORPS officers Captains John and Ann Pugh dedicated a new mercy seat during Junior Soldiers Day of Renewal meetings at **TREHARRIS**.

Four junior soldiers knelt at the mercy seat in rededication followed by five young people giving their hearts to God for the first time. - J. P.

# Biggest-ever Roots tackles 'real world'

*Continued from front page*

for the Sunday morning service – when delegates combined with the Christ Church congregation – that more than 100 people spilled onto the lawn outside, holding an impromptu open-air meeting.

As worship momentarily subsided, delegates feasted on spiritual truths served up by the power-filled preaching of Steve Chalke, Founding Director of Oasis; Karen Lowe, leader of Welsh pioneer church Antioch; and Pete Greig, initiator of the 24-7 prayer movement.

The extensive, zest-filled preaching programme also featured Jackie Pullinger, who spoke passionately about her 35-year work among the poor of Hong Kong's Walled City; Major Chick Yuill (DC, Central North); Phil Wall, International Director of HopeHIV; and Russell Rook.

Swathes of people surged forward in

moments of heart-stirring response, meeting Jesus for the first time or renewing commitments, surrounded by the loving support of pastoral prayer teams.

The passion-filled Sunday theatre session typified the exhilarating move of the Spirit as hundreds of young people ran to the front of the hall to be prayed for and later returned the favour – praying with hands held high for fellow delegates.

Across all venues, delegates responded to the challenge to give sacrificially, raising £26,500 to be divided equally between the ongoing work of Jackie Pullinger and the administration of Roots. An impromptu appeal by Phil Wall during the Sunday night theatre session raised a further £20,000 for the training and resourcing of young Salvationists for inner-city ministry.

Spirit fire flowed at the 100-foot, circus-style Shocking youth venue, an



imposing 'big top' surrounded by a sea of tents amid ice-cream guzzling bank holiday crowds.

Phat tunes pulsed inside the blacked-out, nightclub-style venue – complete with catwalk stage, ear-bending sound system and massive multimedia screens – as 800 young people delved deeper with God and partied until their legs couldn't take any more.

Café culture ruled supreme at the front of the marquee where Shockers lounged on comfy sofas, chalked up a few games of pool and met up with friends at a chill-out, high-tech snack stop.

'There is a real sense of gathering. People come here with big expectations and God does not disappoint,' said venue leader Adam Bonner. 'The world needs Shocking people to do heavenly damage.'



**TOP: Roots Kids enjoy their own activities**

**ABOVE: BBC radio presenter Roger Bolton chairs a discussion**

From early devotionals to late-night partying, Roots offered days packed full of enthusiasm, depth and challenge.

Throughout the weekend, streams of people poured into the innovative, idea-filled 24-7 prayer room at Christ Church, rummaging for prayer topics in bran tubs, moulding clay prayer pictures or lounging quietly in the 10-foot high, cushion-festooned prayer tent.

Hundreds of note-taking students scribbled furiously at the popular SA Faithworks seminars, an adaptation of the applied Christian teaching programme devised by Steve Chalke, titled

Active, Community, Family, Fresh and Work.

A series of mealtime receptions offered delegates a free feed and the chance to explore the awe-inspiring, frontline work of The Eden Project, HopeHIV and Salvation Army social services. Other fringe events, featuring question-and-answer sessions and true-



**LEFT: the tent village**

**INSET: a quiet moment for two children**

**RIGHT: Phil Wall**





life stories, explored overseas mission opportunities, cell church, vocational ministry and spiritual leadership.

Between events delegates buzzed busily around the new and improved Resource Zone, housed in a large marquee in the Floral Hall Gardens, offering information on such diverse topics as Christian broadcasting, children's ministry, church growth and faith education.

Well past bedtime, the fun-filled After Hours programme kicked in, featuring discussion forums, Parkinson-style interviews, performance poetry and tub-thumping dance, rock, pop and indie anthems.

On Friday night delegates let their hair down to mark a full year

of non-stop, perpetual, 24-7 prayer with a worshipful celebration and panel discussion. Joyous applause greeted the news that more than 10,000 people across 202 Salvation Army centres had participated in the power-filled prayer event, initiated at last year's Roots convention.

The uninhibited atmosphere of praise and worship reached a pulsating climax at the Sunday night theatre praise party, as delegates immersed themselves in hand-clapping, foot-stamping, heart-pounding, holy exuberance.



Energy-filled five to 11-year-olds enjoyed a party of their own at Roots Kids – the lively children's programme led by full-time children's entertainer Pete Bignall – featuring music, games, crafts and age-appropriate Christian teaching at Southport Arts Centre.

An on-site, professionally run crèche offered quality care for younger children, featuring interactive play experiences and spiritually themed activities.

Adam Bonner's final verdict was, 'The sense of expectancy at Roots this year has been overwhelming. People came to be sparked into more serious faith and God has responded. Miracles have taken place.'

**Pictures by GABRIEL SIM**



**TOP LEFT: the Mission Team Band's Annika Hansson**

**ABOVE: Steve Chalke, and (below), chairing a panel**

**LEFT: speaker Jackie Pullinger**

**RIGHT: a happy**



**BELOW LEFT: some of the delegates unable to attend a packed-out Christ Church service**

**BELOW: Roots Brass conducted by Mike Clark**



# General campaigns in Congo

**T**HOUSANDS of people fled their homes and adults and children crammed into the Salvation Army hall in central Brazzaville to shelter for the night as soldiers searched their dwellings for illegal arms.

Joined by territorial headquarters officers unable to return home for the night because of roadblocks, they discussed painful memories of the hardships and losses of the wars that ended only two years ago.

As night fell, prayer meetings were held and then the people found a space in which to catch as much sleep as they could.

One week later Salvationists of the Congo (Brazzaville) Territory greeted General John Gowans and Commissioner Gisèle Gowans as they arrived at the airport. Following the playing of the Founder's Song by the territorial band both visitors addressed the gathering in French, bringing words of encouragement and hope.

Young people gathered for a rally in which two Salvationists testified to the faithfulness of God throughout the problems they had faced in their lives.

The General

repeatedly challenged the youth of the territory to make personal decisions for Christ while they were young, as he had. More than 300 people knelt at the mercy seat following an appeal to consecration.

At the same time the women met for their rally with Commissioner Gowans. A group sang the prayer of all the members, 'Peace, Perfect Peace'. A march past included members of the adult and junior home leagues, the medical fellowship, league of mercy and literacy training programme.

A group of more than 70 women presented a display unique to the region – each played two wickerwork maracas called *nsakalas* accompanied by local songs.

The Government Director General for Women's Work spoke of the great work accomplished by The Salvation Army, referring

to the Army as 'the family with a smile'.

Commissioner Gowans told how every situation can be used by God. Many people sought the Lord at the mercy seat.

The following day the General's party visited a Salvation Army school based in the old corps buildings at Loua and also a clinic. Only a week earlier a storm had removed the roofing sheets from the hall there.

Salvationists joined to greet the General, who spoke of his travels to different countries and the need for prayer. In song and recitation pupils told of the origins of the school.

The visitors then moved on to Yenge Home for the Needy in Nzoko to meet the children who study at the Army's school for the blind.

Later General Gowans met the 12 cadets at the training college who will be commissioned in a month's time. He challenged them to never stop learning.

The festival of praise featured Ouenzé Band, united songsters, timbrelists and singing

companies from Brazzaville with a standard of music that thrilled the several thousand people in the packed hall.

The General encouraged those present with the message that 'God is with us whatever the difficulty, temptation or opposition'.

Following a march of witness the Sunday morning meeting combined contributions from the territorial band and songsters, a Bible recital from the women of the weekly Bible class and in-depth teaching from the General. At the conclusion of the Bible message many hundreds of people knelt at the mercy seat.

Many of the 1,000 people listening outside the hall knelt on the ground as they could not reach the mercy seat.

The General greeted two pioneers of the work in the Congo, still faithful Salvationists at the first corps at Poto Poto.

Before leaving the Congo, General Gowans was invited to meet the President of the Congo Republic, His Excellency Denis Sassou-Nguessou, reaffirming the respect in which the Army is held in the country. – J. D.



## FAB!

**CAPTAIN Mark Sawyer (DYO) conducted Junior Soldiers Day of Renewal and SAY (Salvation Army Youth) Sunday at HALIFAX.**

The captain's theme was *Thunderbirds* and he used FAB as an illustration that serving Jesus is Fabulous And Brilliant. He presented Junior Soldier Course Gold Awards to Ann Marsh and Kimberley-Jane Stead.

The evening meeting was themed Shock, representing Servanthood, Humbleness and Obedience to Christ the King. Each member of the congregation was invited to renew their vows to God and more than 40 people responded by kneeling at the mercy seat to sign a specially prepared card.

In the same meeting Rachel Heaton (pictured) was sworn-in as a soldier and commissioned as a bandswoman. – M. M.

**C**ORPS members at **MAESTEG** witnessed the enrolment of new junior soldiers Sarah Thomas, David Back and Laura James.

Laura came to the Army following an invitation from her school friend Sarah Back.

In the same meeting Sharon Davies was recognised as an adherent.

Sarah Thomas is pictured (left) with David and Laura. – D. B.

## Won by friend



**Thank you, Jack!**

**BANDSMAN Jack Kennard receives from corps officer Major Darrell Thomas a certificate admitting him to the band reserve at WORTHING. Jack has been a bandsman for 61 years. – D. T.**

# London Central celebrates at Rink

**C**HALLENGE from God's word and insight into Salvation Army local work brought response from several seekers at the conclusion of **LONDON CENTRAL Division's** day of celebration at Regent Hall.

The theme Do You Not Know? Have You Not Heard? celebrated God and creation and highlighted the Spirit at work in the world. Special guests and former divisional leaders Colonels Keith and Pauline Banks (IHQ) were welcomed 'back home' by Major John Wainwright (DC).

A dialogue 'Not A Lot Of People Know That' formed part of an introductory praise and worship period led by Captain Jackie Pound and Divisional Envoy Brian Haylock (both DHQ). Forty-five children then departed to enjoy their own activities, later returning to display colourful banners they had made.

The playing of 'Since Jesus' by Hendon Band introduced a testimony feature by their corps officer Major Russell Wyles. He interviewed Bandsman Ali Coulter about the challenges of family life, and Bandsman Tony Scannell (euphonium) expressed his testimony in 'Shepherd Song'.

In contrast Daniel De-Fry (Wood Green) brought a harp solo, 'Étude No 3' by Bach (see picture). Daniel also took part in a time of reflection after the dialogue-style Bible message by Colonels Keith and Pauline Banks – a skilful blend of humour, poetry and Scripture. Colonel Pauline Banks sang 'I'm His Own Child'.

The evening began with infectious,

enthusiastic African rhythms by a worship group from Balham, led by their corps officer Captain Benjamin Nkounkou. Regent Hall Band introduced a contemplative mood with 'Lord, I Come To You' and the Divisional Youth Chorus encompassed the prayer period with 'All Of Our Praise' and 'In Christ Alone'.

Colonel Keith Banks interviewed Alison Norton (Resettlement Coordinator, Edward Alsop Court) and Linda Jarrett (Assistant Centre Manager, Faith House) about their faith and work.

Alison spoke of her role helping people move out of homelessness and how she experienced a strengthening of faith through her mother's terminal illness.

Linda described how street work in the King's Cross area brings her into contact with many broken lives and hurting people.

In his concluding Bible message Colonel Banks challenged the congregation to 'go back and tell' those who do not know. – D. W.



## Growth

**B**ROTHER and sister Martin and Emma Williams made public commitments of faith at **KIDSGROVE** when they were enrolled, respectively, as an adherent and junior soldier. Both have attended the corps for some time.

Together with the recent enrolment of junior soldier Zoe Perkin this gives the corps good reason to celebrate signs of spiritual growth among its young people. – S. P.

## Visiting songsters focus on faith

**A** STRONG devotional emphasis permeated home and family weekend meetings at **SUTTON** led by **Barton-upon-Humber Songsters**.

Saturday's programme, chaired by Lieut-Colonel Steve Pallant, featured 'Bound For Canaan's Shore' and 'Mid All The Traffic'. The women's voices presented 'Spread The Golden Ray' and 'Precious Promise', and individual items were given by Glyn Willows (cornet), Diana Keech (cor anglais) and Sandra Fisher (vocal).

The item 'Occupational Hazards' allowed the congregation a humorous insight into some of the songsters' working

environments. Joanne Credland brought the Bible message.

Sunday open-air witness at a French market in the town centre attracted much attention from shoppers. In the preceding meeting Songsters Joan Codd, Dee Williamson and Yvonne

Davies spoke about aspects of God's family.

A highlight of the praise and salvation meeting was 'The Awakeners'. Sandra Fisher gave her testimony and Captain Pam Pitt (Barton-upon-Humber), who entered training from Sutton, brought the Bible message. – R. D.

## Parkgate's home fixture

**H**OME league members made deeper commitments of faith during home and family weekend at **PARKGATE**.

In keeping with the Bread of Life theme, many different types of bread were on display.

The delightful singing of 24 children from Thorogate Primary School brought much enjoyment at Monday's rally, as did the vocal duets of church members Helen Fenner and Sandra Larder.

Captain Christine Whittingham (Mexborough) continued Sunday's theme in her Bible message. Corps officer Captain Alwyn Hockley led the rally. – A. H.

## Floral tribute for Elaine



**DIVISIONAL Commander Major Mike Parker of SOUTH AND MID WALES** says it with flowers and a certificate at a special reception for retiring secretary **Elaine Groenberg**. Elaine has given 18 years' exemplary service and has worked for five divisional commanders. – P. M.

## SPRINGBURN: Chelmsford Home League Singers

appeared in the guise of old-fashioned and modern grandmothers when Major Jean Bradbury (Chelmsford) led action-packed meetings. The weekend concluded with a successful united home league rally. – W. M.

## Youth 4 Ukraine

**COMMISSIONER** Harry Read hosted a Youth4Ukraine programme at **WINTON**. The evening was arranged to raise funds for a forthcoming visit to the Ukraine by members of the corps.

**Poole Singing Company**, led by Helen Batt and accompanied by their backing group, enthusiastically sang 'Our God Is A Great Big God' and 'We Are Warriors' complete with smoke machine and flashing lights.

Daniel Shave (Poole) played the accordion magnificently.

**Verwood Dance Group**, led by Nikki Rayner, presented two items using flags, ribbons and marching steps.

Pictures of earlier corps visits to the Ukraine were projected onto a screen while the YP band played 'Angels', 'Smile' and 'Light-walk'.

While purchasing toothbrushes for the mission to Ukraine, Bob and Irene Morgan, Winton's newest adherents, were offered a donation of toothbrushes by a local chemist. Bob and Irene's dentist made an equally generous gift of children's toothbrushes after they told him about the project. – M. R.

**A**T a St George's Day service in Lincoln Cathedral John Foster (Lincoln) received the Scout Association's Silver Acorn Award from County Commissioner Alan Scott.

John started his 48-year career in scouting by helping at the 9th Lincoln (SA) group and eventually became group leader with more than 100 members.

He is still involved in scouting as publicity officer and a skills instructor.

John is pictured with corps officers Majors Gillian and Richard Crowe (left) and Captain Nigel Govier (DYO). – G. C.

## Silver acorn for scouting John



## Seven up!

**SEVEN** newly commissioned YP band members at **KETTERING** smile for the camera. They are (back row) Sarah Hunt, Joe Kemp and Zoe Kemp and (front row) James Fountain, Holly Smith, Ruth McElhone and Christopher Hunt. – B. H.

## Spring music

**A** FESTIVAL titled Music For A Spring Evening at **RAMSGATE** commenced with 'Olympic Fanfare And Theme' from the band.

Guest vocal duettists Alexandra and Catherine Lawrie featured in the programme with 'Wind Beneath My Wings' and Andrew Lloyd Webber's 'Amigos Para Siempre'.

The evening raised £288 and concluded with 'A Gaelic Blessing'. – R. K.

## Susan succeeds Paul

**I**N a meeting at **STOWMARKET** to recognise the retirement of Songster Leader Paul Ling after 23 years in that position, Susan Turner received her commission as the new songster leader.

Tributes were paid to Paul's years of service and in return he thanked God for the privilege and opportunity to serve.

Susan is pictured with Paul and corps officer Major Keith Williams. – M. B.



**I**n the southwest corner of Tanzania, in the region of Mbeya, stands the small semi-rural town of Mbalizi. Just over a year ago The Salvation Army began a Mustard Seeds project there, known locally as SAMIDE (Salvation Army Microcredit Development). The project aims to alleviate poverty through microcredit – small loans for poor people who have no access to any other funding. Many of the people involved in the programme are women. In Africa, and other parts of the world, it is women who suffer most from the harshness of poverty, who have all the responsibilities of looking after the home and the children. But women are often discriminated against when it comes to equal opportunities, especially access to credit facilities.

In general women have proved themselves to be more responsible when it comes to dealing with financial assets. A woman will most readily use the money generated from her business to improve her family's living standards and provide education, clothing and proper nutrition for her children.

The loans are used to commence small businesses and are paid back over an agreed period. Afterwards, a second or third loan is available and additional first-time loans are offered to other women. So far, 99.09 per cent of loans have been repaid on time.

One of the issues the Mustard Seeds project tackles in Tanzania is the concept of individuals saving money. It's hoped this will eventually replace the need to take further loans.

Shaun Kennedy, who manages SAMIDE in Mbeya, explains that a simple savings deposit book is used, which is updated manually each week. The borrowers love to see their savings grow. But the savings are not used as security against the outstanding loan. The borrowers are free to lodge and withdraw savings at any time.

In Zambia, where the UK Territory established its first Mustard Seeds project in 1999, various saving methods have been introduced. One ingenious system is called *Chirimbas* (roughly interpreted as 'Merry-Go-Round'). Under the scheme, six traders join together to help each other save. Each trader contributes the Zambian equivalent of £6 every day into a corporate pot. On a rota basis, one person each day takes the total amount. This gives them each £36 every six days.

One of the earliest Mustard Seeds stories from Zambia is that of Mrs Ngoma (pictured above), an elderly woman who used to sit begging outside her son's house. Her son was unable to support her as he was struggling to support his own children.

Mrs Ngoma took out her first loan and crossed the border into

# From begging to banking



Zimbabwe to buy sugar, which she then sold in small quantities to other members of the local community. After several loans she was not only able to provide for her own needs but also to help her son and his family.

To open a bank account in an established bank in Zambia you need to have, and keep, a minimum deposit of the equivalent of £20. When, during a recent visit to Mrs Ngoma's community, Mustard Seeds officials asked how many of the local women had been able to set up an official bank account, the first hand to go up was that of Mrs Ngoma. Within less than two years she has moved from begging to banking.

So, what impact has the Mustard Seeds microcredit programme made?

Major Wilson Mwalukani, District Officer for Mbeya, says: 'The profile of The Salvation Army in Mbalizi has been very much raised. The community respects the Army for developing poor women economically. Through this programme many people have become Salvationists and the church members have increased their weekly offerings.'

An update on the UK Territory's Mustard Seeds project

This project has brought great changes

Section Officer Captain Samson Matakoo adds: 'I'm grateful for the opportunity to express my appreciation to the donors and friends who contribute money to help women in Mbeya. This project has brought great changes not only for women but also for The Salvation Army in Mbeya.'

'Many women who had been sitting at home depending on their husbands have now established small businesses, and they testify that their families have changed. There is money to provide their children with food and school equipment and to pay school fees.'

'Also Salvation Army officers are able to reach non-Christian families and build friendships with them. The Army, too, is growing as a result. Most Salvationists in Mbeya are women, and because they have established their own businesses they can now give more to God's work. This means corps incomes are increasing.'

But perhaps the best tributes come from poor people themselves.

'I'm able to afford my monthly rent easily now,' says Rehema Chadi.

'I can send my children to school. They can eat and sleep in a safe place. Generally I have got a very good life,' says Tumaini Mwakalonge.

'I have bought local cattle to help keep my family,' says Sabina Fred.

'I now eat three meals a day. My child's health has improved and I have new friends. There are a lot of changes in my house,' says Amia Kilili.

Let the final word come from Shaun Kennedy, who has seen the changes the project has made both on the community and in individual lives.

'Our statistics show,' he says, 'that we are already making progress towards achieving operating and financial sustainability. With good management and increased funding to disperse more loans, and a good three-year to five-year plan, the Mustard Seeds microcredit development project could really make a significant impact on the lives of these people. *Assante sana. Mungu akkubarki!* – Thank you very much. God will bless you!'

For more details about the Mustard Seeds Microcredit Partnership contact the Overseas Projects Office at UK Territorial Headquarters, 101 Newington Causeway, London SE1 6BN; email [projects@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:projects@salvationarmy.org.uk)

## Adherent attracted through singing company

**C**ORPS officer Major Dawn Evans enrolled junior soldier **Jesca Hollowell** at **HINCKLEY** during a Junior Soldiers Day of Renewal meeting led by Junior Soldiers Sergeant Marion Mander.

In the evening meeting corps officer Major Howard Evans recognised Margaret Ward and Clive Pickard as adherents.

Clive was attracted to the Army when the singing company led meetings at Leicester New Parks. His grandson Liam is now fully involved in the 13-plus group and has brought his parents to the Army.

A number of people were presented with certificates as members of the community care ministries. – H. E.



## Half-century of service

**D**URING home and family meetings at **TWICKENHAM**, led by Colonels Michael and Martha Pressland, Home League Secretary Dorothy Bolloom retired after 49 years of service.

Dorothy, aged 81, was presented with a folio of letters congratulating and thanking her for service to the corps, division and territory.

She has served as songster leader, singing



company leader, divisional home league singers leader and frequently as piano accompanist at special events.

### Hillingdon Home League Singers

participated in the meeting.

Pictured (front row, from left) are Dorothy's husband Retired Corps Secretary Jim Bollom, Dorothy and Colonel Martha Pressland and (back row, from left) Regional Music Director Ken Clark, corps officer

Divisional Envoy Wendy Clark and Lieut-Colonel Margaret Davis (DHQ). – W. C.

## TC chairs corps forum

**T**WO women knelt at the mercy seat at the end of meetings led by territorial leaders Commissioners Alex and Ingeborg Hughes at **DROITWICH**.

The capacity congregation included a contingent from Redditch and representatives from other churches.

In the afternoon the TC chaired an open forum in which corps members discussed the corps mission statement.

Following the morning meeting in which the TC emphasised the need to bear fruit, the corps held a short service at a residential home. – R. C.



## Bobby joins troupers

**A** CHALLENGING weekend of worship at **HAVERHILL** led by the See It And Believe It Mime Troupe (Addlestone) began with town centre evangelism and ended with the troupe participating in a united church praise meeting with guest speaker **Bobby Ball** (see picture) of Cannon and Ball fame.

The church was full for the bimonthly praise event and there was a significant response to the appeal by Bobby Ball.

Before the Saturday youth event, arranged in partnership with other churches, the troupe led a mime workshop. They also led morning worship and visited a home for elderly people. – S. A.



## Anne celebrates 101 years

**F**ESTIVITIES at **LEEDS WEST HUNSLET** luncheon club marked the 101st birthday of the oldest and newest member, Anne Ibbotson.

Anne has been married to Charlie (see picture) for 42 years and he is a mere 86 years old! They have been regular attenders at the club four times a week for six months.

The thriving club is meeting a significant need in south Leeds. – M. A.

## Reinforcements

**M**ORE than 20 parents and friends at **POOLE** witnessed the enrolment of junior soldiers **Andrew Rodgers**, **Holly Lampert** and **Shannon Harrop** by corps officer **Major Roger Batt**.

Holly and Andrew came to the Army when their mothers attended an Alpha course. Shannon was introduced through the brownies. – G. G.

## On duty

I AM intrigued by Colin Foster's assertion that he would much rather a bandsman was present in meetings only out of a sense of duty than not present at all.

While I am sure it is not only bandsmen who sometimes attend meetings simply out of a sense of duty (it happens to officers too, believe me!) the implication is that the bandsman has not come along to the meeting because of any desire to worship God, or to hear God's voice, and also that he has been in that sorry state for some time.

I accept the reasoning that such a bandsman 'might well come to find a deeper meaning to his service' if he continues to attend meetings, but is it not mildly alarming that there are soldiers whose only reason for turning up at the hall week after week is duty?

This begs the question: duty to whom, or what? To the Army? To the band? To the corps? To one's friends and family? To God?

If it is the case that the poor fellow goes home after every meeting bored to tears, without having experienced anything much of God, who might be responsible? The officer? The corps folk? The bandsman himself?

I don't know the answer, but I do know God can meet with us anywhere if we want him to. How do I know that? Because the Bible tells me so (James 4:8).

I say, therefore, to all those who attend meetings out of duty, that I too would rather they were present than absent, but over and above that I would much rather they came to worship, to support, and to enjoy fellowship, than because they felt duty-bound.

Our common duty towards God is a fine

Picture: RUUD TINGA



## Nothing like an Army cup of tea!

**ACCORDING to General John Gowans, 'There's nothing like an Army cup of tea.' Every week in our social centres, home leagues and post-holiness meeting fellowships we serve and drink gallons of the stuff. When added to personal consumption, the amount of tea and coffee passing Salvationist lips represents a sizeable serving of consumer power.**

**What a difference the Army could**

**make to some of the world's poorest people if the personnel at every corps, centre and headquarters, and every individual Salvationist, bought and drank only beverages which bear the Fairtrade mark!**

**A case of char-ity beginning at home.**

**Nigel Bovey,  
Major,  
Croydon**

thing, but any sense of duty towards secondary matters that gradually edge God out of the picture is sorely misplaced, and of no great benefit to the Kingdom.

**Stephen Poxon,  
Captain,  
Harpenden**

## Flexible

HOW refreshing to read Captain Andrew Vertigan's letter about having an open and flexible approach within The Salvation Army! He certainly possesses the right attitude as far as I am concerned.

Many years ago, when the rules concerning membership of music sections were more rigid, I taught several young people to play brass instruments before they had made spiritual decisions, perhaps thereby putting the cart before the horse in some people's

eyes. But why does that matter?

From a family of four such children, new to the Army, two became officers, one is now a corps pianist and their mum and dad became soldiers.

If such methods bring people into the orbit of the Church, and under the influence of the gospel, surely they must be acceptable.

**Eddie Peek,  
Aldershot**

## Say less

A RECENT correspondent suggests the would-be believer is frightened off by the demands of the gospel and the Church, which make it necessary for him to shed 'little sins'.

Are these 'little sins' common to all churches or faiths? I think not. Some churches would not see smoking, a glass of wine in moderation, a little bet or

an occasional bad temper as anything but normal. The Army would take the opposite view, I think.

I have found that people watch those who profess a Christian faith, rather than just listen to their theology, rules and regulations. We are seen as carrying too much baggage.

As people become interested in Christian faith their 'little sins' seem gradually to lessen, without the need for negative comments by over-zealous evangelists. As their faith and understanding grow God reveals what needs changing.

I think our role is to live the Christian life and be a continual encourager; say less and listen more.

If it were possible for every Christian to positively influence one

person every year, where would it end?

Do we need to be more positive and inclusive in our relations with our fellow men and women?

**Noel Mann,  
Palmerston North,  
New Zealand**

## Percy

THROUGH Salvationist I learnt of the promotion to Glory of Percy Burgess of Eastbourne Citadel.

As a former soldier of Nunhead Corps, I had known him for a number of years, including when we were both members of the South London Fellowship Band at its inception eight years ago. His enthusiastic personality added much to the band.

In earlier times he had been a string bass player in The National Orchestra, under the leadership of Adjutant Zealley, and a member of the SP&S Band led by Eric Ball.

He will be remembered by many South Londoners for being the bass vocal soloist in the South London Chorus's performance of 'The Heavens Are Telling The Glory Of God', both at the Fairfield Hall, Croydon, and on record.

My brother-in-law was a Methodist lay preacher in the South London circuit and has told me that on a number of occasions recently he would arrive at a church to find, much to his pleasure, that Percy was the stand-in organist.

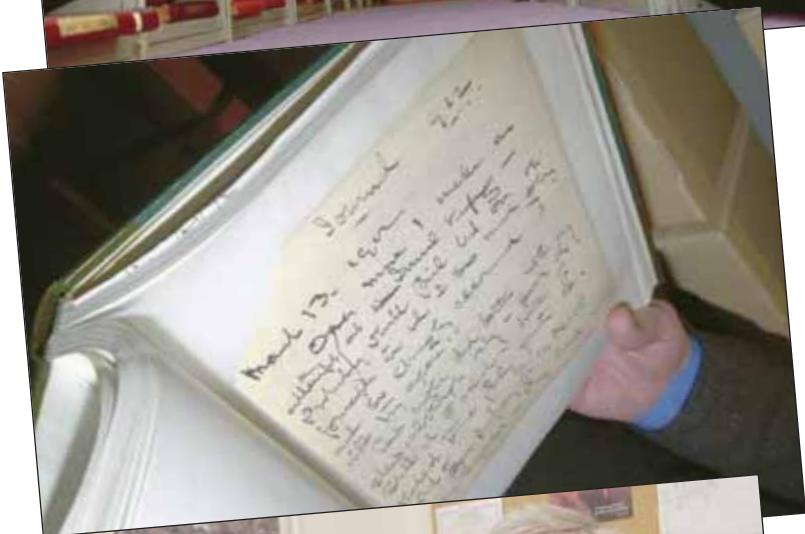
Many people held Percy in very high regard, so I offer these few inadequate words to convey something of the fullness of his life and his contribution to the Lord's work in the Army.

**John Hodson,  
Leicester**

Write to *Salvationist* (Letters), 101 Newington Causeway, London SE1 6BN or fax 020 7367 4710 or email [salvationist@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:salvationist@salvationarmy.org.uk)

● Not all letters can be printed; the shorter they are, the more chance they have of being included.

● The Editor reserves the right to edit letters or print extracts.



# International Heritage Centre Yesterday shares

**‘K** NOW the past and you can better understand the present and prepare for the future!’ said the Founder. William Booth’s words encapsulate the purpose of the Army’s International Heritage Centre, believes its director, Major Jim Bryden. And he is happy to answer those who criticise any tendency among Salvationists to look to their Movement’s yesterdays rather than its tomorrows.

‘The function of the centre is to span the past, present and future,’ Jim explains. ‘The Army’s distinctive and indiscriminate calling is to the whole person and is rooted in its history. Besides giving identity, our history and heritage offer direction when linked with current mission challenges – which in turn help shape and determine our future.’

As far as its location is concerned, the heritage centre – recently transferred from International Headquarters to UK Territory ‘ownership’ but still an international resource – faces an uncertain future. It is presently in a transition period, situated at William Booth College for the foreseeable future. Lack of space means its museum is currently closed. But these changes and ambiguities have not dampened the enthusiasm of the centre’s staff – all of whom feel privileged to be stewards of the Army’s records.

‘I’m surrounded by fine, able and experienced personnel,’ says Jim. ‘They are all highly motivated, and have the best interests of the centre at heart.’

Each of the nine members of staff contributes in a valuable way to the IHC, whether their job is researching, archiving, cataloguing new acquisitions or repairing documents.

With the exception of a few refinements, the systems used at the centre have altered little since its inception back in the 1970s. ‘Lieut-

Colonel Cyril Barnes IHQ, set the centre up and had a love for Salvationist and you could say he was the Movement’s archivist, enthusiast and explorer collecting significant memorabilia which he and catalogued.’

Today, there are many heritage centres in other parts of the world, and other units of the IHC itself receives tre-



photographs, letters and other material from generations ago, as the flags and historical documents which close.

Because the process of making, corps are encouraged to contribute anything which is happening at Army Headquarters want to capture this moment, it,’ Jim asserts. ‘After the war will form an important part of our history.’

**PICTURED (clockwise from right)** Tara Fairclough repairing a ‘Salvationist’ example of ‘The War Cry’; Major Gordon Taylor researching the archives; and Major Jim Bryden, International Heritage Centre Director Major Jim Bryden, letter written in his own hand; a view of the archive; and Major Jim Bryden repairing a

Words TARA FAIRCLOUGH

is vital because...

# preserves tomorrow

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When it comes to the question of who benefits from the centre, Jim reveals that it is an invaluable source of information for numerous sectors of society.

'Those who wish to do research on all manner of subjects approach us,' he says. 'We get visits from schoolchildren and students. We house the records of the Army's social services, which social workers often use. Additionally, we have ongoing arrangements with various media bodies who come to us for photographs and information.'

Many inquiries about family members are also received, most by email, which has proved an invaluable tool.

It's quite an experience to visit the archives – box upon box and shelf upon shelf of Army history just waiting to be explored. An eventual permanent home for the centre will mean the chance to relaunch the museum, complete with innovations which Jim hopes will make it the best it's ever been.

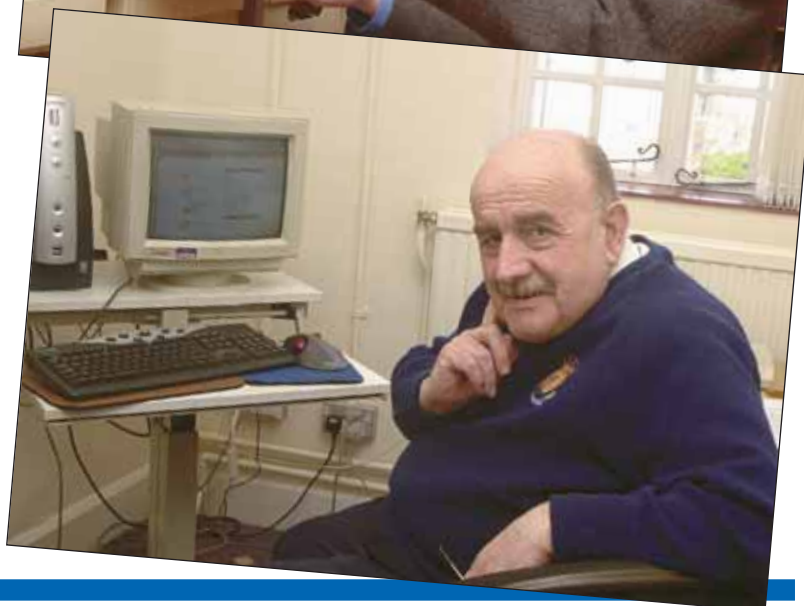
'I want the museum to feature electronic interaction displays and touch-screen facilities, rather than being static,' he enthuses.

Despite uncertainties, Jim is positive about what tomorrow holds. 'I want to see our work expand more and more, especially now we are part of the UK Territory,' he discloses.

'I would like to combine our efforts with the Schools and Colleges Information Service and, with their support, make an impact on the educational scene in the UK.'

Jim wants to send out the message that the past is something to be cherished. 'If my colleagues and I fear anything, it is that the heritage centre is not always given the attention it deserves,' he says. 'But we are working as a team, sharing a vision, and tackling all the problems that come our way. After all, it is such an honour and privilege to be entrusted with the guardianship of the Army's history.'

**Pictures GABRIEL SIM**



# New members take their places

**S**ALVATIONISTS at **PORT GLASGOW** embraced the 24-7/SA prayer initiative with enthusiasm, taking responsibility for a Saturday during West Scotland's week.

CSM John Campbell, Bandmaster Graham Arthur and Songster Leader Graham Parkhill prayer walked around various areas of the corps district and members of the youth fellowship prayed during the early hours.

In a Sunday meeting corps officers Captains Jim and Margaret Prescott swore-in new soldier Graham McIntosh. Four adherents – Julia Heron, Sadie Bratton, Tracey Cooney and Alistair

McCorkell – were recognised. Company Guard Stuart Logan was commissioned the following Sunday.

The corps officers are pictured with Julia, Sadie, the CSM, Tracey, Alistair and Graham McIntosh. – P. C.



# Monkwearmouth visits Sale

**B**AND weekend meetings at **SALE** featured **Sunderland Monkwearmouth Band**.

The Saturday evening programme included 'The Wearmouth March', written for the band by an early-day member, and Bill Himes's 'Collage Of Contemporary Praise'. Colin Niel (trombone) and YP Band Leader Joe Beattie (cornet, pictured) played 'The Bluebells Of Scotland' and 'The Amazing Mr Leidzén' and the programme concluded with Les Condon's 'The Present Age'.

Peter Birch led Sunday morning worship, and later ministry included a march of

witness with personal contact by the host corps bandsmen in connection with the forthcoming 24-7/SA prayer week.

The Sunday afternoon programme featured an excellently presented trombone quartet 'Glory Be'. – B. W.

## Music aids charities

**T**WO charities benefited from a festival presented by **Staple Hill Songsters and Timbrel Group at Badminton Road Methodist Church, Downend**.

The songsters sang 'To God Be The Glory',

'Marching For Jesus' and 'Love Divine'. Timbrel displays were presented to 'Rolling Along' and 'Moses, Get Down!'

A vocal duet by Liz and Hannah Brewer and a vocal solo by Vivien Wallington were well received by the capacity congregation.

Bristol Methodist Centre and Testimony Faith Homes will share the £300 raised. – V. W.

# Wire Brass debuts at Warrington

**A**N absorbing programme of music presented at **WARRINGTON** featured **Wire Brass**, a band formed in September 2001.

The band's items included 'Honest Toil', 'Disney Fantasy' (complete with jungle effects) and 'The Kingdom Triumphant'.

Junior soldiers Carl and Bradley Jones, pupils of the band's music director Paul Andrews, played a cornet duet.

During the evening, in appreciation of his service to brass banding in Warrington, Paul's father Len was made president of Wire Brass. – L. E.



# Boys' Brigade transfers to corps

**D**URING a meeting at **PERTH** the **1st Perth Company of the Boys' Brigade** was officially recognised as part of the corps.

The company had been affiliated to the Church of Scotland but when the church was demolished and merged

with another parish they asked corps officer Captain Iain Hudson if they could become affiliated to the Army.

In a ceremony the leaders rededicated themselves to their work of teaching the gospel to the boys in their care. – I. H.

# Post-eruption relief

**T**HREE months after the volcanic eruption near Goma, **The Salvation Army** is continuing to provide relief to victims in the **Democratic Republic of Congo**.

Almost all other relief agencies have now pulled out of the area but the Army is continuing to provide vital assistance in partnership with the international non-governmental organisation World Relief.

Food, seeds and tools are currently being distributed to around 6,500 families in Goma itself and in nearby Bukoma, Rugari, Gisigari and Bweza.

The distribution teams are made up of Congolese workers for World Relief and Salvationists from neighbouring Rwanda.

# Dear Paul...



Dear Paul,

It's a pity there's not a celestial postal service so I could get answers to all the questions I want to ask you! Apart from theological matters, I'd like to know more about some of your friends. Sometimes there are only passing references to them in your letters, and not much more in Dr Luke's brief history of the Early Church.

Take Aquila and Priscilla for example. Were they among the early converts in Rome, or even among the visitors from that city who heard Peter preaching in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost? We know for sure they were among those affected by the decree of the Emperor Claudius banishing Jews from the capital.

I understand they moved to Corinth, where you were busy planting a church. Was there a street or district where tentmakers were concentrated? At any rate, because you shared that trade you met, and it became possible for you to share work and accommodation – and, no doubt, rich Christian fellowship.

From Corinth, the happy wanderers seem to have moved with you to Ephesus. Then, eventually, they went back to Rome, the ban on Jews apparently having been lifted.

Perusing your letters and Luke's account, I notice that, more often than not, Priscilla's name is mentioned before that of her husband. Was there any significance in that? I've no problem with the principle of 'ladies before gentlemen' but wasn't it a bit unusual to put it that way at that time?

By way of explanation it has been suggested that Priscilla was a member of a distinguished Roman family. If that was so I would love to know how this high-born lady came to meet and marry a Jewish artisan. Do I sense a hidden romance?

If I were writing a religious novel based on this couple my imagination could really run wild, but I wish you were available to fill in the gaps in what we know, and provide me with fact, not fiction!

Priscilla and Aquila seem to be people who were always giving. For example, they gave hospitality. You speak of the church in their house – the church domestic, one might say –



**Commissioner  
WESLEY  
HARRIS  
continues  
his series  
of letters  
to the  
apostle Paul**

and no doubt you were glad to share their hospitality.

Apparently they also gave spiritual sustenance, particularly to a brilliant young man called Apollos, who was taken into their home and given a better understanding of the faith, which he could then go on to share with others. I'm afraid some older Christians can only criticise the younger generation but your friends did something better. Point taken!

You paid your friends a wonderful tribute when you wrote to their home congregation at Rome: 'They risked their lives for me.' There must be a

great story behind that sentence.

You didn't elaborate but went on: 'Not only I but all the churches of the Gentiles are grateful to them.' You had lived and worked with them – wintered and summered them, as they say in some places – and you knew the secret of their loving lives. You said they were 'in Christ Jesus'. That was what made them special.

If I may say so, it was what made you special also. I am glad to have picked up the clue.

With many thanks,

Yours sincerely,  
Wesley

## News

### Corps says 'thank you' to shop workers

**F**ORMER corps officers Lieut-Colonels Robert and Bronwen Menary led community care ministries (CCM) weekend at STAPLE HILL.

Members of the pastoral care council, CCM members and volunteers who work in the care and share shop greeted the visiting leaders at a welcome tea.

Lieut-Colonel Robert Menary presented a certificate to Bryan Powell (see picture)



who had been the first manager and treasurer for the shop since it opened in 1991. Also pictured are corps officer Major Peter Exon and charity shop manager Jim Jinnen.

Lieut-Colonel Menary concluded the event with a

delightful blend of anecdotes from his native Northern Ireland.

Members of the CCM took part in Sunday meetings and certificates of appreciation were presented to six women who work in the care and share shop. – V. W.

# General campaigns in Costa Rica

**M**EMBERS of the territorial and training school staff greeted General John Gowans and Commissioner Gisèle Gowans on their arrival in Costa Rica, where they led the Latin America North Territory's Easter Congress.

On Good Friday morning the General visited San José's recently constructed training school and took part in officers councils.

In the evening the congress began publicly with Salvationists from Panama, Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Colombia, Venezuela, Cuba and Costa Rica welcoming the General and Commissioner Gowans with cultural dances and songs from their countries.

The General emphasised that 'the cross was not a failure, rather a great success, for God did something beautiful at Calvary'.

The General and his party made a Saturday visit to an Army centre for drug rehabilitation for teenage boys and later young people from around the territory treated the General to mimes and interpretive dances during a youth rally.

More than 500 participants, accompanied by the contemporary worship band, fervently sang 'There Is Power In The Blood'. All the young people were challenged to offer themselves as 'living sacrifices to God' and to evangelise wherever they find themselves.

At the same time, Commissioner Gisèle Gowans attended the women's rally where more than 200 people participated in mimes, a mass timbrel display and special Scripture selections.

Two Silver Star mothers were given special recognition for

having three officer-children serving in the Latin America North Territory. The commissioner gave a moving call to each woman to be the best she could be while serving God, despite difficult situations.

Later that evening, during a Family Festival Celebration, Salvationists joined with the guest band from Texas Division (USA Southern) and its divisional leaders Lieut-Colonels Robert and Patsy Tritton.

Members from each division gave a presentation in traditional costume and shared their different cultures with a Salvationist emphasis.

The Costa Rica Division presented a modern version of the Gowans and Larsson musical *Jesus Folk*, with a Latin feel. The international and territorial leaders were invited to join in during one song. After the presentation the General gave a call for those who would like to be Jesus folk to move forward. Many responded to his call.

The General told Easter morning congress delegates, 'We are the light in a world of

darkness.' Many went forward to accept Christ and to recommit themselves to service.

The congress finished with a lively afternoon meeting, which included the entrance of banners from each division and a special recognition of soldiers in excellent standing from within the territory.

The General gave a charge to and prayed for each new corps opening in the territory as representatives stood before him with their corps flags.

The meeting ended with the cheerful and emotional singing of 'We Are Marching On'.  
- K. C.



## Music reinforcements

**T**HREE new singing company members – Hannah Thomas, Cara Mulligan and Kelly Breacher – received their commissions during meetings at **STOTFOLD**.

The three new junior

musicians increase the singing company membership to 10.

Hannah, Cara and Kelly are pictured with corps officer Major Rosemary Cowdery (left) and Singing Company Leader Wendy Rowlands. – C. C.

## Prayer concert



**M**ORE than 250 people used the prayer room at **NEWARK** for personal and corporate prayer during the 24-7/SA prayer initiative.

The week began with the lighting of a candle followed by a prayer supper. Email greetings were received from Washington DC who had completed their week and Tanzania Command Headquarters, which receives sponsorship from the corps.

The week concluded with a Sunday prayer concert led by Captains Nigel and Linda Govier (DHQ) who also led Sunday's meetings.

During the morning meeting junior soldiers renewed their promises and members of the newly formed brownie pack were present with their parents. Some were attending the Army for the first time. – M. C.

## Leader retires

**B**ANDMASTER Gwynneth Gomersall retired after 27 years as singing company leader at **JARROW**.

Gwynneth followed in the footsteps of her grandmother who was leader for 17 years and her mother who was leader for 16 years.

At a surprise evening arranged by her successor Singing Company Leader Sarah Orr, many former singing company members, including some who had not attended the corps for a number of years, paid tribute to Gwynneth's leadership. Letters and cards were received from many parts of the country.

The singing company presented items and members of Gwynneth's family brought instrumental and vocal solos. Gwynneth continues as bandmaster. – J. P.



Picture: Newtownards Chronicle

## Three more

**LIEUT-COLONEL** Joan Wilson – who is overseeing the Army's work at **NEWTOWNARDS** – is pictured with new adherents David McVeigh, Mary Wallace and Kim Dugan. – J. W.



## United in Edinburgh

**MUSIC, magic, dance and drama were used by Findochty Singing Company to communicate the theme The Choice Is Yours when they led the YP annual weekend at EDINBURGH CITY.**

In the Sunday morning meeting the mercy seat was lined with young people renewing their junior soldiers promise.

The visiting and host singing companies united for several items (see picture).

The weekend's itinerary included sightseeing and a sleepover in the corps hall. – S. K.

## Army supports Methodist stance on gambling

**THE United Kingdom Territory has added its support to the views on gambling submitted by the Methodist Church to the parliamentary select committee on culture, media and sport.**

In summary, the Methodists welcome many of the Government's proposed changes in the law relating to gambling, including plans for a single regulatory body, the strict regulation of British online gambling, and the centrality of social responsibility to the deregulation of the gambling industry.

They say that, after 30 years of piecemeal legislation and significant advancements in technology, it is only sensible to bring the regulation of gambling together under a single regulator.

Given the phenomenal growth in online gambling

sites, the Methodist Church feels the licensing of British online sites with high standards of operation will provide better protection for players.

However, the Methodists have a number of concerns regarding the social impact of other proposals, particularly on children and other vulnerable people. By signing up to the Methodists' submission, The Salvation Army signals that it shares those concerns.

The Methodist Church is particularly concerned by the proposal to allow the continuation of ambient gambling for children; the definition of

'amusement' machines as safe for children, without evidence to support this claim; the proposal to allow alcohol to be served at gaming tables; the dropping of membership requirements at casinos and bingo clubs; the

potential for the speed of deregulation to outstrip the regulatory capabilities of the new Gambling Commission; and the apparent understanding of social responsibility as being primarily reactive, rather than preventative.

## Friends Club weekend

**PRAISE and fellowship were at the heart of the CHATTERIS Friendship Club weekend, led by Over-60 Club Secretary Ron Bailey, which began with tea for club members. The event celebrated the club's 28th anniversary.**

Afterwards Emmanuel Church was full for a

festival presented by **Stowmarket Band and Songsters.**

Majors Fred and Mrs Joyce Hill led Sunday meetings in which a number of club members took part.

Other friendship and over-60 club members attended the Monday rally, which featured **Histon Timbrel Group.** – R. C.



## Won by post

**SID CHOLWILL, who attended the first-ever meeting of SAFFRON WALDEN Outreach Centre six years ago, was recognised as an adherent by corps officer Captain Carol Evans.**

In his testimony Sid spoke about the awareness of God's presence day by day and told how important belonging to the Army family has been to him.

Having responded to an invitation posted through his door, Sid was one of 13 people to attend that first meeting. – C. E.

## Juniors enrol

**TWO people knelt at the mercy seat at SHIREMOOR during Junior Soldiers Day of Renewal meetings.**

Corps officer Captain Mark Price enrolled new junior soldiers Jessica Hall and Joshua Price. Jessica and Joshua both said they want to serve Jesus. All the junior soldiers present renewed their promise.

Joshua and Jessica are pictured with Junior Soldiers Sergeant Ann Hook, Captains Sarah and Mark Price and Colour Sergeant John Nichol. – M. P.





**Mrs Colonel  
Georgina  
Layton**

**B**ORN in 1915, Georgina Peters entered the International Training College from Cork in Ireland and became a cadet in the 1938 Dauntless Evangelists

Session. Her first appointment after commissioning was to women's social work at Northlands Probation Home for Girls in Cardiff where she was able to use her dressmaking skills for the benefit of residents. Georgina later transferred to the Army's slum work. She married Captain William Layton in 1943.

Following their marriage Mrs Layton revelled in corps appointments in England and Scotland, before being appointed with her husband to divisional work in the British Territory. Mrs Layton found great fulfilment, first with divisional responsibility for guides and brownies and then as divisional home league secretary. She ably supported her husband throughout his successive appointments on National Headquarters.

Mrs Layton's last appointment was National Secretary for the Order of the Silver Star. She retired from active service with her husband in 1985 after 46 years of happy and rewarding service during which she never lost the initial joy and wonder of her conversion and was always happiest when sharing platform ministry with her husband.

Mrs Layton's children, Maureen and Major Kingsley Layton, and their families were very precious to her. Georgina Layton was a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, but also a true friend and confidante, whose example, faith and courage have been an inspiration to many people. – P. L.

**Songster Sergeant Grace Corlett, Cadishead**, was promoted to Glory after prolonged illness. 'Auntie Grace', as she was affectionately known, was among the first juniors to attend the corps when it opened 79 years ago and remained a true and faithful Salvationist. In her early years she was a member of the life-saving guards. As a songster and home league member Grace was a tireless worker until her health began to fail. Even then she insisted on continuing in duties such as arranging the flowers which enhanced Sunday worship. She also had the privilege of arranging the flowers for the wedding of her nephew at St George's Chapel, Windsor, where he was a chorister. Grace was always ready to witness to her faith, and lived a life devoted to the Saviour. – R. K.

**Band Reservist Fred Stone, Plymouth Congress Hall**, was introduced to the Army by his fiancée Marjorie in the late 1930s. They married in 1941 at Weymouth. Fred learned to play the tenor horn and was commissioned as a bandsman. When his employers moved him to Devon he and his family served at Tavistock for 16 years. Fred was singing company leader, corps secretary and bandmaster. In 1966 the family moved to Devonport Morice Town where he served as band secretary before his transfer, in 1985, to the band reserve. When travelling to Devonport became difficult he worshipped at Plymouth Congress Hall. Fred's faith was unshakeable. He was convinced that God had a purpose for his life and he lived it to his honour and glory. – K. S.

**Bandsman Edward Wiseman, Cottenham**, was 90 years old and No 1 on the roll when he was promoted to Glory. Ted had a long and full life. He served in the corps as a bandsman, deputy bandmaster and bandmaster. He married Connie in 1942. Ted was a many-faceted man: a builder who helped construct the hall; a cartoonist; and a family man – father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He was a person who lived his life well and departed respected, honoured and loved. – K. B.

**Sister Mrs Ada Pettitt, Ilford**, was a soldier for only the last few years of her life. Her first contact with the Army came during the distribution of European surplus butter. The friendliness of Salvationists attracted her to the Sunday meetings and led to her decision to accept Jesus as saviour. Ada was actively involved in the coffee mornings and regularly attended Sunday morning and over-60 club meetings. She also supported the monthly home league fellowship and retired soldiers' fellowship. Ada gave of herself for the sake of others. – G. P.

**Sister Mrs Enid Pidgeon, Letchworth**, was the daughter of Salvationist parents. She lived to 91 years of age and became No 1 on the roll. Enid had the gift of hospitality and her home was always open to visitors. She was a great support to her husband Cyril through his 21 years as bandmaster. A drama group led by her husband allowed her acting talent to come to the fore and through the years she took the part of various Bible characters. Through long years of widowhood she maintained the faith she learned as a child. Enid was always content to find the little space where God could be glorified. – D. R.



**Mrs Major  
Annie  
Stock**

**A**NNIE JENKINS was born in 1920 to a Christian family from the Welsh mining village of Llanbradach. Initially Annie went to a Methodist Sunday school but from the age of seven attended the Army and sang in the singing company. Later she was commissioned CSM and often took responsibility for the meetings and other corps activities.

After her sister left home for the training college it fell to Annie to take responsibility for the family – her mother having died when Annie was a baby. Annie became conscious of God's calling to officership, but circumstances did not permit her to respond at that time. However, after the death of her father she moved to Plumstead and in 1950 entered training.

The following year Lieutenant Annie Jenkins was appointed to Soham and subsequently to Hadleigh (Suffolk) and Linton. While stationed at Linton she met Lieutenant Bernard Stock. They married in 1954 and commenced a lifetime of joint ministry beginning at Ammanford. Later appointments included Ashton-in-Makerfield, where their son John was born, and Runcorn, St Helens Parr and Shotton, where their daughter Janet was born.

Following other corps appointments, the last being Chalk Farm, Mrs Stock was transferred with her husband to divisional headquarters in Plymouth. Eight years later they were appointed to National Headquarters, from where they retired in 1991.

Throughout their appointments Mrs Stock showed a special interest in young people and the home league and did her share of the preaching. She was a people-centred person, always caring for others – whatever they had done. For more than 50 years she encouraged people to accept Jesus and seek his direction for their lives.

In her last few years Parkinson's disease took its toll. Although sad at her promotion to Glory, her family is convinced she is with the Lord whom she loved and served. – B. S.

**Retired Home League Secretary Mrs Vi Rycroft, Shaw**, left another denomination to join the Army, where she met and married her husband John. Both worked in the YP corps. During the war they took care of servicemen, some of whom continued to correspond. Vi became home league secretary in 1951, a responsibility she faithfully fulfilled until

illness overtook her in 2000. After she retired she still looked after members by telephone and letter. Her home was always open for a meal or cup of tea. To enable officers and corps members to fulfil their duties Vi sacrificed attending evening meetings to look after their children. Her life was spent working for the Lord. – D. L.

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

**T**HE small boy surveys the vast, restless crowd. Big people jostle and press in – a hotchpotch of odours, irritable exchanges and coarse fabrics. Beyond them, figures carpet the mountainside, fused together in the noonday haze. More than 5,000 have gathered. All are hungry. The boy glances down at his lunch. It could feed maybe a dozen, at a stretch. Some people have noticed his loaves and fishes and anticipate his generosity with a smile. Yes, it would be good to share.

The disciple, however, has other ideas. He asks the boy to offer his lunch to the Teacher; no other food has been found. The boy hesitates. It's foolish – the opportunity to provide for his neighbours would be lost. Nevertheless, a strange trust wells up inside. He hands his lunch to the grateful disciple.

You know the rest of the account of the Master's miracle, told in John 6. As with David facing Goliath, a small boy has become a frontline fool by choosing a stone to kill a giant. His stone? Offering what little he had. The giant was the hunger of the crowd.

Picture the boy afterwards – his stomach full, and his heart bursting with wonder! Now picture your community. You see a thousand secret agonies. Loneliness spreading like a hideous cancer. Smiles masking silent desperation. Unsaved people streaming into Hell.

You glance at your meagre resources – the resources of your corps. They could make a difference – but address the whole need? It would take a miracle.

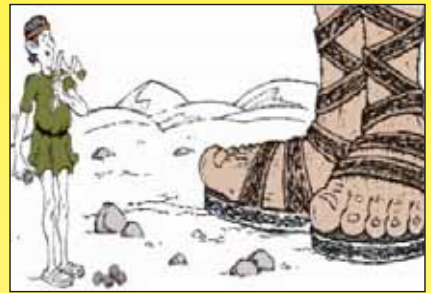
What can we learn from the small boy? He could have done things his own way and gained a great reputation. Instead, he chose God's alternative – deflecting all the glory onto God. Making an offering to God is to sacrifice our own ways and glory, and choose those of God instead (see Isaiah 55:8, 9).

The boy's refusal to court admiration meant that all eyes were on Christ when the miracle occurred (John 6:14). What a lesson for us! Jesus teaches us to give in secret without the reward of reputation (Matthew 6:1–4). The only basis for a visible goodness is God's glory, never ours (Matthew 5:14–16). This is only achieved when God's methods are used.

At our outreach centre here in Forestdale I tried to help a man who often needed practical help. His deeper needs – reconciliation with his daughter, and relief from anxiety and sleeplessness – were utterly beyond my powers. I could only pray with him in his desperation.

After a deep night's sleep and a call from his daughter, God was glorified! Only then could I explain

## Fools In The Front Line



# Offering



*Captain  
MATTHEW  
CLIFTON,  
Forestdale ORC,  
continues his  
series*



Picture: RUUD TINGA

more easily to him that my being there at all was due to God changing my heart. Prayer is God's method, and always leads to his glory.

God also reveals further methods to us through prayer. The boy knew what to do because he listened to what Jesus wanted. We are taught that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us and we have what we asked of him (1 John 5:15).

Jesus promises us that if we remain in him and his words remain in us, we can ask whatever we wish and it will be given to us (John 15:7). These staggering promises require us to walk very closely with Jesus – absorbed in his words, hearing his direction on what to ask for.

Biblical teaching makes it clear. To choose God's methods for his glory means that we will be listening to his voice; that he will reveal his desire and make it ours; and that we will ask according to his will. We receive what we ask for!

Hudson Taylor – a contemporary of William Booth – knew this when he founded the China Inland Mission. In answer to prayer, thousands of missionaries went to China,

supported without any appeal for money. It was the same for George Müller, who founded the Bristol Orphanages without fundraising. He offered himself to God, knowing that God could multiply miraculously.

What does this mean for you? Are you learning God's methods through deep, listening prayer? What should you do if someone admires your life, but doesn't know you follow Christ? If you have publicity that lists the good works of your corps or the Army without declaring Christ, should it be used or binned?

When asked on the doorstep how a donation will be used, do you talk only about our practical help? In his book *In Darkest England And The Way Out*, William Booth insisted that it was primarily to save the soul that he sought to save the body. Will you glory less in soup and more in salvation? Will you explain how the donation will be multiplied and the whole need met as alcoholics and addicts come to Christ.

Sharp challenges for those who would be fools on the front line and see miracles, to the glory of God alone!

● **For further study**

Read Genesis 22. Why did God require Abraham to make such a costly offering?

● **For reflection**

Offer your own life to God afresh, using verse two of Albert Orsborn's words in *SASB* 512.

## ***Advertisements***

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# Seventh Heaven!

**I** HEAR that 15-year-old Junior Musician Jason Abbott (pictured), of Nottingham Memorial Halls, is beginning to make a name for himself in the music world.

For the second year running, Jason won the solo award for brass at Nottingham Music and Drama Festival, and was presented with the Danny Morris Memorial Trophy. Additionally, he obtained a high honours pass in his grade seven trumpet exam.

Jason plays cornet in the Territorial Youth Band and is looking forward to joining them at Staines Corps for the Mike Hopkin Trust Summer Celebration Festival.



## Royal request

**DO** you wish to be part of this year's Golden Jubilee celebrations and represent the Army in front of the Queen?

I understand that on Tuesday 4 June a huge procession of service organisations is taking place in central London reflecting the theme Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow – and the Army has been asked to take part.

Organisers are expecting a crowd of between 500,000 and 750,000 people to watch the procession.

The BBC, ITV and Sky will be covering the historic events during the day, together with 13 television networks from around the world.

The THQ External Relations Unit is

coordinating the Army's involvement with THQ Special Events Manager Melvin Hart and is looking for a contingent of 100 Salvationists in summer uniform.

If you would like to be part of the celebrations and are able to stand for three to four hours and process on a one-and-a-half-mile route then please contact the External Relations Unit via email at [er@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:er@salvationarmy.org.uk) or telephone 020 7367 4700.

Places will be issued on a first-come-first-served basis, so responses should be quick!

## Think pink

**F**ORGET the Pink Panther. The Pink Professor's here! He's an animated rabbit, and the brainchild of Hazel Speed, daughter of Mrs Brigadier Georgina Speed and the late Brigadier Albert Speed.

Hazel – executive producer and director

of Pink Professor Enterprises Limited – has developed The Pink Professor as a children's cartoon to television commissioning/venture capital stage, and she is hopeful that contracts are firmly in the offing.

The project aims to relate philosophical thinking in humorous everyday situations and also tackles the moral and ethical issues.

As well as Hazel's Salvation Army background, there are several more Army connections to the project.

Designer jeweller Salvationist Graham Carre of L'Islet is producing a 'ring of wisdom' for the project. And Peterborough Citadel Salvationist Brian Hillson is taking part through his company B and H Sound Services Ltd.

Finally, Hazel's parents used to be stationed on the Channel Island of Guernsey, and the fictional home of the

animal characters is Herm – another of the Channel Islands.

Actor Robert Powell will provide the voice of The Pink Professor, which is also being produced as a stage show by Kent Youth Theatre, at Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury, in August.

For more information check out The Pink Professor web site at [www.thepinkprofessor.com](http://www.thepinkprofessor.com)

## Vacation information

**I**F you're aged between 16 and 30, and fancy 15 fabulous days of fun with Salvationists from all over the world, why not book your place at this year's International Artistic Camp in Bobbio Pellice, Italy?

Activities at the camp – in the heart of the Alps between Italy and France – will include participation in the band and choir, guitar-playing, dance (rhythmic and worship), crafts and theatre. There will also be plenty of free time, mountain walks and social evenings.

International Artistic Camp is being held from 3 to 17 August. More information can be found on [www.savacations.net](http://www.savacations.net)

Places are limited, so book early!

## Sikh support

**I** WAS interested to hear that members of a Sikh community chose to donate a percentage of their earnings to The Salvation Army.

The money was given in conjunction with Vaisakhi, one of the main Sikh festivals, which celebrates the birth of the Khalsa and of modern Sikhism.

A host of events happen during this period, culminating in

an annual procession. It's great to know the Army was a feature of this important and busy occasion for Sikhs.

## Jews for Jesus

**M**ANY of you will be interested to hear that the newly appointed National Evangelist/Encourager/Trainer at CMJ (the Church's Ministry Among Jewish People) is on the roll at Bristol Citadel Corps.

Adrian Glasspole is a Jewish believer in Jesus, who was enrolled as a soldier in 1993. Now living in Manchester with his wife Kim, he still has many friends at the Citadel.

He tells me he is very much involved in the local Evangelical Alliance, and the More Than Gold initiative concerning the Army's ministry at this year's Commonwealth Games, and keeps in touch with a number of staff at Central North DHQ.

## And finally...

**A** LITTLE girl was sitting alongside her grandfather as he read her a bedtime story.

From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up to touch his wrinkled cheek. Alternately she stroked his cheek, then hers.

Finally, she said: 'Grandpa, did God make you?'

'Yes, sweetheart,' he replied. 'God made me a long time ago.'

'Oh,' the girl paused. 'Grandpa, did God make me too?'

Her grandfather replied that, indeed, God had made her too.

Feeling their respective faces again, she observed, 'God's getting better at it, isn't he?'