

# NEWCASTLE AND CENTRAL NSW



## Resilience in Ministry

...let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us...Hebrews 12:2 (NRSV)

Issue 45/18 December 2013

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### OUR 7 MISSION PRIORITIES

We will do whatever it takes to see:

1. A territory marked by prayer and holiness
2. Every place involved in evangelism
3. Corps healthy and multiplying
4. Our people equipped and empowered to serve the world
5. Passionate about bringing children to Jesus
6. Youth trained and sent out to frontline mission
7. Significant increase of new soldiers and officers.



## Seek and You Shall Find!

Imagine how Mary and Joseph must have felt after travelling for miles, to arrive in Bethlehem and every motel in town had a 'no vacancy' sign in the window!

Not much has changed in the business world, eh? Thirty percent of all retail sales in department stores take place over Christmas and stock runs out! Fifty percent of all parties are held during the Christmas New Year period and venues are booked out. One out of every 10 litres of alcohol is sold during Christmas too.

Clearly, Jesus can be good for business! The trouble is, people prefer the myth to the Master. We want a Santa but not a Saviour. We want the fairy tale and not the fact. What fact?

***'That Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners'.  
(1 Timothy 1:15)***

The story's told of a child who was chosen to play the Innkeeper in the Christmas Nativity. He was to tell Mary and Joseph that there was no room for them at the Inn. But on the night of the big event, he stood onstage, looked into the faces of the audience, then smiled and announced, I'm not supposed to do this, but come in any way!

The hymnist wrote:

***'Room for pleasure, room for business, but for Christ the crucified; not a place that He can enter, in the heart for which he died.'***

Instead of ending this Christmas exhausted and disappointed, focus on Jesus and seek His peace.

You may look back with regret on some bad decisions you've made this year but giving everything over to Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, in a new way this Christmas, is the best decision you'll ever make.

***'You will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart'. Jeremiah 29:13***

As we journey together in ministry, may you know each day God's love and richest blessings now and during 2014!

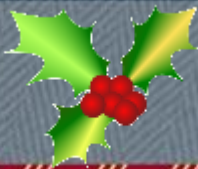
With Every Blessing,

Gavin & Wendy Watts  
Divisional Leaders



Adapted from: 'The Word For Today'  
written by Bob and Debby Gass





## OASIS HUNTER RECEIVES FOOD HAMPERS

There are many families who are struggling and within crisis, have single parents, or one parent who is in prison this Christmas. Many are going without even their basic needs. Knowing this, Lake Macquarie High school has banded together to continue its support during this season with the donation of 25 food hampers to Oasis Hunter through their volunteer program.

The charitable donations received from this program are of such importance and value for those that receive the gifts. It will be sure to put a smile on many faces and help to brightening up lives. Oasis Hunter is truly proud to have such a close relationship with Lake Macquarie High School and the work that they do.



^ *Photo: Lake Macquarie High School Students with OASIS Hunter Staff.*

## INTRODUCING...

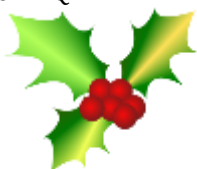
We welcome onto the DHQ Team:

**Amber Dale** ->

**Amber** is the new Divisional Communications and Public Relations Secretary for our Division.

**Amber** will lead the CPR Team together with **Major Alice Fean, Maree Fletcher and Ashlee O'Dowd.**

Welcome **Amber!** We trust you are settling in OK. Make sure you introduce yourself to **Amber** when you come into DHQ.



## BONNELLS BAY CAROLS AND FIREWORKS

On Sunday night we held our annual community Christmas Carols event. We had a forecast for rain, but God provided an amazing day and with a wonderful team of people, including some dedicated participants from Dooralong, we pulled off a spectacular event!

Every family group who attended received a show bag with various items in it, including the "Connect" magazine produced by the Communications Department. We had 4 different community groups taking part plus Willie Mason (from the Knights) attending for a meet and greet session, Anna Weatherup (from The Voice) did a set of songs, Santa visited, the kids had a segment and our own church music group provided some carols.

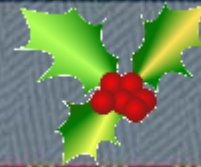
The evening was capped off with some fantastic fireworks which are possibly the best in Newcastle and Lake Macquarie. We had over 2000 people on our property on Sunday night. Our car park which was the site for all our hot food and stalls was like a sea of people all night. Throughout the fireworks I looked out over the crowd and there wasn't a single space left on our whole property! The car park was full, the crowd space was full and even the road next to our property was full as we stopped traffic!



There has been so much good feedback from the all sectors of the local community about what a good night it was. We are so thankful for the way that God made all things work. We even covered our costs this year! It was a great opportunity for connections in all sorts of ways, whether it was through volunteering to help (not everyone who helped comes to our church), or catching up for a chat through the night, or even post-carols chatting together about how good it was and then having an opportunity to invite them to come along to further events. Many had an opportunity to also share their transformation story. The name of Jesus was lifted high in Bonnel's Bay on Sunday night!



# More News



## MINGARA'S CHRISTMAS UNDER THE STARS - SUNDAY 22 DECEMBER 2014

Oasis Youth Centre, Wyong is the chosen service to receive the proceeds from this event and each year The Salvation Army has a large presence and involvement.

This is a fantastic ministry opportunity to engage with the community and spread some Christmas cheer.

We are seeking helpers for the night to be involved in handing out song books at the gate and face painting.

If you are able to spend some time helping, please call Robyn on 4353 9799. See poster below.



@ Mingara Regional Athletics Centre  
Gates open 4.30pm - \$5.00 entry - children under 12 free. All proceeds to The Salvation Army + some local charities.

Performances by: Damien Leith, Liam Burrows, Gina Jeffrey's Christmas Stars, Nikki Webster Dance Studio to name a few.



## SALVATIONIST SUPPLIES CLOSURE

Please note that Salvationist Supplies' last operating day before Christmas is on **Friday 20 December** and will re-open on **Monday, 6 January 2014**.

**Payroll** will be closing lunch time **Tuesday the 24th of December** and will reopen on the **2nd January 2014**.

## CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR DHQ CLOSURE

Please note DHQ will be closed from:

**12noon: 24<sup>th</sup> December 2013**

**Reopen: 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2014.**



A reminder that there will be no Divisional Newsletter from now, until **5<sup>th</sup> February, 2014**.

## FAREWELL

We say thank you and farewell to the following officers:

**Majors Colin and Kate Young with James, Caitlin, Molly and Amy** - from Dubbo Corps to Grafton Corps.

**Majors Warren and Denise Parkinson** - from DHQ Newcastle to The Greater West Division as Divisional Leaders.

**Captain Jennifer Stringer**, together with her husband **Glen** - are still awaiting confirmation of an overseas appointment.

**Captains Michael and Sandy Hogg**, together with **Chelsea** transferring to Sydney. **Michael** - Chaplain, The Downing Centre and **Sandy** - Chaplain, Young Hope.

## CHANGING APPOINTMENT WITHIN THE DIVISION

**Majors Colin and Pam Robinson** - moving from Port Stephens to DHQ Newcastle.

## RETIRING

**Major Noreen Clanfield - Silver Star Secretary**  
Thank you for your diligent and faithful service to officer's parents over many years. You have blessed many people through your ministry.

We welcome **Commissioner Barry Pobjie** into this role from 2014.

**Bro. Bob Evans - Hospital Chaplain**

We thank **Bob** for his many years of diligent and faithful service as Hospital Chaplain for the Newcastle area. You will be greatly missed from around the hospitals by both patients and staff.

May God continue to bless both **Noreen** and **Bob** in their Retirement.



# Personnel

## APPOINTMENT CHANGES

**Captains David & Joy Morgan**, currently serving as Director of Mission & Chaplain and Centre Manager respectively, Weeroona Village, Aged Care Plus, are appointed as Corps Officers, Springwood Corps, The Greater West Division, effective from 1 February, 2014.

**Captain Phil Sharp**, currently serving as Corps Officer, Springwood Corps, and Assistant Divisional Co-ordinator, Emergency Services, The Greater West Division, is appointed as Chaplain, Parramatta Children and Family Courts, The Greater West Division, effective from 1 February, 2014

**Captain Tuesday McCall**, currently serving as Corps Officer, Leeton Corps, ACT & South NSW Division, is appointed as Divisional Salvos Caring Co-Ordinator & RSFS Mission Co-Ordinator, ACT & South NSW Division, effective from 9 January, 2014.

**Captain Phil McCall**, currently serving as Corps Officer, Leeton Corps, ACT & South NSW Division, is appointed as South NSW Welfare Co-Ordinator, SAES Assistant Co-Ordinator, ACT & South NSW Division, effective from 9 January, 2014.

**Envoys Jake & Amanda Clanfield**, currently serving as Divisional Youth Secretaries, Central & North QLD Division, are appointed as Mission Leaders, Ulladulla Mission, ACT & South NSW Division, effective 9 January, 2014.

**Lieutenants Jeff & Terri Goodwin**, currently serving as Corps Officers, Mackay Corps, Central & North QLD Division, are appointed as Representatives, RSDS Gallipoli Barracks, Queensland, effective from 30 January, 2014.

**Major Colin Hopper** is appointed as Resource Consultant, Territory Mission & Resource Team, effective from 16 December, 2013.

**Major Bruce Pratt**, currently serving as Manager & Second in Command, Pindari Services, South Queensland Division, is appointed as Territorial Auditor, PNG Territory, effective from 1 February, 2014.

**Major Gwenda Pratt**, currently serving as Divisional Community Support Services Secretary, South Queensland Division, is appointed as Director for Schools and Tokaut Editor, PNG Territory, effective from 1 February, 2014.

**Captain Evonne Packer**, currently serving as Assistant Manager, SAILSS (Salvation Army Individual Lifestyle Support Service), South Queensland Division, is appointed as Manager SAILSS (Salvation Army Individual Lifestyle Support Service), South Queensland Division, effective from 9 January, 2014.

**Major Gwen Sharp** has resigned effective 9 January, 2014. We thank her for her dedicated service.



## Happenings

### December

- 20 NSW Schools End of Term
- 22 Northlakes Corps Community Carols
- 22 Mingara Carols Under the Stars – helpers needed
- 25 Christmas Day
- 26 Boxing Day

### January

- 01 New Year's Day
- 06-10 Tri-Territorial Youth Congress Melbourne
- 09 Change of Appointments
- 26 Australia Day
- 27 Australia Day Public Holiday
- 28 NSW/QLD Schools Term 1 commences

### February

- 01-02 Div. Western Fellowship
- 05 First Divisional Newsletter for 2014
- 09 Cadets Public Welcome
- 12 New Officers to Division Orientation Day
- 14-16 Captivated (Salvos Women) Collaroy
- 22 Div. Aquatics Carnival
- 23 Self-Denial Launch
- 24 Wider Cabinet 24-26
- 27 DC's/DDWM's Consultative Day – Sydney
- 28 U-Night (Overnight) for Div. Youth Leaders

## Happy Birthday

### Officer's Kids having Birthdays in January!

Abi Gittins	21 <sup>st</sup>	(11)
Amy Prigg	22 <sup>nd</sup>	(6)
Elijah Ross	30 <sup>th</sup>	(6)





# Prayer Page...



## *Prayer Partner Diary:*

*22 - 28 December 2013*

"Jesus looked at them and said, with man this is impossible, but not with God: all things are possible with God." Mark 10:27

- Hannam Vale Corps – Envoy Melissa Gillies and Envoy Leica Lauder
- Gold Coast Recovery Services Centre (Fairhaven) – Majors Russell and June Grice and Team
- Bethany Residential Aged Care – Majors Frank and Narelle Moxon and Team
- Territorial Mission and Resource Team – Corps – THQ – Envoys Randall and Glenda Brown, Major Lyn Daines, Captains Steven and Joanne Smith, Major Kevin Unicomb, Captain Robbin Moulds, Majors Craig and Ros Walker and Team.
- Business Administration, THQ – Lt. Colonel Kerry Haggar, Major Edwin Cox, Major Elwyn Grigg and Team
- Southport Community Welfare Centre – Brian Surch and Team

25 Christmas Day


## **Bible Verse for the Week**

**Isaiah 9:6**


**For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.**

## *Also Pray For:*

- Pray for your family members who do not know Christ.
- Pray for your Corps/Centre people that God will draw nearer to them.
- Pray for Officers/Children relocating – that they will settle in well.
- Pray for new Salvation Army employees to settle in as well.
- Pray for yourself – God bless you everyone!



**You are invited to attend Prayer Meetings at DHQ anytime you are able.  
Monday mornings (except Public Holidays) 9.30am – 10.00am DHQ Boardroom  
Thursday mornings 7.30am – 8.00am DHQ Boardroom.  
You are welcome to stay for a cuppa afterwards!**



**“O Lord, reform your world – beginning with me.”**

**~ Anonymous**





# Events

## Spiritual Retreats 2014

Uniquely Created; Uniquely Connected

March 22-23 (Fri-Sun)

July 21-24 (Mon-Thurs)

October 17-19 (Fri-Sun)

Open to all officers, soldiers, employees & friends of The Salvation Army

St Joseph's Lochinvar (near Maitland)

Facilitator: Major Wendy Watts

The Salvation Army Newcastle & Central NSW  
For an application form please contact  
Major Wendy Watts

Ph 4926 0230 or [wendy.watts@nsw.salvationarmy.org](mailto:wendy.watts@nsw.salvationarmy.org)



*Wishing you  
many Christmas Blessings  
and a fantastic 2014!  
From everyone at DHQ Newcastle*



Gavin,  
Wendy,  
Warren,  
Denise, Alice,  
Jennifer, Lucas,  
Angela, Graeme, Lyn,  
Christine, Callan, Jasmine,  
Paula, Chris, Susan, Amanda,  
Maree, Ashlee, Lesley, Amber, &  
Gina



**NORTHLAKES SALVOS  
COMMUNITY CAROLS**

**SUNDAY  
DECEMBER 22**

MACQUARIE COLLEGE  
LAKE ROAD WALLSEND

**FREE ENTRY  
FREE RIDES  
ENTERTAINMENT  
FIREWORKS**

GATES OPEN 5PM,  
MAIN SHOW AT 8PM

ALCOHOL FREE FAMILY EVENT

[www.northlakescarols.com.au](http://www.northlakescarols.com.au)

POST THE SALVATION ARMY