

# REPORTER

## SOUTHERN AFRICA TERRITORY



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## The Home where kids will be kids!

It's five a.m., starting to get light, wake-up time for school-goers at the Joseph Baynes Children's Home in Pentrich, Pietermaritzburg. A scramble to wash faces, brush teeth, get dressed, make it to breakfast – nourishing oats and milk – by 5.45. The kids grab their sandwich and juice lunch-pack and rush for the buses that leave at 6:30 sharp to head for the 16 local schools.

Joseph Baynes, headed by Captains Michael and Amenda Doubell for the past five years, is home to 82 boys and girls, ranging from birth to 18 years, who have been abandoned, neglected or abused. Some stay just long enough to be helped through especially difficult situations. Others stay for years, although the aim is to reunite families as quickly as possible, or to have children fostered or adopted through the hosting programmes. Until then, the home provides a compassionate, safe and loving haven that includes care

and psychological support for those who've been traumatised.

The children's curriculum includes junior and senior discipleship classes, Sunday school and, of course, Sunday church. The children love Capt Michael Doubell's Bible study lessons, when they can open up, share and interact. "I make the lessons fun and marvel at the changes in the children once they're introduced to God," he says. Musically talented, he's also teaching eight children to play the piano, drums and guitar.

Not all the children come to Joseph Baynes through placement agencies and the courts. "Two days before Christmas 2011, a newborn babe was found on the side of the road, in soaking rain," relates Capt Amenda Doubell. "Naturally we've named him Christopher. Today he's a bright bundle of joy! Another baby, now blessedly adopted, was left at our gate."

Lunch spreads and nursery supplies like formula, nappies and baby toiletries, would



*Boarding the bus for their 16 diverse destinations*

be welcomed. To raise money, there's a monthly jumble sale: the children helpers get pocket money and a MacDonald's treat. A number of fund-raising events are planned to celebrate the home's 90th birthday in March."

Both Captains recognise the unique difficulties children face growing up in an institutional environment and encourage face-to-face talks. From the moment a child comes to the impressively efficient Joseph Baynes Home s/he is made to feel welcome, loved and treasured. "We let them know that God has guided them to this safe place where they can belong and be loved," the captains aver.



*The founding, Christopher, with Capt Amenda Doubell*

### Seen from here

Although the first quarter of 2013 has almost gone, it's not too late to continue focusing on the New Year's dreams, hopes and challenges. I am particularly concerned about the most vulnerable – the children and the elderly who are desperate for our help.

Unfortunately the depressed economy is not making it easier – and continuing labour problems are certainly clouding the future. The latest post office strike has severely affected our situation, since our Valentine's mailing was a timely reminder of how love can help humanity, but few received it.

However ... although all The Salvation Army centres are under enormous financial strain, our strong belief in a caring God gives us the hope that many dreams can still be reached. One is that the draft anti-trafficking bill, which has just been passed, will soon be signed into law by President Zuma thus preventing unwilling human victims from living a life of unmentionable degradation.

And you help us see the light through your continued



**Major Carin Holmes**  
Public Relations Secretary  
Southern Africa Territory

contributions – and especially the monthly giving that makes it so much easier to plan. Without you we could not help the hundreds who need us. Bless you.

Step into our world by visiting our website:

**www.salvationarmy.org**,  
and keep in touch through:  
**http://www.facebook.com/salvationarmy.southafrica.**

*Carin*

# An old-world charm graces Thembela Home

**You'll find Thembela Home for the Aged in the heart of the Berea, one of Durban's oldest suburbs. Run by Captain Miranda Lang for the past five years, the home provides full board, laundry and so on, for 46 men and women. A nominal R3 300 includes being taken shopping, to doctors and hospitals. Hear what some residents have to say:**

Sylvia Binns, a 92-year-old from England, and Illana Silver – at 63, the 'youngster' – have both been at the home for five years. They love the Christian atmosphere and Sylvia says Capt Miranda Lang is "the most compassionate person I know and makes us feel special, comfortable and cared for." "Yes, she's a star," agrees Illana.



*Capt Miranda Lang shares a moment with resident Marie Chatau*

Last October, Thelma Cutler, celebrated her century! During her 22 years at Thembela, she's seen many come and go and looks forward to sharing the serene atmosphere with visiting family and friends.

Although 86-year-old Murial Wernham had occasionally helped out at the home over 22 years, she only came to live here in February 2009. Another octogenarian, Phyllis Lynch, has been the Security Officer for the last 14 years. She visits her family in Johannesburg annually, but won't move as she enjoys the relaxed, happy and peaceful atmosphere – not even to be close to her six grandchildren. She feels the residents are thoroughly spoiled.



*Some of Thembela's residents (clockwise): Phyllis, Illana, Sylvia, Thelma and Murial*

Assisting Capt Miranda Lang is Zimbabwean Ellen Stone. She's been a Salvation Army soldier since November 2007 and helps Lang with preaching, the League of Mercy, and everyday jobs such as making appointments and accompanying residents on hospital and doctor visits, shopping for those who can't go out, and even helps out at reception. She believes this is God's plan for her and wakes up each morning excited to be in the right place, at peace.

"We sorely need extra help," says Captain Lang, "specifically a full-time nurse/care-giver to help the ailing." Interested?

## Mountain View Hospital brings hope to rural Zululand

Some may have considered the terrific efficiency of Captains Phelelani and Nokuthula Khathi a case of 'new brooms' when they arrived in January 2011 to run the Mountain View Hospital and Boys' Hostel near Nongoma. But there's been no let-up, despite also being the Corp officers for the community.

The hospital, which specialises in the treatment of tuberculosis, is still firmly in the hearts of the people in the area, providing the sick with the best possible chance of recovery, offering as many health facilities as possible, and bringing the joy and knowledge of God's love into the lives of many children and adults.

Here, deep in rural, northern KwaZulu-Natal, 80% of the people are unemployed. Many have multi-drug-resistant TB; many also have HIV or AIDS. The hospital has 92 beds, invariably full since patients stay between three and six months. The high incidence of HIV, AIDS, TB and the crippling poverty in the area, make it important for the

hospital to work closely with other related services in the area to ensure the best possible care for patients.

"Our ambulance is not yet fully equipped," says Capt Phelelani Khathi, "and while our mobile clinic is doing a sterling job, paying weekly visits to 21 points in even more remote communities to provide free primary health care, we desperately need another. Our Kombi

provides free transport to the hospital for emergencies."

The captains also have a tracing team to monitor the progress of those who have been discharged. Funding for the hospital is a massive challenge: it costs R10 million a year to run the hospital and, although they get a government subsidy, they are responsible for the shortfall.



*Captains Nokuthula and Phelelani Khathi next to the mobile clinic that brings relief to the remotest areas*

# MONTPELIER CORP - A HIVE OF ACTIVITY

There are many uplifting stories that come out of Montpelier Corp, Durban, where Captains Glen and Moya Hay have been based since the Greyville Family Care Centre was forced to close. Their main challenges are unemployment and lack of skills, followed by hunger, poverty, school absenteeism, dropouts and studies.

To help the unemployed there's a skills centre and a free-service Help Desk where CVs are drawn up and e-mailed, UIF, grants, ID books and drivers' licences are accessed. A new ID book costs R180 – a fortune for penniless people. The centre empowers them to earn that R180 by giving them 18 beaded key rings to sell for R10 each. "We assist with sourcing work, jobs and accommodation, then they must seal the deal themselves," says Capt Moya Hay. "We also provide meals or food parcels when available."



*Captain Moya Hay*

This is the Montpelier Corp story in Capt Moya Hay's words. "Last year, we found that a work-seeking lady was good at beadwork and wanted to make Zulu skirts and headbands. We gave her R200 to cover the cost of beads (R100) and to make a sample. She soon came back, without the beaded items, to return the R200 as she'd found a permanent cleaning job.

"Porche, a twenty-something trader, proved to have good communication skills so, in addition to giving her and her child a daily meal, we taught her to type and operate a computer. She's now a data capturer in a large company.

"On retirement, Howard, a church-going municipal labourer, bought a truck to start a delivery service. It broke down, parts went missing, there was no hope of fixing it. "At 57, not well educated, is there any chance of getting a job?" he asked. "Have you asked God?" I questioned. With God's help we found

him a job as a driver: today he's the manager's assistant.

"A mother's dying wish to give her furniture to The Salvation Army seemed pre-ordained. A few days after the mother's death, a fire in an old woman's shack destroyed all her furniture so she 'inherited' everything. As Capt Glen Hay says: "When you're feeling down, let's never forget that we don't need to be clever and wonderful because God is clever and wonderful."

"When people come to us, they're really broken. As long as they accept God, and realise that he still cares about them, they can change their lives.

Some of the centre's other activities include:

- A training programme for women running crèches, teaching them how to stimulate young minds through games and learning.
- A supervised homework centre for primary school children aged 10 years and older.
- A thrift shop, the funds from which are used to finance the centre's community projects.
- A Friday afternoon Kids Club, offering Bible study, craft-making, birthday parties and games.



*Making homework a happy time*

## Emergency Relief

Montpelier Corp is on call 24/7 to assist with emergencies – fires, floods, and so on. "We're contacted by the police, fire department, social services, ward councillors, individuals, social clubs and churches, and give whatever we can – clothing, blankets, food and anything else we are able to source," says Capt Glen Hay. The captains' work is arduous, but they feel blessed with what they do. They love seeing the destitute discover that God has a purpose for their life, that He helps them see the light so they, too, can shine.

## Can you help?

The centre needs bibles – old or new. They need people to help with training. Finance to employ people. A driver to do collections. A container for storage. Computers – four. If you can help, please contact Capt Moya Hay on: 031 303 1812.

***"...from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward."***

**The full quotation from Colossians 3:23:24 is, of course, "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ".**

The Salvation Army is blessed to receive bequests from those who have supported our work to help those less fortunate than we are, from new-born babes to those who have served their three score years and ten. But many lives are cut short unexpectedly, which is why it's vital to have a will drawn up from the moment you are financially responsible.

As we are often asked to help with regard to bequests, we have established a working relationship with BDO Wealth Advisers so that they can guide

us about legacy legalities. In turn, we can help you.

BDO, a registered financial service provider, is ranked fifth among the world's auditing companies and their services include estate and financial planning, including legacy donations, as well as the administration of deceased estates.

If you'd like more information, please contact Major Carin Holmes on 011 718 6746.

# Human trafficking: the wheels turn slowly

**The degradation, the misery, the destruction of lives of women, young girls – and boys – and even children, continues unabated. And will continue until President Jacob Zuma signs into law the anti-trafficking bill that has just been passed so action can be taken against perpetrators.**

If and when the recommendations made by the last TIP (Trafficking in Persons) report come into being, what actions can we hope to see taken? All levels of government officials must be made aware of their responsibilities under the anti-trafficking provisions of the Sexual Offences and Children's Amendment Acts.

Adequate financial resources must be allocated to anti-trafficking programmes and personnel. Employers using forced labour must be criminally prosecuted. Indiscriminate charging of foreign victims with immigration violations must stop since most are unwilling victims: all deportees should be screened for victimisation. Other vulnerable groups, including sex workers,

should also be screened. The co-ordinated anti-trafficking law enforcement and victim referrals systems currently employed by KwaZulu-Natal and Western Cape should be used nationally.

Translators must be available to victims so they can obtain care, can co-operate with law enforcement and testify clearly in court. Officials suspected to be implicit in trafficking must be investigated, prosecuted, and are made to pay for their crimes.

The TIP recommendations also underline the necessity for formal, national statistics on trafficking cases prosecuted and victims assisted, as is done for other crimes.



At last public awareness is being heightened. In support of the '16 days of activism against the abuse of women and children', more than 150 people joined an "I'll Fight" march in Goodwood, Cape Town. It culminated in an open air praise and worship concert. More and more people, even from NGOs, are becoming members of the National Freedom Network which aims at creating a strong united voice. And our own KwaZulu-Natal team, Captains Moya and Glen Hay, have made over 11 000 people aware of human trafficking in that province.

As we said in this newspaper one year ago, it's time to stop the shame on the human soul.

## A 'magnificent seven' spread the Word of God

For the last two years the seven cadets known as the Proclaimers of the Resurrection from The Salvation Army's Southern Africa Territory have been preparing themselves for lifelong service to God. Training is not done in isolation. The Salvation Army College for Officer Training in Braamfontein works with the South African Theological Seminary.

On Sunday, December 9, 2012 General Linda Bond commissioned and ordained these cadets as officers of The Salvation Army. In a service held



*General Linda Bond with the cadets who shared the ordination ceremony of the special seven*

at Thohoyandou, she encouraged the cadets with this message: "People will need to see that Jesus Christ is alive in you, that you live in Him and for Him, and that you find in Jesus the fullness of life nothing or no one else can offer. Continue to proclaim His resurrection through your life, service and daily witness. May God use you beyond your expectations or imagination!"

These young people are now ready to go into the wider world where they will set a Christian example to others, live a life of obedience, open their hearts to people in need, and continually challenge and encourage themselves, their colleagues and others to be the best they can be in the sight of God.