



THE SALVATION ARMY HERITAGE CENTRE & ARCHIVES
TE RUA MAHARA O TE OPE WHAKAORA

JUNE 2022

REVELATIONS

NEWSLETTER OF THE SALVATION ARMY HERITAGE CENTRE & ARCHIVES IN NEW ZEALAND

CABINET CARD TREASURES IN A BOX

Amazing New Zealand Salvation Army images that have never been seen before in this archive



18

Print

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The Heritage Centre and Archives also has a webpage on which you can find information and articles of interest:

<https://archives.salvationarmy.org.nz/>

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WELCOME

to REVELATIONS 18

► Kia ora and welcome to Revelations: The Newsletter of the Salvation Army Heritage Centre & Archives.

This edition features the work of our Digital Archivist, Sarah Pearce, who has been working with a collection of Lantern Slides – early examples of photographic prints. This collection of photographs covers, among other things, portraits of Salvationists and various buildings (such as Pauline House) associated with the Salvation Army.

This type of “digital archaeology” is a fascinating exercise in discovery and revelation, and one that we relish as it involves not only our journey but the involvement with you, the reader. As an example, we have reached out for help in deciphering the Pitman shorthand annotations found on the back of the slides and this knowledge helps us with a fuller understanding of the objects.

We hope that you will enjoy these unique pieces of the Army’s history.

Gregory Jennings | Territorial Archivist ◀

If you’d like to visit our Facebook Page Salvation Army Archives NZFT: <https://www.facebook.com/SalvationArmyArchivesNZFT/>



AMAZING CABINET CARD IMAGES

Visual Insights into Salvation Army History

► At the end of 2021 we received a donation of a wooden box full to the brim of Cabinet Cards. The majority of which are Salvation Army related.

A cabinet card is a photographic product first introduced in 1863. It is a photographic print mounted on thick card, measuring 4x6 inches.



Pauline House was a Rescue Home built by The Salvation Army in Cuba Street, Wellington 1894.

Pauline House (Rescue Home)

In 1890 Annette Paul was appointed Social Secretary with charge of the Christchurch Rescue Home. This took her by surprise, but she learnt to love this branch of work. Shortly after she was appointed to national headquarters in Wellington with the rank of Ensign. Not only was she involved in social work but she also handled ‘enquiries’ - this service was the precursor to the ‘Family Tracing Service’ decades later.

The social work involved providing rehabilitation and assistance for ex-prostitutes, unwed mothers and destitute elderly women. In 1890 she became a Captain. She oversaw the Rescue Home in Majoribanks Street, Wellington which had opened in 1886 and operated until 1894.

Annette Paul was not without means and in 1894 donated a parcel of land opposite where the current THQ is located in Cuba Street and a new Rescue Home was built on it. It was named in honour of the donor ‘Pauline House’.



Cadet Grinling and Captain Holdaway

On 31 October 1886 Captain Ernest Holdaway opened the Gisborne Corps. He was the sole officer in charge, but had been accompanied to Gisborne by Cadet Alfred Grinling.

Captain Holdaway remained in this appointment until 9 November 1887 when he was transferred to Napier Corps commencing 16 November 1887.

Cadet Grinling was quickly promoted through the ranks and was a Staff-Captain by 1892 and *The War Cry* editor by 1893. By the end of 1893 Staff-Capt & Mrs Grinling resigned, it would seem for health reasons. In January of 1895 an open letter requesting a return to officership was published and shortly after they were officers again.

The significant thing about receiving this cabinet card is that at present it is the only photographic image we have of Grinling in the Heritage Centre & Archives collection.

The image by C P Browne of Gisborne would have been photographed around 1886/1887 while both were serving at Gisborne Corps.

Because of the manufacturing dates and popularity period, we can date the majority of the portraits between 1880 and 1906.

Many individuals in the photographs are unknown, which is always an exciting venture for us. What starts as a simple accession quickly becomes a rabbit warren of genealogical and research detective work. On the back of most photographs was what looked like an alien language which was of course Pitman shorthand.

The project of digitising 204 images took around a month to complete. It's a long process of cleaning each image, scanning, digital processing, numbering, assigning metadata then exporting to our catalogue and digital forums.

Now the digitising is complete, we have shared a public link to the collection via our Flickr account.

Facebook has recently helped us identify a handful of individuals through the power of our community 'hive mind'.

See example of the Sharp family and Sister Attwood (below).

There are many more to be identified, as is always the case with archives.

So if you want to have a go at shorthand translation or are great with faces, follow the link and get in touch. Even a hunch is better than nothing. Sometimes the smallest breadcrumbs lead to the best treasures.

Collections like these become an invaluable resource to our team. Combined with registers, officer records and historic War Cry articles, one positively identified portrait can become a rich starting point. This can lead on to further positive identifications such as the De Blois example.

Flickr - <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjzKaSN> ◀



Laying of the foundation stones of the new central barracks - Christchurch

This title with article was printed in *The War Cry* 6 February 1886, page 4, which had been previously published by the 'Lyttleton Times'.

But the cabinet card image of this event was unidentified when discovered in the wooden box collection. However, the back of the cabinet card gave photographer details - 'From the Photographic Studios of Grand & Dunlop - Portrait & Landscape Photographers - Christchurch, New Zealand (Lyttleton Times Co Ltd)'. It seems the company was coincidentally owned by the Lyttleton Times.

Assuming the photograph was taken in Christchurch, the identity of the building in the background was key. Eventually discovering it was the Supreme Court assisted in realising the location was the site of The Salvation Army Christchurch Barracks. Speculating on the event possibly being the laying of the buildings foundation stone proved to be accurate.

The War Cry article description: *The erection in Christchurch of a building to be devoted entirely to the services of The Salvation Army, may well be said to mark an era in the progress that the Army has made since it was first established here. The ceremony of laying the foundation stones of the building...on the vacant plot near Bligh's Restaurant, Victoria Street, and close to the Supreme Court-house, took place on Saturday afternoon. The Army mustered at Oddfellow's Hall, Lichfield Street. At 2pm the procession was marshalled by Major Barritt. First came a large caravan, just completed by Mr Moor, coach-builder, and intended for use of The Salvation Army Flying Brigade. [During the occasion on-site] Major Barritt addressed the assembly gathered around [see cabinet card], which consisted of a crowd of about 2,000 persons.*

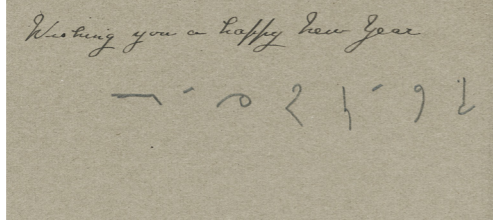


Captain & Mrs Sharp with daughter and Sister Attwood

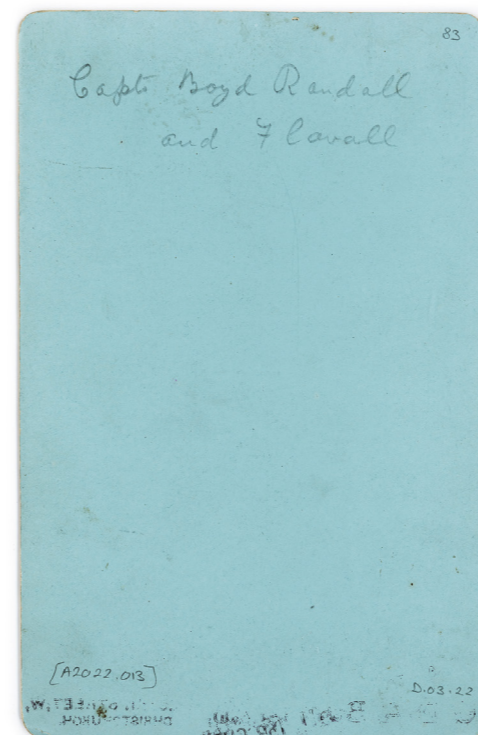
This image was released on our Archives Facebook account with numerous helpful responses which enabled us to confirm the identity of the people photographed.

On the left is Captain Henry Proctor Sharp. Standing is his wife Esther Ellen (nee Whitehead) with Henry holding their daughter Muriel Minnie. To the right is Sister Attwood [Sister is a Salvation Army term for a woman member of The Salvation Army - note the Salvation Army shield at her throat]. Henry came from the Toowoomba Corps in Brisbane while Esther went into Salvation Army officership out of Newton Corps, Auckland. Photograph taken in 1906 while the Sharps were at Nelson Corps.

Below the words "Wishing you a Happy New Year" is a like of 'shorthand' writing. This identifies the family including the names 'Sharp' and 'Attwood'.



G. E. A. Burrell, 153, CHESTER STREET, W. CHRISTCHURCH.

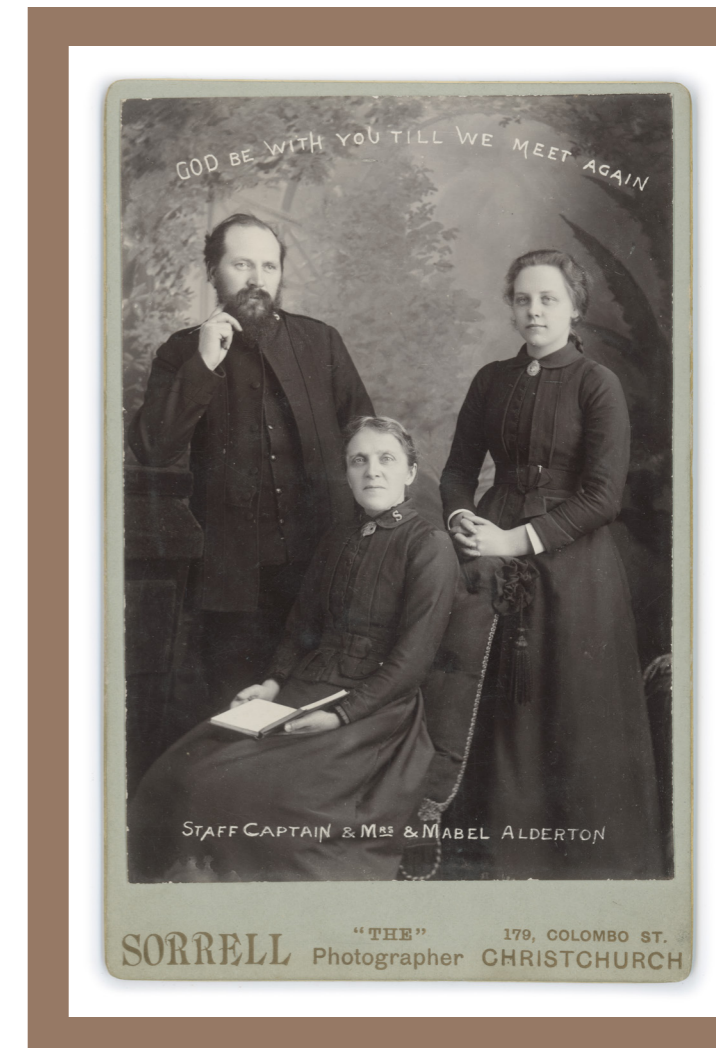


Captains Annie Boyd, Ridy Randall and Laura Flavell

The dating of this image falls between Annie Boyd being promoted to Captain in October 1892 and Flavell's death on the SS Wairapa, October 1894 (Departed NZ mid-1894).

That the owner of this cabinet card wrote information on the back of the card has made life much easier to potentially add details to this image. It is not clear that these three officers served together in Christchurch, but they were appointed at different times to the Christchurch Rescue Home prior to 1893.

It is interesting to note on the back of the card along the bottom edge some offsetting of the print of the photographers details, implying that cards were stacked on top of each other after the printing or stamping of these details.



Staff Captain & Mrs Alderton and daughter Mabel

The staff Captain was appointed to New Zealand from England to replace Major Rolfe as the Divisional Officer for the Southern Division based in Dunedin.

The family arrived in Auckland on board the 'Ruapehu' in June 1892.

Staff Captain Alderton wrote of his impressions in coming to New Zealand in *The War Cry* of 24 December 1892. *At home in the Old Land [England], I often thought "what a wonder New Zealand was not discovered [by England] long before the time of Captain Cook". But when travelling across that mighty ocean for seven weeks, I began to wonder it was ever found at all...I have now travelled from Auckland...to Queenstown...and what do I find? That this blessed Salvation Army has found its way almost everywhere, from the large city to the small, scattered district.*

Before leaving New Zealand, in November 1894, the Aldertons had a photo taken and had etched upon it 'God be with you till we meet again', in response to the affection they had for the Salvationists of New Zealand and the time shared together.