



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

MARCH 2023

REVELATIONS 21

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

THE TRAINING OF OFFICERS

A Short History of the Training College

THE CHANGES FROM THEN TO NOW

Booth College of Mission over 40 years

VIOLA BLINCOE

A Dedicated Woman of God

140 YEARS OF THE SALVATION ARMY

Expression of Practical Christianity

EASTER

Special Easter *War Cry* Covers

Print

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- 2) Print |'actual size'| A3 double-sided | flip on short edge | then, if you wish, fold as illustrated.



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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 21

► Kia ora Kia ora, Ni sa Bula, Malo e lelei, Mālō le soifua and welcome to our March issue of Revelations. It is a busy year for the Archives, with preparations for the celebrations of The Salvation Army's 140th Anniversary in April, as well as various corps celebrations, the 50th Anniversary of the Fiji Division in November, and the 50th Anniversary of The Bridge Programme.

This issue we focus on the 140th Anniversary; the history of The Salvation Army Training College in New Zealand and its current iteration Booth College of Mission; Easter Editions of *The War Cry*; and the life of Viola Blincoe, MBE, and her work in spreading our message of faith and service to the community.

We trust you will enjoy this insight into the material held in the Archives and hope you can find inspiration for what will be a significant year for us all.

With God's Blessing.

Gregory Jennings | Territorial Archivist ◀

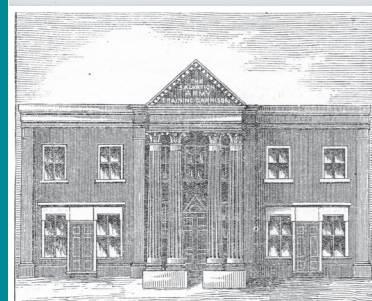
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1890



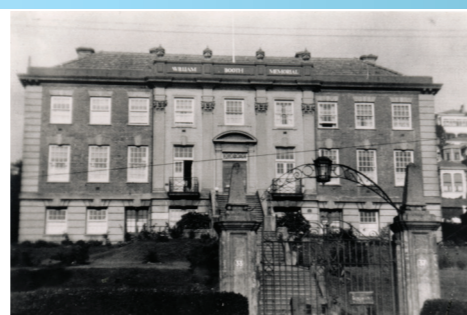
Christchurch Training Garrison Cadets, 1891



The Newtown Training Garrison for women, *The War Cry* 25 July 1891

► Prior to 1890, officers' training was corps based. The first training garrison for men, opened in Christchurch in May 1890 and one for women in December. Cadets received a few months of training.

1914



Aro St Training College, 1923



First morning parade of 'Centenaries', 1929



'Shepherds' marching out from the college, 1954



'Disciples of Jesus' with Major Ron Manning, 1977

In 1893 training was centred in Ashburton for men and Wellington for women, and then in 1896, all officer training was transferred to Melbourne, Australia.

By 1912, it was recognised that there was a need for a training college in New Zealand. In 1914, The William Booth Memorial Training College was opened in Aro Street, Wellington. The purchase of a site in Trentham, Upper Hutt led to the establishment of a new training campus in 1983. ◀

1983

THE CHANGES FROM THEN TO NOW

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THE TRAINING OF OFFICERS
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VIOLA BLINCOE

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Viola Blincoe, Home Officer, Training Garrison 1929

▶ Viola Emily Blincoe, MBE, was born in Nelson in January 1900. When she was 10, she made a firm decision that God would have control of her life. As a teen she was responsible for the youngest children (Primary) in the Junior Corps and prior to entering The Salvation Army Training College, in 1920, she was the Corps Sergeant Major.

Later in life, she remarked that from her father she inherited a sense of purpose and from her mother, a love of people.

In almost 40 years of officership Viola Blincoe had several corps and social appointments. She was on the training college staff twice and held roles at Territorial Headquarters as Women's Social Secretary, Trade Secretary, Public Relations, and Welfare Services. She received the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in 1952 and when she retired in 1960, she was the only single woman officer holding that rank. At her retirement Viola Blincoe was recognised



Capt. Viola Blincoe & Lt. Ellen Talbot, 1923



Lt. Col. Viola Blincoe with used stamps for Missionary fundraising, 1965

as The Salvation Army's representative on a large number of committees. She was president of the Wellington Branch of The National Council of Women, President of the Wellington Branch of the National Council of Churches, National President and Wellington Branch President of the Combined Churches Christian Festivals committee, convenor for the Crimes Bill on the International Council for Public Affairs, and Convenor of the Women's Group of the Prisoners Aid and Rehabilitation Society. The chairman of this society said, "The Colonel is a genius for organisation which is unsurpassed."



For many years Viola Blincoe personally wrote and sent parcels to missionaries abroad. She collected for many years used stamps which she sold to fund missionary projects. She also used the proceeds from the sale of her house to aid projects overseas.

In 1973, she was invested with the MBE for many years of service to New Zealand society. In her *War Cry* obituary, 12 February 1994 she was described as, "wise and perceptive, quick to summarise a situation, possessing significant organisational skills... sharp and skilled in debate. She loved causes to fight and did not surrender principles... she did not seek personal recognition or adulation... Her life could be summed up as one of selfless dedication to God and his work through the Salvation Army, a life of love and service." ◀

140 YEARS OF THE SALVATION ARMY

Expression of Practical Christianity

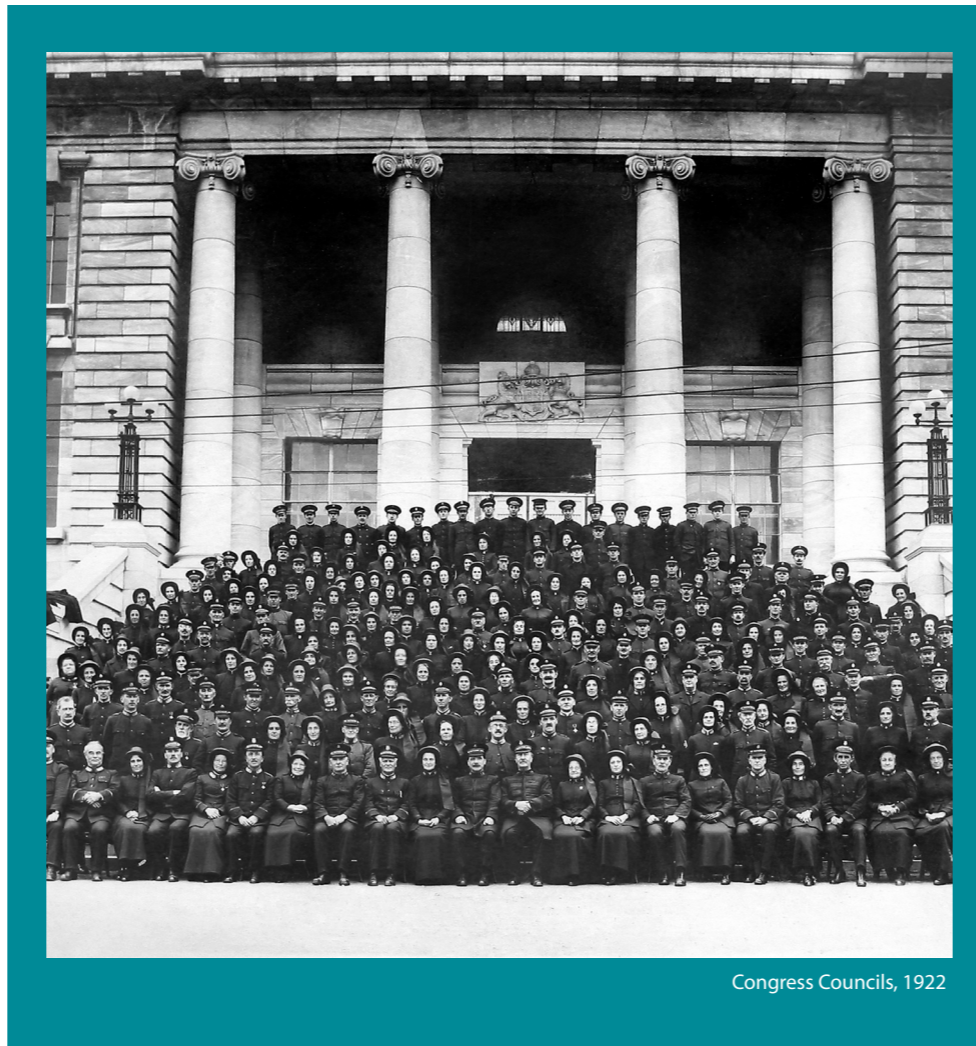


First Meeting at Dunedin Fountain - Cargill Monument. c1880

▶ Aotearoa New Zealand, 140 years ago, was a country of rich potential, but an economic depression was creating unemployment, poverty, social distress, and violence. Responding to written requests for assistance, William Booth sent two Salvation Army officers to New Zealand. Captain George Pollard and Lieutenant Edward Wright. They recruited

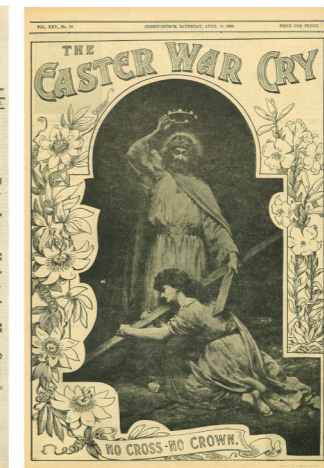
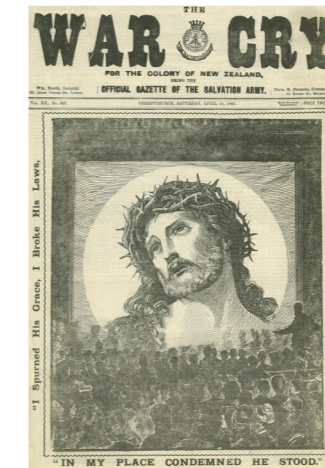
three Salvationists in Australia and established The Salvation Army in New Zealand, "firing a salvo" on the 1st April, 1883.

Within a short time, the Army had been opened in 21 cities and towns, and "flying brigades" serviced country areas. The Salvationist message was preached, individuals accepted Jesus with soldiers enrolled, and bands formed. For 140 years, the Army has shown practical Christianity "taking the gospel" (good news) to people of all ages, cultures, financial positions, and religious beliefs. Army support has included homes for the elderly, children and disadvantaged. Places of refuge for women and children, treatment centres for alcohol and drug dependants and the appointment of chaplains in hospitals, prisons, and the armed forces. This rich history continues of service to the Territory and service to Christ. ◀



Congress Councils, 1922

EASTER WAR CRY COVERS



1. Christ portrayed in Limelight photographic image, *The War Cry* 13 April 1895
2. No Cross No Crown, *The War Cry*, 18 April 1908
3. *The War Cry*, 18 April 1911, Melbourne
4. *The War Cry*, 3 April 1926

