



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

DECEMBER 2023

REVELATIONS

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

VIOLET ALLISON A Salvationist

THE CHRISTMAS STORY From *The War Cry* 1981

COMMUNION FLASK Salvation Army Decanter C19th

ALMANAC CALENDAR Salvation Army 1908

1932 WAR CRY ILLUSTRATION Christmas Issue

ZULU HEAD Major Nancy Bassett's Treasure

STORIES IN THE SAND Sand Tray

THE WHATMAN CRICKET BAT Play Up!

Print

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- 1) Print both pages as A3 sheets/posters, or
- 2) Print |'actual size'| A3 double-sided | flip on short edge | then, if you wish, fold as illustrated.



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WELCOME

to REVELATIONS 24

► Merry Christmas, Meri Kirihimete, Marau na Kerisimasi, Kilisimasi Fiefi, Manuia le Kerisimasi!

Welcome to our December issue of Revelations as we look forward to the celebrations of Christmas and the summer holidays.

We thought we would do something a little different with this issue of Revelations.

Some Archives' staff have personally selected objects and illustrations from our collection for display in this newsletter. The staff member's name is recorded beside their chosen item.

We pride ourselves in being the kaitiaki (guardians) of these archives and in telling their tales the continuing story of The Salvation Army is told through them.

Caroline Wardle (Assistant Archivist, Research), Marisa Roos (Archives Assistant), Maree McAllansmith (Assistant Archivist, Arrangement & Description), Sarah Pearce (Digital Archivist), Soora Lee (Content & Publication Designer), Paula Scoon (Assistant Archivist, Research), Gregory Jennings (Territorial Archivist).

We trust you will enjoy this newsletter and a glimpse into the archives. Merry Christmas!

With God's Blessing.

Gregory Jennings | Territorial Archivist ◀

VIOLET ALLISON (nee Provis) - chosen by Maree



Born in 1894, Violet enrolled as a soldier in July 1910 in Reefton. She undertook a South Island Corps Cadet exam in late 1910. In 1915, she was a Sunday School teacher.

She was married to Haylock Thomas (Tom) Allison and died in Featherston in 1937.

These few facts are all the evidence of Violet in the Archives.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS A KING AND HIS NAME WAS JOSEPH. ONE DAY THREE WISE MEN CAME TO HIM. "WHERE IS THE CHILD WHO IS TO BE KING OF THE JEWS?" THEY ASKED. "WE HAVE SEEN HIS STAR AND HAVE COME TO WORSHIP HIM." NOW HEROD WAS VERY ANGRY WHEN HE HEARD THIS, AND SAID TO THEM "AND FOR THE CHILD AND COME BACK TO ME I KNOW WHERE HE IS." WHEN THEY LEFT THEY SUDDENLY SAW A STAR SHINING IN THE EAST. IT WENT BEFORE THEM UNTIL IT CAME AND STOPPED OVER WHERE THE CHILD WAS. THE THREE WISE MEN ENTERED THE HOUSE AND THE CHILD WITH MARY HIS MOTHER, AND FELL DOWN TO WORSHIP HIM. THEY PRESENTED GIFTS OF GOLD, FRANKINCENSE AND MYRRH. THAT NIGHT THEY WERE IN A DREAM TOLD THEY SHOULD NOT GO BACK TO THEIR COUNTRY, SO THEY RETURNED HOME BY A DIFFERENT WAY.

Thought up and drawn by Jim Moss

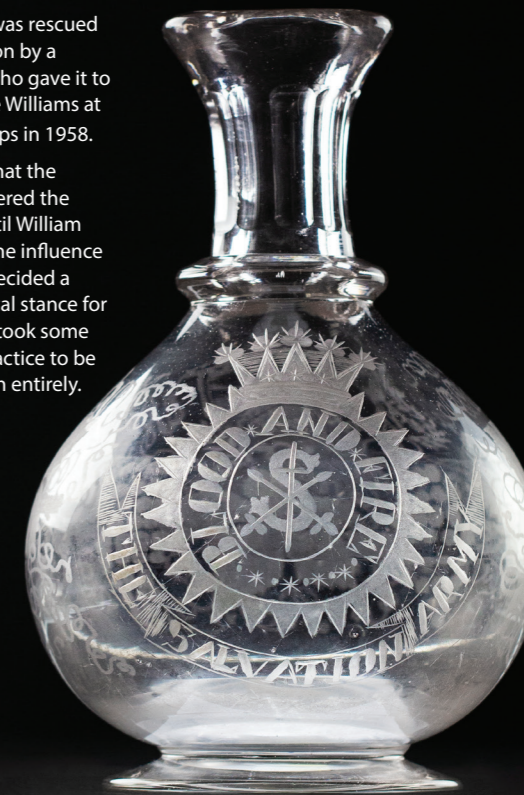
COMMUNION FLASK

19th Century Salvation Army Decanter

- chosen by Soora

This decanter was rescued from destruction by a bottle dealer who gave it to Captain Claude Williams at Devonport Corps in 1958.

It is evidence that the Army administered the sacraments until William Booth, under the influence of Catherine, decided a non-sacramental stance for TSA in 1883. It took some time for the practice to be done away with entirely.



ALMANAC CALENDAR

Salvation Army Almanac Images - A favourite of all Archives staff

▶ Traditionally, The Salvation Army produced an almanac calendar every year available with the Christmas edition of *The War Cry*. They featured art, often scenes painted specifically for the almanac, images from Salvation Army institutions or photographs of picturesque New Zealand scenes. The almanac images over the years creatively provide a snapshot of social history and artistic trends within the time period they depict. Some of the original watercolour artwork depicted in the almanacs has been preserved in the Archives. ◀



1908 TSA Almanac poster >

1932 THE WAR CRY ILLUSTRATION

Christmas Issue - chosen by Sarah

▶ A. Vaughan contributed several illustrations to *The War Cry*. However, their connection with The Salvation Army is unknown.

Were they a Salvationist, a hired contractor or a resident in a social programme? Either way, the art is stunning, and the artist is skilled.

This piece was on the back of the Christmas edition of *The War Cry* from 1932. ◀



ZULU HEAD FROM SOUTH AFRICA

Major Nancy Bassett's Treasure - chosen by Marisa



▶ Major Nancy Bassett was a cadet in the Intercessors session and was commissioned in January 1953. After completing midwifery training in New Zealand, Nancy was appointed to Catherine Booth Hospital, South Zululand Division in April 1957.

Nancy continued her service in South Africa until September 1980. In 1981, she was awarded the "Certificate of Merit for Exceptional Service."

During her time in South Africa, Nancy collected many books and artifacts, which she generously donated to The Salvation Army Heritage Centre and Archives.

The photo shows Nancy with some of the treasures from her collection, and we have highlighted a striking wooden carved Zulu head. ◀



STORIES IN THE SAND

Sand Tray - chosen by Caroline

▶ I came to Archives from a background in education where I especially enjoyed the teaching of literacy, reading to children and storytelling. When I discovered an envelope of assorted Bible story figures, over 100 years old and designed for use in a sand tray, I was captivated by them. The brightly coloured images date from approximately 1910 and were accompanied by *War Cry* articles, "The Sand Tray - How to Make It and Use It". These gave guidance on the placement and movement of the figures and props while telling the story.

The innovative concept of arranging these cardboard figures and using props, such as garden greenery, wooden animals, fabric, and hand-coloured backdrops in telling a Bible story gained much popularity. "It is surprising how attractive and interesting a lesson can be made with very little trouble through the use of



a sand tray... lessons thus taught are clearly remembered months afterwards even by the tiniest scholars." *The War Cry* July 29, 1911.

The figures represented here are from Moses in the Bulrushes, Exodus 2: 1-10 and scenes with Jesus from the New Testament. ◀

THE WHATMAN CRICKET BAT

Cricket Bat - chosen by Greg



Play up! Play up! And play the game!

"There's a breathless hush in the close tonight,
Ten to make and the match to win.
A bumping pitch and a blinding light,
An hour to play, and the last man in.
And it's not for the sake of a ribboned coat,
Or the selfish hope of a season's fame,
But his captain's hand on his shoulder smote
"Play up! Play up! And play the game!"

- By Sir Henry Newbolt

▶ It invokes in me the excitement of Christmas Day and the promise of rest and relaxation in the long, lazy days of Summer to come.

Arthur P. Whatman, a businessman in Masterton, presented a Children's Home to The Salvation Army in 1925. The origins of this bat, made by Lilywhite, London, are unclear. It is inscribed, "A.D Whatman 2 June 1877."