WELCOME to REVELATIONS 27

Ni sa bula vinaka, Malo e leilei, Mālo le soifua, Kia ora and Welcome to our September edition of Revelations (the newsletter of the Heritage Centre & Archives).

We continue with our series of items on The Salvation Army's ceremonies, in particular items on Junior Soldiership, including The Junior Soldiers Pledge/Promise, and Senior Soldiership with pictorial examples of the *Articles of War* from 1891 to 1945 (now called the *Soldier's Covenant*). We also have an article on Bernadette Josephine Duff, a Young Peoples' Sergeant-Major (YPSM), including a lovely tribute to her from Faye Letham, and finally a wonderful photograph of Dunedin North's Skiffle Group from the 1960s!



Our Founder Loved the Children, UK, 1917

We hope that you find this issue of Revelations one which will provide joy, happy memories and reflection!

Mā te Atua koe e tiaki,

Gregory Jennings | Territorial Archivist ◀

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Print

To print this newsletter please go to our website, https://archives.salvationarmy.org. nz/our-publications/revelations-newsletter for instructions. Fold the printed newsletter as shown in the illustration.



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Bottom: Nicola Collings, The War Cry, 29th May 1982

Middle: Junior Soldiers Enrolment at Greymouth, The War Cry, 3 April 1982

lop: Junior Soldier Enrolment in May 1971 India - Left: Andrew Hay; Right of table, Gregory Millar of New Zealand







JUNIOR SOLDIERSHIP

The Junior Soldier Promise & Pledge

BERNADETTE JOSEPHINE DUFF

Salvationist Dunedin North Corps

THE SKIFFLE GROUP

Dunedin North Corps's Skiffle group in the 1960s

SENIOR SOLDIERSHIP

Articles of War from 1891 to 1945

follow Jesus."

"I promise, with the help of God, to be a good soldier of Jesus Christ. I will pray, read my Bible, lead a clean life in thought, word, and deed, and help others

promise card, they commit to praying, reading their Bible, leading a clean life in thought, word, and deed, and helping others follow Jesus. Additionally, each new Junior Soldier is connected with a Prayer Pal, a significant adult who prays for them and supports their spiritual development. Also, Junior Soldiers have regular meetings which support them in understanding their promise.

These young individuals participate in special Junior Soldier preparation lessons, which focus on the Junior Soldier promise and what it means to be a follower of Jesus within The Salvation Army. Once the lessons are completed, the child may be enrolled as a Junior Soldier and is presented with a Junior Soldier Soldier and is presented with a Junior Soldier Badge. In signing their Junior Soldier

A Junior Soldier in The Salvation Army is a young person over the age of seven who has made a decision to be a follower of Jesus. Essentially, Junior Soldiers are junior members of The Salvation Army who desire to grow and express their faith.

▲ Junior Soldier's badge 1890s





BERNADETTE JOSEPHINE DUFF

Salvationist Dunedin North Corps



Red Shield Guides Leader Bernie Duff c1963

Many young people's faith journeys were influenced by this soldier's commitment to young people's work. One of these was soldier Faye Letham who shares her personal experience and tribute to this Salvationist's service below.

Bernie Duff was the Brownie leader at Dunedin North Corps when I was a 9 year old. I joined as a transfer from Alexandra. My parents had split, it was not a good time and back in the sixties I certainly felt that I was looked down on because I was one of those from a "broken" home! However, at Brownies, I was accepted and after experiencing the music at a church parade pestered my mother to allow me to go to Sunday School at the army.

Bernie was the YPSM, the Singing Company, and Timbrel's leader (in addition to Brown Owl). With my love of music, this was wonderful to be part of. Bernie used to write plays for the Sunday School Anniversary each year and always made that weekend special. I look back and marvel at the amount of work she did.

After she married Bill [Joyce], moved out to the farm and started a family Bernie was not able to be so involved. I however, by this time a student nurse, visited and stayed quite often. Bernie had other accomplishments; she made and decorated my wedding cake and their daughter Sandra was the flower girl at our wedding.

In later life, after moving to Canterbury, Bernie became a published author of historical novels based on Dunedin history. I am the proud owner of signed copies of these novels.

Junior Soldiers Dunedin North Corps 1958



Back Row: Captain Bell, Lyn Buttar, Graham Austin, Laurie Bell, Ken Hayes (YPSM), Ray Harlow, Sue Harlow, Alexis Coster, Heather Bell, Winnifred Buttar, Lesley Buttar, Rosemary Botting, Captain Grace King (D.Y.P. Sect), Mrs Captain Series, Front Row: Errol Thompson, Ernest Barnes, Peter Longworth, Cavin Duff, Barbara Lye, Mary Austl, Leonie Holtz, Joan Dickson, Carol Bell, Mrs Joyce

Bernie and Bill retired to Timaru and Bernie was so well looked after by Bill as her health started to fail, passing away in 2022.

Bernie and Bill both had an infectious sense of humour which was still evident the last time I saw Bernie.

The photo of Bernie in her Brownie uniform with that lovely smile is an enduring memory. Bernie made a difference in the lives of many people, I am just one of them.

by Faye Letham (nee Reeves) August 2024

THE SKIFFLE GROUP



- **B:** Roger Mills, Ashley Bishop, Elizabeth Dunbar, Carl Laurier, Ray Harlow, Rex Fairburn, Alan Dunbar **F:** Winifred Buttar, David Ojala, Evelyn Ojala, Lesley Buttar, Valerie Duff, Bernie Duff, Dorothy Hill, Rosemary Botting
- The skiffle group of the Dunedin North Corps was established in the 1960s and gained popularity for presenting gospel songs. The group undertook multiple trips to other Corps, where their music was highly valued.

SENIOR SOLDIERSHIP

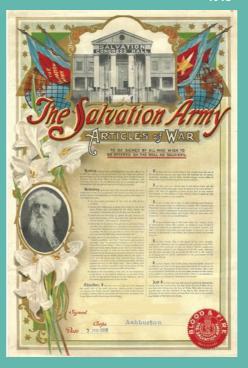
Articles of War from 1891 to 1945

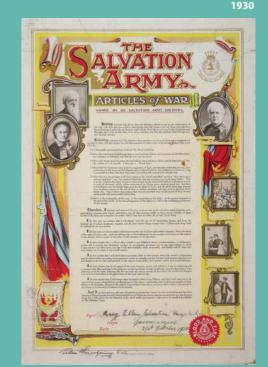


1891











▶ The Articles of War, also known as the Soldier's Covenant, are the promises made when becoming a soldier in The Salvation Army. A soldier is a Christian committed to the mission of The Salvation Army and has undertaken a specific

covenant (or promise) regarding their lifestyle and beliefs. This set of principles that intending Salvation Army soldiers must sign were originally called *Articles of War*. Above are a variety of images of the development over time from 1891 to 1945 of

the *Articles of War* and show the often elaborate form of the promise presented to the individual soldier. The articles have continued to be updated periodically and in 2010 they were known as the *Soldier's Covenant*.