

workers

together

with Him



The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that Captain Philip (Phil) Clark from Church Army United Kingdom has been appointed National Director of Church Army New Zealand. He and his family will begin their work with us in September this year.

Possibilities with Phil...

Phil writes, in the 17th century, my ancestor J.W. Shipley made the earth shattering decision to leave Flambrough and move to Bempton, a massive five miles away. I'd like to think that J.W. would be thrilled to hear his distant descendant is making a slightly longer distanced relocation!

So, what will we bring from England? Firstly, nearly 25 years of experience with Church Army, in both Germany and England. My first post as a commissioned evangelist was near Doncaster in the north of England, where we started a Fresh Expression of church with a strong focus on children (though of course we didn't understand it in those terms at the time!).

We then moved to church plant in a deprived area of Liverpool in the north-west of England. Here we launched a radical and innovative ministry to unchurched children, which was enormously successful in enabling literally thousands of children to hear the Gospel. As the children grew older we responded by starting a youth ministry, and eventually a young adults' congregation. At its peak we had four programmes running on a Thursday evening with well over 200 children and young people in attendance, which is pretty well unheard of in the run down estates of the UK.

In April 2007 we were asked to launch Church Army's Gap Year programme in UK. We rapidly developed a name (Xplore), an image, a website, recruited four amazing young people and launched in September of that year. It gave us a massive insight into setting up and launching a new programme! We trained the young

people for 14 weeks in Liverpool, mixing "classroom time" with practical "hands on" experience of frontline mission. After a break for Christmas, the young people were scattered around the world for placements alongside experienced Church Army evangelists in groundbreaking contexts. I am thrilled that CANZ has also launched this Gap Year programme and can only commend it to any young people – I can guarantee it will give you a foundation for life.

We are incredibly excited about the opportunity to lead CANZ into a new era. The Fresh Expressions agenda opens up numerous opportunities as well as challenges, and Church Army has, throughout its history, proven itself ready to pioneer new approaches to reaching people who do not yet know the love of Christ. While church, as we know it, is effective in reaching and discipling some people, the sad reality is that it utterly fails to connect with the majority of people. Church Army is perhaps uniquely equipped to make that connection with people wherever they are – going out to them rather than waiting for them to join us. For over 125 years CA has gone into the darkest corners, seeking out the least, the last and the lost in order to proclaim, both in action and words, the love of Christ.

I come with a destination in mind – tens of thousands of men, women and children entering into a faith community and knowing the reality of the presence of the Risen Lord in their daily lives. I have a broad direction – Fresh Expressions. But I do not have a detailed route. As we all prepare for a new beginning in September, let us be faithful in prayer, that the Lord of the harvest would continue to direct our ways and strengthen us for the journey.

Thank you for your partnership in this journey, for the faith you bring, as we enter the adventure, and for your faithfulness in sharing the love of Christ.



Emily and Daniel



Phil and Monica

Raising voices

lightening hearts

With so much doom and gloom it is so refreshing when we see **God at work** in the lives of others. Several things have happened recently that are really encouraging.

Children attending the bus showed an interest in the ukulele, so we prayed for ukuleles. Within two weeks, **World of Music** in Hamilton offered us the ukuleles we needed at cost and several supporters donated money to purchase them. It was faith building for the children and they are loving learning how to play them.

Just before Christmas, we went carol singing with the bus around Rowley where we are working at present. Local Christians gave twenty gifts to give to children as we were singing. We selected the most needy children and gave them the donated gifts. The next day, while visiting families, I discovered that word had got around that we had given out gifts the night



before and the inevitable 'where is mine?' questions were asked. Panic set in, but then I remembered that the **City Mission** were collecting gifts, so I rang them and they had the problem sorted. They filled our car to capacity with enough gifts for all the children on our roll. What a joy it was to see the faces of the children on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, when we pulled up in the bus laden with gifts. For many of the children, these were the only toys they received.

Bus maintenance is another area we have seen God at work. **Youngman Automotive** not only did our service and maintenance labour-free and for the cost of materials, but a supporter handed us a cheque to cover that cost as well. Our motto 'Together we can make a difference' is certainly apt, with 'together' being the operative word.
Capt. Louise Weller-Canterbury Kids Coach

Shifting house

sharpening focus

The year has begun with us shifting house from Hillsborough to Three Kings, just around the corner from where we were. In February, at the Citizenship Ceremony in Auckland, we were granted New Zealand citizenship and received our Citizenship certificates. We are delighted to have received this blessing from God and to be in this nation for His glory and the gospel. We are also excited about **SATSANG: Fresh Approach – Cultural Expression!** Our aim is to enable all contacts to embrace Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour without abandoning their culture and community.

So what is SATSANG? Satsang is a Sanskrit term: *sat*=true, *sanga*=company – it describes in Indian philosophy i) the company of the highest truth ii) the company of a guru, and iii) company with an assembly of people who listen to, talk about, and assimilate the truth. This typically involves listening to, or, reading the Scriptures, reflecting on, discussing and assimilating their meaning, mediating on the source of these words, and bringing their meaning into one's daily life. During a *satsang* with a master, attendees are likely to ask questions. *Satsangs* also may contain elements like lectures, meditations, singing and recitations.

Why this approach? I have noticed that when a Hindu couple attend a church service they struggle to understand the

elements of our worship. They ask the following kind of questions: Why do people stand to sing? Why do people wear shoes in a holy place? Why does the HOLY Bible lie on the ground? If I become a follower of Christ, do I have to adopt these foreign practices? If Christ was an Asian or Middle Easterner, then how can I be a Christian in my cultural setting? Do I have to leave my heritage, cultural values, society and belonging to embrace Christ?

My Questions So I then began to ask a number of questions. How I might minister with a SATSANG approach. I wondered what we at RUN Ministries value about Sundays? Is there a possibility that we could commit ourselves to devoting our Sundays to being with my non-Christian friends and families? I could invite them home to my place, where we can sit together, dialogue, discuss, eat, sing, read the Bible and express ourselves as koinonia in the making. Maybe we might sit on the floor, keep the Bible in a respected place, sing vernacular and Hindi language songs, read the Bible in our own language etc... So with all this in mind, we are developing Satsang as our focus for ministry this year, and seeing where it takes us. Please pray for us as we develop this fresh approach-cultural expression.
Revd Shashikant Christian-RUN Ministries



Shashikant, Ruth and Shiprah, kiwis at last!

Our Gap Year begins!

What a great delight to see the GAP year students and their families arrive at the Discipleship house for the first full Global GAP Year course. We have four students in the group and, as can be seen from the photo, there are a variety of nations represented even in such a small group. Jenny is from Nigeria, Logan from South Africa and Adam and Ryan are both from Hamilton.

Glenn, our Global Gap Year Coordinator, had organised an informal time of fellowship which included an evening meal. The whole group looked over the property and saw where the lectures were to take place and heard about some of the plans for development being discussed and put into place by the Birkdale/BeachHaven Anglican Church.

The parents had the opportunity to meet Johanna Halder the House Manager who is responsible for the smooth running of the house. Johanna's quiet confidence and leadership would have assured the parents that their young people were in good hands.

The Certificate level course that Glenn and others will be using was developed by the Australian Church Army. We are the third country to make use of the extensive amount of development that Australia has done to produce the course. It is designed to promote a practical approach to training that places effectiveness in the practice of ministry as the prime goal. The certificate is the beginning of a lifetime of learning that will lead to excellence in the practice of ministry with an ever deepening academic pathway wide open to every student.

The students will live in the Elliot Bateman Discipleship house for the first three months of the course and then will be assigned to Church Army ministries in various parts of the world as well as in NZ. The aim is to both see and experience through "hands on" ministry the places where effective outreach to the "least, last and lost" of this world is being carried out. By deepening their own walk with God and confronting their continued need to grow as a disciple of Jesus, they will have the best preparation for a life that will count for the Kingdom of God. They will know that they are loved by the God of all creation. They will know that they are called to a life of service to the God of Love and will have some idea of where they can be most effective in that service. It will be a challenging and changing year for them all.

So we enter into a unique set of partnerships as we embark on this new venture. The Church of the Saviour, Blockhouse Bay has willingly seconded Glenn to us for the duration of the course. The "For the sake of Our Children Trust" has supplied us with funds to rent the house. The parish of Birkdale/BeachHaven has partnered with us for the use of the house and other parish facilities. Church Army Australia has supplied us with the course.

All of this to ensure that the next generation of leaders available for the work of the Kingdom of God have the best beginning that is possible.

A wee note from Glenn: Orientation week has gone really well with the four students getting on very well together and rising to the occasion!

POSTPONED

AFFiRM Conference 2009

Inspired to Lead - thinking strategically for mission

We have had to postpone the Inspired to Lead Conference, because the main speaker the Most Revd Henry Orombi, Archbishop of Uganda has been unable to send his passport away for the necessary period to get a visa. Efforts are still being made to have Archbishop Orombi in New Zealand at a later date.



Glenn, Ryan, Adam, Logan & Jenny



Johanna (house manager) with the team



Family and friends together



Logan in the deep end

News in Brief:

Capt. Lorne Campell is taking some time out to complete some theological study he has been doing for some time now. Sadly we have to report that **Church Army Adventure Ministries** has had to close after 20 years of wonderful effective ministry. The financial situation of many of the families who sent children plus increasing costs have meant that the camps are no longer financially viable. After much agony and prayer, Thomas and Rochelle arrived at the decision to hold the final camp in January this year.

Retirement? Not on your life!



Roger Biggs dropped us a line this week to catch us up with what he's doing this year. Roger writes, "I am on the team for Te Ara Pono (TAP) 2009. This is a version of Cursillo that we run in the Faith Based Unit at Rimutaka Prison. I was part of the TAP team last year too. The men in the unit are great and the effect of TAP on them is nothing short of miraculous. We

also go into the unit every other month and spend a morning in praise and worship with them. It is having an effect on the wider prison with inmates applying to join the unit and even the corrections staff applying to work there. In addition, we attend church services in the unit about five times during the year.

I have also just been co-opted onto the core group for Connect (our family service) and am trying to establish 'interest groups' within the congregation. These are similar to house groups but are based around a common interest such as fishing, tramping or gardening. The hope is that these groups will invite others to these activities and create opportunities for evangelism. And, yes, I continue to be on the team for Christian Religious Education (CRE) at the local school. I have a class of year 5/6 children this year and enjoying them immensely. I wish you all the best in your retirement???"

Peter & Putaruru



This partnership continues to thrive with both older members and younger members finding ways to connect with each other as church. St Paul's Breakfast Club meets after the 8am service

every Sunday. Friendships have been forged and conversation over the table covers a wide range of topics as they fellowship together. This 'breaking bread' together is as liberating and enjoyable as the 'breaking of bread' that happens in Holy Communion. One of Peter's delights this year has been to help baptize two young children at St Paul's, Putaruru. At the request of the parish, Peter works with families to prepare the parents and children for baptism. These families are connected to the church in some way, in this case, the two mum's are part of the New Mum's Group. Peter presented the parents to the church and to Revd. Bruce Sockburn, and supported them as they presented their children for baptism. Each family were given gifts at the Baptism, including a candle, presented in a wooden base which was beautifully crafted by a wood-turner in the parish. Just this week, Peter has returned from visiting two more families whose children will be baptised at Easter.

*Captain Peter Allfrey
- North Island Field
Worker (NIFW)*



Generous Giving – response forms

Over the past few years we have been working to have each of our ministries able to support themselves financially. Your generous gifts to Church Army can be given to any one of the following ministries

- Run Ministries
- North Island Field Worker (NIFW)
- Canterbury Kids Coach (CKC)
- GAP year
- RunRIG
- Director's Ministry (to provide for the National Director of CANZ)
- General Funds

If your gifts are not specified for a particular ministry, they go into the General Funds, so if you wish your gift to go to a particular CA-NZ ministry, please specify so on your response form. Thank you.

Together we can make a difference

WILL YOU JOIN US BY GIVING GENEROUSLY TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES IN THE FIELD?

Contact us at: **PO Box 26-209, Auckland 1344** Phone: **(09) 630-2282** or **(09) 630 2201**
Fax: **(09) 630 2201** Email: **office@ca-nz.org** Website: **www.ca-nz.org**