

# The Salvation Army in CBS

---

In 1908, John and Elizabeth Eason decided to ask about the possibility of starting a Salvation Army Corps in CBS. They met with Colonel Rees, the head of the Salvation Army in Newfoundland and Labrador, and they were granted permission and given a financial contribution. They also fundraised some money. John recruited some men who helped cut some wood and Mr. Eason developed the wood in his wood mill. The very first services were held at the old United church in Topsail. John Eason was appointed as the first sergeant-major and he was in charge of 6 to 8 families. Abraham Dawe donated some land and the construction of the first citadel commenced. Within one year, the citadel was built, across from St. George's School. Then, the first corps officer was appointed to CBS, Lieutenant Langmade.

As the congregation grew, the need for local officers also grew. Here's a list of the first local officers:

Sergeant-Major: John Eason (1908)

Corps Secretary: Abraham Dawe (1908)

Corps Treasurer: Abraham Dawe (Upper Gullies, 1917)

Young People Sergeant Major: Nicholas Eason (1917)

Recruiter Officer: Elizabeth Eason (1917)

Corps Cadets Counselor: Suzie Dawe (1940)

Flag Sergeant: Joseph Tilley (1940's)

Proprietary Secretary: James Porter (1943)

Home League Treasurer: Violet Noseworthy (1950)

Home League Secretary: Olive Dawe (1952)

Cradle Role Sergeant: Annie George (1950's or 60's)

Band Master: Roy Butler (1965)

At the beginning of the local officers, there were two local officers with the same name, Abraham Dawe! How confusing! One man was from Long Pond and gave the land for the citadel. The other was from Upper Gullies. This is probably why we call the local officers by their title, not their names.

The citadel, even though it was well built, only had a capacity of about 30 or 40 people. The roof was flat and the seats were like benches. In the centre of the citadel, there were 4 poles with kerosene lamps in between them. There was also a wood stove.

The wife of the sergeant major was always in charge of cleaning the citadel. She would walk from Manuels with her mops and her buckets, her clothes and some kerosene for the lamps. In the winter, she would walk across the frozen pond.

In 1958, under the leadership of Captain Duffett, another citadel was built, not far from the first. In fact, all the furniture was donated by the children of John and Elizabeth Eason. Captain Duffett did most of the work where he was a skilled carpenter.

In 1985, Majors Les and Bessie Barrow opened the current citadel, across from Scotia Bank. We continue to use this citadel to this day.

As of today, 28 people from CBS Corps have been commissioned as Salvation Army officers:

Rhoda Bonnell (Eason) – 1914

Ernest Eason – 1915

William Dawe – 1919

Eliza Stanley – 1923

William Stanley – 1923

Lillian Randell – 1923

Margaret Stanley (Dawe) – 1926

Elizabeth Perrin – 1926

William Eason – 1929

Marion Watts (Dawe) – 1929

Olive Peach – 1929

Lily Norman (Porter) – 1951

Cora Dodge (Porter) – 1967

Lorraine Simpson (Dawe) – 1971

Wilson Perrin – 1972

Lorraine Shea (Bishop) – 1974

Dean & Margaret Locke – 1981

David & Gloria Sparkes – 1983

Lloyd & Marlene George – 1984

Rosemarie Bishop – 1985

Sherry George – 1990

Kelly Snook – 1990

Kent Hepditch – 1991

Dena George – 1998

As of today, we have 180 families in the Corps, 439 adherents, 99 soldiers and 23 junior soldiers, 60 women in the Home League and 15 in the band (that includes me too!).

Written by: Zach Marshall, 2012.

A special thank you to Majors Cora and Winston Dodge, Majors Lorne and Barbara Pritchett, and Majors Lloyd and Marlene George.