



The Signal

A publication to share information of interest to the people of the
Conception Bay South Corps and Community.

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331 CBS Highway

Perspective

Dear Reader

Warm greetings to you as you read the Conception Bay South Corps Newsletter, "The Signal". Christmas and the New Year are occasions when we participate in activities that are the result of our recollections of the past. What a blessing the memories of childhood can be, and considerations of the coming days, with far more emphasis than usual.

In all of the busy times may you sense the peace that was promised to all who seek God and follow His will and plan for their lives.

May your Christmas be joyful and the New Year exceed your fondest expectations.

I have heard so many nice comments regarding the Signal. It serves several useful purposes not the least of which is keeping us informed about each other as well as the events and activities of our church.

In conclusion, a sincere expression of thanks and appreciation to Majors Winston and Cora Dodge. Their work in the preparation, publication and presentation of this document is a work of "love".

As we approach the 12th year of publication, I ask for your continued prayerful support that God will continue to bless them and their special ministry.

To you and your loved ones, a very Happy Christmas and may the New Year be a time of blessing as you know the presence and the power of God in your life.

Lt. Colonel Ralph Stanley



TAKING STOCK

Ebenezer Scrooge had the 'dickens' of a time getting life straightened out. He leaned his ladder against a very strong and popular wall and began climbing with all his might. Poor old Eb worked hard and attended to every rule and principle of climbing that he could learn. He had one overriding motto - 'get all you can and keep all you can!' Bah humbug to everybody and everything else!

But there was one problem. Ebenezer, now well up the ladder, discovered that he was climbing the wrong wall!

It seems to me that Scrooge never ever stopped to take stock of his past until one day his past took stock of him. One soul searching night, Ebenezer was confronted with an honest assessment of his life. As he wanders around the useless relics of his past, and then sees his projected future - he feels hopeless and helpless. Finally Scrooge comes to the most amazing discovery - the only thing that can change his future is a change in him. What a morning it was when he awakened to the dawn of Christmas day and realized that there was a second chance for him.

What a story!

Truth be told, we should all look at our past. We should all examine our lives to see if what we are building is of any value. However, evaluation without hope on the other end is utterly devastating. That's where the good news about Christmas comes in. Jesus Christ came to give us a second chance. We don't have to wallow in our defeats or drown in our despair. Life can 'come alive' for us too. 'Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord.' (Luke 2:11)

The purpose of that birth was announced by Jesus Himself "...I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." (John 10:10)

God bless you my friends and have a very merry Christmas.

Majors Lorne & Barb Pritchett, Corps Officers



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It All Began with a Christmas Pageant



Looking resplendent in their new Salvation Army uniforms, Gordon and Linda Wheadon were recently enrolled as soldiers at the CBS Corps. This was a significant step on their spiritual journey. Gord was born in Western Bay, a small community in Eastern Newfoundland.

At the age of seventeen, with his parents' consent, he enlisted in the Canadian Army, where he served for 25 years, including three tours in Cyprus. He retired in 1993. He rarely attended church as a young man, because he said "I was a lost soul without any purpose. I got nothing from the church and didn't really understand what the preacher was talking about."

He and his wife Linda, whom he married in 2002, moved to CBS a few years ago. Linda worked as a teacher's assistant, giving particular attention to children with special needs. Some years later, Linda had to deal with some issues in her own life, particularly the sudden tragic death of her sister in 2010. In her younger days, Linda had attended church regularly in her home town of Long Harbour and had always felt a connection with God. However, as a way of dealing with her grief and her troubled heart, Linda gave up on everything important in her life, except her job and her work with the Special Olympics programs and events.

One of her students was Glen Walters, who at the time was needing a personal care worker. Linda felt that her husband would be the perfect companion. She was right. One Christmas after that, Glen, who faithfully attends the CBS Corps, invited Gord to attend a special Christmas pageant, in which he was participating. Gord accepted and he said "I was amazed at the feeling I had. I felt very comfortable and began to attend regularly. When Major Lorne Pritchett spoke, I was on the edge of my seat, listening to every word...I finally understood."

After a few months, Gord wanted to accept Jesus as his Lord and Saviour, but old doubts and fears haunted him. He kept thinking "I will lose my friends, I'm not good enough, people will laugh at me." A short time later he was reminded of the chorus "Because He lives, I can face tomorrow", and he determined one Sunday morning that if they sing these words today, he was going to get saved. The words were sung and after some struggles, Gord made his way to the altar. It was a life changing decision. Since then, he has experienced a remarkable peace in his heart. He was excited about attending church and sharing in worship. Naturally, he encouraged Linda to join him, because he was convinced that she would be helped through her pain and grief, by the Bible messages.

Linda accepted the invitation and came as she described herself, "a broken woman, feeling the weight of grief and blaming myself, thinking that I should have been able to help my sister in her time of need." Linda wept through many of the services, realizing she needed forgiveness and healing. On January 19, 2014, she sat in her usual place and listened to life changing words "When He was on the cross, I was on His mind". She knelt at the altar and prayed. The hurt and the guilt flowed away with the tears. Linda remembers "Jesus forgave me and He loves me. I gave my life freely to Him. I forgave myself and realized that a great burden was finally lifted from my heart."

Today, Gord and Linda bring so much blessing to the CBS Corps, with their warm smiles, their joy in worship and their genuine Christian excitement. The joy of the Lord is seen upon their faces, and they desire to share their testimony to those they meet. One of Gord's favorite Scripture verses is from **Hebrews 13:16** "Do not neglect to do good and share what you have, for such sacrifice is pleasing to God."



CBS Corps Band (Bandmaster Brian Hart) recently hosted a special Band Weekend, with special guests, St John's West Corps Band, under the leadership of Bandmaster Darrin Martin. A band clinic was held Saturday morning and they shared a noon meal. On Saturday evening, both bands presented a superb musical concert, featuring both old favorites as well as more contemporary numbers. The combined bands participated in the Sunday services at CBS (AM service) and St. John's West (PM service.) As part of the weekend celebrations, Sherry Banfield (right) was recognized for 35 years of ministry in the Band. She is seen holding her special certificate of congratulations.



CBS Ladies' Ministries recently held another successful Sale and Luncheon. Standing behind one of the very attractive displays are some of the members ready to serve. So far \$5946.55 has been raised (with more to come in). A sincere thank you to everyone who supported this event.

Corps Officers Majors Lorne and Barb Pritchett and other Corps leaders welcome new soldiers, holding their certificates (l-r) Randy Voth, Nathan Reid, Danielle Tucker, Roxanne Tucker and Jim Skinner.

Greetings from the Town of Conception Bay South



May your Christmas sparkle with moments of love, laughter and goodwill, and may the year ahead be full of contentment and joy.

On behalf of myself and my fellow Councilors, we hope 2016 will be a year of happiness for you and yours! All our best wishes for the season!

Mayor Steve Tessier



Congratulations to Ella Mae Taylor who proudly holds her Soldier's certificate following her reinstatement as a Salvation Army soldier.

With Heartfelt *Sympathy*

The CBS Corps extends sympathy to the Hepditch and Martin families on the passing of loved ones:

**Sandra Hepditch
and
Lorraine Martin**

Christmas Activities



Launching of the Christmas Kettle Campaign for 2015 at Sobey's Store in Long Pond



The Salvation Army Brass Band provided music for the Annual Santa Claus parade.



All ages helped to pack 600 Sunshine Bags for distribution to residents in nursing homes.



Congratulations to Monica (Nikki) Eason who recently received her B (ED) from MUN and to her Mom Val, who has completed her required credentials and will be awarded her M. ED in Counseling Psychology later this month.



Weekly sewing classes are held at the CBS Corps on Tuesdays, from 10 am —12 noon . Gloria Guy (right) is the instructor. Ladies encourage and help each other, whether it is making small items or quilting. You are welcomed to join them and see what you can do.

HAPPY 80th BIRTHDAY



Maizie Bishop
November 8, 2015



Helen Chaytor
November 4, 2015



Coralie Dodge, coordinator for Operation Christmas Shoe Box ministry is happy to announce that 648 boxes are on their way, from our Corps to bless children, like the one seen to the right. Thank you to the Denny family, Randy Butler, Doug Scott and Major Winston Dodge for helping with the delivery. Thank you to everyone for your support.

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