

THE SALT OF THE EARTH

Part 3

By Keith Sharp 2016

THE SALT OF THE EARTH

The Salvation Army was founded by Rev. William Booth as the Christian Mission in July 1865, after he had been invited by a group of missionaries to address a meeting they were holding opposite the Blind Beggar public house in the Mile End Road. The work he started grew, and by the time the name was changed to the Salvation Army, in 1878, there were fifty stations and eighty-eight evangelists. In the 1880s the movement grew rapidly and was becoming much more organised. Officers who had previously had to live on what they could take from collections were now paid an allowance. Training, which had taken place in small groups was organised in one college, or “garrison”, after the Salvation Army purchased the London Orphan Asylum at Clapton, roofed over the central quadrangle to make a large meeting hall thereafter named the Clapton Congress Hall, and adapted the surrounding rooms to make men’s and women’s quarters on either side with class rooms at the ends. Training was further organised in 1886 to last six months, three months in the college and three months ‘out-training’, experience at a corps under supervision, before being ordained as a minister or, to use the Salvation Army’s terminology, “commissioned” as an officer. (The word ordination is now used, the term “commission” being limited in meaning to receiving the first appointment after ordination.) Booth had also become aware of the extreme poverty that was all around and, believing that you can’t change a man’s heart if he has an empty stomach, he started what was to become the Salvation Army Social services. Victorian society regarded poverty as a sin, the undeserving poor, the victims were called. However, numerous social reformers like Lord Shaftesbury, Charles Kingsley, Sir Edwin Chadwick and many others were slowly changing ideas, and when Booth published his book on social reform, *Darkest England and the Way Out*, in 1890 it proved extremely popular and gave a tremendous boost to the work of the Salvation Army and attracted increasing numbers of recruits.

When the name was changed to The Salvation Army the organisation adopted military terminology. A congregation of followers was termed a corps, the church building a hall, barracks or citadel. The ministers became officers and adopted military ranks under the leadership of General William Booth. Officers retained a sense of loyalty to the Corps in which they had been candidates for officer training and were officially described as being ‘out of the particular Corps’.

Emma Eliza Newman had belonged to Norwich Corps and left there to become an officer in 1893. It has been said in the family, and repeated in her obituary in the Salvation Army’s weekly paper *The War Cry*, that she was trained at Notting Dale, but this must have been her out-training as the college at Clapton had by then been long established. After being “commissioned” the new officer would be appointed either to social work or to a corps. The work was hard and stressful and appointments were for no more than six months; a new officer would usually be appointed as Lieutenant, second in command to a more experienced officer who would have the rank of Captain. It is difficult to determine Emma Newman’s early appointments after she was commissioned, the only source is a monthly magazine called *The Field Officer* (later *The Officer*) in which appointments were listed, but only by surname with a symbol indicating whether the person was male or female. There were clearly at least two female Newmans circulating at the time and the possible list of her early appointments is:

July 1893 (Green, Newman)
Sept 1893 (Newman, —)

East Peckham (Kent)
East Rudham (near Fakenham, Norfolk) *unlikely*

| | | |
|----------|-----------------------|---|
| Jan 1894 | (Treen, Newman) | Green Street (cannot be identified) |
| Jan 1894 | (Newman, Waller) | Parson Drove (near Ely, Cambs) <i>unlikely</i> |
| Feb 1894 | (Newman, McLelland) | Minster (Thanet) <i>almost certain</i> |
| Aug 1894 | (Newman, McLelland) | Wouldham (near Rochester, Kent) <i>almost certain</i> |
| Oct 1894 | (Worthington, Newman) | Guiseley (near Otley, Yorks) |
| Mar 1895 | (Newman, McLelland) | Silsden (near Keighley, Yorks) |
| Aug 1895 | (Worthington, Newman) | Chartham (near Canterbury, Kent) |

It was while at Notting Dale or at one of her very early appointments that at a meeting, when appealing for the collection, someone threw a coin which hit her in the eye, an injury which caused her to suffer for the rest of her life from repeated severe headaches and which led ultimately to blindness.

Her first appointments known for certain were:

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Mar 1896 | (Gent, Newman) | Flackwell Heath (Bucks) |
| Sept 1896 | (Newman, Foyle) | Brill (Bucks) |

John Wood left Aberdeen Citadel probably in May 1896 for London in order to become an officer in The Salvation Army and he, too, trained at Clapton. A story is told that when Booth was to conduct a public meeting he noticed John Wood's upright bearing and selected him to be one of the doorkeepers to deal with any troublemakers. He was commissioned in September 1896 and posted to Brill, but when he arrived and went to look at the hall he found Emma Newman already there. He asked what she was doing there because he had been appointed to Brill, to which she replied "Well so have I, and I got here first, so hoppit!" And hoppit he did and was given another appointment to High Wycombe in the same "Oxford Division". In the very early days of the Salvation Army it was not unusual for a single man and woman to be appointed to the same corps if their skills recommended it, but this practice was later considered unseemly and was discontinued. Emma Newman and John Wood's appointment to Brill was the last time it ever happened. They remained in that division for the next few years and their appointments can be established with some certainty.

After Brill Emma Newman was appointed to:

| | | |
|-----------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Mar 1897 | (Newman, —) | Cricklade (near Swindon, Wilts) |
| | a hiatus but at sometime including | Northleach (near Cirencester) |
| Jan 1899 | (Newman, South) | Ramsbury |
| June 1899 | (Newman, Maynard) | Aldbourne |
| Dec 1899 | (Newman, Maynard) | Great Marlow |
| June 1900 | (Newman, Rhimall) | Tadley |

And after John Wood's rather startling first appointment to Brill and re-appointment to High Wycombe he was appointed to corps alone and with the rank of Captain. In December 1896 he was appointed to Witney when the corps had just acquired its own meeting hall. The Witney Gazette of 9 Jan 1897 reported:

SALVATION ARMY CORPS. On Saturday Evening last the first of a series of special meetings in connection with the opening of the newly acquired barracks (The Meeting Hall), in Marlborough Lane, was held. At the first meeting the dedication of the building took place, in the presence of a rather small congregation; the speakers were "Major" Ewens, of Oxford, "Captain" J. Woods [sic], of Witney, and "Captain" Sinclair, of Oxford. The Sunday services commenced with "knee drill" at 7 a.m., followed by the usual service at 11, when "Major" Ewens delivered an address on holiness. Afternoon and evening meetings were also held at the

barracks. On Monday afternoon there was a holiness convention in the Town Hall, followed by a tea meeting in the barracks. In the evening a musical service was held, which was largely attended, the proceedings winding up with a coffee supper.

The attitude of the public and press to The Salvation Army varied enormously, in some places they were hated and violently opposed, in others regarded sympathetically or warmly applauded. So sometimes there are newspaper reports good or ill of the Army's activities, in other places they were ignored by the press although it must be said that some papers paid no attention to any non-conformist denomination.

Thereafter John Wood was appointed to:

- Mar 1897 Oxford II (the second corps founded in the city)
- Sept 1897 Abingdon
- Sept 1898 "Battery", the name given for a caravan ministry to gipsies and travellers.
- June 1899 "Supply" (awaiting an appointment)
- Aug 1899 Woodstock
- Apr 1900 Buckingham

While he was on his caravan ministry in 1898-99 his caravan was, on one occasion, overturned by hostile neighbours. One may surmise that more friendly folks helped right it. There was no great loss of personal possessions; in those days officers possessed little and when they moved they had no more than would fit into a suitcase.

John Wood seems to have been rather taken with the spirited young lady who had told him to "hoppit" and being in the same division they must have met occasionally. In due course he obtained permission to correspond, the way things were then done, and later to begin a formal courtship during which time they would be allowed to meet from time to time, with a chaperone of course. They were married on 3 September 1900 at Buckingham Corps. Their best man was the Corps Sergeant-Major (the layman or 'soldier' appointed to support the officer and provide continuity) Eric Barnes whose son, Cyril Barnes became an officer and a noted historian of The Salvation Army.

Captain and Mrs John Wood's first appointment together was to Leighton Buzzard, a town very sympathetic to The Salvation Army although the Leighton Buzzard Observer did once remark that the sympathy felt for the Army's work would be increased if they did not parade about with their loud and none-too-tuneful band quite so early on a Sunday morning. Reports from this paper and the Beds and Bucks Observer shows what life was like in a calm and friendly country town:

January 1st, 1901. THE SALVATION ARMY

The Salvation Army barracks in Lake Street were nicely decorated with evergreens and other seasonable emblems on Christmas Day. A service was held in the morning in charge of Captain and Mrs Wood and suitable hymns were sung. In the evening a magic lantern service was given entitled 'Odd'. Captain Wood's lantern being employed to display the numerous interesting slides. A tea was given in the barracks on Boxing Day to sixty soldiers and friends and this was followed in the evening by a service of song entitled 'The Roll Call', dealing with an incident in the American civil war. The solos were well sung by soldiers and Captain Wood gave the connective readings. The evening ended with a coffee supper which was also well attended.

March 12th, 1901. SALVATION ARMY

On Sunday special meetings were held in the Corn Exchange conducted by Brigadier

Bennett assisted by Staff Captain Bolquill of London. In the morning a Holiness Meeting was held led by Brigadier Bennett. At the afternoon service Brigadier Bennett gave a lecture entitled 'The Salvation Army Rescue Work'. Mr John Collings who was announced to preside was unable to be present owing to indisposition and the Rev. R. D. Chettleborough kindly consented to fill the vacancy. During the service Brigadier Bennett gave the history of the rescue work in the slums of London commencing with the time when the first rescue home for fallen women was established in Whitechapel some eighteen years ago. The Brigadier went on to describe the progress of the work year after year up to the present time, and said that last year alone 2386 girls passed through the homes which required £13,000 annually to maintain. The girls in the homes contributed £7,000 towards this amount by making useful and fancy articles. In the course of her lecture the Brigadier gave several interesting incidents in connection with her experiences in the rescue work. In the evening a Salvation Meeting was held at which Brigadier Bennett and Staff Captain Bolquill gave very earnest and impressive addresses. There were good congregations at all the meetings and the collections for the day were also satisfactory.

On Monday evening in the Corn Exchange a cinematograph entertainment was given to a large audience by Mr J. T. Timms of Oxford, lanternist to the British Association University Extension and the Oxford Camera Club, when among other interesting pictures shown was the funeral of her late Majesty Queen Victoria, the band playing the Dead March in Saul during this scene, and also scenes from the war in South Africa.

March 19th, 1901. LOCAL CHAT - THE SALVATION ARMY

There is plenty of religious and philanthropic work to be done in the world and an organisation which has taken in hand the small orders to help all in need regardless of race, colour, creed may well have some sympathy and support amid the many calls made upon us. This is Self-Denial week of the Salvation Army and donations and subscriptions are asked by the officer of the local corps.

There were no more reports until August by which time John and Emma had moved on to Maidenhead. There is very little known either of a personal or professional nature through most of their careers; Salvation Army records are poorly made and even less well looked after, and such as exist record mainly routine events such as visits by bands and songsters (choirs) from other corps, anniversaries, Christmas and Harvest Festivals. But their stay at Maidenhead saw the birth of their first child - born on 18 August 1901 and christened Evangeline Annie, always known as Eva.

In April 1902 they moved to Walham Green (Fulham : Fulham Broadway Underground station was, until 1952, named Walham Green), in May 1903 to Chelsea I, and in November or December 1903 to Harlesden where, on 27 March 1904, their second child Robert, known as Bobby, was born. In October or November 1904 they moved to Hanwell, now with the rank of Ensign, and a year later, in November 1905 to Oxford I.

The Salvation Army was always quick to adapt any new technology to its own purposes, the phonograph, cinematography, and the motor car. The motor car had first been used to head a Salvation Army procession in Luton in 1897 with tremendous effect, and in 1904 William Booth decided on a summer campaign by motor car covering some 1200 miles over a month and speaking at every village and hamlet they passed through as well as at the more formal events at the major towns where they stopped. This tour became a regular event and on his third tour in 1906 John Wood was selected to accompany Booth as his personal attendant. There is no mention of him in any papers, not even the higher ranking officers travelling with Booth or who joined him at any of

his many stops get mentioned in the press; so far as the press was concerned there was only one man on those tours.

John Wood was at home for the birth of their third child, just before the start of the tour; Catherine Esther, known as Kitty, was born on 19 July 1906 in Oxford.

The month-long tour was gruelling. From Monday to Friday they usually stopped in three main towns where public meetings had been arranged, plus brief stops in any village or hamlet through which they passed. On Sunday they stayed in one place but still had three public meetings. Saturdays were days of rest. The tour started in Inverness on Saturday 29 July and, following a zig-zag course, ended in Dartmouth on Thursday 30 August.

Daughter Eva grew up to become an accomplished raconteur, and she recalled that they farewelled from Oxford before Booth's motorcade ended. Her mother, Emma Wood, accidentally broke her dentures, and because of John Wood's absence was obliged to conduct the farewell meetings alone and without her teeth!

They next moved to Notting Hill where they stayed a year; in August 1907, now with the rank of Adjutant, they moved to Manor Park, although where this corps, long-since closed, was located is not certain, possibly near Barking. And in February 1908 they moved to Bromley. There are no surviving corps records of this period, but a highlight of their stay occurred in July. William Booth's fifth motorcade ended in Kent and on Wednesday 22 July 1908, on a leg of the journey from Redhill to Tunbridge Wells, there was to be a stop at Sevenoaks. There being no corps in Sevenoaks, John Wood was asked to make the arrangements for a public meeting.

On 6 November 1908 they moved to Gravesend where they stayed for six months, and then on 6 May 1909 to Liverpool IX (the ninth corps founded in the city) otherwise known as Liverpool Kensington. Nothing is known of their work in Liverpool but there were two family events of note. Their fourth child christened Lydia Ada was born there on 9 December 1909.

But before that event, Robert, now aged five, was used as a sitter by a local painter for a picture to be exhibited in the winter exhibition at the Walker Gallery. Liverpool's winter exhibitions were rather like the Royal Academy summer exhibitions, the pictures were there for a season and did not form part of a permanent collection. Family recollection has it that the artist was a lady but identification is impossible. The items in the exhibition catalogues are not illustrated, so either the name of the artist or the title of the painting must be known to identify it. Family legend also has it that the painting was later sold to A. & F. Pears Ltd., soapmakers, for possible use in advertising. This is quite likely; Pears did buy many pictures of childhood innocence for advertising of which the most famous is 'Bubbles' by Sir John Millais. But only a very few were actually used for that purpose. Many hung in the Pears boardroom and offices, and have now been sold. But a photograph survives of the canvas propped on a chair in the artist's studio.

From about 1908 appointments of one year's duration became standard with the transfers taking place in May of each year. So in May 1910 the Wood family moved to Leigh, Lancashire. No corps records survive but there was one very big incident during their stay. On the morning of 21 December 1910 at 7-50 a.m. there was a tremendous explosion in the Pretoria coal pit at Atherton, some 3½ miles away. 344 men and boys lost their lives in what was the worst mining accident in Lancashire. John Wood went to the scene and for the next few days worked tirelessly to comfort the bereaved and assist in the relief effort. For this he received a letter of commendation from London headquarters.

The next move in May 1911 was to Manchester Hollinwood about which nothing is known. Then in May 1912 to West Stanley where their fifth child, Stanley Hector, was born on 6 March 1913.

The History book which would have covered the first part of their stay at West Stanley is now lost and this would, no doubt, have recorded the death on 20 August 1912 of William Booth who was succeeded as General of the Salvation Army by his eldest son Bramwell. The earliest surviving record is the second volume of the corps history which commences in October 1913 in John Wood's handwriting. It records the usual activities of the corps until an undated entry:

“War Declared Things become very quiet in the Corps. A good number of our soldiers volunteer.” [War was declared against Germany on 1 August, and against Austria on 12 August]

The next entry reads:

“Harvest Festival the last two weeks in September. Very poor. The soldiers were afraid to collect from door to door on account of local distress.”

And then:

“November 15 Officers farewell after two-and-a-half years stay ... the band and soldiers played officers home at close of meeting.”

A stay of two-and-a-half years was an unusually long one and it is a matter of conjecture why. They transferred to Blyth where the Corps History Book survives and continues in John Wood's handwriting. Events were dominated by the outbreak of war and the large numbers of men who volunteered to serve with the forces; it is worth reproducing the first few entries:

“November 19th, 1914 Adjutant and Mrs Wood took charge. Town in a very excited state, thousands of troops had been arriving from various parts of the country and taking up quarters in schools, churches, etc. Had a fairly good weekend to start.

“November 23rd Was sent for by the Chairman of the Urban District Council, was then made a member of the General Distress Committee. Appointed Chairman of sub-committee for Crofton Ward. Found plenty to do all through the winter.

“December 4th Written to by the Secretary of the Soldiers and Sailors Families Association, asked to be responsible for paying of allowances to wives and mothers until Separation Allowances was paid by the Government, also the paying of rent allowances by the Association.

During December we were kept very busy with the soldiers [military], provision having been made for them to do their writing at the room attached to the Hall. Refreshments in the evening.”

Subsequent entries relate to the usual life of the corps with just an occasional reference to the hardship families suffered who's menfolk were away, or to the restraints on public fundraising, but there is no doubt that throughout 1915 John Wood's work with the Distress Committee and the Soldiers and Sailors Families Association on top of running the corps in difficult times put a great strain on both him and Emma.

Christmas 1915 went well and in January 1916 it was recorded that “We had very good times. F.O. [Field Officer] and soldiers [Salvation Army not military] doing their best for the servicemen who were in the town. But then and undated entry:

F.O. very ill. Three weeks off duty.

And after the annual fund-raising appeal in February, then known as the Self-Denial appeal:

March [1916] F.O. ill again. Was advised by D.C. to go to Highbury Nursing Home. Had been there seven weeks, just returned much improved in health. [DC means Divisional Commander, in charge of a Salvation Army administrative area.]

But there is then just a single word "May" and the entries in John Wood's handwriting end abruptly. There is nothing more until another hand records that on 5 October 1915 Ensign and Mrs Box took over Blyth Corps.

John Wood had had to return to the Highbury Nursing Home leaving Emma for a short while to carry on at Blyth. Then Emma, none too well herself, was given leave and went with the family to a rest home in Blackpool. No record can now be found of this Blackpool home but Eva's anecdotes once more fill a gap. She told how her mother lost a lot of her hair through stress, but how other officers at the rest home thought she had an infection and kept well clear of her and the five children. She was well enough later that year to be given an appointment without her husband and to take charge of the corps at Seaton Delaval with the assistance of a Lieutenant Menzies. It is likely that she went there in the autumn of 1916 and remained until the following May, but the only date known for certain is a christening service on 2 November 1916 conducted by her.

John Wood was sufficiently recovered in early 1917 for him and Emma to take an appointment together at Chelmsford. Not much is known of their stay there but the family all spoke of Chelmsford happily. The war continued for 18 months and they would have celebrated the armistice. In August 1919 Eva went to the Salvation Army Training College at Clapton from Chelmsford and was 'commissioned' the following May.

In November 1919 John and Emma Wood, now with the rank of Commandant, transferred to St Helier, Jersey where they stayed a year, and on 18 November 1920 to Salisbury where they stayed for two years. Nothing of family significance is known of these three years; the Corps History Books are full of the usual visits of Bands and Songsters, various anniversaries, and the annual fund-raising appeal. Then on 18 May 1922 they moved to Southsea I; Robert, now 18 years old, did not go with them but moved to London where he had a job in the motor business as a 'motor accessories salesman', lodged with an officer friend of the family named Andrew Jones, and joined Notting Hill Corps.

The Corps History Book of Southsea I is, at this period, extraordinarily well kept. Most books that survive read more like diaries and a year's stay would occupy one or two pages; Southsea's is a full journal and their year's stay occupies 14 pages. It is clear that the Woods received a most warm welcome and were very happy in Southsea to which they would later return. But their stay was marred by the death of Robert.

Robert went to Southsea on Saturday 29 July for a holiday. On the Sunday he went to the corps, played with the band and sang with the songsters. He was diabetic and on the Tuesday he suffered an attack and went into a coma. He died the following morning, Wednesday 2 August 1922. The corps members were very sympathetic and supportive. Eva came back from France, where she was stationed, for the funeral on the Saturday; the band turned out and there were very good attendances then and at the memorial service on the Monday (which was a bank holiday). John Wood must have been affected in health by the event for the History Book records that "Commandant Wood went for his furlough to France (with his daughter) to recuperate."

From the Salvation Army standpoint the big event of the year was a visit on 9/10 December of Mrs General Bramwell Booth (née Florence Eleanor Soper) and the book records the worries about the

expense of hiring the King's Theatre and other costs, and also the trouble of finding her a lodging as she had expressed the wish not to be accommodated where any other officers had previously stayed. The bishop, naval officers and the local M.P. were considered but a local J.P. Mr Gregsley was chosen and he looked after her very well, but she still complained that she had 'billeted' with him before. The weekend, however, went very well, Mrs Booth was said to be very pleased, and the corps was in the red by £1-1s 4d.

They left Southsea on 9 May 1923. The History Book records that the membership had increased during their stay and Commandant Wood "certainly was beloved by the soldiers and friends". A wealthy corps member provided a car to take them to their next appointment at Boscombe – unheard of luxury in those days!

The next day, 10 May, they were officially welcomed at Boscombe. The History Book is like so many others and is little more than a diary, but it does indicate that the Boscombe corps was a very lively and active one and they had a very busy time. One family anecdote tells that John Wood was invited to preach at a broadcast service on 6BM (BBC Bournemouth) and was rather surprised to find that the 'church' was a studio, the band drawn from the Royal Air Force, and the 'choir' a group of singers hired by the BBC. It is also said that this broadcast pre-empted by a few weeks what was to be the first Salvation Army broadcast, for which John Wood was summoned to headquarters and received a ticking off. 6BN started transmitting in October 1923 but the radio times mentions only "religious address" without giving any names of persons. The official 'first broadcast' by the Salvation Army was on 9 March 1924 when the address was given by Mrs General Booth, with a message from the General and music by the International Staff Band.

They stayed in Boscombe for two years before moving to Weston-super-Mare where they were welcomed on 14 May 1925. The corps History Book is very poor and nothing of interest can be culled from it. But Kitty Wood was a candidate for officer training while they were there.

They moved to Bristol Bedminster in May 1926 and, again, the History Book is of little interest. But it does record that candidate Catherine Wood went to the Training College at Clapton that August. This was something that always annoyed Kitty – she had wanted to remain on the roll at Weston-super-Mare where she had been very happy and where she had done most of her candidates studies and been accepted for the college; but the rules at the time did not allow the daughter of an officer to belong to a different corps. So although through her life she regarded herself as having entered the work from Weston-super-Mare, the official record has it that she was "out of" Bristol.

It is of interest to note that both Eva and Kitty were trained at the Clapton college. The well-known college at Denmark Hill with its tower and statues of William and Catherine Booth did not open until July 1929.

On 12 May 1927 John and Emma Wood moved to Camborne, now with just Lily and Stanley, where they stayed for two years, and then in May 1929 to Cheltenham I.

The First World War marked the zenith of the Salvation Army's work both in numbers and of scope. The lower classes, having proved how indispensable they were in time of war, now demanded a fairer place in society, and women who had taken over from men in the factories and on the land demanded the right to work and vote and enjoy greater equality. They sought help more from the trades unions than from the churches. Though there was still an immense amount of work for the 'Army' to do, particularly during the years of the depression, it was never quite what it had been in Dickensian London and it found itself over-staffed. A one-off decision was made to require all serving officers over 60 to retire. So in May 1931 after two years in Cheltenham, instead of receiving another appointment as he had expected, John Wood who was within a few weeks of his 60th birthday was obliged to retire.

They had made no provision for retirement and they went back to Southsea, partly because Robert was buried there, and partly because they had many good friends there one of whom made financial arrangements which allowed them to occupy a house at 61 Bath Road.

Just over three years later Lily, who had long suffered from asthma and generally poor health, died of acute bronchitis and was buried alongside Robert. Stanley stayed at home with his parents until he got married.

John and Emma Wood celebrated their golden wedding in September 1950 but Emma was becoming very frail and two years later they were obliged to move into a Salvation Army retirement home at The Old House, Sevenoaks. John Wood died there on 19 January 1954 aged 82. Emma was becoming very frail and rapidly losing her sight, and without her husband's help could not remain at The Old House. She moved to the long-stay wing of St James's Hospital in Portsmouth where she lived another five years, dying there on 6 January 1959 aged 92.

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EVANGELINE was commissioned as an officer in May 1920 and appointed to France, first to Lyon and then to Paris. When back in England attending Officers' Councils she met her husband-to-be. JOHN STANNARD KIDNEY was born in 1897 in Rotherhithe, the son of Edwin Kidney and Eliza C. Stannard; he later changed his name to Stannard to his mother's displeasure who thought it made him sound her illegitimate son. He served in World War I and then became a Salvation Army Officer. He and Eva were married in June 1926 at the Salvation Army Regent Hall, London (near Oxford Circus) and then served in various corps appointments. They had one son Edwin born on 10 March 1927 in Middlesborough. They also served for a long time in the West Indies and during the war served with the 8th Army through North Africa and Italy.

ROBERT as mentioned above died on 2 August 1922 at Southsea while his parents were the corps officers there.

CATHERINE (Kitty) was commissioned as an officer in May 1927 and was first appointed to Carmarthen. She later transferred to Feltham and then Streatham Vale in the South-West London Division and it was then she met Wycliffe Sharp who was on the Divisional Headquarters. WILLIAM WYCLIFFE SHARP was born on 25 February 1903 in Toxteth, Liverpool, the son of James Morris Sharp and Agnes Philip Drummond, Salvation Army Officers. They were married on 12 November 1932 at Balham Congress Hall; Wycliffe did a morning's work at the office before getting changed and cycling to his wedding. After a few corps appointments they went to India. They had three children: Keith Drummond born on 12 February 1934 at Godalming, John Morris born 9 March 1941 in Ahmednagar, Maharashtra, a 'blue baby' who died the following morning, and James Cedric Sharp born on 2 June 1943 in Ahmednagar. They later served in Pakistan and in Burma (Myanmar).

LYDIA ADA (Lily) was asthmatic had always be of frail health and, although she had a desire to become an officer, realised that she would never be able to. She lived with her parents in Southsea when they retired there and sang with the Songsters at Southsea Corps. As mentioned above, she died on 15 December 1934 in Southsea of acute bronchitis.

STANLEY HECTOR was a driver of heavy lorries for Parks of Portsmouth before it was nationalised after the war. He was a long serving member of Southsea Band. He married DIANE G. HUMPHREYS 17 November 1948 at Southsea corps. They had three children all born in Southsea: Thea Paulette born 25 March 1951, Lynette Heather born 21 January 1957, and Andrew born 16 November 1961.