



THE SALVATION ARMY
AUSTRALIA TERRITORIAL HEADQUARTERS

Official Notice



PROMOTED TO GLORY

Major Alma England

12 September 1930 – 16 May 2023

Major Alma England was Promoted to Glory on 16 May 2023. Alma, aged 92 years of age, entered her eternal reward with Jesus walking her home after faithfully serving 70 years, 3 months, 26 days in Officership.

*The Master said to Alma 'Well done, good and faithful servant.
You have been faithful Enter into the joy of your master.'* Matthew 25:23

Our love and prayers along with our heartfelt sympathy covers and surrounds Jenni and Christian, David and Lisa, Norm and Chie, Philip and all the grandchildren and great grandchildren Jasmine, Joshua and Caleb; Jarrod and Cameron; Nicole; Holly, Benjamin and Kelsey; Ella and Max; Lexi, Taya and Imogen; Zoe, Cooper and Ashleigh; Ada and Delilah, Rylen; and Fletcher

The Life of Alma England

Alma Kennett was born in Horsham on 12 September 1930. Alma entered The Salvation Army Training College from her home Corps in Portland, Victoria as a cadet in the "Intercessors" Session. Following her commissioning on 8 January 1953 was appointed to the Bethany Eventide Home. Alma married Athol England on 5 December 1959. They were blessed with 4 children, Jennifer in 1960, David in 1961, Norman in 1964 and Philip in 1966.

Alma and Athol had many appointments during the following years. In 1955 Alma was appointed to the Bethesda Hospital until 1958 during which Alma completed her General Nursing Training. Alma was then appointed to the Bethesda Hospital and remained there until 1962. While there she completed her Midwifery Training at The Haven Maternity Hospital and her Infant Welfare Training at Queen Elizabeth Hospital. In 1962 Alma and Athol were then appointed to the Indonesian Territory where Alma served at the William Booth Hospital until returning to the Australia Southern Territory in 1964 to take her appointment in the Women's Social Department.

Later in 1964 Alma and Athol were then appointed as Managers to the Brightside/Weeroona Eventide Home, Victoria until 1968 when they were appointed to the South Melbourne Corps, Victoria. In 1970 they were appointed to the Fairfield Corps, Victoria. In 1974 they were appointed to Tasmania where Alma became the Matron of St Anna's until 1979 when she then became the Hostel Supervisor. In 1980 Alma and Athol were the Managers of Alton Court in Victoria and in 1983 she was appointed part time to the Social Relief Centre, Spring Street in Melbourne. In 1988 Alma was appointed as the Silver Star Secretary for the Melbourne Central Division and in 1989 as the Health Officer Burnewang House, Residential Drug Treatment Centre, Victoria.

In 1991 Alma and Athol were appointed to The Bridge Program, Victoria and in 1993 Alma was appointed as The Salvation Army Divisional Medical Fellowship Secretary in the Melbourne Central Division. In 1994 Alma was appointed as Chaplain to Alton Court Senior Citizen Residence, Victoria until her final appointment in 1994 as Divisional Companion Club Secretary, Melbourne Central Division. In 1995 Alma and Athol entered Retirement.

In retirement Alma and Athol continued to serve their local community, and take active leadership in their local Corps. Visitation, Bible Study, Mainly Music, and Prayer meetings were never missed.

Alma won numerous first prize awards for her garden, flower arrangements, vegetables and was an active member of the Altona Garden Club. Her love of Australian bush and wildlife was evident in her enormous home garden, her many paintings, and the Altona Painting classes were always featuring Australian bushland and landscapes. Alma was an extraordinary cook who loved to share her food, inviting guests for meals, or sharing her baking with neighbours and friends was a daily pleasure; her cream puffs and homemade pasties were extremely well loved! Alma and Athol were an incredible team together, they celebrated 60 years of marriage in 2019 and were delighted to receive a letter of congratulations from Queen Elizabeth. Their life of Officership was one of gracious service, social justice, and care for those most vulnerable and disadvantaged.

Alma and Athol loved spending as much time with their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren as possible. Alma's family will remember her sharp sense of humour, her fun for dress ups and family concerts, her thoughtful encouragement and kindness, and her amazing over generous provision of family dinners, special baked treats whether hungry or not, and an insistence that we always have time for good food and fellowship! Alma was a woman who cared for people, she was self-sacrificing and to the end was always thinking of others needs before her own and she will be remembered for her generosity and kindness. Her kindness to think of leaving a cold bottle of water for the post man on a hot day or one of her baked treats, jams or garden cuttings or riding her bicycle to the officer's home with a roast dinner on the handlebars, these are ordinary common acts of kindness shown to those Alma appreciated.

Alma and Athol moved into BlueCross Livingstone Gardens in 2017 due to Alma's declining health and commenced soldiership at Waverley Temple Corps. Sadly Athol passed away after a sudden and severe stroke in 2020 and Alma has gracefully faced the challenges of her ongoing declining health with the love and care of her family and supportive staff at Livingstone Gardens.

Alma died peacefully with her family beside her and has joined Athol who has been patiently waited for her in their heavenly home. Like Athol, Alma has donated her body to science, even in death thinking of how she can be of use to others.

A Thanksgiving & Celebration of Alma's life will be held on:

Date: Monday 29 May 2023
Time: 10:30am
Location: The Salvation Army, Hobson Bay Corps, Altona Vic
Conducted by: Lieut. Colonel Frank Daniels

For those who may want to contact the family during this time, please see the following contact information

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Or via email:

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Cheryl Carpenter (Lt Colonel)
Retired Officers Support Secretary - Australia
On behalf of **The Secretary for Personnel**