



THE SALVATION ARMY  
AUSTRALIA TERRITORIAL HEADQUARTERS

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## Official Notice

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### **PROMOTED TO GLORY**

**Major Winifred Ann Barker**

**18 July 1933 – 23 March 2023**

Major Winifred Ann Barker (nee Blakey) was Promoted to Glory at 9pm 23 March 2023 at her home. Winifred aged 89 years of age, entered her eternal reward with Jesus walking her home after faithfully serving 66 years, 2 months, 10 days in Officership.

*The Master said to Winifred '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 Major Cedric, her children: Silvy Young, Major Bunita Pittaway, Honie Head, Mikel & Rasa Azure.

### **The Life of Major Winifred**

Winifred was born on the 18 July 1933 in Richmond Victoria. Winifred entered The Salvation Army Training College from her home Corps Geelong West as a belated member of the "Sword Bearers" Session of 15 March 1956, however due to the arrival of her second child in early April she missed the first weeks of her training. She wasn't one for always doing things the usual way.. Following her commissioning on 14 January 1957 was appointed with Cedric to the Ringwood Corps, Eastern Division, Victoria.

Winifred Blakey married Cedric Barker on 1 August 1953. They were blessed with 4 children Silvy, Bunita, Honie and Mikel. She was blessed with lovely grandchildren; Shannon, Troy, Fleur, and Jacynta Pittaway; Peiter and Noel Young, Nikki and Zoe Colliver and great grandchildren Savannah, Stella, Isabella, Charlize, Emma, Jack, Anneliese, Ezekiel, Tobias, Joshua, and Lily. Her family are very aware of how special it is to know their great grandparents.

Winifred and Cedric had many appointments that followed during their Officership together. They were appointed as Corps Officers in Western Australia to the Collie Corps in 1959 and South Perth Corps in 1961. Then came the journey to appointments in South Australia to the Kent Town Corps 1963, Port Adelaide Corps 1965 and then in 1966 to the Linden Park Old Men's Home. Winifred and Cedric were then appointed back home to Victoria to the Bayswater Boys Home in 1969 for a brief 6 months before being moved to Tasmania to Manage the Barrington Boys Home in 1969, and then back to Western Australia to the Hollywood Children's Village in 1971.

Winifred and Cedric were then appointed to Mount Hawthorn Corps in Western Australia in 1973, then to Victoria as Corps Officers of the Frankston Corps in 1977, Springvale Corps in 1980. Winifred was given solo appointments (following Cedric's secondment to ITIM Chaplaincy), to Thornbury Corps in 1982 and the Footscray Corps in 1983. In 1984 Winifred was appointed to THQ, Winifred as Secretary of the Order of the Silver Star, then into Admissions officer at SCR Victoria in 1992, and then her final appointment was Secretary Fellowship Corps 1994.

On 1 June 1996 Winifred and Cedric entered a very active Retirement at Inala Village, Victoria.

In retirement Winifred and Cedric enjoyed retirement by becoming actively engaged in the life of the Village and remained as loyal soldiers of the Ringwood Corps going to Bible study, Sunday services, doing the occasional Home League and Women's group. Winifred was a very keen patch worker, putting on an exhibition at Inala Village and much later after the bushfires burnt down much of Marysville, including a counselling retreat called Elkanah, which they had used during their ministry "Marriage Enrichment", Winifred made a vow to put a patchwork quilt on every bed once Elkanah was rebuilt. This vision became known through the patchwork community and people offered their help to see this vision happen. Elkanah was also the site of the inaugural patchwork retreat that Winifred arranged in her 80's to bring many of the women who had contributed together to share their passion. It was very successful, and many wanted it to be an annual event.. Winifred said she had organised the first one; it was someone else's baby now.. she now had time to put her creativity into many things as she wrote and published a number of devotional books that many people have benefitted from, and she was talking just a week before her PTG about the next book that she was going to publish.

Many people will have been the recipient of the songs that she and Cedric wrote together.. words and music for small songster brigades (80 songs in all) again published but no profit to themselves. Many people will have received a card of support and encouragement from Winifred during her later years as she would be praying and feel the spirit nudge her to send someone a word of love and care. She loved concerts and parties.

Winifred was a great organiser. People will remember that she was a wonderful cook as well. Right up until 2 years ago she was still cooking jams, pasties and Christmas puddings and fruit cakes for stalls at the Inala Village, many of these were sold out before they even got to the stall. Little known would be the fact that throughout her ministry people who were lonely or on their own, were always welcome to the family table for a meal.. often Sunday lunch and particularly Christmas. This ministry of hospitality was very strong within her and was a big influence on her children and their actions towards others. She was a complicated woman, strong minded, intelligent, fluent, imaginative (as her artwork shows) , hardworking, hidden depths, fiercely loyal to Cedric, and given the state of her health throughout the years, what she achieved is amazing.

**Winifred's Funeral is to be a private family Service on Friday 31 March 2023 at 2.30pm.**

There is planned (at Winifred's request) A Praise and Thanksgiving service to which all her friends and family are invited (this is to give people time to travel to Melbourne if they wish to share this time with us).

<b>Date:</b>	22nd April 2023
<b>Time:</b>	1 pm
<b>Location:</b>	Ringwood Salvation Army

**The Live Streaming Link for Winifred Barkers service can be found on this website: Le Pines Lilydale.**

<https://view.oneroomstreaming.com/index.php?data=MTY3OTc0MDc0MDI0Mjk3NiZvbWVyb29tLWFkbWluJnZpZXdfYnV0dG9u>

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

*Cedric's contact*  
*Phone 98955151*  
*Mobile 0404182557*  
*151/220 Middleborough Rd, Blackburn South.*

*Or via Bunita's email: [bjpittaway@gmail.com](mailto:bjpittaway@gmail.com)*

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