

FEATURE
Salvos launch
environment
statement

NEWS
A new modern
slavery bill

FAITH TALK
The power of
good news

Uniting for climate change

Church leaders call for global action before it's too late



SALVOS

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Unexpected kindness is the
most powerful, least costly,
and most underrated agent
of human change.

- Bob Kerrey





The Salvation Army is about giving hope where it's needed most.

What is The Salvation Army?

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church.

Vision Statement

Wherever there is hardship or injustice, Salvos will live, love and fight alongside others to transform Australia one life at a time with the love of Jesus.

Mission Statement

The Salvation Army is a Christian movement dedicated to sharing the love of Jesus by:

- Caring for people
- Creating faith pathways
- Building healthy communities
- Working for justice

Salvos Magazine

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Feature [4]

Salvos launch environment statement

Faith Talk [10]

The power of good news

My Story [12]

A new light on poverty

Finding freedom

Freedom is something we all long for – physically, emotionally, psychologically and spiritually. As we look around the world, it can seem like very few people are experiencing it.

In this edition, the theme of freedom runs through our stories. The articles on climate change show that churches are campaigning alongside the wider community in the fight to free our environment from destructive practices and reduce the impact of climate change, both now and into the future – while we still can.

Our news stories also focus on freedom – for women experiencing family violence and homelessness, for communities hit by floods, and for those caught up in the insidious crime of human trafficking.

In My Story, we showcase the artwork of people who have found freedom from poverty through their resilience, sense of hope, and some help from the Salvos and others.

And in Faith Talk, Janine Donaldson writes about good news in a weary world – news of God's love for each of us and the freedom that comes from being in a relationship with him. Ultimately, it is that relationship that really sets us free.

Simone Worthing **Assistant Editor**

Salvos world leader launches environment statement

The Salvation Army's new International Positional Statement, 'Caring for the Environment', sets out a strongly worded description of the many ways God's creation has suffered catastrophic damage from human actions.

The statement, recently released by The Salvation Army's world leader, General Brian Peddle, pledges to foster a "culture of sustainability" and calls for immediate action to address and combat "environmental degradation".

The statement lists environmental degradation as one of the most pressing issues facing the world: "Its effects fall disproportionately on the most vulnerable, particularly in terms of health, livelihood, shelter and the opportunity to make choices. The very survival of humanity depends on the health of the whole ecosystem."

The statement commits the Salvos to sustainable environmental practices: "In addition to being compelled by the lived experience, The Salvation Army also accepts the scientific evidence that demands action on all levels."

General Peddle called on all Salvos and friends to "make adjustments in lifestyle and comforts" and "positively declare your part in the stewardship of the earth ... Striking the right balance between our needs and what is sustainable must catch the attention of every Salvo."

What the statement terms as "the over-reliance on and excessive use" of carbon-based fuels is highlighted, although it stresses that



General Brian Peddle launches the new International Positional Statement, 'Caring for the Environment', calling on all Salvos and friends to make adjustments to help bring about environmental sustainability.

"environmental degradation" is about more than energy issues, indicating it also has an impact on factors such as food and water insecurity, poverty and migration.

The scriptural basis for the position is also laid out in detail.

The statement concludes with a series of suggested practical responses through which the Salvos seek "to foster a culture of sustainability with a focus on long-term environmental solutions".

All 20 International Positional Statements are available to read in full at salvationarmy.org/isjc/ips

Edited from a report from the International Headquarters Communications Department.

Church leaders unite for climate action

WORDS SIMONE WORTHING

Commissioners Janine and Robert Donaldson, leaders of The Salvation Army Australia, have joined church leaders from across Australia and the Pacific region in calling for the Australian Government to step up its part in global action addressing climate change.

"The damage to the environment for future generations and the disproportionate negative effect on the world's vulnerable should motivate every Christian to action," the Donaldsons said. "We all have a part to play." The leaders co-signed an open letter (see pages 6-7) to the Australian Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, expressing shared concern over climate change and that Australia could be a leader and champion of more ambitious and innovative action before it is too late.

In the lead-up to the recent United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow, the letter urges the Australian Government to scale up Australia's 2030 emissions reduction target to at least 50 per cent and ambitiously aim for higher to help limit global temperature rise to less than 1.5°C.

It also calls for "a just and sustainable transition for communities currently dependent on carbon-intensive industries" and policies that support people, nations, and ecosystems that are most vulnerable to climate change.

ADAPTATION STRATEGY

The Salvos are focused on an adaptation strategy. Environmental changes need to be adapted, and this plan will ensure that the costs involved – such as increasing housing and insurance costs, improved building standards, and environmental protections – are spread evenly across the community.

"Governments have a role to play in assisting workers affected by industry transitions and providing information and modelling on the potential impacts for various groups within our society," said Major Paul Hateley, Head of Government Relations for The Salvation Army Australia. "[So], we must ensure people living in increasingly risky areas who cannot afford to protect their homes or to retreat to a safer area, as well as people living in energy poverty or unsuitable housing who cannot meet increasing costs to maintain a healthy home environment, are provided for."



National Council of Churches in Australia
379 Kent Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Friday 15 October 2021

The Hon. Scott Morrison, MP
Prime Minister of Australia

Cc: Hon Barnaby Joyce MP
Hon Angus Taylor MP
Senator the Hon Marise Payne
Senator the Hon Zed Seselja

Dear Prime Minister,

COP26 and Australia's role in addressing catastrophic climate change

We write to you as people of faith who believe the Earth, our common home, is a precious gift created by God, that all life is interdependent, and that we have a responsibility to care for all people and all creation.

Human activity is contributing to changing our climate and the consequences are already dire. Many of our churches are located at the front lines of climate change impacts and are sounding the alarm for the wellbeing of the communities they serve.

There is widespread scientific consensus that this situation and the resulting human suffering will only become catastrophically worse unless we change direction.

For this reason, we believe climate change is a moral imperative. One that requires urgent action in partnership with the international community and alongside our Pacific family.

We believe Australia can be a leader and champion of ambitious climate action and should pursue a path that gives the greatest hope for the future of God's creation.

To that end, as the 26th Conference of the Parties approaches, we urge the Australian Government to commit to:

- Scale up Australia's 2030 emissions reduction target to at least 50% and ambitiously aim for 74% to help limit global temperature rise to less than 1.5 C, and pledge to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050 in line with most developed nations
- A national climate policy and plan for a just, equitable and rapid transition to a low-carbon economy that drives down greenhouse gas pollution
- A just and sustainable transition for communities currently dependent on carbon intensive industries for employment, and investment in renewable energy

· Policies that support people, nations and ecosystems that are most vulnerable to climate change, including measures to strengthen the resilience of communities and support people and the services they rely on to adapt to the effects of climate change.

We offer this letter with an awareness of our own responsibilities to address climate change. Every member and part of society has a role to play, but a stronger and more ambitious climate agenda from the Australian Government is critical to address the enormous challenge that lies before us. We believe Australia is ready.

Yours in faith,

Bishop Philip Huggins, President
National Council of Church in Australia

The Most Reverend Geoffrey Smith, Primate
Anglican Church of Australia

Rev. Mark Wilson, National Ministries Director
Australian Baptist Ministries

Rev. Sharon Hollis, President
Uniting Church in Australia

Dr. Rob Nyhuis, Chair
Churches of Christ in Australia

Rev. James Bhagwan, General Secretary
Pacific Conference of Churches

Commissioners Janine & Robert Donaldson
The Salvation Army

Ann Zubrick, Presiding Clerk
The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Australia

Bishop Albert Wong
Chinese Methodist Church in Australia

Keith Lyons, General Secretary
The Congregational Federation of Australia and New Zealand

Archbishop Haigazoun Najarian, Primate
Armenian Apostolic Church of Australia and New Zealand

Brisbane sleeps out in support of women

The Salvation Army Queensland held its first Salvos Sleepout last month in the car park of a suburban Brisbane shopping centre. This was part of the campaign 'A Place Called Hope', raising awareness and funds to help end domestic violence and homelessness among women.

About 40 people from Salvos outreach programs, the corporate sector and community organisations either slept out under the stars (when it wasn't raining), under the overhead Airtrain rail bridge or under marquees to show support for the campaign.

The event began at 5.30pm with ABC Radio Brisbane breakfast program host Loretta Ryan doing 'on the couch' interviews with Anna Tim and Nicole Collins, survivors of domestic violence, homelessness, and substance abuse. She also spoke with



Participants sleeping outside to support women facing homelessness and family violence.

members of the Salvos homelessness and accommodation programs.

Simon Gregory, Salvos Public Relations Secretary in Queensland, said it was hoped the initiative would become an annual event and be "bigger and better" next year.

Flood recovery project wins resilience award

The Townsville Community Rebuild Project (TCRP), partly led by The Salvation Army, was a joint winner in the 'Community' category at the recent 2021 Get Ready Queensland Resilient Australia Awards.

The TCRP was established in 2019 as an inter-agency collaborative initiative to help residents in Townsville and surrounding areas recover after significant floods hit the North Queensland region earlier that year.

The two-year TCRP project involved coordinating 14 organisations to help 47 vulnerable households with psychological support and home repairs to make a house a home again.

Along with two other nominations in the category, the TCRP shared the 'Community' award with the Australian Red Cross, which implemented a project to build disaster



Six representatives of the Townsville Community Rebuild Project with their award (from left): Salvos Captain Leanne Stevens and Tamara Forde, Bruce Cornish, Emma Rush, Teresa Hudson, and Peter Buckland.

resilience among culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

The TCRP is now being considered for a national award at the National Resilient Australia Awards ceremony later this year.

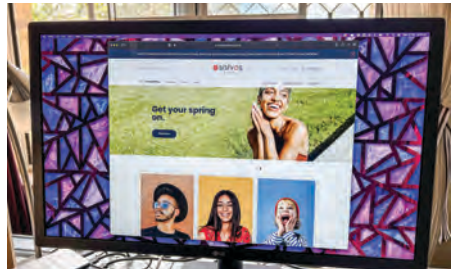
Online shopping helps planet and those in need

Salvos Stores launched an online store during the COVID-19 pandemic, allowing Aussies to continue purchasing their environmentally friendly, pre-loved goods during lockdowns.

Salvos Stores average over 1000 new listings every day and have listed 185,000 items since May 2020. Since then, they have also delivered 92,000 orders to customers' doorsteps across Australia – 54 tonnes of goods that have been re-homed instead of being sent to landfill.

Further, 100 per cent of the profits raised through Salvos Stores go towards Salvos community work in the areas of homelessness, domestic and family violence, drug and alcohol addiction, poverty and financial hardship, youth work, natural disasters, and more.

“Get yourself a new outfit, something for



A wide range of items are available at Salvos Stores online.

around the house, or send a friend who is doing it tough a nice gift,” said Lucas Ferrier, Salvos Stores E-commerce manager. “Our wide range of items on the Salvos Stores website means there will be something for everyone.”

To shop online at Salvos Stores, visit salvosstores.com.au

Salvos influence new bill on modern slavery

Three of the four key recommendations The Salvation Army made to the NSW Government regarding a Modern Slavery Amendment Bill introduced last month have been implemented.

The Salvos National Policy and Advocacy team also proposed additional amendments required for the Act to effectively protect victims and survivors.

These recommendations help correct the flaws in the original 2018 Act and bring it into line with Commonwealth legislation. The Salvos also welcome the introduction of a one-year review of the Act.

The reforms mean that victims of modern slavery in NSW will be entitled to:

- Approved counselling services.

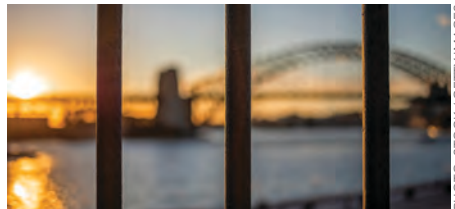


PHOTO: STOCK/GETTY IMAGES

- Financial assistance for immediate needs to secure the victim's safety, health or well-being.
- Financial assistance for the economic loss suffered by the primary victim as a direct result of their enslavement.
- Recognition payments.

For more information on the Salvos work on slavery and trafficking, visit salvationarmy.org.au/get-involved/advocacy

The power of good news

Filling your mind with what's good for your heart

WORDS JANINE DONALDSON

It is always a great feeling to be on the receiving end of some good news, and let's face it, we could all do with a dose of good, positive, encouraging news now and then. I find that when I receive good news, it has such an impact on my day. I become more positive, more focused, I smile more, and I am far more engaging. That is how powerful good news can be!

I don't think this is unique to me. I was interested in finding entire web networks dedicated to good news stories for people to log into whenever they feel they need a positive hit. Hundreds of thousands of people access these sites every day. People are hungering to hear good news.

Of course, we are responsible for how we react and respond to life's circumstances, and we are the ones who can choose to see the positive – in even some of the most difficult and trying circumstances.

For me, the one constant in my life that keeps me focused and positive is knowing

that I have a Heavenly Father who loves me unconditionally – no strings attached! This does not mean that everything runs smoothly or that I do not experience disappointments, frustration, pain or sorrow, but it does mean that no matter what my circumstances are, at any given moment, I can find strength in knowing that God is always with me. Just knowing that he loves me is the best 'good news' I could ever receive.

In [the biblical book of] Isaiah chapter 52, the prophet describes the wonderful, life-changing moment the Jewish people hear of their impending release after being held as slaves and prisoners in a foreign land for almost 70 years. They see a messenger coming in the distance, and Isaiah says: "What a beautiful sight to behold – the precious feet of the messenger coming over the mountains to announce good news! He comes to refresh us with wonderful news, announcing salvation to Zion and saying, 'Your Mighty God reigns!'" (Isaiah chapter 52, verse 7, *The Passion Translation*).



PHOTO: STOCK / GETTY IMAGES

“

People are
hungering to
hear good news.

”

While we all welcome and appreciate receiving good news, like the messenger in that passage from Isaiah, we can also be the bearers of wonderful news to those around us – our families, friends, and people in our neighbourhoods.

I am so grateful to people who chose to take an interest in me at various stages in my life journey and who spoke good news – words of encouragement, hope, and life into me at just the right moments. They will never know what a difference they made or the impact it had on me.

But I don't just want to be on the receiving end of good news. I want to be a person who continually looks for opportunities to speak words of life and hope to others. I want to

be a messenger of good news, and the best news we can bring is to tell people that God loves them and wants to enter into a personal relationship with them. I can assure you there are so many people needing – and longing – to hear that wonderful, refreshing, good news!

What about you? Who can you encourage today with this life-changing good news?

Commissioner Janine Donaldson is co-leader of The Salvation Army Australia.



Scan here for more
on finding meaning.

The story of poverty

Art exhibition paints people's experiences in new light

WORDS JESSICA MORRIS

What does poverty look like? A recent art exhibition at the Perth Mint displayed the 'painted stories' of people who have accessed The Salvation Army's Moneycare (financial counselling) and Doorways (emergency assistance) programs across Perth.

"Most people living in poverty don't need it explained to them – but the wider community sometimes don't understand how poverty feels and what it looks like it," said Mandy Dehnel, Moneycare Manager for Western Australia. "So, we came up with this idea of asking Moneycare and Doorways community members to paint their experiences."

In the lead-up to Anti-Poverty Week last month, Salvation Army churches and services worked side-by-side in Morley, Balga, Mandurah, Rockingham, Perth, and Swan View to set up community arts events. With the provision of canvases, paints, and brushes, Doorways and Moneycare community members were invited to paint their answer to the question, "What does poverty look like to you?"

The team also contacted Morley Salvos officer (pastor) and painter, Captain Jo Brookshaw, who recorded an instructional video for clients that was shared at workshops across Perth. It resulted in more than 50 compelling paintings, giving an insight into the reality of poverty.



HOPE AND RESILIENCE

“My experience of the workshop event at Morley Salvos showed me how cathartic it was for people to express what poverty meant to their world,” said Jo. “The journeys they had lived, and the way they had found hope and resilience on the way, were incredibly uplifting! Some of the artists expressed how much their relationship with the Salvos had brought support when it was needed most.

“The joy, compassion, care and encouragement shared in our workshop was a tangible experience of God’s kingdom at work. As the participants packed up and were leaving, one notably commented on their painting, ‘That was my life 10 years ago, and I’m never going back!’ He left with a grin on his face and a skip in his step.”

A selection of paintings was chosen for the exhibition, including photos of Moneycare and Doorways staff holding signs to help

break the myths about poverty. The hope is these will start a conversation about poverty with the general public, highlighting the strength and tenacity of the artists and solidifying our commonalities.

“I believe as people see the artworks and read the accompanying stories, they will clearly see God’s hand at work – his hope and light brought to people in the midst of their struggles,” shared Jo. “I am immensely proud of the Salvo workers and volunteers who express this love day by day through our Doorways and Moneycare programs. Their impact on our local community is practically sharing the compassion of Jesus, day by day.”



Scan here for more information on Salvation Army Financial Services.

Salvo program participants painted images of what poverty meant to them, emphasising the love, concern, help and hope from others to support them out of dark and difficult times to rebuild their lives.



Orange, beetroot and rocket salad



PHOTO: STOCK/GETTY IMAGES

Ingredients

425g beetroot (canned or freshly baked), 3 oranges, ¼ cup olive oil, salt and pepper to taste, 120g baby rocket or spinach leaves, 200g crumbled feta (optional), almonds (optional).

Method

- Drain beetroot and slice into small segments. Grate the rind of one orange and mix with beetroot.
- Drizzle with olive oil. Add salt and pepper to taste.
- Peel and slice oranges and cut into small segments.
- Divide the beetroot, orange and rocket onto small plates.
- Sprinkle with crumbled feta or almonds if desired.

HAVE A LAUGH

My housemate asked me to put tomato sauce on the shopping list. Now I can't read anything!

I was so bored sitting at home that I memorised six pages of the dictionary. I learned next to nothing!



Why are there no unemployed farmers? They can get a job in any field.

What kind of jokes does a quarantined dad tell? Inside jokes.

SIGNING IN



Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

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| | | 6 | | | | 4 | 7 | |
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| 2 | | | | 1 | | | | |
| | | 3 | | | | | 2 | 4 |
| | | 4 | | 6 | | | 9 | |
| 6 | | | 1 | | | | 8 | |



PHOTO: STOCK/GETTY IMAGES

1. Jacaranda trees are native to which country?
2. What colour are the flowers of jacarandas best known for?
3. In which other colour can jacarandas occasionally be seen?
4. Which rural town is considered the jacaranda capital of Australia?
5. Which Australian city claims to have planted the first jacaranda in the country?
6. How tall do jacarandas grow?

Tum-Tum

On which page of this week's *Salvos Magazine* is Tum-Tum hiding?



Bible byte

"God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble."
 Psalm chapter 46, verse 1
New Living Translation

Quiz answers: 1. Brazil. 2. Purplish-blue. 3. White. 4. Grafton. 5. Brisbane. 6. 10-15m. **Tum-Tum:** is hiding on page 4.

DID YOU KNOW?

Climate change is causing flowers to change colour.

France is the most visited country in the world.

This website tracks the world's population in real time - worldometers.info/world-population

All giant pandas in zoos around the world are on loan from China.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 5 |
| 8 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 9 |
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| 2 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 8 |
| 7 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 9 |
| 4 | 5 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 6 |
| 1 | 4 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| 3 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 9 |
| 5 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 8 |



“We stand now where two roads diverge. But unlike the roads in Robert Frost’s familiar poem, they are not equally fair. The road we have long been traveling is deceptively easy, a smooth superhighway on which we progress with great speed, but at its end lies disaster. The other fork of the road — the one less traveled by — offers our last, our only chance to reach a destination that assures the preservation of the earth.”

- Rachel Carson, *Silent Spring*