

FEATURE

Coming in from
the cold

NEWS

Reconciliation
takes action

MY STORY

The dignity of
home

It's all in a name

Reassurance in a seemingly chaotic world



SALVOS

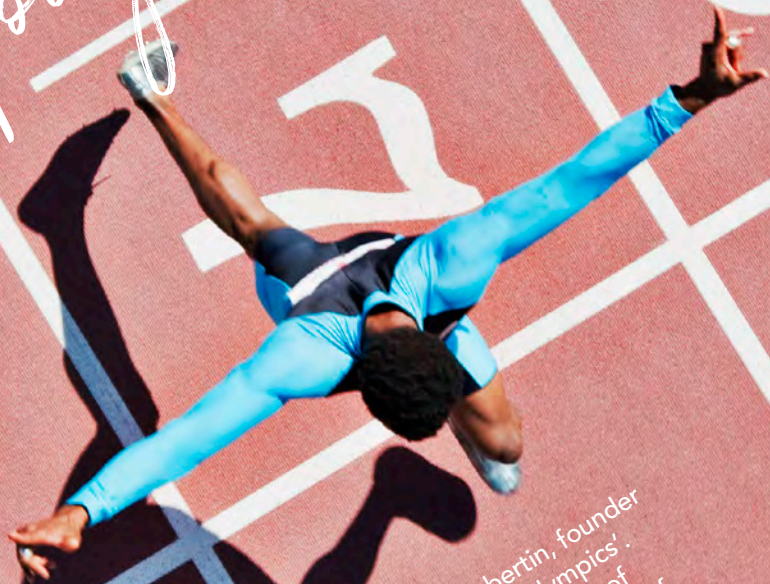
MAGAZINE

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The important thing
in life is not the
triumph, but the
fight; the essential
thing is not to have
won, but to have

fought well.



Pierre de Coubertin, founder
of the 'modern Olympics'.
Inspired by the words of
Ethelbert Talbot, Bishop of
Pennsylvania from 1897 - 1908.

These words became
the creed of the Olympic
Movement.



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

Founders William and Catherine Booth

General Brian Peddle

Territorial Leaders

Commissioners Janine and Robert Donaldson

Secretary for Communications and Editor-In-Chief

Lieut-Colonel Neil Venables

Publications Manager Cheryl Tinker

Assistant Editor Simone Worthing

Designer Sienny Yoso

Editorial ph. (03) 8541 4562

Enquiry email salvosmagazine@salvationarmy.org.au

All other Salvation Army enquiries 13 72 58

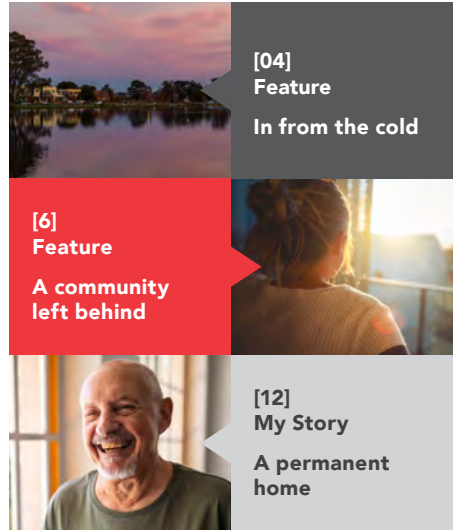
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Community spirit

Community and connection have always been essential to our physical, emotional and spiritual wellbeing. We are 'hard-wired' for meaningful relationships and struggle without them. The worldwide epidemic of loneliness is a tragic and graphic reminder of this.

In this edition, we look at a couple of examples of people and organisations in local areas that have seen existing social needs, made worse by the COVID-19 pandemic, and have responded to them.

As a result, people experiencing homelessness have been embraced by churches, businesses and volunteers who have banded together to keep them off the streets and bring them into a welcoming and caring environment. And women and children in an often-overlooked 'category' have been given a home and support to help them rebuild their lives. The lives of those supporting these vulnerable groups have also been given new insights and friendships.

In our cover story, Janine Donaldson talks about an even deeper and eternal community, reassurance and hope that a relationship with God provides. In our often chaotic and troubled world, this is definitely something to consider.

Simone Worthing **Assistant Editor**



Bringing rough sleepers in from the cold

Restoring dignity to those in Victoria's north

WORDS JESSICA MORRIS

Nights can be freezing in Victoria's rural north, but a warm-hearted initiative by nine churches in the city of Shepparton is bringing vulnerable people in from the cold, literally.

The Salvos are a vital cog in the operation of the Winter Night Shelter, which offers 10 beds each night from June through to the end of August. Seven of the churches involved roster their building to be the shelter's host on any given night.

Shepparton Salvos officer (pastor) Captain Karyn Wishart says the outreach is about creating a space where all people are welcome at any time. When the Salvos is the venue, people who have sought a bed for the night are then invited to stay and have a cuppa and some food, shower, wash their clothes and perhaps relax and watch some TV.

Three weeks in, and Karyn is already seeing

the fruit of the initiative. "One man said to me, 'I can feel my skin – I haven't felt my skin for so long. When I had a shower, I was so cold it felt like burning. Now I feel warm'," Karyn said. "You've got to take those gold nuggets. He had felt so cold for so long."

Not only has Shepparton Mayor Kim O'Keeffe backed the project and acted as part of the project team, but multiple businesses have also donated money and goods, raising \$50,000 towards the cause. And the Winter Night Shelter isn't short on volunteers either. Currently, 211 locals have put their hand up to help.

"[We] don't know the spiritual impact that's happening with guests and volunteers," Karyn said. "Shepparton is a wonderful community, and the way we have seen the outpouring is grandiose – above and beyond what we would have expected."



Having a warm place to sleep is even more important in winter.

While the community has thrown their tangible support behind the city's rough sleepers, the most remarkable shift has emerged in locals who have re-evaluated their perspectives about those who are experiencing homelessness. "One man told me, 'When I'm walking around, people aren't looking through me anymore, they're looking at me'," Karyn said.

The Winter Night Shelter was put on hold last year due to a COVID-19 lockdown, but now that it is up and running, they've received nothing but positive feedback from the community and volunteers. The enthusiasm is so great that Karyn plans to take out a street outreach team next weekend so they can meet other rough sleepers.

"As long as we have our staffing capacity staying at the venue, the rest of the team will hit the road. We will help those doing it rough, talk to them and inform them about the shelter," she said.

And every person they meet will be left with at least one knitted item. From blankets to beanies, there is no limit to the miraculous generosity God is cultivating in Victoria's

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When I'm walking around, people aren't looking through me anymore, they're looking at me.

”



Salvo volunteers at the Winter Night Shelter serve hot food to their guests as part of the program.

north. And it means people are getting their dignity back.

"It's lovely watching [people] standing taller, starting to fill out from some good meals and to see their skin colour improving," Karyn said. "This gives us the opportunity to get to know them as people and see how we can be assisting them if they want that."



Scan here for more information on Salvos Homelessness Services.

Working for a community left behind

Changing the lives of women and children without permanent residency

WORDS JESSICA MORRIS

It's no secret that domestic and family violence surged during 2020. But for Salvation Army Housing Victoria (SAHV), it highlighted the need of a desperate community – women and children without permanent Australian residency who are experiencing homelessness.

The need became clear to SAHV last November when the Victorian Government gave it the huge task of filling six detached 'transitional housing' units in Melbourne's eastern suburbs by Christmas.

To achieve this goal, SAHV partnered with specialist family violence service Kara House, an organisation part of the Victorian women's refuge service system.

"Salvation Army Housing Victoria, along with Kara House, agreed on the cohort. The women and children come to Australia as a safe refuge, but given the limited resources, they seem to be left behind," shares Kaila Gibson, SAHV coordinator for East Metro and South.

WORKING TOGETHER

Woodards Charitable Foundation got the ball rolling on the pilot program by providing a block of land in Melbourne's eastern suburbs that could be used for two years. The Department of Fairness, Families and Housing (DFFH) transported the mobile units to their new location, and, with the assistance of the local council, the units were ready for SAHV and Kara House to take over.

Identifying the right people to fill the five

single units and one double unit was no small task. As the appointed social landlord of the program, SAHV worked with Kara House to facilitate the task, which included furnishing the units. The one-bedroom units are suitable for a single tenant, while the double-bedroom unit is suitable for a family.

In a stellar effort, all the units were filled by January this year. Kara



House assessed residents and when they arrived, they weren't just provided with shelter and safety – they were given a home.

"The best thing about all services coming together is that each person had something to input," said Kaila. "Kara House is assisting the clients with paying their rent and utility amounts with donations. Another organisation went into each unit and fully furnished



From top: The women are excited about having their own home; the mobile units provide a safe haven; each unit has been decorated with great care.



them. There are cushions on couches, pictures in frames. They even put a bunch of fresh flowers on the table for when the residents arrived!"

Kara House conducted an evaluation earlier this year, and the residents were asked how they felt being housed close to other

women in a similar situation. One woman stated, "It's good because you don't feel alone", while another said, "I have neighbours who have similar experiences, and we understand each other."

Other residents spoke about their excitement of moving to such a clean, fresh housing development. "[I'm] happy about everything inside the house. It was like everything was made for us," one tenant shared. "All organisations are good, but here is the best," the tenant continued. "When I need something, they [Kara House and The Salvation Army] never discriminate. They are understanding."

FIRM FOUNDATION

SAHV continues to work closely with tenants, ensuring they understand the legal agreements, facilitate interpreters, and liaise with the police to ensure the residents feel safe and secure.

“

It was like everything was made for us.

”

"Once you have stability, a foundation being a home, you can then focus on the other challenges you may face," Kaila said, adding that the program could easily be replicated across the country.

"All these services have collaborated together, and look at how we've changed a life! We are [living The Salvation Army's mission] to transform one life at a time," she said.

"We've made it a priority to keep these services in the loop. We have over 200 properties – if we can do this with six, what else can we do in the future?"



Scan here for more information on Salvos domestic and family violence services.

Silver lining for chip-packet blankets

Turning 'every day' potato-chip packets into warm, waterproof, and long-lasting blankets is making a difference to those experiencing homelessness on the streets and couches of Adelaide.

Once opened out, washed and ironed, any packet with a silver-foil lining can be turned into such a blanket.

Adelaide resident Helen Williams brought the idea to Australia about 12 months ago after having seen it being done in England. She quickly gained permission to launch the Chip Packet Project Adelaide SA (South Australia) and has been collecting chip packets and making blankets ever since.

Christian community FM radio station 1079 Life, through its Roadies street team, ran a

chip-packet donation campaign, and then presented 50 blankets to the Salvos.

"These blankets are such a creative and practical solution to an ever-increasing issue [of people experiencing homelessness] here in Adelaide," said Duan Kereru, who oversees community fundraising for the Salvos in South Australia.

Some of the blankets will go to those sleeping in cars or couch surfing, with the majority going to rough sleepers in the city.

"They (the finished blankets) roll up easily and are really light and portable," Helen said.

Helen said around 75 regular-sized packets were needed to make a 1m x 2m blanket.

– Darryl Whitecross



Showing off the new blankets, from left to right: 1079 Life Roadies Peter "Pomfus" Scriven and Jodie Falco, Chip Packet Project Adelaide's Helen Williams, The Salvation Army's Duan Kereru and The Roadies' Domenic 'Disk Brake Dom'.

Port Augusta studio hits right note with youth

The Salvos in Port Augusta, South Australia, are turning up the volume on their outreach to young people in the city.

Scott Cugley, who oversees the Salvos' homelessness work there, said young people were being offered a relaxed eight to 10-week program where they were given basic skills in audio recording.

Scott said he and fellow program coordinator Apaiata Kaitu'u were working to establish connections in the music community to help improve the program's delivery.

Hip-hop is popular among the young people at the moment, so Scott and Apaiata have been focusing on beat-making and rhyming lyrics with their students.

"The goal is to work towards being able to finish some projects where [the students] might be able to publish those or have them



Resident techie teammates Scott Cugley, left, and Apaiata Kaitu'u, enjoy nothing more than getting behind the microphone and recording a podcast that keeps young people connected with each other and the Salvos.

released or shared independently with the broader community," Scott said.

Apaiata, who also works as a youth outreach worker for the Port Augusta Salvos, said the project aimed to connect and engage young people of the city. – **Darryl Whitecross**

Reconciliation takes action

Youth and staff at the Salvos Transitional Support Service (TSS) in Perth took part in a range of activities for National Reconciliation Week last month.

Michael Long, Australian Football League legend, joined the Walk to Reconciliation with the group, capping off a week of learning for the participants.

TSS previously partnered with CREATE WA to learn about 'truth telling and hidden histories' of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. – **Jessica Morris**



Clients and staff from the Transitional Support Service in Perth took part in Reconciliation Week activities across the city.

It's all in a name

Reassurance in a seemingly chaotic world

WORDS JANINE DONALDSON

I recently listened to an interview with a high school teacher who stated that at the very beginning of the school year – in fact, by the end of the first week of the school year – he would commit to being able to remember and correctly pronounce the name of every student in his class.

What made this even more challenging for him was that most of his students were from different ethnic backgrounds, and more than half the class were refugees who had fled their place of birth and all that had been familiar to them. They felt displaced and devalued and had lost their sense of identity. Many of their names were very difficult to pronounce, but this teacher was determined to speak their names – correctly.

He went on to explain why he felt it was so important to him: “I want my students to realise that there are people who see them and respect them for their culture, for their abilities, for their strengths and for their contribution to the school community. But, most importantly, I want my students to know that I respect and value them for the whole person they are, including their beautiful names that are sometimes difficult to pronounce. They deserve nothing less.”

I have recently been looking at some of the names attributed to God. It is amazing to realise that there are over 100 names given to God throughout Scripture that reflect the character of who he is. The more people



came to know and understand the very nature of God, the more names they gave him. While there are far too many for me to remember or even share with you, these names reveal so much about his character. They tell us this about him – he is fully trustworthy, always powerful, forever loving and constantly present with us.

EVERLASTING LOVE

In a world that often feels chaotic and fear-filled, his name is the one to hold close.

If you need some extra reassurance today, find hope in his powerful name. He is the God of miracles, and nothing is impossible for him.

The Bible tells us that, “The name of the Lord is like a strong tower, a place of protection, where people can run to him and be safe” (Proverbs chapter 18, verse 10).



“

Don't believe the lie that God is distant, too busy, that he doesn't care about you ...

”

How we view God determines our view of everything else in our lives. If we have an incorrect view of God, we will have an incorrect view of who we are.

Don't believe the lie that God is distant, too busy, that he doesn't care about you, or that he is just waiting for you to mess up so he can tell you all you've done wrong. That's not who his name says he is.

We hold on firmly to the promise that his love is everlasting, his mercies are new every morning, and his faithfulness is great. There is power in his name.

The Bible says:
"You can pass through his open gates with the password of praise.
Come right into his presence with thanksgiving.
Come bring your thank offering to him

and affectionately bless his beautiful name!
For Yahweh is always good and ready to receive you.
He's so loving that it will amaze you – so kind that it will astound you!
And he is famous for his faithfulness toward all. Everyone knows our God can be trusted, for he keeps his promises to every generation!"
(Psalm 100, verses 4-5)
The Passion Translation

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



Scan here for more on finding meaning.

Celebrating the safety of a home

Peter finds security, dignity and hope after life on the streets

WORDS NAOMI SINGLEHURST

As National Homelessness Week (1-7 August) approaches, Peter* shares his journey from homelessness to Salvation Army hostel accommodation and then long-term housing. The security of a home has helped Peter continue to be strong in his battle against substance abuse and has given him renewed emotional hope for his future.

Despite the challenges of moving at the height of Melbourne's COVID-19 restrictions in 2020, Peter says acquiring his new accommodation, after years in a rooming house, may have saved his life. He has managed to maintain sobriety for many years but says the challenges and temptations of living in a sub-standard boarding house, where many were struggling with mental health issues and addiction, was deeply challenging.

SPIRAL INTO HOMELESSNESS

Peter had secure work for many years, including management roles. He also had worked nights as a guitarist in the music industry.

Having married soon after leaving school, he believes his shift work – working seven days a week – eventually put an unbearable strain on the relationship. “We’d bought a house, and I was frantically working,” he says.

While Peter had been a drinker for many years, he spiralled into alcoholism during his second relationship.

“We had four kids,” he says. “We were both drinking and, after a traumatic period in my life, I started drinking three bottles of wine

every day and maybe more on the weekend. That just got out of control, and I lost my licence for drink-driving. I thank God no one was hurt.”

Eventually, Peter’s second marriage collapsed.

“I got moved out of my home by the court,” he shares. “They gave me two hours to get out of the house. I was in shock – I’d been there nearly 20 years and doing extensive renovations, working hard to pay [the] mortgage. I had no one. [In addiction] I’d cut off my father, mother, my siblings and [now] I’d been cut off from my kids. I was on the street pretty much.”

After trying a range of options, Peter moved into a boarding house.

“Everyone in the rooming house was either drug-affected or alcohol-affected, or both,” he recounts. Many were from jail – and I’m not saying they were bad people at all, but it is not a crowd you want to be in when you are trying to stay sober. I really kept to myself. I was sober by then, but it was hard.

FINDING ‘HOME’

Peter eventually contacted Salvation Army Housing Victoria (SAHV) and moved into The Anchorage men’s hostel, and then was supported into secure long-term housing in a two-bedroom unit.

“I love it here – in my own long-term housing,” Peter says.

Having already undertaken several courses,



“

I love it here – in my own long-term housing.

”

Peter is now planning to do a counselling course to support other men who find themselves experiencing homelessness. He is also able to now reconnect more effectively with his kids.

Peter’s situation is far from unique.

The Homelessness Survey (late 2019 to early 2020) was The Salvation Army’s first national research project, which captured the responses and personal views of people accessing Salvation Army Specialist Homelessness Services in Australia.

The project aimed to better understand the circumstances that led to homelessness, the experiences and impacts of homelessness and what could help prevent homelessness and diminish hardship.

The Salvos assist people struggling with homelessness to find permanent accommodation.

Like Peter, 51 per cent of those surveyed had experienced family issues/relationship breakdown and 24 per cent reported alcohol and other drug problems.

For Peter, his entire outlook has changed after obtaining secure housing.

“It’s really, really good to be not wanting, or needing, or thinking, ‘I’ve really, really got to get out of here’ and looking over my shoulder. I am here, and I’m here to stay, and I have to thank The Salvation Army. They’ve been really good to me.”

**Name and some details changed for privacy.*



Scan here for information on Salvos alcohol and other drug treatment services.

Teriyaki sauce



Ingredients

1½ cups white sugar, 1 cup soy sauce, ½ cup cooking sake.

Method

Add all ingredients to a medium saucepan and stir to combine.

Place saucepan on medium-low heat and continue to stir until the sugar has dissolved.

Bring to the boil, turn heat to low and simmer for 10 minutes.

Leave to stand and thicken for 15 minutes before serving.

Serve on chicken, beef, salmon or vegetables.

Store in an airtight container in the fridge for up to 1 month.

Have a laugh

What did the baseball glove say to the ball?

Catch you later!



Which sport is played all over the world and starts with a T?

Golf

Why is it so noisy at tennis matches?

All those racquets ...



Bible byte

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Isaiah chapter 40, verse 31

New International Version

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

Sudoku

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

Tum-Tum

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



Answers: 1. 23 July to 8 August 2021
 2. Faster, higher, stronger. 3. The union of the five continents and the meeting of its athletes. 4. 472. 5. Ian Thorpe.
 6. Karate, skateboarding, sport climbing and surfing.
Tum-Tum: is hiding behind 'PERTH' on page 9.

Quick quiz



1. What are the official dates for the Tokyo Summer Olympic Games?
2. The Olympic motto is made up of three Latin words: CITIUS, ALTIUS, FORTIUS. What do they mean?
3. What does the Olympic symbol – the five interlaced rings – depict?
4. How many Australian athletes will be competing at the games.
5. Which athlete has won the most Olympic medals for Australia?
6. Which four sports are making their Olympic debut in Tokyo?

Did you know?

- Olympic gold medals are mostly made of silver.
- The 2012 London Games were the first Olympics in which all participating countries sent female athletes.
- In ancient Greece, the Olympic Games lasted five to six months.



Get involved with National Homelessness Week 2021!

1-7 AUGUST

This year, during National Homelessness Week, the Salvos are raising awareness into how 'home' is different for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness. No one should be without a safe, affordable and secure home.

**If you are or
someone you know
is at risk
of homelessness,
the Salvos are here
to help.**



For more information
on Salvation Army
Homelessness Services, go to
[salvationarmy.org.au/need-help/
homelessness-support-services/](https://salvationarmy.org.au/need-help/homelessness-support-services/)