

**FEATURE**

Playing our part

**FAITH TALK**

God's repair shop

**NEWS**

Extra help for victims of domestic violence

# Celebrating our volunteers

Creating a better society for all



# SALVOS

MAGAZINE

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NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK



“Each of us has a unique part to  
play in the healing of the world.”

Marianne Williamson





## 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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Les lasts the distance for the Salvos

## Changing communities

This week (16-22 May), we celebrate National Volunteer Week, and the immeasurable contribution volunteers make to a wide range of causes, from charities and churches to sport, medical, community and disaster relief programs.

Over the past year, the Salvos had more than 22,000 volunteers who gave more than 7.8 million volunteer hours of their time.

Salvos volunteers come from various cultures and backgrounds; serve in cities, regional areas, and remote locations; and share their skills, time, and hearts to bring hope and dignity to those in need.

This army of volunteers makes a physical, emotional and spiritual difference in the lives and communities of the people they serve. Many of those served become volunteers themselves and go on to change the lives of others.

In this edition, we celebrate our volunteers and the vital role they play in the Salvos and in the lives of those they influence – from those impacted by natural disasters and those sleeping rough, to victim-survivors of domestic violence, the lonely, and those struggling to make ends meet.

If you're interested in volunteering for the Salvos, go to [salvationarmy.org.au/get-involved/volunteer-with-us](http://salvationarmy.org.au/get-involved/volunteer-with-us)

Simone Worthing **Assistant Editor**

# Playing our part

Making a difference through our mutual humanity

**WORDS** Jo-anne Brown

I turn off the evening news, dismayed by stories of war, injustice, climatic catastrophes, domestic violence, and so on. The issues are huge and, like many others, I feel overwhelmed trying to work out how to deal with it all. There is so much I cannot do, so much I cannot change.

I also know, however, that I'm not totally powerless. Despite the immense challenges and suffering in our world, I believe that how I live my life makes a difference.

“

**Despite the immense challenges and suffering of our world, I believe that how I live my life makes a difference.**

”

Long ago, during a time of oppression, corruption, violence, and mistreatment of women and children, God spoke clearly about how we should live. His simple words show us how to respond to what is going on in the world: act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God (Micah chapter 6, verse 8, *New International Version*).

## **KIND AND FAIR**

What does it mean for me, today, to act justly? Another way of saying this is “be fair and just to my neighbour” (*The Message Bible translation*). I may not be able to do

much about the great injustices and inequalities in the world, but I can be fair and just in how I treat people around me.



When I treat others the way I want to be treated, when I speak up against wrong behaviour, when I show respect to all people, regardless of background or beliefs, I'm practising justice. When I refrain from joining in unfair ways of dealing with others, I'm acting justly. When I refuse to perpetuate unjust systems; when I say, “No, I don't want to go along with that,” I'm living justly.

Justice is not cold and impersonal. The justice I am called to live is clearly connected with mercy and being loving. It means being “compassionate and loyal in my love” (*The Message Bible translation*). It is about being kind.

Sometimes it's easy to be kind, especially when people are kind to me. It's much harder, however, to respond with kindness when



others are unkind. Kindness might mean walking away from a potentially volatile situation, or it might be acting or speaking in such a way to defuse that situation.

Being kind doesn't always mean making someone feel good – sometimes it means challenging attitudes or behaviour, disagreeing with the status quo, or stepping back from a situation. Kindness towards some people may make us unpopular or misunderstood. And yet, kindness also has a ripple effect. Have you noticed? When someone is unexpectedly kind to me, perhaps seeing where I need help and offering it, this can open a door of kindness to others.

### MUTUAL HUMANITY

Being kind and fair keeps us grounded. We don't need to take ourselves too seriously, to be important or influential, or be recognised for how good we are. Justice and compassion are about others, not about ourselves, although they do impact us positively.

Walking humbly with God means recognising I'm as much in need of kindness and fairness

as anyone else and I sometimes need support from others to be kind and act justly because it can be hard. My desire to be compassionate and treat others fairly comes from recognising our mutual humanity – we are all connected. It's hard to live life well, and none of us "have it all together", no matter how it seems or what we tell ourselves!

When we feel overwhelmed by the suffering in the world, it's helpful to remember we do have a part to play. Whatever else we are experiencing in life, we can act with fairness towards others, we can be kind, and we can recognise our own humanity, standing in solidarity with those around us. How we live our life can make a difference, as our altruistic actions ripple outwards, touching the lives of others in significant ways.



Scan here for more on finding meaning.

## New Adelaide facility offers increased capacity to the vulnerable

The Salvos in Adelaide are partnering with the Commonwealth Government under its Safe Places Emergency Accommodation Grant to build a facility for survivors of domestic and family violence – Bramwell House.

The redevelopment will comprise eight homes with supporting communal and administration spaces. Each home will offer increased capacity to house larger families and be accessible for people with disabilities. The first clients will be accepted in June.

“The design will create spaces that maximise capacity for women and children to address the developmental, biological, social, and psychological impacts of family violence through the provision of safe emergency accommodation with specialist support,” said Alexandra Miller, the Salvos State Manager for Family Violence.



An artist's impression of the finished Bramwell House (top) and the construction site.

“It will be a place [for the participants] to heal, nurture, seek comfort, repair, and recover to start again.”

## Housing project tackles growing community crisis in Tasmania

The Salvation Army has partnered with the Tasmanian State Government and The Select Foundation on a new community housing project to support women over 55 experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

The Salvos will manage the 21-unit development, with the units expected to be completed by mid-2023.

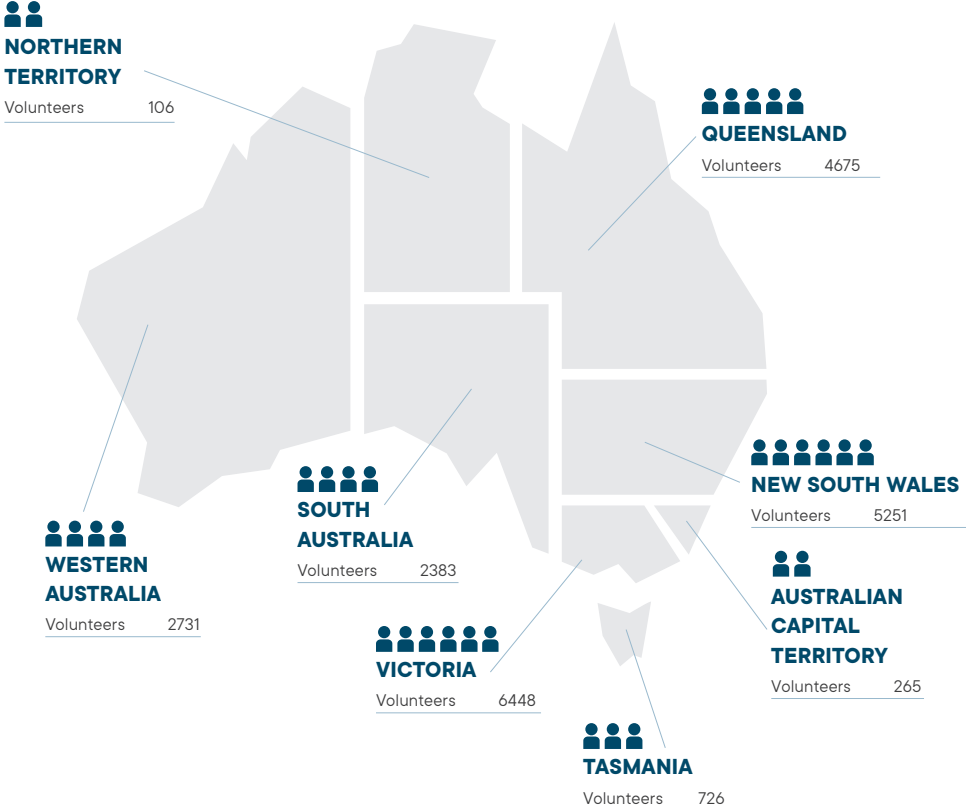
Bruce Neill and his daughter Brooke, from The Select Foundation, partnered with the Salvos on the project. “We are proud and excited to be part of this community social housing development, and we look forward to the journey with The Salvation Army and the women who will be housed and supported,” said Bruce, the foundation chairman.

“This project is just one example of what we can achieve when we partner together to address this growing community crisis,” said Captain Kim Haworth, who oversees the Salvos in Tasmania.



Captain Kim Haworth (left) and Bruce and Brooke Neill of The Select Foundation at the community housing launch.

# Salvos volunteer snapshot Australia 2021



## Salvos volunteers at a glance

- More than 22,000 volunteers delivered more than 7.8 million volunteer hours (excludes corporate and event volunteering).
- In any given year, there are over 20,000 people who volunteer for an event.
- Volunteers filled more than 29,000 volunteer positions throughout the nation.
- Salvos Stores has a large volunteer base with more than 9500 volunteers who contributed 2.283 million volunteer hours.

## Terry's platform outreach still on track in retirement

Major Terry Smith has a broad, infectious smile, and nothing brings that smile to his face more than greeting Friday morning commuters at Petrie railway station in Brisbane.

Terry, 81, officially retired from his role as a Salvos officer (pastor) more than 20 years ago.



Major Terry Smith on the platform at Petrie Station.

"Once I retired, I had time on my hands, and I was looking around to see what I could do," he said. The first opportunity was a three-month role driving "a group of American evangelists" around Australia as they followed the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games torch relay and led outreach activities in each of the towns visited. I was a volunteer at the Olympic Games, too. When that finished, I went looking for something else."

The then Pine Rivers Shire Council introduced a program where volunteer drivers provided senior citizens with transport to and from appointments or the shops. Terry said he was a driver for 10 years, three days a week.

Terry began his railway platform outreach around the same time he started with the

council. "I went on Wednesday mornings to the Strathpine station, and then, on Fridays, I would do the Petrie station – that's most Fridays from 2001 ... until today," he said. "I understand the Salvos need money, but I take it as a mission in greeting the people and saying, 'Good morning, have a good day'. I don't ask for donations. I let the uniform ask that question."

Terry retired last year as a Red Shield Appeal area coordinator, which included visits to high schools to address students and call for door-knock volunteers. Then there's his 20-year hotel outreach – going with Salvos publications, a collection box, and his joke of the week "to put a smile on the faces of patrons".

He has also visited Woodford Correctional Facility most Thursdays for 16 years, on top of being on the roster to run Sunday services. But the railway platform outreach remains close to Terry's heart, and despite his advancing years, he has no plans to 'retire' from this ministry. "While I've got the strength and the Lord gives me the strength, I'm happy to continue," he says. "I enjoy meeting the people and seeing a smile on their face."

– **Darryl Whitecross**





## Volunteer Beth one of the Salvos' unsung heroes

Beth has volunteered for the Salvos for 40 years, and she has not finished yet! The day she spoke with *Salvos Magazine* about her service was her 'day off', but she was busy sorting donated board games to take into her local Salvos Family Store in Wagga Wagga (NSW) where she volunteers.



Beth recently celebrated 40 years of volunteering with the Salvos.

Beth's contact with the Salvos began in the late 1960s, just after her first marriage. Her husband was in the Air Force and posted to Darwin, but Beth couldn't join him until they had accommodation. He approached the Salvos, who said they could use a little cottage if they fixed it up. Beth's husband and his 'mates' did just that, and the connection went from there.

"We later moved into one of the Salvos flats," shares Beth. "We were involved with the Salvos youth, went to events and get-togethers, and helped them out on weekends.

"My husband was then posted to Townsville, and I went to the Salvos and got involved with their Home League (women's outreach group). We also helped with fundraising, street stalls, and fetes for the church building."

The family, which now included two little girls, moved to Ayr (90km south-east of Townsville) when Beth's husband left the Air Force.

"I again approached the Salvos and went to Home League," shares Beth. "We helped set up family stores, which were just beginning then in the late 1970s. I remember one of the young Salvo officers (pastors) would put his pet carpet snake in the back shed at night, which was where we sorted clothes, to deal with a plague of mice we had there!"

Sadly, Beth's marriage ended, and she returned home to Wagga Wagga with her two daughters and son. "I was upset and went to the Salvos, joined Home League, and again started helping to set up the family stores," said Beth. "It helped me make friends and get back into the community." Beth has now remarried and continues to volunteer four days a week, mainly sorting toys.

"The Salvos helped us originally, and it was greatly appreciated," explains Beth. "I got to know different people, too, in a new place where I didn't know anyone.

"In the Wagga store, we are all one big family. If you're looking for friendship, it's a good place to come. So many organisations wouldn't exist without volunteers."

Beth also finds time to serve as secretary for the Wagga Wagga and District Highland Pipe Band and look after her precious grandchildren.

– **Simone Worthing**



Scan here for more on the need for community.

# God's repair shop

Restoring the lives of the abandoned and rejected

**WORDS** James Burns

My wife and I have recently become fans of the British television show, *The Repair Shop*.

Each episode features three people who bring along treasured items that have seen better days. Although the articles seldom have any financial value, they are of value to their owners because of the back story. Often the items will have belonged to ancestors, who may have acquired them in difficult circumstances. Sadly, many of the pieces have been neglected, stored in an attic or cupboard for many years and are in a state that suggests that they can never be brought back to be of use. To you and me, they may only be fit for the scrapheap. But not to their owners.

*The Repair Shop* draws together some of Britain's most skilled restoration experts, masters in their field of upholstery, ceramics, clock repair, leatherwork, and carpentry, to name but a few. Using mainly skills that were once commonplace but now are not, they restore articles to some of their former glory.

“

**To you and me, they may  
only be fit for the scrapheap.  
But not to their owners.**

”

Life can be like that for us too. We can feel neglected, abandoned, of no use to anyone, and ready for the bin. Our self-esteem may

be so low that we think that no one cares or notices us, that we have no value.

I am reminded of the story in the Bible where God told Jeremiah (an Old Testament prophet) to go to the potter's house. Jeremiah watched as the potter worked at his wheel. Whenever a piece of pottery turned out imperfect, he would take the clay and make it into something else. It was never just thrown away as having no use at all.



God is likened to the potter, ready to take the life that we might think is worthless and make it into something of value. We call him our Maker, so who better to shape us into the person he planned for us to be? Are you ready to enter God's repair shop?

*James Burns is a freelance writer from the Dunstable Salvos in the United Kingdom.*



Scan here for more  
on mental health.



# Les lasts the distance for the Salvos

After a serious accident, Les has found new joy and purpose in life

**WORDS** Jessica Morris

The sight of Les Porter whizzing around on a tricycle is an everyday occurrence in Werribee. Since 2010, the Salvationist from Wyndham City Salvos, south-west of Melbourne, has cycled 1000km every year to raise funds for The Salvation Army.

Les has raised a quarter of a million dollars in the Wyndham 1000, an annual event that takes place over a month. But he couldn't do it alone. This is a community effort, which makes sense when you hear how his passion for tricycling came about.

"I grew up in a Baptist household. I've always known about God but didn't become a Christian until after my accident in 1987 when, as a pedestrian, I was hit by a car," he shared.



Les developed a love of tricycling after an accident in 1987.



Les, right, receives support from Salvos officer Phil Abram, left, and a member of the local Rotary club.

Les was left partially disabled due to a brain injury, and his balance was impaired. The first adult tricycle was provided by the Transport Accident Commission to enable Les to get around. He soon felt at home on three wheels.

"My left side doesn't work, so a tricycle was able to keep me stable, and with 18 gears specially fitted, my one leg that works was able to go the distance. I started riding it and, after that, I asked what I could do to raise funds for the Salvos!" he said.

## LIFE VALUES

Drawn to the Salvos because the movement reflected his faith and life values, he became a member at Werribee Salvos (now Wyndham City) in 2008. But his involvement with the Salvos – and the wider community – bloomed prior. He began speaking at schools and community groups, telling locals how he overcame his struggles. Les cycled solo from Port Augusta in South Australia to Werribee



Wyndham City Salvo Les Porter has cycled 12,000km over 12 years to raise funds for The Salvation Army.

in 1998 and later from Swan Hill to Werribee, raising funds for the Salvos.

“My belief is that I can’t do a lot of things I used to but tricycling is the thing I can do for the community with what I do,” he said.

Les later approached his then Salvos officers (pastors), Captains Lance and Anne Jeffrey, and asked how he could support the local Salvos with his wheels. Soon the Wyndham 1000 was born, and over a month, he raised funds while riding 1000km. And given the circuit through Werribee is approximately 30km, that’s no small feat!

Wyndham Rotary Club sponsored the cost of three tricycles worth over \$1000 each. Because, while his speciality tricycle is hardy, the sheer distances he rides means it won’t last a lifetime, and tricycle number three is now approaching its last kilometres. For Les, this generosity is God in action.

God didn’t just save Les in the weeks following his accident, he gave him a mobile way to connect with the community – inviting people of all ages and backgrounds to use what they have for good. And the reason for it all is Jesus.

“Before I came to know God, I loved my work – I was a workaholic, that was just me. Since becoming a Christian, I have found a new joy in the Lord,” he shared. “I remember after speaking at several schools, one of the principals even asked if I could talk with his staff! Every time I make a point that I love what I’m doing and I enjoy life. This is a different sort of happiness – it comes from Jesus.”



Scan here for more information on Salvation Army Services.

# Zucchini soup



PHOTO: MARGARET JASZOWSKA ON UNSPLASH

## Ingredients

2 leeks, 2 sticks celery, 750g zucchini, 1 carrot, 1 potato, 60g butter, 3 ½ cups chicken stock, salt and pepper to taste, 2 tbsp chopped parsley, ⅓ cup cream.

## Method

- Roughly slice leeks, celery, zucchini, carrot, and potato.
- Heat butter in a large saucepan, add vegetables, stir to coat with butter. Cook over medium heat for five minutes, but don't allow vegetables to brown.
- Add stock, salt, and pepper. Mix well and bring to the boil, then reduce heat and simmer covered for 15 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Stir in parsley.
- Puree the vegetables and liquid. Add cream and reheat without boiling
- Top with parsley (optional) and serve with bread. Enjoy!

# HAVE A LAUGH

What do you call a chicken crossing the road?  
**Poultry in motion.**



A chicken saw a duck standing by the side of the road. It shook its head knowingly and called out to the duck, "Don't do it mate! You'll never hear the end of it!"

# SIGNING IN



PHOTO: STOCK / GETTY IMAGES

# Sudoku

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

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

# Tum-Tum

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



# Bible byte

Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.  
 Philippians chapter 2, verse 4  
*New Living Translation*

**Quiz answers:** 1. 2013 2. Politician 3. Bradford Highway 4. Brand Highway 5. Eyre Highway  
**Tum-Tum:** is hiding in a drawer on page 3.



# Quick quiz

1. Yellow Ribbon Road Safety Week (now National Road Safety Week) started in May during which year?
2. The Bruce Highway was named after Henry Adam Bruce, who held what occupation?
3. What is the name of the highway which goes across the Sydney Harbour Bridge?
4. What is the highway linking Perth with Geraldton?
5. 'The 90 Mile Straight' is a stretch of which highway regarded as one of the longest straight stretches of road in the world?

PHOTO: STOCK / GETTY IMAGES

# DID YOU KNOW?

**Volunteering Australia (VA) estimates that 5.8 million people volunteer through an organisation annually (Key Volunteering Statistics January 2021).**

**VA research shows COVID-19 caused an estimated 66 per cent of people to stop volunteering between February and April 2020.**

**This reduction in volunteering was equivalent to 12.2 million hours per week.**

2	3	6	7	0	4	1
7	8	9	6	7	1	2
1	5	4	8	2	3	7
7	4	8	9	6	7	1
8	7	9	2	1	6	8
6	2	3	0	3	1	2
6	2	3	0	3	1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	0
2	3	6	7	0	4	1
7	8	9	6	7	1	2
1	5	4	8	2	3	7
7	4	8	9	6	7	1
8	7	9	2	1	6	8
6	2	3	0	3	1	2
6	2	3	0	3	1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	0

# STUDY WITH US

- ✓ Alcohol and Other Drugs
- ✓ Chaplaincy
- ✓ Community Services
- ✓ Financial Counselling
- ✓ Leadership and Management
- ✓ Officership
- ✓ Professional Development
- ✓ Theology and Ministry



Let our experts with real-world experience in the field, help you turn your **passion** into your **purpose** and your **profession**.



*Eva Burrows*  
College

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