# **Courageous creativity**

Recognising the gifts within



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# FEATURE

To draw or not to draw

# FAITH TALK

The power of words

# **MY STORY**

Even more than music

# "Great things are

done by a series

# of small things

brought together."

# Vincent Van Gogh



# 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



The Salvation Army Australia acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet and work and pay our respect to Elders, past, present, and future. We value and include people of all cultures, languages, abilities, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, and intersex status. We are committed to providing programs that are fully inclusive. We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of people of all ages, particularly children.

# Salvos Magazine

Founders William and Catherine Booth Salvation Army World Leaders General Lyndon and Commissioner Bronwyn Buckingham Territorial Leader Commissioner Miriam Gluyas Secretary for Communications and Editor-In-Chief Colonel Rodney Walters Publications Manager Cheryl Tinker Editor Simone Worthing Graphic Designer Ryan Harrison

**Cover:** Salvos illustrator Rod Allen creates *Kidzone* magazine characters.

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# We are all creative

Many of us admire the obvious skills and talents of painters, songwriters, musicians, dancers, poets, actors, graphic designers – the list goes on. Their creativity is on display for all to see, enjoy and be inspired by.

God is a creator, and we are all creative in our own ways. As Salvos illustrator Rod Allen writes about in our feature this week, everyone has creative gifts – they are just different for each of us. Some people are out-of-the-box problem solvers; others are skilled at relating to a range of different people; others can sew, design complex computer programs, arrange flowers, distract upset children or turn a house into a home. There are gardeners, builders, volunteers, aged-care workers, cleaners, cooks, engineers, caring community members and more, whose creativity brings so much to others – and hopefully to themselves as well.

Our gifts and talents are there – sometimes it's just a matter of finding them, recognising them for what they are and celebrating each one! God has given you gifts too – do you know what they are?

Simone Worthing Editor

# TO DRAW OR NOT TO DRAW

IT CAN TAKE COURAGE TO BE CREATIVE IF YOU THINK YOU'RE NOT ARTISTIC

### BY FAYE MICHELSON

You don't have to be good at drawing or painting to love drawing or painting. To be honest, 'good' is completely subjective. The last time you were at an art gallery, I bet you were like me. I looked at the price tags of some of the works and thought to myself, "Are you serious? Even I could do that." The thing is, I didn't do it. Being creative requires courage, because you're putting yourself out there, open to criticism.

So, what's it like being an artist? We talked to Rod Allen, a professional artist and the illustrator for the Salvos' children's magazine *Kidzone*.

### SALVOS MAGAZINE: YOU WERE THAT KID WHO DREW ALL THE TIME. HOW DID YOU DECIDE TO MAKE IT YOUR CAREER?

**Rod Allen:** Fortunately, I had teachers and family support me and tell me they'd see my pictures in books one day ... so even when I had other jobs, I always viewed myself firstly as an illustrator and I pursued it step by step.

### SM: NOW YOU'RE THAT ADULT WHO DRAWS ALL THE TIME ... DO YOU DRAW APART FROM YOUR WORK COMMITMENTS?

**RA:** I'm always drawing. I draw for work, and oddly, I draw to relax after work. These days I draw directly onto my iPad, so I draw at night while I watch TV. I do occasional freelance jobs for people, but I pick and choose what I do.

# SM: WHAT DOES THE PROCESS OF CREATIVITY FEEL LIKE FOR YOU?

**RA:** I was given a very obvious visual gift, and I am determined to use it. I often think of what it would be like to do a job that didn't involve art and I know I would not enjoy it. I'd have to find a way to bring my drawing ability into what I do. My mind never stops thinking and I'm always looking for inspiration and I'm literally so excited to pick up my pen and start working.



IT'S JUST A MATTER OF IDENTIFYING THAT THING YOU DO WELL AND BEING PROUD OF IT.

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SM: USUALLY SOMEONE'S WORK ISN'T CRITIQUED IF THEY'RE ADDING NUMBERS OR FILING, BUT DO YOU FIND PEOPLE FEEL THEY CAN HAVE AN OPINION ON YOUR WORK BECAUSE IT IS ART? HOW DO YOU DEAL WITH THAT PSYCHOLOGICALLY?

**RA:** I don't like drawing with people watching. That's when I find people critique the most, such as "Where's his other hand? Why doesn't she have an



eyeball?" while I'm still in the process of drawing. You need to develop a thick skin because others will mention things in drawings they don't like. These days I have learned, after I have finished a drawing, to put it away – then come back to it with a fresh eye. Sometimes I see an immediate mistake and other times I'm pleasantly surprised.

### SM: HOW DID YOU DEVELOP CONFIDENCE IN YOUR TALENT?

**RA:** As I mentioned earlier, I was given a lot of encouragement when I was young, so I guess I just believed it. I'm often happy with work at the time I've completed it, but I'm rarely happy with the piece when I look back at it over time. It's a nasty habit to be so critical of oneself but it means I'm always looking to improve. I've never settled in my ability. I always want to do better.

### SM: DO YOU THINK EVERYONE HAS CREATIVITY IN THEM?

**RA:** Yes, but it differs in everyone. I have a friend who is a builder who says he doesn't have an artistic bone in his body, but he makes amazing modern bathrooms. Another friend puts together intricate, store-bought gem art, which is something I wouldn't have the patience to do. Some people are creative at decorating, cooking or mechanics. It's just a matter of identifying that thing you do well and being proud of it.

# SM: WHY DO YOU THINK PEOPLE SHOULD LET THEMSELVES BE CREATIVE?

**RA:** It's very fulfilling to have a hobby where you can express yourself – and even more fulfilling if it helps you relax. My grandfather discovered oil painting in retirement and suddenly realised an amazing talent he didn't know existed. My father started picture framing and woodwork in retirement but had never even contemplated doing that during his working life.

# SM: IF SOMEONE WANTS TO GIVE DRAWING OR PAINTING A GO, BUT HASN'T HAD THE CONFIDENCE TO TRY, WHAT ADVICE CAN YOU GIVE THEM?

**RA:** If something is relaxing or enjoyable, just try it. You never have to show anybody. Not everything needs to be on display or discussed. However, you may be surprised at the encouragement you get from others. Most friends are supportive of others' artistic endeavours.



# ART FOR ART'S SAKE

YOU MAY FEEL LIKE YOU DON'T HAVE AN ARTISTIC BONE IN YOUR BODY, BUT THE GOOD NEWS IS YOU CAN BUILD ARTISTIC MUSCLE WITH PRACTICE. IT'S ALL ABOUT HAVING A GO AND ENJOYING THE PROCESS!

THERE'S PLENTY OF FREE INFORMATION ON HOW TO PAINT AND DRAW IN BOOKS (AS A VISIT TO YOUR LIBRARY WILL REVEAL), OR ON THE INTERNET.

FOR INSTANCE, TYPE INTO YOUR SEARCH ENGINE WHAT YOU FEEL INSPIRED TO HAVE A GO AT PAINTING OR DRAWING - A BOWL OF VIOLETS, A HORSE, A SLEEP-ING CAT. YOU WILL HAVE A CHOICE OF THOUSANDS OF VIDEO TUTORIALS TO INSPIRE YOU.

IS SCULPTING/CALLIGRAPHY/ ANIMATION SOMETHING YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO TRY? DO THE SAME.

THE FIRST STEP IS TO GATHER SOME SUPPLIES AND START. IF YOU FEEL YOU WOULD LIKE TO START SLOWLY, COLOUR IN ROD'S KOOKABURRA ON PAGE 7. ENJOY THE EXPERIENCE – AND THE SATISFACTION – OF DOING SOMETHING CREATIVE!



Scan here for more stories on Salvation Army programs.



# Kidzone Magazine turns 25

*Kidzone* – the weekly publication for children aged 5-14 produced by The Salvation Army Australia – is celebrating 25 years in print.

The first edition of *Kidzone* went out on 10 April 1999. "Its real primary purpose is to introduce kids to Jesus in a way that is fun and relevant," said Publications Manager Cheryl Tinker.

Using pop culture in a relevant, positive and educational way, each week the magazine features competitions, video game news, Bible stories, cartoons, puzzles and activities. It is enjoyed by 27,000 readers each week.



Cousin Koala at the anniversary celebration

For information, resources, videos and more, go to **kidzonemag.com.au** 

# A colourful celebration in Perth

Perth Salvation Army staff members got an immersive taste of multicultural engagement when they were invited to attend an annual Holi Festival in March.

The community event is known worldwide as the 'festival of colours', with attendees



Colour, culture and celebration at the Holi festival.

marking the arrival of spring in India and the triumph of good over evil by throwing coloured powder on one another.

This year, members of Perth Punjab community organisation Kingz Multicultural Club invited the Salvos to be involved in their festival in Bennett Springs, Western Australia.

Nigel Pitkin, Community Fundraising Relationship Manager for the Salvos, said the event was the friendliest, happiest and most inclusive he had ever attended.

"It was awesome to see a few thousand people there just dancing and enjoying life," he said.

The festival featured a Salvation Army marquee and donation bins, and Nigel said the Kingz Multicultural Club was keen to continue collaborating with the Salvos in future. – **Kirralea Nicolle** 

# **Donations with a difference**



Salvos Stores are encouraging the public to dig deep into their wardrobes for clothing items to 'Donate for a Discount' and ensure Salvos Stores across the country are stocked with everyday essentials.

From 15 April to 31 May, anyone who donates the equivalent of one large shopping bag or more of clothing to Salvos Stores will receive a 20 per cent discount voucher which can be redeemed (by 29 June) on a future in-store purchase.

"With the cost of living on the rise, customers are looking for cost-effective alternatives to their everyday essentials," says Sean Burgess, General Manager Retail, Salvos Stores.

"This has meant we have seen increased demand across our store network for good quality product at an affordable price. Additionally, these pressures have meant we are seeing more people reaching out for assistance across our programs and services." Each year, Salvos Stores raises approximately \$40 million for The Salvation Army's frontline work across the country, which in turn helps over 1 million Aussies in need. This couldn't be done without the generous donations and purchases made by donors and customers across Australia.

Shopping at Salvos Stores is also good for the environment as they divert around 40 million items from landfill each year through the sale of goods in their store network.

"We are looking for those essential winter items such as jumpers, jackets, jeans, and any other quality clothes you have to spare," says Sean. "So please, head into your local Salvos Store and donate your winter goods to make a difference in other people's lives."

To find out more about Salvos Stores Winter Stock 'Donate for a Discount' initiative, or to shop at Salvos Stores online, visit **salvosstores.com.au**.

# And that means...?

The power of the words we choose

By Mal Davies

A few years ago, my wife and I were fortunate enough to fulfil a long-term dream and holiday in Greece and the Greek islands. It was a very memorable trip and we saw some beautiful places.

On our last day on Mykonos, we had a few hours to fill before heading to the port to catch a boat to the next island, so we decided to drop into the archaeological museum where they were promoting a showing of jewellery through the ages. And I mean ages. The first pieces on display were bone items from 4,000 years ago!

# 156

# Our choice of words is important.

# JJ

In the small booklet that was available I noted some of the introductory text: 'The Museum, from an entrenched Foucauldian heterotopia, is converted to a space-time wormhole ready to take visitors on a journey to the Cycladic heterochronies of the past.'

Read that again, slowly. Then go and have a cup of tea and a good lie down.

What on earth does that mean? More so, who was paid to write it? The point of writing is to have people read your words and understand something. Writing becomes pointless when someone – say, a visitor at a museum – can't even understand the brochure provided to explain what is on display.

I think my vocabulary is pretty good but, really: 'heterotopia', 'Foucauldian', 'heterochronies'? And what if I just want to visit a museum and don't want to journey down a wormhole?

When you boil it all down, the sentence simply means: 'We've changed things around a bit so that you can see some old Greek stuff.'

# **POWER OF WORDS**

Our choice of words is important. Words can build others up and also tear them down (see James chapter three in the Bible for a good explanation of this). We can encourage someone with a word ('Champion!') and also reduce them to tears with a word ('Loser!'). We can also say words that play a like a tape in someone's mind, constantly on repeat – imagine hearing, "You'll never amount to anything, you're useless", over and over in your mind for years.

We also have to be sensitive with our use of humour, recognising that it's a very subjective form of communication. Aussies, generally, have a very dry sense of humour and we use it to release tension and lighten the mood when, perhaps, it's inappropriate to do so. Attending an open coffin viewing with members of the deceased's family isn't the time to say, "Well, at least he looks good in a suit." 11 MAY 2024

FAITH TALK



The Bible contains more than 700,000 words and every one has been discussed, debated, studied and explained over the past 2000 years. Scholars can, and have, spent a lifetime studying this deep and meaningful book.

# Words can build others up and also tear them down.

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"

I'm so glad that the apostle Paul – who wrote many books in the Bible – was a master of simplifying complex truths. In a letter to the church in Rome he said: "If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved" (Romans chapter 10, verses nine and ten).

Well, that's pretty straightforward. No need to look up 'heterochronies' to understand that message. Believe in my heart and confess my faith in Jesus and I'm saved.

Paul's focus was on helping us enter a life of faith and an understanding of who Jesus is, rather than forcing us down a Foucauldian wormhole! He chose his words carefully ... and so should we.

Major Mal Davies is a Salvation Army officer (pastor) and writer living on Kaurna land, Adelaide.



Scan here to read more stories of hope.

# **Even more than music**

Finding a place to belong and experience God

By Karen Masters

As a little girl I sat in church watching my father play in The Salvation Army brass band. I wanted to be a part of it. One Sunday night during holidays, when not so many people were present, I sat next to my dad in the band as they played. I felt a sense of belonging.

The next time I sat in the band I was a teenager and an official member of the band, although I still had a lot to learn.

"

# When I play music, I feel God's presence.

# "

# **MOTIVATED BY MUSIC**

It was the music that motivated me. I really just wanted to make music any way I could. Music is probably the easiest way to express myself; it has been a way of releasing feelings that can't be put into words. Being with Dad was a bonus, but at one point years later, I also had the privilege of playing in the band with my dad, husband and daughter.

Part of being in a Salvation Army brass band is being mentored by other members of the band. The older ones share their valuable experience and knowledge with the younger ones and those learning, who then acquire the skills to be a mentor, too. In most rehearsals (band practices) there is a reflective time, where different members of the band contribute spiritually. Some will share a verse from the Bible and a few thoughts, along with a prayer. Others may share their own story or God-journey. During these devotional times, some great God moments often occur.

Throughout my life I have been a part of different types and sizes of groups, sometimes playing in large brass bands, sometimes playing piano for small singing groups and, at various times, playing guitar. The thing that remains the same, in whichever group I participate, is a sense of belonging and the privilege to lead others in worship and praise to God.

When I play music, I feel God's presence. I think of Psalm 100 which says, "Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth! Worship the Lord with gladness. Come before him, singing with joy... Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good. His unfailing love continues forever" (New Living Translation).

Major Karen Masters is a Salvation Army officer (pastor) living on Wurundjeri land, Melbourne.



Scan here to read more stories of hope.



# **French Toast**



### Ingredients

3 eggs, 150ml milk, ½ tsp cinnamon, pinch nutmeg, 6 slices of bread (not fresh), 60g butter, 2 tbsp olive oil

# Method

- Whisk eggs, milk, cinnamon and nutmeg. Dip bread into mixture, one at a time, lightly soaking on both sides.
- Use butter and olive oil in frypan to cook bread in batches, 3 minutes on each side, until golden and cooked through.
- Set aside each batch, keeping them warm.
- Serve toast with maple syrup, berries, bananas, caramel sauce, Nutella, cream, yoghurt or ricotta.



- Which dance style is performed by dancers with metal plates on the bottom of their shoes?
- 2. *Riverdance* is a traditional dance from which country?
- 3. How many basic ballet positions are there?
- 4. Most ballet terms are in which language?
- 5. What kind of dance is often performed with the dancer simultaneously playing the castanets?
- 6. Which dance style reached its peak popularity with the release of the film *Saturday Night Fever*?

# Bible byte

"God has also given each of us different gifts to use."

Romans chapter 12, verse 6a Contemporary English Version

# Tum-Tum

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

ER 0 C F Ρ Т Е Т NV Ε Ν Т Т V B L S R Μ Ν S т R U C т U R Ε Ι J Α C Ε Α E Ρ Α Ι Ν т Ι Ν G Y Ν v Y Ι G т Y Ρ T Μ Ι S Ν C R Ν Μ С Y K Е Ι Ι G Ε т H Ι N G Μ Х 0 Ρ Μ Ν S Ν Y C D Е S Т G Ν X т v т 0 C Т Α Τ B U Τ L D Τ Ν G R Α Е L Ι Y E 0 0 т 0 E D Х F V 0 T Х L  $\mathbf{Z}$ Ν Ι C R E Α Т Ι v Ι т Y Ι т Ι B J 0 Ι S Ρ 0 т т E R Y 0 0 G Х Е G Τ Ν Е Е R N U N Τ N G T т R Ι G Ι R Η J C Ν Α Y 0 L C Ε т H Ι C  $\mathbf{L}$ F Α  $\mathbf{Z}$  $\mathbf{Z}$ Y P E R L Α H S S S Ι C 0 Μ U Μ U L 0 TJ R R Т F v Ι S Ι Ά F E TJ J 0 N Y Т T S S C U L Ρ т U R E 0 Т R H Y D

have a laugh



What type of music are balloons afraid of? •**>isnu dod** 

What do you call a musical insect? •6nqɯny ¥

> Why was music coming from the printer? •6uiumel sem Jaded au

# Wordsearch

Words are hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, forwards and backwards. Enjoy!

Art	Inventive
Building	Light
Clay	Music
Colour	Original
Creativity	Painting
Design	Pottery
Energy	Precision
Engineering	Science
Etching	Sculpture
Hue	Structure
Imagination	Texture
Innovation	Vision

### 11 May, 1981

### The musical Cats premiered.

This sparked a global musical craze and catapulted composer Andrew Lloyd Webber to stardom.

### 13 May, 1909

# The inaugural Giro d'Italia cycle race took place.

This is one of the world's most prestigious cycle races and Italy's biggest. Italian Luigi Ganna won the first edition, which went from Milan to Naples and back.

### 15 May, 1940

# The first McDonald's fast food restaurant opened.

Maurice and Richard McDonald opened McDonald's Bar-B-Q in San Bernardino. Today, McDonald's is the world's largest fast food chain.

Tum-Tum: is hiding with Rod's characters on the cover.

Quiz answers: 1. Tap. 2. Ireland. 3. Five. 4. French. 5. Flamenco. 6. Disco.

# DISCOUNT

salvos

STORES

- 1. Drop off your warm winter clothing at the donation point by 31.05.24.
- 2. See a member of our team at the counter to get your 20% off voucher.\*

3. Redeem your voucher in store from 15.04.24 until 29.06.24 (inclusive).

10550

Ts & Cs: Donation must be made in-store between 15.04.24 & 31.05.24. Valid donations are equivalent to one large shopping bag of saleable goods. Salvos Stores team have the right to request proof of donation & have the right to withhold vouchers if they have sufficient reason to believe that a valid donation did not occur. See voucher for additional Ts & Cs.