

# salvos

*magazine*

## Prayer, paddleboards and planes

Not all churches look  
the same in the Salvos



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### FEATURE


Welcome  
to church

### FAITH TALK

Why I'm  
a Salvo

### MY STORY

Finding a  
spiritual  
home



**"OUR BODIES HAVE MANY PARTS,  
BUT THESE PARTS DON'T ALL  
DO THE SAME THING. IN THE  
SAME WAY, EVEN THOUGH WE  
ARE MANY INDIVIDUALS, CHRIST  
MAKES US ONE BODY [THE  
CHURCH] AND INDIVIDUALS WHO  
ARE CONNECTED TO EACH  
OTHER."**

**ROMANS CHAPTER 12, VERSES 4-5  
GOD'S WORD TRANSLATION BIBLE**





## 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

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**Welcome to church**

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**Prayer, paddleboards and planes**



**My Story [12]**  
**Finding a spiritual home**



## Worldwide mission

“Salvation Army founders, William and Catherine Booth, were called by God to begin a mission movement,” explains Commissioner Miriam Gluyas, who leads The Salvation Army in Australia. “This mission movement was to see lives transformed across the world.

“The Salvation Army is often known for its transformation work, as a charity, within our communities, serving wherever there is hardship and injustice.

“But just as important is the Christian part of the movement. The Booths saw that many didn't feel welcome in the church of their time and wanted a movement where everyone could feel welcome, play a part and belong. We continue to do what we do – with the love of Jesus. We are a denomination of the worldwide Christian Church.”

This edition highlights different styles of churches within the Salvos, and, throughout the magazine, how officers (pastors), members and ‘friends’ of the Salvos feel about being part of the movement.

Come and check us out! Go to [salvationarmy.org.au](http://salvationarmy.org.au) to find the Salvos in your area.

Simone Worthing **Editor**

# Welcome to church

The Salvation Army is for anyone who wants to come

By Major Mal Davies

On social media you'll sometimes see the text, 'I was today years old when I learnt this', and then there'll be an image or clip of someone pointing out something that may have been obvious to others for a long time, but the person posting it has just discovered it that day.

For example, I saw one recently where a person had just realised that the first meal of the day is called breakfast because you're breaking your overnight fast, and another that said: 'If you replace the W with a T in where, what and when, you get the answer!'

“

**The Salvation Army is a worldwide Christian church...**

”

## **SALVATION ARMY CHURCHES**

I wonder how many readers might have a 'I was today years old when I learnt this' moment when I say that The Salvation Army is a worldwide Christian church, and we have about 300 churches open for worship across Australia.

Most Australians know The Salvation Army because of our thrift shops (called Salvos Stores) or our emergency services vans that are very visible, especially at bushfire or flood scenes. There are also many who know of us because

of our support services for those who are homeless or battling addiction or fleeing domestic violence situations. Yet others might know us for our chaplains in the defence forces and in prisons, or for Employment Plus, that helps people seek and find work.

However, our beginnings were as a church – a place of Christian worship – and that continues to this day.

At our website ([salvationarmy.org.au](http://salvationarmy.org.au)), you can click on 'Locations' and search for the closest church to where you live. You can then look up the website for that church and find their service times on a Sunday and other activities they might run, like a playgroup or Bible study or over-50s group.

Salvation Army churches are referred to as 'corps' (pronounced 'core') although some also refer to themselves as a community church. The word corps simply fits in with our para-military terminology. This terminology is largely symbolic – we're in a spiritual 'war', fighting for God and good against all that seeks to oppose, enslave or crush the human spirit.

## **CHRISTIAN SERVICES**

At a Salvation Army church service (often referred to simply as 'meetings') you'll find most of the usual elements you'd find at a Christian church service anywhere. Songs will be sung, a Bible passage might be read, there will be some announcements of upcoming events, an offering will be taken to





The Salvos in Australia officially began with a meeting in Adelaide's Botanic Park in 1880.

support the work of the church, a sermon or message will be provided, and some prayers will be said.

Children are also cared for. This might include a special 'children's story' during the meeting or, more often, the children will go to another room to do some fun learning activities about Jesus, allowing the parents to focus on the church service.

Salvation Army church services have always been known for their casual and informal nature. While some churches prefer a very solemn, quiet and serious style of worship, a hallmark of Salvation Army services is joy and laughter and celebration. This is not to say you'll just sit there and laugh for an hour – often our worship includes moments of quiet reflection and spoken comment that are thought-provoking and emotionally stirring.

### EARLY HISTORY

The Salvation Army began in 1865 in London and became known as The Christian Mission before changing its name in 1878. Its founders, William

and Catherine Booth, came out of the Methodist Church tradition at a time when church in England had grown quite middle- and upper-class. Our church quickly became known more as a 'working class' church and a key focus was on the 'whosoever', meaning that our church was for anyone who wished to attend.

Hand in hand with our commitment to supporting people spiritually came a desire to support people in pragmatic ►

*"I attend the Merri-bek (Vic.) Recovery Church every Wednesday night. To me, this is my home, somewhere I can get community support, share with others facing the same struggles, who help me, and I help them. We are also well supported by Salvos staff and whilst they may not necessarily understand what we are going through, their support to be there for us is invaluable, as is the messages they have for us."*



Singing is a regular part of many Salvation Army services.

and helpful ways. So, we began activities like 'soup kitchens', providing free meals to those living in poverty, and 'prison gate brigades' where we would meet freed prisoners at the prison gate and ask if they have somewhere to live, a change of clothes and access to food.

**"I like belonging to The Salvation Army church because it has clear biblically based beliefs (doctrines). It provides me with opportunity to worship in a vibrant, meaningful way and is a church that is welcoming to all and connected to the community in which it stands."**

From these simple beginnings, our social work efforts have grown and expanded broadly, and we now help thousands of Australians every day of the year in a wide range of support programs.

### COME VISIT US

For those who wish to read further about our status as a church and what that means, feel free to scan the QR code below. You can visit [salvationarmy.org](http://salvationarmy.org) and click on 'About us'. After you've read

the information there, if you place your cursor on the 'About us' title, you can then select 'Body of Christ'. This will take you to the PDF file of a small book (about 30 pages) that was published in 2008.

This book offers an 'ecclesiological statement' (a statement about us as a church) and, for those of you interested in going a bit deeper theologically, this will explain our place in the worldwide Christian Church.

This includes statements like: 'We believe that The Salvation Army was called into being by the will of God, is sustained in being by God's grace, and is empowered for obedience by the Holy Spirit.'

For many of you, however, can I suggest a better way to see how we do church is simply to visit us one Sunday. We'd love to welcome you and get to know you at The Salvation Army, your local church.



Scan here for more information and to find your local Salvos.

# Prayer, paddleboards and planes

Not all churches look the same in the Salvos

**The Salvation Army is a church – but not all of its 286 corps (congregations), eight societies and outposts and wide range of innovative mission expressions around the country look the same. Below are just a few examples of some of the different ways Salvos and friends “do church”:**

## GOD'S SPORTS ARENA

In a basement hall in Brisbane, a bunch of people are counting down from 10. When they reach zero, a whistle blows to announce the start of the church service.

God's Sports Arena (GSA) describes its 4pm Sunday service as “a church service with a sporty, relaxed, upbeat and positive approach to exploring your faith. All welcome!”

Former Brisbane Broncos chaplain Bill Hunter founded GSA in 2010 as a counter-cultural mission expression of The Salvation Army. The church adopted a sports theme, with services filled with sports metaphors, whistleblowing, and a ‘sin bin’ for misdemeanours such as barracking for NSW instead of Queensland.

“When Jesus stripped faith down to the bare essentials, he gave two commandments: Love God and love others. Being a Salvo gives me opportunity to love others through the works we do. But the greatest commandment is to love God. I find coming together with other believers to be a really great way to help me love God. Sharing the Scriptures, worshipping, praying with and for one another all help me do what Jesus instructed.”



God's Sports Arena is a welcoming place to explore faith.

Some components of the service are as in other churches – there are songs, and a message. There is also lots of honest sharing and mutual encouragement from those who attend, many of whom are in, or have been through, a rehab program.

The half-time whistle blows to announce a seven-minute break for coffee and snacks. At the next whistle, the speaker for the night runs onto the ‘field’. A short message follows, followed by the invitation to receive prayer for any specific needs. Many people take up the offer. The service concludes with the Sportsman's Prayer.

A second GSA has now been established in Caloundra. “Our mantra”, says Bill, “is to ‘Love, encourage and don't judge’. We see people come to faith all the time because we love them.”



## NEW IS HERE

The 5:17 mid-week worship service on Wednesdays at Adelaide City Salvos works in partnership with DUOs (Do Unto Others) – the church’s programs and activities aimed at meeting the needs of the inner-city community. These include support groups, meals and Bible studies. The service has been providing community for those most in need at a point when times have been toughest.

“The 5:17 is born out of The Salvation Army’s vision to create faith pathways connected to the DUOs program,” explains Ali Halls, DUOs Coordinator. “People ask for prayer; community members share their stories. We have a community member who runs worship, singing and playing guitar. The service is called The 5:17 after 2 Corinthians chapter 5, verse 17: ‘Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come; the old has gone, the new is here.’ It also starts at 5:17 pm.”

## “WOULD YOU LIKE PRAYER?”

Major Darren Kingston is passionate about prayer – and he is adamant that the general public generally wants to be prayed for.

“You might not believe it, but when you ask someone – anyone – if they’d like some prayer, most will say yes,” Darren says.

Proof, he says, is his experience praying for people in shopping centres, at community events and anywhere the spirit leads him.

Darren also participated in the Prayer Tent ministry at the annual Alive festival in Sydney’s south-west, offering free bottles of water, sunscreen, a chat and, of course, prayer.

“The singing in our worship times always lifts our spirit as it ranges across themes that are positive, joyful, thoughtful and prayerful.”



Prayer is foundational in the salvos, including praying for people in the everyday places of life.



*Paddlers Against Poverty talk about faith and life and how they interact and go together.*

### **CHURCH DONE DIFFERENTLY**

In Tasmania, groups of passionate Christians are sharing Jesus with their local communities in unique and innovative ways.

“Rather than bringing people back into the church, we are taking church out to the people. We recognise that traditional models of church are not for everyone, and we want everyone to be able to thrive,” said Major Kim Haworth, who recently led the Salvos in Tassie.

“We have a ukulele group that’s happening in the south-east of our state, and they’re getting a great turn-up of people that are coming together, learning to play the ukulele and just enjoying community, and a place where people are free to talk about their faith in Jesus, and just do life together.

“In Huonville, we have a women’s circle, a group of ladies who come together to share their lives and just be together in a safe, nurturing space, supporting one another. At the right time people sense that faith, the aroma of Christ, and they’re receptive to the message.

“Our stand-up paddleboard group – Paddlers Against Poverty (PAP) – is definitely church done differently,” says Major Joel Clifford from Clarence City Salvos. “We don’t sing songs or have a sermon, but we talk about faith and life and how that intersects and goes together. Paddleboarders can explore faith and deepen their faith and their relationship with Jesus as a part of our community, but also broaden their social networks, making friends and contacts.”

“For me, being a Salvation Army officer allows me the privilege to serve God the way he has wired me and honour each day with the life I have been given. The Salvation Army’s values align with my core values. I love that we are a church that gathers but is also actively sent into the world.”



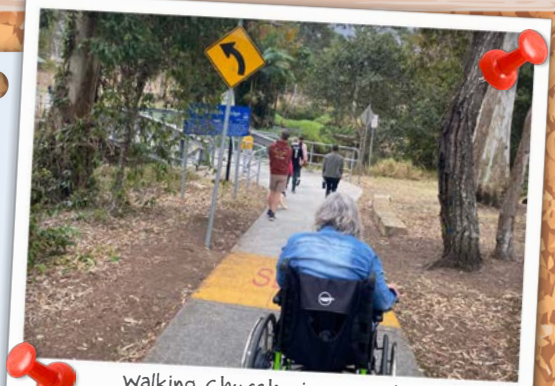
## WALKING CHURCH

Last year, Salvos officers Majors Sandra McLean and Bryce Davies started 'Walking Churches' – a regular walking group with an intentional focus on having meaningful conversations and time for prayer and fellowship. Sandra and her husband Andrew's Walking Church is connected to Merri-bek Salvos in Melbourne and meets at a local park on the first Saturday of the month.

"It's a very simple format," explains Sandra. "We read a scripture at the start and that's the focus of the discussion as we walk for about five kilometres. After the walk, everyone sits at a park table and shares a BYO lunch."

In Brisbane, Bryce's Walking Church meets every two weeks on a Sunday afternoon at a local park. His group starts things differently, with silence.

"We start with quite intentional quiet walking; the 10 minutes in silence is about asking God what's on your heart, what do you need to share about," he says. "The next 50 minutes is an opportunity to chat about anything."



Walking Church gives people a way to encounter Jesus.

"Is it the Church? What do we call it?" Sandra laughs when asked the question because she's been asked it a thousand times. "I don't know if I even want to stop and analyse it! It's about giving people a way to encounter Jesus."

"When God called me into full-time ministry, he called me out of a very fulfilled life as a schoolteacher. And just like the disciple Peter, he told me to get out of my boat of comfort and follow him. And that is what being an officer has been and still is to me. It's a leap into the deep, believing God has got me every step of the way. Trusting him, not knowing what each step will bring; and no matter how hard the waves of life beat against me, he has got me by the hand guiding me every step of the way."

## THE WELL

Located off a busy road in St Kilda, The Well is a safe space that engages with people who are lonely and searching. There's a community garden that offers a quiet haven for contemplation, a chapel for restoration of the soul, de-stress classes, and The Well team who are always available for a cup of coffee, a chat or a warm meal.

"In Old Testament culture, the well was the place for community gathering," said Jim Vaughn, chaplain at The Well. "It was also the place of healing and restoration and story-telling. I want to help people get their life back, and we as Christians know the only time you get your life back is when you give it to Jesus. My hope, my passion for The Well, is we'll see more people get their life back in this place."



## MESSY MID-WEEK CHAPEL

It's Wednesday afternoon in the heart of Sydney. At 4pm, a group of men and women – some experiencing homelessness, some struggling with addiction, one man still in his prison greens – heads into Sydney City Salvos and gathers in a small room on the fourth floor. Midweek Chapel gets underway without music or fanfare but with the Holy Spirit visibly moving among those present.

"[People] wanted a place where they could ask questions in the middle of the service so they could better understand Jesus, and a place where it's OK to not be OK," said Sydney City Salvos Mission Team Leader Mitchell Evans. The three ingredients to the gathering are prayer, open sharing and listening, and a short faith message.

Encouragement and prayer often follow vulnerable sharing within the group.

The values of the gathering are those of the Kingdom of God – unconditional love, acceptance and the continual inviting of Jesus to minister and nurture those present.

For Mitchell, Mid-week Chapel is a beautiful space where people can be welcomed "no matter what they've got going on. It's messy, but that's fine with me!"

"I love following God's lead, it's exciting. God is the biggest 'show-off'. The way he pulls things together and creates opportunities in the most unexpected places, thrills me. But I am constantly reminded that I have chosen a life of surrender, which has meant so much sacrifice. There were many things I hoped I could do in life, which haven't happened due to being an officer. But I have also been given so many wonderful opportunities as I have depended on him to write my story."



The mission and ministry of the Salvos are motivated by the life of Jesus as revealed in the Bible.

## REMOTE CHAPLAINS

Majors Michelle and Niall Gibson are Rural and Remote Chaplains for The Salvation Army, sharing the gospel by foot, car and plane throughout the Top End of Australia. Being a listening ear and a helping hand to people in remote areas can make a big difference to these communities, and as Michelle says, "It's bringing Jesus to the people."



Scan here for more stories from the Salvos.

# Finding a spiritual home

Jose's journey from ICE addict to Salvation Army officer

By Jose

I was born and raised in Cebu, Philippines, the eldest in a family of four kids. My dad died when I was 15, and two years later my entire family – my mother and my siblings and I – migrated to Australia.

After completing Year 12, I joined the workforce to help my mum support my younger siblings. I landed my first job with the Reserve Bank of Australia in 1990, then went on to work for AMP Investments and Perpetual Investments until the early 2000s.

In 2003, I had an experience that changed the trajectory of my life.

One Sunday afternoon, a very good friend of mine invited me to his house to watch Sunday football. He pulled out a glass pipe and a clear plastic bag with a crystal substance. It was a substance I came to know and fall in love with – ICE, also known as crystal methamphetamine.

The moment I tried ICE, I felt on top of the world, and I was hooked. Suddenly, I had confidence. More importantly, it numbed the pain of the grief I was feeling about the loss of someone close to me.

The downside is that ICE stops you from sleeping. Sometimes, I didn't sleep for days.

## **ADDICTION TAKES HOLD**

At first, there was a daily choice about whether to take ICE, but the addiction rapidly took hold of my life, and it became a matter of when, not if... Within six months, I was spending \$1000

a week on my habit. I lost my job. I got evicted because I could not pay my rent. My car was repossessed. I had to move back to my mum's house. I racked up credit card debt to fund the addiction. I started to break into my brother's home to steal stuff to pay for the drugs. Eventually, my mum kicked me out, and I became alienated from my family.

“

**They say there are three places  
an ICE addict will end up:  
prison, hospital, death.**

”

I turned to crime to support my habit, from theft to fraud. I shoplifted, I stole mail, I stole credit cards.

They say there are three places an ICE addict will end up: prison, hospital, death. In my 13 years of addiction, I experienced the first two.

After being arrested yet again for possession in 2015, I was released from prison with a one-way ticket to Coffs Harbour to attend a rehabilitation centre. I was also given a black garbage bag of donated clothes that were three sizes too big.

I was walking through Sydney Airport when I experienced my first spiritual awakening. I looked at everyone else



Jose has found purpose, energy and hope in life.

with their luggage, and they were happy. Then I saw my life as it really was, and not the delusion in my head. I was 45 years old, and the sum total of my life was a black garbage bag, the contents of which did not belong to me.

### REHAB

It was the reality check I needed. I smashed my phone to eliminate the temptation of getting in touch with any dealers or former connections and spent 11 months in Adele House, a treatment centre managed by The Salvation Army.

The program allowed me to develop new patterns of living, create smart goals, to budget, cook and learn new skills. There was group and individual therapy that facilitated emotional healing.

One day at a time, I got clean. In that rehab, The Salvation Army became an important part of my life.

Once out in the world again, I accessed wraparound services that created a pathway to new living. Most significant of all was The Salvation Army. The people there lived, loved and fought

alongside me in the early days when I couldn't live, love and fight myself.

Today, I am eight years sober. The Salvos aided my journey in every way, and Coffs Harbour Salvation Army became my spiritual home. I graduated with a degree two years ago, and I am halfway through a Bachelor of Ministry.

My mission field today is with the Australian Anti-Ice Campaign. We provide peer support work and specific anti-ice education workshops in schools and juvenile justice centres throughout Australia. We do this in partnership with the Salvos.

“

**I was 45 years old, and the sum total of my life was a black garbage bag, the contents of which did not belong to me.**

”

I have a job, I visit prisons, I run workshops in high schools and juvenile justice centres, I have a Salvation Army church ministry, and hold roles on various association and not-for-profit boards.

A watershed moment for me was late last year – I got accepted as a cadet-in-appointment with The Salvation Army. In other words, to be a Salvation Army officer (pastor) and work full-time in ministry.



Scan here to read the full version of Jose's story



# Apricot and marshmallow balls



## Ingredients

250g packet plain sweet biscuits, crushed; 2 x 100g packets marshmallows, chopped; 250g dried apricots, finely chopped; ½ cup chopped mixed nuts; 400g can condensed milk; 1 cup coconut

## Method

- Combine crushed biscuits, marshmallows, apricots and nuts.
- In microwave, heat condensed milk for 2 minutes, add to apricot mixture.
- Shape into balls and roll the balls in coconut.
- Keep in refrigerator.
- The balls are suitable for freezing.

*Alternative to marshmallows: use chopped dates.*



## Quick quiz

1. What's special about Manx cats?
2. Cats' tongues are...?
3. How many bones does a cat have?
4. When a cat swishes its tail about, what are they saying?
5. What is a group of cats called?
6. What age did the world's oldest cat live to?
7. How many toes does a cat have?

## Bible byte

"Children are a blessing and a gift from the Lord."

Psalm 127, verse 3  
*Contemporary English Version*

## Tum-Tum

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



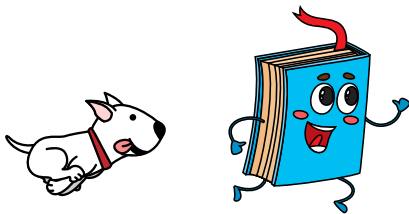
# Wordsearch

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

O K N H F Z W Z S P G L P Y C M  
 M M N X C H I P U R R I E A A I  
 B V A E C A L M C O K T T J T S  
 O X P M A A D S Y R K T C S T J  
 B C U P M D T A D R G E X L E E  
 C F M R A A I S F M I R E I R F  
 A E A T B N L N W D N B A O Y R  
 T R B P A G T S G U G V Y N W I  
 I A M C R I P H C T E M F U K U  
 P L B M A E L S E Y R G U Z S M  
 V A K Z C M D X C R B Q R F K P  
 F E L I N E Y A Y L E R T G D A  
 I N S T I N C T T F A M E B F W  
 E N I J T A B B Y O G W J E I S  
 L Y N X I J A G U A R W S U D Y  
 V P P K F P B W H I S K E R S R

- Bobcat
- Breed
- Cats
- Cattery
- Claws
- Feline
- Feral
- Fur
- Ginger
- Instinct
- Jaguar
- Kneading
- Lion
- Litter
- Lynx
- Mammals
- Panther
- Paws
- Pet
- Predator
- Puma
- Purr
- Tabby
- Tail
- Whiskers
- Wild

## HAVE A LAUGH



Why did the dog run after the book?  
**He was chasing his tale.**

What do you say to comfort the grammar police?  
**There, their, they're.**

Why are you unable to make reservations at the library?  
**Because they're completely booked.**

ON THIS DAY...

**3 August, 1946**  
**World's first theme park opens its door in Santa Claus, Indiana, USA.**  
 Santa Claus Land is now known as Holiday World & Splashin' Safari.

**7 August, 1974**  
**Dare-devil walks a high wire between the Twin Towers of the World Trade Centre.**  
 French high-wire artist Philippe Petit, 24 years old, walked 8 times across a high wire between the two towers in 45 minutes. The high wire was 411 metres from the ground.

**8 August, 1969**  
**Photographer Iain Macmillan takes iconic photograph of The Beatles.**  
 One of the most recognisable images of the 20th century, taken in the middle of Abbey Road in London. The photograph was used as a cover for their 11th album, Abbey Road.

**Quiz answers:** 1. They have really short tails 2. Rough 3. 230 4. They're annoyed 5. A clowder of cats 6. 38 7. 18 **Turn-Turn:** is hiding behind the red box on page 6.



**FATHER'S**

*day*

**GIFTS FIT FOR A KING**



**salvos**

STORES