

# salvos

magazine

## Facing life's challenges and joys

Salvos bring hope around the world



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### FEATURE

The Voice to Parliament

### FAITH TALK

The joy of inclusivity and respect

### MY STORY

Eleven years in Malawi

***“Empathy is not simply a matter of trying to imagine what others are going through, but having the will to muster enough courage to do something about it. In a way, empathy is predicated upon hope.”***

***– Cornel West***





## 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 well-being of people of all ages, particularly children.

# Salvos Magazine

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## Sharing God's love around the world

The Salvation Army works in 133 countries – as a church and as a humanitarian organisation working in a huge number of social projects and development programs. These include schools, hospitals, shelters, farms, sanitation projects, emergency response, and many more.

The stories in this edition of *Salvos Magazine* illustrate some of this work. We feature an article on why the Salvos support the Voice to Parliament. Readers will also find a snapshot of the work of SAID – the Salvation Army International Development department – and stories of people from different nations whose lives have been changed as a result.

A special night at the Adelaide Zoo recently also gave the Salvos an opportunity to connect with people from all walks of life, and give them and their families a unique experience.

Narelle Gurney also writes about her 11 years working with the Salvos in Malawi, and how trusting in God helped her face the tough times there, as well as the joys.

For these stories and more go to [salvosonline.org.au](http://salvosonline.org.au)

Simone Worthing **Editor**



# The Voice to Parliament

Why The Salvation Army supports it

**WORDS** Stuart Glover



The Salvation Army is one of Australia's biggest providers of social services. We are providing hope in more communities than McDonald's is serving burgers.

We are a pragmatic movement, not into empty gestures or performative virtue signalling. So it might come as a surprise, given some of the commentary around it, that The Salvation Army is a steadfast supporter of an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to Parliament.

That is because, simply put, we don't think a Voice will be hollow symbolism. It will be powerfully symbolic, of course, but it will also be deeply practical in a way that can lead to better outcomes and enrich the experience of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians together.

Let me explain why.

For around 140 years, Salvos have rolled up their sleeves and helped where they can. We started social services with a modest program assisting discharged prisoners at the prison gates in Melbourne, and now we provide over 2000 services across Australia. We support people experiencing homelessness, family and domestic violence, financial hardship, unemployment, social isolation and loneliness and help them recover from natural disasters.

## **ACTIVELY LISTENING**

Throughout our history, we have learnt the hard way about delivering services without listening, thinking we knew best. This approach did not work then and does not work now. This has been our most important lesson over the past 140 years – you can't help people if you're not listening to them.

- You can't deliver a great service without actively listening to the people using it.

- You can't draft a great policy if you're not listening to the people who have to follow it.
- You can't make great law if you're not listening to the people who will be impacted by it.

When we engage with people impacted by disadvantage we find areas of strength that provide a platform for change. When we make space for people to feel empowered and equipped, the level of innovation is astounding. When we acknowledge our country's vastness and diversity, we can find local solutions that work in ways that couldn't be imagined from an air-conditioned conference room in a capital city.

“

**It is hard to listen to people if you don't let them have a voice.**

”

The Salvos live, love and fight for justice wherever they can. We have met with many MPs and senators in the Parliament and, without exception and wherever they sit in the chambers, we have heard their desire to make good laws. I believe they want to listen.

I think all governments try to consult, but there are some very practical constraints. This is a huge country, and with over 250 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nations, consulting with people from three or four nations is not going to get the best results. We have 151 seats in the House of Representatives for a reason. We all know that someone speaking for inner-city Sydney can't speak for people in rural Western Australia or remote areas of the Northern Territory (or vice versa).

## DIVERSITY OF VIEWS

A constitutionally enshrined Voice to Parliament creates an opportunity to make real progress on addressing the terrible disadvantage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians experience.

It will allow our lawmakers to hear directly from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. They will get access to the diversity of views of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders about matters that affect them differently depending on their circumstances. They will get information not filtered by multiple levels of government, not varnished and polished by service providers, and not sanitised into talking points by public servants.

I believe that once we have the Voice in the Constitution, Parliament can work together to ensure it delivers on its promise. That is how it has worked for every other public institution in Australia's history, and no other reform has been perfect from day one. But I understand why many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people don't have that kind of faith. Our history is littered with 'consultation' with mob that has been ignored.

Diversity will make a Voice to Parliament so much more powerful if, and when, it becomes part of the Constitution. This is what The Salvation Army is praying will happen, because of the other thing we have learnt over 140 years of helping Australians – it is impossible to listen to people if you don't let them have a voice.

*Captain Stuart Glover oversees The Salvation Army's social services in Australia and is proudly from the Bundjalung Nation.*



## Building Healthy Communities: Salvation Army International Development (SAID)

The Salvation Army, as a Christian movement, is dedicated to sharing the love of Jesus. Building healthy communities, both in Australia and overseas, is just one of the ways the Salvos do this. Other ways include caring for people, creating faith pathways and working for justice.



**57,360+ people reached**

through SAID's community development projects in FY21-22



**52% of people reached**

live in South Pacific and East Asia (SPEA) Zone (Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines and Myanmar)

SAID works globally in specific countries, empowering vulnerable communities to prosper in their economic, social and spiritual lives.

SAID works in partnership with other Salvation Army territories and commands in two key areas – community development, and supporting The Salvation Army's work globally through mission support.



To learn more about SAID go to [www.salvationarmy.org.au/international-development/about](http://www.salvationarmy.org.au/international-development/about)



The following are some life-changing stories from SAID community projects:



#### PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Nada is one of the newer students at Lae Street School and this is his first time engaging with education. Like many others in his situation, Nada found himself spending time with his friends on the streets of Lae during the day.

With a goal of one day joining the military, Nada made the decision to begin attending school. Enjoying his studies, with English a particular favourite, Nada is learning a lot and has great potential. With classmates who are a good influence, and recent participation in youth activities at the local Salvos church, the trajectory of Nada's life has changed significantly since he began attending Lae Street School.



#### KENYA

Protus has participated in The Salvation Army's ACE (Agricultural and Community Empowerment) project for a year now, learning to save, and has received a loan from the group to start a small business to support his wife and three-year-old child.

In addition to learning business skills, Protus has learned conservation agriculture farming and now grows maize and vegetables, owns a cow and other animals, and is "happy now to grow my own vegetables and not have to buy, and we sell what we don't use". This was made possible through a loan from the Salvos' VSLA (Village Savings Loan Association) to increase maize farming.

Protus's motorbike helps him participate in the project, especially by being able to attend meetings and training sessions. "The ACE group has improved my future and invites others to join," he says.

#### UGANDA

Lilian became sick when she was two years old. She was unable to walk on her own, with her grandmother carrying her on her back, or being left to sit in one place for long hours. When she was aged four Lilian got special shoes that helped her to walk.

In 2013, Lilian lived at The Salvation Army Home of Joy where her needs could be best met. Here she was introduced to other children, some living with more severe disabilities. Through support and encouragement from her social worker, Lilian is working towards attaining a primary leaving certificate and is undertaking training in hairdressing.

Through contact tracing and home visits, Lilian's social worker visited her grandmother, assessing the reintegration process and support for Lilian. Since being reunited with her grandmother, Lilian helps with domestic work and has commenced training with a local community hairdressing artisan.



Lilian and her family are grateful for the continued love and empowerment for children with disabilities. She says, "I can freely associate with my peers now that am back in the community. After I was reintegrated with my grandmother, I'm helping her with domestic work and we are living a happy life."

# Salvos launch Red Shield Appeal 2023

Across the country, thousands of families are struggling to afford petrol, rent and power. Even putting food on the table is an uphill battle.

People are being forced to extreme measures to try and cope with financial stress. Skipping meals. Missing mortgage payments. Cancelling medical treatments...

Some burdens are too big to carry alone.

The 2023 Red Shield Appeal campaign focuses on bringing to life the struggles of everyday Australians – stories of people who stop short of seeking help due to fear or shame, or those facing unbearable challenges just to feed their families and keep them safe.

This year, we are asking all Australians who are able, to help the Salvos ensure that nobody struggles alone.



For more information on volunteering, fundraising or donating to the appeal, go to [salvos.org.au](https://salvos.org.au)

## KEY STATS

- Salvos frontline staff provide support to someone every 17 seconds – which means in the last year staff answered more than 1.8 million calls for help from those seeking support.
- More than 3.3 million people, including over 700,000 children, are currently living in poverty, and Australia is facing record housing insecurity.
- With the cost of groceries, energy bills and fuel increasing dramatically over the past year, more than 40 per cent of Aussie households have struggled to afford everyday basics in the last three months.
- The rising cost of living is the biggest cause of stress for one in two Australians right now.
- Forty per cent of renters say they will struggle to pay rent over the next three months, and almost 25 per cent of mortgage holders are at risk of mortgage stress, with 15 per cent at extreme risk – the highest levels since July 2013.



# Record crowds at Salvos Adelaide Twilight Zoo Festival

A festival atmosphere again proved a winner for the Adelaide Salvos, with a record 3000 people attending the annual Twilight Zoo Festival last month.

"This event enabled The Salvation Army in South Australia to connect with people from all walks of life," said Liv Hateley, Salvos Events Coordinator.

Adults paid \$10 per ticket and children under 18 were free.

Meg Webb, who leads the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) missional development of the Intercultural and Disability Inclusion Team, organised cultural groups including the Ukrainian and Bhutanese-Kirat communities, as well as a faith community whose members are from Burundi, Congo and Ethiopia, to perform with dancing and singing.

Photos courtesy Duan Kereru.



Cultural diversity was a highlight of the festival.

Pride in their respective cultures and wishing to showcase them to the community was an important motivation behind performing at the zoo festival.

"We loved being here, seeing the wonder on the children's faces, and how happy they were," said Bernadette Belej, volunteer secretary for the Hopak

Ukrainian Dance School. "People just love the costumes. We were proud to showcase our Ukrainian culture and support the Salvos who have supported us at this difficult time and provided fun to families."



Children from the Hopak Ukrainian Dance School.

Meg explained, "We wanted to honour the different cultures, not just focus on diversity. Dance and music are such a part of each of them. They were able to celebrate their culture, and they received a really positive reaction from everyone."

About 84 per cent of attendees had no prior connection with the Salvos. Many of them commented that it was the first time in many years they could afford to go to the zoo and they thanked the Salvos for paying particular attention to the children.

"Thank you so much. It was a great experience," said Leah, one of the parents. "These kinds of things are so financially out of reach for so many families now."

"It was really lovely seeing all these families so happy spending the evening with each other. I'm very grateful to The Salvation Army for providing an opportunity like this for so many," said May, another attendee. – **Cliff Worthing**





# Everyone belongs

The joy of inclusivity and respect

“Work toward unity, and live in harmony with one another. Avoid thinking you are better than others or wiser than the rest; instead, embrace common people and ordinary tasks.”

– ***Romans chapter 12, verse 16***

***The Voice Bible translation***





# A huge learning curve

The challenges and joys of working in Malawi

**WORDS** Narelle Gurney

I grew up in Sans Souci (NSW) and had a stable childhood with lots of freedom. My mother was a churchgoer and the church organist. My father didn't go to church – he worked six days a week and Sunday was his day off. We went to Sunday school but weren't a religious household.

At Rockdale Corps I joined The Salvation Army's Sunbeams and Guards, the equivalent of Girl Guides and Brownies. I also attended the Salvos' youth group in my teenage years, and Sunday church.



Narelle with her dog Miko (the name is an abbreviation of the Malawian word for praise and gratitude).

After Year 12 I got work at The Salvation Army's Mancare, attended by men with alcohol, homelessness or other

problems. I then worked in a divisional office of The Salvation Army.

A few years later I completed a Bachelor of Social Welfare at Macarthur Institute of Higher Education, now Western Sydney University. During this time, I worked one day a week at Samaritan House, accommodation for women who were homeless or needed to leave home for safety reasons.

“

**I'm going to be living here.  
Can I cope?**

”

After I finished my degree I became a Salvos family support worker, as I've always liked working and rubbing shoulders with those in the real world.

I then worked at Stretch-A-Family, a foster care agency for teenagers, including residential care and preparation for independent living. I worked with kids who'd been abused, abandoned, kids who were violent, and those suffering mental illness, grief and loss.

## **OVERSEAS SERVICE**

I'd been thinking for a few years about working in a developing country, mainly because I was available and didn't have any ties. In my late 40s I applied to

The Salvation Army to work overseas. I applied in November and received a letter asking me to go to Malawi, arriving there in August 2010.

I describe the experience as wonderful, although there were many things that weren't wonderful – the poverty and things that went on in the government and in society. When I was being driven from the airport I saw people selling food by the side of the road, and thought, "I'm going to be living here. Can I cope?"

“

**I describe the experience as wonderful, although there were many things that weren't wonderful ...**

”

I headed up a department for community development and it was a huge learning curve – not just the work, but living in another culture and doing things their way. However, there were so many enriching times in Malawi. I became friends with a Malawian Salvation Army officer (pastor) and also befriended her extended family and a network of people.

There was a lot of satisfaction in the work I did. One was a program for households looked after by the eldest child in the family because both parents had died. There might be four, five or six kids, with the eldest who could be 13 or 14 heading that household.

Joseph was 18 when I met him, and the program had trained him in a particular



Narelle is now back in Australia after 11 years in Malawi.

type of farming, given him seeds, a bicycle and some tools. He used the bicycle like a taxi, giving people lifts to earn some income, and his four young siblings were able to go to school. Seeing that family get on their feet, still entrenched in poverty, but being able to step up because of what Joseph was able to achieve, was wonderful.

I stayed in Malawi for 11 years and returned in March 2021. Sometimes I have to think about how much I'm trusting God and thanking him for what he's brought into my life.

Taking God's word to heart and applying it to my life no matter the circumstances has been challenging but it's very much helped my faith and belief to grow.

*\* As told to Major Bryce Davies.*

*To listen to Narelle's podcast and more, go to [brycedavies.libsyn.com](http://brycedavies.libsyn.com)*



Scan here for more stories of hope.

## Lentil soup



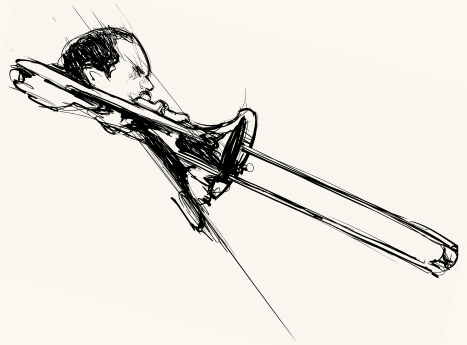
### Ingredients

1 large brown onion, 2 garlic cloves, dash olive oil, 1 can lentils (400g), 2 tsp garam masala, 1 sprig oregano, 1 litre chicken stock, extra vegetables (optional), salt and pepper to taste

### Method

- Peel and dice onion and garlic cloves.
- Heat a dash of olive oil in a pot, then sauté the onion and garlic.
- Drain and rinse lentils and add to the pot with garam masala and oregano.
- Cook lentils for two minutes, then add the chicken stock. Add extra vegetables if desired, and simmer for 30 minutes.
- Blend with a stick blender and season to taste.

## HAVE A LAUGH



Jazz is in my blood  
You could say I've got deep  
vein trombones.

Smooth jazz always puts me to sleep  
... must be the mellow tonin'.

Why do farmers play smooth  
jazz for their corn?  
It's easy on the ears.

## SIGNING IN





# Sudoku

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

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



## Quick quiz

1. Which US city is most associated with jazz music?
2. What instrument did jazz legend Louis Armstrong play?
3. Who is often referred to as the Queen of Jazz?
4. What Broadway musical features the song 'All That Jazz'?
5. 'Bird' and 'Yardbird' were nicknames for what legendary US jazz saxophonist?

## Tum-Tum



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

## Bible byte

"Speak up for people who cannot speak for themselves. Help people who are in trouble."  
 Proverbs chapter 31, verse 8  
*Easy-to-Read Version*

**Quiz answers:** 1. New Orleans 2. Trumpet 3. Ella Fitzgerald 4. Chicago 5. Charlie Parker  
**Tum-Tum:** is hiding on the bag on page 8.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**International Jazz Day is held on 30 April each year.**

**The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) officially designated the day to highlight jazz and its role of uniting people across the world.**

**The idea came from jazz pianist and UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador Herbie Hancock.**

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



# Have you taken care of your Will?

**A gift in your Will can help The Salvation Army create a long-lasting impact in the lives of those experiencing hardship.**

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Find out how you can start or continue your legacy of generosity. Contact The Salvation Army's Wills and Bequests team and ask for a free Wills booklet.

Together, we can give hope where it's needed most long into the future.



**CONTACT US TODAY**

1800 337 082 or visit  
[salvationarmy.org.au/wills](https://salvationarmy.org.au/wills)

