

salvos

magazine

The changing seasons of friendships

Are we up for the challenge?



Vol. 004 | No. 25
15 July 2023
AUD \$1.00
PRINT POST APPROVED
PP100001474

salvosonline.org.au

FEATURE

Teeing up
a round of
mateship

FAITH TALK

Including
those on
the fringes

MY STORY

Friends in
unexpected
places



**“Blessed are they
who see beautiful
things in humble
places where other
people see nothing.”**

– Camille Pissaro



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

General Brian Peddle

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

Opposite: Romanesco broccoli exhibits the golden ratio, a geometric proportion pleasing to the eye.

Enquiry email publications@salvationarmy.org.au

All other Salvation Army enquiries 13 72 58

Press date 30 June 2023

Printed and published for The Salvation Army by Commissioner Miriam Gluyas at Focus Print Group, South Granville, NSW

 salvosonline.org.au



Feature [4]
Teeing up a round of mateship

Faith Talk [10]
Being left out

My Story [12]
Finding friends in unexpected places

The friendship factor

In this edition of *Salvos Magazine*, we share some perspectives on friendship – formed in places as diverse as a university, golf course, refugee centre and a funeral.

Most, if not all of us, love spending time with our friends. The number of friends, frequency and length of time together, depth of the relationship and other factors may vary, but essentially we all share the need for human connection.

Kirralee Nicolle writes about the seasons of friendship and how life's circumstances can change some relationships, deepen or lessen others, and sometimes bring others to a close. She also discusses the challenges each of us face in being a good friend and ensuring we are giving our time, kind words and assistance where we can.

Dean Simpson takes readers on a golfing trip, introducing his friends to us and each of their personalities. He says it's not so much the quality of the golf that counts, but sharing in his friends' lives and mutually encouraging each other on the journey.

For these stories and more, go to salvosonline.org.au

Simone Worthing **Editor**

Teeing up a round of mateship

Sharing a slice of life on the golf course

WORDS Dean Simpson

I played soccer until I was 48, but then I ran out of puff. So I took up golf. It appealed to me in that it was a sport that involved walking or, even better, riding in a cart.

Every year, over the October Labour Day long weekend in NSW, seven mates and I gain permission from our wives to go away and play golf for three days. It is one of the highlights of my year.

Our golfing abilities range from very good to very bad, but the common denominator is that we love banter. And boy, is there some banter!



Introducing my mates

Firstly, there's Martin, our best player, but more importantly, our organiser. Organisation is his strength ... no, his gifting. The other seven of us don't really need to think about anything over the long weekend. Martin organises the travel, accommodation, food and tee times. We just turn up.

Then there's George the Golden Greek. He's the loudest of the group and plays golf like he's Alexander the Great, fiercely attacking the course like he's conquering the Persians.

'Radar' Russ is the elder statesman. He has spent about 60 of his 70 years on a golf course and never misses a fairway off the tee. He doesn't hit the ball far, but it's always straight, and he usually finishes the 18 holes with the same ball he started with. Unbelievable.

Johnny and his business partner Phil are 'partners in crime' on the golf course. Inseparable, they'll do anything to gain an edge on the rest of us, including using a 'foot iron' to get out of the scrub or breaking wind as someone else tees off. We've discovered, however, that Johnny has a weakness – he hates snakes. So, a rubber snake always accompanies us on our golf weekends and is put to good use.

Then there's Tom and Dave, who love golf but also spend most of their time among the trees or in the scrub. Because of this, they've developed a love for



finding golf balls. Finishing 18 holes with more balls than they started with is the measure of a great day for them.

And, finally, there's me. I'm in the middle regarding ability, but I often get the banter going. I'm a confessed prankster, and a golf course gives me ample opportunity to practise my craft. To give you an idea, my golf bag has more rubber snakes, exploding golf balls, fart toys and other 'accessories' than actual golf equipment.

Thriving on mateship

But what I love about these golf weekends – and all the times we play golf throughout the year – is that we simply thrive on the bond of mateship. We've been playing golf together for more than a decade, and during that time we've gotten to know each other pretty well.

You see, it's more than the golf. It's about friendship. It's about sharing our journeys in life and encouraging each other. We're all family men, so our children's lives often come into conversations. But we're also vulnerable men, and our conversations can go deep, to the point where 18 holes of golf can be better therapy than actually seeing a therapist!

In the Bible, in 1 Thessalonians 5:11, the Apostle Paul wrote, "Therefore, encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."

“

It's about friendship. It's about sharing our journeys in life and encouraging each other.

”

And that's what I'll be doing in a couple of months. We're all looking forward to our next golf weekend in the Hunter Valley of NSW. And at the end of the day, it doesn't matter how well we'll play or how many balls we'll lose (or find!), it will be about mateship and sharing life with each other while simply whacking a little white ball around a paddock.



Scan here for more stories of hope.

The changing seasons of friendships

Are we up for the challenge?

Words Kirralee Nicolle

Writer and poet Khalil Gibran once said that friendship is always a sweet responsibility, never an opportunity. Imagine if they taught us that in high school!

True, long-term friendship is somewhat miraculous. In a world of self-centredness, narcissism and greed, how does it happen?

One of my oldest, dearest friends and I were recently reminiscing about how many years ago we spent much more time together. We were both at university, attended the same church, hadn't yet married or had children, and worked casually or part-time. Between shared Bible studies, coffee catch ups, dinners, hikes, team sports and Sunday services, we saw each other three to five times a week.

Then we each married a few years apart, had babies and work commitments, meals to cook and appointments to attend. We now see each other at best once a week, often at playgrounds and child-friendly cafes where we are feeding and chasing small children.

Since we both value quality time, the wave of shared memories brings smiles to our faces, and a tinge of sadness for the changing seasons of life.

CHANGING SEASONS

It's similar to the feeling I had when I gave birth to my first child. For the first few weeks, I felt sad that never again

would it just be me and my husband. We were now a family. We were sharing ourselves and our time with another very small, very dependent person.

When life gets richer, either through family, career or other commitments, there is a cost. Time becomes a little more precious. We might get to spend less time with our close friends, and feel a need to make that time count a little more.



True friendship starts with me.



I've come to learn that good friends ride these changes with us and grow to welcome the new stage of life.

In the Bible, Proverbs chapter 17, verse 17 talks about a friend who loves at all times, and a brother who is born for a time of adversity. A time of adversity might be a dark season of illness, infertility, financial struggle, physical threat or even just a time of adjusting to new things.

My friend and I have found new ways to connect, and we still miss the old days, but our friendship has become a little more practical while no less sweet. We laugh at our poor flexibility in quick

after-work Pilates classes, fill each other's freezers with food when the other is particularly time-poor, swap tips on sleep and nappies, and cherish the brief moments when the coffee is still hot and the children are sleeping.

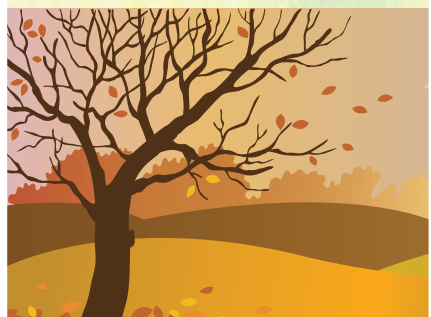
There's an unspoken recognition that it won't always be this way – one day we might linger over a long meal or even travel together again, but this is our reality for now.

FRIENDSHIPS DO END

The hardest reality, though, is that not every friendship adapts. One of the saddest, perhaps most unspoken, realities of life is the death of long-term friendships. Some you might see coming like a looming train; others can take you by surprise and knock the wind out of you. I've experienced both.

Sometimes it's for the better, as much as you might detest it in the moment. A friendship that cannot adapt for whatever reason can leave you stuck with one foot in the past, one in the present. At other times, we've made mistakes and need old friends to remind us of what we value.

What I've learnt most of all is that I cannot control others and how they act, but I can control myself. With God's help, I can offer kindness, time and assistance in whatever capacity I am able, even if it is just a brief message to check in or making a little extra food for someone else. True friendship starts with me.



Scan here for more stories of hope.

International students find a place to belong in Geelong

With the stresses of COVID-19, the isolation of living apart from family and friends and the strain of handling escalating expenses on a student budget, international students face unique challenges.

When Helen Nicholls-Stary, a former student support worker at Deakin University, Geelong (Vic.) found herself increasingly encountering international students with mental health struggles, she knew something had to change.

Helen had observed the success of The Couch program, run as an initiative of the City of Melbourne and The Salvation Army's Project 614, and she wondered if something similar might work in Geelong.

"I thought I needed to be more proactive at putting in strategies where students are connecting – a safe place where they can come and talk about concerns with people they trust who can link them in with relevant services," she says.

She partnered with The Salvation Army, Study Geelong, The City of Greater Geelong, The Gordon, Deakin University

and Deakin College to launch The Lounge program, based on the same model as The Couch. Geelong Food Relief and the Geelong Sikh community also agreed to provide meals.



Students from across the world gather at Geelong Salvos to foster better connections and relationships.

The first gathering was held in May, and the team is now seeing 25 to 30 international students at the twice-weekly gatherings held at Geelong Salvos.

"The format of the evening is that we have activities or a presentation, and we also serve a hot meal," Helen says.

Deakin University's health and wellbeing ambassadors also attend gatherings at The Lounge and are trained to notice mental health concerns and link the students with services to assist them.

The Lounge currently relies on a Study Melbourne Inclusion Program grant, which is only allocated for 12 months, and Helen is currently seeking sponsors to help fund the program.

– Kirralee Nicolle



Building friendships over a shared hot meal is an important part of The Lounge program.

Adelaide City Salvos a place of welcome for refugees



AMES staff and participants gathered in Adelaide City Salvos basement for an event that raised funds for the Cancer Council.

Adelaide City Salvos has partnered with AMES (Adult Multicultural Education Services) Australia to host orientation courses for those being resettled in Australia, in a unique collaboration that makes City Salvos a place of welcome for those in need of a new home.

“AMES contacted us in March,” explains Major Mal Davies, corps officer (pastor) of Adelaide City Salvos. “The program they run is an orientation course for new arrivals, and teaches the basics of how to live in Australia.”

The AMES orientation course runs two days a week using the City Salvos facilities, and the classes involve 15-20 new arrivals each Thursday and Friday.

AMES provides on-arrival settlement support, English language and literacy training, vocational education and training, and employment services. The vision of AMES is “full participation for all in a cohesive and diverse society”.

“It makes a strong statement of welcome from the local Adelaide community when the new arrivals visit The Salvation Army premises for their orientation,” says Michael Schultz, AMES senior manager for South Australia. “A friendly smile or shared food can easily overcome language barriers to create a sense of dignity and welcome.”

Adelaide City Salvos recently allowed AMES staff to utilise their facilities for an Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea Cancer research fundraising event.

In September, City Salvos will host a Ukrainian food and culture festival for hundreds of attendees and promote AMES services at the event.

“This collaboration builds into our values, our vision, our mission,” Mal says. “It builds on Scripture, the words of Jesus, ‘You were a stranger, and you welcomed me.’ That’s what we’re attempting to live out.” – **Anthony Castle**

Being left out

Let's identify those on the fringes and take steps to include them

WORDS Belinda Davis

Have you ever felt left out of something? What about the dreaded practice of team selection where you are one of the prospective participants, praying you will not be the last one standing? Or that party everyone else seems to know about but you? Or that television show people are talking about, and you have yet to see?

Sometimes being left out is accidental, and sometimes it is a deliberate snub. How often does that scenario play out in the schoolyard (or workplace or community) as friendship groups change and people jostle to find their place?

A few years ago, I was on a Ned Kelly historical expedition with my family.



While this might sound boring, it was an interesting glimpse into one of the colourful legends of Australian folklore.

OUTLAW STORIES

We ventured out to several Victorian country locations to look at a variety of landmarks connected to the Ned Kelly story. The kids enjoyed hearing the stories around Ned and his cohorts, and many discussions were had around whether they were heroes, villains or victims.

“

Do I make an effort to identify those on the fringes and take steps to include them?

”

Have you ever heard of Joseph Byrne? He was a member of the Kelly Gang, was shot and killed at the Glenrowan siege in 1880 and is buried at the Benalla cemetery in Victoria.

The town officials of the day decided that, being an outlaw and therefore a despicable human being, he needed to be isolated from the rest of respectable society – even in death. His gravesite is in the very back corner of the old section of the cemetery, under a lone pine tree, some distance from other graves of that vintage. Secluded, isolated, alone.



A couple of thoughts struck me as I stood before his grave in this country town. First of all, it felt really cruel. It appeared to be a deliberate and obvious snub and effort to exclude, and its effect on me was to feel a level of sympathy for Joe, despite what he might have done in his life.

Secondly, even though he was isolated, there were obvious well-worn paths to this spot, more so than any of the other graves of a similar vintage. It was almost as if, by removing Joe Byrne's grave from the others, it made it easier for people to discover his final resting place. To be honest, it was the only grave I was interested in finding there, despite other key people from this time also being buried in this cemetery.

ACTIVE INCLUSION

It caused me to reflect on the way I treat people. Do I make an effort to identify those who are on the fringes and take steps to include them? Do I ensure that I am not deliberately excluding others, but recognising them as worthy of attention? Why would I do that?

Firstly, I know how it feels to be left out. I would hate to be the cause of that for others. More importantly, however, I also know that Jesus teaches us to demonstrate love to others.

That means more than thinking loving thoughts, but actually showing love through my actions. The Bible tells me in 1 John chapter 3 and verse 18, "Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth."

So thanks to a grave for an outlaw in a country cemetery, I am challenged to think of ways to better engage with those I encounter every day. I hope you will be also.

*Major Belinda Davis is a Salvation Army officer (pastor). She blogs at **A-blessed-life.com***



Scan here to read more life-changing stories of hope.

Finding friends in unexpected places

Dianne finds a wider family through Salvos Funerals

WORDS Kirralee Nicolle

Around one year ago, Dianne Salmond had no idea she would lose her adult daughter in a sudden, horrifying way.

As Christians, Dianne and her daughter Jacqueline, a former chaplain, shared a history of 'God-bothering', as Dianne calls it.



Dianne feels right at home with the Salvos.

"Both of us always believed in heaven and God, and we didn't blame God for our dramas," she says. "He didn't cause them. You know, life happens to people."

However, when a series of medical problems culminated in Jacqueline's unexpected passing in August 2022 at the age of 50, Dianne feared she would spiral into depression. It was her relationship with the staff at Salvos Funerals that helped her through.

"When the shock wears off, you've got the reality that your daughter has passed, and you're really never going to talk to her or see her again," Dianne says. "I was afraid."

COMPASSION AND CARE

When Dianne met with staff from Salvos Funerals to arrange her daughter's service, she was stunned by their kindness. As it was the first funeral she had ever arranged, she felt lost as to where to begin.

“

**The difference it has made
in my life is unbelievable.**

”

"They listened to us," she says. "They talked through everything. They asked us what we wanted to do, and I just couldn't believe their compassion."

She says at the funeral, attendees came up to tell her that they had never been to a commemorative service quite like Jacqueline's.

"It was a small funeral, but it was spiritual and beautiful," Dianne says. "It was just like we were sharing Jacqueline's death with Salvos Funerals staff."



Dianne Salmond (far right) with her late daughter Jacqueline (centre) and daughter-in-law Musambo.

Dianne stayed in touch with staff from Salvos Funerals and eventually told them that she would like to become a member of The Salvation Army. This past Easter, she was enrolled as a soldier (member) at Project 614 Salvos in Melbourne.

“

I feel like I belong. I really do.

”

PART OF THE FAMILY

She has begun volunteering with the Magpie Nest Cafe, which is run as a partnership between the Magpie Nest Women's Program and Project 614 in Bourke Street. She also attends Sunday services at Project 614. She says she and her children, who have also begun volunteering with the Salvos, felt they were now part of a wider family.

“My life's changed belonging to The Salvation Army,” she says. “The difference it has made in my life is unbelievable.”

Dianne adds that becoming a Salvos member felt like finding her niche. “I feel like I belong, I really do.”

Salvos Funerals operates in Victoria within Melbourne and the Mornington Peninsula; in NSW from the Central Coast to Newcastle, Sydney and the Illawarra, and Queanbeyan; and in the ACT. Among other services, they offer pre-paid funeral arrangements, cremations and repatriations.

To find out more about Salvos Funerals, visit salvosfunerals.com.au.



Scan here for more information on Salvation Army services.

Bubble and squeak



Ingredients

20g butter, 3 rashers bacon or leftover meat (diced), 3 cups mashed potato, 2 cups leftover vegetables, 4 eggs

Method

- Use 10g butter to fry bacon pieces or leftover meat.
- Mix potato, meat and vegetables in a bowl. Mash until well combined.
- Fry mix in remaining butter, so it fills the pan like a pancake. Turn heat to low so it cooks through.
- Cook eggs to your liking and serve bubble and squeak with an egg on top or to the side.
- Enjoy this 'legend of leftovers'.



Quick quiz

1. What does playing chess improve?
2. What is the shortest number of moves possible to take to checkmate an opponent?
3. How many squares make up a chess board?
4. What 2020 TV mini-series, based on a novel by Walter Tevis, is named after one of the oldest known openings in chess?
5. In what country is chess a required school subject?
6. What was the name of the first computer that, in 1988, beat an international chess grandmaster?

Bible byte

"Rejoice in hope,
be patient in tribulation,
be constant in prayer."

Romans chapter 12, verse 12
English Standard Version

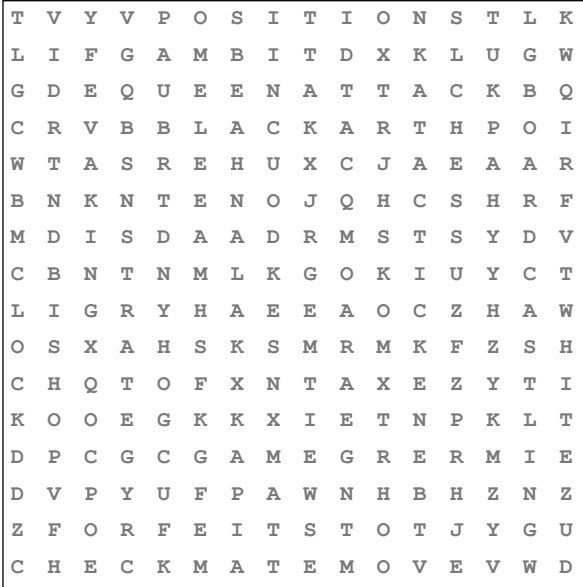
Tum-Tum

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



Wordsearch

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



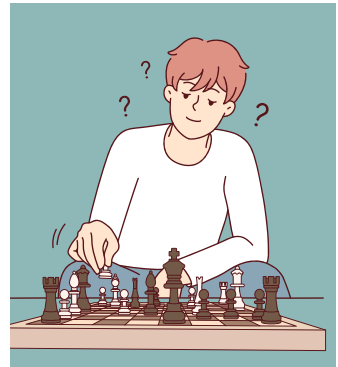
- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| Attack | Grandmaster |
| Black | King |
| Bishop | Knight |
| Board | Move |
| Castling | Queen |
| Chess | Pawn |
| Checkmate | Positions |
| Clock | Rook |
| Endgame | Stalemate |
| Forfeit | Strategy |
| Gambit | Tactic |
| Game | White |

HAVE A LAUGH

Why did it take so long to eat dinner with the chess grandmaster?
The table had a checked tablecloth, and it took him hours to pass the salt.

What did one pirate say to the other when he beat him in chess?
Check matey.

What did the judge do to the guilty chess player?
He threw the rook at him.



DID YOU KNOW?

International Chess Day is held on 20 July to mark the date when the International Chess Federation was established in 1924.

It is estimated that 600 million of the world's seven billion people know how to play chess.

Chess is thought to have been invented around 550 AD in its early form (called chaturanga) in north-western India.

Quiz answers: 1. Memory function 2. Two 3. 64 4. The Queen's Gambit 5. Armenia 6. Deep Thought.
Turn-Turn: is hiding in a pocket on page 8.



Joseph's Coat of Many Colours

Read more in Genesis 37:3

**Kidzone Bible Colouring Book +
Puzzles** is available instore
from Salvation Army Supplies
for only \$15, or order online at:
salvationarmysupplies.com.au

For wholesale opportunities and
bulk orders contact the team at
salvo.publishing@salvationarmy.org.au