

# salvos

magazine



## Rediscovering hope

Supporting the vulnerable through  
tough times and beyond



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### FEATURE

Caring for  
the local  
community

### FAITH TALK

Setting  
people free

### MY STORY

Tools for  
the trade

I AM ONLY ONE,  
BUT I AM ONE.

I CANNOT DO EVERYTHING,  
BUT I CAN DO SOMETHING.

AND I WILL NOT LET WHAT  
I CANNOT DO INTERFERE  
WITH WHAT I CAN DO.

— EDWARD EVERETT HALE





## 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

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## Everyday caring

In these days of skyrocketing living costs, housing shortages, devastating family violence, global conflicts and more, it can be easy to feel overwhelmed and helpless.

We can't solve any of these issues on our own, but there are steps we can take every day to help those going through tough times – even if we're one of them!

In this edition of *Salvos Magazine*, we highlight some of the ways the Salvos are doing this – not just through their developed and nationwide programs – but through daily interactions with local community members. This includes making lunches for school students, offering haircuts to the vulnerable, chatting over coffee with the lonely, delivering groceries to the housebound and providing emotional and spiritual support to all.

It's about giving hope and dignity, and ensuring that people feel valued, cared about and supported. It's bringing relief, reducing burdens and helping to change people's lives, and our own, one step at a time.

And, as always, love for God and love for others is at the centre of everything the Salvos do.

To learn more, go to [salvosonline.org.au](http://salvosonline.org.au)

Simone Worthing **Editor**

# Rediscovering hope

Supporting the vulnerable through tough times and beyond

By Lerrisse Smith

Ask Major Jenny Begent about the driving force behind her passion for Social Services and 30-year commitment to The Salvation Army, and her response is instant. "I love participating in people's change," she explains.

As The Salvation Army's former Assistant Secretary for Mission, Jenny is passionate about what she does, why she does it and how she does it. Through her work with the Social Services team, with its thousands of employees and volunteers, and services across all community spheres, Jenny reflects on the Salvos legacy of 140 years in this space and the impact it's had on people's lives.

"I'm incredibly proud that a ragtag group of scruffy Salvation Army officers (pastors) in the late 1800s had a vision that people could be supported to live really good lives in the world," she says. "Even people like prisoners, who were often considered the worst and lowest in society, could be more than they were. Everybody had the chance to change, and we were able to be part of that."

Jenny, who now oversees international development for The Salvation Army Australia, said that another key aspect of the Social Services' amazing work was being in society wherever and whenever needed. "We've been in every major disaster and every major war and on the frontlines of all those kinds of major events in Australian history," she continues.

"I think we, The Salvation Army, are in a privileged position and firmly locked into the psyche of the Australian community. The Salvation Army is part of our national identity. During our history, we have had the support of more than five million volunteers who have given their time so generously to help those in need through our programs."

“

**Every human being is worthy of love and belonging.**

”

## SALVOS AT A GLANCE

A snapshot of the last financial year reveals that Social Services provided more than 1.86 million sessions of care across all social programs, one million nights of accommodation for those in need, 1.5 million meals for those experiencing homelessness and 86,420 sessions of care for young people. Additionally, more than 11,300 people received assistance with addiction through alcohol and other drugs and gambling rehabilitation services, and almost 12,700 received free financial counselling.

"Every human being is worthy of love and belonging," Jenny shares. "I love seeing people walk through the door of



Jenny Begent, right, takes a rare break to chat with a colleague.

a service looking pretty sad and desperate, and seeing the change. To see them actually get what they thought they might not get, to discover hope again, and actually get a sense that they can do better than they are because someone's prepared to walk alongside them.

“

**You have to find a way to live the gospel, rather than talk it.**

”

“People tell me every day about how The Salvation Army impacts their lives, to give people a sense of hope and a sense that they can do it themselves. People are not useless, they are not hopeless, and being homeless or being poor does not mean you don't have reserves you can draw on. The resilience of people is amazing.”

### FAITH MOTIVATION

Jenny's strong Christian faith undergirds her passion for Social Services and helping countless people experiencing great pain. She emphasises the need to live the gospel [as well as] talk about it. “That's where you make decisions around how you respond to people, even people who might be angry at you. Jesus says in the book of Matthew, if you open the door to a homeless person, if you give a cup of cold water in my name, then I am present.

“So, for me, it's about how I am in the world and how I strive to be God in the world – to be a representation of who Christ was in the world. And so, I try, not always successfully, to bring Christ into every interaction I have with people ... always with kindness, always trying to give people hope for the future.”



Scan here for information on, and to contact, Salvation Army Services.

## Free haircut ministry transforming lives in style

Something quite special is going on at Melbourne's Sunshine Salvos that is making people's hearts sing – and it involves lots of hairspray, hairdryers, hairbrushes and hair mists. When Salvos officer (pastor) Captain Phuong Reynolds decided to put her hairdressing talents to great use and offer free haircuts to her beloved community, little did she know the simple gesture would profoundly uplift people's lives.

It was a day that Phuong will never forget.

While she busily organised her treasured hair trolley full of sprays, combs, scissors and neck dusters for yet another salon session, a mum walked into the church with her son. She asked for a much-needed haircut.

"I still remember the mum saying to me it had been seven years since she had a haircut!" Phuong recalled.

"You can't believe it at first, and then you can, because between providing food for her children, paying rent and then everything else, going to a hair salon and getting regular haircuts for herself and her children is something very, very expensive and often out of reach."

Not being able to afford a haircut is a common theme both Phuong and her husband, Captain Colin Reynolds, hear from their community each time they run the free haircut ministry alongside the church's community meal on the last Friday of each month.

But giving dignity to all those who walk through their church doors on



Captain Phuong Reynolds cuts the hair of a local in the Sunshine Salvos salon.

Devonshire Road is top priority for Phuong, Colin and their dedicated teams of volunteers.

"We see the holistic person for who they are," Colin said.

"It is super important for us here at Sunshine Salvos to make sure that we're doing everything to treat the whole person with dignity, to honour them, and to ensure that not only are we giving food and material aid but also helping them feel lovely about themselves too. We want them to be healthy on the inside and feel beautiful on the outside." – **Lerisse Smith**

For the full version of this story, go to [salvosonline.org.au](http://salvosonline.org.au)

# Caring for the local community

The funds raised by Salvation Army corps (churches) during the annual Red Shield Appeal stay in the local area and go towards specific needs and programs in the community. Check out just a few below.

## PARAFIELD GARDENS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

We love partnering with local schools to help our wellbeing teams do what they do best while we take care of preparing sandwiches. Our youth are important, and they need to know that they are loved, supported, worthy and FED!



**OVER 2000 SANDWICHES MADE FOR LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS THIS YEAR**

## COLAC, VICTORIA

As well as more than 6000 bags of fresh produce over 750 uses of shower and laundry facilities, and over 400 breakfasts served, we assist our community in other ways too, including through the thousands of sandwiches, treats and cakes offered in our Community Centre, informal lunches, our playgroup hair salon, direct-distribution parcel system, and so much more!

The most important things, which are countless and priceless, are the beautiful conversations we have the blessing to be a part of, and getting to walk alongside our community in all seasons of life.

## TOOWOOMBA, QUEENSLAND

We are so blessed by the support of our community who make what you see below, possible. Not included are the number of people housed in Toowoomba by the wonderful Salvation Army Supported Accommodation team, the number of kids supported by the Brekky Club each week at a local primary school, and the number of spiritual and emotional support conversations we have each week with people doing it tough across our region.

These numbers reflect just a small part of what we do. Our love for others is and will always be at the centre of everything we do.

### Just This Year So Far

IN TOOWOOMBA



Scan here to donate to the Red Shield Appeal 2024.

# Salvos respond to recent budget

Advocating for those facing impossible choices

The Federal Budget handed down by the Albanese Labor Government last month was largely as expected with its focus on the cost of living, but it provided little new funding for addressing financial hardship, according to The Salvation Army’s General Manager of Policy and Advocacy.

Jennifer Kirkaldy said she welcomed the efforts made to address cost-of-living pressures, such as the increase to Commonwealth Rental Assistance, energy concessions and funding for financial well-being and capability services, but she warned that it would not be enough to address the significant need in our community.

Jennifer said the decision to leave JobSeeker and related payments well below the poverty line was “very disappointing” and against the overwhelming evidence from those who deliver services in the community sector, leading economists, and the government’s own expert panel.

“Charities do their best work when they are guardrails at the top of the cliff, but we are forced to be the ambulance at the bottom,” Jennifer said.

““

**An individual cannot budget away poverty – but the government can.**

””

“Every day, The Salvation Army is working with people who simply cannot make ends meet when relying on working-age payments. In every community in Australia, we are seeing people make impossible choices between food and rent, medication and warmth.

“The fact is, no matter how careful they are, an individual cannot budget away poverty – but the government can.”





Jennifer Kirkaldy, front right, with Liz Dowd, front left, Salvation Army Government Relations Coordinator, and some of the Policy and Advocacy team.

### **JOBSEEKER PAYMENT**

The Salvation Army's Secretary for Mission, Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory Morgan, focused on the JobSeeker payment in his response.

"Since 1994, when JobSeeker was last close to adequate, The Salvation Army has had to step in over 32 million times to help people who are struggling. Between now and the next Federal Budget, there will be at least another two million added to that total," he said.

"It's no surprise then that 94 per cent of those reaching out to the Salvos for help are struggling to afford essentials, such as housing, groceries, medical care and utilities."

Each year, through The Salvation Army's nationwide network of over 400 centres and 2000 services in areas such as homelessness, drug and alcohol rehabilitation, youth support, family and domestic violence, financial hardship and much more, the Salvos provide:

- Assistance to one person every 17 seconds.
- More than 1.67 million sessions of care to over 250,000 people in need.
- Over 1.2 million bed nights to people who need accommodation.
- More than 1.63 million meals to people who access our homelessness services.
- Assistance to more than 10,000 women and their children at risk of experiencing family violence, including more than 123,000 nights of emergency accommodation.

To view *The Salvation Army's brief on the 2024-25 Budget Measures*, go to [salvosonline.org.au](https://salvosonline.org.au)



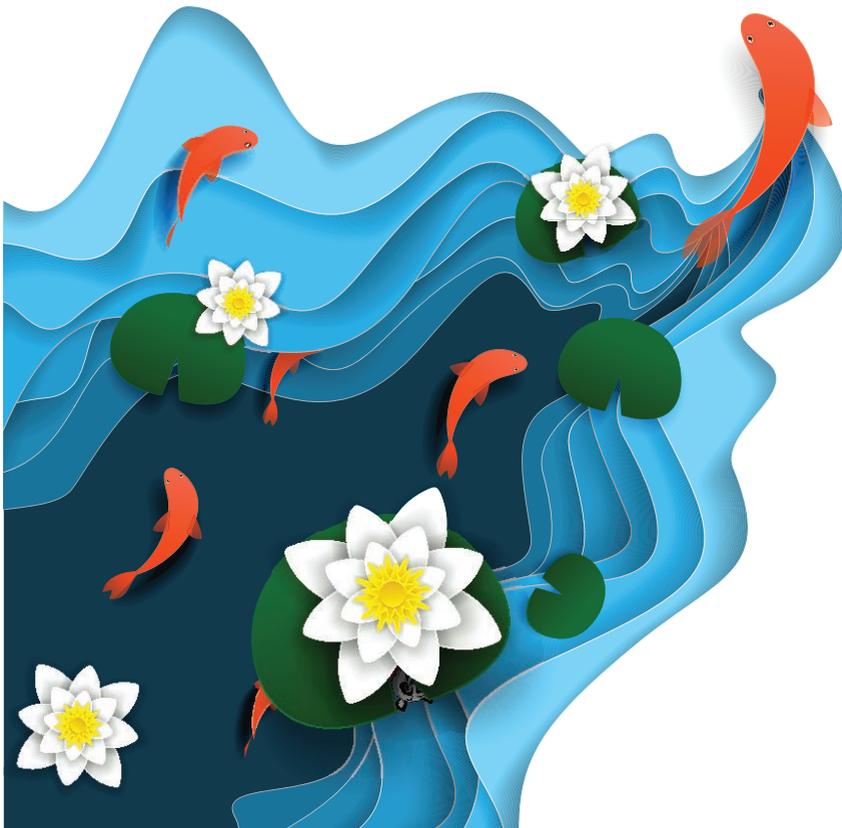
Scan here for more information on Salvation Army Financial Services.

# Setting people free

A release from oppression, exploitation and injustice

**“But let justice flow like a river,  
and let goodness flow like a stream  
that never becomes dry.”**

**Amos chapter 5, verse 24**  
*Easy-to-Read Bible version*





**“I will tell you the kind of day  
I want – a day to set people free.  
I want a day that you take the burdens off  
others. I want a day when you set troubled  
people free, and you take the burdens from  
their shoulders.”**

**Isaiah chapter 58, verse 6  
*Easy-to-Read Bible version***

# Tools for the Trade a confidence boost for 'resilient' Jordi

New pathways for disengaged youth

By Kirralee Nicolle

Salvation Army staff offering a work-place training and life skills program to young people are incredibly supportive, says a graduate of the program.

Jordi undertook Tools for the Trade in 2023 at Peninsula Youth Services in Frankston, Victoria.

Tools for the Trade is a nine to 10-week trade-oriented program that seeks to aid young people aged 16-21 who are disengaged from work, education and community opportunities to access pathways, linkages and referrals.

The program provides hands-on experience through trade tasters, accredited courses and learning activities, as well as work placements. It also provides training in more general life and social skills through mentoring, community engagement, health and wellbeing training and team-building activities.



Youth Support Coordinator Michael Tauai.

Jordi gave a speech at the graduation ceremony of the most recent Tools for the Trade graduates.

“

**“[I] didn’t go to school; didn’t want to wake up in the morning.”**

”

She joined Tools for the Trade after experiencing severe bullying at school. She said she had found herself in a mental health crisis that lasted about six weeks. “[I] didn’t go to school; didn’t want to wake up in the morning,” she said.

## **INSTANT SUPPORT**

The school staff placed Jordi in a program called Outreach, where a teacher asked her what she was hoping to do once school ended. Jordi told them she wanted to pursue an electrical apprenticeship while also working in mental health and disability support. The teacher recommended she apply for Tools for the Trade.

Jordi said she thought she might as well “shoot her shot”, so she did. Two weeks later, she was enrolled. She said the difference between Tools for the Trade and her school experience was quickly apparent. At Tools for the Trade, she



Jordy (left), with Youth Support Case Manager Sam Mills from Peninsula Youth Services.

was encouraged to speak up or reach out to someone for help whenever she needed it.

“

**The amount of support that's around me is incredible.**

”

“I [came] from not really a supportive school [with] bullying, [where I was] chewed up, spat out and walked all over, to open arms, like ‘talk to us, if you need any help, we’re here to support you’,” she said. “I was like, wow, the amount of support that’s around me is incredible. Just phenomenal. I want to go back.”

The most recent class of seven were celebrated in a ceremony at Mt Martha on 28 March. The event was attended by parents and family members as well

as representatives from Peninsula Youth Services, local schools, registered training organisations, The Salvation Army and local police.

Jordy is now completing her Victorian Certificate of Education Major at Chisholm Institute of TAFE, focusing on electrotechnology while working in mental health and disability support.

“I can happily say that I’m a lot more confident,” she said. “[I’ve] gone from ‘I hate life’ to ‘you know what, [I’ll] just let life do its thing’,” she said. “Whatever journey you go on, you go through, and you learn through that.

“So yeah, it’s just made me feel a lot more resilient.”



Scan here for more information on Salvation Army Youth Services.

# Breakfast Muffins



## Ingredients

3 eggs;  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup sugar; 1 ripe banana, mashed; 1 carrot, grated; 225g butter, melted and cooled; 1 cup self-raising flour; 2 tsp grated nutmeg

## Topping

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup muesli;  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup sugar; 1 tsp grated nutmeg;  $1\frac{1}{2}$  tbsp oil

## Method

- Heat oven to 190°C. Line 12-hole muffin tin with cases.
- Beat eggs and sugar in mixing bowl until pale and thick.
- Gently fold banana, carrot and butter into egg mixture.
- Sift flour and nutmeg into separate bowl and add to egg mixture.
- Spoon mixture into cases.
- Mix ingredients for topping and sprinkle evenly over muffin mix.
- Bake for 25 minutes or until golden.
- Serve warm.



## Quick quiz

1. Which actor starred in *A Knight's Tale* and *Brokeback Mountain*?
2. Which publishing tycoon is best remembered for starting World Series Cricket?
3. Which movie star, born in Hobart in 1909, found fame in Hollywood with his romantic swashbuckler roles?
4. Which director is best known for the films, *Strictly Ballroom* and *Moulin Rouge*?
5. Which athlete has five Olympic gold medals, the most won by an Australian, and 11 World Championship golds?

## Bible byte

"A sweet friendship refreshes the soul."

Proverbs chapter 27, verse 9  
*The Message* translation

## Tum-Tum

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



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

# Wordsearch

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

- Affection
- Always
- Caring
- Coffee
- Constant
- Empathy
- Familiar
- Friend
- Fun
- Helping
- Honesty
- Hugs
- Jokes
- Known
- Laughter
- Letters
- Lunch
- Playful
- Reliable
- Safety
- Sharing
- Support
- Talking
- Together

## HAVE A LAUGH



What do you call a boat full of buddies?  
**A friendship.**

What's the best vitamin for friendship?  
**B1.**

Why do trees have so many friends?  
**They branch out.**

## WHO AM I?

**I was born in Cootamundra, NSW, in 1908.**

**I was knighted in 1949. My image has appeared on stamps and coins.**

**In 1979 I received the Order of Australia.**

**I hit my first century at the age of 12.**

**I am often acknowledged as the greatest batsman of all time.**

**Quiz answers:** 1. Heath Ledger, 2. Kerry Packer, 3. Errol Flynn, 4. Baz Luhrmann, 5. Ian Thorpe.  
 I am: Sir Donald Bradman  
 Tum-Tum: is hiding under a lipped on page 10.



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