

# salvos

*magazine*

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2023

## Lest we forget

Remembering those who  
have served our nation



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### FEATURE

Supporting  
people in  
the bush

### FAITH TALK

No greater  
love

### MY STORY

Why we  
remember

A decorative border of red poppy petals frames the text. The petals are scattered around the edges, with some fully open and others as buds. The colors range from deep red to a lighter, almost pinkish-red.

## Only a minute

Crackles echo across the barren ground.

Grass, dead, brown and dusty crumbles beneath their boots.

The low rumble of conversation stills.

Shuffles echo in the sudden silence as they find a space to stand in the shade.

The bugle calls its mournful lament.

Their spines straighten as one,  
And all of a sudden, they are young again.

Whole.

Strong.

Beautiful.

Together.

For a minute.

Only a minute.

His weight shifts uncomfortably, protecting his bum knee.

The hot breeze rattles the medals on her jacket.

A toddler cries out, as his mother urges him in hushed whispers to be still.

A fly buzzes around a hat bedecked with poppies.

Perspiration drips silently to the ground, quieter than a dropped pin.

And as the bugle sounds again,

They murmur or sigh, "Lest we forget,"

And the minute is past.

Only a minute.

A minute that matters more than most.

A minute to remember.

**Major Penni Roden**  
**Red Shield Defence Services, Townsville**



## 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.

### Living 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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Day reflections

## Remembrance Day

On 11 November 1918, the guns of the Western Front fell silent after four years of continuous warfare. An armistice was signed, bringing WWI to an end.

As a mark of respect, Australians are encouraged to pause at 11am on 11 November to observe one minute's silence and remember those who have died or suffered for Australia's cause in all wars and armed conflicts – and those who continue to serve today.

In our stories this week, Salvation Army Red Shield Defence Services personnel and Salvos RSL chaplains share what Remembrance Day means to them, and why it's important to observe.

They also focus on the needs of current military personnel and their families, and the struggles of those who return from service into civilian life.

As the unimaginable suffering of war continues, we look forward to a future of peace outlined in Revelation Chapter 21, verse 4: "God will take away all their tears. There will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All the old things have passed away." Bring it on.

Simone Worthing **Editor**

# Lest we forget

Remembering those who have served our nation

**As Remembrance Day (11 November) approaches, *Salvos Magazine* speaks with Colonels Julie and Kelvin Alley, retired Salvation Army officers (pastors) now serving as RSL chaplains in their local area.**

## ***Salvos Magazine: What does Remembrance Day mean to you?***

**Julie and Kelvin:** To us it is a very significant day when we have opportunity to pause, reflect and express gratitude for those of our nation who have given their lives in wars, conflicts and peace-keeping operations. Historically, it is the day we commemorate the end of WWI, but over the years it has come to be the opportunity to remember those who have served our nation in all theatres of world conflicts.

## ***SM: Do you think the day is being almost forgotten in Australia?***

**Kelvin and Julie:** It is certainly not almost forgotten, but perhaps it doesn't get the same media attention as say Anzac Day. For us personally it remains just as significant because of our close involvement and participation every year in Remembrance Day services. The day is not a public holiday as is Anzac Day, which doesn't give the general public the same sense of awareness or opportunity for involvement.

## ***SM: What are some of the challenges returned servicemen and women face?***

**J&K:** The members of the RSL club tend to be older, those who have served in WWII or the Korea and Vietnam conflicts, or those who have given service in the forces over those decades. They face the challenges of ageing, health struggles

and even mobility issues. Those who have served in more recent decades face significant challenges in the transition from service life to lives as civilians. These can range from emotional struggles due to traumatic experiences, finding and maintaining suitable employment, maintaining relationships especially marriage, homelessness, substance abuse and gambling issues.

“

**Over the years, Remembrance Day has come to be the opportunity to remember those who have served our nation in all theatres of world conflicts.**

”

## ***SM: What are the cycling trips you do that fundraise for returned personnel?***

**Kelvin:** Since 2006, I have been part of the Pollie Pedal (an annual bike ride of 1000km over eight days, started by former Prime Minister Tony Abbott in 1998). Each year, the Pollie Pedal raises huge sums for charity, which over the years now totals many millions





For Colonels Kelvin and Julie Alley, centre, Remembrance Day is a time of reflection and giving thanks.

of dollars. For the past five years, we have supported the charity Soldier On, which supports veterans and their families. This year, we will be riding for Wandering Warriors, a smaller charity that supports veterans and families of our Special Forces.

**SM: How can Australians help support serving and returning Australian Defence Force personnel?**

**J&K:** We would encourage all Australians to show their support for the special commemorative days each year – to turn out in force for Anzac Services, and other services such as Remembrance Day. Older generations can encourage the younger generations to continue the respect and honour that has been given in past generations, and to be sensitive to the unique and challenging circumstances that are involved in service in our defence forces.

**SM: Do you have a personal connection to the ADF?**

**J&K:** Our son is a triple veteran of ADF service in Afghanistan. As parents we have experienced the emotions when a son is sent overseas to dangerous war zones for his tours of duty. We have experienced those moments when news comes over radio of another 'incident' involving an ADF member, and the long wait not knowing whether it is our son. We know that moment of relief when we have it confirmed that it was not our son, but then the realisation hits that it is indeed the son of other parents. Tears then flow anyway.



Scan here for more information on Salvation Army services.

# Supporting people in the bush

Rural and remote chaplains a lifeline in the outback

**Majors Michelle and Niall Gibson, Salvation Army officers (pastors) based in Katherine Northern Territory, have a unique ministry. Known as 'rural and remote chaplains', they travel by foot, car and plane to provide a listening ear and helping hand to people in remote areas and communities across the 1,349,129 square kilometres of the vast NT.**

"We support people in the bush. Some people hardly get a visit, and they really appreciate someone calling in and just listening to them," says Niall.

The reach of the ministry is diverse. It "engages with people on remote cattle stations and Indigenous communities and outback towns, and we also visit police stations in remote areas," Michelle explains.



Major Michelle Gibson speaks at 'Bush Chapel' in Mataranka.

## KATHY'S STORY

The Salvos have visited Kathy, who manages a cattle station with her husband, and her family and workers for many years. "It's nice to have somebody different to talk to," shares Kathy. "It's not related to the business. One of the previous flying padres just rang up one day and said he'd like to come out for a visit, and he came out. It was really nice.

“

**It's a bit of a comfort  
to know that there's  
somebody coming out ...**

”

"We had a tragedy here a few years ago and one of the young blokes was killed. There were only a couple of us on the station at the time, and his partner was one of them. The rest of them were off working and I had to tell his partner. I just felt so alone and so panicked and I'm thinking, what am I going to do? And the flying padre at the time, Major Greg Howard, just said, yeah, I'll come straight out. And he did come out and he talked to everybody. Spent a lot of time with some people that really



Major Niall Gibson prepares the Salvos plane to fly to people in remote areas of the Northern Territory.

needed help and it was just such a relief. I still don't know what I would have done, because somebody's just died and you're all alone out here and what do you do? What's the next step?

"It's a comfort to know that there's somebody coming out – that if any of your staff are having problems that they don't want to speak to you about, there's somebody else that they might want to open up to. I just think they really care for people. They do a great job and there probably should be more Salvos around I think."

### **BUSH CHAPEL**

The Gibsons run a regular church service in the town of Mataranka, 100km south-east of Katherine, and a bush chapel during the Never Never Festival. "It's a normal church service", says Niall, and we worship together with some tourists that are already in town and some locals that generally go to our church. We just do church together in the park in the bush, with the birds and the traffic."

Veronica, who manages a cattle station with her husband, lives in the Mataranka

region and loves having the Gibsons visit. We met them (Gibsons) when they came to the Mataranka church service and conducted that for us. They are lovely people.

"Visitors are few and far between. If the chaplains can fly, they can get there quicker. It means we see more people on a regular basis, and I love having them call in."

### **BUILDING FRIENDSHIPS**

"The Salvation Army has on our vision statement, that we are transforming Australia one life at a time, and that's what I believe we are doing," says Michelle. "We are building relationships, and we are able to just be Jesus to the people."

"This is such a great ministry to be a part of," agrees Niall.



Scan here for more information on Salvation Army services.

# Connection to Country changes lives

Making a positive impact in the Red Centre

By Chloe Rice

Partnerships play a vital role in living out The Salvation Army's mission of transforming lives and restoring communities.

One such partnership is the collaboration between the Salvos and Red Dust, a community organisation, implementing intergenerational Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) programs for men on Arrernte lands in Alice Springs.

“

**Connection to Country increases First Nations people's sense of self and belonging.**

”

For a decade, the Salvos ran an Indigenous AOD recovery program out of Alice Springs. Various ongoing challenges showed that a change was needed.

## INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP

In 2019, the Salvos acknowledged the significance of having Indigenous leadership running the program, prompting Tam Tran, The Salvation Army's National AOD Specialist, to approach Red Dust.

Red Dust became the delivery partner of the program, and the Salvos maintained the government contract, meeting accreditation and governance requirements. Six

months into the partnership, the program was exceeding its goals.

Between July 2021 and June 2022, the program saw approximately 200 yarning circles being facilitated, 146 brief interventions provided, 15 suicide prevention actions and 18 referrals.

Kathryn Wright, the Salvos General Manager for AOD, says that the cultural knowledge and leadership Red Dust brought was critical to the program's success.

“For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, connection to culture and Country has a direct link to a significant reduction in alcohol and other drug-related harm,” Kathryn explains. “Of course, it makes sense, as a connection to Country increases First Nations people's sense of self and belonging.”

## TRAUMA-INFORMED

The program takes a trauma-informed approach, establishing a sense of safety and trust through various activities.

These include:

- Camps and day programs that help inform healthy decision making.
- Yarning circles.
- Discussions around living in a 'white man's' world, while maintaining their culture.
- Practical life and vocational skills.





### EXPLORING SPIRITUALITY

There is also a focus on Elders passing on their knowledge to younger men. Specifically, the 'Elders' group' has helped clients obtain better access to traditional knowledge and perspectives.

Exploring spirituality is another key element to the delivery of the program, which has led to a deeper sense of culture, identity and faith.

The 'Train the Trainer' initiative enables Red Dust to equip previous program participants with the necessary skills to become trainers themselves.

Throughout 2021-22, Red Dust employed four Alice Springs-based Aboriginal men and four Elders as coordinators, drivers, cultural guides and facilitators.

Red Dust's ability to connect to these communities is reflected in the growing number of participants joining the activities. These connection points help provide a stronger sense of self, cultural safety and alliance to community members.

### MUTUAL BENEFITS

Fred Docking, The Salvation Army's Service Manager and Northern Territory Coordinator, shares, "The Salvation Army assisted Red Dust in getting accredited, enabling them to secure funding and achieve new heights.

"The partnership continues to provide employment opportunities, lifting people out of poverty and making a positive impact on individuals, families and communities."

Although there is still much work to be done, Fred explains that there are four pillars of recovery – safety, hope, health and community. Addressing these in a culturally safe environment is the key to delivering true transformation in any community.



Scan here for more information on the Red Dust and Salvos partnership.

**“There is no greater way to  
love than to give your life  
for your friends.”**

John chapter 15, verse 13  
*The Voice* Bible translation





# Remembrance Day reflections

## SACRIFICE AND FREEDOM

Over the years, people even stopping has become a thing of the past on Remembrance Day. For many years, the reverence of pausing for a minute or two from whatever you were doing at 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month was something everyone did: school classes stopped, people stopped shopping, businesses paused their selling and people pulled over to the side of the road if driving.

Today people keep moving, rushing and doing. I wonder if it is symptomatic of how we try to forget about difficult things, to numb the pain, to ignore what is before us, by just not stopping.

Throughout history, humankind has demonstrated that one of the most important processes we can undertake is to stop, to remember and reflect.

This year on Remembrance Day, let's pause to remember the sacrifice of others for our freedom, reflect on the futility of the loss of lives in all conflicts, and stop for a moment.

*Major Brett Gallagher  
Chief Commissioner, RSDS*



Major Brett Gallagher will stop and remember on 11 November.



Major Gai Cathcart has been the RSDS representative or 'Sallyma'am' at the Edinburgh Defence Precinct since 2018.

## THE COST OF WILLING SACRIFICE

As a Red Shield Defence Services senior representative, the position and role I have in the Australian Defence Force space is a privilege because I see a side of humanity that is rarely captured in the everyday life of an Australian citizen.

I see and sit with people who have given their lives to serve a purpose that is greater than themselves and not always understood or appreciated. I am humbled by the trust and vulnerability that defence personnel show to me and in me.

In light of these relationships, Remembrance Day will always hold significance for me. As I hear the stories of the past, engage with the experiences of those currently serving and envision what could be in the future of our ADF, I acknowledge them. I acknowledge their sacrifice and their willingness to serve those who are weak and vulnerable by defending their country and her people – past, present and future. I will remember them, not to celebrate war, but to commemorate and count the cost of the willing sacrifice. We will remember them. Lest we forget.

*Major Gai Cathcart, RSDS  
Edinburgh, Adelaide*





RSDS representatives have supported Australian Defence Services personnel in the Middle East.

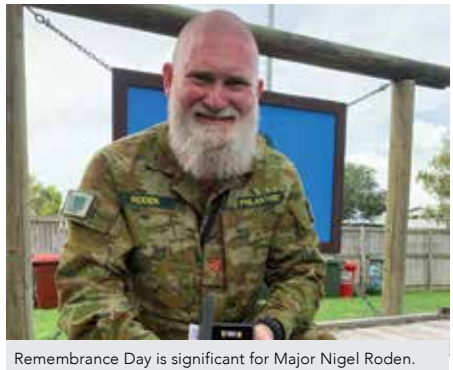
## GRATITUDE AND COMMITMENT

On Remembrance Day, I am reminded of the profound significance of the sacrifices made by our brave servicemen and servicewomen. It is a day to pause, reflect, remember, and honour the dedication and courage displayed by our Australian Defence Force personnel. Remembrance Day holds a special place in my heart as I remember those I have served, those who have served in the forces, and those who paid the ultimate sacrifice within their service.

This day for me is a poignant reminder of the responsibility we all share in ensuring the wellbeing of our veterans and their families. On Remembrance Day, I will be actively engaged in serving in Townsville around the mobile hop-in (drop-in centre), ensuring that their sacrifices are never forgotten, and their physical, emotional and spiritual needs are met.

It's a day for me of deep gratitude, reflection and a renewed commitment to serving those who have served us.

There's a great message on the wall of the Melbourne War Memorial by



Remembrance Day is significant for Major Nigel Roden.

Sir William Deane, Governor-General of Australia from 1996-2001, that also expresses what I remember and experience in blessing and serving those who give so much in their service:

*"Anzac is not merely about loss. It is about courage, and endurance, and duty, and love of country, and mateship, and good humour and the survival of a sense of self-worth and decency in the face of dreadful odds."*

*Major Nigel Roden  
Senior Philanthropic Representative,  
RSDS*

## Corn fritters



### Ingredients

1 cup plain flour;  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup water; 1 beaten egg;  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp coriander;  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp ground pepper;  $\frac{1}{4}$  tsp ground cumin; salt to taste; 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups frozen corn, thawed; 4 medium spring onions, chopped; 2 tbsp vegetable oil; sweet chili sauce; garden salad to serve

### Method

- Beat together flour, water and egg.
- Mix any spice into the batter and salt if desired.
- Add the corn and spring onions.
- Heat the oil in a pan to a moderate temperature (so oil doesn't burn).
- Drop spoonfuls of mixture into the pan.
- Cook on both sides for 2-3 minutes each, until golden.
- Garnish with sweet chili sauce and serve with a fresh green salad.



## Quick quiz

1. Where does the kookaburra sit as the merry, merry king of the bush?
2. Who tried to put Humpty Dumpty back together again?
3. Why did old mother Hubbard go to the cupboard?
4. What did Jack and Jill fetch from the hill?
5. When it was raining and pouring, what was the old man doing?
6. Who climbed up the water spout?

## Bible byte

"God blesses those people who grieve. They will find comfort!"

Matthew chapter 5, verse 4  
*Contemporary English Version*

## Tum-Tum

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



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

# Wordsearch

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

- |           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| Baby      | Mary    |
| Black     | Nursery |
| Bridge    | Pail    |
| Bus       | Pouring |
| Childhood | Raining |
| Cupboard  | Reading |
| Dumpty    | Rhymes  |
| Horses    | Sheep   |
| Hubbard   | Snoring |
| Humpty    | Star    |
| Jack      | Twinkle |
| Jill      | Water   |
| Lamb      | Wheels  |
| London    | Wool    |

## FUNNY THINGS KIDS SAY

Never trust animals to watch your food or drinks. **Shannon, 10**

Puppies are cute, except when they're ugly. **Mickey, 6**

Our cat looks like a windshield wiper when he scratches behind his ear. **Rebecca, 6**



## DID YOU KNOW?

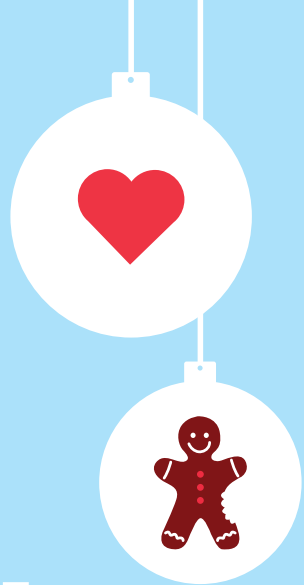
**World Nursery Rhyme Week will be held on 13-17 November.**

The official rhymes for 2023 are **Jack and Jill; Hickory Dickory Dock; Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes; Row, Row, Row Your Boat and The Wheels on The Bus.**

**Nursery rhymes can help to develop language, literacy and numeracy as well as social, physical and emotional skills.**

**Quiz answers:** 1. In the old gum tree 2. All the king's horses and all the king's men 3. To get her poor dog a bone 4. A pail of water 5. Snoring 6. Incy Wincy spider  
**Tum-Tum:** is hiding behind the plane wheel on page 7.

Give a  
gift that  
means  
more



salvos

STORES