



**5 May 2017**

**Happy National Volunteer Week!**

It is with a heart full of gratitude that I thank you for volunteering with The Salvation Army. Your generous contribution of time, skill and commitment makes a real difference to those you work alongside, and to those who benefit from all you do. The Salvation Army and the wider Australian community is a better place due to your collective volunteering impact.

I continue to be amazed that over 30,000 volunteers across Australia regularly contribute to the mission of The Salvation Army. This number swells to over 100,000 during Red Shield Appeal – you really are an Army of Volunteers!

Together we seek to bring practical care, dignity and hope to those who need it most. We believe that The Salvation Army's impact will strengthen in the coming years with the merging of the two Australian Territories into a single national territory. Our mission and message will be united, and administrative changes will enable a more economical structure – meaning more resources will be channelled where they can be used most effectively.

As one territory we commit ourselves in prayer and practice to this land of Australia and its people, seeking reconciliation, unity and equity. As a Christian movement we share the love of Jesus by caring for people, creating faith pathways, building healthy communities and working for justice together.

Whilst National Volunteer Week gives us a specific opportunity to say “thank you”, please know that we extend genuine and continuous gratitude to our Army of Volunteers who serve with us throughout the year.

Thank you for being a part of The Salvation Army.

Yours sincerely,



Floyd J. Tidd  
**Commissioner**  
**NATIONAL COMMANDER**

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