



Te Ope Whakaora

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# BusinessReporter

corporate support in action



Salvation Army Captain Jenny Collings of Albany Bays Corps with (left to right) Kelvin Seiderer (Crown Relocations), Jack Salt, Alex Pledger and Jeremiah Trueman (New Zealand Breakers) and Faimu Leatua (Crown Relocations)

## Playing ball for a good cause

A national relocation company and the New Zealand Breakers basketball franchise are teaming up for a major food drive to benefit families facing a bleak Christmas.

An ardent supporter of The Salvation Army, Crown Relocations collected more than 4000 cartons of food and other household items from generous customers during the past year, delivering the goods to Army food banks and Family Stores.

Crown staff also organised random Big Sallie Surprises—special, one-off collections of donated items, delivered to Salvation Army centres.

Crown Worldwide (NZ) Country Manager James Logan says The Salvation Army inspires the company for its commitment to caring for those less fortunate.

'We are delighted Crown has joined

forces with the New Zealand Breakers, the championship-winning basketball team, for the greatest Big Sallie Surprise yet,' he says.

Crown is sponsoring the New Zealand Breakers - Adelaide 36ers game at Auckland's Vector Arena on 15 November. The company will turn the event into a Big Sallie Surprise fundraiser.

The aim of the event is to collect 40,000 donated cans of food from the grocery sector, other companies and the public, as well as another \$30,000 worth of non-perishable foodstuffs, with a combined value of around \$70,000.

Salvation Army Community Ministries Secretary Major Pam Waugh says the project is timely and of immense value. With living costs continuing to rise and high financial pressure on families over the holiday period, demand for food parcels always climbs steeply at Christmas.

'Stocking up our food banks with items collected by our supporters means a much less stressful time for our client families when parents are under huge financial and emotional strain to provide even a modest Christmas meal,' she says.

On game night, 9000 spectators will have an opportunity to purchase cans of food for a dollar and put them into donation boxes at the venue. The New Zealand Breakers are also providing substantial support for The Salvation Army by matching every purchased can with a can of their own.

James says the great thing about supporting this Big Sallie Surprise is that it will help provide one of life's necessities to those most in need.

If your business would like to support Crown's Big Sallie Surprise, contact James Logan on 027 440 4032 or visit [crownrelo.co.nz](http://crownrelo.co.nz)

Inside:

DELTA volunteers help Christchurch

Wattie's 20 years of support

Many hands make a home

Keeping the family intact



## One good turn

A Salvation Army project bringing together people looking for work with Christchurch residents in need of help is opening up training and employment possibilities for dozens of unemployed people.

The project, called DALTA (Deliberate Acts of Love to All), is part of The Salvation Army's Sydenham Community Ministries in Christchurch.

DALTA volunteers are people on benefits who take part in mainly gardening and maintenance projects for local residents and community organisations, particularly those affected by the earthquakes. Recent projects include the building of a

garden for children with disabilities at Wairakei School.

Sydenham Community Ministries Manager Eric Turner says the work has turned the volunteers' lives around, with many entering paid employment or further training as a result of their DALTA experiences.

The scheme brings together several strands of Salvation Army welfare services. Following the quakes, the centre was inundated with requests for help as the community set about rebuilding, and DALTA was one response.

On the other hand, volunteers—many of them long-term unemployed and some emerging from addiction—learn new skills and develop a solid work ethic and self-confidence. As part of training, volunteers complete a first aid course

and are able to get their driver's licence.

Eric says one of the most important benefits has been to lift volunteers out of their shells and help them become part of their communities. He cites Damion, a volunteer with a natural talent for computing but who lacked confidence and isolated himself. Today, he is a confident young man who recently graduated from a Salvation Army Employment Plus computer programme and has begun further studies.

DALTA volunteers' dedication and quality of work was recognised at the recent Volunteering Canterbury Awards.

'For a lot of our volunteers, it was the first time they've been recognised for good stuff,' says Eric. 'They stood up for their award with their chests swelling.'



## Swap a can for a movie ticket

Now in its 20th year, the Wattie's Cans Film Festival supports The Salvation Army by providing cans of food to those in need. On Wednesday 13 November, Kiwis around the country can see a movie at their local cinema by swapping a can of food for a ticket. With Wattie's matching the number of cans donated, last year's total of 43,064 cans helped to stock up our food banks for the heavy pre-Christmas demand.

Salvation Army Public Relations Director Shane Chisholm says working together

in partnership with major corporates helps to make New Zealand a better place to live for everyone. 'We very much appreciate Wattie's support of our work with Kiwis in need over the past 20 years,' he says. 'A night of entertainment for all the family at the Wattie's Cans Film Festival is a fun way for New Zealanders to help each other out.'

Go to [f wattiescansfilmfestival](#) or [watties.co.nz](#) for updates about the films showing and participating cinemas. Tickets are available from 6 November.







Kathryn Martin from Linwood Community Ministries volunteers at the build

## Many hands make a home

Around 30 Salvation Army volunteers squeezed several weeks' of work into several days to complete the outer shell of a house that will become the home for a family currently living in substandard or unaffordable housing.

The project was a partnership with Habitat for Humanity at The Salvation Army's two-day social justice conference, Just Action, held in South Auckland recently. Volunteers worked four-hour shifts, often in rain and high winds over the six days of construction.

Habitat for Humanity is an

international not-for-profit organisation that aims to fight poverty by providing simple homes for families needing healthy and affordable housing.

Recipient families must commit at least 500 hours work on the houses, which are constructed mainly by volunteers and overseen by Habitat for Humanity project managers.

At the conference, Salvation Army social policy director Major Campbell Roberts noted, 'There are also families within a short distance of this very centre whose homes are garages, are camping grounds, who are living two or three families to a house or in a rental they can't afford.'

The house has been removed from the site for the interior fit-out.

Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity Auckland Warren Jack says, 'All around, this was a great and very easy project to work on. We feel if we can partner with agencies and collaborate in this way, we can work effectively to enhance people's lives.'

One of the main difficulties facing similar projects is the skyrocketing price of land.

Previously, houses in South Auckland could be placed on sections costing \$15,000. Today the cost can be around \$200,000, Warren says.

## 'Investing in Youth'

The Holiday Inn Auckland Airport is sponsoring the Investing in Youth Christmas Breakfast on Thursday 14 November. This is an opportunity to support The Salvation Army's work with youth and their families in South Auckland. Hear from Inga Tuigamala, and a keynote speaker on youth issues while enjoying a complimentary meal.

**Sponsoring a table is one way to help our work. To find out how, please email [lynne\\_trafford@nzf.salvationarmy.org](mailto:lynne_trafford@nzf.salvationarmy.org)**



**Thanks to your help, The Salvation Army's community support for the year to 30 June 2013 included:**

**56,707** Food parcels distributed

**14,399** Budgeting sessions provided

**17,588** Community meals served

**2,427** Life Skills and Positive Lifestyle Programme classes provided

**10,744** Families received social work support



# Keeping the family intact

Living in poverty puts intense and relentless pressures on couples and many relationships don't survive the strain

Ratree and Clifton originally sought assistance from The Salvation Army when their finances were in a state of collapse. Ratree had discovered she was legally responsible for a large amount of credit card debt, run-up by her former husband after their relationship had ended.

Debt payments, rent and utilities ate up all of the family's disposable income, leaving nothing for food.

Ratree approached her local Salvation Army Community Ministries, which provided the family with food parcels until a social worker could help negotiate manageable debt repayments. The social worker provided much-needed emotional support and guidance, says Ratree, during her most desperate times.

Ratree and her family also regularly attend The Salvation Army's weekly community meal. 'It gives us a chance to take them out because we can't afford to do very much for the kids,' says Ratree.

Despite rent consuming around 70 per cent of the family of five's income, they are now close to paying off all their debt. Life is not easy—there is \$85 a week left over to feed two adults and three children—but they are looking forward to life free from the shackles of debt.

But Ratree and Clifton say the most dramatic change in their lives came through a course designed by The Salvation Army. The Positive Lifestyle Programme aims to raise self-awareness, enabling clients to identify and overcome personal difficulties before they become major problems.

The 10-week course covers topics such as dealing with depression, anger,



grief and stress, which is an ever-present and potentially damaging aspect of life for most poor families. The programme works toward building self-esteem and assertiveness and developing goal-setting skills.

Ratree says before taking part in the programme, her relationship was under a great deal of pressure, and arguments were common.

Both Clifton and Ratree say the programme saved their relationship and the benefits, especially to their children, have been immense.

North Shore Community Ministries manager Dee McColl says the programme has developed into one of her staff's most powerful tools in getting clients to resolve their own problems and become increasingly independent.

'It's proven to be very beneficial—life

changing,' she says. 'There's actually a huge paradigm shift from making poor decisions to identifying these behaviours and what might be behind them, and moving on to making positive decisions for themselves and their families—it's quite remarkable to see.'

Thanks to your generosity, families like Ratree and Clifton's can make positive changes to their lives. To help others in need, please contact me about sponsoring a Salvation Army service such as the Positive Lifestyle Programme.



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As you *Connect* with your friends and family this Christmas, please remember ours

Christmas can be a stressful time for many families we help and support

Please give a little *Joy* this Christmas

Give at [salvationarmy.org.nz](http://salvationarmy.org.nz)



Te Ope Whakaora  
**CHRISTMAS APPEAL**