



Red Shield Appeal

You, Sue and the Salvos:

**“How you
changed
my life
completely.”**

by Georgie

with a foreword from Sue.





A word from Sue, Georgie's case worker

“When I first met Georgie, she was very isolated. She was connected to her church community, yet she was carrying her burden alone, so nobody knew.

She was struggling to make ends meet, struggling to eat, struggling to pay the rent, and looking down the barrel of homelessness. And nobody knew what was going on.

She had become very physically and mentally unwell. The more unwell she

became, the harder her life got, and the more she isolated herself.

She was really warm and friendly when I met her though. Very well spoken. And so grateful that the Salvos had stepped in to help her. But she found it really difficult to ask for help, because she'd never had to before.

She got really teary, because she felt ashamed she'd found herself in this situation. That was probably the biggest

thing for her - and the reason she had become so isolated.

Thanks to wonderful Salvos supporters like you, she's no longer on her own. I'm so glad that we were able to find her a home, get her the help she so desperately needed, and that we can now support her on her journey as she rebuilds her life.

Thank you so much for making that possible.”

- Sue

My story starts with anxiety

“I’ve been mentally and verbally abused by all the men in my life. I was brought up having to be a certain person to appease my father and I married a passive version of him.

I didn’t know my worth. I didn’t understand about emotional healthiness. I didn’t know about narcissism. Or gaslighting. But now, with my Christian faith, I know who I am.

I’ve been in anxiety since I was about three years old. I’ve had mental health issues going back over the last 25 years. And I have Level 2* Autism Spectrum Disorder. I only found that out last year, but it explains all of the confusion of my whole life.”



**ASD Level 2 is the middle of three on the spectrum. People with ASD Level 2 need substantial support. They typically have trouble with social interaction and communication, and tend to have a hard time with changes in their normal routine.*



Pain

“I love work. I’ve been working since I was 12. I love independence. I love, love, love, animals! I have so much love to give.

When my marriage ended, my husband went overseas and left me with the house crumbling down and everything. I was falling apart. Using alcohol to cope. And then I started getting really sick.

I started having chronic pain and fatigue. So much pain there were days I literally couldn’t leave the house, where I was in bed 20 hours a day.”

Georgie makes friends with every animal she meets, including the horses near where she lives.

Alone

“My life became an emotional rollercoaster because I was starting to look at my past and what it means. I had chronic pain and fatigue.

I was struggling to pay rent, pay the bills. My landlord wanted me out because the rent they could get in just one night as an Airbnb was more than I pay a week. So they asked me to leave.

I collapsed in my bed. I knew I was done. I had no one in my life. I didn’t know what was going to happen. I thought, ‘I’m going to be homeless!’.”





Sue

“And I then got a call from Sue from The Salvation Army. My Sue. Someone must have called her and told her about me. She was so welcoming and open. I talked to her about everything I was going through.

Later that same day she called me back telling me that she’d found me a home! I just broke down, crying and cheering and thanking Jesus. I loved my new home from the start. It’s got blue weatherboards - my favourite colour! And there’s a farm nearby where I go and feed the horses.

It’s the smallest place, but I feel like the richest woman in the world because I have a safe, affordable, permanent place to call mine. And I’m as happy as you could ever, ever imagine.”

The Salvos

“Since then, my whole life’s turned around. The Salvos helped me with practical financial help to pay bills, buy meat and vegetables and petrol. That was amazing, but the emotional support and friendship I’ve had far outweighs it.

I honestly don’t have the words to express how much The Salvation Army has changed my life. It’s been freeing. Healing. I have less anxiety. I’m more confident. I believe it’s helped my mental health too.

I had no one until Sue and The Salvation Army came into my life. And now I know I had you too.

Thank you!”



You

As we go through life, we quickly learn how hard the world can be. Especially for those who are dealt a tough hand or who travel a rough road.

The truth is, for as long as there are human beings, there will be human suffering. But the corresponding truth is that there will also be human kindness and compassion. In other words, there will always be people like you.

Your Red Shield Appeal gift this year is not just a wonderful way to transform the life of someone who is struggling alone. It goes deeper than that. It brings balance to the world, and restores fairness to life.

Please give an additional Workplace Giving gift today and make a real difference. Thank you.



**Please support the Red Shield Appeal today.
So nobody struggles alone.**



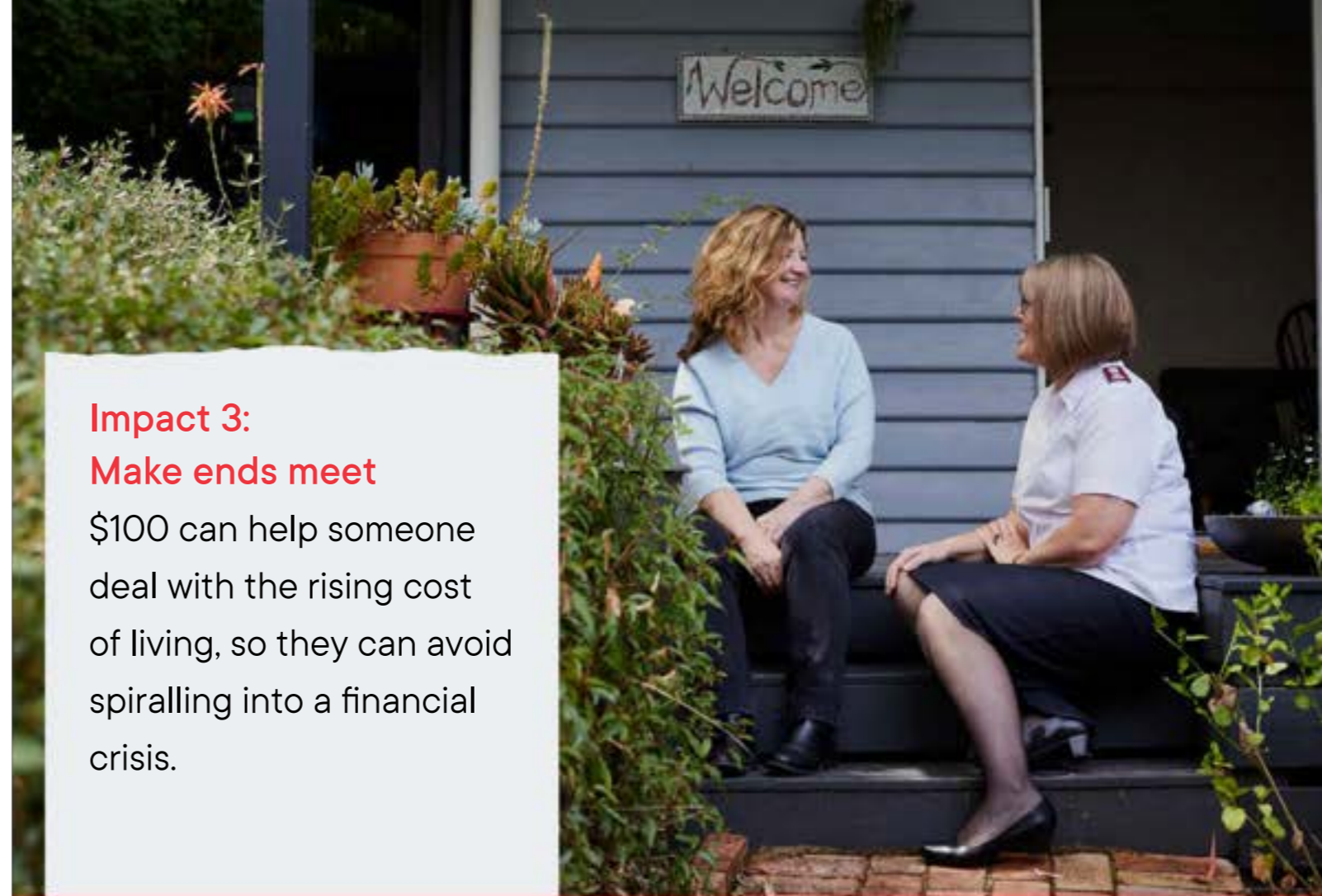
Impact 1:
Financial education

\$35 will help pay for an hour-long session with a financial counsellor and help a person build financial stability.



Impact 2:
Food essential

\$60 can provide a food hamper for a family trying to make ends meet amidst the cost-of-living crisis.



Impact 3:
Make ends meet

\$100 can help someone deal with the rising cost of living, so they can avoid spiralling into a financial crisis.



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