

# SALUTE TO THE SALVOS

By Bill Pugh

A WWII Digger was negotiating a track in New Guinea on the way to relieve forward troops.

There were vines, mud, jungle and the possibility of ambush. He was alert and apprehensive. Would he survive even the next bend, and live to come home one day?

And then he came across a makeshift set-up, a kind of table, seat and a small stove.

*"Would you like a hot drink, Digger?"*

It was the Salvos, out there at the frontline, with a pen, Red Shield notepaper and envelope.

A letter to write home, and a promise to send it back down the line, to be posted back to Australia. He never forgot that.

Back in Melbourne, he always gave to the Salvos, sometimes a smiling face, in signature uniform, who rattled a tin at the pub, or a similar figure knocking at his front door. He reached deep into his pocket and gave.

Always, the Salvos are there in frontline ministry, serving wherever there is need.

As Christians we are called to pray and work for peace. The words of Jesus are more than ever relevant today: *"Blessed are the peace makers for they shall be called children of God."*

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