

# NEED A HAND UP, MATE?

By Bill Pugh

It was Monday afternoon, a washing day. The Hills Hoist was loaded with dried clothes waiting to be unpegged and put in the basket to be taken inside.

I was carefully unpegging and there was one garment a bit out of reach so I leant over to unpeg it.

I forgot about the small stand at my feet, pushed it over with my knees, and ended up on the grass. I could not get up and called out for my wife who rushed out to find a neighbour to help me.

Most were away on holidays, but a young man came running by, and my wife said, "Please, can you help?"

Around the back he came, saw my plight and said, "Need a hand up, mate?" And he put his strong hands, and arms, under my arms, and easily lifted me upright.

Such gratitude from us, and he continued on his run.

## Reflection:

In looking back, I can still hear his accent. Not a dinkum Aussie sound, but one from another community.

Here surely was a parable of the good Samaritan in person. He was ready and willing to help on the spot. Not a resident of our street but a passerby, responding to someone who needed a lift up, a good Samaritan in person.

Thank God for this young runner. Surely responding to the call, as made in the words of Richard Gillard (Tis: 650).

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