

reuse repurpose  
**restyle**

free

Let's have a  
Sustainable  
Conversation

Supporting the  
circular economy

Shopping  
in your 20s

An eco-friendly  
choice

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of style

A sustainable  
way to save

lifestyle magazine

EDITION 6 - WINTER





# Welcome

to our latest edition of  
reuse, repurpose, restyle!



**W**e love the creativity of our contributors in this edition! We are delighted to introduce the Winchester School of Art project, where we showcase some of their students' stunning creations and interviewed Faye James to find out more about her inspiration - see pages 8-9. Our colleague Sabine is a huge advocate for sustainable shopping, so we invited her to show us 'a sustainable way of shopping in your 20s' on pages 10-11. We are also delving more into the second-hand shopping online movement as we chat about our eBay shop on page 14.

This winter edition, we are also bringing you DIY gift ideas and decluttering tips as well. We found a great way to reuse items bought from charity shops in the form of gift baskets! They look very stylish and are a sustainable and budget friendly way to gift. We spoke with influencer @ms.rachelboo who visited our Bristol donation centre and she gave us some decluttering tips that we are sharing with you on page 12.

Check out two of our regular features Ask Us and Our Customers Love... find out what our team members like about their day-to-day work on page 3 and see what our customers bought from our charity shops on page 4.

If you have ideas of your own that you would like to share with us, don't hesitate to contact us! We'd love to hear from you!

 @salvationarmycharityshops

 @salvationarmyshops

 @salvationarmyshopsUK



### Magazine team

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### Published by Salvation Army Trading Company Ltd (SATCoL)

SATCoL was established in 1991 to help fund The Salvation Army's vital work with vulnerable people in the UK, and today we raise money and encourage reuse and recycling through a network of clothing banks, charity shops, donation centres and superstores. With the support of the British public, we have donated millions of pounds to The Salvation Army (over £80 million has been donated in the last ten years).



**SALVATION ARMY  
TRADING  
COMPANY**

# Ask us...

Do you have a question or is there something you have always wanted to know about our charity shops? Email us your questions to [media@satcol.org](mailto:media@satcol.org)

In this edition we asked some members of our team what they enjoy most about their day-to-day roles:



### **Stephen Palmer - West Bromwich, Driver**

I started my role as a driver for The Salvation Army Donation Centre in West Bromwich in September 2016. It was when we began our mission to ensure the success of our donation centre and become part of the local community. My day starts with planning my delivery and collections, ensuring the most efficient and effective routes. With almost every collection or delivery, our customers tell me little stories of how The Salvation Army helped them or their families at some time or another. I couldn't count how many times I've drove away from a collection or a delivery and felt such pride for representing the company and being part of making someone's day. I like to think that at the end of each day I've made a difference, even if it's in the smallest of ways.



### **Carolyn Shennan - Falkirk, Shop Manager**

One of the most enjoyable things about working with The Salvation Army is coming up with theatrical displays for our 5 windows. With the help of Pinterest - we get a themed board together with ideas and the hope of "pulling it off". Some can be last minute, some can be months of collecting items and making things. We don't have blueprints holding us back or necessarily follow trends like typical mainstream retail because we can design and make it as we like, to show how awesome our donations can be.



### **Lyn Marqueiro - Shanklin, Volunteer**

The Salvation Army is a charity that is dear to my heart, a charity that is well known for helping the homeless and those in need. I enjoy volunteering and being able to help in some small way and sorting through donations, pricing and steaming the clothes. Volunteering alongside the other volunteers is great fun. We have lots of banter together, we never seem to run out of things to talk about and we have lots of laughs.

I enjoy the never-ending supply of cups of tea and cakes... well it would be rude of me not to eat the lovely snacks we have here. It's a great team here and I look forward to coming in and helping.

# Our customers love...



## @charityshop\_outfitinspo:

"Hello, my name is Beth and I have been charity shopping for the last 11 years. I've been into many Salvation Army shops and always find they are reasonably priced and well displayed with lovely helpful staff.

I got the trousers in the picture from my local Salvation Army shop, and they are a perfect addition to my wardrobe as I love this shade of green and know that Zara fits me well, so I was very happy when I found these.

I hope this can inspire just a few people to go have a look in their local charity shops because there is always treasure to be found."



## @hayley.rose87:

"Over the last couple of years, I have rediscovered my love of charity shopping as I have become more environmentally conscious of all types of waste and wanting to do my part for the planet. Going out hunting and finding hidden gems like this gorgeous dress, makes it all the more fun! I adore this dress I got from The Salvation Army shop in Bournemouth and I can distinctly remember the gentleman that served me as he was so friendly. Each and every time I visit a Salvation Army shop, the thing that hits me most is how friendly and helpful all staff are. It really makes for a much more personal experience, and I enjoy going in to browse and buy even more. Thank you for all the fantastic work you are doing in your shops and beyond!"

## @GetSwankStyle:

"I would say about 80 percent of my wardrobe is preloved. I love the thrill of charity shopping when you find something really interesting and it's in your size! I particularly like my local Salvation Army shop because everything is carefully laid out and super clean. The white blouse I am wearing in this picture was like new and it's a real staple in my wardrobe. I also appreciate that the prices at The Salvation Army, they are very reasonable compared to other charity shops. Plus, my local Salvation Army shop (Altrincham) plays the coolest tunes!"



# We love...



## Jewellery

When it comes to shopping for jewellery, many of us immediately turn to boutiques or online retailers. However, there is a hidden gem waiting to be discovered in charity shops up and down the UK. Our stores offer beautifully unique, sustainable and affordable pieces.

And who wouldn't want to wear unique pieces? Charity shop jewellery is often one-of-a-kind. These pieces hold a certain charm and character that cannot be so easily replicated. From vintage rings to retro brooches, you are guaranteed to find something that stands out from the crowd and perfectly complements your personal style. So next time you want to get some show-stopping accessories, pop into your local Salvation Army charity shop first!

## Coats

We know it! The season is changing, and you need a new coat. Or two. As the weather becomes unpredictable, it's time to invest in a coat that you can comfortably wear, looks good and does not break the bank. The best place to find such a thing? Charity shops, of course.

Shopping for a secondhand coat can be more fun than you imagine. Pop into your local Salvation Army charity store and find retro or vintage garments that suit your style and are wallet friendly. Apart from finding a unique piece that no one else will be wearing, you are also helping the environment. By deciding to wear a preloved coat, you are not only giving the item a new lease on life, but you are also minimizing waste and diverting more textiles from disposal landfill. Recent research shows that reusing second hand garments is 70 times less impactful than buying new!\*

Who knew that shopping on a budget could look this good and feel even better?



\*Search online for "Euric research Clothing reuse 70 times lower environmental impact"





# Baskets of style

a sustainable  
way to  
save

**We are restyling gift baskets made exclusively from items bought from charity shops and let me tell you: they are a hit!**

Gift baskets and hampers made from items purchased from charity shops are a thoughtful and eco-friendly way to show your appreciation. They can bring a smile to your loved one's faces while helping to save the planet, support a good cause and leave extra cash in your pockets.

We know how good this sounds and we already know your next question: what kind of items should you include in a gift basket? Here are a few suggestions.



**Toiletries:** You can create a spa-themed gift basket with items like soaps, scented candles, bath salts, and loofahs. These items, when repurposed, offer a sustainable and cost-effective way to pamper your loved ones.

**Home Decor:** Consider creating a charming home decor gift hamper by including items such as vintage picture frames, decorative vases, or quirky wall art.

**Books:** You can curate a reading-themed gift basket by selecting a variety of secondhand adventures they can jump into. Add a cosy blanket and you are set!

**Accessories:** Accessories like scarves, hats, and jewellery can easily be found in charity shops. Create a fashionable gift basket by mixing and matching these items to suit your recipient's style. A carefully curated set of accessories can elevate any outfit without breaking the bank.

Whatever the reason: Christmas present, anniversary, birthday, or a simple kind gesture for someone, you can always count on a gift basket. So, the next time you're in search of a meaningful and cost-effective gift, consider visiting your local Salvation Army charity shop to create a one-of-a-kind gift.



# Let's have a Sustainable Conversation

By Charlene Bent

Sustainability has become a buzzword on the tip of everyone's tongues but, what does it really mean? From retailers to community projects, it's the one thing that organisations seem to be championing.

Last year, the Salvation Army Trading Company Ltd 's (SATCoL's) Redesigning Fashion collaboration with students from Winchester School of Art featured a collection of used textiles that students repurposed to create new high fashion garments. This season the campaign came to life with a new approach. The students upped the style stakes and the team at SATCoL reached out to fashion industry leaders and influencers to extend the campaign to a much-needed Sustainable Conversation.

The steps we can all take to engage in the conversation start at home, and second-hand fashion is a great way for customers to take part. By simply shopping in charity shops, we can give textiles a new lease of life and support the circular economy.





So how did the campaign come together? A group of innovative Year 2 Fashion students from Winchester School of Art were given items donated to some of SATCoL's 8,000 clothing banks across the UK and the opportunity to be creative and submit their upcycled garments as part of their final project. The photoshoot was produced by a star-studded glam team including, fashion photographer Catherine Harbour, fashion stylist Abby McHale and award-winning makeup artist Lan Nguyen-Grealis. The images feature a series of striking outfits pinned against The Salvation Army colours in the background. SATCoL has plans to reveal more collaborations with industry leaders over the coming weeks with a Sustainable Conversation podcast featuring special guests on Apple, Spotify, YouTube and SATCoL TV ([www.satcol.org/satcol-tv](http://www.satcol.org/satcol-tv)).



One of the key pieces from the campaign feature an upcycled oversized white coat made from used curtains, created by Winchester School of Art student Faye James. The quilted look nods to the supersize trend and is a great way for the fashion shy to embrace the seasons style seen on catwalks from brands such as, Marc Jacobs and Balenciaga.

We interviewed fashion designer Faye James, to learn more about her inspiration and influences to create her works of art. "I live by the sea, I find being at the beach really inspiring looking at the shapes of things such as waves, cliff shapes and rocks," Faye said.

The process for Faye was one informed by this love of all things natural and it's this interest that inspires her love of conscious creation. Faye shared, "I hope that upcycling and different ways of being sustainable with clothes can be taught through school from an early age as I don't believe it is spoken about enough and people need to be educated about the ongoing effects of what's happening."

Faye continued, "I love visiting local charity shops and

small fabric shops and looking through off-cuts or old remnants. My designing develops more when I get drawn to certain fabrics. I have tried in the past to use a lot of dead stock (unsaleable stock) material and to find ways of manipulating it to create a different texture or dyeing it to create different colours. I love creating a new textile from something else."

"When designing, it is extremely important to me to think about the waste produced. When it comes to pattern cutting, I'm trying to work on my layout plans to create zero waste or as little waste as possible. I can then save all my scrap fabric to use for new projects. I'm always trying to be conscious of the waste produced when designing and each time I'm trying to think of solutions to minimise it."

Faye James also shared, "My personal hope for the future of fashion is that the industry itself takes charge in the creation of a sustainable future. Only then will we start to see a real change."

Head to [www.satcol.org](http://www.satcol.org) to learn more about the collaboration with Winchester School of Art. Follow us [@reuse2repurpose](https://www.instagram.com/reuse2repurpose) and tune in to the SATCoL podcast, The Sustainable Conversation available on all major platforms.



Faye James and her creation



Created by Peony Lewis



Created by Nicole Ballard

# Shopping in your 20s: A sustainable choice

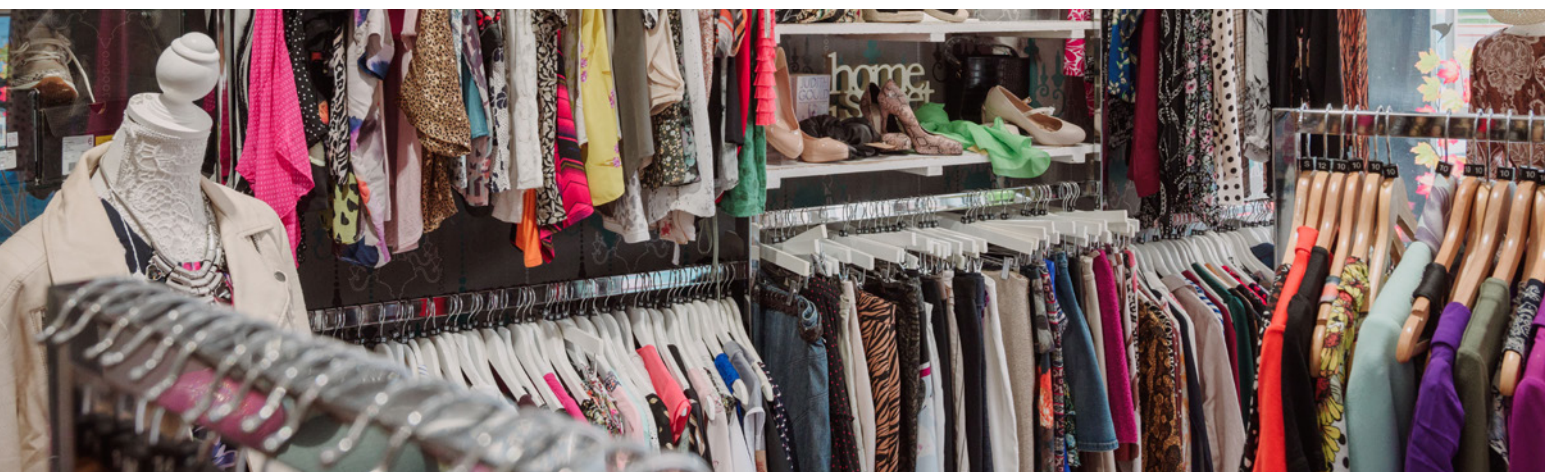
By Sabine Petkevica



Charity shops today feel like a hidden treasure map, where you never really know what you might find. Sure, years ago second-hand clothing would still be looked at as nothing more than 'outdated fashion', but those days feel far behind us.

Charity shops are full of high-quality garments and wonderful pre-loved pieces waiting to be snatched up. And in a world dominated by fast fashion, with trends coming and going at lightning speed, charity shops offer a refreshing change: the chance of creating a wardrobe that reflects your individuality without sacrificing your budget.

Like many people in their 20's, I often find myself on a tight budget, and I'm always looking for an affordable shopping alternative. 'Stylish and affordable' is my motto. When popping to my charity shop, I'm always on the lookout for a nice pair of baggy cargo trousers. They are the statement piece in my wardrobe. The pale green pair I found in The Salvation Army Wilmslow boutique were the perfect find.





As soon as I walked in, I had to second guess if I walked into the right place. It truly did feel like the boutique it was made to be, with beautiful décor and equally-as-impressive clothing rails. The highlight for me were the jackets, which came in all shapes, colours and sizes to suit every outfit. This cropped lilac jacket was definitely the value-for-money piece of the day.

I was looking for a comfortable but trendy travel outfit, and it didn't take me long to find. I never really shop with an outfit in mind, instead I leave it up to the imagination and luck on the day. Sometimes this means I go in looking for a pair of jeans and come back with 4 new summer dresses in the middle of the winter. On this occasion however, I was fortunate. I love a good colour combo, and I found the perfect black silk top to match the cargos. Paired with some funky retro sunglasses, I felt ready to jump on that plane and head straight to the Italian sunshine.





Help for those who need it most, thank you.



# ms.rachelboo visits Bristol donation centre

By Andreea Dumitru

We invited Rachel Boo, the sustainable fashion lover known as @ms.rachelboo to visit our Bristol donation centre and give us some decluttering tips. Rachel is a 54-year-old mother of 3 grown up sons with a set of autistic twins. She is a charity shopper who loves showing her followers that they don't need fast fashion trends to look and feel great. Rachel visited our Bristol donation centre and brought her donations in a ReBag! We took the opportunity to ask her some questions during her visit.

### 1. How did you choose your donations?

I chose my donations based on the season. I would not donate summer clothes in winter and vice versa. For this donation, I had two navy coats so I chose to give one to charity and I also had some jumpers that will be useful for the colder months.

### 2. Was it easy to pick the items you wanted to donate?

I generally choose the items I want to donate based on last year's wardrobe. I follow the rule that, if I did not wear it last year, there is a slim chance that I will do it this year, so it will go in the donation bag.

### 3. What are your tips for decluttering?

Choose a really wet rainy day, get in some comfy clothes, and empty your wardrobe. Then decide what is definitely going to be donated, what can be altered (i.e. from a maxi dress to a shorter dress, from jeans to shorts etc.) and what would your friends like that you can pass on. Then, once you have formed the piles, pack your donations in a bag and take them to a charity shop, call your friends to give them the items you think they will like and start your DIY projects.

### 4. Do you often buy sustainable/second hand items?

My wardrobe is 90% preloved as is my home. I only buy brand new footwear; underwear and I bought a mattress. I also occasionally buy from small sustainable brands and independent shops. I love shopping second-hand because it is better for the planet and for my purse. And I also enjoy thrifting amazing items.

### 5. What did you think about the Bristol donation centre?

I loved the Bristol donation centre. The staff and volunteers are so friendly and helpful! The store is well lit, airy and laid out very well and there are so many great items donated. I will definitely come back for another round of shopping.

\*A ReBag is a bag for life that brings you rewards for donated items. You can buy one for only 99p from your local Salvation Army charity shop.



Our *Partners*

We love your...

# furniture\* donations!



**FREE**  
collection  
available

Search for '**Salvation Army donation centre**' online to find out more about free furniture collections near you!

We are opening new donation centres all the time, so be sure to pop in to your local store.



\*Please ensure fire labels are intact when donating upholstered items.

# Shopping online for second-hand Treasures



**In today's fast-paced world, shopping sustainably and on a budget are two of the most appealing features to customers. Due to this, one trend that has been gaining momentum in recent years is shopping online for second-hand items. It's not just a way to save money; it's a sustainable lifestyle choice that aligns with the principles of reduce, reuse, and recycle.**

The concept of buying second-hand items isn't new, but the internet has revolutionized the way we do it. Online marketplaces like eBay, Vinted, Depop and Etsy have made it easier than ever to find pre-loved treasures from the comfort of your home. The trend gained momentum when people realized the potential for finding unique, high-quality items at a fraction of the price. And it comes with a lot of benefits.

By choosing second-hand, you're reducing the demand for new products, which helps lower the carbon footprint associated with manufacturing and shipping. Preloved items are also less expensive than high street shops and they are unique. You can find vintage items at a fraction of the cost and find unique styles that suits any wardrobe need.

### **Salvation Army Shops Go Digital!**

We have great news! Our charity shops decided to board onto the second-hand online shopping trend and we are pleased to announce that our eBay shop is now up and running. Our customers

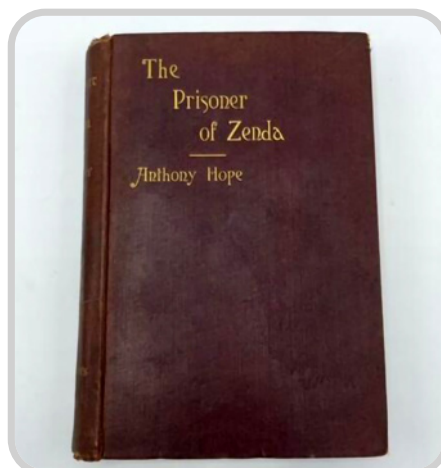
can now order preloved and sustainable items from the comfort of their homes and find unique and affordable bargains. Our eBay shop displays items from various shops, so now you will be able to access a nationwide catalogue of preloved goodies which are waiting for you, at just one click away.

If you are intrigued and want to have a look, visit our eBay shop at Salvation Army Trading Co Ltd and have a browse though the hundreds of bargains available for you.

By choosing to shop with us, you're not only getting great deals but also making a positive impact and helping the environment by choosing preloved treasures. So, join the thrifty revolution and start your sustainable shopping journey today!

*Andreea*

Editor





## Every Child Warm: The Salvation Army's Heartwarming Initiative in Gateshead

The Salvation Army is making a difference in the lives of more than 200 children and their families through a heartwarming initiative called "Every Child Warm" in the Gateshead community. This remarkable programme, now in its seventh year, tackles the harsh realities of poverty by providing essential items like high-quality winter coats, school uniforms, and shoes to those in need.

Every Child Warm operates over three days at the end of August, just in time for the start of the school year. Its primary goal is to alleviate the financial strain that many families face, especially when it comes to

purchasing expensive school necessities.

One of the most touching aspects of Every Child Warm is how it empowers children. Youngsters are encouraged to select their own items, guided by volunteers who act as personal shoppers. This approach not only ensures that children receive what they truly need but also allows them to experience the joy of choosing something special.

Donations made to our clothing banks have provided hundreds of pairs of school shoes and warm coats to the project.

## Empowering Special Education Students

In Bicester, a remarkable partnership between the local community and The Salvation Army is making a significant impact on the lives of young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

The Vine Café isn't just your typical coffee shop; it's a haven of learning and growth. Under the careful supervision of Lieutenant Jamie Slater, alongside her husband and co-leader Lieutenant Ray Slater, seven to eight students are offered a unique opportunity to develop catering and hospitality skills. These skills, often overlooked in traditional educational settings, empower the students to explore the world of food preparation, cooking, and serving. More than that, it helps them build confidence and self-esteem.

The students serve approximately 45 customers each Tuesday during lunchtime, creating an inclusive

environment where all patrons can enjoy a delicious meal. Accommodations like talking weighing scales, braille recipes and menus with pictures, ensure that everyone can participate in the bustling cafe life.





# THANK YOU

to our wonderful volunteers  
for another great year.



If you want to find out about  
volunteering with us,  
**ask in store.**

