

NEW MOTORBIKES HELP PASTORS \$A780M DEVELOPMENT GETS THE GO-AHEAD WOMEN'S ORDINATION OFF THE AGENDA

New motorbikes help pastors reach their congregations

David Lawson/Jarrold Stackelroth—Honiara, Solomon Islands

A retired pastor has now donated 65 motorbikes, worth more than \$A250,000 in three South Pacific countries. The motorbike project commenced in 2006 and allows for district directors to service their sometimes vast territories.

The most recent bikes went to pastors in the Solomon Islands. Local mission president, Andrew Kingston, spoke to Pastor David Lawson on Monday March 15, about plans to purchase three or four motorbikes. Within three days, Pastor Lawson used his connections and 10 bikes had been ordered in Honiara and were being prepared for delivery. Nine days after the request the bikes were delivered to the Mission compound for a special handover, dedication ceremony on April 1. Some of those bikes were in action the very next day.

“The pastors in the Solomon Islands are now able to visit their churches more regularly, look after their church members in a better way and conduct Bible studies and outreach programs,” says Pastor Kingston.

The motorbikes are owned by local missions and assigned for pastors to use.

Of the 65 motorbikes, 48 have been sent to Papua New Guinea, seven bikes to Vanuatu and most recently, 10 bikes to the Solomon Islands.

Pastor Lawson accepts church member donations and puts the proceeds from the sale of his four books toward the project. Other income has come from the South Pacific Division, the *Quiet Hour*, Papua New Guinea Union Mission and local missions.

One Papua New Guinean pastor recently wrote expressing thanks for his bike: “I have 26 churches. Until now I have visited them for Sabbath programs twice a year. Now I have reorganised my preaching plan. I visit five churches each Sabbath, meaning I can visit my churches every five weeks instead of every 26 weeks.” Pastor Lawson is looking for more sponsors for this special project.

For more information about the motorbike project or Pastor Lawson’s books, go to www.lawsondiscovery.com.



Pastor Andrew Kingston tries out one of the new bikes.



Pastor Harker hangs up his passport

Ken Vogel—Ringwood, Victoria

Every second year the Australian Union Conference runs a study tour of key European centres involved in the Reformation period of history. It all began in 1994 when the then Trans-Tasman Union Conference backed the vision of Pastor Harold Harker to offer pastors and Bible and history teachers the opportunity to experience first-hand the places of significance associated with the Reformation and major historical events.

Pastor Harker has decided to hang up the passport, so to speak, after leading eight of these tours. But the study tours will continue, with the Australian Union Conference passing the mantle to Pastor Russell Stanley. Pastor Stanley having been mentored by Pastor Harker, has already commenced planning for the 2011 study tour.

These study tours are very complex and time consuming

to organise, requiring more than 12 months to bring to satisfactory realisation. The actual tour is not for any but the fit and committed, with hectic schedules and detailed learning. Every participant has required pre-departure reading so as to be ready for the pace and to maximise their learning. Normally six countries are visited: Italy, France, Switzerland, Germany, the Czech Republic and the United Kingdom.

Almost every participant has been blessed and inspired—now better understanding how God has acted in history to accomplish His purposes.

The Australian Union Conference thanks Pastor Harker for his leadership and is committed to continue making God’s story in history available through study tours while time and resources make that possible.



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A gospel of convenience

Pablo Lillo

More and more, it seems the gospel of Jesus Christ has been replaced by a gospel of convenience. It's evident the highest goal in our daily lives is the realisation of our own comfort. We often seek God in prayer so He can relieve our pain, improve our self-esteem, heal our hurts, give us freedom from our problems and the independence to pursue our own happiness.

When it comes to church we demand great preaching, the finest music, excellent choirs, the best in children's and youth ministry—in short, church as we would like it to be. But we're often carried away by the trimmings of worship, the latest technological enhancements, while missing the object of that worship and praise, Jesus Himself.

In your church, where are the 30 to 45 year olds? Where do the young couples go after Sabbath school? Who supports our single mothers? Where are our youth? If they have stopped coming—why? And do we even care?

Allow me to ask you an important question: What is the greatest challenge in your life today? Is it financial security, marriage, health, loneliness, purchasing a home, retirement, study, your church or maybe your relationship with God?

What is the main goal of Adventists awaiting Christ's soon return? Is it our own pursuit of happiness or are we here to passionately serve Christ with all He's given us? Are we still a people who call upon Jesus' name, desperately seeking Him with heart, soul and mind?

I hope the answer is yes. I know God still has a people who thirst for Him. Forgetful? Yes. Weak? Yes. Unfaithful? Yes. Self-centred? Yes. Unreliable? Yes. But we are still His.

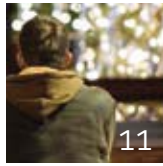
My greatest need is to manage my life in such a way that I live in a vital union with Christ on a consistent basis. It's a daily challenge—so I seek the Lord in prayer...

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Wahroonga \$780m development gets the go-ahead

Kent Kingston—Wahroonga, New South Wales

After three years of consultation and negotiations, the NSW Government has approved a \$A780 million property development plan for the Wahroonga Estate.

The development will include 500 apartments, a K-12 Adventist school, church building, shops and commercial space. An aged care facility will also be established, including 50 dwellings, a 104-bed hostel and 41 nursing home beds.

A significant upgrade of the Sydney Adventist Hospital will significantly increase the available beds. Space for nurse training will be expanded, with additional facilities for learning and research.

“Currently there are a lot of people who cannot access our services because we don’t have enough beds,” says Dr Leon Clark, the San’s CEO. “The demand for beds from local residents will increase about 70 per cent in the next 15 years. We’ll be increasing the number of operating theatres and establishing a specialist coordinated cancer centre.”

Opposition from resident groups and the Ku-ring-gai Council about some aspects of the development were a roadblock to government approval. A Council submission to the NSW Government cited concerns about high-density housing and shops in an area which has not been designated a town centre or has good access to public transport. There were also environmental concerns, with tracts of native bushland described as “endangered”.

But the final decision rested with the NSW Government rather than the local council. Nevertheless, the final

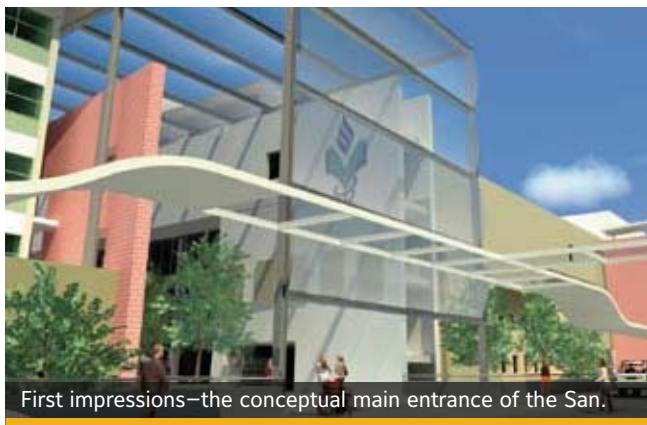


A birds-eye view of the updated hospital compound.

approvals did not occur until a revised plan had been submitted which reduced the number of dwellings and quarantined ecologically sensitive bushland.

NSW Planning Minister Tony Kelly announced the Government’s approval of the development plan at an official launch on the San’s front lawn. “This is a significant development for the area, and for New South Wales,” he said. “The projected population in Sydney of 1.7 million people over the next 25 years—they do need hospitals.” Johnson Property Group proprietor, Keith Johnson described the Wahroonga development as a “living, working community.” He said that although the final detailed design was yet to be submitted “...we’re ready to go and start the next stages straight away.”

Minister Kelly noted that individual applications for each of the stages will now have to be put forward, “...but this speeds the process up and it’s a great step forward.”



First impressions—the conceptual main entrance of the San.



The new retail precinct—gift shops and cafes.

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Record enrolments at Avondale College

Brenton Stacey—Cooranbong, New South Wales

More students studying less units—that is the good and the bad news of another record enrolment at Avondale College. Enrolment for semester one this year is 1318, nine more than the previous record set in 2009. But this equates to 556 when measured as equivalent full-time student loads (EFTSL), a decrease of almost 18 over semester one, 2009. EFTSL relates directly to income. However, more than 40 per cent of the students enrolled are beginning their course this year. "This should set us up for strong enrolment over the next three years," says president Dr Ray Roennfeldt.

With 285 students—a new record—the Bachelor of Nursing remains the most popular course at Avondale. Students can begin the course on the Lake Macquarie or Sydney campus, with both recording increases this year. The increase is usually only on the Sydney campus, where students complete the course. However, the growth has now prompted Avondale to offer nursing to first-year students on the Lake Macquarie campus not only in first but second semester, too. A waiting list Avondale set up this past year for the course has now been removed.

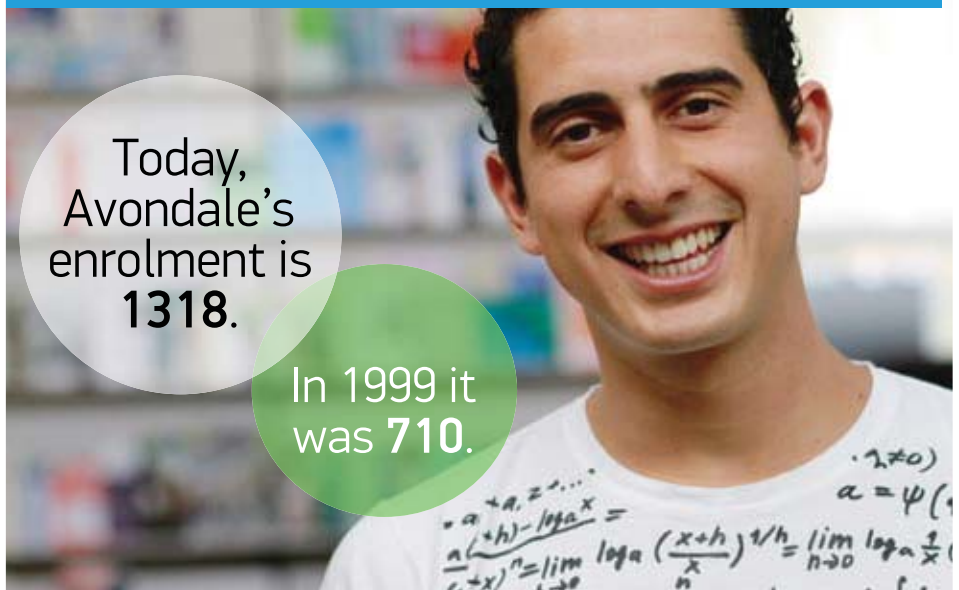
A scholarship worth \$2500 in meal credit for first-year on-campus students with a Commonwealth Supported Place in a science and teaching course is also proving popular. The Science Sizzler helped increase enrolment in science courses to a record 50 students, 27 in the Bachelor of Science and 23 in the Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Teaching.

Enrolment in the Doctor of Philosophy continues to grow, up from nine in 2009 to 15 this year. It brings to 32 the number of higher degree by research students. According to vice-president (administration and research) Dr Vivienne Watts, the impact these students have on research culture is significant. "They're a catalyst for discussion and for encouraging others to study by research," she says. They will also help Avondale in its application for university college status. The number of higher degree by research students must be at least 0.9 per cent of the total number of students. Avondale currently has 1.9 per cent and aims to have 2.7 per cent by next year. A record 126 students enrolled as part of the mentoring and recruitment initiative, Helping Hands, because 69 students—also a record—registered to recruit them.

NOW @ THEN

Today,
Avondale's
enrolment is
1318.

In 1999 it
was **710.**





Eight ministers ordained over summer

Jerry Matthews

The New Zealand Pacific Union Conference has had the privilege of witnessing eight ministers ordained.

In South New Zealand Conference

- Kyle Richardson with his wife, Nicole and sons Braden, Tyler, Jacob and Noah, was ordained on the 28/11/09 at Rangiora Church. Pastor Richardson's call came midway through an economics lecture at University.

In North New Zealand Conference

A group of five ministers were ordained during the first Sabbath of North New Zealand camp on the 9/1/10.

- Hugh Heenan gained a deep sense of God's calling in his mid teens. He shares his ministry with wife, Radda and daughter, Isobel.
- Daniel Herrera sensed his calling to ministry shortly after his baptism at 15 years of age. He is joined in ministry by wife Sidonia, son, Noah and daughter, Kayla.
- Norman Hurlow sensed his calling after completing schooling and initially feeling medical work was where he wanted to go and felt God impressing him otherwise.
- Sekope Uhila (wife Ilisapesi, sons David, Sekope and daughter Vikatolia) was impressed with a call to ministry shortly after his conversion and immediately followed through with theology training and has since ministered in the Tongan community in Auckland.
- Paul Hopson (wife Sarah) was ordained at Pukekohe with a combined gathering of his local churches in Papakura and Manna Park. His call came while he was in the middle of a career in electrical engineering.

In French Polynesia Mission

Two ministers were ordained on the 19/12/09 at a large regional gathering at the Mataiea Church

- Steven Atger (wife Hina, daughters Stena and Vaitehele) had been in accounting for some years when he felt called.
- Roger Tetuanui (wife Lillian) was a bank teller for some years when he sensed the call for a change of direction.

"We praise God for His leading in each minister's journey and honor each pastor for their life commitment to ministry in serving God," says Pastor Jerry Matthews, president of the NZPUC.



1. Kyle & Nicole Richardson 2. Hugh & Radda Heenan 3. Daniel & Sidonia Herrera
4. Norman & Liz Hurlow 5. Sekope & Ilisapesi Uhila 6. Paul & Sarah Hopson
7. Roger & Lillian Tetuanui Steven & Hina Atger

Papuan professionals "Christians in their world"

Ray Coombe—Papua New Guinea

One hundred and ten professional lay members from the Madang Manus Mission attended a seminar over the weekend of March 12-14, conducted by the Stewardship and Church Growth Department of the Papua New Guinea Union Mission. With the theme, "The Christian in the World", the seminar focused on practical issues that members face each day in their professional and personal lives. Union Stewardship Director, Pastor Max Zaccias said that the seminar was designed to provide "Biblical insights into how we can be 'in the world' and yet be not 'of the world'".

On Sunday morning, sessions were held that addressed current health issues in Papua New Guinea including gender-based violence and the spread of HIV-AIDS. Other speakers over the weekend included Union President, Pastor Thomas Davai, and South Pacific Division director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty, Pastor Ray Coombe.



Delegates in front of Coast Watchers Lighthouse, a symbol of the conference.



God squad

NSW Police Commissioner, Andrew Scipione, is booked as the guest speaker at the inaugural Sydney Prayer Breakfast, a prayer meeting to take place on June 4 at the Shangri-La Hotel. Mr Scipione, a committed Christian, says his faith "ensures that I, in fact, do the right thing on every occasion." —Sydney Morning Herald



Pacific prayer

Churches across the Pacific will be focusing on natural disasters when they come together for their Pacific Day of Prayer, on Friday 7 May. The event will see churches calling on God to heal the pain endured by all those affected by disasters in the past year. —Council for World Mission



Music deal

EMI Christian Music Group has entered into a deal to represent the master rights and music publishing of Hillsong Music, an arm of Hillsong Church, a growing evangelical ministry based in Sydney, Australia. The deal covers North America and Latin America. —billboard.biz



Cyber witness

Internet Evangelism Day, to be held this year on May 2, is a strategic resource to help the worldwide church understand the transformation of digital media, and the possibilities of utilising the Web to share the good news of Jesus Christ, suggests event co-ordinator Tony Whitaker. —<www.internetevangelismday.com>



Pope accused

Prominent atheists Richard Dawkins and Christopher Hitchens have asked human rights lawyers to produce a case for charging Benedict XVI over an alleged cover-up of sexual abuse. Dawkins wants to have the Pope arrested during his state visit to Britain "for crimes against humanity". The Pope will be in Britain between September 16 and 19. —CathNews



Strip surprise

Figures released by the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research show people may be less safe in a NSW church than at a strip club. 1600 people were charged with a range of 27 offences in the state's "places of worship" in 2008, and only 282 were charged in premises considered as adult entertainment. —Sunday Telegraph

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Vote on women's ordination off the agenda

by RECORD/ANN staff

The issue of women's ordination will not be included on the agenda for the 59th General Conference Session of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Speaking to church leaders at the Spring Meeting in Silver Spring, Maryland, Dr Paulsen, the General Conference president, said that a survey of the church's 13 world church divisions revealed only three willing to accept a change in the current policy of not ordaining women to pastoral ministry. Eight divisions reported the move would negatively impact membership. Two other divisions apparently did not respond.

The survey arose, Dr Paulsen said, from discussions held during the January 2010 meeting of the church's President's Executive Administrative Council.

"At the end of 2009, the Executive Committee of the South Pacific Division made a request of the General Conference that women be ordained in the same way as men in this Division," says Dr Barry Oliver, president of the South Pacific Division. "Since, at the present time, ordination grants ministerial privilege in the global Seventh-day Adventist Church, it was necessary and appropriate for the General Conference to survey the response of the other world divisions to such a request. This survey was conducted in the early months of this year. It indicated that a considerable majority of the world divisions are not yet ready to accept a situation of varying practice with respect to ordination."

Dr Paulsen's comments came in response to a question from Johann E Johannsson, a pastor who is also treasurer for the church's Trans-European Division. Johannsson asked why the issue was not included in the Spring Meeting agenda as had been promised at last year's Annual Council.

"We had a full discussion of this and agreed at that time, that we would attempt to take the pulse of the global church on this matter of the role of women in leadership

positions, the role of women in ministry and how we affirm that, by what credential, [and] by what process do we do that," Dr Paulsen told Spring Meeting delegates.

He added, "There were three divisions that responded by saying either they were ready to affirm women in ministry by the process of ordination, or significant parts of their division would do it."

Of the eight divisions that declined to consider women's ordination, each included in their response a description of how women are engaged in leadership in their respective regions. However "They came back and said they would not ordain women, and the people in their part of the world would be negatively affected," Dr Paulsen said.

"Since the unity of the global Church is an essential aspect of our identity, and the results of this survey were so conclusive, the General Conference President has stated that he does not have a mandate to place the matter on the agenda of the General Conference session in 2010," says Dr Oliver. "While this is not the direction that we hoped for in this Division, as part of a global Church family it is vital that we move forward in harmony with the decisions of the global Church."

Dr Paulsen added, "in fairness to the global church, many of you say, 'There are changes also taking place in the church in our part of the globe. We are not where we were 10 years ago.' It's a process of education, a process of growth. Maybe a new generation is needed. I don't know."

At the 1990 and 1995 General Conference Sessions, delegates voted "No" on the issue of ordaining women. Since ordination is, under church bylaws, required for certain offices, including election to most executive leadership roles, the issue is likely to remain under discussion for some time to come.



Memorising Bible books
Parramatta church Adventurers (Sydney) memorised the books of the Bible during their first camp in 2010. They had to organise the books of the Old and New Testaments in order.
—Pablo Lillo



90 year-olds witness
Jack and Elva Phare have proved that Christians never retire. Fijian Doreen Baleilakaba is staying on their farm (Te Puke, NZ) where they answered her questions about the Sabbath. Ms Baleilakaba has now been baptised in the Papamoa Gathering.—Glenda Nilsson



Speaker not lite on Hype
Following his South Pacific tour, Pastor Eddie Hypolite and his wife have returned home to London (UK). But not before he spoke at the Victorian Camp at Elmore. He said Adventists need more than a knowledge of doctrine—they must have relationship with God.
—David Gibbons



Student volunteer on TV
Jessica Parsons' experience in Rwanda has led to an appearance on Australian television. Channel 10's investment program, *The Barefoot Investor*, interviewed Jess, winner of the 2009 Avondale College Alumni Association Community Service Award. Jess worked with orphans and children of sex workers.—Brenton Stacey



Five ANZACs tell their story
Avondale Retirement Village residents remember their service years: Vivien Fish (Darwin, New Britain: 1941-6 WA), Walter Potter (pilot: 1943-6), Harry Robinson (Darwin, PNG: 1942-6), Richard Marshall (Middle East: 1940-3), Fergus Mackay (PNG, New Britain: 1942-6), and Pastor Len Barnard (medic: 1942-6). You can watch their interviews at <<http://nsw.adventist.org.au>>. —NNSW NorthPoint



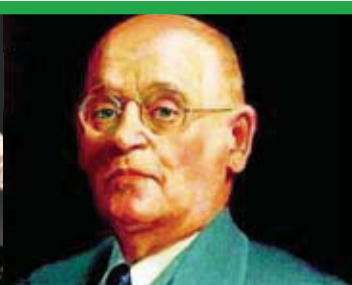
Baby boom in Western Australia
The Western Australian Conference Big Camp not only experienced the Holy Spirit in abundance this Easter, it put on a great showing of babies. More than 50 bubs brought along their proud mums and dads to beginners' Sabbath school.
—Pablo Lillo



Increase of 47% at Big Camp
Victorian Conference President Wayne Stanley and his wife Martina, are pleased with the success of the newly located camp at Elmore in central Victoria. The Village Square is a new idea which sees musicians and devotional speakers share with campers in a marketplace setting between meetings.—David Gibbons



Adventists urged: Live life to the full
Samoan born Pastor Eddie Tupai, president of the NNZ Conference, was a keynote speaker at the Greater Sydney Conference *Inspire* leadership and training weekend. He inspired and challenged hundreds to live life to the full in growing God's church.—Pablo Lillo



Cereal king remembered
Sydney's Daily Telegraph has featured a story about early Adventist Willie Keith Kellogg who would have turned 150 this month. He and his brother, Dr John Harvey Kellogg, discovered breakfast cereals. A legal battle in 1910 caused a rift between them, but not before Willie gave most of his \$US50 million fortune to the needy.—Troy Lennon, *Daily Telegraph*



Celebrated Aboriginal artist in his first exhibition
The Koori Mail has published a story about self-taught veteran artist Leo Wright, who has artworks in many famous collections around the world. But now his first exhibition in his home town of Dughutti (NSW) has brought attention to Wright, an Adventist intern pastor.
—NNSW NorthPoint



Egg-celent students
Year 5 Avondale School (NNSW) students used their science knowledge to protect a raw egg while it was dropped four metres. They used shopping bags as parachutes, balloons, foam and bubble wrap packaging. Three top students were commended for designing lightweight and safe constructions.—Susan Rogers

Maybe?

by Robert Daniels

I have a confession to make of which I am not proud. It is something that has worried me for some years now. I don't like going to my church. It's something of a chore that I feel required to fulfil but my heart is not really in it.

I have come to see church attendance as something of an irrelevance in my life. It is no longer the place I go to for a spiritual blessing and to draw closer to God and I feel so guilty. My church has made attempts at being more relevant, but to be honest it just seems gimmicky. I figure the problem must be me, or maybe...

Maybe a church that is all about God working in peoples lives would be more relevant. Maybe instead of a church service being the pastor or appointed speaker standing up the front and preaching on a topic of their choice, the church could split up into groups of 10 or 15 individuals and share testimonies of how Christ has helped us through the week. Maybe we could testify to each other of His mercies and share Bible verses that are of particular significance to us.

Maybe our children and young people could be part of these groups and feel free to share their testimonies and ask questions. Maybe they would feel valued—that what they have to share is important—as all eyes are on them. Maybe they will see the relevance of Christ in the lives of their elders and know that there is power in the Christian walk. Maybe they would not look at the church service with dread and not require pad and paper to keep them entertained for the service hour.

Maybe the groups could be made up of different people each week so that we get to mingle with different church members in a deeply spiritual context. Maybe there would no longer be strangers in the church, as we could meet everyone and hear their testimonies, their victories and their problems as opposed to the "good morning" that might get

exchanged in passing. Maybe members would feel safe to share their heartaches with others in the group so we could surround them with prayer and support them with love and healing. Maybe a group could go to the house of a church member who is bedridden or ill or absent for some other reason and have a testifying session in their home, bringing the worship experience to them.

Maybe one Sabbath a month the pastor could take an in-depth Bible Study on topics chosen by members of the congregation; topics of Adventist doctrine that are unclear to people or unexplored. Maybe this could be a special time of study and heart searching that could go for two or three hours, or even more, with a fellowship lunch to break up the time. Maybe we could develop a biblically literate church with a real love for the word of God.

Maybe we would feel confident to invite our non-Christian friends because we know they will experience the power of God as they hear first-hand testimonies of how Christ has worked in their lives in a real and powerful way. Maybe we could become a real community of believers, knowing everyone—and everyone knowing us—in a deep, personal and spiritual sense.

Maybe my church would become a place of such awesome relevance and power that there would no longer be capacity for the number of members and we would need to split up across the city and grow more churches where the Spirit can pour out His power and light a fire that will be unquenchable.

Or maybe...it is just a dream.

Robert Daniels is a pseudonym.



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OPINION

Kent Kingston

Human billboards

One of the trolley pushers at my local supermarket is a Sikh. He's easy to spot. The turban and beard give it away immediately. Without even speaking to him I know that he believes in one God and probably has links with the Punjab.

It's the same with the Hindu tika—the red dot on the forehead—or a Muslim woman's hijab headscarf. Many followers of these religions choose to express their beliefs through their physical appearance.

But what about Christians? I'm attracted by the idea of a constant public witness. Whether it's a cross pendant around my neck, a religious T-shirt slogan, a Jesus sticker on my car or even—dare I admit?—a Christian tattoo. These outward expressions would state my loyalties clearly, even if I never opened my mouth.

Now, you might not be comfortable with wearing jewellery, let alone a tattoo. And you might feel that T-shirt slogans and bumper stickers are a little crass.

But there's power in these modes of expression. Why else would companies spend so much money emblazoning their logos on our clothes? How else do you explain assaults on a person who dared wear a rival sporting team's colours?

Whether we like it or not, how we present ourselves says something about our values and loyalties. We are human billboards. What do your clothes communicate? Your hair? Your car or house? Are you saying, "I'm a member of the cultural elite"? "I'm rebelling"? "I'm sexy"? Or "I don't care"?

The Bible doesn't call on Christians to wear religious identifiers. Neither does it condemn the practice. But it does call for humility, modesty and simplicity.

In the end, perhaps the key question is: How do I present myself so that Jesus can most easily be seen through me?

Kent Kingston produces the RECORD InFocus program seen on Hope Channel and Australian Christian Channel and Shine TV in New Zealand.





A DIY guide to living longer

Are there ways to reduce the risk of chronic disease and add years to our lives? New research suggests we can and it's as simple as sticking to four key lifestyle factors.

- Stay a healthy weight
- Walk for half an hour every day
- Eat fruits, vegetables and wholegrains, and
- Don't smoke

For more than 20 years, the European Prospective Investigation into Cancer and Nutrition (EPIC) has been investigating diet and lifestyle factors and the incidence of chronic disease.

A recent EPIC study reveals these four key lifestyle factors have the potential to dramatically reduce the onset of chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes and cancer, helping us live longer.

Statistics show that many of us will develop these chronic diseases—especially as we get older if we continue on our current path. The good news is any positive changes we make to our lifestyle will help. Adopting just one of the healthy living traits will help, and the more lifestyle factors we follow, the better.

So let's take a closer look at each of these four key healthy lifestyle factors:

HEALTHY WEIGHT: Maintaining a healthy weight has the greatest impact on the risk of disease and longevity. For most people, weight gain occurs in small amounts, over a number of years. The most effective weight loss is around half a kilo per week.

ACTIVITY: Walking is a great, low impact, easy to do activity. Half an hour each day is all it takes, or two 15-minute blocks. When you break it down like that, it could be as easy as walking to the next bus stop, or to the shops instead of taking the car.

FOOD CHOICES: What we eat affects how well our body functions. Researchers highlight the importance of eating a variety of fruits, vegetables and wholegrains, increasing fibre, reducing saturated fat intake (meat, butter, cream) and limiting alcohol.

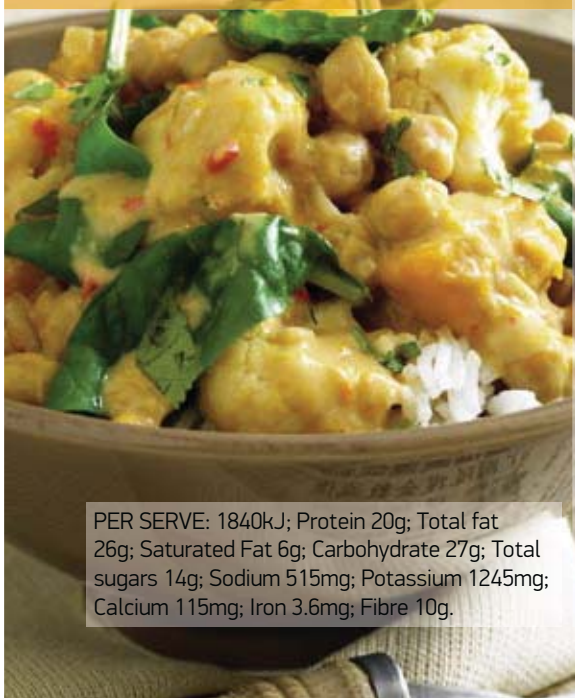
SMOKING: The best way to help your health is to never smoke. Smoking carries serious health consequences. There are many effective strategies and support groups that can help. For smokers who want to quit, the best place to go for help is Quitline (13 7878).

SMALL CHANGES CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE: Remember, adopting even one of the four lifestyle factors promises to increase the time free of chronic conditions, and make a difference to our health and how long we live.

If you would like more information on how to make better lifestyle choices, or simply improve your eating habits, call and speak to one of our qualified nutritionists at the Sanitarium Nutrition Service on 1800 673 392 (in Australia) or 0800 100 257 (in New Zealand). Alternatively, email us at nutrition@sanitarium.com.au (Australia) or nutrition@sanitarium.co.nz (New Zealand). Don't forget to ask for our latest cookbook, Food for Health and Happiness. It's free and we'd love to hear from you.



R RECIPE



Pumpkin, chickpea and spinach satay

- 2 tsp peanut oil
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- 1 long red chilli, seeds and membrane removed, finely chopped (optional)
- 700g pumpkin, peeled, chopped into 2-3cm chunks
- 165ml reduced fat coconut milk
- 2 cups cauliflower florets
- 1 tbsp soy sauce
- 400g can chickpeas, rinsed and drained
- 60g baby spinach leaves
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 tsp grated fresh ginger
- ½ cup vegetable stock
- ½ cup crunchy peanut butter
- 2 tsp brown sugar
- ¼ cup chopped coriander
- boiled rice, to serve

1. Heat oil in a large saucepan and cook onion for 4-5 minutes until soft. Add garlic, ginger and chilli and cook for 1 minute, stirring to combine.
2. Add pumpkin and stir to combine. Pour in coconut milk and stock, bring to the boil, cover and simmer for 8-10 minutes until pumpkin is just cooked.
3. Add cauliflower, cover and cook for 3-4 minutes until cauliflower is tender. Add peanut butter, soy sauce, sugar and chickpeas, stir to combine and heat through. Stir in coriander and spinach leaves.
4. Serve satay with rice. Serves 4.

Preparation time: 25 minutes. Cooking time: 25 minutes.

PER SERVE: 1840kJ; Protein 20g; Total fat 26g; Saturated Fat 6g; Carbohydrate 27g; Total sugars 14g; Sodium 515mg; Potassium 1245mg; Calcium 115mg; Iron 3.6mg; Fibre 10g.



by Kevin Price

Health revival

If a goal is so big, the task attempted by so few and there is a very short timeframe, what have you got? A problem!

Early Adventist leadership set out to warn their world. What a big goal, with so few attempting to do so much. They pushed themselves relentlessly, so hard that soon many of our key leaders had a problem—a dilemma that quickly transitioned into a health predicament. Their bodies and minds could not keep up with their relentless pace. They drove themselves into what we would call physical and mental “burnout” arriving at a state of health that prevented them from achieving what they had set out to do.

Lives lived out of balance result in poor health. This situation opened their minds and lives to the importance of health. It brought us, as a Church, to see the need for and value of Health Reform. I put it in capitals because of its importance. Leadership’s intemperance provided the need. God provided the vision and our church’s visionary lady delivered the message—“Behaviour Impacts Health”.

God made us perfect in Eden but this side of sin we are health challenged. We need to work, as much as lies within our powers, at looking after what God has given us. This is not righteousness by health, but is our appropriate response to God’s gracious gift of salvation. It is cooperating with God to work in and through our lives to bring glory to Him. Unlike many other churches and religions, Adventists came to understand and promote the spiritual dimensions of health.

As Adventists we take the Biblical view that body, mind and spirit is “us”, not separate parts of us. We see life along with health as being a God-given gift. Thus we see our lives and our health as involving “stewardship”. Interestingly the word “stewardship” does not appear in my computer’s dictionary. Unfortunately “looking after” or “making the most of” is an old fashioned concept that is desperately needed in this age of escalating lifestyle related health challenges.


Our bodies are described in 1 Corinthians 6:19,20 as temples. A temple is a sacred location—a place where God and man meet. God wants to dwell in us (1 Corinthians 3:16,17). From God’s perspective that makes us (body, mind and spirit) sacred. From our perspective physical, mental and spiritual health should be considered as a sacred offering to God. We do have choices to make. There are lifestyle actions that impact health and, by extension, spirituality.

Early Adventists went forward into Health Reform in a big way. By personal observation and then through faith in God’s leadership they made significant health behavioural changes. For them, it was about making informed new choices. Yes, Health Reform was about avoiding the destructive through abstinence (fortunately abstinence is still in my computer’s dictionary and I believe it still needs to be big in our repertoire of health behaviours). However, Adventist Health Reform also focused on constructive health behaviours. It emphasised nutritional improvements, adequate rest along with mental peace, the importance of physical activity, the value of good interpersonal relationships and the role of an attractive micro-environment to name just a few areas.

For this year’s Adventist Health Emphasis Week, I would encourage you to revisit these important determinates of wholistic health and the reasons why we should be health proactive from a spiritual perspective. My dictionary does not like the use of the word ‘wholistic’ but I have used that spelling by choice, as it has to do with the word ‘whole’ or ‘total’ in the context of health. My computer wanted me to go with ‘holistic’ health. I guess I could also go along with the concept of ‘holy health’ since we actively advocate the spiritual dimensions of health.

God provided the vision that opened our collective minds to the importance of Health Reform. He delivered to us a Health Message that, when followed, does make a significant difference in longevity across our Adventist population (as is now substantiated by the Adventist Health Studies’ and other supporting research evidence). Remember the longer you live the healthier you have been.

Unfortunately, many Adventists seem to no longer be taking our Health Reform counsel seriously and are wavering in their adherence. This is at the very time that the “world” is catching up on our illness prevention and health promotion lead. Our Health Message may sound less distinctive today. However, remember that being distinctive might have been advantageous, but it was not the real goal. The real goal of Health Reform is still being as healthy as we possibly can for the glory of God, for our families’ happiness and our own enjoyment of life.

I would like to see us revive Adventist Health Reform in a big way. If we do—that would be a health revival. Yes, that is what is needed now—an Adventist Health Revival. 

Kevin Price is the health director of the South Pacific Division.

To help us revive our ‘Health Message’ in a new and fresh way for Health Week 2010, we have worked along with our Florida Adventist Hospital’s CREATION Health team. They have prepared some excellent materials and resources, in the context of Adventist Health, that build on the acrostic CREATION. Each church in Australia and New Zealand will be receiving the following:

1. The book ‘Creation Health Discovery’ by Dr Des Cummings Jr, which outlines the eight CREATION Health themes.
2. An excellent DVD introducing the concept visually and audibly.

Every Adventist Health Director in the Pacific Islands has previously received a PowerPoint presentation on this theme. Further resources are available from CREATION Health (see www.creationhealth.com) or through the Adventist Health Ministries Department (SPD)

Phone +61 (0)2 9847 3368 or
email health@adventist.org.au



OPENING HIS WORD

David McKibben

Three as One

Most teachings in the Bible contain an element of mystery. Some are difficult to understand, and certainly the doctrine of the Trinity comes into that category. Although not formally stated, this teaching is implicitly and explicitly revealed throughout the Biblical record.

What does the Bible say about how the Trinity works?

-The Trinity made the birth of Jesus possible

Read Luke 1:35

-The Trinity was present at the baptism of Jesus.

Read Matthew 3:16, 17

-Jesus taught about the Trinity.

Read John 14: 7, 9-10, 16, 26.

-The Trinity is involved in the fulfilling of the Gospel Commission.

Read Matthew 28:18-20

-The Trinity were intimately involved in Jesus' resurrection, the events of Pentecost, and the advance of the Christian church.

Read Acts 2:32, 33

References to the Trinity are not as clear in the Old Testament. However, prophecies pointing forward to Jesus such as Isaiah 61:1-3 refer to three persons.

So, why is the teaching on the Trinity so important to us?

-The unity of the Trinity is a model of the fellowship that God desires for us; indeed, Jesus prayed that his followers would experience this unity.

Read John 17:20-23

-We have a great inheritance. Our fellowship is with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Read 1 John 1:3 and 2 Corinthians 13:14

-The Trinity is an example of unity in diversity.

Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

-All Three Persons love us and are committed to our salvation. This is the outstanding theme of Scripture.

Read 2 Timothy 3:15-17

Pastor David McKibben is ministerial secretary for the South Australian Conference.



HEALTH WISE

Dr Robert Granger

Coffee: the rest of the story (part 2)

I could cite studies which clearly demonstrate the adverse effects of coffee on health. You may point to others which refute that finding—or even tout coffee's salubrious properties. So let's begin with the undisputable facts.

Coffee's sought-after ingredient is caffeine, which is part of a family of stimulant drugs known as xanthines. Although we have no inherent need or requirement for caffeine, it is the most commonly consumed, legal mind-altering drug in the world. It is also the Christian's drug of preference. Besides coffee, it is found in many products including tea, as well as some confectionaries, soft and energy drinks, ice creams and over-the-counter medications.

Simply put, caffeine induces the release of excess stress hormones (adrenaline and cortisol) via its stimulant effects on the adrenal glands. It also inhibits adenosine, the body's natural tranquilising chemical involved in regulating the sleep-wake cycle. The brain's reward pathway, implicated in various addictions, is also stimulated and releases its signature hormone, dopamine.

Although some will argue that caffeine is not a truly addictive drug, it does lead to a form of physical and psychological dependence—a fact best demonstrated upon abrupt cessation of its consumption. When people don't get their usual dose of caffeine, they can experience a range of withdrawal symptoms that include: headache, fatigue, difficulty concentrating, flu-like symptoms, nausea or muscle pain. As is also true for nicotine, the satisfying feelings and perceived benefits derived from having the first morning dose of the drug appear to be nothing other than a simple reversal of the negative effects of withdrawal following an overnight abstinence.

God wants our body temples to be kept pure and undefiled from unwholesome and unnatural stimulants that subtly but surely erode our physical—and possibly our spiritual—well-being. Ask Him to help you break free from this powerful habit. I guarantee you will be rewarded with more energy, better concentration, improved sleep—and an abiding peace from knowing that you are living the lifestyle that God ordained for you. And our church-owned institutions that sell coffee may consider stocking only those beverages which definitively promote health.

Dr Robert H. Granger is undertaking specialist training in dermatology at Flinders Medical Centre. He also has Masters and Doctoral degrees in public health, focusing on preventive care.

OPINION POLL

My church doesn't emphasise the Holy Spirit enough

Agree	74.5%
Disagree	14.9%
It's about right	10.6%

Next Poll

What effect does the Adventist health message have on seekers?

Attract Repel Makes no difference

Please visit <record.net.au> to answer this poll.

Angelwing: a girl used by God

by John Brereton

Does the God of the past have the same power as our God today? Can He still bless those who are prepared to step out in faith for Him? I say yes, 100 per cent “yes” and here is proof.

A literature evangelist by the name of Angelwing had this exciting experience when she was selling her books. I know Angelwing personally. And yes, Angelwing is really her first name. She was given the name on the day she was born and it wasn't the name chosen for her. Immediately after she was born, her mother sent the father to register their new daughter's name. The father, so excited to finally have a daughter after a number of sons, eagerly told the good news of the birth to many friends on the way to the office of Births, Deaths and Marriages. When he got there, the clerk began to complete the birth registration form and asked the proud father the name of his daughter to which he replied, “I can't remember!”

“Are you Muslim or Christian?” the clerk asked. The father told him he was a Christian. “Angelwing!” the clerk said. “Now, get out of here!” And Angelwing it is—not Angelwings! Just one wing...

Angelwing told me this story herself and I have verified it through the testimony of others.

Angelwing was selling books in a Muslim village near where she lives (in a strict Muslim country). As Angelwing went from door to door, many people purchased her beautiful health and Christian books. The chief of the village was a strict and stern man who watched this small 25 year-old woman go from house to house. The more he watched, the more angry he became, until his anger knew no bounds.

She must be stopped, he thought. So he decided to have the woman, this Christian woman, killed.

The chief approached one of the tough men in the village, a man who was known for having no morals and who would do just about anything for money.

The chief offered him 200 local dollars (about \$50.00

Australian) if he would kill Angelwing. The rough man agreed and stuffed the \$200 into his pocket. It was more money than he usually saw in a year.

Having no idea what was waiting for her, Angelwing continued to knock on the doors in the village, presenting her beautiful books and talking about Jesus. The rough man waited in his home with a large machete behind his back. His plan was that when Angelwing came to his home, he would open the door and decapitate her.

Totally unawares, Angelwing finally came to the home of her potential killer. She knocked and as he opened the door, Angelwing greeted him with a big smile. “I can't kill her while she is smiling,” he thought. So he listened as she introduced herself and went on to demonstrate her beautiful books. The more he listened the more he became interested in the books and the more he forgot about what he was paid to do!

This potential murderer, in his excitement for Angelwing's beautiful books finally asked “How much are these books?” Angelwing told him the price “\$200.00.”

“I wish I had \$200 to buy these books,” he thought. Then he remembered the \$200.00 the chief gave him to kill this girl, and he put his hand into his pocket and bought out the cash, the very money he was paid to kill her! And he bought the set of books.

God not only protected Angelwing but He guided her in a powerful way. This is the same God who used and blessed those in the past and he is the same God who promises to be with, bless and use in a powerful way those who step out in faith for Him!

“Our heavenly Father has a thousand ways to provide for us of which we know nothing. Those who accept the one principle of making the service of God supreme will find perplexities vanish and a plain path before their feet” (*Colporteur Ministry* page 114).

R

John Brereton is publishing director of the South Pacific Division.

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RECORD REWIND

Seven Day Road

Two sisters, Caroline Clarke and Eliza (Lily) Clarke, married William Scott and Jesse Giblett, respectively.

Jesse Giblett lived at Springdale, Manjimup, Western Australia, and Wil Scott lived at the junction of the Donnelly River and Vasse Highway. The families used to visit each other regularly, via the Giblett's stock route to the coast. A poem has been written about the trek to Scott's entitled "The Giblett Girls of Springdale". It includes the lines, "What were they doing

those girls so fair; In
a forest so wild and
thick?"

Taking a message
to friends out there,
Or lending a hand to
the sick."

In 1903 both
families, along
with relatives
on both sides,
became members
of the Seventh-day
Adventist Church.

Once a quarter
the Conference

President would travel from Perth to Manjimup to meet with all the local members. The Scotts used to travel the stock route in reverse to meet with the Gibletts at Springdale.

In 1906 Caroline Scott, or Auntie Carrie as she was known, with the help of local Aborigines blazed a more direct trail. The families at both ends—Scott and Dickson at the Donnelly end and Giblett and Clarke at the Springdale end; commenced cutting the trail, which they completed—wide enough for a wagon—in one week. The resulting track, eventually a road, was named Seven Day Road.

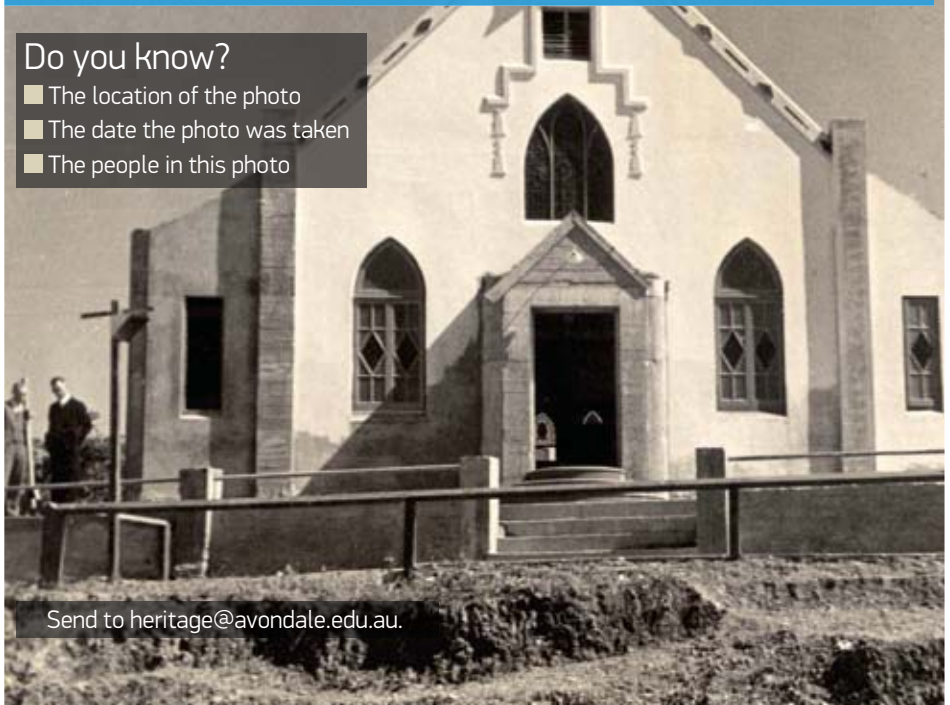
David Giblett attends the Manjimup church, south Western Australia.



MYSTERY HISTORY

Do you know?

- The location of the photo
- The date the photo was taken
- The people in this photo



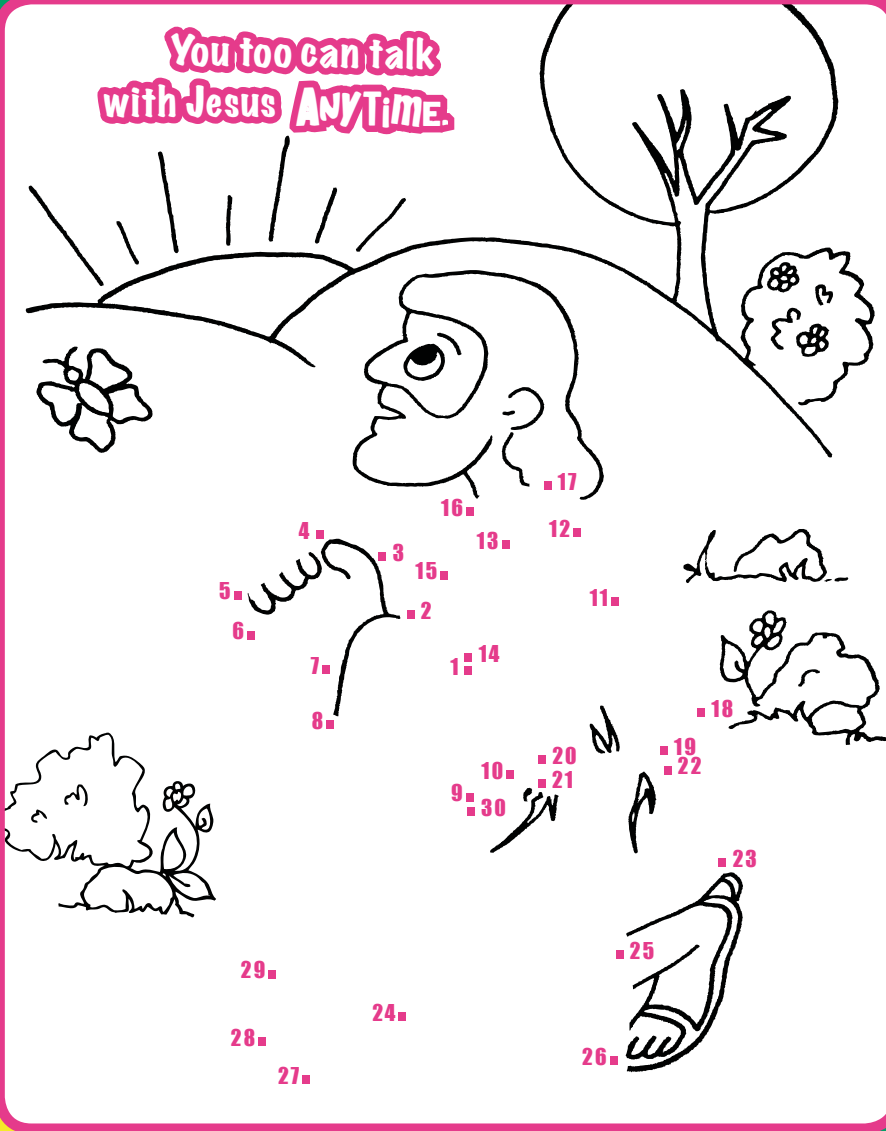
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Kids' SPACE



Jesus loved to pray to His Heavenly Father, so every day he would find time to talk with God in prayer.

You too can talk with Jesus ANYTIME.



FIND YOUR BIBLE TEXT IN THE WORD FIND.

The words are:
Pray to me, and I will listen to you.
Jeremiah 29:12

F	A	K	I	X	Q	N	W	C	H
G	F	P	P	K	L	I	N	U	A
I	O	R	L	G	L	E	A	O	I
T	F	A	R	L	T	L	I	Y	M
B	M	Y	X	S	V	Y	D	W	E
E	N	T	I	Y	9	2	B	T	R
2	U	L	D	N	A	H	O	I	E
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*Bonjour means hello in French



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POSITIONS VACANT

■ **Reception/Early Childhood Teacher—South Australian Conference (Adelaide, SA)**, invites applications from qualified teachers for a new reception position at Prescott Primary Northern in the northern suburbs of Adelaide for commencement at the beginning of term 3. Prescott Northern is a dynamic, growing school of more than 350 students with a strong Adventist ethos and with a very high staff retention. Come and join this vibrant school and experience the great South Australian lifestyle! Applications including CV and the names and contact details of at least three references can be submitted to: Director of Education, SA Conference, PO Box 120, Prospect, SA 5082, or email <neuhoff@adventist.org.au>. For further information, please contact Carel Neuhoff on (08) 82692177, or 0488 163663. Applications close **May 14, 2010**.

■ **Youth Departmental Assistant—Greater Sydney Conference (Epping, NSW)**, is seeking an enthusiastic and dedicated Youth Departmental Assistant. This full-time position requires the successful candidate to facilitate the Youth ministry department through providing Secretarial Support, Event Management Support and Graphic Design skills. For more information, a full job description, or written applications including your CV (including the contact details of your church Pastor) please contact Pastor Michael Worker on (02) 9868 6522 or email <michaelworker@adventist.org.au>. The appointing body reserves the right to fill this position at its discretion. Applications close **May 11, 2010**.

For more employment options go to
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VOLUNTEERS!

Pacific Yacht Ministries is seeking health personnel for its 2010 season. Expressions of interest are sought from doctors, dentists, registered nurses and qualified health educators. The season operates July–October inclusive and volunteer service is for approximately two week terms. If you are interested please go to <www.pym.org.au> for further information and to download the application form.

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Ferrel, Camilla, Nicholas and Ruth, together with their spouses and children. In his lifetime he served people of the South Pacific Islands. He was a popular speaker and teacher in Australia and New Zealand. Whether it was preaching, evangelising, teaching or administering, he poured his mental acumen and boundless energies into his work. Many paid tribute to Pastor Billy, saying he was a prince in Israel, a man of integrity, humble, wise, understanding and most of all, a man of God who had a positive influence on the entire Solomon Island nation.

Andrew Kingston, Titus Rore

Clearwater, Irwin Harold born 20.6.1925; died 19.2.10 in Waikato Hospital, Hamilton, NZ. He is survived by his wife, Joyce, their daughters, Megan and Jane; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Irwin lived for the last few years in Cambridge and attended the Cambridge church. He was a keen Bible student, sincerely loved the Lord, and is now waiting to hear the call of the Lifegiver on the Resurrection morning.

Ian Sutton, Stephen Atkinson

Cooper, William Alan, born 29.10.1930; died 21.3.2010 in hospital at Newcastle, NSW. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Elaine (nee Hick); their two sons and their wives, Gary and Adele, David and Leanne; four grandchildren, three great-

Baranowski, Janina Marianna, born in Poland; died 1.3.10 in Brisbane, Qld. Nina married Mario Baranowski on 10.1.1959 in Poland. She is survived by her husband; son, Roland; daughter, Maria Jones; and five grandchildren (all from Brighton, Qld). Nina was an extremely kind and loving person who had worked as a nurse. She is now resting in Jesus until the Resurrection.

Mike Brownhill

Beal, Ellenor Benjaminer (nee Chrispin), born 23.9.1919 at Blenheim, NZ; died 14.12.09 in Parklands Rest Home, Christchurch. In 1946, she married Alfred Edwin (Ted) Beal, who predeceased her on 3.8.03. She was baptised on 4.1.1967 by Pastor Jim Cherry. She is survived by her children, Glennys, Bernard and Malcolm; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Ellenor dedicated her life to the Lord and Saviour she loved

Bernard Beal

Billy, Wilfred, born 1925 in Guadacanal, Solomon Islands; died 11.3.10. He is survived by his wife, Sara; his children, Reeves,

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WEDDINGS

Cook—Pardo. Robert Cook, son of Ray and Elizabeth Cook (Perth, WA) and Jandra Pardo, daughter of Les and Margaret Evans (Perth), were married 21.3.10 at Jindalee Beach.

Steven Goods

Hooper—Lumb. Kent Hooper and Rachel Lumb were married on 21.2.10 in Ilam church, NZ.

Paul Gredig

Storm—Harvey. Christopher Storm and Samantha Harvey were married 15.3.10 at Bramble Grove, Kaiapoi, NZ.

Doug Hurley, Paul Gredig

Taaffe—Szocik. Karl Taaffe and Joanna (Aska) Szocik, were married 4.2.10 in Rose Chapel, Christchurch, NZ, followed by a reception at Mona Vale.

Paul Gredig

Wade—Davison. Peter Wade, son of Kevin and Barbara Wade, and Rebekah Ruth Davison, daughter of Philip Davison (Hamilton, NZ) and Glenda Davison (Morriset, NSW), were married 21.2.10 at Murrays Beach.

Clive Nash

Hokin—Bisognin. Len Hokin and Anita Bisognin, daughter of Sylvia Liljedahl (Bayswater, Vic), were married 6.1.10 in the delightful setting of St Patrick's of Nulkaba, NSW.

Bruce Manners

Davis—Borrott. Peter Anthony Davis, son of Lyle Davis (Cooranbong, NSW), and Narelle Louise Anne Borrott, daughter of Dale Borrott (Sydney) and June Davis (Cooranbong), were married 21.1.10 in Avondale College church, Cooranbong.

Bruce Manners

OBITUARIES

Ander, Sulpecia (Sophie), born 7.4.1918 in Philippines; died 3.12.09 at Lerwin Nursing Home, Murray Bridge, SA. She was predeceased by her husband, Paciano Ander, and her son, Joel. She is survived by her children, Juanita, Teresita, Julieta, Susana, Dinilo and Noel; 24 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Sophie always had a beautiful smile and was always laughing. Her favourite hymn was *Higher Ground* which she sang every night before going to sleep.

*Matt Tompson,
Lee Bowditch-Walsh*

grandchildren and his 99 year old mother-in-law. He was baptised in 1960. He loved his Lord, and remained an active member. He now rests in the Avondale Cemetery, until Jesus comes again.
Owen D'Costa, Aaron Jeffries

Evans, Maud Adelaide, born 8.6.1914 at Balaclava, Vic; died 20.3.10 Melody Park, Qld. She is survived by her two sons and their families, Charles and Carol (Lismore, NSW) and Gilbert and Lyn (Murwillumbah). Maud loved her Lord and family. She will be truly missed until the Resurrection day.
Warren Price

Farrant, Ailsa Violet Marie (nee Angus), born 31.3.1925 in Singapore; died on 23.2.10 in Sherwin Lodge, Rossmoyne, WA. In 1947, she married Bill Farrant, who predeceased her on 14.3.06. She is survived by her children, Christine Rupe, Marie Stephens, Shirley Georgiou, Trevor and Stephen; 11 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren. Ailsa faithfully loved and served her

Saviour and is now resting awaiting His return.
Keith Godfrey

Morris, Sharon Gay, born 27.6.1958, Brisbane, Qld; died 24.3.10 in Rockhampton Base Hospital, after a long illness. Sharon is survived by adoring husband Brett. Even though Sharon struggled with a life threatening illness herself, she was always willing to help those less fortunate than herself. Sharon held a great faith in the Lord and looked forward in eager anticipation of Jesus' soon return. Sleep peacefully now Sharon, until we meet again.
Andy Krause

Hayward, Athol Isaac, born 11.8.1916 at Whangerei, NZ; died 18.12.09 in Sydney, NSW, aged 93. Athol served his church as a deacon, and as a volunteer builder. He is survived by Audrey, his wife of 67 years; along with his children, Aureen (Sydney), Elton (SA), Merril (Qld); and her children, Bianca and Yuri; Milson (NT), Derwin, Peter and Lieda; and their children Taylor, Ella and

Kye (Sydney, NSW); and Athol's sisters, Effra Trevena and Beryl Armstrong (NZ).
Frank Tassone, Alex Currie

ADVERTISEMENTS

2011 Reformation Tour. The next AUC sponsored Reformation Lands Tour for both church employees and lay members departs mid May 2011. Expressions of interest and inquiries should be made now to Russel Stanley on (02) 4365 0553 or <rstanley@hotkey.net.au>.

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Finally
You can make many plans, but the Lord's purpose will prevail. -Proverbs 19:21

Next RECORD May 15

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KEYNOTE SPEAKERS
Dr Dianne Sika-Paotonu, Malaghan Institute of Medical Research
Mrs Barbara Fisher, Avondale College
Dr Sook-Young Kim, Kyungbook National University, South Korea
Dr Koot Van Wyk, Kyungbook National University, South Korea
and more

SWAP SHOT

with Dr Barry Oliver



I am sitting in the "Mission Issues Committee" at our General Conference World Headquarters, discussing strategies for obeying the commission Christ has given the Church.

In 1990, our church decided to intentionally reach out in those areas of the world where we had experienced limited success in sharing the gospel. We called our initiative "Global Mission."

The church is now established in countries such as Mongolia, Cambodia, Nepal and Bhutan; and has grown dramatically in India and China.

But despite the wonderful successes of Global Mission we are still proclaiming the gospel to just a portion of the peoples of the world. The largest populations of the world have the fewest witnesses. If we had the same proportion of Adventists to population in this Division as in Turkey, for example, we would have 36 Seventh-day Adventists in this Division! What is more, we would have only one pastor. In Thailand—with 67 million people—we had 12,988 members in 1988. At the end of 2009 the membership was 12,821—a net loss of 127 in 21 years.

If we had the same proportion of missionaries to membership today that we had in 1910, we would have more than 300,000 cross-cultural missionaries instead of 934. That says a great deal about the missionary fervor of our fledgling Church. It says more about the modern Seventh-day Adventist Church. True, methods and approaches have diversified. But we must still find ways to effectively give co-ordinated, resourced, urgent attention to the desperately needy areas of the globe. The best way is still through personnel and resources, directed through the structures and methods of our church. Mission is still the reason this Church exists.

Dr Barry Oliver is president of the South Pacific Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.



MY CHURCH

KOONDOOLA, Western Australia

Jonathan Chow

I attend a three year old church plant that was started by Pastor John Horvath. We have a weekly attendance of 80 people from different parts of the world, some of them refugees. The mix of cultures is made up of people from Algeria, Brazil, Australia, Africa, Sudan and the Karen people from the Thai-Burma border. I'm the youth leader and



our youth group makes up 70 per cent of the church. We have many visitors attending who are Baptist and Pentecostal. This gives us a great opportunity to share our faith. Those who attend regularly aren't necessarily baptised but are committed to our church plant. In 2009 we worked hard, running evangelistic programs on Creation and Revelation as well as organising many social events for our visitors. There is so much we would like to do and we have the potential for growth. Our biggest challenge for our new group is the lack of training and support from experienced Christians. (Jonathan is pictured second left in the back row).



MY STORY

Maca Ravouvou works at the new InterContinental Hotel and Resort, on the western side of Fiji's main island of Viti Levu. Maca lives in the nearby village, Sigatoka. A former student at Fulton College, Maca has always wanted to find her special calling. She tells her story of how God answered that prayer:



"After having a family of my own, my husband and I prayed that I could find a job where I did not have to work on Sabbaths. We felt sure God would answer my prayer. The InterContinental started advertising for staff in readiness for their opening. I applied and was very nervous as I went to the interview, wondering if the Sabbath issue would be a problem.

"When they found out I had been a student at Fulton College, they said I could have the job. Fulton is held in high esteem by employers. Then I asked if I could not work on Sabbaths. The supervisor, who was interviewing me, agreed. I was shocked and happy at the same time.

"I had some opposition from the other employees, and when I was given a new supervisor I thought it would all be lost. But today, I still enjoy my Sabbaths free of work, and I have a wonderful ministry too! How can that be at a five star resort? My job is to entertain the tourist children. They love the Bible stories and Scripture songs I teach them—just like I was taught to do at Fulton. Praise God."

LETTERS

FASCINATING

Bruce Manners, NSW

So, we Adventists believe we'll be the only ones in heaven (Berto, cartoon, March 6) and be the only end-time remnant on earth (Angel Rodriguez, "The Remnant," same issue), with fewer than 60 per cent thinking we actually fit the "biblical description of the remnant" ("Opinion Poll Results"). Fascinating.

SHADED PAGES

Shirley Were-Smith, WA

Thank you for the new-look Record. I have one complaint—why do we have shaded pages with print over the shaded area which is very hard to read?

I was looking forward to reading "The Sabbath: Resistance" (Feature, March 20) but found it was another of the shaded pages which are hard to read. Please consider your older readers who have been the backbone of the church for decades.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Milton Hook, NSW

The feature "Alcohol vs Adventism" (Feature, March 20) makes the claim that Ellen White was "far ahead of her day" in her stance against alcohol consumption.

It is helpful to view Ellen White in her historical context.

The year before she was born the American Temperance Society was formed by a Presbyterian minister, Lyman Beecher. Twelve years later, when Ellen White was a mere slip of a lass, this Society claimed 1,500,000 signed up members and eighteen different temperance journals were circulating all over the country. Many signed the total abstinence pledge, especially

in Ellen White's Methodist denomination. She would have been subjected to the frequent temperance promotions which led to the push for prohibition.

It was a worldwide movement quite independent of her. When she was only eleven years old a Roman Catholic priest in Ireland, Theobald Mathew, formed the Teetotal Abstinence Society. The Women's Christian Temperance Union began in 1873. Even in Australia prohibition marches were staged decades before Ellen White arrived in Australia.

I submit Ellen White was not "far in advance of her day" regarding the alcohol question. I suggest it is more accurate to say, "She reflected the sentiments of her day."

PROOF POSITIVE

Bruce Johnson, NSW

Anyone concerned that Dr Neil Nedley's approach to depression may not be "evidence-based" (Letters, March 20) could consult Proof Positive, Dr Nedley's 560-page review of over 2,300 scientific studies and other authoritative sources which favour a natural approach to healing, including depression.

POLL SUBJECTIVE?

Greg Kleinig, WA

I'm more relaxed about my Sabbath observance (Opinion Poll, March 20) but then I suspect that will be the trend. The poll is so subjective as to be worthless.

When I see an opportunity provided so I can answer the WHY, of not just this issue but many others also, then maybe I will begin to feel some optimism about the future of this great denomination.



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"Pastors test their new motorbikes, to be used to reach outlying villages."



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