



**FIRST SERVICE  
HELD IN REBUILT  
VANUATU CHURCH** page 3

**RELIGIOUS FREEDOMS ARE  
SHRINKING WORLDWIDE** page 8

**MOVING FORWARD GOING BACK** page 16





# Introducing our new **Gluten Free** Range!

*New*



## Gluten Free, Vegan Friendly Wholefood

Vegie Delights convenient gluten free range includes new crispy Indian Vegetable Cutlets, delicious Chickpea Falafel, flavourful Lentil Patties & the tasty Chickpea and Red Lentil Koftas.



# First service held in rebuilt Vanuatu church

*Efate, Vanuatu*

The first church to be rebuilt in Vanuatu after Cyclone Pam devastated the island nation and destroyed 53 Adventist churches, has held a worship service.

Pang Pang church was filled for the October 17 dedication service. Two other churches were also being built at the time: Epau and Moso.

Elder Freddy from Pangpang said their new church is an answer to their prayers. "Its like manna falling from the sky" he said. He thanked the wider church family for giving their offering to support and that the members are very happy. "It is the best church building in the whole village."

Brisbane builder Peter Koolik designed the prefab iron buildings that can be constructed on site within five to seven days. The buildings are rated to withstand a category 5 cyclone and, importantly, can be insured. There are two sizes: 12x6m, which will seat 70 people, and 12x9m, which will seat about 110. The smaller church delivered to the site for construction will cost \$A16,000 and the larger one \$A24,000. These buildings can be adjusted and used as classrooms for school rebuilds.

ADRA Connection teams from Australia and New Zealand are constructing and funding the school rebuilds.

In September, 10 of the prefab churches were shipped to Port Vila from Watson Park, Brisbane.

At this stage—through funding from the South Pacific Division, General Conference, Trans-Pacific Union Mission, Risk Management, Australian Union Conference, Southern Asia Pacific Division, HopeChannel, Pacific Adventist University, local conferences and missions and many individual donors—around \$A900,000 has been raised for the rebuilding of churches.

The Trans-Pacific Union Mission (TPUM) and Vanuatu Mission are very grateful for the help received so far. "This is an amazing effort and the Church needs to read, see and hear about this," said SPD president Pastor Glenn Townend, who was formerly president of TPUM.

"TPUM and Vanuatu Mission would like to give a huge thank you to God's people and to God. We are well on the way to really supporting Vanuatu."

But there's still much work to be done. Adventist Volunteer Services sent a team to construct the first churches but other teams from local churches and schools are also welcome. "We just need more teams to do the work," Pastor Townend said. "That is the major need."

Church leaders also recognise that rebuilding churches is not the only need faced by Adventists and the communities in Vanuatu.

"The damage to the Church [in Vanuatu] is more than physical," said SPD chief financial officer Rodney Brady. In disasters like this, he noted, "crops are lost and people lose their jobs. The effect is lower incomes and lower tithe. The flow-on is the Mission may have to lay off ministers and close schools. We saw with Vanuatu an initial large drop in income and the SPD allocated a large amount of money to cover the potential drop in Mission income. It was reported to me that there has been a drop but the recovery of jobs and income may be happening faster than expected," Mr Brady said.

Soon work on the Church's new multi-purpose centre will begin after plans were put on hold after the devastation of Cyclone Pam. Last year Vanuatu experienced its highest number of baptisms ever and the churches swelled to overflowing after the Port Vila Evangelism 2014 outreach. The challenges of nurturing and finding space in churches for all these



Team works on putting up church.



The churches were assembled in Brisbane before being shipped to Vanuatu.



Elder Freddy (R), new church in the background.

members has been heightened by Cyclone Pam's destruction.

An estimated 50 per cent of Vanuatu's population of 125,000 people were affected by Cyclone Pam, which ripped through the island nation in March. —Jarrod Stackelroth/  
Jean Pierre Niptik

To find out more about how you can help Vanuatu contact Adventist Volunteer Services <Maryanne.Jakovac@adventist.org.au>.



## Remember

James Standish

Her name was Bo. But I called her B.O. Not to her face, mind you. And not because she had body odour, either. I was 14. In 8th grade. And she was my teacher—at the seventh school I'd attended, in the fifth city, in the third country.

My educational performance up to that point was what is commonly referred to as "disappointing". In the swirl of different systems, schools and locations, the basics—ranging from spelling through to handwriting, times tables and classroom decorum—had all fallen through the cracks. I wasn't interested in school. Didn't like schoolwork. And had received such a sustained barrage of negative feedback that I had given up entirely on the whole educational endeavour.

But that was before I entered Bo's classroom in Bangkok.

She may have been old, single and a foreigner living in a strange land. But she was tough as turnips and she didn't let up on me until she'd whipped me into shape. One year was all it took. And just as well, as I'm not sure I could have survived a second. Somehow, from there, the academic life fell into place. So much so that I had to be pulled kicking and screaming out of university. Bo had created a monster!

Bo's sister, Helen, also single and in the later stages of life, came to serve as a medical missionary in Thailand. The two of them had a dream. They would retire in Thailand together and live out their lives continuing to serve the people they loved.

It didn't happen.

On November 11, 1981, two bandits accosted Helen. In the ensuing struggle, they shot her and left her to die. When Bo got the heartbreaking news she rushed next door to where my mother was teaching the lower grades. Bo just hung onto my mother as she wept in utter anguish in front of the stunned children. Bo had lost her sister, her friend and her future.

A United Press International article reporting Helen's death, noted that she was the second North American missionary murdered in Thailand that year.

Missionary life is not for the faint-hearted. And the rewards in this life are frequently meagre. Peni Tavodi, a Fijian missionary whose story of commitment and sacrifice was told in the South Pacific Division report at the General Conference Session, died of a snakebite. He is not the only one who gave his life to spread the gospel in the Pacific. Others returned sick or disabled; some returned carrying serious psychological scars. Others incurred substantial financial loss. Still others gave up something more valuable than all of that combined: the health or even the lives of their children.

A missionary told me of his travels overseas to teach. One night when he was out ministering, one of his students entered his home and viciously raped his young daughter. His daughter now struggles with such profound psychiatric issues that she spends much of her life institutionalised.

Of course, there are many stories of miracles. Stories of protection and progress, success and reward. I have no doubt whatsoever that God does intervene, and in amazing ways. But the Bible is full of stories of both deliverance and of immense sacrifice. And when we just tell ourselves the former, and forget the latter, we are the spiritually poorer for it. That's why we have committed every November to tell the stories of courage and sacrifice in the pages of this magazine. And why we encourage every church to dedicate time to do the same. We need to remember and honour those who suffer for Christ—it is only right.

God did not deliver His own Son from the cross and, for reasons I do not fully understand, He didn't deliver Helen. What I do know is Christ promised, "everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life" (Matthew 19:29). I look forward to the day Bo and Helen are reunited and rewarded 100 times over for eternity for their fidelity, and the awful price they paid for it. And until that day I will remember Bo and Helen, and honour them for their sacrifice. Whose memory will you honour this month?

Visit [www.spd.adventist.org/in-memorium](http://www.spd.adventist.org/in-memorium) for more stories of mission and sacrifice.

Glenn Townsend Senior consulting editor  
James Standish Communication director  
Jarrod Stackelroth Associate editor  
Kent Kingston Assistant editor  
Vania Chew PR/editorial assistant  
Dora Amuimuia Sales & marketing  
Tracey Bridcutt Copyeditor  
Linden Chuang Assistant editor—digital  
Lulu Lim Graphic designer

Letters [editor@record.net.au](mailto:editor@record.net.au)  
News & Photos [news@record.net.au](mailto:news@record.net.au)  
Noticeboard [ads@record.net.au](mailto:ads@record.net.au)  
<http://record.net.au>  
Mail: Adventist Media Network  
Locked bag 1115  
Wahroonga, NSW 2076  
Australia  
Phone (02) 9847 2222  
Fax (02) 9847 2200

Subscriptions  
Mailed within Australia and NZ  
\$A43.80 \$NZ73.00  
Other prices on application  
[subscriptions@record.net.au](mailto:subscriptions@record.net.au)  
(03) 5965 6300

Cover Credit: Jean Pierre Niptik  
"Pang Pang church, Vanuatu, was rebuilt after Cyclone Pam."

Official news magazine of the South Pacific  
Division Seventh-day Adventist Church  
ABN 59 093 117 689  
Vol 120 No 22



## The enemy next door

Kent Kingston

How is it that Australians and New Zealanders are culturally so similar and yet maintain a healthy rivalry? The same question could be asked about Samoans and Tongans. Even within countries the same phenomenon can be observed: PNG coastal people versus PNG highlanders; Gualis versus Malaitans; North Island versus South Island; Sydney versus Melbourne.

Too often the rivalry is far from healthy. Israelis versus Palestinians; Hutus versus Tutsis; Germans versus Jews. Millions have died due to hatred of the enemy next door.

Let's call it the Samaritan Effect: the tendency to reserve a particular dislike for people who are nearby and similar in many ways, but who are still not "one of us". In New Testament times Jews avoided their Samaritan neighbours. Ethnically, Samaritans were seen as half-breeds, claiming an Abrahamic inheritance yet being contaminated by pagan ancestry. Theologically, Samaritans respected the Torah but they also deviated in their beliefs and religious practices.

And yet Jesus told the story of a Good Samaritan. He chose a Samaritan woman as the audience for one of the clearest statements of His identity as Messiah. He told His disciples that Samaria would be one of their first mission

fields. And Jesus said, "Love your enemies."

In saying this, Jesus wasn't referring to distant and impossibly strange barbarians—the ISIS terrorists or North Korean dictators of His day. He was referring to the enemy next door; people who could hurt you: "do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who ill-treat you" (Luke 6:27,28).

So who are my Samaritans? Who are the people much like me—but not quite like me—who threaten me, my family, my friends or my church? The vaguely suspicious Lebanese family in my street? The lurching, demanding drunks and addicts in my city? The scornful gay activists taking over mainstream media? The homeschooling anti-Trinitarians hellbent on dividing my church? The rebellious youth band inflicting rock'n'roll on my congregation? The critical independent Adventist ministry that's accepting tithes?

Jesus asks me to love my Samaritans; to love the enemy next door who has harmed me and who continues to be destructive.

How can I possibly do that?

---

*Kent Kingston is assistant editor of Adventist Record.*

## Stand against violence

I had breakfast with Dr Elie Weick-Dido, the new president of the West Central Africa Division while at Annual Council meetings in Silver Springs, USA. Eating cereal, toast, a banana and eggs has never been more meaningful. Elie has served the Church as a pastor, departmental director and president in Africa, has earned doctoral degrees in the US and pastored French-speaking congregations for 20 years. I learned that once while he was running evangelistic meetings, he was captured by Islamic extremists and imprisoned. I've had some interesting times in ministry—being thrown out of people's homes, some very late nights in spiritual warfare, some abusive phone calls and threats of legal action when uncovering domestic violence—but nothing like this.

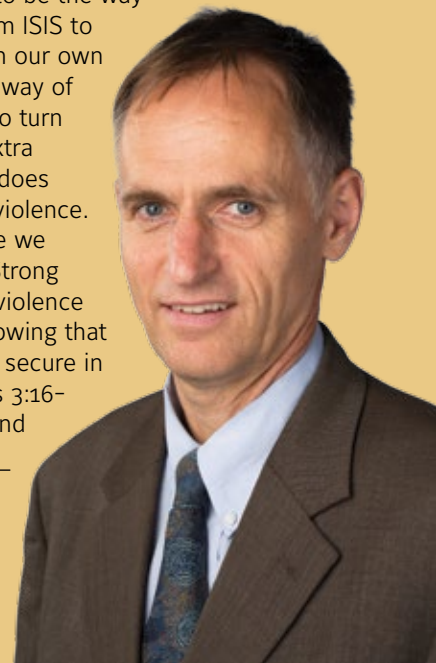
Besides managing the Ebola crisis in two of the countries he serves, seven Seventh-day Adventists in northern Cameroon were recently killed by Islamic extremists. The sadness and concern on his face for his people could not be hidden. These people were generously involved in blessing the whole community and generally had a good relationship with Muslims because they did not drink alcohol or eat pork. But rivalry and jealousy for power and influence brought the violence. It was the first time Advent-

ists had been killed in terrorism in this part of Africa. These challenges put in perspective the issues of employment, personnel, funding, rumour and the like that I face in the South Pacific. Our global leaders and sisters and brothers need our prayers (2 Thessalonians 3:1-3).

Violence and force seems to be the way to solve issues these days from ISIS to domestic relationship issues in our own countries. Violence is not the way of Jesus. He challenged people to turn the other cheek and go the extra mile (Matthew 5:38-48). This does not mean we have to accept violence. We can fight violence because we are secure in our own skins. Strong self-identity to stand against violence in all forms only comes by knowing that Jesus lives in you and you are secure in Him (Romans 5:1-5, Ephesians 3:16-19). I want that security to stand against violence in all forms.

---

*Pastor Glenn Townend is president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the South Pacific.*





## Australian Aid



### Good intentions

Christian campaign alliance, Micah Australia, has welcomed the Federal Opposition's pledge that, if elected, a Labor government would restore \$A40 million of funding to the international aid budget. However, Micah Australia noted that after nearly \$A17 billion in aid cuts over the past four years, \$A40 million is "small change". —*Micah Australia*



### Desecrated

The West Bank tomb of the biblical patriarch Joseph has been firebombed by Palestinian protesters as renewed violence breaks out in Israel and Palestine. Debates over access to Jerusalem's Temple Mount have led to violent protests, a series of stabbings by Palestinian attackers and a deadly response from the Israeli military. —*Religion News Service*



### Sacred scriblings

The oldest known draft of the 1611 King James Bible has been discovered in the archives of a library in Cambridge, UK. The 70-page notebook is a working document originally owned by Samuel Ward, one of the translators. It contains biblical commentary and notes on the Bible's original Hebrew and Greek. —*The Guardian*



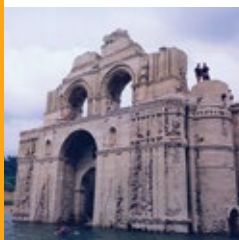
### Volatile

One person was killed, four were injured and four churches were burned during protests in Aceh, Indonesia. A hardline Muslim youth group has claimed 21 churches were built without proper permission and took matters into their own hands, setting fire to the buildings. Thousands of Christians have fled the region. —*Release International*



### Taking sides

While Adventist leaders have made it clear the denomination takes no official stand, individual Adventists are clearly voicing their opinions on US presidential hopeful Dr Ben Carson. Some are in favour of Dr Carson's pro-family views; others have questioned whether he accurately reflects the distinctive Adventist view on issues such as church-state separation. —*Record staff*



### What lies beneath

A 16th century church has emerged from the waters of a reservoir that covered what used to be the town of Quechula in Mexico. Water levels of the Grijalva River, which feeds the reservoir, have dropped due to a drought, exposing the Temple of Santiago, which has been submerged for years. —*CNN*

# eGIVING

An online giving portal for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the South Pacific.

- Tithe
- Donations
- Offerings

**Convenient, safe and easy!**

**egiving.org.au**  
**egiving.org.nz**

Support your church through online giving



Freely you have  
**received...**  
freely  
**give**



**NEW Android & IOS app**  
**NOW AVAILABLE!**

## 2000 attend women's congress in PNG

*Mt Hagen, Papua New Guinea*

The prolonged drought in Papua New Guinea did not stop more than 2000 Seventh-day Adventist women in the Western Highlands Mission (WHM) from attending a five-yearly regional congress last month.

The participants came from all seven provinces administered by the WHM, including Enga, the home of almost half of the delegates.

The women were welcomed with flower wreaths and a song from the hosting district as well as a special flag raising and marching exhibition.

There were several distinguished guests from the Church and community, including Papua New Guinea Union Mission Women's Ministries director Judy Ponduk. She was accompanied by Dr Agnes Kola, who presented the morning worship, and Judith Nagamisovo, who conducted workshops. Mrs Ponduk told the women they should return home after the congress as "changed persons, women filled with the Holy Spirit".

Another notable speaker was Enoch Rapenda, a lay representative who encouraged the mothers to cook healthy meals for their families as lifestyle diseases were claiming many lives in PNG, including among educated people.

Three speakers representing the community shared that the venue where the congress was hosted used to be a primary school but was destroyed by tribal fighting. They indirectly asked the Church to re-establish a school there if possible.

Jacob Koloma further appealed to the local people to "sell their garden produce at a reduced price to the con-

gress delegates, as these people have come in the name of the Lord". They guaranteed security and also gave the women permission to freely use water, firewood and other natural resources during their seven-day stay.

WHM president Peter Oli thanked the community and their leaders for their kindness and asked the delegates to take extra care of the campground. "Keep the water and the environment clean. Dispose of rubbish at the appropriate place," he said.

Women's Ministries director Aileen Pakao said while there were some large challenges, the congress was a success. "[We faced] difficulties that threatened the congress," she said. "El Nino was the obvious one, with less people working on the campground, a water shortage and so forth, but with prayer and faith in God we've come this far."

Organisers hired a tipper truck for the full week to fetch and transport water for only K4000. "This is a miracle! We normally don't pay this amount for a truck doing that kind of work for that long," Mrs Pakao said.

Pastor Noah Kianuga and his assistant Belden Joel, who helped with the set-up and administration, admitted the job was beyond their ability to manage with less people. "God was at work with us," they said. —*Jim Wagi*



Women came from all over the Highlands.

## Male pastors seek downgrade to "commissioned" status

*Michigan, United States*

In a show of solidarity with their female colleagues, a number of male Adventist pastors in the United States have requested that their ministerial credentials be changed from "ordained" to "commissioned".

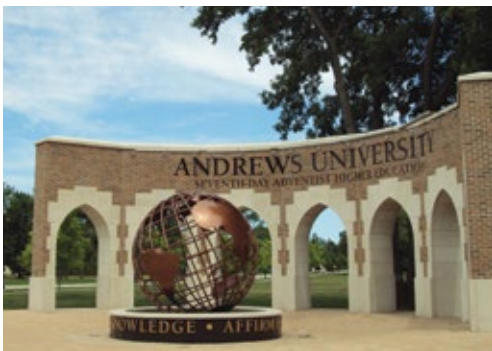
Since 1990, women pastors have been permitted by policy to have their ministry affirmed by commissioning but not ordination. Significantly, nine of the male pastors requesting a change in their status work for the Seventh-day Advent-

ist Theological Seminary at Andrews University, a General Conference (GC) institution. A well-placed source at Andrews told *Record* that the pastors have not sought publicity

in making this request and that it was a conscientious rather than a political decision.

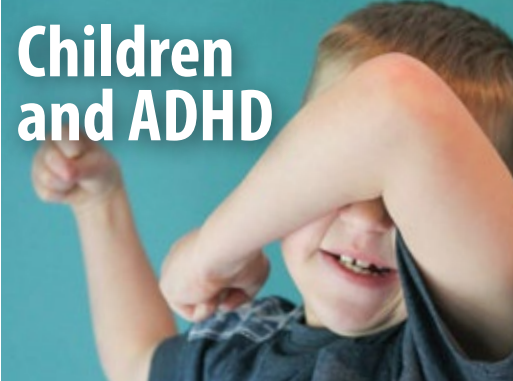
Two local church pastors from Tennessee and one from Maryland have been more forthcoming about their request to change their credentials, telling *Religion News Service* that they were motivated by a desire to be equal with their female colleagues. All three male pastors have been granted their requests to be commissioned rather than ordained. In doing so they forego the opportunity to serve as presidents; to ordain elders, deacons or deaconesses; and to organise a church. And while ordination is recognised throughout the world Church, commissioned pastors are not necessarily recognised as such outside their own division.

In the months leading up to July's General Conference session, at least two senior pastors in Australia requested commissioned status. A decision on the requests was deferred until after the GC vote on women's ordination and is yet to be discussed by Church leaders in the South Pacific. —*Kent Kingston*





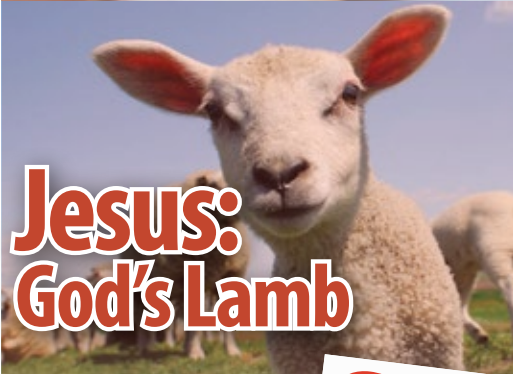
**What the Bible's prophecies reveal**



**Children and ADHD**



**Lessons on beauty**



**Jesus: God's Lamb**

TO SUBSCRIBE OR  
SEND AS A GIFT

AUS  
**1800 035 542**

NZ  
**0800 770 565**

One-year gift  
subscription AUD\$25 (NZ\$30)



## Religious freedoms are shrinking worldwide

Silver Spring, Maryland, USA

Seventh-day Adventists face challenges observing the Sabbath in nearly every corner of the globe as religious freedoms become increasingly restrictive and less stable worldwide, according to a new Adventist Church study.

The 2015 *Religious Freedom World Report* uses the Church's vantage point as a religious minority in many countries to assess how far and effectively governments are protecting religious freedom around the globe, according to the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Public Affairs and Religious Liberty (PARL) department, which released the country-by-country report of 223 countries and territories.



Dr Ganoune Diop.

The report documents Sabbath-keeping difficulties experienced by Adventist students or employees in most world regions and in countries as diverse as Bangladesh, Belarus, Nicaragua, Sri Lanka, Romania, Russia, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

Adventists and other people of faith live under particularly onerous conditions in many Central Asian countries and in places with the presence of strong religious fundamentalism, whether Hindu, Buddhist or Islamic, the report said.

"Today, millions of people are suffering in many parts of the world," PARL director Ganoune Diop wrote in an introduction to the report. "These are men and women who deliberately choose to remain loyal to their beliefs rather than compromise their conscience."

Dr Diop said the report, the ninth produced by the Church since 1999, reveals international trends that are far from encouraging.

"In spite of an unprecedented global mobilisation to promote religious freedom, the state of religious freedom in the world remains bleak," he said.

Recent data collected by the Adventist Church—as well as by other watchdog agencies—points to a global religious freedom landscape with more restrictions and less stability. Even more sobering, Dr Diop said, is a rapidly growing threat by so-called non-state actors such as terror organisations and militia groups in many regions.

The World Report is unique in that it brings a distinctly Adventist perspective to reporting on religious freedom issues. Each country's entry includes a political and social overview, a survey of relevant law, an analysis of religious freedom protection in practice and a summary of the Adventist Church's recent experience within that jurisdiction.

Dr Diop said the report aims to document and highlight ongoing challenges and to affirm the Adventist Church's long-standing recognition of religious freedom as a foundational human right that undergirds all other freedoms.

In past years, the World Report has been cited in a number of international reports, including those produced by the United Nations Human Rights Commission and the US State Department. —*Bettina Krause/ANN*

This year's World Report is available online at [irla.org/world-report-2015.pdf](http://irla.org/world-report-2015.pdf)





## Manning Adventist School comes out tops

by James Standish

Manning Adventist School in northern NSW isn't the type of school you'd expect to find in the top 1 per cent in Australia. It's small. It's rural. And its parking lot isn't jam-packed with Porsches and Mercedes. But *The Australian's* analysis of the 2014 Australia-wide NAPLAN test scores reports that little Manning Adventist scored in the top 100 primary schools in the entire nation—putting it among the elite of the elite!

New principal Mike Dye states on the school's website that Manning Adventist is: "committed to developing personal excellence through academics . . ." But even he was surprised by the NAPLAN results. "It has come as a very pleasant shock to me," he said when contacted about the extraordinary performance. And that pleasant shock only deepens when the numbers are analysed more closely. Manning Adventist scored first overall among all the schools in the Manning Valley region and first in spelling for the entire nation among non-government, co-educational provincial schools.

"We are very thankful for this exceptional result," Mr Dye said, "but our school is about a lot more than percentiles. Our first priority is making disciples for Christ. What I'm most proud of is who our students are all round—spiritually, academically, socially and physically. We have terrific kids who are a pleasure to teach, and terrifically loving, supportive families who are willing to invest in their children. And I'm thankful for our outstanding team of teachers.

"We're a small school, and that means little changes year to year can see our NAPLAN scores go up and down. We'll enjoy being among the elite but our goal isn't to be in one category or another but rather to help every individual student to be their best, all-round person."

Manning isn't the only Adventist school to excel in the NAPLAN report. Wahroonga Adventist School in Sydney followed its exceptionally strong performance in 2013 to place in the top 3 per cent of Australian primary schools in 2014. Macquarie Adventist College (primary school)

in Newcastle scored in the top 7.5 per cent of the nation, Nunawading Adventist (high school) in Melbourne in the top 8.4 per cent and Hills Adventist College (primary school) in Sydney in the top 9.7 per cent. A number of Adventist schools achieved in the top quarter in the nation, including Macquarie Adventist College (high school), which scored in the top 11.6 per cent.

"NAPLAN scores are only part of the overall picture of education," said Daryl Murdoch, director of Adventist Schools Australia. "They are an important snapshot at a point in time. But it's wrong to read too much into them."

The report indicates there is a very strong correlation between students' socio-economic status and NAPLAN results. This raises at least three questions when analysing the data:

- First, is the test itself written in a subtly biased manner that reflects the common experience of the Australian upper-middle class? After all, the people writing the test are likely to be from the upper-middle class and therefore they may write it in a manner that unconsciously advantages children from similar economic strata. This may include, for example, pulling vocabulary and questions from the culture of the wealthier suburbs.

- Second, NAPLAN only covers basic skills. It doesn't measure such critical skills as creativity and emotional intelligence. And it certainly doesn't measure character or spirituality. While these attributes may be very hard to test, they may be even more important than raw academics for predicting the trajectory of a student's life.

- Finally, because of the strong correlation between economic background and NAPLAN performance, the best performing schools could be considered those that manage the highest positive percentile gap between their socio-economic makeup and their NAPLAN scores.

A full analysis of Australian Adventist schools NAPLAN scores is available at <[www.record.net.au](http://www.record.net.au)>. —James Standish



# Lens and Betty Larwood: *a tribute*

by Dr Warren Millist

**T**HE YEAR WAS 1966. THE VIETNAM WAR CONTINUED to rage, both America and the USSR had put spacecraft into lunar orbit, and Australia had introduced decimal currency.

In that same year, graduate nurses Lens and Betty Larwood accepted a call to work at Atoifi Adventist Hospital on the island of Malaita in Solomon Islands. It was not an easy decision to make.

Only the year before, in December 1965, another young graduate nurse, Brian Dunn, had been fatally speared after just 11 days at Atoifi hospital. Yet despite this tragedy and the isolation of the hospital, which could only be accessed by sea, Lens and Betty agreed to commit their lives to helping the estimated 60,000 Kwaio people on Malaita. They had an expansive vision of what the hospital could accomplish under God's blessing.

Of necessity Lens became simultaneously the hospital's business manager, nursing director, supervising engineer, marine operations manager and public relations manager.

As business manager, Lens had to operate the 91-bed

hospital and (in 1973) a staff of 35 with a budget of just \$A25,000. As public relations manager, Lens was required to keep the outside world aware of the hospital's achievements and needs. He dealt with government officials, various dignitaries, staff members and visitors as well as the local population. He treated all he encountered with respect and courtesy and earned their love and approval in return.

Despite the limited budget and lack of building supplies on the island, Lens oversaw the construction of many new buildings, including a classroom block and library for a school of nursing named "The Brian Dunn Tutorial Block and Library". There were no skilled tradesmen or building machinery available, so Lens had to be the architect, builder, financial manager and driving force behind each project.

Perhaps the greatest example of Lens' visionary abilities was the construction of a hydro-electric generation plant—the first in Solomon Islands. With no technical training for such an enterprise, Lens obtained a Pelton wheel and gen-



erator and constructed the dam high above the hospital. Water travelled down a steep 200-metre metal pipeline to the generator house. For the first time the hospital could enjoy a fairly reliable supply of electricity without the difficulties and cost of running a diesel generator. Sadly, it was while maintaining this pipeline that Lens was killed when the tractor he was driving overturned and crushed him in 1979.

Lens had a vision of taking health care to the people in their own villages. To fulfil this vision, he established a string of bush clinics. Teams from the hospital were transported on the hospital launch—the *Raratalau*—to the disembarkation point. In the open sea, the team would board their heavily laden “tinny”, which would then make its way though the dangerous surf to land the medical patrol on the beach.

In 1973, at Lens’ instigation, the first surgical team from Sydney Adventist Hospital visited Atoifi hospital to assist with a backlog of surgery. This team consisted of surgeon Dr Clifford, anaesthetist Dr Millist and nurses Cheryl Borgas and Dawn Maberley.

During this visit the possibility of constructing an airstrip was discussed with Lens. However, it seemed like an overwhelming task from the beginning. The only suitable level land was covered with dense jungle. The only machinery available was a small tractor. And there was no money to finance it. Eventually it was proposed that if the money could be raised, Lens could construct the airstrip. He accepted the challenge, raised the funds and construction work began.

Two years later, the first plane, piloted by Colin Winch, landed on the airstrip. Staff and critically ill patients could finally access both the hospital and Honiara quickly. Around the same time, the film *Big Sick Anytime* was produced, highlighting the work being done at Atoifi and encouraging many to contribute to the 13th Sabbath offering for the hospital. The money from this offering helped purchase an operating microscope for visiting surgeons to use.

In 1978, the San medical personnel returned. This medical outreach was the beginning of what became a world-wide program from Sydney Adventist Hospital and its staff to other less fortunate countries.

Lens and Betty had three children—Kelvin, Colin and Sheryllyn. At the time of Lens’ tragic death the children were all young. The responsibility for their upbringing now rested solely on Betty’s shoulders. She also worked as a nurse, midwife, teacher, hostess and anaesthetist. Although she had no formal anaesthetist training, she developed considerable skill at this task. This was illustrated when a patient presented with a very large dental tumour on her jaw that obstructed her eating and disfigured her face. Anaesthesia for such a case would have been very chal-

lenging for a trained anaesthetist even in a well-equipped Australian teaching hospital—which Atoifi was not. The surgery was undertaken by two visiting American doctors, Dr Marion and JoEllen Barnard with Betty as the anaesthetist. The operation was successful and the patient’s life changed. Betty’s anaesthetic skills that made the operation possible were subsequently acknowledged by a letter from the visiting surgical team.

All three of Lens’ and Betty’s children studied nursing, initially following in their parents’ footsteps. They then received further postgraduate qualifications and established successful careers. Kelvin studied medicine, specialising in obstetrics and gynaecology, and now practises in Nambour, Queensland.

Following Lens’ death, a group of those whose lives had been touched by his, conceived the idea of constructing a much-needed new church at Atoifi as a memorial to Lens and to Brian Dunn. This was built in 1985 and Betty was able to attend the church opening. After Lens’ death, she had moved to Nambour where she was an active and much-loved member of the church until her death in 2014.

One of Lens’ many professional contacts was Professor Roger Keesing, Professor of Anthropology at the Australian National University. Professor Keesing wrote the following tribute to Len:

“The non-Christians of the mountains have not been altogether friendly to missions or government. Yet when news of Lens’ tragic death reached us in the Sinalagu mountains, men, women and children were in tears and shock. They felt they had lost a brother, a man who had saved lives and worked tirelessly for the realisation of their aspirations.”

Professor Keesing expressed his “boundless admiration” for Lens’ contribution to humanity and stated that the Christianity that he represented “was a Christianity of love, dedication and selflessness”. Although he was an agnostic, the professor also noted that Lens was “an inspiration to all who knew him, regardless of their religious beliefs”.

“Through the years he won hundreds of friends, saved hundreds of lives and established in the minds of all with whom he worked, the principle on which the future of the Solomon Islands will depend: that brotherhood among peoples must rise above the differences of language, culture, regionalism and religion that divide us.”

Lens and Betty Larwood stand tall among the many dedicated Christian believers who have given their lives while helping their fellow men. Those of us privileged to have known them will never forget.




---

*Dr Warren Millist is a retired anaesthetist living on the Gold Coast after working at the Sydney Adventist Hospital for 30 years from 1964 to 1994.*

## Lens had a vision of taking health care to the people in their own villages.



### Book party

Literature evangelists and the Adventist Book Centre in Solomon Islands recently held a party to acknowledge literature evangelism supporters who had sponsored 424 copies of the *Great Controversy*. Pastor Titus Rore said a prayer of dedication over the books. "Without the power of the printing press there would be no reformation in the work of the Church to move the gospel forward," said ABC manager James Bouro. —*Joshua Labuvolo*



### UR Church

Churches on the mid-north coast of New South Wales came together at Port Macquarie church last month to celebrate the success of the UR Church initiative. Attendees explored the final two training modules and also received encouragement from Pastor Bob Manners who noted that a significant percentage of members were still involved in small groups as part of UR Church. —*Around the Traps*



### White Balloon Day

Seventh-day Adventist churches across Victoria placed white balloons on their signs and buildings on September 11 to demonstrate their commitment to keeping families safe. White Balloon Day is held every year in Australia as part of National Child Protection Week. This year's theme was "protecting children is everyone's business". —*Swan Hill Guardian*



### Fast for Freedom

Eighty students raised more than \$A6000 during this year's "Fast for Freedom" campaign at Darling Downs Christian School (Qld), with the money raised being used to support Asian Aid's work to prevent sex trafficking in Nepal. Chantal Calvert, 11, wrote a poem as part of the campaign (see page 19), which she recently recited at a school chapel and at a "spoken word" event in Sydney hosted by Asian Aid. "I was just thinking about the girls in the Asian countries and how they would feel if they were pushed around and made to do things they didn't want to do," she said. "We can help change the lives of the little girls who don't have lives as good as us." —*DDCS*



### New member for Discipleship Ministries

The South Pacific Division's (SPD) Discipleship Ministries team has named another member, with Christina Hawkins accepting a position with the newly formed department. Mrs Hawkins' role will have a special focus on stewardship. The position is being split-funded by the General Conference (3.5 years) and the SPD (1.5 years). "The main focus asked for from the General Conference is that we directly challenge people to give God time and talent and be faithful in returning tithes," SPD president Pastor Glenn Townend said. —*SPD*



### Just like old times

A fleet of vintage and classic cars rolled into Cooranbong's Avondale Lifestyle Community (NSW) in September, treating dads at the aged care facility to a special Father's Day event. The cars were provided by the Twin Lakes Classic Auto Club. Sitting in the driver's seat of a 1946 Ford Anglia, 87-year-old Nat McPhee (pictured above) said the day brought him a smile and many memories. —*Felicity Pittaway*



### Start of something big

A small groundbreaking ceremony was held in Port Moresby (PNG) on September 24 for Operation Food for Life's (OFFL) Born Free Sanctuary project. The new facility will provide shelter for the 32 people currently staying at the home of OFFL PNG directors Phillip and Maureen Vaki, as well as any person in need of a place to stay. —*OFFL*



### New addition

Sonship has added a new boat to its fleet, with *Medisonship 3* purchased in October to replace *Medisonship 1*, which was sold a few weeks earlier. The newer boat is of fibreglass construction and a true catamaran, giving it excellent seaworthy capabilities. "We are excited about this boat because it will give us the capability to service more villages in a shorter time and be able to go to more distant places than *Med 1*," Sonship president Trevor Oliver said.





# R HEALTH FEATURE

with Cathy McDonald

## The whole story on strong bones

When we think of strong bones we usually think of calcium and when we think of calcium, we usually think of milk. It's a public health message that has endured for generations and while it's true that milk is high in calcium, more and more research is telling us that calcium isn't the be-all and end-all of bone health.

A recent study published in *The British Medical Journal* found that simply adding extra calcium to the diet from either food or supplements produced only a 1 to 2 per cent increase in bone mineral density, which was unlikely to mean a significant reduction in fracture risk.

So why could this be? Well we know that bone health is impacted by many factors. Research suggests that aside from calcium, vitamin D (which our bodies produce from sunlight), vitamin K and protein all play a part in building strong, healthy bones.

But aside from the things we eat, it's also the things that we do that can strengthen our bones. Research out of Deakin University (Victoria) got a group of participants over the age of 60 to take part in a program that included exercises such as hopping along with supplements of calcium and vitamin D. After a year, participants showed significantly improved bone density, muscle power, strength and balance.

So when we think about strong bones, rather than just think about milk or fortified soy milk or other calcium-rich foods like Asian greens, we should probably think about skipping down to the shops in the sunshine to fill our baskets with a balanced diet that includes calcium-rich foods.



### Indian spinach tofu with rice

Preparation time: 10 minutes Cooking time: 15 Serves: 4

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 teaspoon grated fresh ginger
- 1 clove garlic, crushed
- 1 onion diced
- 2 tablespoons medium curry paste
- 375g packet of firm tofu, cut into cubes
- 2 tablespoons pumpkin seed kernels
- 8 cups (250g) English spinach leaves (or frozen spinach)
- 2 tomatoes, diced
- 4 cups steamed brown rice

1. Heat a frypan over medium heat, add oil, ginger, garlic, onion and curry paste. Cook for 2 minutes stirring constantly until fragrant.
2. Add tofu and fry for 5-8 minutes until tofu is coated.
3. Add pumpkin kernels and cook for 2 minutes. Add spinach, place a lid on the pan and cook for a further 3 minutes until spinach is soft.
4. Add the tomatoes and stir until combined and heated through. Serve with steamed rice.

**NUTRITION INFORMATION PER SERVE:** 1950kJ (465cal). Protein 17g. Fat 14g. Carbohydrate 63g. Sodium 480mg. Potassium 740mg. Calcium 265mg. Iron 8.5mg. Fibre 8g.

Call and arrange to speak to one of our qualified nutritionists at Sanitarium Lifestyle Medicine Services on 1800 673 392 (in Australia) or 0800 100 257 (in New Zealand). Alternatively, email us at [nutrition@sanitarium.com.au](mailto:nutrition@sanitarium.com.au) (Australia) or [nutrition@sanitarium.co.nz](mailto:nutrition@sanitarium.co.nz) (New Zealand). For more great recipes and health articles visit our website [www.sanitarium.com.au](http://www.sanitarium.com.au) or [www.sanitarium.co.nz](http://www.sanitarium.co.nz)

Sanitarium

LIFESTYLE  
MEDICINE  
SERVICES



# Serving God in war

IN THE PRE-DAWN HOURS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1939, Hitler's military staged its lightning attack against Poland. World War II had begun. Britain declared war two days later on September 3; Canada declared war on September 10.

In the midst of this violent struggle there was a sizeable group of conscientious objectors (COs) who refused to bear arms, including members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

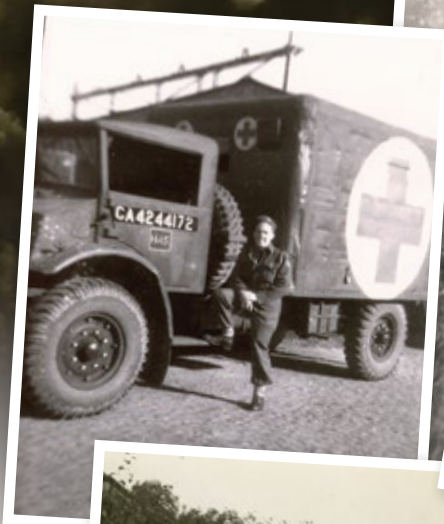
"There is no home in Canada," said Canadian Prime Minister Mackenzie King, "no family, and no individual whose fortunes and freedom are not bound up in the present struggle."

Around kitchen tables Adventist families discussed the plight of their young men called to bear arms.

Bill Solonuk remembers, "Everyone was a bit concerned what was going to happen, and especially the young people—what the future had in store."

John Corban noted that while there was concern about the war, "my parents had good faith and they instilled that faith in me and they demonstrated that faith too. They didn't show any unusual fear or concern or worry. They just said, 'We're here to pray for you.' Morning and evening worship, without fail. We'd read the Bible through in the evenings and in the morning we had the *Morning Watch* books with a reading of a prayer."

It is that simple faith that I have come to admire as, over the past decade, I have been interviewing these Adventist men, now in their 90s, about their experiences. They refused to carry the rifle because of their faith. Most were put in one of the work camps that were built around the country for public work projects such as road building, logging and forestry service. They served the same amount of time as those conscripts serving in the military. At the



beginning of the war, Canadian military brass refused to allow COs to serve as medics. However, during the last two years of

the war it was permitted. A number of the COs I interviewed chose to leave the camps and join the military medics—some served on the frontlines as the Canadian military liberated the Netherlands.

Since I began this project a number of the interviewees have passed away.

August Steinke said his reason for taking the stand he did was because of his religious upbringing. "We were always taught to be loyal to God and when it came to working on Sabbath, why, remember the Sabbath and not to accept service by way of using a gun, you know. It was what we were taught in the Adventist Church, not to bear arms . . . work at helping people rather than killing people."

For the most part the COs were well treated in the





camps and later as medics. However, those who were refused CO status by the mobilisation boards that were set up to determine the sincerity of the CO claim, were to suffer the most.

In the summer of 1943, Richard Linden Watts appeared before the Vancouver mobilisation board presided over by Justice A M Manson. Justice Manson was not convinced Watts was sincere and sent him to basic military training. Trouble ensued as Watts refused to take the rifle and to parade on Sabbath. As Watts, two other Adventists and one Mennonite were called to take the rifle, they refused and were told to "stand aside". Watts recalled what happened next: "They put us under guard and marched us off to the guardhouse . . . As we

got to the door there's a burly officer sitting there. 'Who are these guys? What's going on here?' 'Well they're conscientious objectors.' 'Well don't bring them in here. Take them out and shoot them.' And with that we marched in and they put us in the cell and locked the door." They were given 14 days for disobeying an order.

The military were anxious to get rid of Watts so a letter was written to the judge to see if he could be reclassified as a CO and be sent to a work camp or to the medics. But Judge Manson was going to have none of it. "May we respectfully remind you that the decisions of my board are final," he said. "There is however a lot of humbug put forward by some of these men who lay claim to conscientious objections. There is nothing in the tenets of the Seventh-day Adventists so far as I know that prohibits a perfectly good member of that organisation from bearing arms, and while their Sunday is not our Sunday, nevertheless they lay claim to be followers of Christ and certainly Christ made it clear in His teachings that the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. In the emergency of war there is no reason why the Seventh-day Adventist should not continue with his army duties . . . I am quite sure that the army has an effective way of dealing with this kind of nonsense. After all, we are at war and if we are to give way to all these boys with a mental quirk, real or imaginary or pretended, it would be a funny kind of a war."

After a very interesting turn of events eventually Watts was classified as a CO and sent to train as a medic.

The medics on the front-lines got to see firsthand the horror that is war. Don Ritchey shared how he assisted not only the Canadian wounded but also the Hitler youth. A young German boy "had one leg blown off and really serious. But he was still conscious." As Don bandaged his wounds the boy spat at him.

Laurence Jerome found himself caught at one point between advancing Canadian tanks and retreating German

tanks. "I saw a lot of casualties," he said, as the shells flew overhead.

As his unit entered a concentration camp, Don Ritchey got into a conversation with one of the liberated inmates who had tuberculosis in the final stages. "He was in bad condition and thin, you know, just been starved." When asked why he was put into the camp he said, "I sent a pound of butter to my mother." In the end there was nothing Don could do for him.

Don was randomly selected among the Canadian soldiers at the war's end, to go on a trip to Berlin and tour what was left of Hitler's chancellery. He saw the marble hallway and the living quarters. "I had a chance to go through all that stuff. And I saw the place where he [Hitler] and Eva's bodies were burnt just right after the war ended."

With the hundreds of thousands of troops in Europe after the war it took almost two years for Canada to repatriate its forces. The military maintained a regime of marching and training to keep the men occupied. However, a group of three Adventists defied the authorities by

not marching on the Sabbath. They were court-martialled—or were about to be. They were put in a tent in the middle of the parade ground under 24-hour guard until the matter was settled. In the meantime, Adventist Church officials in Canada and Europe negotiated a settlement to release the men. Eventually, officials in Ottawa ordered the military to release them. Canadian General Vokes was not pleased and he said so in a telegram to Ottawa:

"My views are that Seventh-day Adventists should serve under the same conditions of service as soldiers of any other religious creed or denomination. I cannot see why they should receive any particular consideration since other soldiers have to perform essential duties, Christians on Sun[day] and Hebrews on Sat[urday]. I cancelled now punishment of these offences pending an explanation of policy by the Dept of National Defence as regards future treatment of cases of this sort. Finally, I would point out that a dangerous precedent will be set if every officer and soldier is legally entitled to refuse duty on his Sabbath day whether it be Sat or Sun . . ."

As the memory of these men and their experiences fade we owe them our respect and gratitude for seeking to follow the Lord regardless of the circumstance. They were not afraid of facing death to be of service to their fellow-men; nor were they inhibited or shamed to stand for their allegiance to Christ for keeping His Sabbath holy. ✻

## It is what we were taught in the Adventist Church, not to bear arms . . . work at helping people rather than killing people.

*Pastor Barry Bussey is vice president—Legal Affairs, Canadian Christian Charities Commission, and formerly served in the religious liberty department of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.*



# Moving forward going back

by Mary Lane

**F**ROM TIME TO TIME I'D THOUGHT ABOUT returning to Papua New Guinea where my husband, Les Anderson, had worked with Adventist Aviation Services (AAS), but somehow the time, distance, cost and emotional energy necessary to make such a trip happen seemed more than I could manage. My assault by two raskols (criminals) early in our four-year stint and Les's death in a 2002 plane crash had taken a heavy emotional toll on me.

I'd heard about the upcoming centenary anniversary celebrations for AAS in 2014 and considered attending but wasn't sure if I was ready to open up memory's door quite so wide. After a lot of thought I decided not to go. Then I received a personal invitation from Bennett Spencer, the CEO of AAS. Halfway through reading it I burst into tears. I was shocked that emotions, long suppressed, could overflow without warning. That's when I knew that going back was something I wanted and needed to do. There was no guarantee that healing or closure would happen but I was willing to gamble on the possibility.

When Les and I first went to Ethiopia in the '60s—young, naïve and enthusiastic—we had no understanding of the reality of mission service. Going to PNG 30-plus years later, I thought I knew what to expect—the separation from family, the difficulty with communication, the dangers to health and person, church politics and interpersonal conflicts and, for me, the ever present concern for Les's safety. I knew he loved his work. He had always wanted to be a missionary and had learned to fly specifically to assist him with this work.

Three days before that fateful Friday he admitted he was tired, that he guessed he had gotten flying out of his system and was ready to go home. I wasn't surprised. He was not a shirker and if a job needed to be done he would do it. But he was carrying a heavy load.

Months after his death I was leafing through our Marriage Encounter notebooks from the '80s and found a letter Les had written to me. He wrote about flying and the possibility of dying in a plane crash, thanking me for giving him the freedom to do what he loved though it was dangerous, and acknowledging that I spent many anxious hours awaiting his return. In conclusion he said he just wanted me to know that if he died, I should remember that he was content because he had God's love and mine, and that was enough. In my head I knew this to be true—that God's love is ultimately "enough" to carry us through every circumstance. However, when lived out in real time, I saw "through a glass darkly". Our four years in Goroka were the best and worst years of my life; the highs so high I felt like I was in heaven and the lows so low I wanted to die.

I believe the Lord took me by the hand and led me step by step on my journey. He gave me an understanding travelling companion, my husband Dave Giles, who had been a friend of Les's long before the untimely deaths of our respective spouses. Dave's eldest son had also died in a plane crash so he was well acquainted with the emotions that swirled around in my heart.

But now it was the return journey—first from our home in the United States to Australia and then onwards to PNG. As we walked through the Cairns departure gate I glanced out the window and saw the Air Niugini plane sitting on the tarmac. I could scarcely breathe. I expected to have moments of panic or tears at the house, the gravesite or the hangar, but certainly not before I got to PNG. This episode surprised me because it was so unexpected and so sudden. Thankfully it was also brief.

We arrived in Goroka during a heavy shower. Everything seemed so familiar. The baggage unloading and collection were exactly the same as when we'd lived there and took just as long. The same metal gates kept back the noisy,



jostling crowds. Billboards that used to advertise condoms and warn about AIDS were now plastered with cell phone ads. The market, sports field, stores along the highway, Kabiufa School—all were the same. When we drove up to the gate of our old house, we were introduced to a whole crowd of new faces. Dave, being a pastor pilot like Les, fitted right in. I didn't feel like talking so I walked inside alone, seeing Les everywhere, heavy with a sense of loss. But soon little children were running in and out, laughing and playing, and others wandered inside to visit while we ate our late meal. The painful past was engulfed in the vibrant, cheerful, noisy present, and it felt good.

I didn't go back to PNG to be a tourist, though I had many opportunities to take pictures and travel. I didn't go back to have fun, though Bennett and others kindly arranged for us to participate in many delightful activities similar to those that had brought me great joy when I lived in Goroka. I went back to find closure. From the moment they brought Les's body back to the hangar until I left PNG, I had been in a state of shock. Everything happened so suddenly there just wasn't time to finish what I wanted to do, say what I wanted to say, see those I wanted to see before my departure. Now with this second visit AAS was giving me an opportunity to attend to some of that unfinished business.

The 12 years since my departure had compressed my longings to a single wish. More than anything else I wanted to visit Les's grave. First thing. First hour if possible. But it didn't happen that way. I was asked to delay my visit a day because a crew was fixing up the headstones and wanted everything to look nice before I saw it. I appreciated the sentiment but I could have handled the construction better than the waiting. On the next day when I did try to go, I found the graveyard fenced and the gate padlocked. I thought about becoming a raskol and climbing over the wires. Instead, I left a lily stuck in the chain and walked away heartbroken. I'd come so far and waited so long for this moment, only to be shut out. The feeling of disappointment was intense.

I share this experience not to make anyone feel bad but to recognise that often our minds fixate on things that we believe will help us move forward. Visiting Les's grave was that one thing for me. Fortunately the locked gate was not the end of the story. Later I was given a gate key to keep for the duration of my stay and was able to visit the graveyard as often as I wished. The very first time I went I found my lily leaning against Les's headstone and thanked the Lord for the kindness of the person who'd placed it there.

So what did I do in the graveyard? I studied the headstone and the smashed propeller, which I had not seen before. I thought about how grateful I was that Les had not suffered and that his body had been recovered. I thought about the individual people Les had touched during his

## Our four years in Goroka were the best and worst years of my life...

years in PNG, about the work of AAS, about the years of my own life since I had last knelt there beside his grave. I prayed for my national friends still labouring in PNG, for the staff of AAS and the challenges they face every day, for my children and Les's family who wanted to be with me, and for the families of all the others buried in that quiet place. I asked the Lord for a faith strong enough to hold me until I could talk to Him face to face.

Sitting under the trees all alone, I sang songs of hope, longing and thanksgiving as I gazed out over the valley towards Elimbari. I stayed until my tears were spent and my heart was at peace. It was not easy to revisit the pain and loss but by doing so I found healing and closure. On my final visit, Bennett's wife Dalena and their children helped me carry armloads of flowers to place on all the graves. Dry-eyed and hopeful, I locked the gate for the final time, so very thankful to the Lord and AAS for allowing me to return.

Altogether we spent 10 days in Goroka. Dave usually drove to the hangar with Bennett and I stayed with Dalena and the children in Kabiufa, so it was like old times. How quickly the routine returned. How familiar the stories around the supper table. How delightful the hike up the Kabiufa house line, the visits to the market, the music at Town Church. The flight to Maimafu and Kora was beautiful, though I admit I was apprehensive about flying. The airplane seemed way too big for the short grassy strips. Maimafu is still steep and scary but I closed my eyes and saw Les preaching at the camp meeting we attended there the Sabbath before he died. The evangelistic meetings in Goroka every night, the parades Thursday and Friday morning, the well-trained Pathfinder drill team, the marching ladies bands, the flight to Kapiago where pioneer Len Barnard first worked—every day was a blessing. I found dear national friends whom I never expected to see again on this earth and it was as though we had never been apart. I made new friends among the former AAS pilots and felt incredibly blessed by the support and love they showed me during my visit.

Sabbath was the best day of all. I had seen huge crowds at meetings before but it was a profoundly moving sight for Dave. We were surrounded by a brotherhood of AAS workers and an immense family of national believers and friends. After observing the scene for a while, Dave asked, "If Les could see this crowd of believers who have come to celebrate what the Lord and AAS have done for them, do you think he would feel it was worth the sacrifice?"

A young man sang "What a Day That Will Be" and I quietly hummed a harmony part. I thought about Les, about the other loved ones we have laid to rest and longed for Jesus to come soon. Yes, on that glorious morning it will indeed be "worth it all".

*Mary Lane lives in the United States with her husband Dave.*





## DIGGING INTO THE WORD

Gary Webster

### Josiah the great reformer

As a result of Baal worship the nation of Judah was far from God. But at 26 years of age King Josiah was moved mightily by the Spirit to initiate a great reform movement. Firstly, he repaired God's temple. Then, after listening to the neglected Word of God, he humbled himself before God, called the nation to hear the same Word and led them to make a covenant with God to follow His instructions.

**Read 2 Kings 22:3-13; 23:1-3.**

Following this he destroyed everything in the land connected to the worship of Baal. Finally, he called the people to celebrate the Passover of God's saving grace.

**Read 2 Kings 23:4-25.**

How about us? Could it be that sometimes the Baal gods of today—sport, fashion, pleasure, materialism—have turned us from seeking and following God with all our heart? Then like Josiah we must listen to His word, humble our hearts, turn from wrong and put away that which has become more important to us than God. But only by looking to the Passover Lamb of God, who forgives our sins, can the world be crucified to us and we to the world. Why not turn your eyes upon Jesus right now and experience His dynamic, transforming love?

**Read Hebrews 12:1-3; Galatians 6:14; John 3:3,5,9,14-16.**

*An artefact depicting Baal, the Canaanite god, from the Louvre Museum in Paris. King Josiah completely abolished the worship of Baal in his reform movement in Judah.*



## MY STORY

My name is Parsli. I work as a Volunteers In Action (VIA) pioneer missionary on Shortland Island in the far north of Solomon Islands. Shortland is a Roman Catholic area—apart from our family there is only one other Adventist on the island. I must confess that there are hardships and a lack of resources. There are times when I'm discouraged in my work. But the Shortland islanders are very genuine people, even if they lack access to the Bible. A number of them are showing an interest in the truths we are bringing to them.



Parsli.

Sometimes God works in mysterious ways. We had a visitor to our home recently—a Catholic lady who was very friendly to our family. She was intrigued by a Bible flipchart hanging on our wall. We use it to teach our children. It was showing a beautiful image of trees, flowers and greenery. She asked what it was about.

To my surprise our four-year-old son spoke up and told her that it was a picture of the Garden of Eden at creation. He then delivered a mini-sermon, telling her all about how God created the world.

Amazed at the little one's knowledge, the lady kept asking questions and eventually requested that I study the Bible with her. Praise God!

Please pray for the people of the Shortland Island region who are searching for truth. Pray for us too as we share the love of Jesus with them.—as told to Nigel Torrens

## OPINION POLL

### Would you be willing to risk death in order to spread the gospel to another culture?

- No, people should spread the gospel to their own culture.
- No, life is too precious to take unnecessary risks.
- No, it is better to use radio and TV to reach dangerous places
- Yes, if I've got no dependents
- Yes, "I surrender all"



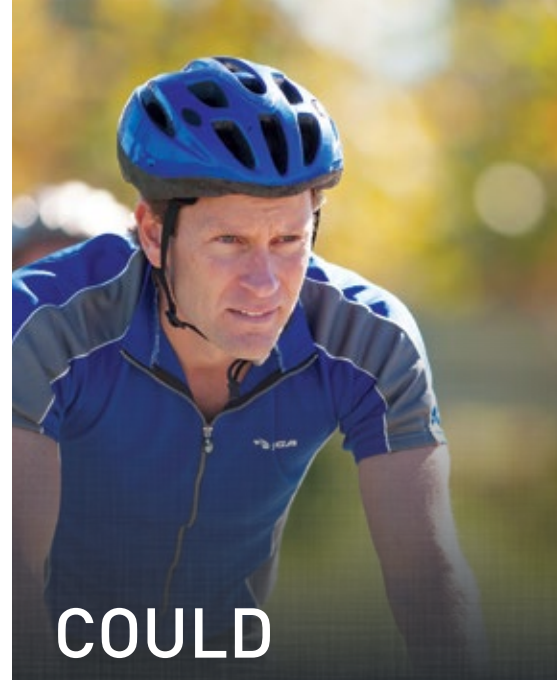
Visit <[record.net.au](http://record.net.au)> to answer this poll.



## FASTING FOR FREEDOM

By Chantal Calvert, 11

Do they notice the tears in her eyes?  
Do they care for the fear in her heart?  
Being taken, trafficked at only eleven,  
They have torn her and her family apart!  
The hardships and weariness of slavery,  
Cast as burdens upon her shoulders.  
Not burdens light to carry . . . no . . .  
Burdens as heavy and thick as boulders.  
She has no hope but a spark . . .  
A spark in the dark of night.  
This spark of hope could save her though,  
Snuffing out her endless fight.  
A fight for freedom, individuality.  
No orders or heartless demands.  
Not having to obey her master  
Who shouts out ugly commands.  
The spark is you! You are her hope!  
You can save her from her pain!  
With the Lord God fighting on your side  
Her slavery can be slain!  
It's only one day of sacrifice!  
Only a day of just rice in a bowl.  
Only a few weeks of collecting donations.  
To keep this girl free from death's harsh toll.



# COULD

*lifestyle medicine*

# SAVE YOUR LIFE?

Avondale lecturer  
Dr Darren Morton says  
research shows repeatedly  
that positive lifestyle  
changes mean a lower  
risk, or even a reversal, of  
high blood pressure, heart  
disease and diabetes.

Watch the interview at  
[vimeo.com/143197597](https://vimeo.com/143197597)

Record   
infocus

as seen on



FOXTEL

LETTERS

**UPLIFTING, TIMELY**

Melayna Smith, Vic

Re: *Record*, October 17.

What an amazing *Record* this week. Every page was filled with interesting, uplifting and timely articles. Some were sad stories that filled me with compassion for those affected and made me think more about their plight and a need to help rather than turn away in apathy. Stories of God's amazing intervention and providence, which when we recognise it, brings glory to His name. And Lorraine Chambers' letter "Hot Topic" is a letter I wish I had written but again apathy got in the way.

A favourite Canadian author said, "we need to be of much earthly good", which the *Record* this week shows [by featuring] what the Church is about.

Thank you.

**SAFE PLACES?**

Steve Cinzio, Qld

All Adventists will be dismayed to read that their Church may be asked to come under the scrutiny of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. Lowest in allegations of abuse among the Catholics, Salvation Army, Uniting Church, nevertheless 56 allegations are 56 too many.

The *Record* article ["Child abuse commissioner addresses church leaders", October 10] does not give me the confidence that all is well in the Safe Place Services (SPS) department of the Church, which is charged with the responsibility of protecting our children. I read that Adventist Schools Australia has just completed a new national child protection framework, and that there have been nine separate school systems doing different

things that were not working. This fact does not engender confidence that past cases have been handled adequately.

The fact that the Church's SPS has been subjected to an independent review evidences the fact that there has been some disturbing confusion that has created difficulties for pastors who are attempting to rely on the information from the various Church entities in attempting to implement a policy that is not clearly enunciated or understood.

Dean Banks, the Adventist Church's Royal Commission project officer, comments that the Church has been prompted by the Royal Commission's process to re-examine existing child safety policies. It is hoped that in the future the child safety policy will be amended, clearly articulated and justly applied in a manner so that those reporting child abuse issues may avoid the triangulation that now exists among the reporting church, the local conference and SPS.

**Response: Dean Banks**

Thank you Steve for your reflections.

First and foremost, the Church welcomes the Royal Commission. It is raising awareness around the devastating effects of child sexual assault on individuals, giving survivors a voice to tell their story, changing societal mindsets and highlighting the importance of keeping children safe in institutional contexts. Importantly it is giving institutions, including our own Church entities, guidance as to how to improve our procedures for handling complaints from survivors within our Church context.

Where a national entity exists such as our Church, the

commission is encouraging a national approach, ensuring standardised practices and approaches across the board. Indeed the commission is not inhibited or satisfied with institutional governance structures that may impede the operation of transparent and consistent responses to allegations. Adventist Schools Australia's recent initiative with the national child protection framework reflects an understanding of this.

The commission is also giving guidance about what child protection policies and procedures should include, and how to communicate this better to staff and parishioners. As a result Safe Place Services (SPS) is revising its policies as well as recruiting highly experienced, specialised staff to manage its operations and response practices. Other areas of focus for the Adventist Church include a national register for offenders, establishment of a redress scheme for survivors, specialised training and improved screening for staff (ministers, teachers and local volunteers).

SPS was not "subjected" to an independent review. Rather the review was recommended by SPS management and commissioned by the Australian Union Conference to ensure that our service model reflects best practice in the area of child protection. The commission still has two years until its completion. The process of change is ongoing and fluid as we as a Church continue to get guidance.

Thanks for your vested interest and support as we look to create safer church environments to protect our children and young people.

*Note: Views in letters do not necessarily represent those of the editors or the denomination. Letters should be less than 250 words, and writers must include their name, address and phone number. All letters are edited to meet space and literary requirements, but the author's original meaning will not be changed. Not all letters received are published. See Page 4 for contact details.*



HI KIDS!



Daniel, Hananiah,

Mishael, and Azariah are taken to King Nebuchadnezzar's palace. They are offered food dedicated to idols. Daniel asks the steward to test them for 10 days with healthier food.

## FIND DANIEL AND HIS FRIENDS

Match the healthy boys with the healthy food and use their word to fill in the blanks below



### Service Message

I  God when I  to be .

### Memory Verse

“So whether you  or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” 1 Corinthians 10:31, NIU



*Lay Pastoral Assistant  
and Youth Bible Worker*

EQUIPPING YOU  
*for active ministry and outreach*

ENCOURAGING YOU  
*to work together*

EMPOWERING YOU  
*in your area of gifts*

ENGAGING YOU  
*in fulfilling service*

31 Jan - 19 Feb, 2016  
Call 03 9871 7555

[www.auctrainingcentre.org.au](http://www.auctrainingcentre.org.au)

Lest we forget

For more than 120 years, Adventist missionaries have risked it all to spread the gospel in the South Pacific Division. This web page has been launched in loving memory of those families who paid the supreme price while in active service throughout the South Pacific.

Read their stories here:

[www.spd.adventist.org/in-memoriam](http://www.spd.adventist.org/in-memoriam)



## RECORD REWIND

Lester Devine

### The apostle to Chicago

Dr David Paulson had visited the famous Dr Thomas Barnardo (an Irish philanthropist and founder and director of homes for poor children in London) and felt inspired to follow his example. Dr Paulson's whole life was, in fact, a total commitment to the poor and disadvantaged.

Known as "the apostle to Chicago", Dr Paulson was an amazing man of prayer who found an ideal place in Illinois for a hospital—a beautiful estate, vacant for seven years and the former home of Judge Beckwith. The price was \$US16,000 and Dr Paulson was enthusiastic but his wife Mary, both supportive and practical, noted it was a wonderful bargain—but that they did not have a cent. Dr Paulson's response was his typical, "Where's your faith?" Soon Mr C B Kimbell, a wealthy Chicago businessman, bought the property for Dr Paulson with reimbursement in 20 yearly payments without interest.

So they went ahead on March 4, 1904, having to borrow money to move their goods to the site and for a time they stayed in a small house on the grounds as the main building had been vandalised by homeless people and had no doors and much other damage. His friends mocked that he had moved out of town into "a rich residence without money enough to take his bed along". Dr Paulson took some delight in remembering the people who made those comments when they later came to him looking for jobs!

By 1906 pressure on space required the Beckwith house to be enlarged. Adventist Hinsdale Hospital has prospered over the years even though its founder, Dr Paulson, wore himself out and died in 1916 at only 48 years of age.

*The above is a synopsis of the entry in The Vision Bold pp. 94-105.*



## MYSTERY HISTORY



Do you know?

- The people in the photo.
- The date the photo was taken.

Send to [heritage@avondale.edu.au](mailto:heritage@avondale.edu.au)



## WEDDINGS



**Hermann—Olsen.** Sidney Hermann, son of John and Sue Hermann, and Suzie Olsen, daughter of Linda Olsen and Bob Waldon, were married 5.7.15 in Glenvale church (Qld). Sidney and Suzie met at a youth program at Glenvale church. Suzie is a teacher and Sidney a welder.

*Casey Wolverton*



**Mallett—Carins.** Shane Gregory Mallett, son of Gary and Toni Roberts (Brisbane, Qld), and Stacey Lee Carins, daughter of Scott and Andria Carins (Blackwater), were married 11.9.15 in The Sironet Winery, Mount Cotton.

*Lynn Burton*



**Panev—Douglas.** Alexander Panev, son of Sophie Kocev and Robert Panev (Perth, WA), and Megan Douglas, daughter of Kay and Mark Douglas (Perth), were married 3.5.15 in the Wesley Uniting church, Perth. Megan and Alex will be living in Joondalup where Megan will continue to work as a nurse and Alex as a lawyer.

*Steven Goods*

## OBITUARIES

**Keegan,** George Graham, born 3.4.1932 in Perth, WA; died 27.6.15 in Busselton. He is survived by his children: Malcolm and Margaret, Lynette and David, Katrina and Neil, and Kylie and Brad; and grandchildren: Byron and Michelle, Sarah, Allira, Maderlyn, Mayhalia, Amy and Gil, Ryan, Airon, Ebony, Olivia, Megan, Dakota, Zavia and Zavyenn; and great-grandchild Zoe. George's friendship, generosity and integrity touched many people. He will be remembered for his loyalty and service to his

heavenly Father and devotion to his church.

*Clark Riggins*

**Ludlow,** Alvis Merle (nee Mel-drum), born 15.8.1924 in Taree, NSW; died 6.8.15 in the Calvary Hospice, Newcastle. She was predeceased by her husband Walter Ludlow in 1987. She is survived by her three children Barbara Searle, John and Gary Ludlow and their families. Alvis enjoyed a full life with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She lived to see her great-granddaughter Maeve Scarlett Garde come into the family after four precious boys. Through the influence of her daughter, Alvis came to enjoy fellowship in the Adventist Church. For much of her life she was a competent tennis player who coached many young people. Her faith in God was strong. Alvis now rests awaiting the call of Jesus.

*Roger Nixon*

**Turner,** Brian Herbert, born 20.12.1931 in Subiaco, Perth, WA; died 10.9.15 in Thornlie. On 17.4.1957 he married Betty Brooks. He is survived by his wife (Thornlie); his sister Veronica Turner (Mandurah) and step-brother Max Turner. Brian was a grandson of the Hollingsworth Adventist pioneer family. A keen fisherman, he was a kind-hearted, quiet gentleman who was loved by all. Brian and Betty were foster parents to many children. Brian died peacefully at home, following many years of ill health, surrounded by family.

*Gervais Cangy*

## ADVERTISEMENTS

**Bendigo Adventist Church** invites you to join our December 5, 2015 thanksgiving for 125 years of the Advent message in our city; 40 years in the present dedicated building. For more information please ring (03) 5443 0177.

**Missionaries' luncheon—Avondale graduation, December 12.** A combined lunch after the church service for missionaries, ex-missionaries, family and friends will be held in the Education building on the college campus. Please bring a plate of food. Drinks and nibbles will be provided. Come prepared to give a short talk on special Islander associates. Contact Ken Boehm on (02) 4365 3033/ 0408 072 313 or Warren Martin (02) 9489 5907/ email: <warrenjmartin@hotmail.com>."

**Absolute Care Funerals** is an Adventist family-owned and operated business caring for you in Sydney to Newcastle and Wollongong. Contact Arne Neirinckx, who understands our Adventist philosophy, on 1300

982 803 or mobile 0408 458 452. Call us even if you have already prepaid your funeral. <arne@absolutecarefunerals.com.au>.

## Finally . . .

"Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day."—2 Corinthians 4:16

Next RECORD Nov 21

## SUPPORTING MINISTRY POSITIONS

■ **Marketing coordinator—Asian Aid (Cooranbong, NSW).** An exciting position exists for a marketer with two years' experience who is passionate about positive change. If you have experience in project and event management, writing and resource development, we would like to hear from you. Visit <www.asianaid.org.au/get-involved/work-with-us/> for a position description. Email: <hello@asianaid.org.au> or call Bruna on 0400 101 411 for more information. Applications close **November 30, 2015.**

■ **Course in health ministry—Cedarvale Health & Lifestyle Retreat (Fitzroy Falls, NSW).** Applications are being taken for both men and women for the January intake, 2016. Includes several nationally accredited courses as well as on-the-job training in a health retreat setting. Be mentored alongside a team of dedicated professionals including a doctor. This is a great opportunity to become actively involved in health ministry. For more information visit <www.cedarvaleeducation.com.au>, email <info@cedarvaleeducation.com.au> or phone (02) 4465 1362. Applications close **November 28, 2015.**

■ **Manager—Cedarvale Health & Lifestyle Retreat (Fitzroy Falls, NSW)** is seeking a person with good management skills to oversee an exciting and growing health ministry. Other skills useful in a health retreat setting would be helpful. (Current manager and cook heading up a new outreach department.) For more information phone (02) 4465 1362 or email <info@cedarvaleretreat.com.au>. Applications close **November 30** for early 2016 commencement.

■ **Cook—Cedarvale Health & Lifestyle Retreat (Fitzroy Falls, NSW)** is seeking a person passionate about healthy cooking with good interpersonal skills. Commencement early 2016. Phone (02) 4465 1362 or email <info@cedarvaleretreat.com.au>. Applications close **November 30, 2015.**

■ **Maintenance/handyman—Cedarvale Health & Lifestyle Retreat (Fitzroy Falls, NSW)**—A full-time position is available to work as part of a team and in a health ministry environment. For more information phone (02) 4465 1362 or email <info@cedarvaleretreat.com.au>. Applications close **December 31, 2015.**

*The above ministries are independent of the Seventh-day Adventist Church organisation but are supportive of the Church.*

**Note:** Neither the editor, Adventist Media Network, nor the Seventh-day Adventist Church is responsible for the quality of goods or services advertised. Publication does not indicate endorsement of a product or service. Advertisements approved by the editor will be inserted at the following rates: first 30 words or less, \$A68 +GST; each additional word, \$A2.26 +GST. For your advertisement to appear, payment must be enclosed. Classified advertisements in RECORD are available to Seventh-day Adventist members, churches and institutions only. All advertisements, appreciation, anniversary, wedding and obituary notices may be submitted via <ads@record.net.au>. Please note all notices should be a maximum of 80 words and may be edited in accordance with Record style. Record reserves the right to shorten notices due to space constraints.



ALL I WANT FOR  
**Christmas**  
is an education

One in four gifts received this Christmas will be unwanted. Some will be re-gifted but others will be left unloved, unused and eventually thrown out.

While gender inequality and violence remain major challenges in Papua New Guinea, it hardly feels right to waste limited resources on junk.

Educating women and girls, helps them to become respected and valued, enabling them to make a real difference for their community.

Shine your light this Christmas. Give a meaningful gift that will empower women and girls in the Pacific.

Give today at [adra.org.au](http://adra.org.au) or call 1800 242 372