

RECORD

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Asian Church Celebrates Xmas With Baptism

The Melbourne Asian church celebrated the birth of Christ by planning a Christmas eve baptism emphasising the new birth. Pastor James Wong baptised Jane Lim (pictured).

"Jane's family escaped the war in Timor nine years ago," says Pastor Wong, who helped the family resettle in a new land. "Initially, only her mother and oldest sister were permitted to leave Timor, and many prayers ascended on behalf of Jane and the rest of the family, until they were able to be reunited."

Jane and her siblings have attended the Asian church since then, and through the influence of Christian friends and the annual youth camp, she has learned about a saving Friend.

"Camping ministry has been an important outreach for the Asian church," says Pastor Wong. "Last year more than 90 people attended the 11th annual youth and junior camp at Wandiligong, near Bright, Victoria. Over a dozen non-Adventists attended, and according to Dr Robert Gan, who served as camp director, five of these are now attending Sabbath school. Please pray for Jane's brothers and sisters, and also the other young people in our church who have yet to commit their lives to Christ. Our own church is a mission field where we each can be a missionary."

Youth Offering Today

RECORD

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EDITORIAL

What's It All About?

Imagine having to sit an exam at the end of primary school, knowing there will be space in high school for only two out of your class of 20. Imagine knowing that only about one in 1,000 young people in your country will be able to continue to Year 12!

Well, that's what it's like for most of the young people in the islands of the South Pacific. They get brief exposure to a world of possibility. But if they don't quite have what it takes, or they don't work quite hard enough, their big chance is blown—probably forever.

Suicides are frequent.

Young people's expectations rise with education. Then they have to face the harsh realities of their world. They know that a wage earner may bring home less than \$100 a month—if he or she can get work.

They're left feeling trapped and hopeless. Schooling seems to have little point, as there are so few jobs that actually utilize the educational skills gained.

But when you hear the young people sing, when you watch them laugh and play, you'd think that their lives were as idyllic as the tropical paradise in which they live.

The Western idea that meaning comes when you're surrounded by material things, when your personal level of comfort is high, has arrived in the Pacific islands with a vengeance. Yet any approach to life that has its ultimate meaning derived from things is bound to fail.

As someone has perceptively said, "God gave us people to enjoy and things to use. But today we enjoy things and use people." The warmth and meaning of friendship and family are supplanted by the drive to acquire.

It's not only young people in the Pacific islands who are caught up in this struggle to find meaning in life. The pressure to succeed—ie, acquire—is also real in Australia and New Zealand.

Yet so often we work toward a goal, only to realise shortly before we achieve it, or just after we've achieved it, that it really has little point. So we ask, "Where do I go now?"

The "goal" that Paul pressed toward

didn't have just temporary purpose. It had eternal significance.

Paul describes the Christians of his day who'd lost sight of the goal in these words: "Many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things." Philippians 3:18, 19, NIV.

But those who make Christ central in their planning, are said to be "like stars in the universe as [they] hold out the word of life." Philippians 2:15, 16, NIV.

I think it's time we reassessed our values and asked again, What's life really all about?

Again and again I've met people working in remote places who have few of the things we take for granted, yet they exude a contagious happiness and sense of fulfilment.

Take the Hiscoxes at Batuna, in the Solomon Islands, for example. They seem to work 25 hours a day, eight days a week. They're often exhausted. Yet they have a sense of being where God wants them to be, and doing what God wants them to do. Their success and fulfilment aren't measured by what they've accumulated, but by the hundreds of lives they've touched and helped.

A young man about to finish dentistry recently wrote to me, asking about work—even as a volunteer dentist. Because, as he put it, he wasn't content "just to drill and fill." He also wanted opportunity "to teach and preach."

To those people—young and old—who right now are sorting out their life's goals, I'd say, "May your goal, if reached, be fulfilling because you've sorted out your priorities. May you, with Paul, be able to say, 'I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.'" Philippians 4:12, NIV.

Because Paul knew Christ, he could also say, "I can do everything through him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13, NIV.

Barry Gane, Youth Director,
South Pacific Division.

LETTERS

Not the Building

Regarding "May We Eat in Church?" (February 11):

In Romans 16:3, 5 the Apostle Paul says, "Greet Priscilla and Aquilla. . . Likewise greet the church that is in their house." How could a church meet in a house unless the church is not the building but the assembly of believers? The New Testament extension of the Old Testament temple—where God dwelt—is that He now dwells in us.

Wherever and whenever we gather for worship, special reverence is appropriate—not because of *where* we are, but because of *why* we have come together. I don't believe that a building becomes permanently holy because a group of believers meet there for worship.

When a building has been dedicated to the glory of God, then any activities engaged in there need to be prayerfully considered. But I feel that God's seal of approval is upon your fellowship luncheons. In fact, He is positively smiling!

Sue Bernardo, Vic.

Congratulations

I must say the February issue of *Signs* is one of the best publications to come from Signs Publishing Company. You have my prayers for all involved in this great work. Well done.

Warren B. Edser, Qld.

Appreciation

Please convey our appreciation to church members in the South Pacific Division who provided assistance (through the Adventist Development and Relief Agency) during the floods in Bangladesh late last year.

Praise God that none of our church members lost their lives. However, seven churches were washed away, and many others were severely damaged. (Many of our churches and schools have mud walls and thatched roofs.) We're now in the rebuilding process.

Some years ago we were able to build a number of brick school buildings with assistance from Asian Aid. These buildings are still standing despite the floods and hurricanes. In fact, they have served as relief centres during times of crisis. If we had funds for more brick schools and churches it would be a real blessing.

Currently the Bangladesh Union is operating 87 elementary schools, three

boarding high schools and one college. Education has proved one of the most effective evangelistic outreaches in Bangladesh.

R. G. Manners,

President,

Bangladesh Union Mission.

Tithe Needed

In 1985 a couple in the small town of Bulolo, near Lae, Papua New Guinea, were baptised. Soon after, they attended a seminar on stewardship, conducted by Pastor Ern Lemke. They started paying tithe every day, depositing it in a pass-book account until they could get it to the mission office.

Despite setbacks—such as thieves breaking into their house several times—they continued to pay tithe faithfully. And in 1987 they paid K12,000 in tithe. And the small 150-member church they attend returned K18,000.

I appeal to all Adventists to pay their tithes faithfully. Our Adventist work is growing and we are short of workers everywhere in Papua New Guinea. Please. We need the support of your tithes.

John K. Hamura.

For the Record

Question: I sent you a letter about . . . signed "A Concerned Reader." You didn't print it. Why?

Answer: We print only some 20 or 30 per cent of the letters we receive. So at the best of times your chances are limited. However, in your case our decision

rested completely on your unwillingness to attach your name. If letters don't carry the name and address (and we like the phone number) of the writer, we don't even consider them for publication. If they do carry the real name but ask that it not be used, we *consider* the letter. However, in the past two and a half years only about three such letters have been printed. In short, if you're not prepared to have your name printed, you can be quite certain your letter won't be printed either.

Wrong Words

Why do Seventh-day Adventist publications use terminology that is commonly used by the public, but that is contrary to the church's doctrine and policy? I refer to the constant use of the terms "substance abuse" and "drug abuse."

The word "abuse" implies an acceptable use. Seventh-day Adventists teach total abstinence—not moderate use—and hold this principle as a test of fellowship. Why not refer to "the problem of alcohol and drug use" or "drug use"—issuing a call for alcohol- and drug-free living. This supports the United Nations' call to "Say No to Drugs and Yes to Life."

Ernest H. J. Steed,
Honorary President, ICPA

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Just a Coincidence...



God's Purpose for Israel

by C. S. Adams

Deuteronomy 28 clearly spells out the conditional nature of God's dealings with Israel—blessing for obedience, curses for disobedience.

Is the return of the Jews to Israel a fulfilment of Bible prophecy? Does it indicate that final events involving Israel are shortly to transpire?

Zionists, Orthodox Jews and many Christians—for quite different reasons—say Yes. Yet Adventists need to recognise that such a belief inevitably affects the way one views both the Second Coming and the Millennium. Just what was God's purpose for Israel? How did Israel respond? And what was the result?

Points to Keep in Mind

- God's purpose for Israel must be seen in the context of the great controversy. Everything God does in this world is to help save people from Satan's power and to prepare them for His eternal kingdom.

- Israel wasn't an end in itself. God is no respecter of persons. He has no favourites. Romans 2 discusses God's dealings with both Jew and Gentile. God hasn't bound Himself *unconditionally* to redeem just one race of people, or to work only through them.

- Everyone must be saved in God's way, regardless of birth or education. And all salvation centres in Christ. Nothing depends on birth or good works. Good works are the *result* of being saved.

1. God's Call to Abraham

God called Abraham to separate himself from apostate relatives in Ur, promising to make him "a great nation" through whom *all peoples of the earth* would be blessed. His descendants were to share with other nations the knowledge of God and His salvation, and through his line the Messiah would come (Genesis 12:1-3).

Abraham's faith and obedience were

the basis for God's blessing (Genesis 22:18). The same promise and prophecy was made to Isaac (Genesis 26:4, 5). It was repeated to Jacob (Genesis 28:13-15). The purpose of this repeated call and promised blessing must be kept in mind when considering the later history of Israel.

2. God's Call to Israel

The Book of Exodus briefly traces Israel's history in Egypt and God's call to Moses to lead them to the promised land.

At Sinai God made both a spiritual and a national covenant with His chosen people. Exodus 19:5, 6 briefly outlines the terms of this covenant. The Israelites were to be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation—if *they obeyed God and kept His covenant* (verse 5). The Ten Commandments (Deuteronomy 4:13) outlined the response expected from humans in this covenant relationship.

The *verbal* response of Israel was good, and God said so in Exodus 19:8 and 24:7. But their practical response wasn't. Ezekiel 20:15, 16 indicates that many evils marked the 40 years spent in the wilderness, particularly Sabbath-breaking and idolatry.

Deuteronomy 28 clearly spells out the conditional nature of God's dealings with Israel—blessing for obedience, curses for disobedience. In Jeremiah 18:7-10 the Lord spells out His dealings with evil nations that repent, and His dealings with once-blessed nations that cease to do His will.

When Israel had subdued Canaan and settled after the death of Joshua, its history fluctuated from apostasy and resultant oppression, to repentance and resultant recovery.

3. Israel as a Worldly Nation

Samuel was a good prophet, but when he grew old Israel wanted a king, "*like all the nations*" (1 Samuel 8: 5, 7, 19 and 20). In response, God said they'd re-

jected *Him*. They wanted to be like the world—a worldly nation that could hold up its head and fight for itself, which was never God's plan, nor His ideal.

David's reign was the high point in Israel's national history (despite not being God's ideal for the nation, as indicated in 1 Samuel 8). But the divided kingdoms after Solomon depended more and more on military power and *less and less on God*. They became increasingly rebellious and idolatrous.

The 10 northern tribes were overrun and Judah was carried into captivity for 70 years. Then came the return under Ezra and Nehemiah. Nehemiah found on arrival in Jerusalem the second time that apostasy had set in (Nehemiah 13). He took decisive measures concerning Sabbath-keeping, intermarriage and idolatry.

The Jews determined never to fall into that trap again—but, unfortunately, they did worse. They developed a *self-righteous nationalism that led them to crucify the Messiah* and brought about the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple.

The angel Gabriel said to Daniel, "Seventy weeks are determined [or decreed] upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins" (Daniel 9:24-27). Israel was given its last opportunity to do God's will. But it failed.

4. The Coming of the Messiah

God's conditional promise to David of a house that would rule forever (2 Samuel 7:13-16) lapsed because of a total moral failure of the kings concerned. The Messianic prophecy of Ezekiel 21:25-27 connects this broken line to the coming of Christ—"until he come whose right it is; and I will give it him." Isaiah 9:6, 7 prophesies of the child to be born—"the Prince of Peace," who'd rule upon the throne of David forever. The angel Gabriel told Mary (Luke

1:31-33) that Jesus would be called the son of the Highest, and "the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David; and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end."

This was a return to God's original plan of a *theocracy*—not under a line of earthly kings, but under Someone who was eternal by nature and would rule forever.

When John the Baptist preached, he said, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Jesus used almost the same words (Matthew 3:2 and 4:17).

The members of this kingdom would be the poor, the meek and the persecuted (Matthew 5:3, 5, 10, 20). Entrance would be through a spiritual birth here and now (John 3:5). The spiritual kingdom would be first that of the heart (Luke 17:21) and only later a literal kingdom of glory (Revelation 11:15 and Matthew 25:31).

5. Clash of Kingdom Concepts

The Messiah concept of the Jews was incompatible with that which Jesus taught. Israel had completely perverted the law and sacrifices, making them an end in themselves. What had been intended to reveal God, now concealed Him (*Christ's Object Lessons*, page 18).

The clash of ideas was too great. The new wine was too much for the old wineskins. So the Jews rejected the true Messiah. And He rejected them as a chosen *people*—although he still accepted them individually on the same basis that He accepts every other believer.

The people tried to make Him a king by force (John 6:15), thinking to make Him deliver Israel their way. But before Pilate Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world" (John 18:36). Today, the Jews and many Christians are still trying to reduce Jesus' kingdom to a kingdom of this world that fits *their* pattern of thinking.

In the parable of the vineyard (Matthew 21:33-45), Jesus told how the householder sent servants to receive the fruits of the vineyard. The husbandmen killed and ill-treated them. *Last of all*, He sent His Son (verse 37). It was Israel's last chance—and they failed. Jesus then said in verse 43, "The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof."

The transition from a national kingdom to a spiritual kingdom made up of

people of all nations was complete. Christ commissioned His followers—the Christian church—to go to every nation to gather the members for His kingdom (Matthew 28:19)—a work that Israel should have done.

6. False Views Current Today

A friend of mine recently had a discussion with a Jew. In the conversation she said, "But you have no Saviour." The Jew's answer: "But I am a son of Abraham." She repeated her statement, and he repeated his, which illustrates how deeply ingrained is the idea of the Jews that they're born God's people and can't be otherwise. They find assurance in prophecies such as Ezekiel 38 and 39, and many in Isaiah and the minor prophets—but most of these are conditional upon obedience.

The ideas of the Worldwide Church of God, British Israelism and the Christadelphians—as well as denominations that subscribe to the rapture and the tribulation, a local Armageddon, a millennium on earth with Christ ruling, and an Israel restored—all have the same basic fault: that literal Israel is still God's chosen people.

God's gift of freewill and the nation's choice against God has meant the failure and rejection of Israel as God's chosen people (Romans 9:30-32). The question, Is Israel still God's chosen people? can clearly be answered No. Zionism is a vain hope.

7. Conclusion

Paul says, "They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God" (Romans 9:8). And we should learn the lesson.

Our security as Seventh-day Adventists isn't in an organisation any more than was ancient Israel's. Our security must be in Christ and His kingdom. The Seventh-day Adventist Church isn't an end in itself. Rather, it's a vehicle raised up by God to give a special message to the world.

Jesus' admonition to us today is "Seek ye first the kingdom of God" (Matthew 6:33). The promises made to Abraham will then be ours (Galatians 3:26, 28, 29).

We'll then pray, "Thy kingdom come" (in me) and be assured of an abundant entrance into His everlasting kingdom (2 Peter 1:10, 11). 

Let's Reduce Salt Intake

by Bob Kalaf

Excess salt in the diet adds to the risk of high blood pressure. Small amounts of salt are necessary to keep our bodies healthy, but large amounts can be dangerous. Most Australians eat 5.15 g of salt per day, compared to the recommended 1.3 g per day.

People susceptible to high blood pressure will lower their risk if they reduce intake of salt and salty fluids, especially from an early age. There's no way of knowing who is susceptible to high blood pressure. Thus, it's recommended that everyone should reduce their salt intake.

Risks

People with high blood pressure are at risk of: stroke, kidney failure, heart disease and impaired vision.

Warning Signs

People are at risk of high blood pressure if they: have a family history of high blood pressure, are overweight, and/or drink alcohol excessively.

How to Reduce Salt Intake

Resist placing the salt shaker on the table; don't add salt before tasting the food; reduce the amount of high-salt foods you eat; don't add salt to your children's food; and be wary of hidden salt in your cooking.

Alternatives

Use herbs, lemon, onion or garlic to flavour foods. Use salt-free butter and margarine in your cooking and use salt substitutes sparingly. It's even better to cut out salt.

If your family follows this advice, they'll start to enjoy the natural taste of foods, and be much healthier.

Bob Kalaf is chief pharmacist at the Sydney Adventist Hospital.

Kids Need Praise

by Jim and Kaye Zyderveld

If we want to help others become beautiful people, we should do it with sincere praise and encouragement.

The art of praising is step one in the art of pleasing. All of us know the warm glow we get when we've pleased. That in turn makes us want to do more to please.

In his later years Benjamin West described how he became a painter. One day his mother left him with his sister Sally. Without mother to object, he found bottles of coloured ink and proceeded to paint Sally's portrait. Of course, in addition, he messed up the kitchen.

When his mother returned, she said nothing about the kitchen. Picking up the paper he was working on, she exclaimed, "Why, it's Sally!" And she rewarded his effort with a kiss.

"My mother's kiss that day made me a painter," he said.

Many children seldom hear a compliment. Yet they're scolded if they fail. It's easy to reprimand, condemn, or blame.

It's easy to focus on our children's failures—on what they *didn't* do. But how much more we'd accomplish if our words of encouragement equalled or exceeded our words of criticism.

In a study, mothers were asked to keep track of how many times they made negative and positive comments to their children. They discovered that they criticised 10 times for every favourable comment. The same study revealed that a teacher must make four positive remarks to offset the effects of one negative comment to a child.

The child who hasn't received normal praise and appreciation searches for it, usually in unacceptable ways. An ounce of praise for some act or attribute can do more than a ton of fault-finding. And if we look for it, we can find something worthy of praise in even the most unlikely children.

Martin Luther, who could recall numerous childhood beatings, said, "Spare the rod and spoil the child—that's true. But beside the rod, keep an apple handy to give him when he has done well."

Every day a small girl came to school dirty. The teacher thought it looked like

the same dirt day after day. She didn't want to hurt the little girl's feelings or embarrass her. But she knew the child wasn't getting proper attention at home.

"You have very pretty hands," the teacher told her one day. "Why don't

Pass the Praise, Please

If a child lives with praise, he or she grows in confidence. An adult may get along without daily praise, but a child can't. A child must have praise to develop properly.

How should praise be passed? After all, couldn't it come across as phony? And isn't it possible that the child will play on the praise, taking it as a licence to do anything?

1. First and foremost, children want praise from people important to them. Parents are the most important persons in the world to a child. A child's world is small, and parents are the centre of it. When parents praise, it makes the child feel loved and secure.

2. Praise should deal with performance, not personality. Praise should relate to jobs well done or on what's been *attempted*—even if the success was limited. It should be for thoughtful acts for others, dependability, honesty. Praise should point out progress.

3. Praise should centre on what the child *is* responsible for, rather than on what he or she can't help. For example, to praise a child for beautiful hair or blue eyes merely builds pride and conceit. But to praise a youngster for tidiness or kindness or generosity doesn't spoil the child or lead to pride. The child who's proud or boastful is the one not sure of his or her worth.

4. Praise sincerely. Youngsters can feel sincerity. They can't be fooled. Flattery will fall flat. Sincere praise, however, teaches the child to accept congratulations with ease and to receive honours with humility.

5. It's especially important to praise children for what they do on their own initiative. To do a worthy thing without being told deserves special encouragement. This, in turn, leads to still greater self-reliance and confidence.

6. This means that a parent should be quick to praise a loser also. In a race, all but one are losers. So not only actions, but attitudes, are worthy of praise. To compliment those who've tried, but lost, gives them courage to keep striving.

7. Parents' attitudes are just as important as their words in giving encouragement. The way the parent listens, the way the parent shares in the success or failure, the tone of voice—all create an atmosphere that encourages or discourages.

Yes, passing the praise isn't easy. It takes effort, thought, sensitivity and real caring—but it's so worth it.

Jim and Kaye Zyderveld write from Auckland, New Zealand. They've written extensively on such topics for newspapers and magazines.

you go to the girl's room and wash them so that people can see how really lovely they are?"

Delighted, the little one washed her hands, and came back beaming. She held up her hands proudly for the teacher.

"Oh, they're beautiful. See what a difference a little soap and water makes," the pleased teacher said as she hugged the child warmly.

Every day after that the little girl came to school a bit cleaner and neater. And eventually she became one of the

cleanest and neatest students in school.

People seldom change because we point out their faults. Nor will they like us for doing so. They'll probably resent us, in fact.

So if we want to help others become beautiful people, we should do it with sincere praise and encouragement. We all need the warmth and tenderness of sincere praise to help us change for the better.

And remember, praising a child doesn't spoil the child. **B**

STORY

Mrs Brown's Missing Eggs

by Susie Potts

Mrs Brown was puzzled! *Where are those eggs?*

It had been a busy morning, with so many sheep to dip. But with the help of an extra dog, things had gone well.

Although Kooki, the new dog, had never lived on a farm before, she seemed to know just what to do. And when the last sheep had been through the run, Kooki cocked her head sideways, as if to ask, *What shall I do next?*

After lunch and a little rest, Mrs Brown picked up her egg basket and started out on her daily round. That's when she found the eggs were missing.

Now, Mrs Brown's hens went all over the farm, clucking here, scratching there, searching for juicy morsels. But always they returned to a few carefully selected spots to lay their precious eggs. And Mrs Brown knew just where those spots were.

But today when she reached for her prize in the first nest, there were no eggs.

How strange, she thought. *There are usually two or three here. Oh well, perhaps Gertie and her friends have a new spot.*

She checked half a dozen nests. Each one was as bare as the big sports oval during school holidays.

Why aren't there any eggs? she wondered. *Are the hens sick?* But they seemed healthy enough.

Suddenly Mrs Brown had a thought. Several times while she was preparing lunch she had glanced out the kitchen window to see Kooki following the chooks.

"Aha!" she said. "So she's the one who's stealing my eggs."

With a grim expression on her usually happy face, Mrs Brown headed back to the house to find Kooki. *Once a dog gets the taste of fresh eggs it's almost impossible to get them to leave the eggs alone,* she thought.

Suddenly she looked up. There, lying on the lawn right in front of her, was Kooki. She had an expression of accomplishment painted all over her doggie face. Her front paws were neatly criss-crossed, and her plumy tail waved and thumped.

And next to her, in an orderly row, were all the eggs that she had collected for Mrs Brown. And not one of them was even cracked!

Mrs Brown patted Kooki on the head and gathered up the eggs. And all the while she was thinking, *How often do we misjudge others in exactly the same way that I misjudged Kooki, simply because we don't know the facts.* **B**

Susie Potts writes from Burpengary, Queensland. She says that Kooki is now 13 years old, and not quite as energetic as she used to be.

PARABLE

The Parable of the Teacher

by Jenny Baldwin

A teacher went out to teach. He was a good teacher, with invaluable experience to share. But some of his students simply weren't interested.

Perhaps they were fed up with study. Perhaps they'd never bothered to put their minds to anything serious. Whatever the reason, they certainly didn't bother to find out what the teacher had to say.

At first they sat at the back of the class and fooled around. Sometimes they slept. And soon they didn't bother coming to class at all.

There were other students, though, who thought the course sounded really interesting. They came enthusiastically to the early lectures. But when they found out that there were assignments—which involved time and effort—their enthusiasm waned. Before long they withdrew from the course.

Some of the students seemed to be genuinely motivated. They obviously understood the value of the course. So it was surprising that they never turned in any of their assignments.

That was because they never managed to get their priorities in order. An invitation to a party, a fight with a boyfriend, a squash game, a baby-sitting job, or any number of other activities or crises always supplanted their study time.

Fortunately for the teacher's morale, there was a small core of students who not only listened in class, but who worked consistently throughout the semester. These students truly reaped the benefit of their commitment to the course—a fact especially apparent when the exam results came out.

This group of students continued to maintain close contact with their teacher, and were enthusiastic in encouraging new students to enrol in his course.

So when the new semester began, the teacher again went out to teach . . . **B**

Jennifer Baldwin works as an assistant to the superintendent of Sydney Adventist Hospital.



Photo: Betty Rutter.

Fourth Graders Donate Money for Bibles

The fourth grade of the Wahroonga Adventist School (pictured) recently raised \$A100 for Bibles for Asia. Their teacher, Betty Rutter, shared a story about the work of student missionary Nigel Ackland at Adventist World Radio-Asia in Guam, and encouraged the children in their fundraising. They also raised \$100 for schools in India, and the same amount for the Sydney City Mission.

Aussie Auditor

Former Australian resident Barrie Collins has been appointed director of the General Conference Auditing Service for the Far Eastern Division. At present Barrie is attached to the Far Eastern Division, where he is Southern Area auditor. His wife, Audrey, is secretary to the Education director. The Collinses, who hail originally from Zimbabwe, formerly lived in Sydney and Perth. They have two children—Mandy, a psychology student at Andrews University in the USA; and Gary, who attends Far Eastern Academy in Singapore.

Singles Convention

An Adventist Singles Convention will be held from January 2 to 7, 1990, at Dookie Campus and Conference Centre, near Shepparton, Victoria. "The facilities and nearby attractions of interest make this a

most appropriate venue for the convention," says Personal Ministries director for the Trans-Australian Union Conference Pastor Roger Nixon. "Posters and information sheets are now in the hands of conference Youth and Adventist Singles Ministry leaders. Applications will be distributed during June."

Bangkok Progress

Bangkok Adventist Hospital, where Australian Dr Ronald Brody is president, has completed a new College of Nursing building, which will facilitate the training of nurses toward a Bachelor's degree. The hospital finished the year in a strong financial position, showing an operating gain of almost \$A250,000.

New Health Centre

The Bangkok Adventist Hospital is establishing the first Health Conditioning Centre opened by

Adventists in the Far Eastern Division. Work on the building has commenced at Mauk Lek, about 100 kilometres north of Bangkok.

Largest Camporee

What is anticipated to be the largest Pathfinder camporee ever conducted in Australia will be held in southern New South Wales from January 8 to 13, 1991. Clubs from throughout Australia and New Zealand will attend. "People are still talking about the 1983 Brisbane River Camporee," says Trans-Australian Union Conference Church Ministries director Pastor Roger Nixon. "Several properties in southern NSW have already been viewed and others will be inspected before a location decision is made. But for those fortunate enough to be there, it will be a never-to-be-forgotten experience."

Witnessing Videos

The Adventist Media Centre has produced a new 22-minute video of skits on witnessing. Titled "The Invitation," the video consists of six demonstrations of how church members can witness to their neighbours and friends. Written and acted by Kathy de Ville and Wendy Hansen, the skits were originally presented at the South New Zealand camp-meeting. Trans-Tasman Union Conference president Pastor Harold Harker saw their potential and commissioned their production at AMC.

President in Penang

Dr Bruce Robbie, who has been in private practice in Murwillumbah, NSW, is the new president of the Penang Adventist Hospital in Malaysia. He replaces Dr Russell Standish, who has

been appointed Health Care director for the Southeast Asia Union. Dr Robbie was formerly chief surgeon at Youngberg Adventist Hospital in Singapore, and is well acquainted with the Far East. Last year the Penang Hospital reported an operating gain of more than \$A450,000.

Further Progress

The Penang Adventist Hospital is opening a renal dialysis unit under the direction of Dr Ray Chapman, formerly of the Warburton Health Care Centre and Hospital, and Dr Ng Tat Low, a urologist with experience in the UK. In addition, Dr Eric Looi has returned after obtaining orthodontic qualifications at Loma Linda University.

Vietnam Again?

With news that Vietnam has decided to open private medical institutions again, Seventh-day Adventists are investigating the possibility of reopening a hospital in that country, if permission is granted.

Lutheran Response

The Lutheran Church of Australia has agreed to enter into conversations with the Australian Council of Churches regarding an expanded ecumenical body. The president of the Lutheran Church of Australia, Pastor Lance Steicke, has informed the ACC that his church will designate five delegates to meet with five ACC appointees to explore issues raised at last year's ACC General Meeting. Specifically, the ACC invited non-member churches "to explore appropriate relationships either within the existing ACC structure or within a new one." It affirmed the ACC's

willingness to negotiate changes in the interests of an expanded ecumenical body. The Lutheran Church is the first non-member church to reply.

Back Home

Pastor Don Bain, South Pacific Health director, has suspended his study program at Loma Linda University and returned to his desk in Wahroonga so that his wife, Faye, can continue treatment following surgery.

Right Arm

Administrators of the Southeast Asia Union are submitting plans to open medical work in the Brunei Sultanate, where there are no Adventist members. Due to its oil wealth, the nation of Brunei, situated on the north coast of Borneo, is very prosperous. "We believe that through the medical arm of the church we may be able to commence medical ministry in this strongly Islamic nation," says Dr Russell Standish, Southeast Asia Union Health director.

Two for Ordination

Two district supervisors in Papua New Guinea—Bill Cortizo of the Simbu district; and Syd Griffiths, who is located at Menyama—are to be ordained to the ministry.

LE Outreach

Eleven literature evangelists and two leaders from North New South Wales spent one week recently working in the Singleton area and sold \$27,568 worth of books. The group contacted two former Seventh-day Adventists who indicated a desire to re-establish church ties and local pastor Paul von Bratt will continue to visit 10 of the contacts made. In addition, 12 people indicated a desire to attend a stop-



Photo: Ross Reid.

First Indonesian Boarders at Lilydale

Director of Enrolments at Lilydale Academy O. Colin Ferris (second from left) chats with Stefani and Stannia Yusuf and their father at an orientation luncheon at the school. Stefani and Stannia are the first boarding students from Indonesia to attend the academy. Following the luncheon, senior students took groups on tours of the campus.

smoking plan. The week climaxed with a regional meeting in Singleton, with the visitors leading out.

Second Look

Soviet church members will get another look at the Adventist lifestyle in America when they receive 50,000 copies of the second edition of the Adventist Russian/English language magazine, to be distributed this month. Some 15,000 more magazines have been ordered than for the first print run. The journal focuses on Adventist lifestyles through profiles of American and Soviet families. Adventists in the South Pacific Division saw the first magazine distributed in Russia when it replaced the RECORD on October 24, 1987.

Ministers Meet

Some 26 ministers attended the first Ethnic Ministers Seminar, held at Howqua, Victoria, from February 5 to 18. The ministers represented congregations originally from Laos, China, Poland, Yugoslavia, Spain, Portugal, Fin-

land and Romania. "The group drafted a Statement of Philosophy and a Statement of Mission of the Church," says SPD field secretary Dr Arthur Ferch, who led out. He was assisted by Dr Carlos Aeschlimann, from the General Conference; Dr Alf Birch, of the SPD; Dr Tom Ludowici of the Sydney Adventist Hospital; Pastors Peter Jack, Walter Scragg, Harold Harker and Peter Joseit. Also attending was Pastor Eric Greenwell, secretary of the Victorian Conference, where it is estimated one-third of the conference membership is of ethnic origin.

Guest Speaker

Dr John Graz, from the Euro-Africa Division, will be guest speaker for youth meetings in the French Polynesia Mission from April 6 to 23.

Singers for GC

The Avondale Singers are planning an American tour to coincide with the General Conference in Indianapolis in 1990. Their planned itinerary includes concerts at Los Angeles,

Andrews University, Buffalo, Atlantic Union College, New York, Philadelphia, Washington DC, Cincinnati and the GC.

Congress in Spain

About 4,000 young people from 15 European countries are expected to converge on Barcelona, Spain, July 25 to 29, for an International Youth Congress of Seventh-day Adventists. The congress will feature community witnessing activities, music and spiritual emphasis. Guest speaker for the event is Carlos Puyol, Spanish Union president.

Torch Run

Two teams of Adventist youth in Western Australia will participate in a torch run from Carnarvon to Karratha later this year. The run is part of an international interdenominational activity commenced in Jerusalem last year, with the original flame being carried across all continents.

WA Camp

Workshops will comprise the main daily activity at the Western Australian camp-meeting, to be held from Thursday evening, March 23, to Monday evening, March 27.

Tongan Mission

Pastor Makisi Tonga commenced an evangelistic series in the Fahefa hall on the island of Tongatapu on February 26—the first minister in the Tonga Niue Mission to commence public outreach this year.

Most Flashpoint items from outside the South Pacific Division are provided courtesy of the Adventist Review, and have been sent to the RECORD via facsimile transceiver for immediate release.

CHURCH NEWS

Photo: Elaine Neil.



Youth Baptism

Five young people were baptised by the church pastor at Windsor, NSW, on December 17. From left: Dean Epps, Brendon Roberts, Pastor Des Dunn, Fiona Boulting, Kylie Roberts and Annelise Hughes. Church members welcomed them into the church family at a fellowship luncheon following the baptism.

Photo: Dulcie Todd.



One to 100

Isabella Ace (pictured) of Ayr, Queensland, recently celebrated her 99th birthday by attending Sabbath worship service, followed by a fellowship luncheon. "Gran' was baptised by Pastor Bill Otto 22 years ago, on her 77th birthday," says communication secretary Dulcie Todd. "She was born in Charters Towers and credits the Presbyterian Sunday School she attended there with formulating her Christian values. After her marriage to Edward Ace, they moved to Ayr, where her husband was a cane cutter. Later they acquired their own cane farm near Home Hill. Their two children, son, Phil, and daughter, Gwen (Mrs Olsen), frequently helped with the farm work. Gran has eight grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren

and nine great-great-grandchildren. Gran especially lives for the day when she will see her beloved Lord face to face. But until then she looks forward to her 100th birthday next year."

Murrumbidgee Baptism

Five new members of the Seventh-day Adventist churches in Australia's Capital Territory were baptised by Pastor Ken Vogel in the Murrumbidgee River late last year—Mervyn and Sharon Pullen, Ray and Helen Buckley, and Ray Costigan. The group then joined the Woden Valley and Tuggeranong church members for an outdoor Sabbath worship, followed by lunch under the trees. "A highlight of the service was the solo by Sharon Pullen," says communication secretary Madge Berndt. "Pastor Vogel's address regarding God's love, as revealed through His Son and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, which empowers the believer to live and witness for Him, challenged us all. It was the most perfect summer Sabbath of the season, and the beautiful setting at Point Hutt Crossing made it a very special baptism."

Bowen Investiture

The Bowen church (Queensland) Pathfinder Club led out during both the Sabbath school and worship service on their recent Investiture Day. Laurie Green, from Mackay, presented badges to four Pathfinders and nine Adventurers.



Canberra Celebrates

The Canberra National church celebrated the 30th anniversary of their

church by holding special services in the original hall used by the congregation. Former minister David Brennan, and his wife, Dulcie, returned for their first visit since they left in 1964. They stayed with their daughter, Francis Lawson, whose husband is now president of the South New South Wales Conference. "Members old and new, and many visitors came to share the day," says communication secretary Evelyn Bean. "During the Sabbath school, members recalled the fun of fundraising and Dr Nathaniel Speck's leadership when the church was formed." Pastor Brennan preached a sermon based on Psalm 102, and with his wife cut the anniversary cake (pictured). The occasion also featured a display of old photographs.



Photo: The Toowoomba Chronicle.

Full House at 5DP

During the latter part of last year, Paul Race (pictured left), a nurse educator at St Vincent's Hospital in Toowoomba, Qld, held three successful 5-Day Stop Smoking Plans. After advertising the first session at the local hospital, the newspaper ran a headline "Stop Smoking Class Now Full." And following the success of the programs, Mr Race was asked to conduct a plan for hospital staff only! He also ran a series in the Crows Nest Hospital, assisted by John and Debbie McKay.

Carmel Outreach

Carmel College and Bickley Adventist School (WA) joined in an art and craft display mounted in the Carmel District Hall late last year. "The exhibition allows the people of the Bickley valley to observe the high standard of work achieved, especially by the Carmel College students," says communication secretary Ngareta Bylund. "It also developed a great sense of community spirit. Deputy Shire President Councillor

Wiebe Tieleman opened the display and complimented residents for sponsoring such a function, especially Carmel College teacher Keith Frauenfelder for his promotion of the event."

Bundaberg Dinner

Seventy seniors enjoyed a dinner served by the young people of Bundaberg church, Qld, late last year. Glenise Christian, whose husband, Brian, pastors the church, led the team of ladies who prepared the food. "Highlight of the evening was a surprise presentation of a 'This Is Your Life' album to Albert Wills," says reporter Elsa Cameron-Stephens. "Mr Wills had learned of the Adventist message 45 years ago during a tent mission conducted by Pastor A. I. Mitchell. Later he worked as a literature evangelist and retired a few years ago. Everyone enjoyed hearing his interesting stories, and the other items that added to the evening."

Historical Baptism

The first baptism ever held in the Denmark church, WA, saw three young people, Lynelle and Andrea Shotter, and Adelle Ackland baptised in the recently installed font. "Although there was some water leakage from the seams, the font was a big improvement on using the sea, which often proved cold and boisterous," says communication secretary David Bastiani. "Officiating pastor Rodney Straker appreciated the warm water and several non-Adventists attended the service."

Cooks in Training

The Margate church, in southern Tasmania, held a vegetarian cooking demonstration on December 7. Organised by Verna Stanton, the program featured Christmas specialties and, according to communication secretary Valerie Ward, was well received by the participants.

Healthful Cookery

A Low Cholesterol Cooking School, held late last year in Boolaroo, NSW, surprised organiser Dawn Jerrard and assistants Marj Easthope and Fran Whitson when 25 women and one man registered on the opening night—possibly the largest number ever to attend such a program in the district, according to reporter Gale Wright. "The programs, planned for four consecutive Monday nights, began with a health talk by Danielle Kadreane," says Mrs Wright. "Then I highlighted nature's remedies and the demonstration ladies

followed with a cooking and tasting segment. Everyone agreed that low-cholesterol food can also be flavoursome and we felt well-rewarded for our efforts by the enthusiastic responses from those attending."



Kory Flies High

Eileen Croudson (left) and Florence Renton, two residents of Coronella Retirement Village at Nunawading, Victoria, assisted Kerosan Salad Days—the golden retriever owned by the village's maintenance supervisor Alf Gilbert—with a display of his expertise. Kory, who is a favourite with the residents, has won 56 trophies at dog obedience trials, including a first and second prize at Royal Melbourne Shows.

Napier Centenary

Napier, North New Zealand, received wide local media coverage of centenary celebrations held over the weekend of November 12. "Many visitors attended on Sabbath," says communication secretary Colin Holder. "These included NNZ president Lionel Smith, who taught the Sabbath school lesson, and two former ministers—Arthur Duffy, who preached at the worship service, and Ross Goldstone, who took an afternoon meeting reviewing highlights of the church's history. "The city's mayor and mayoress also attended and stayed for the luncheon that followed," continues Mr Holder. "They appeared to relish the abundance of vegetarian delicacies. An evening concert brought pleasure to many and the next day participants enjoyed a bus trip around Napier, visiting sites of historical interest to Adventists. It proved to be a weekend we will long remember."

Youth Support Missions

Young people from the Carbrook church, in southern Queensland, organised a Christmas concert in the church hall and raised \$150 for overseas missions. "The evening commenced with a combined tea, and everyone en-

joyed the meal and the variety items that followed," says communication secretary Albert Porter. "Even the church pastor reluctantly joined one of the items and afterwards vowed he would get his hair cut! We felt proud of our youth for their efforts."

Active Chinchillas

The Chinchilla and Dalby churches in southern Queensland both held outreach programs during November. Julie Downing led out in a vegetarian cooking series at Dalby for four consecutive Thursday evenings. "An average of 21 attended and greatly appreciated the instruction," says church minister Phillip Downing. "And the church ladies gave excellent backup support throughout the program." In Chinchilla, a 5-Day Plan to Stop Smoking saw all three participants quit dependence on tobacco. Both churches took part in a spiritual gifts seminar, and follow-up Bible studies are continuing. "The year climaxed with the baptism of three young people on December 3," concludes Mr Downing. "We look forward to 1989 with enthusiasm."



Toowoomba Baptism

Three people were baptised and accepted into church fellowship in Toowoomba Central church, Qld, on December 10. From left: Muriel Walker, Keith Jull, Pastor W. J. Gerken, who led out during the service, and Sharon Geitz.

Albany's Pride

Albany church, in Western Australia, has had five of their youth attending Avondale College—and two of them, Neil Wake and Peter Saunders, graduated from the Ministerial Course this year. David Webber is also a student, and Nicola Gallop is pursuing a teaching course, while David Taylor is taking this

year off from his ministerial course to do volunteer mission service. "Albany is proud of their young people who are preparing for wider service for the Lord," says communication secretary Margaret Martin.

New Church Planned

Pupils from the Goulburn Adventist School, NSW, told a story with their opening chorus at a crowded concert in the campground convention hall recently. They sang, "We're building a new church, Yes, we are, yes, we are!" The function raised \$650 toward the new church project. "It was a great effort from the 26 students," says communication secretary C. J. Willis. "We thank them and the teachers—Mr Littlewood, Mrs Brown and Mrs Micklethwaite—for such a memorable night." Conference president Neil Lawson and his wife joined the Goulburn church family for the evening.

Bunbury Kids Lead

Ten of the 15 pupils at Bunbury Adventist School, WA, plus one ex-student, gave up their lunch hours for a week and each day went out on the Adventist Appeal and raised \$500! "It was interesting to hear their comments when they returned," says communication secretary Robert Garvin. "One lady said, 'How could I refuse two little girls with such smiling faces?' At another house two students read the sign on the gate saying 'No JWs or Mormons' and went right in and explained that they were Adventists and got \$2!"

Penrith Baptism

Three people were baptised in the Penrith church, NSW, on Sabbath, November 5. Sydney Adventist High School chaplain Allan Butler baptised student Sasha Smith, daughter of Rae and Robin Smith and grand-daughter of Mrs Eunice Smith and the late Pastor Noel Smith. Pastor Smith was the author and successful practitioner of *How YOU Can Be a Soul Winner*. Church pastor Peter Theuerkauf then baptised both Tony Richardson, son of Georgia and Mark Richardson, and Bob Wright, who was invited to a Revelation Seminar by literature evangelist Bob Tadros. "Mr Tadros sang 'How Great Thou Art' during the service," says communication secretary Leonie Duff. "Other musical items included a duet by Carrie Hunt and Lyn Lorens, and a rendition by a male quintet of 'Peace Like a River.'"



Pathfinders Baptised

Four Pathfinders (from left): David Lawrance, Michelle Stark, Rebecca Ruthenberg and Christopher Schoenfish—were baptised by Pastor Gordon Oaklands (centre) in Harrisville church (Qld) on November 5. The same day, South Queensland Conference Youth director Pastor Keith Grolimund invested Pathfinders and presented Pathfinder Excellence Awards to David Lawrance and Sabina Stelet. In addition, Mrs N. Ruthenberg received her Master Guide badge.

Hamper Distribution

On December 11 Pathfinders from the Murwillumbah and Bray Park churches in northern New South Wales collected canned food and donations from the community. These were used to provide more than 40 large hampers of food, which were distributed to needy families the following week. "Local community centres provided the names of families who faced a bleak Christmas without help," says North New South Wales Conference Communication director Pastor Larry Laredo. "Students from the Adventist school made gifts to include in the parcels. And the local newspaper featured the event in a front-page picture story."

Cedarvale Resort

Church members from Nowra, on the south coast of New South Wales, spent the last weekend in November at Cedarvale Health Resort, which is being developed by Geoff Richardson and friends in Kangaroo Valley. A highlight of the weekend was the baptism of three young people, by Pastor Arthur Bath, in a rock pool on the property. "Cedarvale is a haven of natural beauty that brings to mind thoughts of the new earth," says Nowra communication secretary Lillian Warren. "A new road has greatly improved access, and the concrete bridge across a mountain stream formed a per-

fect balcony for members to watch the baptism. Friends from Oak Flats and Bowral churches joined us for the day." Mr Richardson is anticipating assistance from youth in Sydney and other areas to assemble a Youth Centre, which is the next project at Cedarvale. Volunteers are invited to contact him c/- PO Fitzroy Falls NSW 2577; phone (048) 87 7276.

Great-Grandmother Baptised

A great-grandmother, Sainima Afa, from Salelesi, Western Samoa, joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church on November 17. She was among 11 who participated in the final baptism of the year in the New Lynn Samoan church, New Zealand. Her eldest son, Leota Senituri Afa, and his wife, Kelilota, travelled from Sydney to join Sainima's other children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren to witness the occasion.



Winning Pianist

Timothy Emerson (pictured) recently won the National Instrumental Contest conducted by the Performing Arts Society in Nelson, New Zealand. Chosen ahead of 15 other pianists, he will shortly commence postgraduate study in Auckland. Timothy's parents, Wendy and Cedric Emerson, are both musical. The family attend the Aranui church in Christchurch.

Court Performance

Castle Hill (NSW) Advent Band, under the direction of Eddie Bird, recently visited Canberra, giving performances at the Canberra Adventist church, a nearby nursing home and at the High Court of Australia. "Their notes echoed through the court as the band played both sacred and secular music for the many visitors," says band committee member Joycelyn Pope.



Pathfinders Surprised

Aranui Pathfinders Robbie Matthies (right) and Simon Low received an unexpected Award of Merit during a camporee held at Rimu Park, west of Christchurch, New Zealand, over the recent holiday weekend. "The boys deserve congratulations," says communication secretary Doreen Moody. "Our church is proud of them."

Winning Notes

Students at Mackay Adventist School, in northern Queensland, recently competed in the city eisteddfod and took second and third placings, even though playing against schools with much larger enrolments. "Children from Years 3 to 7, using only a modest array of small percussion instruments and recorders, carried off second prize in preference to fully equipped brass bands from large schools," says school secretary Gail Donnelly. "Students from Years 3, 4 and 5 were also placed second in the folk singing section, while Years 6 and 7 came third in the same section. Children from Years 3 to 7 were awarded third place in the choral section for schools with an enrolment of less than 200. Many people commented favourably, especially regarding the reverence displayed in the sacred items."



Photo: Ruth Young.

Youthful Preachers

Each Wednesday and Friday evening for nine weeks, Sydney's St George's SDA Church (pictured) ran a Voice of Junior Youth program in the Hurstville church. "They spoke like pulpit veterans," says leader Ashley Young. "Church members, friends and families were justifiably proud." The programs included guest speakers and a variety of musical groups.

NOTICEBOARD

Weddings

Calais—Ainsworth. Alain Henri Calais, son of Jean and Marie Calais (Riverton, WA), and Tiane Adel Ainsworth, daughter of Eric and Beryl Ainsworth (Kojonup), were married on January 29 at the Fremantle SDA church. Alain, who is a motor mechanic, and Tiane, a hairdresser, will set up their home at Gosnells.

Ian Royce.

Chatelier—Marggraff. Gavin Anthony Chatelier, son of Herman and Olga Chatelier (Melbourne, Vic), and Trudi Marggraff, daughter of Geraldine Marggraff (Melbourne) and the late Gunter Marggraff, were married on February 12 at the Springvale SDA church. Gavin, a sales representative, and Trudi, a sales assistant, will set up their home in the Melbourne area.

B. G. Whelan.

de Groot—Lange. Wilhelmus ("Wim") Cornelius de Groot, son of Henk and Cornelia de Groot (Monbulk, Vic), and Elizbieta ("Ela") Maria Lange, daughter of Alina Lange (Doveton) and the late Maclaw Lange, were married on February 19 at the Lilydale SDA church. Wim, who graduated from the theology course at Avondale College in 1988, is a ministerial intern in the Geelong and Colac areas.

B. G. Whelan.

Keitley—Kotanko. Adrian Keitley, son of Robin Keitley (Ballarat, Vic) and Neroli Keitley (Healesville), and Suzanne Kotanko, daughter of Simon and Michaela ("Micky") Katanko (Melbourne), were married on February 12 at the Nunawading SDA church. Adrian is a carpenter, and Susie is a nurse at Coronella Homes, Nunawading. They plan to set up their home at Kilsyth.

Merv Sparrowhawk.

Maggs—Jackson. Paul Raymond Maggs, son of Gordon George Maggs (Bairnsdale, Vic) and the late Constance May Maggs, and Jennifer Anne Jackson, daughter of Merton Lindsay and Esma Merle Jackson, were married on February 12 in the Lilydale SDA church. Paul is dining room supervisor at the Warburton Health Care Centre, and Jenny is a nurse in a medical centre at Frankston.

Roger R. Nixon.

Marshall—Hodge. Wayne Kenneth Marshall, son of Ken and Joan Marshall (Albany, WA), and Michelle Joy Hodge, daughter of Kevin and Jan Hodge (Qld), were

married on February 5 at the Kellyville SDA church, NSW. They plan to set up their home in Baulkham Hills, Sydney.

E. Bruce Price.

Mills—Sheppard. Phillip Mills, son of Harold and Joyce Mills (Melbourne, Vic), and Leighanne Sheppard, daughter of David and Gwen Sheppard (Nunawading), were married on February 5 in a garden setting at Roslyn Court, Essendon. Phillip, a flight engineer, and Leighanne plan to set up their home at Ocean Grove near Geelong.

Merv Sparrowhawk.

Poyser—Faff. Michael Roy Poyser, son of Roy Martin and Vicki Lorraine Poyser (Coonabarabran, NSW), and Heide Charlotte Faff, daughter of Matthias and Virginia Ruth Faff (Lake Cargelligo), were married on February 12 at Liberty Park, Lake Cargelligo. Michael and Heide plan to set up their home at Coonabarabran.

Ray Jackson.

Weslake—Wragg. Robert Frederick Weslake, son of Vorei Weslake (Cherrybrook, NSW) and the late David Weslake, and Michele Suzanne Wragg, daughter of Milton and Barbara Wragg (Westleigh), were married on February 14 at St Johns Uniting church, Wairoonga. Robert and Michele plan to set up their home in Brisbane, Qld.

Bryan Craig.

Obituaries

"We do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. . . . For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. . . . Therefore encourage each other with these words." 1 Thessalonians 4:13, 16, 18, NIV. The editorial staff join the church family in expressing sincere sympathy to those who have lost the loved ones recorded below.

Chapman, Constance, born August 8, 1896, in Birmingham, England; died February 8 at Coronella Homes for the Aged, Nunawading, Vic. A memorial service was held in the chapel at Coronella on February 10. Constance is survived by her husband, Thomas William; and daughters, Constance Murphy and Esther Chapman.

B. C. Smith.

Clarke, Lewis Burrows, born November 25, 1914, in Claremont, Perth, WA; died February 14 in the Fremantle Hospital and was buried at the Fremantle Cemetery after a service at the Sherwin Lodge Chapel. Lewis joined the SDA Church in 1975 and held various church offices. For over three years he was a literature evangelist. He is survived by his wife, Ethel (Sherwin Lodge, Rossmoyne); and five sons, Geoff, Robert, John, Murray and Ken.

M. C. Bland.

Eliot, Jonathan Mark, born December 2, 1956, in Christchurch, New Zealand; died February 12 in Sydney, NSW, and was buried at the Avondale Cemetery, Cooranbong. Jonathan graduated from the Bachelor of Education (Science) Course at Avondale College in 1978. He is survived by his parents, Doug and Elsie (Christchurch, New Zealand); and sisters, Susan Pate (Auckland) and Elizabeth Ostring (Hong Kong).

Arthur Patrick.

Fisher, Ruth Lorraine (nee Milsom), born March 31, 1942, at Cooranbong, NSW; died February 13 in the Sydney Adventist Hospital, Wairoonga, NSW, and was buried at the Avondale Cemetery, Cooranbong. Ruth excelled in her studies for her teaching profession and sought to inspire the young people in her classes to succeed in every way. She was a valued member of the Wairoonga church. Ruth is survived by her husband, Colin; daughters, Julie, Carol, and Leonie (Sydney); parents, Pastor and Mrs Reg Milsom (Gosford); sister, Faye Whelan (Melbourne, Vic); and brother, Reg (Sydney). Pastor Alex Currie, Peggy Butler, Judy Oliver from Asquith Girls High School, and Pamela Ludowici were associated with the writer in the services.

H. W. Hollingsworth.

Glennon, Ethel May, born January 1899 at Midland Junction, Perth, WA; died February 14 at Coronella Homes for the Aged, Nunawading, Vic. After a service in the Nunawading church on February 17, Ethel was buried beside her husband at the Springvale Lawn Cemetery.

B. C. Smith.

Harvey, John Fitzroy ("Jack"), born July 7, 1915; died February 14 at the Beenleigh Nursing Home, Qld, and was buried in the Beenleigh Cemetery. Jack was baptised by Pastor Tom Kent in 1943 and served as a deacon in the Dubbo church until he moved to Deepwater in 1947. Until he suffered a stroke in 1981, Jack was active in running a successful earth-moving business with his partner, Bill Saxon. He is survived by his sisters, Helen Roberts and Letticia Lucas; and brother, Eric.

K. A. Davey.

Hughes, Minnie (nee Geiss), born March 18, 1908, in Boonah, Qld; died February 13 at Coronella Retirement Village, Nunawading, Vic, following a heart attack. Minnie joined the SDA Church during her teen years and in 1935 she married Milton Hughes. Minnie is remembered as a loyal and faithful member of the church, and a hard worker for her family. She is survived by her husband, Milton (Coronella Retirement Village, Nunawading); and sons, Keith (Avondale College, Cooranbong, NSW), Derek and Glen (both of Melbourne). The writer is a friend of the Hughes family. Barry Whelan.

Leeke, Ralph, born August 17, 1901, at Rockhampton, Qld; died January 13 at Mackay after a long illness. He served in the RAAF during World War II. Baptised by Pastor Ron Hodgkinson in 1961, Ralph witnessed for Jesus, even during his final illness in hospital. He is survived by his daughters, Terri Cuff (Maryborough), Marion Burgess (Mirani) and Elizabeth (Mackay); sons, Des (Sydney, NSW) and Jeff (Coppabella); 12 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Roger Ward was associated with the writer in the service. Mark J. Pearce.

Stacey, Dorothy Lilla, born May 27, 1915, in Auckland, New Zealand; died January 14 in Toowoomba, Qld. A champion basketball player in her youth, Dorothy gave up her interest in this sport because matches were usually played on Sabbath. In 1948 the Stacey family moved to Australia. Dorothy had always loved caring for children and in 1950 began helping at the Dr Barnardo Home. In 1957 she became a registered foster mother. She continued this work for 28 years, first in Sydney, then from 1979 to 1985 in Toowoomba, Qld. Over the years a total of 300 children were cared for in the Stacey home. Dorothy is survived by her husband, Desmond (Toowoomba); daughters, Valmai Grootemaat (Dapto, NSW), Judith Butler (Melbourne, Vic), Alison Richards (Yandina, Qld) and Gayle Walker (Sydney); sons, Graham (Melbourne) and Tony (Sydney); foster son, Jim Jays (Atoifi Hospital, Solomon Islands); and sister, Nancy Sawyer (Forster, NSW). Colin Sawyer and Pastor Graham Stacey assisted the writer in the services. Martin Brown.

Szuldak, Rita Evelyn (formerly Buckley), born November 7, 1907, at Peel Forest, South Canterbury, New Zealand; died January 31 at the Waikato Hospital, Hamilton. Following a service in the Tirau church, she was buried in the Matamata Cemetery. A faithful member of the church for about 45 years, Rita lived most of that time in Matamata and Opotiki. For several years, with her second husband Dimi, Rita travelled around the North Island collecting almost full-time for the Adventist Appeal. She is survived by her husband; five sons, Roy, Keith, Ken, Henry and Peter Buckley, and their families. Cliff Bird, Tirau company leader, assisted the writer at the service. M. J. Bull.

Woodward, Dianne Allison, born June 23, 1971, in Bendigo, Vic; died January 13 at the Royal Brisbane Hospital, Qld. Following a service held in her home church at Harrisville, Dianne was buried in the Warrill Park Lawn Cemetery. For 17 months she had suffered from leukaemia and always bore her affliction with a brave and patient spirit. She is survived by her parents, John and Zona; brother, Stephen; and sisters, Fiona and Carmel. Pastor Reg Harris, Adventist Health director for the South Queensland Conference, assisted the writer in the services. G. W. Oaklands.

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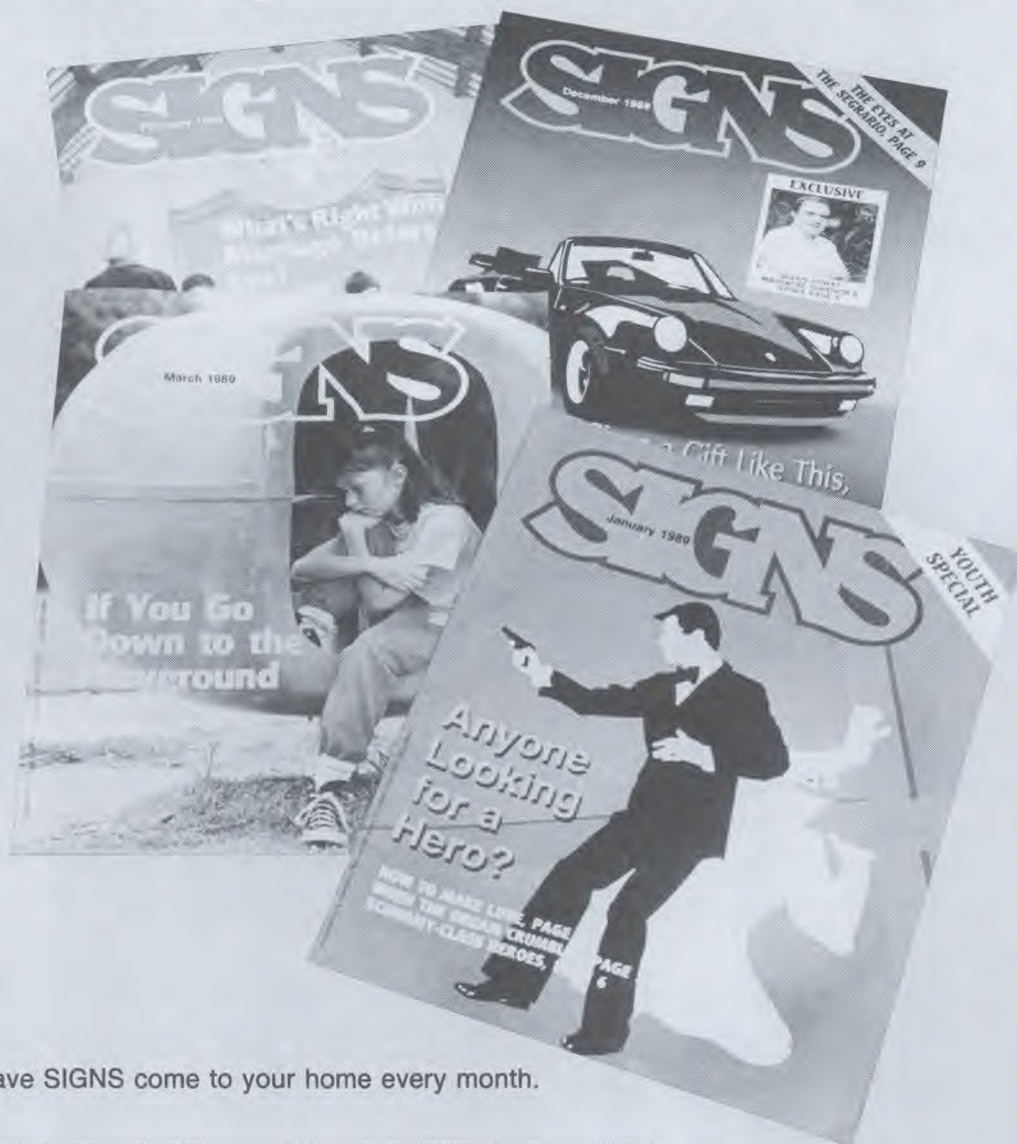
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