

RECORD

July 1, 2006

In this issue

Signs Ministry
visits New Zealand

ABC sales up in
two unions

Wild adventure



More than 40 people attended the Da Vinci Decode seminar at Sydney University, where Pastor Grenville Kent (standing) and Dr Philip Rodinoff responded to *The Da Vinci Code*.

Decode for Sydney universities

SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES

The Sydney Adventist Student Society (SASS) was recently involved in an ambitious, on-campus evangelistic outreach project at two of Sydney's largest universities, the University of Sydney and Macquarie University.

In response to the widespread interest in *The Da Vinci Code*, leaders from SASS teamed up with a non-denominational on-campus Christian organisation, Student Life, to organise outreach seminars at the universities.

SASS organised for Pastor Grenville Kent and Dr Philip Rodionoff, who co-authored the book *The Da Vinci Decode*,

to present seminars giving a Christian response to the issues raised by the *The Da Vinci Code*. The Student Life Club hosted the events and promoted them heavily on the campuses. The seminars were well received, with approximately 45 students attending at Sydney University.

Copies of *The Da Vinci Decode* were given free to attendees, with the option of making a donation. In response to the presentations, some students expressed an interest in finding out more about Christianity and took up an invitation to further explore the issues raised.

(Continued on page 4)



Honours for young alumni



The Seventh-day Adventist Church finds its strength in mission.

Remember the missionaries

I GREW UP IN A FAMILY WHERE WE prayed each day for “the missionaries in the islands.” It wasn’t that we didn’t care about missionaries on the continents of Africa and Asia and elsewhere. It’s just that, living in Australia and New Zealand, the islands were special. They were right in our own front yard. They were part of us.

Today there’s widespread cynicism about missionaries, and not without some justification. At times missionaries have been insensitive to local cultures, and have preached a Western gospel. Popular books and movies such as *The Poisonwood Bible*, *At Play in the Fields of the Lord* and *Mosquito Coast* have made *missionary* a dirty word. They’ve painted missionaries as cultural imperialists, riding roughshod over local peoples and their customs.

Some of us have inhaled this stereotyped viewpoint, and see missionaries as an embarrassing part of a bygone age. We don’t think about missionaries anymore, let alone pray for them each day. Some don’t even realise the church still sends missionaries.

In fact, more than 800 Adventist missionary families are working outside their home divisions, and they’re widely disbursed: Brazilians in Burkina Faso, Hungarians in Kuwait, Filipinos in Swaziland, Finns in West Africa, Canadians in Madagascar, Pakistanis in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Argentineans in Bangladesh, Australians in Albania, and Americans in Indonesia.

It can be tough working as an overseas missionary. Some tell of returning to their homelands and finding no interest among church members about what they’ve been doing. All face the challenge of living and working in a different culture, far from friends and family. Many face discouragement and loneliness.

And yet it can also be wonderfully rewarding for missionaries to see people become “new creatures” in Jesus, to see Him cast out fear, bring love into families, and give an eternal future to those who feel as if they have no hope.

James Appel, a doctor from the United States, and his wife, Sarah, a nurse from Denmark—both young adults—serve at Béré Adventist Hospital in the poverty-ridden African country of Chad. “When you’re at the depths of frustration and hopelessness not knowing where to start,” says James, “or when you’re at the heights of saving lives dramatically, touching someone, feeling God’s presence in a vibrant way—at any and all of these points you are really living.”

The Seventh-day Adventist Church finds its strength in mission. Its commitment includes a church-planting movement, worldwide humanitarian work, an international volunteer program, satellite TV and short-wave radio blanketing the globe, a huge publishing program, thousands of schools, a large network of hospitals and clinics, the Global Mission pioneer program and hundreds of overseas missionaries. None of this could happen without the prayers and mis-

sion offerings of church members.

Through the years, Adventists have generously supported mission through their tithes and mission offerings because they’ve believed the gospel commission. While we should always treat with respect and Christian charity those who think differently from us, we have a commission and privilege to share the love of Jesus. It must be done with care and cultural sensitivity; but it must be done. We need missionaries. And not just to the vast unreached areas of Africa, Asia and the Middle East, but also to the growing urban postmodern mission fields of Europe, North America, Australia and New Zealand.

For a variety of reasons, mission offerings have declined. Many who gave a dollar 20 years ago still give just a dollar today. In the 1930s, when Adventists around the world gave \$10 tithe, they also gave \$6 to mission offerings. Today, when we give \$10 tithe, we give just 38 cents for mission offerings, and \$4 for our local church.

I’ve started praying again for missionaries, and not just in the islands. I pray also for all church members sharing the love of Jesus. After all, aren’t all Jesus’ followers called to be missionaries?

Remember the World Mission Offering, next week, July 8. For more information, visit <www.adventistmission.org>.

Gary Krause
Office of Adventist Mission
General Conference



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Our vision is to...
know
experience
and share
our hope in Jesus Christ!

Signs Ministry visits New Zealand

WARBURTON, VICTORIA

Signs Ministry aims to have a chain of *Signs* outlets in all New Zealand transport hubs, say ministry coordinator Lee Dunstan and volunteer consultant Pastor Des Hills, as a result of negotiations with a major New Zealand distribution company. Mr Dunstan, who replaced Pastor Hills as the *Signs* Ministry coordinator, says he sees a chain of *Signs* from Whangarei to Invercargill. He says a person will be able to sit in any major bus, train or airport waiting room and see a *Signs*, if the plans come to fruition.

“The prospects are good,” he reports, “as we have a sympathetic Christian ear in a large literature distribution company. We have a good foundation upon which to build, with prominent outlets in the Palmerston North Airport, in the Wellington Interislander ferry terminal, and the Christchurch, Invercargill and Queenstown airports, among others.”

Mr Dunstan and Pastor Hills recently toured the two islands conducting a series “Friends of *Signs*” meetings where they outlined the plans and met donors and *Signs* enthusiasts. Meetings were held in Christchurch, Blenheim, Palmerston North, Cambridge and Papatoetoe churches.

Pastor Hills says it is “very encouraging

to see the commitment of church leaders and members to donate.” But, he warned, “with the large increase in private ministries, and many providing tax deductibility, our sponsors don’t continue forever.

“Some significant donations were received, but more importantly, we built new relationships and strengthened existing ones. We saw people enthused as well, with a number determining to take *Signs* door-to-door. I was gratified at the enthusiasm for *Signs* that the New Zealanders once again showed. Folks in my homeland have been pioneers and leaders in *Signs* ministry. It was a worthwhile trip in many ways.”

Mr Dunstan says there was a demonstrated support for the project, with one meeting guest committing to place *Signs* in her hometown airport. From contacts made, he said he hopes to have high-visibility outlets in the train and bus terminals in Christchurch, aboard the new Bluebridge Cook Strait ferries and reintroduced into strategic locations in Auckland by the end of the year.

Mr Dunstan also explains that the whole system of *Signs* “projects” has been revised, so these meetings gave an opportunity to explain to sponsors, all of whom would receive notification of changes. He said there were now just five bulk-delivery project pools, a revision aimed at simplifying sponsorship,

order processing and distribution. Local churches will no longer be able to declare their outreach a “*Signs* project” and receive the special low rates, but will be able to avail themselves of lower rates in other ways. “*Signs* for the New Zealand, Australian and Pacific islands projects are sold at a special low rate, which isn’t able to be sustained across the broader sweep of all outlets,” he said. “The five project pools take advantage of simpler processing, economies of scale and lower-cost transportation that’s unavailable to the single or lower level donor. We value all our customers, but can’t afford to give them all the same low-cost price.

“The designated project pools must meet certain criteria, and [*Signs* in] “New Zealand—End to End,” for example, does so. Such a project has the ownership of the broader church; it puts *Signs* in places where a local church may not exist or be ineffective; and, it will require more *Signs* in a month than a local church can afford on its own to sustain. The distribution of the *Signs* within a project pool will be the responsibility of the *Signs* Ministry coordinator,” he says.

Scores of disparate *Signs* outlets have been aggregated into just five major designated projects, and include Literature Evangelists, Australian Outback and AAA, Australian Transport, New Zealand—End to End, and Pacific Islands.—**RECORD staff**

◆ While working in Goroka, **Peo Soma**, literature evangelist area manager for the Highlands, PNG, visited the manager of the **local radio station**. Sponsored by the provincial government, its main purpose is to target uneducated people with instruction on HIV/AIDS prevention. The manager found the books had the same aim as that of the station. The director **bought all the books** and then offered to read them on air.—**ANZLE Pacific**

◆ On the first Sunday of every month up to 24 people from vari-

ous Auckland Adventist churches visit the **Mount Eden prison**. The Three Angels’ Messages Ministries holds up to five worship services with inmates in various areas of the prison complex. Free Bibles and literature are distributed and inmates are invited to write to 3AM if they would like Bible studies or have **food parcels delivered** to needy family members. Letters received have included many appreciative comments, such as, “I am keen on turning my life around and would like to start on any of your Bible studies”; and “When my sister told me she received a food parcel and



a present for her son, **I was overwhelmed**. Thank you again. You wouldn’t believe how grateful I am.”—**Mike Bates**

◆ **Dr Warren Shipton**, an Australian scientist, is the new president of **Mission College**, Thailand. Dr Shipton has 36 years teaching and research experience at North Queensland Microbiology Testing Centre, James Cook Uni-

versity, and conducted an agricultural research project in Papua New Guinea.—**Julie Cook**

◆ **TV advertising** for the free viewing of the ***Beyond Da Vinci* DVD** will air on Channel 7 in **Townsville, Mackay and Cairns**, Qld, from July 1 to 9 (237 spots); in **Darwin, NT**, on Central 7 over the same dates (37); **Wollongong**, NSW, from July 8 to 16 on WIN TV (82); and in **rural north New South Wales** from July 15 to 23 on Southern Cross Television (284).

More @ www.thecode.com.au

Thames outreach sees 42 choose Sabbath

THAMES, NEW ZEALAND

On April 28, 42 non-Adventists signed an agreement in Thames, New Zealand, to keep the Sabbath, the result of attending an evangelistic series held by archaeologist Jonathan Gray. A large number of people from the local community attended the meetings, including six non-Adventist ministers.

A retired Pentecostal minister and his wife were among those who decided to keep the Sabbath. Following the meeting, he said, "It always seemed to me that the gospel message I preached was incomplete. The Sabbath appeared throughout the Bible, but there was a gap. Now everything falls into place. I'm going to share this with my people."

Public interest in the outreach program was generated by a number of events, including a "mummy" frozen in a block of ice almost two metres long. It lay outside the Thames Civic Centre, where the program was held, and the public were invited to guess when the ice would melt. Hundreds of people entered the competition, with the winner announced during the meetings. This tied in with the Egyptian theme of the first week, which also saw volunteer staff wearing Egyptian headdresses.

On one night of the outreach program, Mr Gray offered a \$NZ10,000 reward to anyone

who could find a text in the Bible that authorised a change of Sabbath to Sunday as the seventh day.

Following the challenge, a "trial by jury" was held, in which members of the public were asked to decide if there was scriptural support for changing Sabbath to Sunday. In this mock court session a volunteer jury of 12 people, comprised of a variety of faiths, gave the unanimous verdict that the day had been changed by the fifth-century church.

The evangelistic outreach program was made possible by a \$NZ20,000 contribution made by the church, with \$NZ10,000 donated by both the North New Zealand Conference and New Zealand Christian Foundation. Organisers were delighted when 400 people attended the meeting on the first night, many of whom attended further meetings held at the civic centre. A smaller number also joined Thames church members for church. Those who signed the Sabbath agreement are now being nurtured by members of the church and its pastor, Les Worsley.—*Les Worsley/Jonathan Gray*



Volunteers in Egyptian-style costumes.

Decode for Sydney universities

(Continued from page 1)

James Etwell, the president of SASS for 2006, said he was "thrilled" with the opportunity to reach out to university students. He says, "One of the key goals of SASS is to further God's kingdom, focusing on tertiary students in Sydney. Much attention and publicity has recently been given to Dan Brown's novel, so having the opportunity to be involved in an outreach like this one is a perfect example of what we are all about—living Christianity through relevant, practical evangelism."

Joanne Kim, a member of SASS who attended Sydney University, had similar praise on the day, saying, "It's so great to attend things like this and see so many people here. Hearing about all the historical evidence of Jesus' existence makes you all the more excited about your faith."

In addition to running outreach programs, SASS is a community of tertiary students that offers many opportunities for students to become involved in a variety of events and activities, including Friday-night programs and social gatherings. SASS also offers support services including assistance in dealing with Sabbath exams.—*RECORD staff/Samantha Ireland/James Etwell*

More @ www.sass.asn.au



◆ For Australia's **National Day of Thanksgiving**, June 3, the youth from **Warwick church**, Qld, took morning tea to staff at the ambulance, police and fire departments in recognition of the faithful service these people perform.—*Mary Fedorow*

◆ Local schools from the Strathfield, NSW, district, including **Sydney Adventist College (SAC)**

students, gathered at Strathfield Plaza to commemorate **National Healing Day** on May 26—a ceremony to acknowledge indigenous children who were separated from their families, and to say sorry for the pain and sorrow caused by past mistakes. SAC students were "delighted" to have key roles in the program: **Annali Baxter** and **Daniel Akrawi** had the honour of raising the Australian and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags and **Burak**



Gurler (pictured) lit a candle that represented the desire for reconciliation.—*Graciela Rosales*

◆ The Cancer Council of New South Wales planned a "Relay for life" in Muswellbrook that raised \$A84,000 for cancer research. The **Muswellbrook church** had a team participate in the **24-hour walk/run** over Sat-



urday night, May 27, and raised more than \$A700.—*Clive Nash*

◆ **Shock and awe**, with a bit of wow, is the new evangelism strategy being used at **Ilam church**, NZ. A team of worship planners are involved in worship evangelism and have run a trilogy of events: **Easter, Anzac and Mother's Day services**. Each aimed to create the environment to enable church members to invite their friends and evangelism contacts to come along. The Anzac service was the first time Ilam has commemorated the Anzacs in

ABC sales up in two unions

WARBURTON, VICTORIA

Sales of denominational book and media products to Adventist Book Centre retailers is up almost 19 per cent across two unions over the same period in 2005, according to a recent Signs Publishing Company report.

The figures include only products sourced from Adventist denominational institutions.

"The dollar sales of some \$A344,000 for the past three months translate directly into increased unit sales," says Signs Book Department manager Liz Dunstan. She said the high growth comes on top of an already significant 2005 base figure. She expects that annual sales will easily top the million-dollar mark for the past 12 months, saying, "I knew we were doing well because we were so busy here at the publishing house, but this result is fantastic!"

The ABCs with the highest growth were Northern Australia (58 per cent); South New Zealand's New Millennium (46 per cent); and Western Australia (45 per cent). The increases for all but two stores were more than 26 per cent.

Pastor Terry Goltz, publishing director for the South Pacific Division, said that in the context of ministry the apparent growth represents "a significant increase to the

contribution our books can make in the spiritual development of our church.

"One cannot estimate the influence that our books have upon the hearts and minds of people," he said. "Only eternity will reveal the real results!"

Glen Reed, general manager of Signs Publishing Company, which prints, imports and distributes all denominational literature to the ABC network, said that sales growth for the decade to 2005 had been "patchy, at best."

He said that while such sales growth in the Australian and New Zealand ABC sector contributes to the company's bottom line, it is only "icing on the cake" in terms of grounds for satisfaction. What really excites him, he said, "is the way this increase relates to the achievement of a core aspect of the company's mission statement, which is 'to produce and distribute quality literature that attracts and nurtures people into a saving relationship with Jesus.'"

Mrs Dunstan said she attributes the high growth to increased awareness of both the times in which we live and the need for distinctly Adventist literature to explain them. She says that members are now more aware of the competitively priced, high quality Adventist products now available in Adventist Book Centres, and are, "obviously, taking advantage of it."—**RECORD staff**

College vocal group records album

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

An Avondale College vocal ensemble has recorded its first album after impressing at concerts along the east coast of Australia over the past two years.

The Promise takes its name from 2 Peter 3:3-9, and this is the theme of the album. Songs on the album are in three sections—the invitation, the acceptance and the promise. They range in style from classical ("Ubi Caritas") to contemporary gospel ("You raise me up") and include international songs (the Swahili hymn "O sifuni mungu") and spirituals ("Elijah rock," "Steal away" and "Long white robe").

Director Dr Robb Dennis says the precision of recording changes the way the students in the group sing the songs. "Taking away the visual part of a performance encourages you to think more about the spirit and impact of the words, and that's a good thing."—**Brenton Stacey**



The Promise in Avondale's recording studio.

Aaron Bellette

a formal way. There were 26 **WWI and II** servicemen in the church family, who served in PNG, India, the Pacific, Egypt, Middle East or Europe. Servicemen marched into church to Handel's march from *Scipio*.—**Neil Thompson**

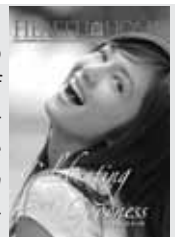
◆ A live, two-metre alligator named Tibou checked in at **Florida Hospital**, USA, on June 8 for a CT scan. The event was

videotaped for a PBS/WNET/National Geographic Channels International documentary.—**Jacqueline Lorenzetti/Florida Hospital**

◆ Not listed in the Yellow Pages, wrong internet directions, no times for services, unanswered phones and no greeters were just some of the trials experienced by 25 **Pendleton, Oregon**, USA, church leaders who attended worship services at 15 local Sunday churches. Their aim was to feel what it is like **to be a visitor in an unfamiliar**

church. Pastor **Andrew McCrary** randomly assigned churches to the leaders without including any contact information to see how easy it was to find information about churches. The group met after their experiences and shared ideas they could incorporate to **better meet visitors' needs** at their own services. "Many of us were surprised by our nervousness—as Christians—going to an unfamiliar church," says Pastor McCrary. "Imagine what unchurched guests experience!"—**Nadine Messer**

◆ The flagship publication of Philippine Publishing House (PPH), **Health & Home** magazine, has been chosen as the **Best Informative Magazine** (National Awards) by the National Product Quality Excellence Awards. The magazine has a **circulation of 165,000**, including its book-bound edition, and is the longest-running health magazine in the Philippines.—**Jose Sarsoza**
More @ www.pphsda.comv



Outreach goes back to Bourke

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

When Avondale College student Carina Goncalves travelled to Bourke on an Adventist Aviation Association health assessment trip, two things caught her attention—"Glitter Street," a street full of glass that glitters at sunset, and the Adventist church that has been locked up for two years. Ms Goncalves says, "When I saw that the church was just locked up, I thought, *Something needs to be done about this.*"

In Bourke there is only one Adventist church member, Marilyn Reed, who says, "Bourke is a difficult place because of the distance and isolation."

After a couple of brainstorming sessions with her friends Kimanh Briden and Monique Rogers, the philosophy of Operation Outback Outreach (OOO) was born. OOO is a youth-led initiative that focuses on sharing the gospel in a non-confronting way in rural areas with a spiritual need. The program in Bourke, which will run from July 2 to 9, has been given the mission name DUST: Dreams Unveiled by Stories of Truth.

"DUST will be a modern evangelistic program consisting of a Bible kids club, cleaning up Glitter Street and a night meeting that uses a spiritually focused mural



The DUST group (clockwise from the T): Eric Johnson, Monique Rogers, Brendon Potts, Kimanh Briden, Jared Musk, Megan Johnson, Joshua Moses, Lili Radziszewski, Mario Musiki and Carina Goncalves.

made up of Glitter Street's glass as the centre," says Ms Rogers.

"God has provided everything from monetary support and a bus driver to a team of youth dedicated to spreading the gospel. Bourke is a difficult area for many reasons and this article is written for the specific purpose to ask people, division wide, to pray for this program," adds Ms Rogers.

Pastor Joe Webb, personal ministries director of the North New South Wales Conference, says, "It is exciting to have a team of young people focusing on an isolated outback community, being aware of the community's needs and taking intentional steps to reach some of those needs through sharing the love of Jesus."—**RECORD staff**

Honours for young alumni

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

Avondale College has honoured one of its young alumni during a graduation-themed forum meeting on its Lake Macquarie campus.

Emma Douglas received the college's 2006 Young Alumni of the Year award. She graduated from Avondale in 2000, one of the first two to do so with the then-new Bachelor of Arts degree in communication.

She now works for the Greater Sydney Conference as the marketing coordinator of Adventist education.

When asked what her advice would be for students graduating from the college this year, Mrs Douglas told Dr Allen Steele, assistant to the president (advancement), "Learn to sell yourself. Present with confidence. Believe in yourself."

Avondale College Alumni Association president Pastor Roger Nixon spoke to students before presenting Mrs Douglas with her award. On presenting the award, Pastor Nixon said, "We look forward to the day when you will stand tall and be counted among the privileged who can say, 'I am a living testimony to the power of God. I attended Avondale in the best years of my life.'"—**Brenton Stacey**

◆ A new study by the Center for Religious Freedom found **Saudi Arabia's latest textbooks continue to promote intolerance of other religions.** Saudi first-grade students are taught that "every religion other than Islam is false," while teachers are instructed to "give examples of false religions, like Judaism, Christianity, paganism etc." Fifth graders learn "it is forbidden for a Muslim to be a loyal friend to someone who does not believe in God and his prophet, or someone who fights the religion of Islam."—**Crosswalk.com**



◆ With each cheque in the USA passing through an average of 16 hands, it is seen by some as a **witnessing opportunity.** Available for purchase are personalised **cheques with Jesus,** churches and other illustrations or passages from the Bible printed on them.

More @ www.lifechecks.com

◆ The **Luke 10:2b leadership solution** is a daily prayer for

"labourers in the harvest." 10:2b stands for the 10th chapter of Luke, the second verse and the last part, which says we should ask the Lord for workers to send into His harvest field. The idea is to set your mobile phone, PDA or any other alarm, to go off at **10.02 am every day.** When it goes off, stop whatever you are doing and send up an impassioned prayer for the Lord to send workers for your church and other church plants.—**Peter Roennfeldt**

◆ A poll by the Australian Scholarships Group found 60 per cent

of voters believe a **teacher had the most influence** in their life after their immediate family. Another survey says the internet has become a crucial source of information at major moments and milestones in Americans' lives. The survey shows that 45 per cent of US internet users—about 60 million Americans—say the **internet helped them make big decisions** or negotiate their way through major episodes in their lives in the previous two years.—**AAP MediaNet/ Cornelia Carter-Sykes**
More @ www.pewinternet.org

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Taranaki regional day encourages members

TARANAKI, NEW ZEALAND

More than 130 members of three Taranaki churches gathered on May 6 at the New Plymouth church in North New Zealand for the Taranaki regional day.

Prior to the regional day, the young people of the churches enjoyed the contribution made by New Zealand Pacific Union Conference youth ministries associate director Pastor Steve Kane and his wife, Arianna, at EPIC, a Friday-night youth outreach program organised by Adventist youth in New Plymouth.

Pastor Eddie Tupai, president of the North New Zealand Conference, spoke in the main worship hour on Sabbath, reminding listeners of the miracle Jesus performed in the feeding of the 5000 and how this should inspire Christians to share their spiritual blessings with others.

During the afternoon session, Pastor Paul Hopson, who now cares for all three churches in Taranaki, interviewed David Nunn, who heads a project to collect donated medical supplies and hospital equipment for Atoifi Adventist Hospital, Solomon Islands.

Having sold his own family home, Mr Nunn and his wife now live in a warehouse, which is gradually filling up with assorted gifts, including medicine, bandages, beds, an X-ray developing machine, basins, taps and a mountain of other necessities, which are being sorted and are soon to be packed into containers.

Ministers for breakfast at Mountain View

DOONSIDE, NEW SOUTH WALES

Early in the morning on May 11, Mountain View Adventist College (MVAC) held a ministers breakfast in their college hall.

While most people were probably still sleeping in bed, MVAC staff and several students gathered to “cook up a storm,” ensuring that a “healthy and hearty” breakfast was ready to be served to the VIP guests, including church ministers, college chaplains, official representatives of the Greater Sydney Conference and MVAC staff.

Atoifi Hospital was the grateful recipient of a previous consignment that was delivered by David and his Christian friends, and processed with the assistance of several volunteers of the New Plymouth Adventist church.

Encouraging reports on outreach programs at Stratford and Hawera churches were outlined by Mike McCracken and Trevor Hurlow respectively. Stratford church has been providing breakfast and a program each Sabbath morning for varying numbers of children. This has been a factor in the choice made by a mother and her teenage daughter to regularly attend the worship service. Hawera church is preparing to run a lifestyle health seminar in South Taranaki.

The director of Tui Ridge Park, Andrew West, also gave a report on the expansion of the facilities at the campground. This included plans now progressing to enable the relocation of the North New Zealand camp-meeting from Haskell Park to Tui Ridge.

Those attending the meeting also engaged in a prayer walk around the ADRA project's New Start Gardens. Earnest prayers were offered seeking God's continued blessing over this project, which supports the soup kitchen and provides a community-work scheme and training program. Prayer groups also toured through and prayed for the New Plymouth Adventist Primary School and gave thanks for its positive influence in Taranaki.—

Jenny Reilly

Breakfast was enjoyed by those who attended and the time was enhanced by the musical talents of students Jarel Kilgour and Leonie Weslake, along with the school group “Essence,” who performed as the guests ate.

The ministers breakfast is just one of the school's planned events that encourages staff interaction with church ministers, and is a way of giving back to churches in the conference and thanking them for their continued support for the school.—*Intrasyd*

More @ www.gscadventist.org.au

So Good now better

BERKELEY VALE, NEW SOUTH WALES

Australia's top-selling soymilk, So Good, has a new, fresh taste to entice more dairy users to make the switch to soy for better health.

Sanitarium has reformulated So Good Regular, giving it an improved flavour, which aims to convert those who believe in the benefits of soymilk but have rejected it due to taste.

According to independent consumer testing by sensory research specialist Sensometrics, the improved taste formulation is working—the new So Good Regular is a significant improvement with both soymilk and dairy users.

The new taste improvements are initially being introduced with So Good Regular. So Good Lite and So Good Fat-Free will soon be released.

Celebrity overhaul star and best-selling author of *The Great Australian Diet*, Dr John Tickell, says soymilk is an excellent alternative to dairy as it contains less saturated fat and no cholesterol.

“Soy protein provides all the essential amino acids the body needs and also helps to lower cholesterol levels and thereby maintain heart health,” he says. “Now that So Good tastes even better, there is no reason why people shouldn't make the switch to soymilk.”

Sanitarium also recently added a new product to the So Good range, with So Good Active. Active contains 25 per cent more protein than regular soy milk and is designed to promote lean muscle and aid muscle recovery after exercise for active men and women of all ages.

Dr Tickle says, “The substitution of soy protein for animal protein is a definite positive and means you consume less saturated fat and no cholesterol, which is important to keep your heart healthy.”—*Jaemes Tipple*



So Good's new family member, Active.

People Are Human

REVIEW BY JULENE DUERKSEN-KAPAO

AS THE SEQUEL TO *PROPHETS ARE HUMAN*, *People Are Human* by Dr Graeme Bradford continues a journey exploring Ellen White, her role in the early Adventist Church and her role in today's church. Bradford comments in his introduction, "The past 35 years have seen a revolution in Ellen White studies," and *People Are Human* contributes to a greater understanding of this renewed attention.

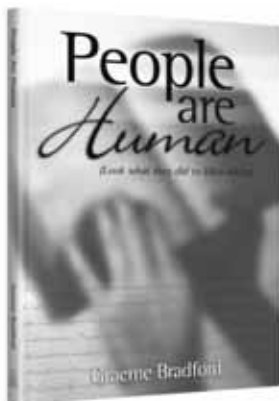
People Are Human picks up where the first book ended, with church members Doug and Jean struggling with their questions and finding guidance from their pastor, Jared Downtown and a local professor, Dr Smithurst. In this book, Doug and Jean's children, Michael and Sharon, join the group, as does Mrs Downtown. As a story, the book has captured the realities of many Adventist families through Doug, Jean and their children, creating a realistic dialogue and thought-provoking answers.

Bradford introduces *People Are Human*, stating, "During her lifetime Ellen G White fought to have her writings used correctly. After her death—at least among conservative forces within the Adventist Church—a misuse of her writings led the denomination away from many founding concepts." Bradford draws information from the 1919 Bible Conference (these minutes were lost, rediscovered in 1974 and later published), pulling the pieces together to help the church see a more realistic picture of who Ellen White was.

More than anything, Ellen White was passionate about Jesus Christ and wanted the church to have that same conviction. Pastor Downtown shares that Ellen White "had to stand up to those who constantly criticised her" mostly because she was constantly pushing the "leaders of the church to launch out and try great things for God. She felt they were too cautious and

conservative."

People Are Human addresses a complex and emotional issue with thorough explanations and thoughtful support. Bradford provides a window into the developing Adventist Church, the conversations that took place and the historical issues within North America and the wider world.



One of the more complex issues surrounding Ellen White was "thought inspiration" versus "verbal inspiration": "Thought inspiration has the concept that God gave the ideas or thoughts to the writer, but the writer was free to express these ideas with their own words. Verbal inspiration is usually associated with God dictating every word for the writer. This idea is often associated with the concept of inerrancy, which is the idea that not one word will be out of place or be in any way related to wrong cultural concepts." This debate began during Ellen White's lifetime and continues today.

Bradford wants to paint a clear picture without pointing blame. He unpacks the bigger issues, stating through Dr Smithurst, "There has been no sinister plot in this. I think well-meaning people have tried to build the faith of our members. There hasn't been a deliberate effort to deceive people. Let's face it, this problem wasn't caused by the present leadership of the church. It's a problem we've passed on by previous generations."

Interesting and informative, *People Are Human* is a great step in understanding Ellen White and her role in our church today. **R**

People Are Human (Look what they did to Ellen White), by Graeme Bradford, Signs Publishing Company, 2006, paperback, 188 pages. Available from Adventist Book Centres, price \$A14.95; \$NZ18.95.

Julene Duerksen-Kapao is the regular book reviewer for The Edge.

Prayer Keys: Sanctified—to Jesus!

WITH PAUL PETERSEN

SANCTIFICATION HAS LOST POPULARITY. Some see it as a contrast to justification, or as a second and more (or less) important addition in a process leading to glorification; some sense that it is disappearing due to the emphasis on concepts like grace and forgiveness. The idea of sanctification has in part lost ground because we live in a place and at a time where few places and times are any longer sanctified or regarded as holy.

But to be sanctified should be our daily prayer. Such prayer was foremost on the lips of Jesus: "Sanctify them by your truth" (John 17:17, NKJV). In a sense, to be sanctified is the essential part of a genuine prayer life.

People are sanctified by the blood of Jesus (see Hebrews 10:10, 14; 13:12). From a continuous dedication to God our Saviour springs a life lived in holiness, in submission and in obedience. The believer is sanctified to Jesus as a person in totality: body, soul and spirit (see 1 Thessalonians 5:23).

Prayers for sanctification in the Bible take an unselfish direction. Like Jesus, Paul prays for the believers to be sanctified (see 1 Thessalonians 5:23). Sanctification is not an ego trip where I constantly look into myself to assess my progress. Rather, I learn by the Spirit constantly to turn to Jesus Christ and ask Him to help me love my fellow human beings.

Walking on water is only possible when you don't realise it yourself. The moment you do you are bound to drown. By looking to Jesus Christ alone, we "beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord" (2 Corinthians 3:18, NKJV).

Dear God, send your Spirit to teach me to forget myself and all my days to be sanctified to Jesus Christ and Him alone. **R**

Week of Prayer is September 2-9. Put this in your diary. Plan for a time of spiritual renewal and dedication.

Paul Petersen is associate coordinator of prayer ministries for the South Pacific Division.

Strengths and challenges of video ministry



BY JOHN GATE

WE HAVE SEEN IN A PREVIOUS ARTICLE in this series that Western society today is generally secular and postmodern, and that creates certain challenges. We have not been quick to understand these cultural changes and to respond in such a way that people can see the relevance of our message and respond.

Why is video ministry being effective? What are the strengths and challenges for video ministry?

Strengths

1. Culturally relevant. We live in a visual society. Using video is a natural and non-threatening way of sharing in our community.

2. Spiritual awareness. Many postmodern people believe there are no absolutes. But, at the same time, it is obvious that our society has become more open to spiritual things in general. That includes Christianity. By using *Search* videos, we are connecting with people with a spiritual message because many of them are searching.

3. Need for security. We are living in an increasingly fearful world. Many people feel insecure and are looking for hope for the future. The *Search* series, starting with “Search for a New World,” begins to answer some of these questions people have.

4. Search videos. In the South Pacific, God has blessed the church with the Adventist Media Centre. The church can be proud of the high quality productions from Adventist Media, and the excellent outreach resources these provide.

5. Divine strategy. We can have confidence in knowing we are reaching out using a strategy God has already blessed, rather than asking God to bless some strategy of our own invention.

6. We connect. It would be much easier, but much more costly, to post the videos out to people who request a free loan. But one

of the major strengths of our current strategy is that it gives us opportunity to connect with people. Delivering videos on a loan basis, allows us to use the videos and DVDs repeatedly.

7. Lending library. The idea of lending a video is a part of our culture, and so we are using a cultural practice that is readily acceptable to our community.

8. Results. From a pragmatic point of view, one of the real strengths of video ministry is that it does produce results when the strategy is followed and videos are faithfully delivered.

“Video ministry is not an end in itself. It is the opening to build friendship, with Bible studies to follow.” —Pastor

Roger Ward, Cairns, Queensland

Challenges

Let’s be realistic. There are challenges to video ministry as an evangelism strategy. These include:

Entertainment value. Viewing videos in our culture is mainly a recreational and entertainment activity. The challenge in video ministry is to encourage people to respond to the things they have seen.

People are busy—and that includes church members. It’s a challenge in video ministry to dedicate time on a regular basis, be it weekly or fortnightly, to deliver videos and to spend time with people. Postmodern people like to press a button, like at a lift or on a microwave, and have instant results. Outreach and video ministry is not like that. And that’s a challenge



Elva Weiler (right), departmental secretary in the South Australian Conference office, delivered videos and studied with Mervyn Botten (left), leading to his baptism.

to us to give time to connect with people, become friends, to minister to their needs and win their confidence and then lead them to Jesus.

Cost. It costs many thousands of dollars to produce a video series like *Search*. It costs conferences and churches many dollars to purchase the series sets for sharing, and it costs local church members not only time but money for travel to be able to deliver videos, often to isolated areas. The church acknowledges the commitment, faithfulness and sacrifice of church members to the work of sharing the gospel, and pray God’s blessings upon those who make such a commitment.

Reaping. Probably the greatest challenge in video ministry is to be able to encourage people to respond to what they have heard. Some exciting strategies are now happening that are bringing excellent results. These will be discussed later in this series.

We need to capitalise on the strengths of video ministry—and they certainly outweigh the challenges. We need to face the challenges and by God’s grace overcome them, that this ministry might be more effective to His glory and the advance of His kingdom. **R**

This is part of a series of articles exploring video ministry and how it can work in your community.

John Gate is director of the Adventist Discovery Centre.

Wild adventure

BY SUSAN JOHNSTONE

YOU'VE SOLD OUT!" BEVAN HAD accused me. I was trying to explain how I'd become a Christian. Bevan was my close friend and fellow "free spirit." We'd had many deep conversations about life. But that was all over, in Bevan's eyes. "You've taken on a narrow-minded viewpoint. You've restricted yourself so much!"

I had no profound answer to rebut Bevan's statement. I had a niggling thought that there was a grain of truth in what he was saying. If only I could have been sure that my life would not be limited once I had a Christian lifestyle and world view. I now know that letting go and placing my life in God's hands was the start of a wild and sometimes scary adventure.

Some people are called to be missionaries in a foreign land, working in a ministry where physical, emotional and spiritual challenges abound. Others accept that their Christian calling is to stay home and "hold the fort"—to be the ones with the mortgage and nine-to-five job. Their duty is to raise good Christian children, support their local church and community by example. Sadly, this often falls into drudgery, with no challenges to rock the status quo. Henry David Thoreau commented, "The mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation."

Are we too preoccupied with "going through the motions" to actually spend time with God? If we are too busy cleaning house before Sabbath to converse with the kids, then something is wrong. If we are more concerned with putting on a good appearance than opening up to those around us, then something is wrong. If the last time we experienced an answer to prayer was years ago, there's definitely something wrong. If the pain in the world as revealed on the news doesn't cause us to pray for the people involved, then something is horribly wrong.

In order to connect to God we must be willing to listen. Maybe God is calling us

to a more vibrant life, but we are too involved with our own plans to hear Him. Next time you can't sleep, try listening. Perhaps, in the quietness God is calling you to do something for Him—to write a letter to a friend you've neglected, to tiptoe down the hall and watch your child sleep, to turn on the TV and watch a televangelist—maybe God has a message for you. Perhaps God wants you to step outside and observe the stars or watch lightning from a summer storm or listen for an owl. And while you're there—praise God for this amazing world. Perhaps God is calling you to talk to Him—not a hurried prayer over the breakfast table or in the car, but to have a heart-to-heart conversation with a long-lost Friend.

We need to welcome more risk, to be receptive to doing something out of our comfort zone. If we want to walk on water, like Peter, we've got to get out of the boat. Stepping out in faith means we delight in uncertainty and look forward to a new adventure at every turn.

Great man of faith George Muller built orphanages without a five-year plan. Many times his daily food was in God's hand instead of in the pantry. Yet he never said, "I wish I had more security for the future." He was convinced God held his future and consequently his life was a journey in God's mercy and grace.

God made the world "in such a way that it only works when we embrace risk as the theme of our lives, which is to say, only when we live by faith. A man just won't be happy until he's got adventure in his work, in his love and in his spiritual life" (John Eldredge, *Wild at Heart*, page 200).

Throughout the Bible God used ordinary people to do the extraordinary. Moses spent 40 years herding sheep and doubted his ability to be a persuasive speaker. David was the youngest in his family, just a shepherd boy. Jonah was scared of the Ninevites and didn't want them to be saved. Esther was a

Jew among an empire of Persians.

God took problems and turned them upside down to achieve His end. What seemed illogical became a showpiece for God's creative power. Gideon's 300 men defeated the Midianites with torches, trumpets and jars. The Israelites ate food that fell from the sky each morning. Elijah poured water over the altar before asking God to light the sacrificial fire. Daniel prayed to God when a death sentence threatened anyone who dared. A boy gave his small lunch of to feed a crowd of thousands. These people turned from the logical, sensible choice and did the crazy, foolish thing. They listened to God and were taken on a wild adventure that resulted in the impossible.

Predictable routine is important—bills are paid, housework is done and food is on the table. But God wants us to be ready to take off on an adventure whenever He calls. Forget about material comforts and consider how we can help others. Visit that person. Give excessively. Laugh with family—laugh with strangers. Give someone a lift. Experience a different form of worship. Try praying without mentioning your needs—focus on God.

It can be scary to say, "I'm tired of this religious routine. I don't want to take my relationship with God for granted. I want more. I wish to have childlike wonder at the universe. I want to really delight in going to church and fellowshiping with other believers. I desire to trust God for everything, from providing for my grocery bill to changing my character. I'm willing to follow the Spirit's prompting to do something completely surprising."

There are risks involved in trusting, but God will rejuvenate and invigorate us. A vibrant, thrilling adventure is ours when we say, "Yes, Lord—send me!" **R**

Susan Johnstone writes from Stanthorpe, Queensland.

A love story

BY VYRONA PARKER

I DIDN'T REALISE HOW MUCH MY LIFE HAD changed. Five or so years ago, I had been one to enjoy reading romance novels, biographies and autobiographies.

I would find it difficult to stop reading, because I needed to find out the conclusion of the story. I would put off doing other things, just to finish a chapter. Other times, I would take the book with me to the bus stop, hoping the bus would be late so I could finish the chapter. How I thrived on the stories of my imagination, of male heroes who would rescue damsels in distress, of hard times in outback situations and of women with broken hearts because their Mr Perfect didn't fall in love with them.

My life became a dream of what it might have been in long-ago days, when the woman was left to battle through hard times while the husband made long trips away from home. I would think how nice it would be if my husband were to treat me the way these wonderful men in these Christian romances treated their women. It became a big imaginary fantasy for me.

Then I was introduced to new authors, who played on my romantic feelings even more. For days at a time, I would be spellbound by the stories I read. I would long for the same romance to happen to me. I was obsessed by the thought that I needed more romance in my life. Gradually, it became more important than talking to God, even though these stories were teamed with Christian thinking. Often, when I had a choice of talking to God or reading, I would not be able to resist the reading, because it appealed to me more. I would ease my conscience by telling myself that I was talking to God through the story.

When I went to a Christian bookshop, I had to buy another book and other things became less important. Slowly, I was led away from God, and I didn't even realise

it. My prayer life became one to help me to be loved more: "Make my husband more romantic, and let me be able to enjoy life more."

There were times when I forgot completely to talk to God at night and would



fall asleep while reading. Then, for no apparent reason, I lost interest in them. The books that I had loved became unimportant to me.

God began drawing me back to communicating with Him. He reminded me to pray, prompting my thoughts toward Him. I would listen to music, walk in the garden or just be with my pets. In each task there were thoughts of praise, love and awe for my heavenly Father. He became more central in my thinking and my prayers were offered multiple times during the day. It became an enjoyable time together, with God talking to me—understanding the joys and disappointments of my life.

Together, we began a friendship that I wouldn't trade for a thousand romance books. It made a vast difference to my prayer life and I found myself thinking about God often throughout the day.

I was given a book on intercessory prayer and it fascinated me. It explored the reasons God answers prayer and why we need to pray for others. How excited I became about what God could do through my prayers to help others. I could pray for people. I felt their pain and understood where they were coming from. When I prayed for someone, I would be in tears for them. Their plight would be the primary thought on my mind for the day or the week.

With joy I began to pray for others, believing God would answer my prayers in His way and His time. So many people that I knew needed prayer and I felt joy in praying for them, even though my eyes were filled with tears. I longed for more—for a deeper, closer walk with God—so I could hear His voice and talk to Him.

With this desire etched in my heart, I continued to read the book on intercessory prayer and sent many questions to a minister friend. He explained things in a language I could understand.

Books that I thought I'd never be able to read and enjoy are now the ones that thrill my soul and make my heart leap with surprise and excitement. If only I had nothing else to do during the day, I would read and pray and bask in God's presence.

I encourage you to find out what you can do for God. When you know what gift God has bestowed upon you, it will be a joy to work for God. You will be amazed at what God will be able to do through you. **R**

Vyrona Parker writes from Nairne, South Australia.

Paul of TAF*

BY MALCOLM FORD

WHEN HE WALKS INTO CHURCH, AND NOT SO ELEGANTLY, he usually heads for the front seats. But on the way down the main aisle, he greets those already seated with a smile and an extended gesture for a handshake or to give a gentle, affectionate touch on the shoulder. Apart from identifying most people by name and a cheery monosyllable of greeting, he is a man of few words because of his inability to communicate at any length with his limited vocabulary.



I am usually sitting up front near the piano, ready to play my clarinet next to my daughter and her husband with their violins. Paul gives a friendly smile and a wave from where he is sitting in the front row. If his caregiver is leading in the singing, Paul will join her at the microphone, and sing most of the notes in tune.

When the service is over, he is still making friendly gestures as he leaves—a handshake, a touch on the shoulder and even a hug for someone special to him for the day. And sometimes he waits while I put my clarinet back in its case and he then asks me for my car keys so he can carry it safely to the car for me.

At our combined lunch when the table is set and everyone is gathered round, Paul's special honour is to tap the table with the handle of a knife to alert everyone's attention for grace. During lunch, Paul will move round the various groups, sometimes displaying his Sabbath tie, or belt buckle, or admiring someone's shoes.

Paul is now in his early 40s and apparently suffered an injury when a child. Until 10 years ago, he was in the care of an institution, without any special family relationships or motivational encouragement. A couple whose own family has grown up and left home has taken the responsibility of caring for him and of including him in their family and sharing him with their wider Christian family. They are to be admired for the love and care they give him.

When Paul walks into church expressing uninhibited signs of friendship, it helps me to see a reflection of God. In his unobtrusive manner, Paul alerts me to some of the unnecessary sophistication of our culture that we carry around with us. It can become a burden, heavy and tiring to carry.


There are facets of Paul's character and behaviour that remind me of Jesus. His indiscriminate friendship and openness with those he knows will not betray a confidence of trust. His open, friendly smile and cheerful countenance brings a warmth into our fellowship. Paul may have the mind of a child, but didn't Jesus say that only those who become like little children will enter heaven? **R**

*TAF is Tikipunga Adventist Fellowship.

Malcolm Ford writes from Whangerei, New Zealand.

Record Roo's

Kids corner



Hi Kids,
King Asa reigned for over forty years. When he died his son ruled Judah. Read about Asa's death in 2 Chronicles 16:12-14

RR


Fill in the Blanks

So _____ rested with his _____ ; he died in the _____ year of his _____ .

2 Chronicles 16:13 NKJV

Unscramble

After King Asa died his son reigned Judah in his place. Can you unscramble the letters below to discover the new king's name?



E T H A O S J P H H

Write the name below. If you need help, look up 2 Chronicles 17:1

Colour In the picture of the king.

Less introspection

ROBERT WOLFGRAMM, FIJI

How much more navel-gazing can a faithful Sabbath school member take from this past quarter's Bible-study guides? In all, I've counted 85 per cent of the questions directed to contemplation, sharing and probing of our own spiritual condition as either individuals, groups or a church.

Given that my understanding of the Holy Spirit is of One who directs our thoughts to Christ—who points us toward contemplation and awe of the Second Person of the Triune Godhead—it is ironic (is it not?) that we spent most of the quarter contemplating the Christ *in us* and *our* own spiritual condition.

Is this what Christ meant when He said that the Holy Spirit would “testify of *Me*”—that we would acknowledge the presence, work and efficacy of the Holy Spirit when we focus on our own Christian experiences and obsess with looking for the Jesus in us?

I doubt it. But our lessons have thrown us into our spiritual bellybuttons week after week. Enough of religious introspection, please!

Our study guide's recommended methodology for spiritual enrichment has much in common with Buddhism, Catholic mysticism and New Age subjectivism. Apart from the questionable theological grounding of this approach to the subject, the effect of overwrought navel-gazing cannot be healthy for anyone's mental condition.

More Spirit

SUSAN JOHNSTONE, QLD

There may be others out there like me, who have been faithfully studying the Sabbath school Bible-study guide on the Holy Spirit, yet now having come to the end of the quarter, are still hungering for more.

I urge you to hunt down the now-out-of-print devotional *Welcome, Holy Spirit* by Garrie F Williams (Signs Publishing Company, 1994). This excellent book explores the biblical references on the Holy Spirit from Genesis to Revelation. Further, it moves past a theoretical discussion of the power of God

and shows—using historical sketches and modern-day examples—how our lives can be transformed mightily in a revival akin to that of the early Christian church.

Include us

DANNY BELL, WA

The biggest challenge the church will face with any plans for restructuring (“General Conference commission begins deliberations on church structures,” News, May

Our lessons have thrown us into our spiritual bellybuttons week after week.

27) will be the level of non-employee involvement and consultation. The first time I heard about the commission was in this RECORD report. Nobody came to our church asking for our involvement and I gather it was the same for most churches.

Many church members I know are dissatisfied with the current representation. From conference sessions right up the ladder, member representation gets watered down until it consists of a few high-profile Adventists or some ordinary members with little understanding of why or what they are there for.

This gives opportunity for a majority on these committees who are church employees to influence and fast-track their ideas and agendas. If the level of member involvement doesn't allow for the right balance on some of these committees, then add more local church people, thus increasing their representation respectively.

Editor's note: Here's an opportunity for information and input. Materials from the General Conference Commission on Ministries, Services and Structures are available at <www.adventist.org>. You can access a special Commission page at <www.adventist.org/commission/>.

Salvation now!

RUSS PRINGLE, VIC

It amazes me that so many adults attend church week by week and do not know if they are saved or how they were saved.

Paul assured, “By grace you have been

saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God” (Ephesians 2:8, RSV).

Jesus said it best: “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears my word and believes him who sent me, has eternal life; he does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life” (John 5:24, RSV).

Three weeks before my father's death, I asked him if he was saved. In a pathetic tone, he answered, “I don't know.”

I asked if he believed in Jesus and he said he did. So I gently went through the

wonderful truths of salvation with him, and when I asked him again sometime later, he said yes, he was sure Jesus was good enough to save him.

Luke 10:20 is one of the best things Jesus ever said that assures our names are in the book of life. Have a look!

We do not work so we can be saved. We work because we are saved. We love Him because He first loved us.

Lessons learned

SERGE FELIX, NSW

I have noticed a very serious decrease in the number of church members attending Sabbath school and studying the Bible-study guide.

This lack of study guides means less Bible study, less spiritual strength and more spiritual sickness and death—more trouble in the church!

Conference presidents and pastors must take their responsibility more seriously concerning the spiritual health of their flocks. There is no more effective way of doing this than by ensuring that every church member feeds daily on spiritual food through regular Bible study with the help of the Bible-study guide.

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 masthead (page 2) for contact details.

Positions vacant

▲ **Vice-Chancellor—Pacific Adventist University (Papua New Guinea).** The South Pacific Division is inviting expressions of interest for the position of Vice-Chancellor at Pacific Adventist University commencing in 2007. For further information visit the Employment section at the SPD Members website <spd.adventist.org.au>.

▲ **Finance Accountant—Education—North New South Wales Conference (Newcastle, NSW)** is seeking a qualified and experienced Accountant to join the Seventh-day Adventist Schools (NNSW) Ltd team. To be successful in this role you will be team oriented, committed through practice to the mission of the church and have the ability to think outside the square and use your initiative—CA or CPA highly regarded. **Applications in writing** should be forwarded to Greg Fowler, Assistant CFO, <gfowler@adventist.org.au>, no later than **July 28, 2006**.

▲ **Education Accountant—Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd (Brisbane, Qld)** is seeking a senior full-time Accountant for the Education system covering seven schools. **Essential criteria:** Be a practising member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church; have sound accounting principles; computer skills including the use of accounting ledger packages, Microsoft Excel and Lotus Notes or similar programs; current experience in the production of management financial reports as well as Statutory Financial Statements; a Business/Commerce or similar tertiary degree. **Applications in writing** (including detailed résumé and references) should be forwarded to Chief Financial Officer, SDA Schools (South Qld) Ltd, 19 Eagle Terrace, Brisbane Qld 4000, no later than **July 14, 2006**.

For church-related employment opportunities visit the Employment section at the SPD Members website <spd.adventist.org.au>.

Appreciation

Allen. Colin and Merian Richardson, Edwin and Val Ferris, and Abel and Gwen deVries, and our families, would like to say a big thank you to all our friends and loved ones who supported us, prayed for us, and encouraged us during Myrtle's last illness, the funeral, and the time of sorrow we have all been through. Your love, comfort, friendship, support, cards, flowers and phone calls have been so appreciated. Please accept this as our personal thanks for all your kindness.

Lesley (Haxton, Colorado, USA), Raelene (Wauchope, NSW), Cheryl, Craig, Carolyn and Jason (all of Kempsey); her 23 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. She will always be remembered for her strong faith during the last five years of her life; a faith that helped her cope, and astounded hospital staff, when she was quite often hospitalised with a debilitating illness. She died with the sure hope of the Resurrection.

George Umlin

Darren Garlett, Bob Donaldson

Brown-sarre, Renate, born 14.10.1938 in Germany; died 17.5.06 in St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne, Vic. She is survived by her husband, Viv; and her children, Monica (Vic), Rolf (Vic), Brigitte (NSW), Ronny (Vic), Geoffrey (Vic) and Debbie (Vic).

Harold Waldrip

Cottam, James Bryan, born 30.12.1934 at Blackburn, England; died 22.4.06 in Caboolture Hospital, Qld, after a short illness. On 8.8.02 Bryan married Dorothy and was a regular attendee of the Bribie Island SDA church.

Barry Allison

Dunstan, Adelaide, born 12.10.1919 in Brisbane, Qld; died 22.5.06 in Yeppoon Nursing Home, Yeppoon. She was predeceased by her husband, Walter, in January 2006 and was laid to rest beside him in Yeppoon Cemetery in the certain hope of meeting her Lord at the Resurrection. She is sadly missed by her daughter, Greer; her son and daughter-in-law, Sydney and Nola; her grandchildren, Nadine and Amy; as well as her church family

Alvin Colheart

Guthrie, Nora Ellen (nee Pratt), born 31.8.1915 at Hawera, NZ; died 17.5.06 at Bethesda Rest Home, Auckland. She was predeceased by her husband, Malcolm; also her daughter, Jan. She is survived by her daughters, Robyn and Nettie. Nora trained as a teacher at Avondale College and was sent to New Zealand to open a new school at Royal Oak, Auckland. She was the epitome of solidarity and security, mixed with a large

Weddings

Clark—Jennings. Lyndon Maurice Clark, son of Maurice (USA) and Helen (Lucy) Clark (Armadale, WA), and Melanie Kristine Jennings, daughter of Dennis and Astrid Jennings (Perth), were married on 30.10.05 at Wanneroo Botanical Golf Gardens, Wanneroo.

Jim Tonkin

Donaldson—Neirinckx. Kendall Donaldson, son of Pastor Bob and Elaine Donaldson (Port Macquarie, NSW), and Fiona Neirinckx, daughter of Paul and Pam Cammareri (Mirrabooka), were married on 28.5.06 in a delightful garden setting at "The Treehouse," Brunkerville.

Wayne Krause, Bob Donaldson

Peet—Thompson. Ashley Peet, son of Cyril and Carole Peet (Murwillumbah, NSW), and Jodie Thompson, daughter of David and Jedelle Thompson (Gold Coast, Qld), were married on 22.12.05 at Wamberal Beach, Central Coast, NSW.

David Erickson

Obituaries

Atkinson, Mamie May (nee Moseley), born 14.6.1942 at Kempsey, NSW; died 18.12.05 in Port Macquarie Hospital. She is survived by her children, Richard (Port Macquarie),

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portion of school mistress, motherly love, hospitality and unabashed humour.

Ritchie Way

Hammond, Keith (Scott), born 9.8.1927 at West Wyong, NSW; died 13.11.05 in Hervey Bay Hospital, Hervey Bay. On 24.2.51 he married Valerie Drayton. He is survived by his wife; and his two daughters, Beverley (Minto) and Lynette (Hervey Bay).

Ernst William

Knight, Gayl Lesley, born 8.3.1961 at Kurri Kurri, NSW; died 15.5.06 in Sydney. She courageously battled terminal illness for several months, supported by her children, her sisters, her brothers and their spouses. She is survived by her children, Jessica, Alex and Courtney; her mother, Haldene Readford (Freemans Waterhole); her siblings, Richard, Denise, Paul and Leonie; and their spouses.

Alex Currie
Martin Vukmanic, Wayne Krause

Shelton, Ronald John, born 4.9.1936 at Charlton, Vic; died 24.5.06 in Maroonah Hospital, Ringwood. On 14.4.59 he married Maree Coldrey. He is survived by his wife (Warburton); his daughter, Merryn (Townsville, Qld); and his son, Linden (Yallourn North, Vic). Ron was respected by many in both the community and the church. He was known for his "healing hands." Served for many years as a maintenance engineer at the Warburton Hospital; built the first Pathfinder boat at Mildura; and spent a number of years restoring boats on the Murray River.

Eric Kingdon

Staples, Margaret Helen, born 31.3.1922 at Upper Hutt, NZ; died 3.06.06 in the Hawkes Bay Hospital. In 1942 she married Fred, who predeceased her in 1997. She is survived by her

children, Karen, Linda, Christine and Stephen; and her seven grandchildren. Margaret loved to speak about Jesus and all that He had done for her. Her faith was always strong and she passed away peacefully looking forward to the great Resurrection. She will be sadly missed.

Frank Boniface

Turner, Joy Elizabeth (nee Peacock), born 11.9.1918 in Sydney, NSW; died 8.5.06 in Moruya Hospital. She married Lionel and they lived for many years at Avondale College, where Lionel was a lecturer and then a teacher at Sydney Adventist College. Their retirement years were spent at Moruya. Lionel predeceased Joy in December 1993. Joy is survived by her sons, Tony and Terry; their wives, Margaret and Yvonne; her grandchildren, Craig and Melissa; and her great-grandchildren. She was devoted to her family; a loving sister to Enid Martin (deceased) and Peg Butler, and a friend to many. She will be remembered and sadly missed.

Robert and Joy Butler

Whyatt, Una Beatrice (nee Pratt), born 12.11.1924 at Prospect, SA; died 1.3.06 at Victoria Point, Qld. On 30.12.48 she married Ronald, who predeceased her in 2002. She is survived by her children and their spouses, Peter (Victoria Point), Helen and Murray Versluis (Redbank), Trevor and Angela (Port Arthur, Tas), and Anthony (Tony) and Suzanne (Crestmead, Qld); her eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. Una devoted her life to helping others. She cared for her intellectually disabled son for 50 years, as well as serving on committees for disabled children, doing Meals on Wheels, hospital transport, Senior Citizens, CWA, garden parties in her garden for the old and lonely, and much more. She won a senior's award for services to the elderly. In her

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last years she was wonderfully cared for by the staff at ARV, Victoria Point.

Mike Collum

Wilkinson, Enid Lucy (nee Hare), born 17.7.1905 at Stawell, Vic; died 25.5.06 at Hamilton, NZ. On 5.4.28 she married Leonard, who predeceased her on 10.8.97. She is survived by her children, Val Henderson (Hamilton), Ray (Fulton College, Fiji), Berry Fraser (Hamilton, NZ) and Vern (Cherrybrook, NSW). Enid was the youngest daughter of Pastor Robert and Henrietta Hare. She served as a teacher in Fiji, 1930-44; Longburn College, 1945-50 and was an encouragement to many. She was also treasurer for 27 years at Hastings SDA church.

Les Worsley

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