

RECORD

February 3, 2007

In this issue

Women in ministry
good for church

Soy still so good,
says Sanitarium

Christians and
creativity



Rose-lee Power, curator of the Adventist Heritage Centre, with Senator Rod Kemp in Canberra on November 8, 2006.

Adventist Heritage Centre "significant"

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

The Adventist Heritage Centre at Avondale College is one of only two Hunter-based groups to receive a Federal government grant to help preserve its collections.

Australian government Minister for the Arts and Sport, Rod Kemp, announced the \$A6490 grant at the National Library of Australia in Canberra on November 8, 2006. The grant will fund a significance assessment and preservation survey.

"We're using the money to independently assess our collections to establish our national significance and prioritise our preservation activities," says curator

Rose-lee Power.

The centre, which opened in 1977 and is based on the college's Lake Macquarie campus, houses more than 2000 document boxes, each consisting of Seventh-day Adventist Church records, diaries, notes, personal letters, publications and other miscellaneous items, and more than 3000 audio recordings and books.

Its collections are growing at 35 linear metres a year, providing fertile research for anyone interested in the work and lives of past Seventh-day Adventists in the South Pacific.

(Continued on page 4)



AUC calls for prayer for drought



My attitude has somewhat changed toward RECORD.

RECORD is . . .

RECORD IS AN OPPORTUNITY AND experience I will cherish for the rest of my life. It used to be: “The only reason you should ever pick up a copy of RECORD is to read the cartoon.” That was my opinion three years ago, before I started my involvement in its weekly creation. Fortunately for me, my attitude has somewhat changed toward RECORD. I have now come to realise what a blessing RECORD is.

In my time as an editorial assistant, I have gained many insights into not only RECORD but also our church and its members. So, on the off-chance that not every reader of RECORD will get the opportunity to work on the editorial team, I thought I should share some of the insights I’ve gained.

The more trivial things I’ve learned include the knowledge that each RECORD is edited about three weeks before you receive it, printed two weeks before and mailed around the South Pacific 10 days before.

I also now know the printing press plays the tune “Incy-wincy spider” when a plate needs changing. Trivial, yes, but factual.

I’ve discovered it’s difficult to fly a paper plane from my office over the road to the Warburton church and that Nathan Brown, editor of RECORD, is really tall.

Some of the less trivial insights are both good and bad.

Experiencing the correspondence that comes in from church members can be a real high—or low—point of a workday. It’s jaw-

dropping how nicely—or not—Adventist members choose to communicate.

And there’s the letters to the editor. All I can say is be thankful they are sent via the editor and not published as is. While many are encouraging and helpful, many also call into question how the sender can claim to be Christian at all!

Something sadder I’ve learned is the many churches out there that seem to be sitting idle—possibly waiting for their membership to move away or “rest in peace” so they will no longer have to change the sunset times on the wall each week.

However, there are also those churches that send so many stories of the innovative and enthusiastic ministries they are involved in that we have to be careful the RECORD doesn’t become their local bulletin. Some churches are really focused on the mission of the church, to “know, experience and share our hope in Jesus Christ!”

Many of the really “happening” churches are big churches, possibly because they have the personnel, resources—and that “happening” churches tend to grow.

Through all my work at RECORD, one of my most heartfelt inspiration moments came from a story sent from the Taihape, NZ, church, which had shrunk down to only four members (see RECORD July 23, 2005). Most of their members had moved to larger communities to find work and the initiative of advertising the Sabbath school lesson topics in their local newspaper was a desperate attempt to remain open.

It wasn’t just the fighting spirit of this church and the brilliant but simple idea they were trialling that impressed me most. It was how the letter was signed: “Garth Jensen—Elder etc etc etc.”

With so few members, you couldn’t settle for just one or two church roles—everything was split between just four people. There is no hiding in a congregation that small—no possibility of refusing a call from their nominating committee.

But it doesn’t matter if a church has two or 2000 members, RECORD is there to share the triumphs and trials of our churches and institutions. [Fade in “We have this hope” as background music, now.] Our mission is to share the gospel with the world and RECORD is a way to help unite and motivate us, to help share strategies, plans and successes and to keep focused on the bigger picture.

As a lead-up to next week’s offering for this very publication, this edition presents what RECORD is to various RECORD readers.

In my time here, I have come to appreciate: RECORD is worth reading; RECORD is worth sending your news stories to; and RECORD is worth a generous offering next week.

Scott Wegener

Scott Wegener is transferring to work with the web ministry of Adventist Media Network in Wahroonga, NSW.



Official Paper of the South Pacific Division Seventh-day Adventist Church
ABN 59 093 117 689
www.adventist.org.au

Vol 112 No 3
Cover: Ann Stafford

Editor Nathan Brown
Associate editor David Edgren
Editorial assistant Adele Nash
Editorial assistant Scott Wegener
Copyeditor Graeme Brown
Editorial secretary Meryl McDonald-Gough
Layout Nathan Chee
Senior consulting editor Barry Oliver

www.record.net.au

Mail: Signs Publishing Company
3485 Warburton Highway
Warburton, Vic 3799, Australia
Phone: (03) 5965 6300 Fax: (03) 5966 9019
Email Letters: editor@signspublishing.com.au
Email Newsfront: record@signspublishing.com.au
Email Noticeboard: editorsec@signspublishing.com.au
Subscriptions: South Pacific Division mailed within Australia and to New Zealand, \$A43.80 \$NZ73.00. Other prices on application. Printed weekly.

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

AUC calls for prayer for Australia

RINGWOOD, VICTORIA

In light of the continuing drought and water crisis in many parts of Australia, the Australian Union Conference (AUC) has called for church members to pray for this situation as part of worship services on February 17.

"Australia is experiencing drought conditions unparalleled since records have been kept in many areas of the country," says AUC president Pastor Chester Stanley. "The statistics, figures and broken records keep coming.

"I have had a number of church members correspond with me from around Australia suggesting it would be very appropriate for us as a church to take time for earnest prayer in relation to the extremely serious situation we have here in Australia in relation to these issues," he explains. "The AUC executive committee at our year-end meetings enthusiastically endorsed this idea and consequently decided to invite our churches to unite in a special season of prayer."

According to Pastor Stanley, the impact varies across the country but particularly in the rural areas in southern Australia. "We have many church members who have been impacted by the drought," he

reports. "Certainly, conference presidents talk about the drought impacting upon tithe, and the picture I get is that some of our members are doing it extremely tough."

The focus for prayer on this day will obviously include prayer for rain, but also for those people who have been impacted by the drought and also praying for more responsible use of Australia's natural resources.

The AUC is asking church members in more than 400 churches across Australia to pray at the same time on February 17, suggesting 11.30 am in New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania, 11 am in South Australia, 10.30 am in Queensland, 10 am in the Northern Territory, and 9.30 am in Western Australia. "There's something I like about the corporate church, down on its knees across Australia, earnestly seeking the Lord," says Pastor Stanley.

And he is also extending the invitation to prayer for Australia to others in the South Pacific Division (SPD). "At our SPD executive committee meet-



Pastor Chester Stanley.

ings late last year, others from across the Pacific expressed their desire to join us in this," reports Pastor Stanley. "It's nice that the rest of the division can pray with and for us."

Pastor Stanley believes this event can be used to connect with the church's local community. "If I were a [church] pastor, I would probably advertise in the local newspaper, in-

iting the community to come and join us in prayer," he suggests. "I'd challenge my church members to invite their friends and I would focus the worship service on prayer.

"This is a crisis and I think as a church we need to be on our knees," says Pastor Stanley. "But I think also it is a great opportunity to declare to our communities around Australia that we are Christians and that we are a praying people. We should not be seen as a group of people who lock ourselves away but that we are people who care for our communities—that we're Australians who do have a love for our country."—**Nathan Brown**

◆ Seventh-day Adventists worldwide gave more than **\$US500,000** for special mission projects as part of the **2006 third quarter 13th Sabbath Offering**. The 13th Sabbath Offering is set aside specially for mission, with 25 per cent going to special projects in one of the global divisions of the Adventist Church—in this case, the **South Pacific Division (SPD)**. The remaining 75 per cent supports the worldwide mission of the church. The funds the SPD receives will be divided between two projects: a **new plane** for aviation outreach in PNG and

a **new church building** for students at South Pacific University in Fiji.—**Adventist Mission**

◆ The commencement of the 2006–07 **Ashes cricket series** was celebrated by hosting a **Weet-Bix fan day** at the Gabba in Brisbane in September. More



than 200 young Aussies got the chance to play on the ground of the first test and meet **Brett Lee, Michael Hussey, Shane Watson** and **Michael Kasprowicz** (pictured). The iconic "Aussie kids are Weet-Bix kids" jingle was also brought back to television commercials during the series after a

15-year break.—**Sanco News**

◆ At their triennial session/general meeting in November, the **Israelite Heritage Institute of Australia**, a supporting ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church that identifies with the biblical roots of the Jewish heritage, elected an executive committee for the triennium 2006–08. **Roger Dawkins** was elected chairman. The institute is an outreach ministry that includes music and correspondence courses.

More @ www4.tpgi.com.au/ihia

Mountain View Adventist College celebrates baptisms

DOONSID, NEW SOUTH WALES

On December 9, 2006, Mountain View Adventist College (MVAC) held their first baptism on college premises. Two Year 8 students, Renell Govender and Dinah Phineasa, and secondary teacher David Fisher all shared their testimonies, speaking about what had helped them decide to live for Christ and be baptised.

It was a moving day as family, friends and MVAC staff who gathered had watched the candidates' passion and love for Christ grow over the years. Pastor Roger Govender conducted the baptism and expressed his thanks to the college for the influence they have had in the life of his youngest daughter Renell, evidenced by her decision to be baptised.

"It is great to see that through our service as a provider of education—we can lead people to Jesus," says MVAC principal Jennifer Gibbons.

"Through the college chapels, weeks of spiritual emphasis, Bible studies with several pastors and mentoring from chaplain Sharyn Harrington, this baptism is the first of many to be held at the college—with



From left to right: Principal Jennifer Gibbons, Johnny Murison, David Fisher and daughter, Sharyn Harrington, Renell Govender, Pastor Roger Govender and Dinah Phineasa.

another baptism planned at the beginning of 2007."

On December 10, the school held its first-ever Carols by Candlelight, with staff, students, families, friends and community members coming together to celebrate the joy of Christmas through song.

The night featured special performances and a special guest appearance from Santa Claus and his helper had both children and parents in laughter as they rode into the venue in a motorbike.—**Fiona Lelilio**

More @ <http://www.mvac.nsw.edu.au/>

Adventist Heritage Centre "significant"

(Continued from page 1)

The Australian government distributed more than \$A390,000 to 80 groups around the country to help in the identification and preservation of community owned but nationally significant heritage collections. In announcing the funding, Senator Kemp said the collections "chronicle our lives—past and present."

The Adventist Heritage Centre is always on the lookout for new items to add to the collection, and Ms Power encourages people to think of taking an active role in the preservation of Adventist heritage.—**Brenton Stacey/RECORD staff**

If you have information or items that may be part of the Adventist Heritage Centre, email <heritage@avondale.edu.au>.

RECORD is...



"RECORD is such a good means of keeping us in touch with all the exciting things happening in our church."—**Margaret Martin, Albany, Western Australia**



◆ On December 16, eight parents brought four children to three pastors to be dedicated to Jesus at Geelong, Vic, church. The service was organised by **Mick and Janelle Imrie** (family pictured, left), parents of **Samuel**, who was dedicated by Tasmanian youth director **Pastor Tharren**

pastor **Quinten LieBrandt** dedicated **Joshua**, son of **Trevor and Rachael Gale** (second from left), as well as **Jake**, son of **James and Karen McKenzie** (right).—**RECORD staff**

◆ In November, Polish Adventists in Melbourne organised a

musical evangelistic outreach concert for their neighbours and friends. During this concert, a total of \$A3102 was raised to help an assistant professor at the Catholic University of Lublin, Poland, who is **chronically ill** with intestinal disease and needs a transplant.—**Paul Ustupski**

More @ www.PomocDlawnki.webpark.pl

◆ Three members of the Adventist Health Association of WA, **Professor Warren Grubb**, **Kaye Grubb** and **Beryl Carpenter**, spent four days at the **Karalundi**



Aboriginal Education Centre, WA, to teach the students health principles during their Health Week. Each taught **five classes a day**, ranging from lower primary through to the high school students. During this visit they concentrated on **diabetes prevention** and prevention of the spread of germs.—**Beryl Carpenter**

DAYS AND OFFERINGS: ◆ FEBRUARY 10—SOUTH PACIFIC RECORD OFFERING

Sanitarium says soy's still so good

BERKELEY VALE, NEW SOUTH WALES

Sanitarium has moved to reassure Australians that soy foods, as part of a balanced diet, offer significant health benefits, following recent media stories suggesting that consuming soy can have a negative effect on the health of people with cancer.

The Cancer Council of New South Wales issued revised guidelines for cancer patients on soy foods and supplements, which led to Sydney's *Sunday Telegraph*'s front-page headline story, "Soy Cancer Warning."

According to the Cancer Council, their purpose was to give "hormone dependent" breast and prostate cancer patients a caution on taking soy supplements.

Julie Praestiin, Sanitarium's corporate communications manager, says, "Our discussions with the Cancer Council aimed to ensure they proactively shifted media reports and interviews to emphasise their cautionary advice on soy supplements and support the consumption of soy foods as part of a healthy, balanced diet."

"Sanitarium is very concerned that recent media stories have suggested that consuming soy foods can have a negative effect on the health of people with cancer."

Dietitian and manager of Sanitarium

Nutrition Service, Cathy McDonald, said that for the past 20 years, Sanitarium's highly qualified team of nutritionists has reviewed data and research from the world's recognised experts in soy and soy health benefits.

"There are now more than 3000 scientific research papers on soy and it is our opinion there is no evidence that demonstrates any negative health effects in humans from consuming soy foods as part of a balanced diet," said Ms McDonald.

"Our conclusion, along with the world's leading health authorities including the US Food and Drug Authority, is that soy foods offer many important health benefits to both adults and children."

Ms McDonald said soy is an extremely high-quality protein that has no cholesterol or animal fat, is low in saturated fat and high in fibre. Soy is one of nature's superfoods rich in important nutrients that helps to protect against disease and promotes health.

"There is evidence that soy can reduce the risk of heart disease and stroke, helps prevent osteoporosis and may help protect against certain cancers like breast, prostate and bowel cancer. It also helps alleviate hot flushes during menopause," she said.

Ms McDonald said experts agree that one to four servings of soy food each day,



Sanitarium has moved to reassure consumers that soy is still a safe, healthy part of a balanced diet.

such as soymilk on your cereal and tofu in your evening meal, is safe and will provide long-term health benefits.

"We believe it is safe and beneficial to enjoy soy foods as part of a healthy diet based on a wide variety of plant foods," says Ms McDonald.

Sanitarium placed advertisements about the safety of soy featuring CEO Kevin Jackson in the Sydney *Daily Telegraph* following the story and were expected to reach a national audience.—**Crossman Media/Julie Praestiin/RECORD staff**

More @ www.sanitarium.com.au or call 1800 673 392 in Australia

◆ Literature evangelist **Reuben Patuku**, area manager for Islands PNG, and his wife, **Grace**, visited **FM Morobe**, Lae, PNG, last year, which was running a quiz program for the local schools. The announcer asked them to sponsor the program and provide the **prizes for the quiz** in exchange for advertising their products. They agreed to give it a try and found **many inquiries and orders** were received as a result.—**ANZLE Pacific**

◆ Seventh-day Adventist Church leaders at its Inter-American Divi-

sion (IAD) have asked church leaders and members across the world to pray for fellow Adventists on the Caribbean island of **Montserrat**, as **volcanic activity** threatens to affect yet again what's left of the Adventist community. The government has issued warnings of a possible evacuation. "We ask **for your prayers** on behalf of our people on Montserrat," said **Pastor Israel Leito**, president of the IAD. "The infrastructure of the church there has suffered tremendously before and they need your prayers." A large eruption in 1997 of the Soufrière Hills

volcano **destroyed six of seven Adventist churches**, two schools, and several properties and took the lives of two church members. That destruction left two-thirds of the island uninhabitable, including the capital city, the island's airport and crop areas. Before the 1997 eruption, the church membership in the island was more than 12,000 but most relocated to Antigua and other neighbouring islands and now **only 500 church members** are worshipping in the one remaining church on the island.—**Libna Stevens/IAD/ANN Staff**

RECORD is . . .

"RECORD is informative, entertaining, an insight into the church in the South

Pacific and is fantastic because it prints my articles!"—**Melody Tun, Wahroonga, New South Wales**



Lae church hosts "record-breaking" mass wedding

LAKE, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The New Rock church in Lae, Papua New Guinea, broke the record for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in that city on November 19, 2006, when they hosted a mass wedding where 11 couples legalised their marriages.

"Some of you have a very long journey ahead of you while others have only a quarter of your journey left," said marriage celebrant Pastor Levi Namaloi.

The 11 couples had been married for many years and have children but had never legalised their marriages. The ceremony enabled them to register and receive marriage certificates.

"You are here to reaffirm your marriages. The sacredness of marriage is the foundation of all good things in our society," said Pastor Namaloi.

"Unfortunately, marriage is deteriorating because we are not maintaining the boundaries that define marriage. Children are crying on our streets because there is no one to look after them," he added.

Using the Old Testament story of Isaiah when he told King Hezekiah to set his house in order before he died, Pastor



Isaac Watts Dau and his wife, Lorna, were among the 11 couples who were legally married at New Rock church.

Namaloi challenged the Seventh-day Adventist leadership to reaffirm its stand on marriage.

"The church has to set its house in order before it can reach out to the community," Pastor Namaloi said.

One of the couples at the New Rock mass wedding came all the way from Wau because they had missed the mass wedding that was conducted in Wau some weeks prior to the November 19 weddings, when about 50 couples legalised their marriages.

—*Matupit Darius*

Extensions to ease the squeeze

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

The Avondale College council has approved, in principle, extensions to Andre and Watson Halls to meet the urgent need for accommodation on the Lake Macquarie campus.

The 45-bed extension to Andre will run parallel to the existing east-west wing and include a lounge with kitchenette on each of three levels. Each bedroom will share an ensuite with another. The extension to the south of Watson will also have a bathroom shared between each two bedrooms. A covered walkway over a drive-through road and unloading bays will connect the extension to the current building. The new 75-bed residential complex on Central Road, the focus of the college's Annual Appeal this year, is still in planning, but is being delayed by heritage and rezoning issues.

The college is currently drafting plans to submit to the Lake Macquarie City Council. It hopes to commence the extension to Andre during 2007.

The extension to Watson will follow. The concept of adding extensions to the residences came originally from a student, who suggested the idea to the college administrators at a "town hall" meeting earlier in the year.—*Brenton Stacey*

◆ Of the 177 US Roman Catholic dioceses participating in a survey of financial controls, 85 per cent have **detected internal thefts** during the past five years. Though researchers did not put a dollar amount on the money taken, 11 per cent of survey respondents reported **embezzlements of more than \$US500,000** during the past five years, 29 per cent reported thefts of less than \$US50,000 and more than 90 per cent of the dioceses that detected theft had reported the crime to the police.—*Daniel Burke*

◆ Australia's **religious communities have united** to call for urgent action on **climate change** at a time when the country is facing its worst drought on record. Their individual statements, drawn together by the Climate Institute Australia, were published in December in a document entitled "Common belief: Australia's faith communities on climate change." The call for action spans religious differences, and includes Roman Catholic, Protestant, Orthodox and Evangelical traditions. **Judaism, Islam and**

Aboriginal spirituality are also represented. The idea for the document began with the privately funded Climate Institute recognising a need to broaden the range of voices **pressuring the Australian government** on global warming. For many of the churches represented, the statement was an opportunity to re-examine the relationship between human beings and the earth. The Anglican Bishop of Canberra, the **Reverend George Browning**, wrote: "Wilfully causing environmental degradation is a sin."—*ENI*

RECORD is . . .

"RECORD is like reading a letter from a family member. You are entertained by their anecdotes, joy at their successes, and weep at their sorrows. You are challenged by their devotion and inspired to greater heights by their insights into the heart of God."—*Michelle Chadwick, Nunawading, Victoria*



IS YOUR CHURCH DOING SOMETHING EXCITING, INNOVATIVE OR INSPIRING? EMAIL RECORD@SIGNSPUBLISHING.COM.AU

Women in ministry good for church

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

As the involvement of women in recognised ministry roles within the Adventist Church continues to grow, church leaders are enthusiastic that this trend is good for the ministry and witness of the church.

A recent report from the North American Division found the number of women serving as pastors in local churches doubled between 2000 and 2005 but that numbers of women in ministry remain relatively low there when compared with the Adventist Church in places such as Finland, Italy and China.

Figures from Australia and New Zealand point to similar increases, with three women pastors now “commissioned” by their respective conferences and more serving in professional ministry roles, including those working as chaplains and departmental directors.

According to Agnes Kola, director of women’s ministries in the Papua New Guinea Union Mission (PNGUM), greater numbers of women are also becoming involved in ministry in PNGUM. “We have a lot of women now who have graduated from Sonoma College and Pacific Adventist University who are serving as full-time ministers,” she reports.

As Mrs Kola suggests, this trend has its

foundation in ministerial training. Dr Ray Roennfeldt, dean of the Faculty of Theology at Avondale College, reports that about a quarter of students currently studying theology at Avondale are women. “That number has grown steadily over the past few years,” he says. “With the introduction of the graduate diploma course, we are seeing more professional women studying for ministry.”

According to Dr Roennfeldt, the Faculty of Theology supports these students with events focusing on the unique opportunities and challenges for women in ministry. But he also suggests the influence of greater numbers of women in theology classrooms will affect the wider church.

“It is good for our classes to have this mixed perspective,” says Dr Roennfeldt. “Women minister in a slightly different way, often in a more interpersonal fashion, and many women doing the course are already spiritual leaders in their class groups. This is having an impact on the class members and this will have an ongoing impact on church ministry, making pastoral ministry more caring and people-focused.”

The recognised ministry and leadership of women is also growing in the local church context with increasing numbers of women elders. The decision to appoint and ordain women elders was voted at the South Pacific Division session in 1985, following a

similar action voted by the Annual Council of the General Conference in 1984.

Since that time, the number of women elders serving in local churches has grown steadily. For example, approximately 22 per cent of elders in churches in the Greater Sydney Conference (GSC) are women. But, according to Pastor Garth Bainbridge, Ministerial Association secretary for the GSC, in some churches more than half of the elders are women.

Pastor Bainbridge is enthusiastic about this development. “By their nature, women are able to see things on a different level,” he says. “They tend to interact on a deeper level. And women relating to women is not only healthier; it is also more effective.

“As spiritual mentors in the church, women bring insights men often miss and I value the wisdom women bring when elders meet together. Involving women in leadership in this way also honours the concept of the church being a body with every member playing a part in support of the body and every member being valued.”

Pastor Bainbridge also sees the growing involvement of women influencing the wider church. “Hopefully this happening in local churches permeates the whole thinking of the church about leadership because it has been demonstrated as such a worthwhile part of church leadership and ministry,” he says.—**Nathan Brown/ANN**

GC president and women make time to talk

SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND, USA

While much of the conversation between General Conference (GC) president Pastor Jan Paulsen and women in the church focused on abuse, poverty and health, the lack of women leaders in the church took centre stage.

For the December 14, 2006, program “A Time to Talk,” shown live on the Hope Channel, Adventist women gathered in three studios—at the GC headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland, USA, in Cape Town, South Africa, and in London, England—to share their concerns with Pastor

Paulsen and the Adventist world.

When the question of women’s ordination came up, Pastor Paulsen explained: “When we began discussion of this issue 20 years ago we said, ‘Let’s move together on this issue as a global church.’ . . . Although we may not see a clear biblical [reason] that ordination may not happen, many cultural issues impact this decision on a local level.”

One South African woman asked Pastor Paulsen what he plans to do to ensure more women leaders in the church. In response, Pastor Paulsen noted the election of three women last year to senior GC positions.

The discussion also focused on how the church can address the issue of abuse of



Pastor Jan Paulsen talked with women in what is hoped to be the first of many discussions.

women. With the issue of working to overcome poverty, Pastor Paulsen said the church needs to be a “ministering community.”

He closed by affirming the value of women, their roles in the church and the important difference they can make in the world.—**Taashi Rowe/ANN**



When do I stop?

BY JOHN GATE

WHEN SHOULD A VIDEO minister stop delivering videos to someone who seems to have no real interest?

That's a good question and many people ask it.

It's easy to prejudge someone's level of interest, especially when you are busy and are tempted to use your time—apparently, more profitably—elsewhere.

As video ministry progresses, the friendship either grows stronger and deeper or it becomes more casual and ultimately falls away. The question is when do you stop delivering videos to friendly people who are showing no signs of responding or who have stated explicitly they will not be changing?

Make every effort to network the video viewers. Have them involved in other media carrying the message and with other believers. Many viewers become good friends, watch everything you deliver but still do not respond to invitations to attend seminars or to follow the appeals extended. Visits like this can go on for years. The question is when should you stop?

Wisdom is needed here. Only the Holy Spirit can guide you in that decision. But the first point to remember is don't give up easily. Don't give up unless the questions have been put. Don't give up unless the invitations have



Gloria and Michael Brown were first contacted by Search TV advertising, supported with video ministry and baptised into the Taree church, NSW.

been extended. Inviting viewers to respond to the video messages by following the three decision questions will help to give direction to the visits. Remember that successful video ministry is dependent on not only the information the videos deliver, but also on the friendship that develops, and it's important the friendship extends the invitations to people to act on what they know. If a visit continues for a long period without any signs of response, perhaps the visits can be spaced out and eventually discontinued.

What would Jesus do? Jesus did not give up easily. He was committed and He was patient in His ministry, and we can praise Him for that. We need to be committed in our follow-up, and wait patiently as we encourage people to respond.

This kind of situation can be a dilemma for many video ministers. It is so important to have a support group where these things can be discussed, prayed about and a wise decision made. Don't give up until you have discussed the options with your support group or leader. **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.

Prayer keys: Praying for Australia

BY JOY BUTLER

FEBRUARY 17 IS THE DAY ADVENTIST churches in Australia are being encouraged to pray for the nation. Join thousands of church members and friends as we pray about the challenging conditions in this land.

Suggestions for prayer include: prayer for rain, prayer for acknowledgement of how our lifestyle has affected climate change, prayer for repentance, prayer for solutions on climate change, prayer for the Holy Spirit, prayer for acknowledgement of how our sin is inhibiting God's kingdom, prayer for solutions to reaping the harvest of people.

In some parts of the country people will be participating in 10 days of prayer and fasting commencing on February 17.

The following suggestions will help the prayer ministry in your church:

- Invite the local community to the 10 days of special prayer;
- Invite local businesses, council and neighbours for prayer requests;
- Open the church at designated times for prayer during the 10 days;
- Open homes, schools and workplaces for special times of prayer;
- Give out prayer lists to every church member;
- Facilitate a prayer walk around your community;
- Fast from food, sweets or junk food;
- Fast from TV, radio, newspaper, internet, videos/DVDs, movies.

Pray and prepare for a clear mind and spend that extra time in reflection, meditation and connection with God. **R**

To be part of the Tuesday Email Prayer Meeting, email <mkontaxis@adventist.org.au>. To purchase a Prayer Pack, email <jbutler@adventist.org.au>. To send a prayer request, visit the SPD website: <www.adventist.org.au>.

Joy Butler is coordinator of prayer ministries for the South Pacific Division.

RECORD is ...

"RECORD is a contact with base. Living outside Australia, it helps us know what's happening at home, and it makes us feel part of it all."—*Daniela Schubert, Pacific Adventist University, Papua New Guinea*



Four robes

BY CLIVE NASH

ROBE 1: IN GENESIS 37:3, THERE IS A familiar story about a special robe—a robe of many colours. “Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his sons, because he was the son of his old age. And he made him a robe of many colours.”* Israel—or Jacob—loved his son Joseph. He was the first-born son of his favoured wife, Rachel, and the son of his old age. Jacob is believed to have been about 91 years old when Joseph was born. As such, he was especially favoured. And Joseph’s pleasant nature was so different to Jacob’s other sons, making him a joy to his ageing father. Thus, the coat.

The Hebrew word describing this coat is *passim*. A robe of many colours or long coat with sleeves, it was a sign of marked favour. The meaning of the word *passim* is uncertain. It occurs only twice in the Old Testament in the context of a garment. The only other place this word occurs is in 2 Samuel 13:18. “Now she [Tamar] was wearing a long robe with sleeves, for thus were the virgin daughters of the king dressed.” The English Standard Version footnote says, “or a robe of many colours.” Whether it was a colourful robe or a long robe really makes little difference. If colourful, it showed that Jacob was giving the place of preference to Joseph, treated as if he were the first-born son. If a long robe, it indicated he was intended to rule and not to engage in hard labour, since the robe was impractical for manual work. Any wonder his half-brothers came to hate him.

The favour of Jacob toward Joseph led his half-brothers to sell him into Egyptian slavery and to bring anguish to the heart of Jacob for many years. In the end, all worked out well. Joseph’s wise management of Egypt’s grain resources led to the salvation of his family. But it all started with a coat of many colours and some dreams, of course.

Robe 2: The second use of this word in 2 Samuel 13:18 is the sad story of David’s eldest son, Amnon, and his misguided “love” for the beautiful sister of Absalom. Amnon

was King David’s son by one of his wives, Ahinoam (see 2 Samuel 3:2). Absalom and Tamar were David’s children by his wife Bathsheba. By deception, Amnon lured Tamar into his bedroom. Perceiving his intentions, she tried to reason with him. Although prohibited by the laws in Leviticus, perhaps she could be his if he went about it the right way and sought the king’s permission to marry her.

However, he would not listen. He overpowered her and raped her. Having obtained what he wanted by force, she then became loathsome in his sight. Tamar, the innocent victim, tore her *passim*, the robe a virgin daughter of the king would wear. Further, she put ashes on her head, symbolising her grief and shame. Later, her brother Absalom took the law into his own hands and had Amnon killed, reminding us of the prophet Nathan’s words to David in 2 Samuel 12:11. One commentary notes, “His lust, deceit and brutality make him a very unpleasant character—the eldest son of David, but obviously not a suitable man to rule Israel” (*New Bible Commentary*).

Thus far, a tale of two coats; two differing outcomes but, in some ways, similar. These two coats were involved with grief. One causing grief and the other showing grief. One revealing unwise motives of a doting father; the other unwise, selfish motives of a foolish half-brother.

Robe 3: In the New Testament, we read of another coat. It was made by loving hands for the Saviour of the world. It was a seamless tunic (see John 19:23, 24), not worthy to be torn. At the Crucifixion, this robe was allotted to one of the Roman soldiers by a game of chance. Just as Joseph had his coat taken from him by his brothers when they sold him, so Jesus was sold by one of His own and His coat was taken from Him. But how different will be His second advent when He is clothed in bright-



ness with the splendour of the Father and escorted by the angels.

Robe 4: These three stories in a context of grief, remind me of a much happier theme. In the Garden of Eden, when Adam and Eve tried to cover themselves with leaves, God stepped in, sacrificed an animal and covered them with skins.

Jesus has stepped into our lives and He tells us of a fourth robe. He offers us a robe of His goodness—a robe of righteousness that can be ours by faith. When we accept it, we are demonstrating we are favoured sons and daughters of the heavenly Father, the King. Our divinely given robe will endure through all of our eternal existence. We can be absolutely sure no-one will take this robe from us. Our eternal days wearing this robe in heaven and in the renewed earth will be a time of no jealousies, no betrayals, no victims of passion and no grief.

Thank God for such a garment “woven in the loom of heaven [with] not one thread of human devising” (*Christ’s Object Lessons*, page 311). **R**

**Bible quotations are taken from the English Standard Version.*

Clive Nash pastors the Lakeside church and writes from Cooranbong, New South Wales.

RECORD is . . .

“RECORD is great! It tells us about things happening around the world like ADRA and other news.”—*Nicholas Brown, Alstonville, New South Wales*



Christians and creativity

BY CECILIA HOPKINS

TABOR COLLEGE IN ADELAIDE, SOUTH Australia, which provides ministerial and teacher training to Christians of various denominations, offers a subject called “Christians and creativity.” This subject is so central to the institution’s ideology that it is a compulsory component of their courses. The priority placed on this subject prompted me to consider the interaction between creativity and Christianity.

Genesis 1:1 states clearly that God is the creator. God’s creative power is potent, and when a project is completed according to plan and assessed by God it is found to be “good” (Genesis 1:31). Moreover, in Genesis 1:27, we are told “God created man in his own image”^{*}—which may have included a gift of some of the power to design—and gave the human race the task of tending the Garden of Eden (see Genesis 2:15).

These texts reveal that God’s gift of His image to man involved an awesome responsibility, as God’s works of creativity were put into human hands for maintenance and safekeeping. God made one stipulation: that Adam and Eve were not to eat of the “tree of the knowledge of good and evil” (Genesis 2:17). Hence the abilities with which the human race was blessed were to be reserved for purposes judged to be “good.”

Unfortunately, human judgment is not as astute as God’s, and we find in Genesis 3:6 that Eve saw the forbidden tree “was good for food.” She took the fruit and ate, giving sin and death entrance into the world.

It is obvious from the Creation story that Christians should endeavour to always use the power of creativity for “good.” The challenge we face today is to determine which projects are “good” applications for our creative ability.

The good

But the Bible does give some examples and guidelines. “Good” uses for creativity include: building and decorating places of worship (see Exodus 25 and 26; and 1 Kings 6 and 7), and to a lesser extent places of public significance (see 1 Kings 10:19) and the



“Unbounded influence” by Brendyn Hancock

family home (see Isaiah 54:2). Agriculture is an approved activity, although it became much harder work after sin entered the world (see Genesis 1:29; 2:15; and 3:17-19). Work designed to facilitate daily living and make an honest income is approved as it is said that God created the blacksmith (see Isaiah 54:16) and some of his apostles were tentmakers (see Acts 18:3).

While some may consider clothing frivolous, women are approved in the making of colourful cloth for their families (see Proverbs 31:21-25), and have been blessed while cooking for prophets (see 1 Kings 17:10-16). We are told that wisdom is a key ingredient in any form of building (see Proverbs

24:3) and artists may be called specifically to employ their skills for the Lord (see Exodus 31:2-5 and 35:25-26).

A less tangible “good” use for the creative arts is praising the Lord: “Let them praise his name with the dance; let them sing praises to him with the timbrel and harp” (Psalm 149:3). Creative stories can be used to teach as Jesus did with his many parables (see Matthew 13). Art may also be used to establish a tangible form of witness, such as the cairn of stones built by Joshua after crossing the Jordan (see Joshua 4:20-24), or to construct a symbol of commitment (see Joshua 24:26-27). Written history can be used to record God’s influence on events (see Deuteronomy 31:19-30), and poetry can be used to celebrate miracles (see Exodus 15; Judges 5) or offer repentance (Psalm 51).

The bad

Wrong uses of our creative ability include: the making of any form of idol (see Exodus 20:4; 7:8-10) and attempts to challenge God with our own construction such as the tower of Babel (see Genesis 11:4-8). It is wrong to use creativity to manipulate or seduce (see 2 Kings 9:30, 31) or attempt to control political events (see Matthew 14:6; Mark 6:22). Creativity is also not to be used to take the Lord’s name in vain (see Exodus 20:7). Sennacherib of Assyria published documents designed “to revile his name,” whereupon the Lord heeded prayer and slew all the enemy captains (see 2 Chronicles 17:16, 17, 21).

It is wrong to use our skills and abilities to gain an unfair advantage, as Jacob did when he tricked Esau into giving up his birthright (see Genesis 25:29-34), or to use cunning to cheat someone in business with false weights (see Proverbs 20:10, 23).

It is also wrong to lie creatively in order to obtain something we want (see Exodus 20:16; Proverbs 21:16). It is clearly forbidden to use our talents to harm others (see Exodus 20:13) and “whoever digs a pit” to catch another person will likely “fall into it” themselves (see Proverbs 26:27).

Creative focus

Creative objects that were once “good” lose their value and become a problem if they begin to distract people from God. For example, the snake Moses carved in the wilderness had to be destroyed several generations later because people had begun to worship it instead of the true divine source of the miracle in the wilderness (see 2 Kings 18:4). Using creativity to boast and show off is also a mistake as Hezekiah was told after he showed the wealth of Jerusalem to the King of Babylon, who would subsequently return to invade the country (see 2 Kings 21:12-16).

The Bible tells us all creative talents are empty and useless without the blessing of God (see Isaiah 44:12-17). However, in the parable of the talents (see Matthew 21:14-28), we are urged to develop and use our creative abilities for God. As in this parable, if we attempt to avoid the challenge of determining the best possible application of a talent by refusing to use it, the talent will be taken away from us by the Master. However, if we use our creativity for the Lord, He will bless us many times and we will have the satisfaction of helping others catch a brief glimpse His image. **R**

**All Bible quotations are from the New King James Version.*

Cecelia Hopkins is a drama and English teacher, who writes from Prospect, South Australia.

RECORD is ...

“RECORD is an effective means of keeping up to date with the various events in our church community.”—*Paul Winchcombe, Burnie, Tasmania*



“... thou art a gem”

BY IAN RANKIN

IFIRST HEARD THE SAYING “CONSISTENCY, thou art a gem” years ago and although I have not been able to find its source, I have been reminded repeatedly of its truth—especially in the matter of biblical interpretation.

Recently I was reading again the parable of the 10 virgins, recorded in Matthew 25:1-13. The traditional interpretation that the oil means the Holy Spirit creates some problems regarding consistency. Is the Holy Spirit a commodity of which we can acquire a surplus to be stored until needed? Is it something sold by merchants, so when we find we are running short of it we can go out and buy sufficient for our needs?

But the more consistent interpretation of this parable is that it is about relationships. All 10 of the virgins were invited to be bridesmaids at the wedding feast. The wise virgins—committed to serve as faithful bridesmaids—took the precaution of taking extra oil.

The foolish virgins did not think beyond the honour and fun they would have and, being unprepared for the delay, became an example of those who fail to “be on the alert . . . for you do not know the day nor the hour” (Matthew 25:13*). Having the oil was a consequence of a relationship focused on service, rather than on self.

The context of all three parables in Matthew 25 is the teaching that we are to “be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming” (see Matthew 24:42–25:46).

In another of these parables, the servants who received the talents were given them, “each according to his own ability” (Matthew 25:15). They were not judged

on how much they earned for their master. Instead, the amount they earned revealed their relationship to the Master. Two had trust and confidence in Him and acted according to what their actions would mean for their Lord, but one feared Him and thought only of what his actions would mean for himself.

Having the oil was a consequence of a relationship focused on service, rather than on self.

The parable of the sheep and the goats explains why the Son of man will accept some and reject others of those waiting to enter His kingdom. The identifying actions are the unconscious outworking of a relationship with God. Neither those accepted nor those rejected were conscious of the actions that identified them.

Salvation is not a matter of ensuring I have a sufficient supply of the Holy Spirit. Salvation is a work of the Holy Spirit, but that work comes as a result of a relationship. It is the perennial question of making serving God or self the focus of our actions. **R**

**Bible quotations are taken from the New American Standard Bible.*

Ian Rankin writes from Christchurch, New Zealand.

The flower that didn't belong

BY MARITZA MUNOZ



ONCE UPON A TIME—
 Long, long ago—
 When the sky was bright blue
 And the mountains topped with snow,
 The hills were green and grassy
 And there ran a crystal brook;
 There seemed to be nothing
 Wrong with this look.

But just beyond the hills
 And a little over there,
 There was a scene, a pretty scene
 That made people stop and stare.
 It rather resembled a rainbow,
 So many colours in sight—
 Blue, violet, orange,
 Pink, yellow, white.

They were indeed flowers,
 Living without a care.
 All except for one that is,
 Who wasn't happy there.
 It's not that she wasn't pretty,
 This is what some others feared,
 It's just that, well, her colour
 Was just a little weird.

Her petals were the softest,
 A deep ruby red
 And on her stem, instead of smooth,
 She had thorns instead.
 She knew she stood out;
 She didn't belong,
 Being the only flower with red
 And towering sadly above the throng.

But then one day,
 Amid all noise and surprise,
 A man stepped up
 And surveyed the field with his eyes.
 He started toward
 The one he had chose,
 Picked her up and said,
 "I will call you . . . Rose"

So don't worry if you're different
 Or if you stand out.
 You're unique, you're you—
 And special without a doubt. **R**

Maritza Munoz is 14 years old and writes from Eight Mile Plains, Queensland.

Record Roo's kids corner



Hi Kids,
 The Israelites were
 finally leaving Egypt, but
 they soon found themselves
 in trouble. Read Exodus
 chapter 14 to find out
 what they were up against
 and how God saved them.

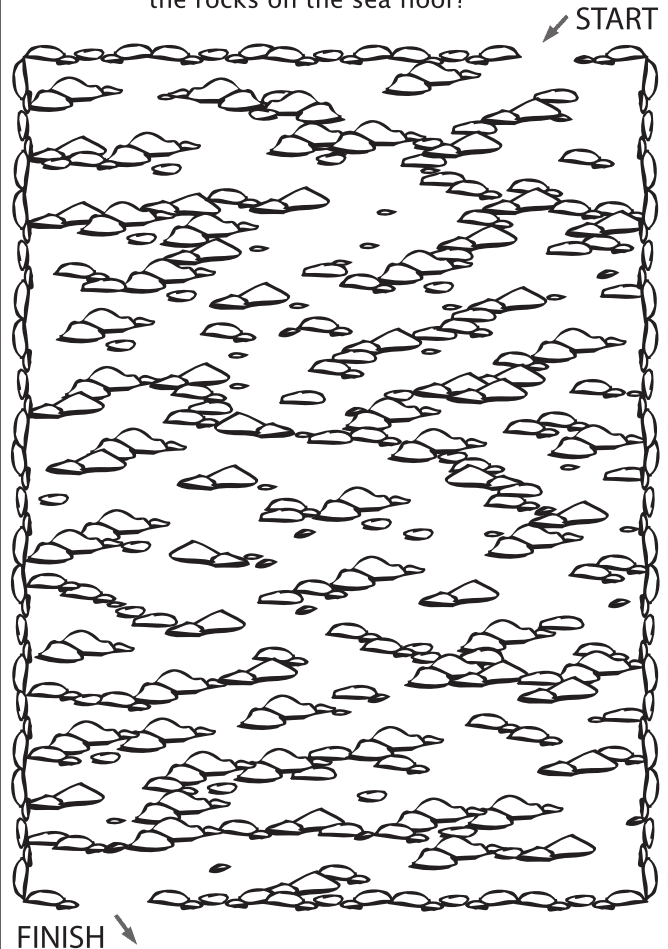
RR

Fill in the Blanks

Then _____ stretched out his hand over the _____; and the Lord cause the _____ to go _____ by a strong east wind all that _____, and made the _____ into dry _____, and the waters were _____.

Exodus 14:21 NKJV

Maze God parted the waters of the sea. Can you help the people find their way through the rocks on the sea floor?



Peta Taylor

Of war and the Word

ANNETTE JONES, NSW

In response to "Combat boot?" (Letters, December 16, 2006), Jesus does not advocate violence. He said, "Turn the other cheek" (Matthew 5:38-42); and "Vengeance is mine" (Deuteronomy 32:35). Responsibility for punishment is His alone.

"Greater love" does not mean protecting people by shooting enemies with bullets. It means standing in front of them—taking the bullet for them—laying down your life on their behalf.

We show ourselves Jesus' disciple by our actions (see John 13:34, 35). Defending by force, or killing for peace and safety, is not God's way. The *armed* forces not only function as peacekeepers, but are trained to carry weapons and use them.

Jesus laid His hand against no-one; not the sinful, not the evil, not even in self-defence against those who took His life. His is the way of peace. Judgment, justice, retribution, punishment and vengeance—all those belong to Him and *will* occur. But it's not for us to do God's work—it changes us. It dissolves godly love and replaces it with humanistic values. Love is the sign you are a disciple of God. Love your enemies. Heap coals of kindness on their heads, for that is the way of God and His love.

RAZMIK CACHATOOR, NZ

I spent two years during the Vietnam War as a noncombatant in the medical corps in the Australian Army. Jesus promoted peace to His followers, and this while living under Roman dominance.

No Adventist should voluntarily go into the armed forces. If someone meets Jesus while in the armed forces and becomes an Adventist, they should resign.

Jesus instructed His followers to love their enemies (see Matthew 5:43, 44; John 13:34, 35; Romans 13:10; Matthew 28:19, 20). To Jesus—and Adventists—there is no such thing as a just war.

When conscription existed, an Adventist could go to court and become either a noncombatant or a conscientious objector. But for a volunteer serviceman to be a noncombatant is a contradiction in terms. During World War II and Vietnam there was conscription. In the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq there is no conscription.

RECORD is . . .

"RECORD is a friend I have appreciated for a long time and it continues to keep me informed, inspired, at times aggravated, but it always stirs me to faith and good works."—Joy Butler, Wahroonga, NSW



If Jesus were here, He might go as a volunteer ADRA worker, but definitely not with a weapon to kill!

If Jesus were here, He might go as a volunteer ADRA worker, but definitely not with a weapon to kill!

DERYL JARVIE, QLD

Over recent issues of RECORD, I have read numerous letters of opinion about military service. What an awesome blessing to be in an environment where we are free to express our thoughts and beliefs with no fear of retribution.

God gives each of us a role to play on earth. Some of us teach, some nurture and some protect. Each role is valuable to God.

Biblical history demonstrates that God blessed David's army, Joshua's army and many other armies (even Naaman and Cyrus!) and continues to bless the brave people who protect the persecuted with little thought for their own comfort or safety.

I am proud to be the mother of a soldier in the Royal Australian Army. My son is a Christian who consults with God every day and obediently fulfils what he is called to do. Praise God for my son's strength and commitment to defend our right to express an opinion that may in fact criticise him.

He recently returned from a deployment in East Timor where he slept in the gutter to protect the local people whose lives were at risk. He is soon to go to Afghanistan to help rebuild lives and homes destroyed by terrorists and bullies.

How proud I am of a young man who is not hiding behind his Bible, but holding it firmly next to his chest as he risks his own safety for the freedom of others.

Who decides?

WENDY JAKUPEC, VIC

In response to the letter "Commis-ordained?" (November 25, 2006), how is it unbiblical for a woman to spread the Word of God or lead a group of Christians? There are no *ordained* male pastors in the Bible either.

This has nothing to do with biblical truth and everything to do with questionable Christian tradition. Stop holding people back from doing God's work. Jesus never did this, especially when they were proclaiming His life, love and gift of salvation.

Which human has the right to decide who gets to spread God's Word, when the Holy Spirit is the one who places such a passion in our hearts? Why not be grateful that more people want to do more for God.

Knowing hope

BRIAN HOULISTON, NSW

Thank you for the editorial "Hope" (December 16). What a blessed hope we have in this desperate, deteriorating world. We can rejoice that Jesus is coming soon.

However, while *hope* is a good word, it is not the most positive. If we as Seventh-day Adventist Christians really mean what we say, we will exclaim with Paul, "I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day" (2 Timothy 1:12, NIV). Not *hope*, but *know*.

Let us enter in with positive sacred joy and a born-again experience. It will change our churches, our outreach and our lives—and will spread like a benevolent infection.

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.

Our future ...
your opportunity

Share your expertise with us.

Interested in working for the church?
Have your name entered in the
Employment Database.

Inquiries: recruitment@adventist.org.au
Phone: (02) 9847 3209

www.adventist.org.au/employment

Appreciation

Davis. The family of the late Dr Beverley Davis wish to thank all who assisted, helped, shared the caring and remembered this special lady during the past few months and at the time of her death. The prayers, cards, flowers, food, words and gifts of money for the ADRA Keep Girls Safe project have been greatly appreciated. Thank you to all.

Hughes, Anthea, Lynne, Lyle and Lorelle, Lenore and Kelvin, Grant and Lorna, and all their families, thank the many friends who have supported us so wonderfully with their prayers, phone calls, cards, flowers and contributions to Volunteers in Action during Neil's short sickness and subsequent death. We look forward to that great Reunion.

Weddings

Kusuma—Harders. Tobin Kusuma, son of Indrarso Kusuma and Jean Galipo (both of Perth, WA), and Meggan Rose Harders, daughter of David Harders and Sharyn Galvin (both of Perth), were married on 3.12.06 at Kings Park, Perth.
Anthony MacPherson

Leach—Vysma. Bob Leach and Ruth Vysma (both of Cooranbong, NSW) were married on 10.12.06 at The Stonegrill Cafe, Dora Creek.
Morrie Krieg

Marsh—Baldwin. Lee Marsh, son of Richard Marsh (Bullawarra, NSW) and Christine Burgess (Macquarie Fields), and

Claire Nyvonne Baldwin, daughter of Graeme and Nyvonne Baldwin (Middle Dural), were married on 3.12.06 at Sandon Point, Bulli.
Jean-Pierre Martinez, Kerry Hortop

Michel—Mayo. Brendan Michel, son of Sylvio and Julie Michel (Bonnells Bay, NSW), and Angela Mayo, daughter of Philip and Helen Mayo (Fishing Point), were married on 3.12.06 at Cliff Street Reserve, Norah Head.
David Erickson

Pearce—Braidwood. John Pearce, son of Robert (Canowindra, NSW) and Christine Pearce (Blackbutt, Qld), and Julia Braidwood, daughter of Arch and Carol Braidwood (Wodonga, Vic), were married on 2.4.06 at Wairoonga Adventist church, NSW.
Lloyd Grolimund

Richards—Lawtie. Sean William Richards, son of Dan and Helen Richards (Brisbane, Qld), and Kristen Loanne Lawtie, daughter of Dean and Karen Lawtie (Donnybrook, WA), were married on 23.11.06 at Kings Park, Perth.
Phillip Brown

Robinson—Gibbs. Blake Robinson, son of Pastor Kevin and Janine Robinson (Wahroonga, NSW), and Michelle Gibbs, daughter of Bert and Joan Gibbs (Melbourne, Vic), were married on 1.10.06 in a garden setting at Brunkerville, near Cooranbong, NSW.
Kevin Robinson

Rochford—Wilkinson. Lynden Rochford, son of David and Adelle Faulk (Brightwaters, NSW), and Amanda Louise Wilkin-

son, daughter of Bruce and Elizabeth Wilkinson (Bonnells Bay), were married on 25.11.06 at Hunter Valley Gardens, Pokolbin.
Milton Krause

Sew Kwan Kan—Lagane. Nigel Sew Kwan Kan, son of Allen and Marlene Sew Kwan Kan (Mauritius), and Henriette Lagane, daughter of Naomi Moikeenah (Preston, Vic), were married on 10.12.06 in the Preston Adventist church, Vic.
Greg Evans, Stenio Gungadoo

Suffolk—Harrison. Clinton Brian Suffolk, son of Brian and Leone Suffolk (Lismore, NSW), and Tanya Ann Harrison, daughter of Peter and Diane Harrison (Brisbane, Qld), were married on 3.12.06 at the wonderfully picturesque Mount Coot-Tha Botanic Gardens, Toowong.
Mike Browning

Walker—Engelbrecht. Russell Leslie Walker, son of Geoffrey (Carmel, WA) and the late May Walker, and Warina Mae Engelbrecht, daughter of Pastor Sydney and Beryl Stocken (Forster), were married on 3.12.06 at Lisgar Gardens, Hornsby.
Gary Webster

Positions vacant

▲ **Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Nursing—Avondale College (Sydney campus)** is seeking a full-time Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Nursing, who will also be required to undertake teaching, research and consultancy in nursing. The successful applicant will be a registered nurse with a higher degree, preferably at doctoral level, and have a record of successful innovative teaching in higher education or clinical nursing. For selection criteria and job description please visit <www.avondale.edu.au>. For further information contact Dr Paul Race <paul.race@avondale.edu.au> or phone (02) 9487 9630. Applications, addressing the selection criteria (including three referees), should be forwarded to Sonya Muhl <employment@avondale.edu.au> or Human Resources, Avondale College, PO Box 19, Cooranbong NSW 2265; by February 6, 2007.

▲ **Assistant Academic Registrar—Avondale College (Cooranbong, NSW)** is seeking an Assistant Academic Registrar, commencing March 2007. The successful applicant will assist in the implementation and management of a new student management system, the administration of academic administration processes associated with the life of a student; and assist in the supervision of Academic Office staff. For selection criteria and job description please visit <www.avondale.edu.au>. For further information contact Paul de Ville <paul.deville@avondale.edu.au> phone (02) 4980 2125. Applications, addressing the selection criteria (including three referees) should be forwarded to Sonya Muhl <employment@avondale.edu.au> or Human Resources, Avondale College, PO Box 19, Cooranbong NSW 2265; by February 16, 2007.

▲ **Manager—Melody Park Retirement Resort on the Gold Coast (Nerang, Qld)** is seeking a Registered Nurse to manage the 40-bed aged-care facility and 46 independent living units. Applications in writing (including résumé) should be forwarded to the General Secretary, Seventh-day Adventist Church (South Queensland Conference) Limited, 19 Eagle Terrace, Brisbane Qld 4000; email <mpotts@adventist.org.au> phone (07) 3218 7777. Seventh-day Adventist Aged Care (SDAAC) reserves the right to make an appointment. Applications close February 26, 2007.

▲ **Senior Staff Auditor—General Conference Auditing Service—South Pacific (Wahroonga, NSW).** For further information please visit the POSITIONS VACANT section of the SPD website at <spd.adventist.org.au/employment>. Applications in writing (including your CV, three work-related referees and contact details of your church pastor) must be sent to: Human Resources, Seventh-day Adventist Church (South Pacific Division) Limited, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga NSW 2076; email <chr@adventist.org.au> fax (02) 9489 0943. Applications close February 23, 2007.

▲ **Caretaker—Manly Holiday Flats (Manly, NSW).** A vacancy exists for a short-term live-in caretaker position commencing mid-February at the Woodburn Flats in Manly. This position with paid hours of work would suit an energetic retired couple. For further information please contact Allan Butler on (02) 9847 3258; or email <abutler@adventist.org.au>. Applications in writing should be forwarded to Allan Butler, Property Manager, Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Limited, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga NSW 2076. Applications close February 26, 2007.

Obituaries

Brooks, Wilma Dorothy (nee Porter), born 15.5.1924 at Warrnambool, Vic; died 29.10.06 at Warrnambool. On 23.4.42 she married Frank, who predeceased her on 14.7.81. She is survived by her children, Allan (Narre Warren), Peter (Vermont South), Ann Polletti (Narre Warren South) and Robert (Grassmere). Wilma loved her family and lived for them. She was strong in her faith and in her support of her church. She showed great courage in her last weeks and never failed in her trust in her Lord.

Peter Harper

Sheppard, Mervyn (Jock), born 6.1.1922 at Warrnambool, Vic; died 15.9.06 at Warrnambool. He is survived by his wife, Joyce; his daughters, Marlene and Dianne; and his grandchildren, Stephen, Jennifer, Troy and Sheridan. Jock was very much a caring family man; practical and jovial by nature. His working life was spent in Warrnambool and surrounding districts, where he was well known and appreciated.

Peter Harper

* SPD travel

(An accredited service of the Seventh-day Adventist Church)

Whether business or pleasure, we can assist you with all your travel needs, insurance, car hire, accommodation, fly 'n' builds and group travel.

Included in our 2007 program are the following:

- **Middle East Tour**
Archaeological Diggings April 24–May 17
- **Northern Territory Tours**
Red Centre/The Ghan/Top End/Broome May–October
- **Greece/Italy Tour**
Archaeological Diggings September 25–October 15
- **Turkey Tour**
(During the School Holidays) September 28–October 10
- **China Tour**
Shanghai/Beijing/Xian/Hangzhou/Suzhou October 25–November 06
- **Cruise on the Orient Queen**
Athens/Malta/Sicily/Rome/Naples November 1–November 10

Call us for brochures and information on all your local and overseas needs.

Phone **1300 309 831** Sydney **(02) 9847 3202**

Fax: **(02) 9847 3300**

Email: spdttravel@adventist.org.au

Visit our website at www.adventist.org.au/travel

Know a former or inactive member living in Melbourne?

Like someone to visit them to invite them to Mark Finley's series commencing April 20, 2007?



Contact Cveta on **(03) 9264 7720**
or cbakof@adventist.org.au



Great Rates

ACF Investments
(02) 9989 8355

Allround Travel Centre, Qld. Friendly service—excellent rates. Specialists in individual or GROUP travel. Contact Anita on the phone (07) 5530 3555; or email alltrav@bigpond.net.au.

For all home or investment loans phone Sponsor a Child (SAC) Home Loans. Your mortgage can sponsor a child through Asian Aid, and fight poverty. Phone Carl Ginger 1800 722 734; www.sachomeloans.com.au.

Amazing Facts, Your Story Hour, Empowered Living Ministries and 3ABN products. Visit The Story Factory Online Store for quality Christian products www.thestoryfactory.com.au; email info@thestoryfactory.com.au; or contact us freecall 1800 452 133.

James Morrison and Emma Pask will be performing on the CCAS grounds in Erina, NSW, on March 24, 2007. Tickets can be purchased from the CCAS on (02) 4367 7239 or Avondale Music on (02) 4977 1398.

Board available—North Sydney, NSW. Close to Sydney Adventist Hospital. Handy to public transport. Inquiries (02) 9487 9840 (BH); (02) 9402 6634 (AH); mobile 0418 858 893. References required.

Data projectors, screens, DVDs VCRs, PA systems etc. Lower prices for SDA churches, schools etc. Australia only. Rural Electronics (02) 6361 3636; or greenfields@netconnect.com.au.

Endless Praise seeking auditions for 2007! EP is now searching for talented young singers and musicians for 2007. The full-time interdenominational faith music

Volunteers!

Nurses, doctors, dentists, dental assistants, cooks, team leaders and health educators—Vanuatu. Pacific Yacht Ministries is now recruiting for 2007. Term: 2 weeks. Dates: July 6–20, August 3–17, September 7–21, October 5–19.

Seamstresses (2)—Cambodia for South-east Asia Union Mission—to teach sewing to women. Term: 3 weeks. Dates: Negotiable. Contact Julie@onemission.org.au. For more details: www.onemission.org.au.

Film, design and layout volunteer—Avondale College church (Cooranbong, NSW)—to design posters and PowerPoint presentations; layout and writing of newsletters; develop advertising concepts; video production and editing; maintain website. Term: Feb 19–Nov 30, 2007. Contact Hayley.

Email:

volunteers@adventist.org.au

For more positions, check the web on www.adventistvolunteers.org

+61 2 9847 3275



Sandra at the EP office on (02) 8783 7000; or email cp@epraise.com.au.

Endless Praise office secretary. A position is available for a qualified secretary aged between 25 to 35, from Mon–Fri, to look after the running and demands of our bookings office at Hoxton Park, Sydney, NSW. Computer knowledge and driver's licence required. Please contact Sandra on (02) 8783 7000; or email cp@epraise.com.au.

Receive the Hope Channel and 3ABN. Complete satellite kit \$265 + freight. Full instructions for DIY installation. Installers available. Australia only. Rural Electronics (02) 6361 3636; or ruralele@bigpond.net.au.

Gosford church 10th anniversary celebration day—February 24, 2007. All former members and ministers are warmly invited. Sabbath school 10.00 am; praise service 11.00 am, with fellowship lunch to follow.

RECORD is . . .

"RECORD is my opportunity to read about how the visions of Adventists throughout



the South Pacific are becoming a reality."—Sven Ostring, Perth, Western Australia

Advertisements

Note: Neither the editor, Signs Publishing Company, nor the Seventh-day Adventist Church is responsible for the quality of goods or services advertised. Publication does not indicate endorsement of a product or service. Advertisements approved by the editor will be inserted at the following rates: first 30 words or less, \$A49.50; each additional word, \$A2.20. For your advertisement to appear, payment must be enclosed. Classified advertisements in RECORD are available to Seventh-day Adventist members, churches and institutions only. See masthead (page 2) for contact details.

ministry group, based out of Sydney, is now holding auditions. If you are passionate about mixing music and ministry for one or more years on a full-time basis, this may be what you are looking for. Contact

RECORD is . . .



. . . **your connection**

RECORD Offering, next week, February 10