M ore than 1300 people crammed into the auditorium of Carmel Adventist College on September 29, to enjoy a special worship service reflecting on the achievements of the college since 1907.

Keynote speaker Dr John Hammond, director of Adventist Education for the Australian Union Conference, congratulated the college community on its lasting legacy to the Adventist church across Australia, the South Pacific and beyond. The program also featured special acknowledgement of former principals over the college’s 100-year history and a prayer of dedication for today’s school leaders.

The weekend festivities commenced on Friday evening, highlighting a number of past pupils and their recollections of Carmel in the “good old days.” “Superb music and a friendly family feel added to the occasion,” reports college registrar Kerrie Long.

The Sabbath program included the baptism of four current students. “A free lunch and evening meal were provided to the many hundreds who stayed for the afternoon, to wander into classrooms and admire the fabulous historical and memorabilia displays,” says Mrs Long.

(Continued on page 3)
Church hosts emergency prayer for Burma

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

Buddhists monks and refugees from Burma attended an emergency prayer meeting held by the Glen Innes Adventist church in Auckland last month.

The prayer meeting was organised by members of the Glen Innes church in response to the political crisis in that nation. Buddhist monks led protests against the Burmese military government in late September. The Burmese government responded with a bloody crackdown in which it says 10 people were killed. Diplomats and exiles say the number is much higher. Thousands of people have also been detained and many more have fled the country.

“There were at least 180 people at church and it was the biggest prayer meeting we’ve ever had,” says the organiser of the emergency prayer meeting, Robin Greenfield.

Three special prayers were said—for Burmese democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi, for the imprisoned and tortured monks and protesters, and for the Burmese people and their nation.

Interspersed between the prayers were Bible readings on the subjects of injustice and oppression. Many of the Burmese people in attendance heard Bible verses for the first time, and later expressed with tears how much the prayers and support meant to them.

“As the Bible was read and the prayers were uplifted, there was absolute silence in our crowded church and we really sensed God was with us,” says Mrs Greenfield.

The Glen Innes church has a history of working with the Burmese community through its English-language programs. Members also helped Burmese refugees furnish their homes, when many of them settled in the area six years ago.—Melody Tan

Carmel College marks 100 years of service

As well as a variety of musical performances, the Saturday evening concert program also featured the official launch of the centenary book, Glimpses of Carmel Adventist College. This full-colour history was written by Ross Goldstone and Nerolie Hiscox, and funded by the Western Australian Conference.

Carmel College was founded as the Darling Range School in 1907 to provide educational opportunities for Adventist church members in Western Australia, without needing to travel the long distances to eastern Australia. The school was originally seen as an alternative to what became known as Avondale College but has evolved into a primary and high school, which attracts students from surrounding suburbs, as well as the church community in Perth.

A Centenary Fair was held on the Sunday, which attracted both church members, past and present students, and members of the local community.

“All who attended the centenary weekend seemed to have a wonderful time swapping stories of yesteryear with former classmates and friends,” reports Mrs Long.

Many former students enjoyed returning to Carmel and seeing the beautiful green rolling hills and orchard once again. As one previous student commented, “I have been away for more than 30 years but this place still feels like home to me!”

“This sentiment was echoed time and again as people wandered around the campus on a glorious Sabbath afternoon,” says Mrs Long.

“Thank you to all who attended and made the weekend so memorable,” she adds. “Special mention should be made of all who assisted by planning and participating in this wonderful event—particularly college librarian Nerolie Hiscox, who was responsible for coordinating the memorabilia displays and was the driving force behind much of the ‘magic’ of the weekend.”—RECORD staff/Kerrie Long
Adventists welcomed in outback community

APUTULA, NORTHERN TERRITORY

A new Seventh-day Adventist church will be built in the alcohol-free Aboriginal community of Aputula.

The local council recently approved the request for a church building by the local Aboriginal people, who appreciate the Adventist church’s ministry.

Aputula is a community that decided to ban alcohol in 1992. Since then, anyone in contravention of the ban has their car appropriated. The rules voted by Aputula also state that “cash will not be sent to people in Alice Springs or other communities where there is grog trouble.” They have also imposed rules against vandalism and unlicensed driving.

“There is a vast difference between Aputula and other drinking communities,” says Pastor Don Fehlberg, associate director of the Australian Union Conference’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministries (ATSIM). “The lack of alcohol means it is a more peaceful and cleaner place.”

There are only 35 homes in the remote town of Aputula, located 30 kilometres from the geographical centre of Australia. Residents have recently started growing a variety of vegetables, as well as quality table grapes. There are also plans for a citrus orchard.

“It is a constant challenge for them to keep alcohol out but they have done so admirably and they are sticking to it,” says Pastor Fehlberg. “No alcohol is sold in the community shop, there are no drinking days allowed like in some other ‘dry’ communities and the pub that used to operate in Aputula when it was a railway town has been turned into a community office. It is serving the community rather than destroying it.”

The Adventist church building will also include a lifestyle centre and accommodation for volunteers. Half of the homes in Aputula have satellite dishes to receive programs from the Adventist Church’s official television channel, Hope TV.

Eight of the town residents have either graduated from or are studying at Mamarapha College, the church’s Bible school for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. Town residents also regularly ask for their babies to be dedicated by the Adventist Church.

“As Adventists, we agree with and strongly support the initiatives the community has taken. We want to encourage them to maintain the right ways they’ve been going,” says Pastor Fehlberg.

Pastor Fehlberg has been visiting the community for the past five years and says a large majority of the town residents turn up for meetings he holds. He also knows everyone in the community by name.

Church leaders in the South Australian and Northern Australian Conferences have visited the community and are currently raising funds for the construction and operation of an Adventist church in Aputula.—Melody Tan

THE HEALTH FOOD COMPANY

¢ The winners of the Sanitarium Health Food Company canned food label collection competition are as follows: 1st Place and winner of $A1000 was Kellyville church, NSW, with 1314 labels. They will use the prize money for their Cambodia 08 Mission, building an additional house at the Adventist-run orphanage in Cambodia. The team is raising $A50,000 to build the house. The two runners-up each receive $A250 toward their community project. 2nd Place: Rock Force—Reach out for Kids (Avondale Memorial church, NSW) for their educational program at Yesu Orphanage and school in Cambodia, with 903 labels. 3rd Place: Lakemba Tongan church, NSW, with 544 labels, to help with the building of their new church.

¢ After six years of fundraising efforts, the church in Pago Pago, American Samoa, officially blessed and dedicated its new building on May 23. Presiding over the event was Pastor Uili Solofa (pictured above right), president of the Samoas-Tokelau mission, who had the honour of opening the doors to the church. The governor of American Samoa, Togiola Tulafono (second from right), was the keynote speaker. The project cost about SUS300,000 and the money was raised by the 41 individuals baptised in the Pago Pago church. Eight families within the church worked on completing the project, a permanent place of worship for the congregation. Two months after the church structure was dedicated, the first baptism of 25 new members was held inside the church facility on Aug 4. Most of the new members are young people, who underwent an intensive two-week Bible study and preparation course, taken by church member Neru Nuualii’i (far left), who oversees the three SDA congregations of Pago Pago, Aua and Satala.—Ausage Mata’itusi

Members of the Aputula community at a meeting conducted by Pastor Don Fehlberg.

Aputula residents preparing the ground to grow table grapes.
Not of this world?

JOHN CUNNINGHAM, NSW

The editorial “One reason churches grow” (October 6) cites research that is selective. Both the Salvation Army and the Uniting Church should be bursting at the seams if community service contributes to growth. In both their cases, a high profile of social and political involvement can be shown to produce the very opposite! No church is as well regarded, respected and loved as the Salvation Army—who are decreasing in numbers. The same can be said for the Uniting Church.

The editorial appears to encourage political and social activism, which have always been and should remain options for individuals. However, where do we find evidence in Scripture that Jesus ever formed a political party, urged His followers to take part in demonstrations or protests, or attempted to influence the policies of Caesar, Pilate or Herod?

The injustices and social needs of His day far exceeded ours. He said His kingdom was not of this world. Jesus’ method to bring about social change and improve community was to change people’s hearts by the power of the Gospel. Let’s get back to His method and stop trying to win the popularity vote of the public.

No church is as well regarded, respected and loved as the Salvation Army—who are decreasing in numbers.

Being disciples

CHARLENE SU'Ä, VIC

I want to thank Julie Weslake for her passionate and accurate call to disciple our young children (“A need for discipleship,” Editorial, October 20).

I recognise the need for us “adults” to be the example of what it is to have and live faith, and for our little ones to experience faith through us. The editorial hits the nail on the head when we are encouraged to have greater intimacy with God. Romans 10:17 says, “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (KJV).

If we adults faithfully spend time with God and allow His Word to make a difference in our everyday lives, our children will have a positive example, and better influence for forming beliefs, values and attitudes based on the “living” Word of God in our daily experiences.

Let us purpose in our hearts to first be disciples of Christ in order to make disciples for Christ, and then He shall come.

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 3) for contact details.
Positions vacant

▲ Chief Operations Officer—Adventist Retirement Village (Victoria). This is a newly created position to assist the CEO in the operational functions of the three retirement villages across Victoria. The villages are located in Bendigo, Warburton and Nunawading. Reporting to the CEO, the COO is responsible for providing operational support to the staff and management team at each site. The position is based at Nunawading. For a position description, selection criteria or general information about the position, contact Ruth Welling at ruthwel@adventist.org.au or (03) 9259 2108. Applications close November 23, 2007.

▲ IT manager—Trans-Pacific Union, Fiji. The Seventh-day Adventist Church (Pacific) Ltd is seeking to appoint a qualified and dedicated information technology manager for the Trans-Pacific Union head office in Suva, Fiji. For more information, please visit the South Pacific Division’s Human Resources website at <http://hr.adventistconnect.org>. All written applications, including your CV, three work related referees and the contact details of your church pastor, must be forwarded to: Human Resources, Seventh-day Adventist Church (Pacific) Ltd, Locked Bag 2014, Wairoa. Applications close November 28, 2007.

▲ Hostel care manager—Alstonville Adventist Retirement Village (NSW) is seeking a full-time Hostel care manager to run the 90-bed hostel. The successful applicant will have aged-care experience in a senior management role and commitment to caring for the aged in a Christian environment. They will be responsible for overall coordination of care services, as well as quality improvement of the facilities. Please send your resume, marked “hostel care manager,” to Alstonville Retirement Village, 77 Pearces Creek Road, Alstonville NSW 2477. For further information, contact Paul Mitchell on (02) 6628 1944 during business hours.

▲ Assistant accountant—ACA Health Benefits Fund (Wahroonga, NSW) is seeking a degree-qualified, promising and energetic accountant to join their team. This position will report to the Finance and Operations team leader and requires someone with a “can-do” approach, who is able to take on a variety of projects and tasks associated with the health insurance business. For further information, please visit the South Pacific Division’s Human Resources website at <https://hr.adventistconnect.org>. Applications in writing to Human Resources, Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Ltd, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga NSW 2076, Australia; email <chr@adventist.org.au>; fax: (02) 9489 0943. Applications close December 14, 2007.

▲ Graphic Designer—Signs Publishing Company (Warburton, Vic) is seeking an enthusiastic graphic designer for a full-time position in our busy, modern prepress department. The successful applicant will be skilled in the Mac environment; proficient in electronic design and layout, and have experience in commercial electronic design. Any other connected attributes will be favourably considered. Commitment to quality and service, together with a respect for Christian values and ethics are essential. For further information, contact Ray Portbury on (03) 5965 6300 or <ray.portbury@signspublishing.com.au>. Applications in writing should be forwarded to Production Manager, Signs Publishing Company, 3485 Warburton Highway, Warburton VIC 3799. Applications close November 26, 2007.

▲ Librarian—Northpine Christian College (Qld) is seeking expressions of interest for the position of librarian. The applicant will be a motivated person with skills and experience in people management, as well as experience with library systems management, technology, and resource purchasing and management. Applicants should be practising Adventists, team focused and committed to excellence. Applications in writing, including a CV and the names and contact details of at least two referees, should be forwarded to the Principal, Northpine Christian College, PO Box 33 Kallangur 4503, Qld. Applications close November 19, 2007.

▲ Apprentice cook—Avondale Retirement Village (Cooranbong, NSW). Two enthusiastic apprentices with a passion for cooking are sought for our new facility commencing January 2008. You will gain experience in large scale food preparation, a small retail food outlet, kitchen teamwork and more. Please forward your resume, marked “Apprentice cook,” to Avondale Retirement Village, PO Box 105 Cooranbong NSW 2265. Applications close December 10, 2007.

▲ Youth Secretary—Western Australian Conference (WA). A proficient, qualified individual is required for the position of secretary of the Western Australian Conference’s Youth Department. The successful applicant will strive to perform at a high level of excellence and bring enthusiasm, energy and professionalism to their work. Their primary role will be to provide support to the youth directors and youth ministry office hours. A job description is available upon request. Forward applications, along with church membership details, to Warrick Long, Secretary Treasurer, Western Australian Conference of the SDA church, PO Box 134, Gosnells WA 6990; email <wlong@adventist.org.au>; fax (08) 9398 5164; or phone (08) 9398 7222. Applications close November 30, 2007.

▲ Academic registrar—Avondale College (Lake Macquarie Campus). Commencing late 2007 or early 2008. The successful applicant will have a higher degree and a previous higher education or public sector management position will be viewed favourably. For additional information, contact Dr Vivienne Watts on (02) 9480 2120. For a job description, visit <www.avondale.edu.au> “staff,” and “vacancies.” Applications addressing selection criteria, including CV and three referees, should be sent to <employment@avondale.edu.au> or Human Resource Officer, Avondale College, PO Box 19, Cooranbong NSW 2265. Applications close November 21, 2007.

Volunteers!

Building Project Supervisor—Solomon Islands. A rewarding opportunity to help marginalised youth from urban settlements, teaching them building skills for the future. ADRA Solomons is building an administrative office and is seeking a volunteer supervisor to oversee its building project. The supervisor will need skills in all areas of construction, as well as the ability to improvise, meet deadlines, and work with youth of another culture. ADRA will provide one return airfare, travel insurance, accommodation and a living allowance. Contact ADRA Solomons country director at <mmbrown@adra.org.sb>.

Volunteers—Avondale College Church. Ten month assignments, commencing early 2008. Be part of a great pastoral team and church on Avondale College campus. For more information, contact Bruce Manners on (02) 4980 2222.

Email: <volunteers@adventist.org.au>

For more positions, check the web on <http://www.adventistvolunteers.org/>

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Weddings

Western—Vogel. Paul Western and Kate Vogel were married on the afternoon of 29.9.07 at a serene, private garden setting in Geraldton, WA. Ken Vogel

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 3) for contact details.

Cooranbong florist—Creative florist for all occasions. Weddings, floral bouquets, funeral tributes and graduation flowers. Call Gene Williamson (02) 4977 2547. 5 Alton Road Cooranbong, NSW.

Are you planning to go to South America as a missionary? Want to dust off your Spanish? Come and worship with us at the Newcastle Spanish church 112 Lake Road, Wallsend. 0439 597 636.

Data projectors, screens, DVDs VCRs, PA systems etc. Lower prices for SDA churches, schools etc. Australia only. Rural Electronics (02) 6361 3663; or <greenfields@netconnect.com.au>.

Receive the Hope Channel and IABN. Complete satellite kit $265 + freight; prime signal R.A. in Australia only. Full instructions for DIY installation. Installers available. Rural Electronics (02) 6361 3663; or <ruralele@bigpond.net.au>.

Holiday letting Nice flat, everything supplied, air conditioning, lovely Gold Coast weather, 100 metres to beach, ideal shopping, very reasonable. Ring (02) 6674 2302 or write 13 Orient Street, Kingscliff, NSW 2487.

Home at Cooranbong for sale—Meyer Crescent, 3 bedr + office, ensuite, wheelchair access, 4 minute walk to shops. $A360,000. Contact (0414) 26879 or 0409 466893. Weekends (02) 6723 7576.

Missionaries’ Lunch—Avondale graduation. Sabbath, December 1. There will be a combined lunch immediately after the church service, for missionaries, ex-missionaries, families and friends who attend the Avondale graduation. Please bring a plate of food, sufficient for your family and a friend. Drinks and goodies will be provided. This year will highlight the role of mission boats in spreading the gospel in the Pacific. We encourage all to give a short talk on one special highlight of your mission experience involving a mission boat. Contact Ken Boehm on (02) 4365 3033; mobile 0408 072 313 or Warren Martin on (02) 9489 5907; email <warrenjmartin@hotmail.com>.

Wollongong church seeks missing members: Miles and Riley Bollam, Nida Hough, Fred and Sonia Jackson, George Oli, Stephanie Oli, Junius Oli and Michael Southern. Contact Valma Grootemaat on (02) 4262 2942 or mai Grootemaat on (02) 4262 2942 or <warrenjmartin@hotmail.com>.

Finally

To love deeply in one direction makes us more loving in all others.