

RECORD

May 17, 2008

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Pastor Kendall Cobbin (left), ministerial secretary for NZPUC, prays with Pastor Ben and Mary Maxson at the pastoral team summit.

Pastors experience verdant life at summit

ROTORUA, NEW ZEALAND

More than 250 Seventh-day Adventist pastors and their families from around the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference (NZPUC) attended a pastoral team summit in Rotorua, New Zealand, recently.

"We want the burdens to roll off your back during this time we have together, so that it becomes a time you can relax enough to allow God's spirit to get a hold of you," said Pastor Jerry Matthews, president of the NZPUC, during the opening address. "This is a chance to feel renewed and refreshed together. Nothing happens without God directly intervening in our

spirit."

Throughout the conference, themed "A verdant life, breathing in the green," there was a special emphasis on prayer. There were also separate programs for pastors, their spouses and children. Running French translations was also available for those from the many French-speaking territories of the NZPUC.

Pastor Ben Maxson, senior pastor of Paradise Adventist church in California, Mary Maxson, associate pastor for discipleship and nurture for Paradise, and Dr Ranko Stefanovic, professor of religion and biblical

(Continued on page 5)



It's too easy to become numb and pass by our roadside neighbours.

Where are God's people?

MANY OF US HAVE HEARD THE STORY of the Good Samaritan since childhood. A man is struck down suddenly and unexpectedly by the cruelties of life. One minute he's fine; the next minute, his life hangs in the balance, requiring the help of others to survive.

One by one, the religious people pass him by. They're in such a hurry to meet Christ they can't be bothered to be Christ. They move to the other side of the road—distancing themselves from the inconvenience and messiness of helping someone in need.

But while we've heard this story for as long as we can remember, do we realise that many of us have been repeating it? Today, that "man" might be women or children suffering abuse, the long-term unemployed, refugees or drought-ridden farmers and nations.

Place anyone from these groups in the well-known parable. Place them on the side of the road and see yourself coming up the road. Who do your actions mirror? The Levite, the priest or the Samaritan?

Do you stop or hurry past? Do you go toward the one in need or turn away? Do you have pity or apathy? Do you bandage their wounds or leave it to others? Do you take them to an inn where they can be cared for, give your own silver coins and leave an open tab for whatever it takes to get the person back on their feet? Do you "have mercy" or withhold mercy?

Not sure which one you are? Answer

this: have you put a pause in your life or lifestyle for the millions affected by natural or man-made disasters, or poverty?

While the Good Samaritan parable was used to answer the question "What do I do to inherit eternal life?" it also provides the prototype on how every Christian—not just Christian aid agencies—is to respond to the needs of their neighbours, both next door and around the world.

The parable of the Good Samaritan was meant to teach us at least two things: our responsibility for those in crisis; and a broader definition of being a neighbour, "the one who had mercy on him" (Luke 10:37, NIV). The parable ends with a strong mandate—"Go and do likewise"—but also includes a promise: "'Look after those in crisis' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expenses'" (see Luke 10:35).

In 2006, nearly 143 million people were affected by 724 disasters.¹ That's about twice every day that someone is impacted by life-altering events like war, drought, earthquakes, civil unrest or floods.

With statistics like that, it's too easy to become numb and pass by our roadside neighbours. But God calls us to a higher standard and He's thrown out a "Micah challenge": do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with our God (see Micah 6:8).

What can one person do? One person can act justly. One person can "have mercy." One person can pray, speak out and take action. One person can allow their life and

lifestyle to be disrupted in order to care for their roadside neighbour. And next Sabbath (May 24), one person can give their "two silver coins" to ADRA's Disaster and Famine Relief Offering, and use ADRA's free kit² to share the importance of this offering and ADRA's ministry with their church.

When we hear about disaster after disaster, we can feel overwhelmed. We often ask "Where is God? How can He allow this to happen when He could do something about it?" But what if God asked us the same question: "How can you allow this to happen when you could do something about it?" And what if we stopped asking "Where is God?" and started asking instead "Where are God's people?"

Next Sabbath, we—"God's people"—have an opportunity to support one way our church responds corporately to those affected by disaster. Over the past several years, you have responded to ADRA's Disaster and Famine Relief Offering with incredible generosity, and ADRA is honoured by your support. As it's collected this year, I hope you model the Good Samaritan and don't let a need pass by without responding.

1. World Disasters Report 2007, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

2. Visit the "Get Involved" page at <www.adra.org.au> to download the Adventist Development and Relief Agency's free Disaster and Famine Relief Offering Activity kit.

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

Vol 113 No 18
Cover: Melody Tan

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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!

South Qld “re:frames” faith sharing

BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND

More than 150 church members, pastors and leaders of the South Queensland Conference (SQC) spent the weekend of April 26 focusing on how to share their faith with their friends and communities. The “Re:Frame Training Event”—the first held in Australia—was led by Dr Miroslav Pujic, director of the church’s Centre for Secular and Postmodern Studies, an initiative of the Office of Adventist Mission at the General Conference.

“Many ministries have been created because of awareness that certain people groups are not being exposed to Jesus and His teachings,” explains Pastor Colin Renfrew, director of Discipleship and Spiritual Development for the SQC. “Given the rapidly-growing numbers of people within Australia and other parts of the affluent world that self-identify as having no religious affiliation and do not attend church, the ministry provided by the Centre for Secular and Postmodern Studies is critically important.

“At the heart of the centre’s ministry lies a vision to assist Adventists to understand emergent culture, provide tested and effective discipleship models, and create authentic resources to evangelise in postmodern culture.”

“Although we are still reaching and baptising some people, we have to be honest and admit we are not really ‘in tune’ with the majority of people living in a secular and postmodern society,” adds SQC president Pastor Neil Watts. “The thinking of most people in our society has changed dramatically in the past generation or two, and we must understand what has taken place.

“We may be challenged by this and not anxious to be moved beyond our comfort zones but we need to be willing to understand the language, culture and perceived needs of those around us in order to build bridges of communication with them, and show them the beauty of the gospel and the message we have been given to share.”

Pastor Renfrew, who organised the training weekend, says he was surprised and encouraged by the level of interest. “Given the event was held over a long weekend, the attendance was indicative of the desire of members to be relevant to the world in which they live,” he says.

“I would like to thank the leaders of our conference for providing Re:frame,” commented one training participant. “I have been so inspired—it has helped me to see the world in a different way.”

Plans are being made for similar training events to take place in other regions,

and representatives from the Australian Union Conference (AUC) and New Zealand Pacific Union Conference also participated in the training program.

Pastor Graeme Christian, secretary of the Ministerial Association for the AUC, was among the interested participants. “There was certainly a good deal of enthusiasm generated at the Re:frame event,” he says. “The weekend was about thinking positively about the challenge of connecting with community people, especially postmodern people.

“Dr Pujic does not consider that Re:frame is a one-size-fits-all approach. However, a clear discipleship path and resources for growing a ministry to postmoderns were discussed. This will be very helpful to those those who are now planning to reshape their ministry along the lines of what was taught on the weekend.”

“Church members realise the need to be intentional in their outreach to postmodern people,” adds Pastor Roger Govender, Australian Union Conference’s director of Personal Ministries. “This type of strategy is one of several options for evangelism. It has the potential to make a difference where traditional forms of evangelism do not work.”—**Nathan Brown/Colin Renfrew**

More @ www.reframe.info



◆ Women of all ages and varying levels of expertise gathered in the **Warwick church hall** on April 27, to sew bags and blankets for babies in **Africa**. During a visit to Kenya by nurse **Kelly Adams**, formerly of **Stanthorpe, Qld**, she saw unbelievably poor maternity conditions. Following this, women from both Warwick and Stanthorpe

have taken on the project of putting together parcels for new mothers. Each mother will receive a bag containing a baby blanket, nappies and pins, and a knitted jumper, as well as an assortment of baby-care products. Machines whirled while 10 women, ranging in age from **11 years to senior citizens**, enjoyed an afternoon of sewing. **Karen Steinhart**, Warwick project leader, said the sewing circle plan to meet every second Sunday to continue the project.—**Mary Fedorow**



◆ The book **God’s Children in the Ukraine**, written by experienced teacher and missionary **Elaine (Harker) Lillystone**, gives firsthand insight into the countries of **Russia and Ukraine**. **Pastor Arthur Bath**, who has taken his programs and mission teams to those fields many times since his retirement, invited her to run the children’s programs in

Kiev and Sumy in 2005 and 2007. She and her husband, **Rob**, had their own follow-up program in Kiev in 2006. The book was published in December last year. All proceeds from this book will be going to the Adventist College in Bucha, Ukraine, to continue the building of a canning operation to give students employment. In her book, Mrs Lillystone describes how it was sometimes difficult. Yet she says “on each journey, I had been powerfully reminded of God’s power to transform lives and to sustain us through difficulties.”

Evangelism at Goroka university a success

GOROKA, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

As part of the University of Goroka outreach program for the Year of Evangelism in the Papua New Guinea Union Mission (PNGUM), retired pastor David Lawson conducted an evangelistic campaign in the university's main lecture auditorium during the last two weeks of March.

The meetings in the auditorium commenced on March 17 and the auditorium, which seats 500, was filled to capacity with around 600 people attending. This number was consistent throughout the series, with around 800 people attending the Sabbath services.

The audience consisted predominantly of students from the four education institutions in the area—University of Goroka, Goroka Technical College, Highlands Region School of Nursing and Goroka Secondary School. Staff members also attended, including the university's vice-chancellor and pro-vice chancellors for the first night. The meetings were also supported by the secretary of the Eastern Highlands Mission, Pastor Gibson Lohia, and the mission's youth director, Pastor Danny Mukar.

"The main purpose of the meetings was to share with a specific group of non-Adventists 'God's final call to mankind,'" says Pastor Lawson. This was done powerfully and church members who attended were also richly blessed. A common comment from many non-Adventist friends who attended was that it was the first time they were hearing the biblical truths and were convinced it was God's message for them. Many non-practising Adventist students who attended the meetings also made decisions to follow the Lord."

At the end of the two weeks of meetings, a small baptism was held for three students, who were baptised by Pastor Mukar. "Many decisions were made in appeals night-by-night in the meetings and we expect 30 to 50 people will be baptised by the end of the year," Pastor Lawson says.

Prior to the evangelistic series, Pastor Lawson also presented a Sabbath-afternoon meeting to close a two-week series led by a church member in the National Park in Goroka. More than 2000 people attended, with 150 people making the decision to return to Adventist church fellowship.

—**RECORD staff/Wilfred Kaleva**

Samoa Mission hosts evangelism school

APIA, SAMOA

A field school of evangelism was held for the Samoa Mission in Apia from March 3 to 5, with lectures for evangelists covering such topics as training and equipping members, preparing church and community, budgeting, preaching from the prophetic books of the Bible and the significance of small groups in making disciples.

The 25 participants also received resources to help them in their evangelistic work, as well as for training church members to work with them to reach out to members of the public.

The training was aimed at preparing pastors for special evangelistic outreach work to be done in 2009.

Presenters for the school were Pastor Erika Puni, director of the Stewardship Department for the General Conference; Pastor Gary Webster, ministerial association secretary for the South Pacific Division; and Moleni Iene, communication director for the Samoas-Tokelau Administrative Office.

Pastor Webster says, "Participants reported they greatly appreciated the help received at the field school."—**Adele Nash**



◆ On April 19, **Yarra Valley church, Vic**, held an International Food Fair and Fundraiser. About **70 people** sampled a variety of food, and bought or sold various goods at a make-shift auction to help raise **money** for a watering system in the Solomon Islands. They have collected **\$A1250**, with more to come.—**Talitha Simmons**

◆ **TV advertising** for a free viewing of the *Who is Jesus?* videos will screen in **Canberra city, ACT**, on Prime Television, May 24 to June 1.

◆ Members of **Tumbulgun church, NSW**, heard the **Kwailabesi clinic, Solomon Islands**, burnt down in March, 2007, and wanted to do something to help. They decided to "**adopt a clinic**." The clinic is on the north-eastern tip of the island of **Malaita**. It is isolated but is one of the larger clinics, with two nurses seeing **200 patients** per month. It is

also a training venue for **Atoifi School of Nursing** students. Risk Management will rebuild the structure for **\$A75,000** and medical equipment, beds and other items need to be found for the clinic to operate again. Bathurst Hospital has donated **16 beds** to the clinic. The Tumbulgun church is doing its best to meet the costs needed for the clinic to operate effectively again.

—**Florence Armstrong**

◆ **Port Macquarie's (NSW)** pre-eminent music teacher has praised a private performance

presented to her on March 29 by Avondale College vocal ensemble, "**The Promise**." Phyllis King, 93, struggled to contain her emotions during the seven-song set. "I enjoyed the music so much I was speechless," she says. "It's wonderful to see so many beautiful young people involved in something so worthwhile." The Promise, which had earlier presented five items during the worship service at the local church, travelled to Port Macquarie to prepare physically and spiritually for the year ahead. Mrs King was the first person in Australia to complete a

Pastors experience verdant life at summit

(Continued from page 1)

language at Andrews University, USA, were among the guest presenters at the conference.

Concurrent meetings were held in the afternoon, where Dr Stefanovic showed pastors how the message of Jesus Christ is the framework of everything they should write about when forming sermons on the book of Revelation, while Mrs Maxson shared with the pastors' spouses about partners' ministry.

"The book of Revelation wants to give us something about Jesus Christ, to help us understand the time we live in and prepare us for the future," says Dr Stefanovic. "This subject is easily overlooked by those who study Revelation, so my purpose is to share this theme with the pastors."

Mary Maxson, on the other hand, helped pastors' spouses realise their "individuality is not wrapped up in who their husband is but in their relationship with Jesus Christ."

In the evenings, Pastor Maxson spent time speaking with the delegates about discipleship.



Ministers delving into the book of Revelation in a lecture by Dr Stefanovic at the New Zealand pastor's summit.

"I want pastors to learn how to walk with Jesus Christ and how they can help others do the same," says Pastor Maxson. "It's not about us, it's about God. We should let the Holy Spirit do the actual work. Our job is to enable people to become open to Him."

According to Franck Rakotozafy from New Caledonia, the summit has been a great blessing for the ministers. "The many insights into the book of Revelation have touched me," he says. "The message has touched me and taught me more about a partnership with God."

—Melody Tan

ADRA CEO resigns

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Australia and the Executive Director of ADRA South Pacific, David Jack, resigned in April from his dual role to spend more time with his young family.

Mr Jack, who has two children under the age of 10, acknowledged his desire to give greater priority to personal needs. "My two roles at ADRA require international and national travel and, while I've been able to minimise this to some extent, I now wish to spend increased time with my wife and kids."

Mr Jack commenced work at ADRA in July, 2004. Under his leadership, ADRA Australia became an incorporated entity, again achieved full accreditation with AusAID, received government funding for several overseas projects and commenced a resilience program for Australian high schools.

ADRA Australia's board chair, Peter Brewin, says, "David has served ADRA well and left a sound foundation on which a new CEO can continue to grow ADRA."

—Candice Jaques



David Jack.

Licentiate Diploma in Music in singing and musicianship. She taught Kent Lock, as he completed a subject in music as part of his Higher School Certificate. Mr Lock now sings bass for The Promise and suggested the ensemble sing for Mrs King.—**Brenton Stacey**

◆ Twenty-one Year 6 leaders from **Avondale Schools, Cooranbong, NSW**, were among the **8000 primary students** who travelled to the Sydney Entertainment Centre for the **2008 Young Leaders' Day** program. Among the day's

presenters were **Getaway** host **Catriona Rowntree**, and **James Castrission** and **Justin Jones**—the first to kayak from Australia to New Zealand. These speakers specifically encouraged involvement, achievement and the every-day practice of leadership skills. At the secondary campus, the Year 11 class underwent **peer support training** to help prepare them for the challenge of nurturing younger students. Elements of leadership, such as setting rules, negotiation and effective communication, were all part of the enjoyable day. Students

learnt the importance of being able to work with both the individual and a group, while practising similar activities and experiencing comparable situations to the actual peer support sessions.

—Susan Rogers

◆ When **dangerous snow storms** devastated China's central, southern and south-western regions earlier this year, the **Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)** responded immediately, providing emergency relief assistance for nearly **5000 survivors** in Huoshan, one of the

areas most severely affected, in the province of Anhui, eastern China. Government officials estimate the storm generated nearly \$US21 billion in losses, affecting seven million people, killing **129**, and destroying **485,000** homes. ADRA China was the first international non-governmental organisation to respond in the Huoshan area. They provided clothing and blankets for 890 families, and 281 individuals of the most vulnerable, seriously affected by the disaster. ADRA has been working in the People's Republic of China since 1998.—**Nadia McGill**

Children's leaders trained to minimise child abuse

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

Children's Ministries leaders, from various regions of Australia and the South Pacific, have been trained to minimise the risk of abuse among children who are members of the church and broader community.

The Children's Ministries department of the South Pacific Division (SPD) ran meetings over two days in mid-April, held at the SPD office in Wahroonga, Sydney.

The meetings focused on understanding problems associated with child abuse. The first day focused on the problems of abuse, understanding the theology of discipline and forgiveness, and understanding protective behaviours. On the second day, delegates focused on understanding legal perspectives and policies.



Children's Ministries leaders discuss ways in which to deal with child abuse.

"It was a very informative two days, and we are all more confident in our understanding of the issues involved in keeping our children safe," says Julie Weslake, director of Adventist Children's Ministries for the SPD.

She adds, "As leaders, we have a responsibility to ensure everything

we do leads to their positive development. We will continue to work in partnership with church communities and administrations."

Associate director Litiana Qiosese says, "The

training we've had has been brilliant, in that it's dealt with issues kids are dealing with and how we as leaders can ameliorate those issues."

—**Ursula Borgas**

More @ <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lnu0lar6UI>

Avondale brass band joins ANZAC parade

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

The rain came again but the band played on during the ANZAC Day march through Morisset. With drum major Dr Lynden Rogers wielding the mace, the Avondale Brass Band led the march to the war memorial at the Morisset where, during the dawn service, senior music lecturer Dr Robb Dennis led the singing of the national anthem and several hymns.

Dr Rogers, dean of the Faculty of Science and Mathematics, enjoys participating because "I have a residual sense of patriotism" and "it helps connect the college with the community—it shows we're concerned with issues of concern to other Australians."

Dr Dennis says the hymn singing, especially "Abide with me," is "stirring. The diggers are tearful, often before we even begin." —**Brenton Stacey**



The band during the ANZAC Day parade.

◆ A Seventh-day Adventist missionary family has survived a plane crash in the Democratic Republic of Congo, emerging from the wreckage just moments before it exploded. **Barry** and **Marybeth Mosier**, of Minnesota, USA, and two of their children were aboard a DC-9 passenger jet headed for Kisangani, where their eldest son, **Keith, 24**, leads Congo Frontline Missions. The couple's youngest daughter, **April, 14**, crawled through a hole in a fuselage panel while her parents escaped after unpinning their adopted son, **Andrew**, from the debris. The

three-year-old suffered a broken femur. At least 40 people died and more than 100 were injured in the crash. The Mosiers have been in Tanzania for eight years and were visiting the Congo to decide whether to join Keith's outreach and humanitarian efforts there. —**Elizabeth Lechleitner/ANN**

◆ Ever wondered what it would be like to peek inside God's inbox? Well now you can. **Bill Tikos** launched <dear-god.net>—a website where people across the globe can post their prayers to Jesus, Allah, Buddha, or simply a spiritual universal

energy. The prayers that land in God's inbox range from issues of depression, grief and abortion to politics, homosexuality and faith. In its first week, more than 63,000 people visited the site and hundreds commented on people's prayers. —**The Age**

More @ www.dear-god.net

◆ Swiss couples are flocking back to church—to get divorced. An official liturgy for divorce ceremonies is being determined as so many couples want to end their marriages where they started. Zurich-based Protestant pastor

Frank Worbs, who is working on the liturgy, says it is a ritual or symbolic process including meetings with the priest beforehand. "It helps divorced people get over the separation and achieve definite closure," he says. "Sometimes there is no other solution but to separate. In such situations, it is important to make the divorce as amicable as possible for the couple." He believes it also helps family members, who can take part. President of the Zurich Reform Church, **Ruedi Reich**, says the ceremony is a way of "showing God that the marriage is over." —**Ananova**

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

College Park church celebrates 40 years

ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

On the afternoon of March 22, the College Park Polish church in Adelaide celebrated the 40th anniversary of the consecration of the church building. The church was filled to capacity with regular church members and numerous visitors from around Australia, and even from Poland.

The program commenced with a walk “back in time” and a choir item “I want to be ready when my Lord comes,” chosen and directed by the original church choir director, Irena Napora. Psalm 84 was recited by a group of six, in Polish and English, acknowledging God’s leadership and blessings over the past 40 years.

Church members shared their memories from the early days of establishing the church, recalling how few resources they had and how the church building was purchased and renovated under the leadership of Pastor Jerzy Lipski.

The program was interwoven with pre-recorded interviews with current members of the church, expressing what College Park



Some of the members, past and present, of College Park church.

means to them—fellowship, worship, belonging and “family.”

Former pastors Lipski, Eugeniusz Majchrowski and Dariusz Kuberek were remembered for their contributions to the church, along with their wives.

Current pastor Jan Pollok explored the values and vision of the church.

Musical items were presented by a number of church members and the church choir, who closed the service with the song “I am blessed,” giving glory to God for His guidance.—*Lydia Ksiazkiewicz*

More @ <http://collegetpark.adventist.org.au>

Media interest in celluloid ANZAC study

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

An Avondale College lecturer has appeared on a national radio program to speak about how Australian filmmakers portrayed diggers on screen during the Great War.

Dr Daniel Reynaud’s interview with Antony Funnell of *The Media Report* aired on the Australian Broadcasting Corporation’s Radio National on April 24. Dr Reynaud, a senior lecturer in History, is the author of *Celluloid Anzacs*, the first study of how the ANZAC legend has been portrayed in Australian film and television for more than 80 years.

“The Great War ANZAC representation was generally of a city boy, often quite upper class—he was officer material—and very pro-English . . . which is quite a dramatic difference from today’s bush ANZAC,” Dr Reynaud told Mr Funnell. “Australian nationalism and British imperialism were generally perceived as one and the same. So a patriotic Australian was truly British.”

The conversation covered the style and popularity of the nearly 20 films about military engagement produced in Australia during the war. All began as derivatives of those produced in Britain and most were box office failures. Dr Reynaud noted, though, how a film called *The Enemy Within*, produced in 1918 and starring sportsman and actor Snowy Baker, helped renew interest. “It looked like a war film to the authorities but like a popular adventure film to everyone else, so you could pick and choose your own reason for going to see it.”

Dr Reynaud also used his role in the partial reconstruction of Australia’s first Gallipoli movie, *The Hero of the Dardanelles*, to speak about the blurring of real and reconstructed footage. Reviewers praised the 20-minute silent film, *1915*, produced in Sydney, for its realism. “Of course, no-one making the film had been to Gallipoli, so how did they know what it was like?” asked Dr Reynaud. “But to them, it felt real.”

—**Brenton Stacey**

More @ www.abc.net.au/rn/mediareport

Henderson youth help country church

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

According to church member Evan Fray, the Henderson church of west Auckland has a youth group that doesn’t believe in passing up a challenge or opportunity to witness to the community. One of their most recent “causes” attracted more than 40 of the church members to the small central North Island church of Taumarunui.

Bob and Diane Smith asked if the Henderson group would be interested in sprucing up the church building, which was “long overdue” for a coat of paint and repair work.

Mr Fray says, “The church is an early 1950s-style fibrolite-clad structure and had succumbed to the extremes of weather, thrown at it over its many years of serv-

ice. The dwindling membership had also placed a strain on resources, to the point that it would take a concerted financial undertaking to get the building back to its former glory.”

Henderson church had recently erected a new building and, during the construction, church members of all ages had learned to work with painting and cleaning equipment. Members of the group sent to Taumarunui spent the Friday and Sunday of the Easter weekend steam cleaning carpets, doing repairs and repainting the church building, with interest and assistance coming from neighbours in the street the church is located on.

The group also presented the whole Sabbath service, which included a drama written specially for the occasion.—**RECORD staff/Evan Fray**



Preparing for the unexpected

BY CHRIS OLAFSON AND ROBERT PATTON

THE ONLY WAY INTO THE COMMUNITY was by boat. Situated on the coast with a tributary running alongside, the village lay out of reach by car, so six of us had piled into a small motor-powered dinghy to get there. I (Chris) was with local leaders and another non-government agency worker to visit community leaders and discuss their disaster response plans. The locale was idyllic; tropical climate, clear skies and smooth sailing. But I was aware of how dependent these communities are on the natural resources around them and how easily they could lose everything if a disaster hit their small community.

Disaster severity and occurrences on the rise

Over the past year, there has been many severe disasters that impacted people right across the planet. Worldwide, the frequency and impact of disasters is increasing. This is no more evident than in our own neighbourhood, with more than 80 per cent of all disaster-related deaths occurring in the Asia-Pacific region. This statistic is quite alarming and makes this region the most disaster-prone in the world. Alleviating suffering and helping to reduce the risks and effects of disasters is very important to the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA).

Partnerships are vital

Wherever a disaster impacts on individuals, their families and communities, emergency management and response organisations like ADRA are there to assist with immediate relief and recovery services. These organisations work with local communities and local organisations to provide solutions for the many needs a disaster creates.

One of the key elements to good emergency management is partnerships between organisations, communities and government. No single organisation can be everywhere at

once, so it is critical that agencies work together to eliminate duplication and ensure various needs are being met. Partnerships enable agencies to learn from each other, which builds their capacity to provide even better responses in the future.

Much of ADRA's work, especially in disaster response, occurs within these partnerships. From joint disaster recovery programs, providing emergency accommodation in Australia, through to complex relief projects overseas, ADRA works in partnerships to provide the best possible results for those affected by disaster.

Recent relief work

ADRA's recent relief work in the Pacific has included a response to Cyclone Gene, which devastated Fiji in January. ADRA Australia and ADRA New Zealand, at the request of the Fiji government's Disaster Management Office, provided support to ADRA Fiji's work in providing food packs to 7820 people in the Tailevu North Province, on the main island of Vitilevu.

Following an immediate response to floods caused by excessive rainfall in August 2007, ADRA entered into partnership with Habitat for Humanity Nepal, Engineers Without Borders and local non-government organisation BASE, to work with poor and flood-affected families to rehabilitate housing. This project involves working with the Kamaiya people, a minority group freed less than 15 years ago from bonded labour. The Kamaiya remain one of the poorest and most vulnerable groups in the area.



ADRA and Caritas staff from Australia and several southern Asia countries met in Nepal in November to participate in a disaster simulation exercise that provided practice and training for field emergency response personnel.

Above: In April, 2007, an earthquake-triggered tsunami ravaged homes and lives in western Solomon Islands. Following an immediate response of household item kits, ADRA worked with communities to rebuild housing and reconstruct clean water supplies.

ADRA responds—but there's more!

Responding to disasters and emergencies after the event is only part of the role of emergency management. Here in the South Pacific, ADRA Australia and ADRA New Zealand are also working to build the capacity of our regional neighbours to better prepare for disasters before they hit. ADRA Australia and ADRA New Zealand—known as “supporting” or “donor” offices within the ADRA network—have the financial resources and expertise to support “implementing” ADRA offices, such as Papua New Guinea and Fiji, as well as other agencies, so they are ready when emergencies occur.

It pays to practice

An innovative initiative by ADRA involves providing simulation exercises, allowing emergency response field staff to practice their skills and learn new techniques. In October, 2006, the first simulation exercise was held in Indonesia. The simulation enabled staff from nine ADRA offices to respond to a hypothetical volcano eruption in West Java.

These simulation exercises give field staff an experience as close as possible to a real disaster. The training occurs at short notice in the “field,” and requires participants to conduct operations and communications as if the event had actually occurred. Staff must locate the disaster-affected area and work with communities, local officials and disaster management organisations to assess the needs of those affected and provide simulated material support in accord with

international standards.

Responding to emergencies requires high levels of professional expertise. These simulations increase the proficiency and competency of emergency response staff to serve their own communities when an actual disaster does occur.

ADRA's pioneering simulation model also caught the eye of the Australian government, with the November 2007 simulation in Nepal partly funded by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID). This simulation also included building the capacity of other non-government organisations, with staff from Caritas—the Catholic agency of international aid and development—joining ADRA staff in responding to a hypothetical landslide caused by flooding.

AusAID is also partly funding a simulation exercise in Papua New Guinea (PNG) at the end of this month. With PNG the most disaster-affected country in the Pacific, this simulation has been widely supported by agencies including the United Nations, the PNG government, and local non-government organisations including World Vision, Red Cross, Salvation Army, Oxfam and the United, Anglican and Catholic churches.

Pacific island village strengthening

In partnership with the development and relief agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia, the Christian World Service, ADRA Australia is implementing a new disaster risk reduction project to help communities in the Pacific better prepare for and respond to disasters.

This \$A2.5 million AusAID-funded project, which will run over three years, will work with communities in Fiji, Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands and Tonga. It will provide essential community and school-based training in disaster awareness and preparedness, so villages can become more resilient and reduce the devastating effects of disasters.



John Schilling

In December, ADRA Australia provided support to five Queensland communities to assist rural families struggling with ongoing drought.

The Christian World Service will provide overall coordination and monitoring, with ADRA Australia providing technical support and simulation exercises.

This new project was the reason I (Chris) was on the dinghy that tranquil day in Fiji. And when I arrived at the village, my thoughts about their vulnerability to disasters were confirmed. Community members shared stories and showed photos of the damage caused by Cyclone Kina, which hit their isolated community in 1993.

The memories from such a catastrophic event were still vivid for many as they spoke of the flooding, which didn't subside for more than a month, inundating homes and sweeping away boats, leaving them unable to go for help and supplies. It reaffirmed the need for ADRA's new disaster risk reduction project in the Pacific. Work in emergency management is as necessary as ever.

Your disaster response

Responding to emergencies forms an important part of ADRA's efforts to empower those in poverty to a better life. But there are many more communities in need of support. On May 24, Adventist churches around the South Pacific are collecting the Disaster and Famine Relief Offering for ADRA. Please plan to give generously so ADRA can continue to support communities affected by emergencies, especially those in the most disaster-prone region in the world. **R**



When an earthquake devastated the Yogyakarta Province of Indonesia in May, 2006, ADRA's immediate response included medical care and supplies, shelter, blankets, hygiene items and food kits.

Chris Olafson is manager of Emergency Management for ADRA Australia.

Robert Patton is manager of Emergency Management for ADRA New Zealand.

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Eco-Atkins: a healthier version of Atkins diet?

IS IT POSSIBLE TO FOLLOW A HIGH PROTEIN diet for weight loss that is environmentally friendly and healthy for us?

With popular weight loss diets like Atkins and the Australian CSIRO Total Wellbeing Diet recommending up to one kilogram of meat a week for those in the general population who want to lose weight, many health professionals are concerned about their long-term health impact, including the risk of chronic diseases like cancer and heart disease.

The newly released Eco-Atkins diet was developed by academics at the University of Toronto, Canada. The diet uses the high-protein formula of popular meat-based diets but replaces the meat with plant protein and healthy fats. Not only does the diet result in significant weight loss—around one kilogram a week—it also reduces LDL

(bad) cholesterol by 20 per cent in people with elevated cholesterol.

The other significant benefit of the Eco-Atkins approach is its potential for protecting the environment. The difference between 14 serves of meat a week, as recommended by the CSIRO diet, and no serves of meat, as recommended in the Eco-Atkins diet, is 5.7 tonnes of methane emissions annually, which is more than those from building and running a large four-wheel drive vehicle. Methane is 21 times more potent as a greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide.

Plant protein power

The Eco-Atkins style of eating predominantly consists of soy, nuts and grains. This style of eating was combined with the inclusion of foods that contain soluble fibre,

such as oats, barley and fresh fruit. These are the foods that promote a reduction in cholesterol. To help with balance and variety, it also incorporates good fats from macadamia nuts, almonds, avocados and olive oil. **R**

If you would like more information on how to follow a plant-based eating plan similar to Eco-Atkins, give us a call in Australia on 1800 HEALTH (1800 432 584) or in New Zealand on 0800 100 257 and speak with one of our qualified nutritionists. Alternatively, email us at <nutrition@sanitarium.com.au> or <nutrition@sanitarium.co.nz>.

For a free copy of our Everyday Essentials cookbook, call Sanitarium on 1800 HEALTH (1800 432 584). You can now order a copy of our Everyday Essentials cookbook online! Visit <www.sanitarium.com.au> for your free copy. Cookbook offer available only in Australia.

**Sanitarium Nutrition Service,
Berkeley Vale, New South Wales.**



Curried chick pea and carrot burgers

1½ tablespoons canola oil
1 medium brown onion, finely chopped
1 tablespoon Korma curry paste
1 teaspoon ground cumin
410g can chickpeas, drained and rinsed
1 egg, lightly beaten
½ cup fresh coriander leaves, finely chopped
1 cup grated carrot
1 cup fresh multigrain breadcrumbs
2 tablespoons chickpea (besan) flour
4 oak leaf lettuce leaves
2 ripe tomatoes, sliced
4 wholemeal flat rolls, split and toasted

1. Heat 2 teaspoons of oil in a non-stick frying pan. Cook onion over medium-

high heat for 3 minutes until tender. Stir in curry paste and cumin. Cook for 1 minute. Remove from heat. Cool for 5 minutes.

2. Mash chickpeas in a large bowl. Add onion mixture, egg, coriander, carrot and breadcrumbs. Stir to combine. Divide mixture into 8 portions and mould each portion into a patty. Lightly coat in chickpea flour and shake off excess.

3. Heat remaining oil in a large non-stick frying pan. Cook the patties over medium heat for 4-5 minutes per side, or until golden brown and cooked through.

4. Place lettuce and tomato on each roll base. Top with two patties, then remaining bread and serve with mango chutney.

Serves 4.

Per serve: 1693 kJ (405 Cal); Protein 16g; Total Fat 14g; Saturated Fat 2g; Carbohydrate 49g; Total Sugars 12g; Sodium 810mg; Potassium 705mg Calcium 130mg; Iron 4.4mg; Fibre 11g.

Written on our hearts

BY DESRE NIKOLICH

WITHIN EACH OF US IS A STORY. IT IS THE STORY OF OUR life—our thoughts, feelings, experiences and interactions. Imprinted on our memory is our journey. This imprint is a collage of the life we experience through our senses.

Our childhood pleasures:

Running through puddles, laughing at slapstick or cuddling a soft puppy as it reaches up to lick our face.

Our childhood pains:

Being rejected by a friend, feeling lost and afraid, or being too scared to tell our parents what has happened to us.

Our teenage joys:

Discovering the opposite sex, driving for the first time or testing our wings.

Our teenage disappointments:

Having “pizza face,” being dumped or being betrayed by friends.

Our adult joys:

Being in love, making a difference and finding our place.

Our adult sorrows:

Losing a parent, losing a job and finding out life is not all it is meant to be.

These are our stories but we are more than these stories. The stuff of life does not dictate who we are. It only dictates where we are. Who we are is how we embrace the joys, the hurts, the disappointments and the sorrows of our life. The tears are only droplets of emotion that fall from our hearts and down our cheeks but the well of love springs from the core of our souls.

Our story may be edited, critiqued and altered by others as they publish our life. But the core of our story is our own journey with God. Our transformation is the story of God working through us. This is our secret truth to tell.

We may desire to be published. We may think we have to promote ourselves. But the story of your life will unveil itself in its own way in its own time. “Your lives are a letter written in our hearts, and everyone can read it and recognise our good work among you. Clearly, you are a letter from Christ prepared by us. It is written not with pen and ink, but with the Spirit of the living God. It is carved not on stone, but on human hearts” (2 Corinthians 3:2, 3 NLT)

Your story will inspire us but never forget you are written on our hearts by God’s Spirit. Write well, my friend, and tell the world your story. **R**

Desre Nikolich writes from Glendenning, New South Wales.

Record Roo



Hi kids!

Lot was living in Sodom and had been taken prisoner during a war. One of Lot’s friends escaped and ran to Abram for help. What did Abram do?

Bible Text

Now when Abram heard that his brother was taken _____, he _____ his three hundred and eighteen trained _____ who were born in his own house, and went in _____ as far as Dan. Genesis 14:14 NKJV

Match-up

Many different kings were involved in this war. Can you match up the king to his country? You can find some help in Genesis, Chapter 14.



KING

Amraphel
Arioch
Tidal
Bera
Birsha
Chedorlaomer
Shinab
Shemeber

COUNTRY

Nations
Elam
Zebaiim
Ellasar
Admah
Gomorrhah
Shinar
Sodom

Word Search

Find the names of the kings and countries in the puzzle below.

Y	C	J	Z	D	S	H	I	N	A	B	I
A	H	W	E	S	H	E	M	E	B	E	R
D	E	S	B	L	S	H	I	N	A	R	J
M	D	V	O	A	L	P	I	E	O	G	I
A	O	S	I	R	W	A	Y	G	C	O	I
H	R	O	I	I	E	B	S	R	L	M	B
R	L	D	M	O	B	B	P	A	B	O	N
E	A	O	B	C	D	I	E	V	R	R	Z
L	O	M	H	H	U	Q	R	R	V	R	M
A	M	R	A	P	H	E	L	S	A	A	E
M	E	N	A	T	I	O	N	S	H	H	D
D	R	T	I	D	A	L	Q	G	B	A	L

How do we do it?

VAL CHARLTON, NSW

I read “When will we get it right?” (Feature, April 26) with interest and agree that we can always show more compassion, as a church and as individuals. But I was disappointed the article didn’t expand on what we need to do to “get it right.”

I know that as a church—both through the Health Department and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)—and as individuals, we have been working in HIV/AIDS education around the world since the late 1980s but, of course, I agree we can always do more. Just one project I know of is knitting jumpers for AIDS babies in Africa, and hundreds of people have been and continue to knit these jumpers—but we can always do more. In my daily life, I may or may not meet someone with HIV/AIDS, I wouldn’t necessarily know, so am I guilty of withholding grace?

Are there ADRA programs we can support? I felt sad that Bono said the church will be made irrelevant if we don’t respond to the HIV/AIDS challenge, so please share with us how we can show more compassion and grace to those afflicted by HIV/AIDS.

Inconsistent health

KENT KINGSTON, NSW

Perhaps the reason Adventists are half-hearted about putting the “health message” into practice in their lives (“Under the carpet,” Editorial, April 19) is that they don’t see a Scriptural basis for it anymore. Or is it just me who finds it inconsistent that while Adventists generally believe the Levitical laws do not apply to Christians, the clean/unclean meat clauses do?

Adopting a healthy lifestyle is admirable. It may even have a spiritual dimension but does anyone seriously think a hormone-ridden, fast-food chicken is “cleaner” than a non-kosher wild kangaroo?

And while “the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking” (Romans 14:17, NIV), we make diet a salvation issue by withholding baptism until candidates are prepared to sign oaths of abstinence. Something needs to change.

Take the lead

STEWART PRESNALL, NZ

“Supporting women in ministry” (Feature, April 19) strongly makes the point, from the Bible and the writings of Ellen White, of the equality of men and women in Christian ministry. The article appeals for the support of female ministers. I believe members would be more likely to regard female ministers as equal to male ministers if the church officialdom did. How about instead of “commissioning” female pastors, we “ordain” them as we do male ministers?

This was a great opportunity for Adventists to contribute to their local community.

If only . . .

JAN SHIPTON, THAILAND

I read “Let my church breathe” (Perspective, April 5) with interest. I am sure many pastors, elders and worship coordinators will be delighted to discover choosing songs that are not in the hymn book and starting the program at a different time will create a vibrant, growing church. If only it was that easy!

U still can

DAVID PETERSON, SA

Our church leaders are to be commended for the “Ucan2” blood donor campaign (“Adventists show Australia ‘Ucan2,’” News, April 26). As a committed Adventist and a scientist with the Australian Red Cross Blood Service, it was with pride I saw my church encouraging blood donation. This was a great opportunity for Adventists to contribute to their local community.

It was then disappointing that this was not widely promoted within some conferences and churches, in order to reach the target of 5000 donations by Adventist church members.

However, it is not too late! Blood donations are needed all year, with more than one million required this year to meet the demand. Less than one in 30 Australians

donate blood, yet sooner or later one in three of us will need it. The Adventist lifestyle and service ethos place us in a unique position to contribute to our community.

Some suggestions:

- Conference presidents and administrators—put aside your needlephobia and lead by example;
- Campmeeting organisers—promote it, sign-up donors and arrange for a mobile unit to attend;
- School principals and teachers—make time for your senior students to donate as a class group;
- Students—take time out from study to become “blood brothers”;

- Church pastors—organise small groups to donate together;
- Churches—host a “donormobile” session;
- Church members—donate as a group, donate as individuals or organise a work group. Just do it!

Jesus gave His blood to save. Your blood also saves. Call 13 14 95 and do something special today!

An apology

RON MCGRATH, WA

I apologise to Ray Roennfeldt, Dean, Faculty of Theology at Avondale College, for any embarrassment or concern experienced by him or his department for my letter (“Another loss?” March 15) suggesting the theology department runs at a loss.

I checked my sources of information and it became obvious I had misunderstood what I was told.

I have written to Dr Roennfeldt, apologising and asking his forgiveness. It seems it is not too late to learn at 82.

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

▲ **Assistant Clinical Coordinator**—*Avondale's Faculty of Nursing and Health (Sydney Campus)* needs a registered nurse for 30 h/w as assistant clinical coordinator, to assist with clinical experience placements for students undertaking the BN degree. This involves liaising with venues where clinical experience placements are planned, preparation of rosters and documents for clinical experience students and clinical facilitators, and maintaining records of student experiences. Wage rate of registered nurse Yr 1 to 8, depending upon experience. For specific selection criteria and job description, visit <www.avondale.edu.au>. Further information is available from Paul Race, Dean of the Faculty of Nursing and Health, <paul.race@avondale.edu.au> or (02) 9487 9630. Applications, including a CV and the contact details of at least 3 referees, should be sent to the Human Resource Officer, <employment@avondale.edu.au> or Avondale College, PO Box 19, Cooranbong, NSW 2265. Applications close **May 19, 2008**.

▲ **Manager**—*Adventist Retirement Villages, Seventh-day Adventist Aged Care Limited (Greater Sydney)* is looking to appoint a manager for Adventist Retirement Villages, Sydney (incorporating the Wairoonga, Kings Langley and Hornsby campuses). Please send your application (including your CV) to the General Secretary, Greater Sydney Conference, 4 Cambridge Street, Epping 2121, NSW, or email to <mworker@adventist.org.au>. Applications close **May 27, 2008**.

▲ **Conference positions**—*Northern Australian Conference*, in accordance with its constitution, would like to call for expressions of interest in the following elected positions: President, Secretary/Treasurer, ABC Manager (part time), Youth Director, Education Director (part time) and Personal Ministries Director (part time). Forward all applications to The Applications Committee, c/o 17 Tamar Close, Mt Sheridan, Qld 4868. Applications will be handed to the nominating committee chairman for the confidential information of the committee. Applications close **June 20, 2008**.

For more employment options go to
hr.adventistconnect.org



Anniversaries

Johns, Mervyn and Ruth (nee White), were married on 13.4.1948 by Pastor RJ Burns at Auckland, NZ. The couple recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with family and friends at the Waihi church on 13.4.08. Merv and



Ruth have led an exciting life together and have been faithful members of the church. They have always been keen to spread the good news of salvation and the second coming of Jesus.

Morgan, Russell and Shirley (nee Roll), were married on 2.4.1958 by Pastor Bert Grosser in the Bundaberg church, Crofton Street, Qld. The couple recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a party, organised by their children and grandchildren. Family and friends travelled from near and far to surprise them on their special day. One of the highlights was a phone call from Pastor and Mrs Grosser. The phone calls, cards, and hundreds of roses given are much appreciated by the couple and combined to ensure a very memorable occasion.

Nason, Paddy and Doreen. On 29.10.07, the couple renewed their vows, prior to the church service, after 50 years. Their son, Colin, gave his mum to his dad in a recommitment of marriage.

Their daughter, Jane, and son-in-law, Andrew, were also part of the wedding party. The short service was taken by Pastor Ken Lawson. At the party that evening, Paddy said after having a church wedding they felt they were really married, rather than just signing at the registry office and having to go home and feed his mother's chickens, as he did 50 years ago in England.

Appreciation

Jorgensen, Alfred. Dr Estelle Jorgensen, Drs William and Faye Whitfield and Evan Whitfield are deeply appreciative of the tremendous outpouring of love and respect for our late father and grandfather, Pastor Alfred S Jorgensen. Dad was a teacher, preacher, theologian, administrator and author, as well as a scholar, who loved the church and served it faithfully. His prodigious and meticulous collection of sermons, teaching and research materials, spanning some 70 years, have been donated to the Heritage Room at Avondale College. He was a wonderful husband, father and grandfather, and we will forever cherish the precious time shared with him on our recent visit to Australia. Dad looked forward to the blessed hope and eternity with Christ. Until we meet again.

Retirements

● **Terence Annable**, Avondale College (22 years). ● **Dawn Barrow**, Victorian Schools (31 years). ● **Allan Croft**, South Australian Conference (36 years). ● **Frank Dyson**, WA Conference (41 years). ● **Athol Grosse**, WA Conference (40 years). ● **Yvonne Hensby**, ARV Greater Sydney Conference (16 years). ● **Glynn Lock**, Avondale Flying

Volunteers!

Dentist—*Pacific Yacht Ministries, Vanuatu*, is seeking volunteer dentists for its 2008 season in Vanuatu.

Health educators—*Pacific Yacht Ministries, Vanuatu*, is seeking volunteer health educators for its 2008 season in Vanuatu. The season will run from July 1 to October 31, 2008. Interested applicants should be trained health educators or registered nurses, with an understanding of health education. More information and applications can be found on our website <www.pym.org.au>.

Email:

<volunteers@adventist.org.au>

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

+61 2 9847 3275



School (28 years). ● **Valerie Monk**, Signs Publishing Company (34 years). ● **Eleanor Pringle**, Victorian Schools (20 years). ● **Dale Robson**, Sanitarium Health Food Company, Christchurch, NZ (31 years).

Trans-Pacific Union Mission
Fiji Mission

● **Sumasafu Albert**. ● **Nikola Bainvala**. ● **Mafao Korosaya**. ● **Sinate Sailada**. ● **Isei Draunikaumila**.

Papua New Guinea Union Mission
New Britain New Ireland Mission
● **Johnathan Akut**.

Weddings

Blankenburg—**Young**. Gunter Blankenburg (Hornsby, Sydney, NSW) and Roberta Young (Wahroonga) were married on 6.4.08 in the Wahroonga church
Eric Winter

Chandran—**Sommariva**. Deepak Chandran, son of Sarath and Rajakumari Chandran (Perth, WA), and Emilia Sommariva, daughter of Silvano Sommariva (deceased) and Margharita Fossen Rivamonte (Belluno, Italy), were married on 4.11.07 in Cannington church, WA, after the couple were married in Italy on 27.1.07.

Andrew Skeggs

Chee—**Hoa He**. T S Edison Chee, son of Edward and Glenda Chee (Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia), and Susanti Hoa He, daughter of Herman and Siauw Hoa He (Pontianak, Indonesia), were married on 27.4.08 in Melbourne Asian church, Forest Hill, Vic.

Isaac Foo

Gledhill—**Bobongie**. Jamie Gledhill, son of Graham and Faye Gledhill (Canberra, ACT), and Samantha Bobongie, daughter of Frank and Sally Bobongie (Perth, WA),

were married on 4.1.08 in the Gold Creek Chapel, Canberra, ACT.

Andrew Skeggs

Hosken—**Hölzl**. Dean Cameron Hosken, son of Bruce and Lesley Hosken (Swansea, NSW), and Martina Hölzl, daughter of Günter and Imgard Hölzl (Germany), were married on 16.3.08 at Ducks Crossing, Eleebana, NSW.

Garth Bainbridge

McIntosh—**Foster**. Christopher John McIntosh, son of Stuart and Robyn McIntosh (Taree, NSW), and Nerida Kate Foster, daughter of Wayne and Yvonne Foster (Port Macquarie), were married on 30.12.07 in the Port Macquarie church.

Aaron Jeffries

Mukasa—**Dulanya**. Kasozi Mukasa, son of Hamis and Madina Mukasa (Uganda), and Jean Dulanya, daughter of Catonga (deceased) and Falesi Dulanya (Malawi), were married on 25.4.08 in Marybrooke Receptions, Sherbrooke, Vic.

Brian Lawty

Sexton—**Smith**. Paul James Sexton, son of Norman and Mary Sexton, and Kelly Anne Smith, daughter of Philip and Noelle Smith, were married on 1.10.07 at "Glenfalloch" Gardens, Royston, WA.

Clem Van Ballegooyen

Turner—**Watts**. Joel Anthony Turner, son of Kim and Darlene Turner, and Jena May Watts, daughter of Loren and Sandra Watts, were married on 11.4.08 on the grounds of Belle Grove Estate, property of the bride's parents in Martinsville, NSW.

Horrie Watts

Youlden—**Jones**. Danny Ross Youlden, son of David and Joy Youlden (Brisbane, Qld), and Melissa Elizabeth Jones, daughter of Errol and Patricia Jones (Brisbane), were married on 20.4.08 at Hillstone, St Lucia, Brisbane.

Trafford Fischer

Obituaries

Allen, Rebecca Ellen, born 12.9.1916 at Boulder, WA; died 16.4.08 in the Avondale Adventist Aged Care Facility, Cooranbong, NSW. On 23.4.1943, she married Walter John Allen, who predeceased her on 21.12.1999. She is survived by her daughters, Loloma Dixon (Cooranbong) and Esther Corbett (Sydney); her brothers, Fred (Charlestown) and Ernest Brown (Thirroul); and their families. She and her husband contributed to the building of churches in Wollongong and Tumut. Beanie was laid to rest in the sure and certain hope of a joyful Resurrection.

A Gersbach, L Coombe

Bott, Sybil Lois, born 3.10.1917 at Forth, Tas; died 2.4.08 in Karingal Home, Devonport. Lois married Edwin (Ted) William Bott, who predeceased her. She was also predeceased by her son, Rodney. She is survived by her sons Keville, Ricky, Gregory and Andrew, and their families. She will be missed by her family, church

HIS HEART

HIS HEALING • HIS GIFT • OUR RESPONSE

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2008**

and friends. Lois died believing in her Lord and His church, and in the blessed hope of resurrection and the coming of Jesus.

Francis Pule

Bowman, Frank Noel, born 26.4.1928 at Patetonga, NZ; died 1.4.08 in Calvary Mater Hospital, Newcastle, NSW. On 4.2.1948, he married Beryl Maisie Hills at Tauranga, who predeceased him in 2005. He was also predeceased by his sisters, Joyce and Norma. He is survived by his brother, Gordon (Thames); his children and their spouses, Carolyn and Phil Connolly (Buttaba), Calvin and Narelle (Orchard Hills), Robert and Lynette (Castle Hill), David and Beryl (Bonnells Bay), Ronald and Helen (Little Hartley), Janene (Maclean) and Brian (Castle Hill); his 15 grandchildren; and his five great-grandchildren. Frank and Beryl moved from New Zealand to Norfolk Island. Frank worked as a carpenter at Avondale College and Sanitarium in Cooranbong. A faithful family man and quietly involved member, he will be sorely missed by his loved ones and his church family alike.

Clive Nash, Bert Godfrey

Burrows, Bruce Frederick, born 1.1.1928; died 18.2.08 in his home at Raymond Terrace, clinging to his hope of seeing God after a long battle with illness. He is survived by Moira his wife of 54 years; his son, Maurice; his daughters, Colleen, Stephanie and Roslyn, and their spouses; a number of grandchildren; his twin brother; and others of his extended family and church. Through all his suffering, he

maintained his confidence in Christ, his cheerfulness and a wonderful sense of humour.

Norm Tyack, Allan Hedges

Cobbin, Merryl Christine (nee Dines), born 8.7.1942 at Wahroonga, NSW; died 2.4.08 in the John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle, NSW. On 30.3.1961, she married Max in the Castle Hill church. She is survived by her husband (Cooranbong); her sons and their wives, David and Gai (Newcastle), and Michael and Jillian (Sydney); her four grandchildren; and her siblings, Ian (Melbourne, Vic), Alwyn (Taree, NSW) and Jenny (Brisbane, Qld). Merryl held numerous roles in businesses and government departments. She also shared a number of church offices with her husband. She rests after a battle with cancer and at the end of days, she will receive her allotted inheritance with the redeemed.

*Adrian Craig,
Horrie Watts, Rex Cobbin*

Dobson, Brian (Dobbie), born 27.6.1940 at Huntly, NZ; died 5.10.07 at home in Tauranga after a short illness. He is survived by his wife, Trish; his children and their partners, Stuart Dobson (London, UK), Julie Roberts (New Plymouth, NZ) and Belinda Furmenger (Auckland); and his grandchildren, Aimee, Dayna and Mitchell Roberts, Lewis, Maddison and Millie Furmenger, Ella Dobson-Frye, Aidan Hicks, Jaran Hicks and Kim King. He was a loved stepdad to Toni Hicks, John Ashmore and Hayley Ashmore, and their families. Brian and Trish worked

closely with the youth of the Tauranga church. He will be sadly missed. Sleep in peace, dear brother, as you await the Lord's return. Come, Lord Jesus.

Allan Brown

Green, Frank, born 27.1.1923 at Woolgoolga, NSW; died 3.4.08 in Mackay Mater Hospital, Qld. Frank was predeceased by his wife, Joyce, on 3.10.06. He is survived by his children, Kenneth (Mackay), Laurie (Atherton), Dorinda (Mackay) and Cathleen (Mackay), and their spouses and families. Through the influence of his wife, Frank accepted the Lord and joined the fellowship of the Adventist church in 1962. He was a faithful servant and awaits the Lord's return.

Rick Ferret, Des Dunn

Haskins, Malcolm, born 19.6.1947 at Gisborne, NZ; died suddenly 25.10.07 in the Gisborne Hospital. Malcolm was predeceased by his wife, Phylis, (nee Cutts). He is survived by his children, Debbie, Pam, Brent and Anthony (all of Gisborne). This year, 2008, marks 100 years for the Haskins family orchard and Malcolm had been looking forward to it. He will be sadly missed by his children, extended family, church family and friends. Rest in peace, dear brother, as you await the return of the Master.

Allan Brown

Mitchell, Andrew James, born 18.9.1974 at Murwillumbah, NSW; died tragically 7.3.08 on the Gold Coast, Qld. He is survived by his wife, Anita; his daughters, Ania and Amelia; his parents, Trevor and Rosslyn; his sister, Donna; and his brother, Nathan. Over 700 people attended Andrew's funeral, to pay tribute to a man who loved his family, was following his dreams to fly, and always had a sense of humour and a smile on his face. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him. He rests in Jesus, awaiting the Resurrection morning.

Brett Townsend

Nelson, Aneta Fay, born 9.1.1930 at Queen's Home, Rose Park, SA; died 13.4.08 in Eastern Health, Wantirna, Vic. She is survived by her children, Tommy Hense (Swan Hill), Clive Huston (Creswick), Larella Da Rose (Cranbourne), Michelle Chadwick (Ringwood), Darren (Somerville) and Loz Nelson (Ringwood). Aneta was a great woman of faith, who was passionate for God and her family. Through great difficulties, God led her. She was a faithful member of Mont Albert church. It will be wonderful to see her again at Christ's return.

John Denne

Sherman, Roma Jean, born 27.2.1934 at Auckland, NZ; died 19.3.08 at Dargaville. In 1943, she married Bruce. She was predeceased by her son, Garry, in 2006. She is survived by her husband (Dargaville); her son, Ralph (Sydney, NSW); and her daughters, Barbara Liggett (Dargaville, NZ), Shelley Thompson (Auckland) and Carolyn Hargreaves (Auckland). Roma trusted

her Lord implicitly, and was greatly appreciated for her hospitality, acts of kindness and gentle nature. She passed away knowing she would meet her Saviour soon.

Ken Curtis

Thwaite, Edna May (nee Layton), born 3.10.1920; died 11.4.08 in Wesley Hospital, Brisbane. On 9.9.1949, she married Fredrick John Thwaite, who predeceased her in 1993. She is survived by her children, Robyn Shackell (Murwillumbah, NSW), and John (Sydney). Teddi was loved and respected by many. Her fascinating life led her from shop assistant to truck driver—during WWII for the Americans and the Dutch—to encyclopedia saleswoman. Her ability to influence others and accept Jesus changed many lives. Sleep well, you've earned your rest.

R Possingham

Walton, Betty Lillian, born 18.4.1927 in Perth, WA; died 26.11.07 in Perth. She is survived by her daughter, Karen Walton (Yealering, WA). Betty was a genuinely warm person, who invested in her community and Victoria Park church. Her joy of life lit up the world around her.

Andrew Skeggs

Wilkins, Valerie Joan (nee Lyons), born 19.11.1933 in Stanmore, Sydney, NSW; died 9.1.08 in John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle. On 20.8.1960, she married Richard John Wilkins. She was predeceased by her daughter, Janice, in 1964. She is survived by her husband (Cooranbong); her daughter and son-in-law, Debbie and Shane Roberts (Cooranbong); her son and daughter-in-law, Allen and Sarah (Sydney); and her grandchildren, Amy, Holly and Thomas. In 1961, she was baptised into the Woollahra church, where she held numerous offices. Upon retirement, she and Richard moved to Cooranbong. She was always busy knitting and crocheting for mission, both at home and overseas. A woman of prayer, Valerie died peacefully in the knowledge she will see Jesus at the Resurrection.

Shane Roberts, S Ross Goldstone

Wills, Bertha (Pat), born 13.12.1919; died 22.3.08 in St Andrews Hospital, Brisbane, Qld. She is survived by her husband, Ernie; her children, Harry and Barbara; and her granddaughter, Melissa. Family and friends farewelled her at South Brisbane church, Qld, on 28.3.08. Pat was kind and loved her Lord. She will be sadly missed by her loved ones and friends. She is gone from this life but not from our hearts.

Miroslav Stilinic, Ted White

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Northern Australian Conference Session.

Notice is hereby given that the 24th session of the Northern Australian Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church will convene at the Riverside Convention Centre, Leopold Street, Aitkenvale, July 4, 2008. The first business session will commence at 9 am, with registration of delegates from 8.30 am. Delegates will be appointed in harmony with the constitution of the Conference. The business of the session will be as provided for in the constitution, including amendments to the constitution, reports covering all aspects of the work within the conference, and the election of officers, executive committee and departmental directors.

Auburn church, Vic, seeks missing members:

Brendan Badham, Dignity Dintlefatso, Nicholas Grapsas, Teremoana Kata, Margaret Jarvis, Alfred and Julian Kozavic, Joanne Lograsso, Molathegi Seganyarine, Kevin Wood, Glenys (Joy) Parnell and her husband. If you have any information, please contact Nigel Hollier at <nigel.hollier@yahoo.com.au> or phone (03) 9873 8037.

Murray Bridge church, SA, seeks missing members:

Christine Campbell, David Gray, Thomas Hudson, Susanne Hudson, Murray Kraa, Rose Marshal, Elizabeth McGory, Karen Pascoe, Benita Stephenson, Sharon Wilson. Please contact Joan Jaensch, PO Box 913, Murray Bridge, SA.

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QUSDAS (Queensland University SDA Society) is holding a reunion at Maranatha Centre, Qld, on August 22 to 25, 2008. If you were part of QUSDAS during the 60s and 70s, please join us. For more information, contact Ken Aitken at <aitkken@gmail.com>.

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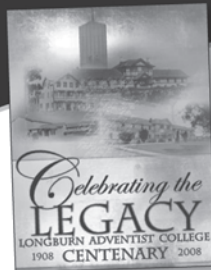
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