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Kids collect cans for those in need

Adventist World issue

“Partners in mission” visit Vanuatu

PORT VILA, VANUATU

The administration team of the South Queensland Conference (SQC) visited the Vanuatu Mission from June 15 to 22 as part of the “Partners in mission” program—a South Pacific Division initiative to link conferences in Australia and New Zealand with missions in the Pacific.

SQC’s president Pastor Neil Watts, general secretary Pastor Malcolm Potts, and chief financial officer Scott Hopkins visited several locations around Vanuatu, to become familiar with the work of the church there and to gain a firsthand understanding of the needs of the church and school system.

Pastor Watts says, “It also helped us to decide the most important and urgent needs, and to gain insights into ways in which our conference may be able to help them. We wanted to meet with the local members and the Vanuatu Mission Executive Committee, to assure them of our commitment to work with them and the local mission administration in finding the best way to help each other, and to foster mutual understanding and support.”

“It was truly a historical visit, because it consolidates the relationship between the conference and the mission,” says Vanuatu Mission president Pastor John Leeman, (Continued on page 3)
Most of us approach this last book of the Bible with forebodings rather than hope. However, the elderly apostle, John, begins with a statement that doesn’t seem to fit the rest of the book: The revelation of Jesus Christ. It sounds like he is about to unveil something tremendously important—something life changing—something we can’t afford to miss.

Paperback, 144 pages.
Lansborough church celebrates half a century

LANDSBOROUGH, QUEENSLAND

On June 14, the Landsborough Adventist church held a special church service to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the church’s official opening.

Around 300 past and present church members and pastors gathered to celebrate the church’s milestone. The main speaker at the event was Pastor Kevin Robinson, grandson of founding members Rod and Hilary Robinson, who first attended Landsborough in 1950. The service also included a section recognising original members of the church, as well as time for sharing memories about the church’s history. The service was followed by a luncheon, where an anniversary cake was cut by founding member Stan Harker.

Current minister Pastor Mike Brownhill comments, “I praise the Lord for the half-century of service and commitment our church has offered the community. It’s been a privilege to be a pastor in such a vibrant church community and to work in a beautiful part of God’s creation.”

Church meetings began in the area in 1948 in members’ homes and, by 1950, the number of people attending increased to 19, which necessitated the company to move to the Landsborough School of Arts.

The company purchased land for the construction of a church in 1956, with the building commencing in 1957. The total cost for the original church was £1438. The church was officially opened by the then-state premier, G F R Nicklin.

With constantly-growing congregation numbers, plans were drawn up in 1994 to extend the church building and modernise the facilities. These were overseen by church member and builder Kevin Chugg. —Sunshine Coast Daily/RECORD staff/Ben Beaden

Adventurers collect cans for families in need

GOSFORD, NEW SOUTH WALES

The Gosford Adventist church’s Adventurer Club recently collected 3231 tins of canned food for the homeless, needy and struggling families on New South Wales’ central coast.

For about four weeks, the 58 children-aged from four to nine—and their families collected tinned food from friends, relatives and neighbours. The collection was conducted as a competition, with prizes awarded for the family and individual children who collected the most cans.

The cans were all brought together at a games night held on June 14, where the children played games involving tins and also made “sculptures” using those they had collected. On the following Sunday morning, some of the children and their families took the cans—in two trailers and one full car boot—to the Donnison Street Restaurant.

The restaurant is run by Coast Shelter, and serves meals to local homeless and underprivileged people. Some of the cans of food were also donated to the local women’s refuge.

This event was part of the Gosford Adventurer Club’s philosophy of teaching the children service to others. Last year, they raised more than $A700 to buy a poor Indian family a rickshaw. —Sharon Bolst

(Continued from page 1)

who believes the partnership with SQC will help boost the morale of members.

The SQC team visited four of the six provinces in Vanuatu and spent time with church members in Santo, Port Vila, Malekula, Tanna and Aore, where they visited the Aore Adventist Academy. The visit concluded with the team attending the mission’s midyear Executive Committee Meeting.

Pastor Potts says, “It’s inspiring to see the commitment of leaders and members alike to the mission of the church, despite the limited availability of resources. The church is central to the life of the village communities and members, and they have a passion to do what they can to extend the kingdom of God in their territory.”

Pastor Watts adds, “By supporting the mission with guest speakers and trainers, as well as having some of their speakers assist us at campmeetings and other programs, I believe we will see our members in both regions greatly blessed and enriched.” —Adle Nash/John Leeman

Partners in mission visit to Vanuatu

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Unloading some of the collected cans.
PNGUM releases new DVD on HIV/AIDS

LAE, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The Papua New Guinea Union Mission (PNGUM) department of health ministries released its second DVD dealing with the subject of HIV/AIDS in May and is already struggling to keep up with demand.

“Em Bong Blo Mi Yet,” which targets young people and their parents, was filmed last year in July but was delayed following the death of the script writer, Martina Darius, who was killed in a traffic accident on the day filming was completed (“Church mourns passing of two leaders,” News, September 8, 2007).

The DVD material is based on the true story of a high school girl who was infected with HIV after she started dating a businessman. When her father discovered she was HIV positive, he disowned her and left her to die deep inside an isolated rainforest.

The first DVD dealing with HIV/AIDS produced by PNGUM was “O Papa God, Why Na Em Olsem,” which was made in 2006 and is used extensively by non-government organisations and denominations involved in combating HIV/AIDS in Papua New Guinea.

“We learnt valuable lessons from the technical mistakes we made in the first DVD and tried our best to correct them in this second production,” says Pastor Matupit Darius, communication director for PNGUM and director of the “Em Bong Blo Mi Yet” production. He adds that none of the people who acted in the production had any acting training but they performed “exceptionally well.” Many of the actors work for various departments of the PNGUM and the soundtrack was composed by young people at Pacific Adventist University.

Several Adventist Book Centres (ABC) in PNG have placed orders for thousands of copies each and there has been strong public demand for the DVD. Nancy Lagdom, the publicity coordinator for the health department, says other Christian denominations have placed orders for the DVD, along with orders for “O Papa God, Why Na Em Olsem.”

The DVD has several features other than the story about the disowned high school girl, one of which is a tribute to Ms Darius.

Local television will be airing the production this month and the health department plans to release 20,000 copies of the DVD to ABCs around Papua New Guinea.

—Priscilla Elwin/RECORD staff

◆ A German student, who spent 12 months at Carmel Adventist College, WA, has requested a copy of the Bible to take home. Constantin (Con) Hettinger did not come from a strong Christian background, however, he completed Year 11 as a boarding student and recently returned to Germany. During his time at Carmel, Con came to love the Lord and learn more about the Christian gospel. Before leaving the school, he approached principal Gavin Williams and asked for a Bible. Con was presented with a pocket edition of the Scriptures. He then asked several staff members and students for their favourite Bible texts, so he could mark these in his Bible when he got home. “I really enjoyed my time in Australia and don’t want to leave,” says Con. “I may return to do further studies as a Civil Engineer. I really appreciate all that Carmel has done for me, both academically and spiritually.”—Gavin Williams

◆ Rokforce (Reach Out for Kids), a group of around 40 people from Avondale Memorial church, NSW, led by Tanya Lawrence visited Wat Preah Yesu Orphanage, Cambodia, for two weeks, running STORM Co programs for the local Khmer children and providing funds for building and fitting out five classrooms there. The church raised $A53,000 through fundraisers, including sausage-roll drives, movie nights and camp toilet-cleaning. A two-week intensive English course for the orphanage teachers and educational materials for the classes were also provided. The orphanage was set up by Tim and Wendy Maddock of WA in 1992, and is 20-minutes drive from the 1000-year-old Angkor Wat ruins. The group stayed there working for two weeks, six days a week. Their time finished with a grand graduation and ribbon-cutting ceremony, followed by spontaneous singing from the excited children.—Lyn Medhurst
Church-planting thrill

MARGARET MAJOR, NSW

I read “Rediscovering church planting” (Feature, June 21) with interest. As a member of the church and of the opposite sex to those who usually occupy leadership roles, this initiative is thrilling. Church members have been waiting for this to happen.

Here in North New South Wales, our conference is laying plans for a new church plant in Newcastle, a city four times that of Nineveh. It opens up wonderful opportunities for us, everyday church members, to be involved in helping the work of God grow and progress. For too long it has been almost stagnant.

Let us get behind our leaders, supporting them and one another as we go forward to finish this great work, bound together in love and the unity and power of the Spirit.

Figure check

HARLEY STANTON, TAS

I have recently seen claims that the Adventist Church is working in 230 of 238 countries around the world, and some Adventist TV programs claim even higher numbers.

It is difficult to know how this figure is derived. According to the United Nations, there are 192 countries in the world. There are two other states or areas not included in this, namely the Vatican and Kosovo, and the United States recognises 194 countries. There are obviously other territories or dependencies administered by sovereign states, and the Adventist Church is working in many of these. But if we are going to claim to be in 230 countries, it needs to be listed as countries and territories or dependencies, otherwise truth is the loser.

Data check

WAYNE MILLER, HEATHER YEATMAN AND TONY WORSLEY, NSW

The support Sanitarium provides for the school breakfast program known as the Good Start Breakfast Club deserves to be recognised with a certificate of thanks from the Australian Red Cross (“Sanitarium awarded for breakfast club work,” News, April 26). They, along with Coles and other local community sponsors who provide menu items, are as critical to its operation as the volunteers and teachers who turn out on school mornings to ensure participating children are fed.

However, as a number of studies have been undertaken on school breakfast programs, we wish to point out that the data cited in the article was not taken from a doctoral project involving the Good Start Breakfast Club undertaken by Wayne Miller through the University of Wollongong.

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.
Reg and Helen Yasserie (Mackay, Qld), and Aretha Helen Yasserie, daughter of 12.9.1920; died 12.6.08. Rose is survived 27.4.08 in the Brisbane City Town Hall, (Mooroolbark, Vic), and Vathanak Vear-Bamford, (Suvavou, Fiji), and Salabogi Korovou, qe, son of Inoke and Nunai Mocelutu Naiteqe—Korovou.

Rose (nee Hamilton), born 27.12.1917, at Teralba, NSW; died 8.6.08 in Canberra, ACT. On 20.5.1940, she was married to Stan in North Sydney church by Pastor CJ Reynolds. She is survived by her husband and all her children and grandchildren. She is remembered for her hospitality and dressmaking skills. Her gifts and abilities have inspired later generations to also strive to do great things for God. Marj rests but her good works continue after her. Raymond Davison

Morton—Richana. Kevin Ross Morton, son of Maurice and the late Owynne Morton (nineteen grandchildren, WA), and Eileen Cameron. Esocia Ricamora, daughter of Diosdado (deceased) and Magdalina Ricamora (Cavite, Philippines), were married on 6.12.07 at Sunshine Park, NSW). Marj met Tad while training at the SAN. They shifted to Newbourne, Vic. Marj met Tad while training at the SAN. They shifted to Newbourne, Vic). Marj is survived by her children, Colin and Barbara (Cooranbong), Miriam and Warwick Stokes (Gosford), Eric and Helen (Alice Springs, NT), and Roslyn and Andrew Verity (Melbourne, Vic). Mention Mat as the team at the 2010. They shifted to New Zealand, where, for the next 40 years, their life was at Longburn College and the Factory. She is best remembered for her hospitality and dressmaking skills. Her gifts and abilities have inspired later generations to also strive to do great things for God. Marj rests but her good works continue after her. Raymond Davison

Nastegqe—Korovou. Ratu Siioloi Nastegqe, daughter of Inoke and Nunai Moeletulu (Suva, Fiji), and Salabogi Korovou, daughter of Alipate Korovou and Lai-sam Talica (Suva), were married on 23.3.08 at Woy Woy, NSW.

Obituaries

Bampou, Norman Ian, born 20.9.1926 at Camperdown, Vic; died 23.5.08 in the Freemason’s Hospital, Melbourne. He is survived by his wife, Joyce (Kilmorne); and his children and their spouses, Denise and Russell Ware (Martinvale, NSW), Wayne and Joanne (Kilmore, Vic), Katrina and Mark Floyd (Pearo), Kim and Sue (Eltham) and Cindy (Kilmore). Ian was a people person and is remembered for his warmth, dignity and humor in the career he pursued as funeral director. He was laid to rest in the Eltham Cemetery after a lifetime of service to others.

Garan Grasner, Morrie Krag

Calvert, Rose (nee Hamilton), born 12.9.1920; died 12.6.08. Rose is survived by her sisters, Alison (Melbourne, Vic) and Marjorie (Canada); and her brothers, Trevor (Leeton, NSW) and Morris (Namour, Qld); her four nephews; and five nieces and their families. Resting till Jesus returns.

Close Butcher

Davis, Pearl, born 19.9.1919 in Sydney, NSW; died 8.6.08 in Canberra, ACT. On 20.5.1939, she was married to Stan in North Sydney church by Pastor CJ Reynolds. She is survived by her husband and all her children. Daphne and Ron Butler (Canberra), and Beverley and Dr John Whittaker (Redlands, USA); her five children; and her 11 great-grandchildren. Pearl is remembered for the frailties that old age brought her over the past couple of years but her trust in the Lord never wavered. Her husband of 68 years and her family look forward to a happy reunion when Jesus returns.

Neil Lawson

Fisher, Marjorie Ada (nee Harragon), born 16.3.1919 at Teralba, NSW; died 7.6.08 at Cooranbong. On 28.11.1938, she married Harold (Tad), who predeceased her in 1984. She is survived by her children, Colin and Barbara (Cooranbong), Miriam and Warwick Stokes (Gosford), Eric and Helen (Alice Springs, NT), and Roslyn and Andrew Verity (Melbourne, Vic). Mention Mat as the team at the 2010. They shifted to New Zealand, where, for the next 40 years, their life was at Longburn College and the Factory. She is best remembered for her hospitality and dressmaking skills. Her gifts and abilities have inspired later generations to also thrive to do great things for God. Marj rests but her good works continue after her. Raymond Davison

Tombstone—Yasserie. Tony Magi, son of Newton and Margaret Magi (Solomon Islands), and Aretha Helen Yasserie, daughter of Reg and Helen Yasserie (Mackay, Qld), were married on 6.12.07 at Sunshine Park, Lake Macquarie.

Tom Osborne

Morton—Richana. Kevin Ross Morton, son of Maurice and the late Owynne Morton (nineteen grandchildren, WA), and Eileen Cameron. Esocia Ricamora, daughter of Diosdado (deceased) and Magdalina Ricamora (Cavite, Philippines), were married on 6.12.07 at Sunshine Park, NSW). Marj met Tad while training at the SAN. They shifted to Newbourne, Vic. Marj met Tad while training at the SAN. They shifted to Newbourne, Vic). Marj is survived by her children, Colin and Barbara (Cooranbong), Miriam and Warwick Stokes (Gosford), Eric and Helen (Alice Springs, NT), and Roslyn and Andrew Verity (Melbourne, Vic). Mention Mat as the team at the 2010. They shifted to New Zealand, where, for the next 40 years, their life was at Longburn College and the Factory. She is best remembered for her hospitality and dressmaking skills. Her gifts and abilities have inspired later generations to also thrive to do great things for God. Marj rests but her good works continue after her. Raymond Davison

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Finally

The bitterest tears shed over graves are for words left unsaid and deeds left undone.
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**WEB MINISTRY**

The offering will see the continued support of web ministry in the South Pacific. This ensures every church, school, church office and entity has a free website and is integrated in the web network. The release of Version 3 in 2008 gives organisations even greater flexibility and enhanced functionality.

**NEW HEALTH TV PROGRAM**

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