

RECORD

August 16, 2008

In this issue

Educators serve
with strength

Saving
Generation Y

Is there life in
education?



Year 2 students at Northpine Christian College are excited to receive children's Bibles as part of the "Bibles 4 Kidz" project, established by the school.



Special issue: Adventist Education

"Bibles 4 Kidz" project grows at NCC

DAKABIN, QUEENSLAND

Northpine Christian College (NCC) is now in its third year of a "Bibles 4 Kidz" project, aimed at sharing the Bible with the growing number of children attending the school from the wider community.

More than 60 per cent of the school's 700 children are from non-Adventist homes. With many being introduced to the Bible and Christianity for the first time through the school, staff looked for a way to ensure every child who came through the school was given their own age-appropriate Bible.

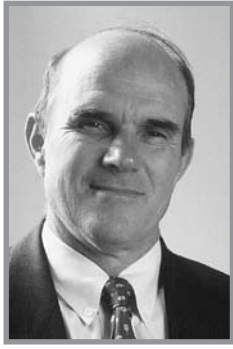
Children at NCC are presented with their

own children's Bible when they enter Year 2, which is accompanied by a personalised certificate and message of encouragement from the school. The Bibles remain in the classrooms, and are used for reading in the daily Bible lessons and worships.

The Caboolture Adventist church, one of the school's local churches, embraced the idea and collected enough money to buy 50 Bibles for the first round of Bibles two years ago. Since then, other churches and individuals have made donations.

To date, some 300 Bibles have been purchased and presented to students.

—*Michelle Kent*



Adventist education is all about restoring God's image in students.

The essence of education

OUR HOME HAS A CERTAIN CHARACTER. The green sign by the front door carries the symbolic message "Frogmore Manor." A kind of frog adoration happens here. The family room is littered with frog images and icons. There are dazzling, coloured, wax-candle frogs, frogs that chirp when squeezed, frog doll families that relax with legs draped over window panes, frog books depicting the life cycle of frogs and action books of frogs leaping. A rich history of frog tales, frog jokes and frog birthday cards has developed.

In a similar way, each Adventist school has its own character and, in turn, this will help develop a Christlike character in students. This work is the essence of Adventist education.

In 2004, we asked a number of our secondary teachers what the purpose of their school was. Almost without exception, they replied that it was to lead students to Jesus. They had it right. To put it another way, Adventist education is all about restoring God's image in students.

To be restored in God's image means we change; we put off our old self and put on a new one (see Ephesians 4:22-32). In this process, we develop a Christlike character and are "sanctified" at the same time. According to Ellen White, the knowledge of God revealed in Jesus transforms our character. "Received into the life, it will re-create the souls in the image of Christ" (*Acts of the Apostles*, page 475).

Christians develop character in at least

four ways. We patiently endure hardship by perseverance, determination and learning from trials. Or, second, we ourselves play a "gritty" part in the character-building process through disciplining ourselves: "In the humble round of daily toil [Elisha] gained strength of purpose and nobleness of character" (*Education*, page 58).

However, a third way to be more like Jesus does not necessarily happen through great effort but by beholding—by conforming to Jesus' likeness, relating to Jesus, loving Jesus and making life changes. And fourth, the Holy Spirit works in us to change us and refine our character.

Somehow, this must all come together in our schools. Virtues like integrity, love, justice and compassion grow mostly in day-to-day relationships with others. And in the school environment, character also develops through the influence of Christlike people.

We learn as we imitate teachers, identify with our heroes and resolve conflicts with good role models. This is why teachers modelling Jesus' life are so important. Adventist teachers try to create a school atmosphere that is warm, helpful and friendly.

Good academic learning should be part of character formation. Character does not grow without some knowledge and skills for thinking, including making good choices and judgments. To be like Jesus, we must first understand Him and His view of life in Scripture. Then we develop our judgment and emotional skills to help us

be more just, compassionate and responsible. Pursuing learning with passion is often part of growing in faith.

Adventist schools promote service learning through a variety of activities, including leaf raking for the aged, cleaning up towns or visiting the sick. School STORM Co trips have become an anchor for teaching students service.

Some of our schools are putting together an innovative character-development package. Based partly on the work of Kurt Hahn, staff of Gilson College (Vic) have developed a Year 9 program that attempts to overcome the six declines of modern life.

In 2007, students participated in an expedition, an urban-learning camp, a service-learning class and a service-learning camp. These activities occur in conjunction with a traditional curriculum that, where possible, grows out of the major components of the program. Our other Melbourne schools also pursue similar programs. I applaud these initiatives, which greatly assist the work of student character formation.

Every aspect of an Adventist school's day-to-day life can contribute to transforming student character. If we are mindful of our priorities, we can help students develop Christlike character in virtually everything we do.

Barry Hill
Director of Adventist Education
South Pacific Division



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

Vol 113 No 31
Cover: Northpine Christian College

Editor Nathan Brown
Associate editor David Edgren
Editorial assistant Adele Nash
Editorial assistant Jarrod Stackelroth
Copyeditor Talitha Simmons
Editorial secretary Kristel Rae
Layout Kym Jackson
Senior consulting editor Barry Oliver

www.record.net.au

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

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

Adventist educators serve with strength

WALLSEND, NEW SOUTH WALES

In June, more than 550 education professionals from across Australia gathered for two days of workshops, networking and inspiration. “Strength in Diversity” was the theme, celebrated by attendees at CAPE & CASE (NSW), representing 35 schools throughout the Australian Union Conference (AUC).

CAPE & CASE (NSW) are the annual professional development meetings for staff working in Adventist schools in New South Wales. These meetings are run by the Education Departments of the North New South Wales, South New South Wales and Greater Sydney Conferences for the staff in the three school companies. An open invitation is extended to other education staff from all over Australia.

The purpose of the meetings is to focus on Adventist education and the opportunities the Adventist Church has to share the gospel with students within the church’s schools. Keynote presenters shared insights, gave encouragement and challenged participants to pursue excellence, value service and continue to look for creative ways of communicating with students.

Dr Tim Hawkes, principal at The King’s School in Parramatta, shared his passion for educating the child as a whole

in order to better prepare them for life. He encouraged educators to pursue opportunities for wholistic learning and to ensure students leave Adventist schools equipped with the practical skills they will need to become valuable members of society.

Justin Herald, founder of Attitude Gear, provided insight into his journey from humble beginnings to running a multimillion-dollar company in a few short years. He reminded the audience that customer service is vital, and that schools are in the service industry and should aspire to the highest standards possible when dealing with students, parents and the broader community.

Dr Beverly Christian, a lecturer in education at Avondale College and former primary teacher, reminded attendees that Adventist schools are unique and challenged teachers to continue to foster the distinctly Adventist flavour of the schools.

Professionals from both the education and business sector delivered a variety of workshops and presentations. Participants were able to choose options which best fitted their area of expertise.

Dr Geoff Newcombe, executive director of the Association of Independent Schools (AIS) NSW, said, “It is always a pleasure



Attendees had the opportunity to network with their peers.

to come to Avondale School and meet with school leaders. This conference is one of the largest professional development conferences in the independent sector and the AIS is always very happy to support such a professional event.”

In conjunction with CAPE & CASE (NSW), the AUC held their biannual Choice Marketing Conference. Marketing professionals and principals from Adventist schools across Australia had the opportunity to hear from a broad range of presenters, on topics ranging from e-marketing to event planning. A number of schools that participated in an image audit conducted by Avondale College received the findings collated from their survey responses.

—**Brenton Luchow**



◆ The team at **Howqua youth camp, Vic**, have received \$A3000 of new books from the **Adventist Book Centre (ABC)**, after noticing the majority of the children who used the facilities were not Adventist. Thousands of people, young and old, use the camp every year, from church and school groups to families. After observing a group of “at-risk kids” looking through a

Bible on the bookshelf and asking questions about God, Howqua staff approached **Steve Whitson**, chief financial officer of the Victorian Conference and also the manager of the ABC, asking for any second-hand books that could be donated. Instead, they responded by donating new books.—**Ursula Vaughan**

◆ **Sydney Adventist Hospital’s (SAH) Intensive Care Unit manager Chris Waite** (pictured second from left) has been honoured by the **Rotary Club of Mosman** and awarded the highest award in



Rotary—a **Paul Harris Fellow**. He was acknowledged for his involvement with SAH’s healthcare outreach program Operation Open Heart teams, which undertake cardiac surgery on men, women and children in South-East Asian countries like Myanmar, Vietnam and Cambodia. This life-transforming work is supported by the Rotary Club of Mosman. The award cita-

tion read: “In appreciation of tangible and significant assistance given for the furtherance of a better understanding of friendly relations among the peoples of the world.” **Healthcare outreach** celebrated 21 years, 1500 volunteers and more than 2300 surgeries in 2007 and, in addition to cardiac surgery around the world, also undertakes burns scar contracture and cleft palate surgery in Nepal, and orthopaedic work in Cambodia. Equally importantly, the teams provide training for local doctors and nurses, enabling them to continue the work. —**Leisa O’Connor**

Kenyan orphans receive helping hand from LAA

LILYDALE, VICTORIA

After 18 months of fundraising, collecting and planning, a 12-metre container filled with supplies left Lilydale Adventist Academy (LAA) recently, on its voyage to an orphanage in Kenya. Students in the LAA Middle School “adopted” the project after a presentation from Lilydale Adventist church member Paula Jones, whose father, Ian Castleman, operates the “Deal Thy Bread Orphanage” in Kenya.

Mrs Jones’s presentation included stories of children who are disabled, disfigured, abused, carry the HIV/AIDS virus or were abandoned at birth.

Students were moved by the presentation and nights were spent assembling caterpillar oil-testing kits and collecting a variety of goods to send to the orphanage. They also organised a film night to raise funds. As word spread about the project, donations began to arrive, including 60 bicycles from Albury. The number of donations led to the container being upgraded from six metre to 12 metre.

The Lilydale church became involved



Packing bicycles into the container bound for Kenya.

in the project after the church board allocated the annual “Harvest Festival” funds to the orphanage. Students from LAA led a worship service attended by many including non-Adventist parents and students. The service focused on the need to serve not only far-away communities but also local communities.

Mrs Jones says, “It’s really quite unbelievable—the efforts of the students created a momentum that became overwhelming.”

Mrs Jones and her husband, Ashley, will film the opening of the container at the orphanage in Kenya and report back to students about the event.—*David Jones*

Committed teacher opens own school

HONIARA, SOLOMON ISLANDS

An 83-year-old Solomon Islands man, who has built and runs his own private school, is in the process of constructing a vocational school in the Solomon Islands. Selson Faisi Foukona taught in Adventist schools for 35 years and retired in 1993 but still teaches at and runs his own school.

In 2003, Mr Foukona started the GS Faisi Self-Reliance Kindergarten School. The first classrooms were under his house and there are now 90 students and six teachers. The school’s motto is, “Learn to feed yourself,” and it teaches young people to become self-reliant through determination and hard work. The school’s purpose was to offer children who were orphans or from widowed families an opportunity for an education they did not have to pay for. The school started after Mr Foukona established a community association made up of widows and orphans in 2001.

Mr Foukona is now constructing a vocational school that will offer courses in wood work, home economics, business and secretarial studies, agriculture, carpentry, and motor mechanics. While 300 applications were received, only 60 students will be selected.—*Ursula Borgas*



◆ A team of 14 Year 10 and 11 students from **Brisbane Adventist College, Mount Gravatt, Qld**, travelled to the small town of Injune during their recent school holidays to conduct the College’s **16th annual STORM Co trip**. Staying in the local school library, the group would wake up to temperatures of minus six degrees, go to worship and

breakfast, and receive their jobs for the day. Projects the group were involved with were: making a rock memorial for the local retirement village, planting trees for the town beautification committee, cleaning the local golf club, and painting cupboards and fences. After a lunch break and a little rest, afternoons were spent at the school oval, playing

games with the local kids. All the kids were footy mad, so this was the most popular game until they demonstrated their version of capture the flag.—*Lyn Bennett*

◆ **Kindergarten students at Avondale Schools, Coorabong, NSW**, recently brought their **grandparents** to school as part of their “Gg” Week. The two generations were seen working alongside each other on laptop computers. Activities ranged from drama to craft, with grandparents having the opportunity to see the active learning taught at Avon-

dale School. The day began with a concert in the music building and a tour of the school, led by the children. On arriving at the classrooms, grandparents were treated to a production of the play “Grandpa’s Slippers,” put on by each class. The remainder of the day was filled by a range of themed activities, in which the grandparents participated. Painting and reading were also part of the day. Samples of the students hard work were presented and the day finished with a picnic, enjoyed with the grandparents.—*Susan Rogers*

HAVE YOU SUBSCRIBED TO SIGNS @ WWW.SIGNSOFTHETIMES.ORG.AU

Prescott students “step up, step out” for Jesus

ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Prescott Primary Northern held a “Festival of Faith” from May 5 to 9, with the theme of “Step up, step out.” Pastor David Edgren, associate editor at Signs Publishing Company, was the guest presenter for the week and spoke each morning at the hour-long session, which also included songs, videos and photos.

Pastor Edgren focused on a number of topics, including God’s plans, His love and God’s storytellers. The main focus through the week was on Bible characters who had stepped up and out for God, and done great things for Him.

A parents’ night was held on the Friday night at a hired venue, located five minutes from the school. Pastor Edgren spoke on the theme of “I am” and the way God uses who He chooses and is bigger than human excuses.

An added part of the week’s activities included the school’s students going out after each day’s chapel, armed with balloons and handwritten messages from the students. They headed to local shopping centres, private and public schools, libraries, the council chambers, and a retirement village to present the balloons and messages to people they met.

This was part of the Random Acts of Kindness (RAK) campaign the school is running throughout the year. Each class at the school is involved in the RAK outreach work and the response from people who



Distributing flowers to mothers at the school for the Mother’s Day RAK event.

have received the random acts of kindness has been positive.

Pastor Edgren says, “It was a fantastic week. Seeing the kids touching the lives of community members was the highlight for me. It was great. It was really encouraging to see so many parents come to the program on Friday night, too. They really supported their kids by coming to a program in their own time. Sharing the gospel with them was an honour.”

Prescott Northern principal Shane Blake says, “This year, we have deliberately focused on community at our school. We wanted to keep RAK simple. Although the acts were planned, we still like to think of them as random acts. The acts of kindness have been kept very simple, with very little effort, and the evidence shows ‘a little act of kindness can make a huge difference to a person’s life.’”

Other RAK events for the year include letters of appreciation to people in the school community, volunteer thankyou day and distributing Mother’s Day flowers.—*Adele Nash/Raelene Hennig*

DDCS creates “fusion” for students

TOOWOOMBA, QUEENSLAND

The Darling Downs Christian School (DDCS) established five core values—determination, respect, commitment, passion and innovation—to introduce a clearer purpose and vision to the school.

The review process identified one of the key components of the school tone and culture that staff wanted to retain regarding relationships. This tied into the concept of developing resilient young people.

Part of this has involved the creation of a program called “Fusion.” Running twice

a week during school, it focuses on the development of “connectedness” between students of different grades, as well as with teachers. The options available for students includes a variety of sports, arts and crafts, choir, debating and Bible study.

School principal Steve Cowley says, “Research has shown that students are more able to withstand social, emotional and relational changes if they are resilient. A significant part of developing this is feeling connected to something. For DDCS, the ‘Fusion’ program achieves this.”—*RECORD staff/Steve Cowley*

New Bible curriculum for Australia and New Zealand

SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES

The first stage of a new Kindergarten/ prep to Year 10 Bible curriculum called “Encounter” is being rolled out to all primary and secondary Bible teachers throughout Australia for feedback.

The new curriculum works to connect students of all backgrounds to God, through engaging them in the truths of the Bible in a contemporary, creative and heartfelt way, with integrity to Adventist beliefs.

The Bible Reference Committee, under the chairmanship of Dr Daryl Murdoch, associate national director of Adventist Schools Australia (ASA), was established to guide the development of the new curriculum. The board consists of representative members from each state and territory, and speciality.

Lanelle Cobbin, curriculum specialist from the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference, has been developing the “Encounter” curriculum for Adventist schools in New Zealand. The Australian version will be basically the same, apart from some changes needed to align it to Australian school needs. Primary schools in Australia and New Zealand have been using the “Growing in Faith” series, and the new “Encounter” series incorporates some of its elements.

Nina Atcheson, secondary curriculum officer for ASA, says, “The ‘Encounter’ curriculum is revolutionary in that it’s the first time Adventist schools have based their Bible program on a spiritual formation model, as developed by Dr Ben Maxon. While God may be said to be central to all Bible curricula, we believe we’ve looked beyond a study of the outward characteristics and actions of God, and have been intentional about connecting our students with the Father. All topics relate to the personhood of God, for this is ‘all about Him,’ and a relationship with Him.”

Although “Encounter” is still in the early stages of development, it has received significant appraisals to date.—*RECORD staff/Nina Atcheson*

Saving Generation Y

BY PETER BEAMISH

MORE THAN ANY OTHER DEVICE, the iPod is indicative of the times in which we live. It provides entertainment and information at the click of a wheel, whenever and wherever we want it. The iPod is the tool of choice for many of the current generation of young people, who fill their days with electronic devices, computer games, YouTube, MySpace, Facebook and talking to friends on MSN. Whatever you choose to call them—"Generation Y," the iGeneration or Google Generation—they are the young people in our churches and schools.

Christ gave the church a commission to spread the gospel to the entire world, including Generation Y. But what is the best way to make disciples of these young people? What is the best way to save Generation Y?

This may not be an easy question to answer. The world as we know it is changing. Throughout much of history, the father made decisions regarding faith and the family followed. In this way, beliefs, practices and patterns of life were passed on to the next generation. Today, models of socialisation are changing and these traditional approaches are no longer working well.

The current generation is growing up in a world vastly different from that of their parents. Young people are faced with societal pluralism, anxiety about personal and environmental risks, precarious employment opportunities, rampant consumerism, information overload, greater individualisation and increased instability in families.

These factors have led to some marked differences in the spiritual outlook of Australia's young people. Research conducted recently by the Christian Research Association has revealed that many young people are confused about who they are and where they belong. Fewer than half of them identify with a traditional religion and less than half of them believe in a God. Generation Y has moved away from formal church participation, with only one in five attending religious services once a month or more. They are not familiar with religious traditions.

These changes may be due in part to the different way Generation Y constructs their identity. Traditionally, a young person's concept of "self" is largely determined by the groups into which they are born and in which they grow up. Within this system, as a young person socialised within these groups, they absorb their language, values and beliefs. Today, for the most part, young people have a highly individualistic and relativistic approach to life and spirituality. Students are constructing their own belief structures and this process involves choice, with aspects of traditional culture being adopted rather than handed down.

Within this environment of highly individualised approaches to religion, breakdowns in traditional family structures, and irregular church attendance by youth, schools have been asked to step up and minister to the young people in their care, and help them develop a meaningful and relevant faith.

Schools are faced with a big task. They



need to meet students' individualised needs, rather than continue to pursue more traditional approaches to faith development. They need to respect the autonomy of young people and their desire to make decisions about beliefs, values and practices for themselves. Schools can provide a community, and expose students to faith and belief structures that really work for them. Through their teachers, curriculum and classes, chaplains, school worships, weeks of spiritual emphasis, service programs, and approaches to management and discipline, schools help young people develop "spiritual literacy" and a good understanding of their options.

The young people of Generation Y are not a lost cause. The Holy Spirit works on the hearts of all. Generation Y are looking for answers and will respond to beliefs that are relevant and meet their needs. With the erosion of traditional family structures, communities and practices, never has there been a more important time to be engaged in the ministry of teaching. **R**

Peter Beamish is dean of the faculty of education at Avondale College, Cooranbong, New South Wales.

Adventist education saved me

BY TAMMY PANNEKOEK

WE WERE A FAIRLY NORMAL family—at one stage of my life. I can just barely remember family worships, camping trips and family bike rides. Then suddenly, our world was ripped apart. My father fell into severe depression, lost his job and eventually became suicidal. As he sought treatment, it became apparent he was suffering from bipolar disorder.

With the loss of my father's job, my mother's secretarial wage was the only income we had. Being the motivated person she is, she realised she needed more education in order to ensure the financial welfare of our family. She became extremely busy, working full time and studying part time.

I was only 10 years old at the time and unaware of many of the problems that plagued my parents. But as a consequence of our hardship, I felt the loss of my parental attention keenly and tried to make up for it at the only other place people paid attention to me—school. My mother was adamant her children would go to a Seventh-day Adventist school, which is what I now believe saved my life.

To make up for a lack of attention at home, I became what the older students at school called a “brat.” I was constantly doing things to annoy people and get their attention. Their reaction to this behaviour was as expected. They saw me as a misfit, a nerd—an unwanted bother.

Although I felt this rejection keenly, I could not take my sorrow home to my parents because they were both absorbed in their own problems. I felt like an orphan. However, because I was at an Ad-



ventist school, it was always emphasised that Jesus was our brother, our friend—an ever-present help in trouble. With this knowledge, I turned to Him in my pain and experienced His comforting presence.

I remember being particularly upset one day. As I was sitting on a swing, tears running down my face, in my childhood innocence I pled with Jesus to hug me. I wanted Him to soothe my little broken heart the way other children's parents did. During my prayer, I felt God's comforting presence and His assurance that no matter how many people mistreated me, He still loved me and would be with me whenever I needed Him. Because of this real experience, I started a prayer journal and read my Bible regularly.

Through this study and constant remind-

ers from my Adventist teachers, I had the principle of the golden rule—treat others as you would like to be treated—drummed into me. This biblical concept helped me amend my “brat-like” behaviour which, in turn, caused other children to treat me better.

By high school, I was at the top of my class academically. But I still felt as though I was on my own in regard to help and comfort from my parents. Fortunately, the Adventist school became my family. Teachers became my parents and were always ready to give advice and guide me. I will always be grateful to those teachers who gave up their time and energy for me, and showed real concern for my welfare.

I have been scarred for life by some of the events surrounding my father's illness. But instead of wallowing in that pain and hurt, I had a Comforter and Friend I could always go to for help, who never let me down. I believe He has His hand over all I do and has led me down a path of forgiveness, healing, and wholeness.

I credit my knowledge of Him to a long line of Adventist teachers who were dedicated to introducing my Saviour to me. Without Adventist education, I believe I would have been another depressing statistic, caught up in a cycle of abuse. I thank God for those teachers. **R**

Tammy Pannekoek is departmental assistant for Adventist Education at the South Pacific Division, based in Wahroonga, New South Wales.

I smell Christian

BY DARYL MURDOCH

RECENTLY, A COMMITTED ADVENTIST parent shared with me the experience of her daughter in an Adventist school where I had been principal. They weren't complaining but the encounter disturbed me because this had occurred in my school and I felt responsible.

The story went something like this. When in Year 9—a time of turbulence and identity seeking for any young person—it was the practice of the non-Christians in this girl's class to comment as she entered the classroom, "I smell Christian." This went on for quite some time and created discomfort and some tears. She felt, to some degree, marginalised in an Adventist school—a school her loyal Adventist parents had chosen for her, where she could be nurtured spiritually and form positive peer associations. I was relieved to learn the young lady had been strong in her Christian resolve through these experiences, and was active in school and church life in her senior years of schooling.

Hearing this story gave me pause for thought as an administrator in Adventist education. A range of questions occupied my thoughts. Questions such as: are our schools providing a nurturing Adventist environment for young people? Is there a limit to the number of non-Christian students we should allow? What is the value of our young people being exposed to a range of Christian and non-Christian viewpoints from their peers? Were the old days with the fortress mentality in our schools better at holding our young people in the church?

While completing my doctoral studies some years ago, I was browsing through the University of Newcastle library and happened upon a slim volume written by a Christian professor from the University of Wollongong in the 1960s. His argument was that we shouldn't have Christian schools. Instead, we as Christian parents should be sending our children to state schools, joining parent associations and being "salt" in our local communities. This too challenged my thinking regarding the



place of Adventist schools as vehicles for enhancing the "saltiness" of young people.

I am sure much has changed in society since the suggestion was made. My father was a state school principal for 40 years, and I know being schooled in small country schools was an experience that brings back positive memories. But much of those positive feelings dissipated when I moved into large state secondary schools. Today, I would think twice before placing my child in a rampant secular culture, even though I realise the Christian home environment is the strongest determinate regarding the life choices my child may make.

Times have certainly changed in Adventist schools in the past decade. In the mid-1990s, a series of summit meetings were conducted at the South Pacific Division office to consider the direction of Adventist education into the 21st century. Amid a raft of valuable recommendations, two stood out. The first was recognition that Adventist education was a truly evangelistic endeavour. Second, it was decided to secure the financial viability of the school system by fully embracing available state and federal government funding.

During the past decade, Adventist educators have taken to heart the mandate of being recognised as an authentic evangelistic endeavour. They have embraced the

wider community to the extent that we now have more than 7000 young people sitting in our classrooms each day, being educated by Adventist teachers. Supporting this new dynamic has been the development of extensive chaplaincy programs, school/church plants, outreach programs and service events.

Recently, Avondale College lecturers Peter Morey and Don Dickens worked with Adventist Schools Australia and system marketing personnel in conducting a perception survey of parents, staff and students in Adventist schools in Australia. The results clearly affirm that Adventist schools are providing high quality care, excellent facilities and a high academic standard. Further, the survey affirmed that Adventist school leaders and teachers were highly committed to the vision and mission of the church.

We have a school system of which we can be proud. Our principals and teachers should be affirmed for the excellent front-line work they do every day in our schools. Many school systems look with envy at the way in which we have maintained a committed Adventist workforce in our schools.

But there are other stories emerging from Adventist schools that don't always smell like roses. Schools are complex human en-

terprises with challenging social dynamics. There are times when, even with the best intentions of parents, principals and teachers, young people are prone to making poor life choices. It has always been the case, even when there were few non-Adventists in our schools.

This does not mean turning a blind eye to the challenges of maintaining the vision and mission of Adventist schools, now and in the future. It is important to “smell Christian” in our schools, and for our young people to feel safe and supported as they embark on their spiritual journey. Further, it is important that homes and the church community play their part in nurturing our young people. A team approach is always the best option.

Adventist Schools Australia is proactively addressing a range of issues relevant to the maintenance of the vision and mission of Adventist education. A major education consultation is planned for early 2009, where papers and research findings will be presented to a forum including church and education administrators, principals, ministers, teachers and school council members. This forum will actively determine the direction of Adventist education for the next decade. There may well be tough decisions to be made in order to maintain the integrity and ethos of Adventist education.

All school systems need to stop and take stock from time to time. There is much to praise God for in Adventist schools in Australia. Opportunities to fulfil the mission of the church abound. However, the will must be found to ensure policies, resources and personnel are deployed to safeguard an Adventist world view is enhanced at all levels of school system operation.

We seek your prayers and urge young people considering how they may best serve God to consider the ministry of teaching. There are exciting opportunities and challenges associated with daily working with young people from diverse social and religious backgrounds. We need the support of parents, church communities and committed teachers to ensure young people “smell Christian” every day in Adventist schools. **R**

Daryl Murdoch is associate director of Adventist Schools Australia, based in Ringwood, Victoria.

Ministry by students

BY MURRAY HUNTER

I’VE BEEN HANGING AROUND YOUTH ministry circles now for more than 20 years and if there’s one thing I’ve learned during this time, it’s this: if you want to generate a ministry for young people that’s high energy, creative, spiritually focused and cutting edge, get them to do it!

That’s precisely what we have done at Northpine Christian College, an institution in Brisbane’s northern suburbs that boasts more than 700 students, with approximately 70 per cent of those from non-Adventist families. We appreciate that Northpine is a five-day-a-week evangelistic campaign, whereby parents from all walks of life have granted us permission to minister to their children about salvation through Jesus Christ.

At the beginning of this year, it was decided that Northpine would run what was called an, “InsideOut Leadership Ministries” weekend. Around 30 students from the middle school and senior years retreated to the Sunshine Coast for a weekend pointed at skill development in areas such as worship leading, public speaking, mentor partnering and faith sharing. At the conclusion of the weekend, a challenge was levelled at those in attendance to return to the College and make an intentional, persistent impact for Jesus on both its staff and students.

Since that time, these young people, together with those they have influenced, have taken over much of the deliberate campus-ministry work here at Northpine. One group focuses their energies on making the weekly chapel programs interesting, relevant and spiritually valuable. Another group has recently completed a public-speaking program, and is now engaged in preaching and teaching in the local churches. Still another group spends its time recruiting more members to boost the college’s prayer ministry and staff-booster ministry teams.

One initiative currently being developed is a “Senior2Junior” Bible-study series. These Bible studies are being cre-



ated in bookmark format, 28 in the series, each one addressing a fundamental belief of the Adventist Church. The plan is for trained senior students to take one-on-one Bible and baptismal studies with the college juniors.

Exciting things are taking place at Northpine Christian College. Teachers and students are committed to working together to bring families closer to Jesus; and the College is in the business of marketing Christianity, through the power of the Holy Spirit to the community, both inside and outside the College doors.

In the words of a student who recently gave their testimony at one of our local churches: “I am grateful and happy to be here. I am confident I can put my trust in God, knowing He will always direct my path. Colossians 3:15 says, ‘The peace that Christ gives us is to guide you in the decisions you make; for it is to this peace that God has called you together in this one body. And be thankful.’ I found this peace here at Northpine Christian College.” **R**

Murray Hunter is chaplain of Northpine Christian College, Dakabin, Queensland.

Is there life in education?

BY CELIA MONCRIEFF

IT WAS LUNCHTIME ON THE LAST DAY OF term two at Avondale Primary School. Many pairs of feet skipped and leaped about me in an exhilarating dance of enthusiasm. Voices chattered excitedly and one of my students declared she might burst with anticipation. One might be excused for thinking we were on our way to the zoo, Water World or Lulu's Lolly Shop. However, our destination was hardly what you would call glamorous. We were actually headed toward the silver shed, which housed some unused furniture, a few spider's webs and an assortment of folding beds.

The door grated open and eager hands grasped the plastic-wrapped beds and lugged them back to the classroom. Most of my class voluntarily spent their lunchtime helping me to dismantle the last vestiges of Kids Kitchen and commence the set up for Avondale Private Hospital. I can almost guarantee my students will spend some of their holidays brushing up their skills in telling the time, bed making, and using decimals in weights and measures in



preparation for the hospital unit.

Students will take on the roles of nurses, doctors, patients, pharmacists, chaplains and ambulance officers. They will be faced with real-life scenarios and situations to stretch their skills in problem solving. All their learning will be couched in practical theatrics: diagnosing disease, taking temperatures, measuring medications, dispensing tablets, treating accident victims, and caring for patients' physical and spiritual needs. There will be high drama, humour and decision making.

Students will learn what it means to work and the importance of quick thinking. They will face things such as time pressure and the critical consequences of inaccuracy. They will learn tenacity and be given the opportunity for creativity.

Some students will reach for the stars and grasp them. They will grapple with life issues such as sickness, death and the great controversy. They will begin to know Jesus as the Great Healer. They will search the Bible for answers to their questions about life after death.

During the afternoons, the children will take on the roles of student nurses. They will be fascinated by the intricate design of the human body in anatomy and physiology classes. They will learn to respect the Great Designer as they conduct experiments and delve into the mechanics of life.

This type of learning has been labelled "constructivism." It is not just learning "about" but learning "in." It is not passive but active. It provides a context and a reason for learning. It creates a desire to know. My classrooms have been many things, from castles to kitchens, cities, rainforests, publishing houses and farms. The enthusiasm created in this kind of learning environment is breathtaking. There is never a dull moment. It is learning in three dimensions.

I imagine that when we get to heaven,



we will be continually learning but I have never heard anyone speculate that they will be sitting behind a desk, with a room full of other people sitting behind their desks, listening to an angel with a PowerPoint presentation, or reading the same page of a textbook as 25 other people in the room and filling in the missing blanks on a worksheet.

Our communities, our families and our churches need independent thinkers, who can sift information and discard the dross. We must teach our students to ask, seek and knock. God is the essence of creativity and we are made in His image. Life is not flat. Roses are not plastic. Education is not incarcerated in the pages of a textbook.

Let's open the lid of the chest in the attic and let learning out to live and breathe. Let it dance in the sunlight and beckon our students to a lifelong spirit of enquiry. **R**

Celia Moncrieff is a primary teacher at the Avondale School, Cooranbong, New South Wales.



Intentional evangelism

BY PETER KILGOUR

NOT ONLY DO ADVENTIST TEACHERS lead children to Jesus but children also lead teachers to Jesus. We are living in a time where student spirituality is greater and more overt than we have ever seen.

The climate of genuine Christianity in Adventist schools in 2008 is certainly more obvious today than when I attended an Adventist school in the 1970s. Not only in my work with the schools but when interacting with my own children and their friends, I have marvelled at the spiritual maturity I have seen develop as they have grown in Adventist schools. This does not happen by chance but is part of an intentional plan by our schools to evangelise our students.

Here are some of the ways this is done:

Weeks of spiritual emphasis

The traditional “Week of Prayer” is now generally called “Week of Spiritual Emphasis.” This used to be one of only a few special events in our schools but in the past decade or so, it has become just one of many mechanisms for winning children. These events are different from what they used to be. Now, they are generally run by the students, under the guidance of the chaplain. There are often two such weeks in a year rather than one and the students are more excited to be part of them. And it is not unusual to see parents as part of

the audience. The introduction of dedicated, full-time chaplains in many of our schools has meant there is a much more comprehensive follow-up with students who have made a commitment during a week of spiritual emphasis.

Service

Service projects have made a huge impact on the lives of students in our schools. Students return from a week in a country town, running kids clubs and doing service for the community, and openly say this experience has changed their lives. They report this to me and when the next project comes along, they enlist again. We can also notice the difference in the way they approach people and life in general. Now, they are more tolerant of people of different cultures, of those with disabilities and of those from disadvantaged backgrounds. In fact, we see our children being kind to minority groups and defending them in public, rather than being part of the community of “knockers.”

Teachers’ passion

In recent times, our new Avondale graduates have shown an increased passion for getting involved in the spiritual dimension of school life along with students. We all know the impact of a committed Christian teacher in the life of a student. These young people are quick to spot a fake, yet respond

readily to someone they see as real in their lives and in their relationship with Jesus.

Full-time chaplains

I have already mentioned the significant role chaplains are playing in the lives of our children in Adventist schools. When they work full time, they coordinate the spiritual dimension of school life. They are not just there to be a friend to the students and talk at chapel programs but are busy, strategic people, masterminding a spectrum of activities. Their monthly reports to the school council and the conference indicate what has been happening in their department.

Here is an excerpt from one chaplain’s report: “In my role as chaplain, I’ve witnessed many events where our non-Christian families have attended, and participated in church and school social and religious events. One example is using a local church’s children’s outreach program, run by the children’s music group Rocfish. I promoted it widely in the school, in newsletters, in personal invitations to parents and in our home visitation program. Many non-Christian parents visited and some are in contact with the local church. I see the need for our churches and schools to work closer than ever to maximise the evangelistic opportunities.”

I hope the church community continues to support the placement of full-time chaplains in our schools.



Our students

So what did I mean when I said children are winning over teachers? Every year, we interview every teacher in our schools to discuss their plans for next year, their career paths, personal goals, study plans and the like. Recently, I came across one teacher whose story warmed my heart and reminded me again of what a special place an Adventist school is.

From time to time, we have to take on a “potential Adventist” teacher for a specialist area, when there are no Adventist teachers available. This female teacher told me that every day on the way to work, she used to drive past our school and, for some strange reason, she felt some “invisible force” pushing her to drive into our school and give us her resume as a relief teacher. Eventually, she followed this urge and ended up doing some temporary work in the school.

One of her tasks was to take a home class in the morning, where worship was part of the process. As a Hindu, she wasn’t sure what to do. The students noticed this and assured her she need not worry, because they would teach her how to pray. This is exactly what they did, as well as telling her about Jesus. As her commitment to Jesus grew, so did her tenure at the school. In my interview with her, she told me she wants to be at this school until she retires because the students and staff are her family now.

During our short meeting, she told me four times how much she loves Jesus. She had heard the staff at the school openly discussing how God had led them in different directions in their lives for their benefit. It was as if a sudden realisation came to her that it must have been God telling her to enter the gates of our school that first time. She then spoke in awe as she recounted the events of her life since that first encounter with Adventist education and how suddenly she realised it had been God urging her in His direction.

This teacher’s child is now a student in the same school. This child speaks of Jesus openly at home and of their desire to follow Him. I am looking forward to the day when I see mother and child being baptised into Jesus. They are both Seventh-day Adventists in their hearts.

God knows what He is doing with our schools. He pulls people off the streets of our cities and places them in our care. What a responsibility! What an opportunity! What a blessing! **R**

Peter Kilgour is director of Adventist Education for the Greater Sydney Conference, based in Epping, New South Wales.

Record Roo



Hi kids!
Brothers are supposed to be friends and even look after each other. But Esau was so upset with his brother, Jacob, for taking his blessing and his birthright that he wanted to kill him!

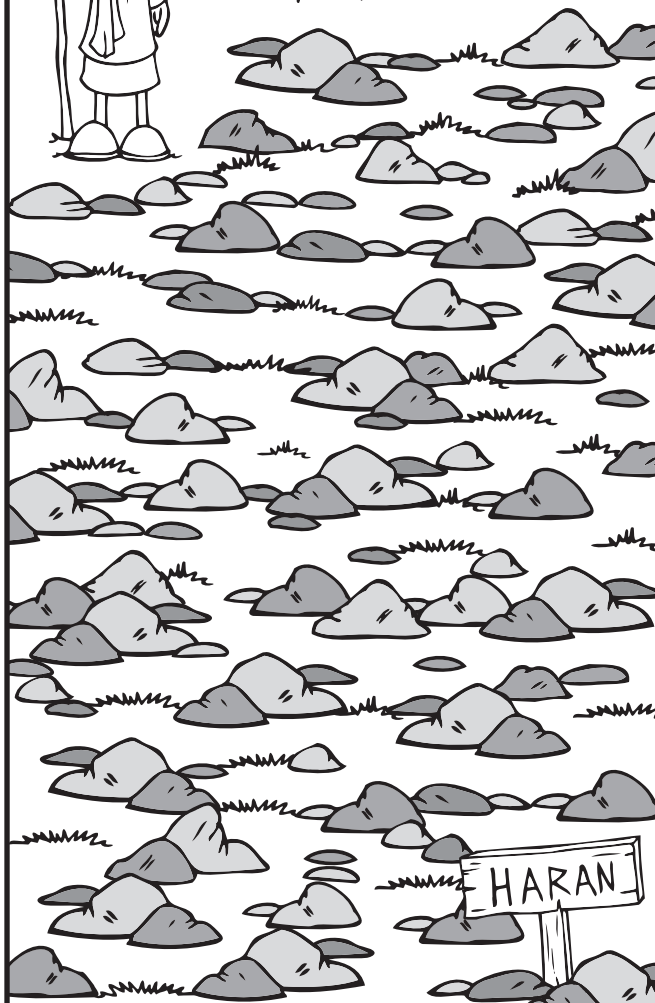
Bible Text

Esau held a _____ against _____ because of the _____ his father had given him. He said to himself, “The days of _____ for my father are near; then I will _____ my _____ Jacob.” Genesis 27:41 NIV

Maze



Jacob’s life was in danger. His mother, Rebekah, told him to flee from his home and go stay with her brother, Laban, in Haran. Help Jacob get safely to Haran by finding a way through the maze of rocks.



Better reasons to . . .

JOHN WATERS, VIC

I agree with the plea by the writer of "More than 'legalist'" (Letters, July 19) that we should be gentle on our legalistic ancestors. They gave us the best they knew.

I grew up in that "old church," where the most common responses to our queries would have been "Adventists don't . . ." or "Sister White says. . ." Nevertheless, I received a grounding that has kept me in the church despite the buffeting of time and change.

Now, well into my seventh decade, the only real changes in my lifestyle and belief system are those resulting from having better reasons for being what I am and doing what I do. Of course, we cannot go back to the former times but our forebears would have expected us to grow in our understanding of the gospel of grace.

Fine feature

LEONIE DONALD, NZ

How I enjoyed reading "The team" (Feature, July 26). *Were they going to make their flight?* was the question uppermost in my mind, as I "journeyed" with them on the trains and bus to Sydney Domestic Terminal. I laughed at the thought of the "stampeding elephant circus" through the inevitably busy train stations.

Then the words "We were homeward bound" brought tears. With these words came to memory a hymn we sang in family worship many years ago, with the chorus "We are nearing home." Hymn 642 from the old *Church Hymnal* is back firmly in my mind. As the article reminded us, "God does answer prayer."

Good for men

ALLEN WINDUS, QLD

Just a note of support for "New ministry for men in Western Australia" (News, July 19). Congratulations to the WACMEN for their men's ministry initiative. There is a real need for an environment for connection, where we can feel safe and gain nurture through processing the issues, concerns, fears and frustrations that just need

airing without judgment or gossiping. It should be a place to find we're not alone in the struggles labelled "men's problems," to draw strength and encouragement from others who can empathise, support, challenge and provide good, open, positive dialogue—and still remain friends. What a great way to provide mentoring and leadership to those who are looking for examples of male Christian role models.

Please keep us informed of your progress and success, we just might want to start our own men's ministry revolution!

Our forebears would have expected us to grow in our understanding of the gospel of grace.

Evolving challenge

NAME SUPPLIED

After reading "Secular challenge" (Letters, July 26), I agree our church is failing to convince secular people that God even exists and are failing to fully comprehend the problem. There is no quick fix, because secular beliefs such as naturalism, evolution and atheism have taken strong root in the Western world.

One way we can all help stop the problem is to educate ourselves on the issue. We have to "be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear" (1 Peter 3:15, KJV) so we can "demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ" (2 Corinthians 10:5, NIV).

I find our church members are good in engaging issues and explaining doctrines that relate to topics such as Sabbath, Bible prophecy, the Ten Commandments, the state of the dead and salvation by grace. But we are often not as good at explaining to educated intellectuals how evolutionary theory fails to explain our existence and how we can be so sure God really exists.

Gone are the days when the church was battling against a misunderstanding of Scripture. We now have to battle a misunderstanding of science as well. Until we can convince people of earthly things, how can we tell them of heavenly things (see John 3:12)?

Stop the fighting

ERNA JOHNSON, WOMEN'S MINISTRIES COORDINATOR, GREATER SYDNEY CONFERENCE

I wish to correct the first "Gender and church" letter (July 26). Yes, there are women's ministries departments all the way from local church level to the General Conference. But here in the South Pacific Division, for example, no conference employs a full-time director of women's min-

istries. Most of the leaders are not given the title of "director" and work for little money—in most cases, for nothing.

While money or titles are not what is important to us, and women's ministries is not here to fight for ordination of women to the ministry or for more power within the church, we want to be involved in church and the community. Women's ministries is here to help our women reach their God-given potential—to use their gifts for the advancement of God's work. The primary purpose of women's ministries is to nurture, facilitate, and support women in their Christian lives as disciples of Jesus Christ and members of His church. That's the only thing we want to do.

We have come a long way but there's still a long way to go. My Bible teaches me God loves me and wants me to do what He has gifted me to do. Ellen White puts it this way: "When a great and decisive work is to be done, God chooses men and women to do this work, and it will see the loss if the talents of both are not combined" (*Evangelism*, page 469).

Let's stop this gender fighting and get into what we are here on this earth to do—spread the gospel!

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

▲ **IT Manager**—*Seventh-day Adventist Church (Pacific) Ltd (Lae, Papua New Guinea)* is seeking a qualified and dedicated Information Technology manager to oversee the information systems for the Papua New Guinea Union Mission. For more information, please visit the South Pacific Division Human Resources website at <<http://hr.adventistconnect.org/>>. All applications, including your CV, 3 work-related referees and the contact details of your church pastor, must be forwarded to: Human Resources, Seventh-day Adventist Church (Pacific) Limited, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga NSW 2076 Australia; email <hr@adventist.org.au>; or fax (02) 9489 0943. Applications close **August 22, 2008**.

▲ **Office Assistant**—*Sanitarium Health Food Company (Numawading, Vic)*, is seeking an office assistant, who will support the CGL/AFH Account teams and Melbourne sales team. This position exists to assist the CGL/AFH Accounts and Melbourne sales team in a variety of functions to enable effective implementation and coordination of the Account and sales team. We are seeking a well-organised person to manage a busy environment with a professional attitude toward their job. The successful applicant would require the following: at least 2 years clerical experience, a pleasant and courteous telephone manner, organised and methodical, and the ability to prioritise responsibilities, work as a team and use MS Office suite competently. For more information or to apply, visit <www.sanitarium.com.au/company/employment.html> or write to Human Resources, Sanitarium Health Food Company, Locked Bag 7, Central Coast Mail Centre NSW 2252, fax (02) 4349 6099 or email <humanresources@sanitarium.com.au>. Applications close **August 29, 2008**.

▲ **International Development Internships**—*Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Australia* is seeking expressions of interest from recent International Development or Social / Human Science graduates considering a career in international development. ADRA Australia supports community development programs in a number of African, Asian and Pacific countries and wishes to place three interns in partner ADRA offices for 2009/10. Applicants should have previous experience in a cross-cultural environment and / or significant volunteer experience, and a demonstrable commitment to ADRA's mission, values and goals. Applicants must hold an Australian or New Zealand passport. For more information, visit www.adra.org.au/getinvolved/careers.htm. Applications close noon **September 12, 2008**.

For more employment options go to
hr.adventistconnect.org



SIGNS for life*
*Abundant (John 10:10) *Eternal (John 3:16)

Subscribe now: www.signsofthetimes.org.au
Or phone (AUS) 1800 035 542 (NZ) 0800 770 565

Retirements

● **Elwyn Cherry**, South Queensland Conference (41 years). ● **Brian Gall**, Sanitarium Health Food Company, Cooranbong (36 years). ● **Ian Littlewood**, North New Zealand Schools (32 years). ● **Leon Miller**, North New South Wales Schools (42 years). ● **Douglas Oaklands**, AMN—Pacific Islands (40 years). ● **Doreen Pascoe**, SPD Head Office (47 years). ● **Pastor Maxwell Smith**, WA Conference (41 years). ● **John Thierry**, Sanitarium Health Food Company, Cooranbong (40 years). ● **Adrienne Whisker**, North New Zealand Schools (43 years).

New Zealand Pacific Union Conference

French Polynesia

● **Pastor Fredy Taputu**. ● **Pastor Gill Tamahu**

Papua New Guinea Union Mission

Central Papua Mission

● **Pastor Soilo Suena**.

South West Papua Mission

● **Pastor John Enoch**.

Anniversaries

Goltz, Allen and Stella (nee Comino), were married on 23.5.1948. Recently, they celebrated their diamond anniversary in Ipswich church, Qld, in the presence of their large family of six children, 23 grandchildren, and 28 great-grandchildren, as well as many close friends. Allen



and Stella served as literature evangelists for more than 20 years, as well as being volunteer ministers for the Emerald and Goondiwindi churches in retirement. They recounted many fond memories from their 60 years together. Messages of congratulations were presented from the Queen, the Australian Prime Minister and many other dignitaries.

Jakovac, Slavko and Anica, were married at Rogaska Slatina, Slovenia, on a beautiful spring day 15.5.1948. They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on 10.5.08 in the Wodonga Slavic



church, Vic, with children, Adriana and Boris; and their grandchildren and great-grandchildren, relatives and friends. Slavko and Anna have been

faithful, active members of the church and eagerly await their Lord's return.

Jones, Len and Margaret of Currawong, Narrandera, NSW, recently celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with 150 friends and relatives. The couple were married on 14.6.1958, in the Presbyterian church, Leeton. In 1964, the couple were baptised in the Narrandera church by the late Pastor Frank Slade, and are still members there. Currawong is still the home of the Jones family, where they have resided for the whole 50 years.

Weddings

McKerchar—**Maunder**. Allan McKerchar, son of Barbara Jean McKerchar (Invercargill, NZ), and Keryn Maunder, daughter of Calvin and Valmai Maunder (Te Puna), were married on 20.7.08 in the bride's home, Te Puna. *Pat Downey*

Palangeanu—**Ludwig**. Gabriel Palangeanu, son of Marion and Aurelia Palangeanu (Romania), and Jennifer Anika Ludwig, daughter of Dirk and Claudia Ludwig (Hervey Bay, Qld), were married on 20.7.08 in Hervey Bay church. The couple met at medical school. *Frank Williams*

Obituaries

Connolly, George Thomas, born 26.7.1920 at Inverell, NSW; died 10.7.08 on the Gold Coast, Qld. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; his daughters, Ro-


byn and Glenda, and their spouses; his nine grandchildren; his 16 great-grandchildren; and his two sisters, Lorna and Evelyn. He served during WWII in PNG and Borneo, returning to work at the Sanitarium, attend Avondale College and serve on the staff at the Sydney Adventist Hospital. On retirement to Melody Park, Qld, he served as on-site manager for a number of years. Through his loyal, faithful dedication and service to God and country, George was a blessing to so many—well beyond his own special family circle. Sadly missed by his family and church, he went to his rest in Jesus, confident in the expectation of hearing the call of his Saviour on the Resurrection day.

Peter Colquhoun, Ray Kent


Curson, Kathleen, born 30.12.1911 at Cobden, Vic; died 20.6.08 at Dunolly. She is survived by her sons, Walter and Brian. Kath attended Maryborough church for more than 20 years. She was described as the "rock of Gibraltar" because of her great ability to create feelings of security for those around her. She is sadly missed by her family and church members.

Benjamin Townson

Tually, Reginald Lance, born 18.3.1918 at Bomaderry, NSW; died 4.7.08 in the Alstonville Adventist Nursing Facility. In September, 1947, he married June at Marrickville, Sydney, who predeceased him in 2006. He is survived by his sons and their wives, Brenton and Bronwyn (Lismore), and Bruce and Heidi (Warners Bay); and his seven grandchildren. Reg was a friendly and caring person



Avondale College
Homecoming
Reminisce. Worship. Relax.*



*It just won't be the same without you.

Golf classic
Tee up a game with friends at the Toronto Country Club. Book now to reserve your tee time.

Sanitarium brunch
Meet friends over food at the Sanitarium brunch.

Register
Phone 1800 991 392 (free call within Australia) or +61 2 4980 2377 (international) or visit www.avondale.edu.au/alumni::homecoming/.

August 29-31, 2008



The South Pacific Web Network:

An easy to use web management system, even for the novice.

Content that updates automatically.

Publish news and events with the ability to share between any website on the network.

An interactive map of your location, photo albums, media and document libraries and much more!


Can your church be found by those who are searching?

An evangelistic church website has never been so important *or so easy!*

"A family who became believers in the Sabbath wanted to find a Sabbath-keeping church to attend. They searched on the net, found our site and came along to church. We're thrilled. That's easy evangelism!"
—Riverlands Church, NZ

Let your church be found.

Get started by visiting:
<http://web.adventistconnect.org>



who loved his Lord. He will be sadly missed as we wait for the Resurrection morning.
Eric Greenwell

Rural Electronics (02) 6361 3636; or <greenfieldcenterprises@bigpond.com>.

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, \$A55; each additional word, \$A2.20. For your advertisement to appear, payment must be enclosed. Classified advertisements in RECORD are available to Seventh-day Adventist members, churches and institutions only. See masthead (page 2) for contact details.

Quality Christian products. Books, DVDs, study guides, story CDs and music from suppliers Amazing Facts, 3ABN and others. Register for our monthly specials. Contact **The Story Factory**, free call 1800 452 133; <www.thestoryfactory.com.au> or email <info@thestoryfactory.com.au>.

Be paid to travel. Opportunities for ALL AGES to live and work globally. Make a difference by joining the International Children's Care "Just Go" challenge today. Call 1300 881 846. Visit <www.justgo.net.au>.

Rare 5-acre Lifestyle Property. Four-bedroom, two-bathroom home at Quirindi, near Tamworth, NSW. Views, bore, rainwater, solar, fruit trees, stable, shed. Visit <www.australiapropertylistings.com.au>. Property ID 5628. Call 0418 428 619.

Auction. 1083 m² level vacant land in Cooranbong Centre. Walk to shops, church, medical services. Suitable for single dwelling or medium density development. September 21, 11 am. Call John Britten (02) 4973 6888 or 0409 681 606.

Support Signs of the Times. Sponsor one of some 250 Signs ministry outlets, division wide. New in 2008, is SOS—Signs for our Schools—which gives sponsored Signs to families of students attending our church schools. Join this outreach. Sponsor SOS and receive *Seven Secrets for Feeling Fantastic*, worth \$A14.95. Signs for life.

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

Data projectors, screens, DVDs VCRs, PA systems etc. Lower prices for SDA churches, schools etc. Australia only.

Finally
Joy is the net of love,
by which you can catch souls.—*Mother Teresa*



Come to Korea!

"Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation."

Mission Opportunity in Korea
Jesus is calling you to come to Korea as a missionary to teach Bible and English! You will love it!

Requirements:

- English as a first language
- Bachelor's degree
- Baptised member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

Benefits:

- Starting monthly stipend equivalent to US\$1,700, plus overtime
- Round-trip airfare with a one-year contract
- GC AVS Sickness and Accident Insurance plus local Korean health insurance
- At least 14 government holidays per year
- Bi-monthly term break of 3-14 days
- Free housing, utilities and many more fringe benefits




Call for more information or visit our www.koreasda.org

Korea Phone: 82-2-2215-7496 (call collect)
E-mail: comesda@yahoo.com

USA Phone: 1-866-567-3257 (KOREALS)
E-mail: wowsda@yahoo.com

Become a Teacher and make a difference.



Children are society's potential energy. They are a resource pool of creativity, knowledge and skill. They are our future.

Over the years, people have chosen to be teachers because they genuinely believed they could make a difference to the lives of their students. Teachers wish to share and use their knowledge to help young people realize their mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual potentials.

Avondale serves to provide quality tertiary education so you become the teacher you always wanted to be. Whether you're a school leaver or looking for a career change, Avondale's programs can prepare you to work effectively with the young people in your classroom.

Choose from Early Childhood, Primary or Secondary Education (PDHPE, Home Economics Design and Technology, IT, Arts, Sciences, Business, Theology), and help shape lives for the future.

It's more than a career. It's a calling.

For further information contact our friendly staff at the Avondale **Enquiry & Enrolment Centre** on **1800 991 392** (Australian Freecall) or by visiting **www.avondale.edu.au**

Your offerings today will help in the training of quality teachers for tomorrow.

Is God calling you to the Ministry of Teaching?

contact the
enquiry & enrolment centre

Avondale

inspired for life.

Australian Freecall: **1800 991 392** • International: **+61 2 4980 2377** • Fax: **+61 2 4980 2151**
Email: **enquiries@avondale.edu.au** • Postal: **PO Box 19 Cooranbong NSW 2265 Australia**