

RECORD

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Youth leaders and young people from Australia and New Zealand have developed a vision for the future of youth ministry, emphasising the importance of this ministry in local churches.



Brett Lee still a "Weet- Bix kid"

Summit refocuses on local youth ministry

GALSTON, NEW SOUTH WALES

A summit of youth leaders and young people from across Australia and New Zealand has brought a renewed focus to the importance of ministering to young people in local churches. "Catalyst 09" brought together almost 90 young people and youth leaders, representing all the conferences in the two countries, for a weekend of reporting, brainstorming and imagining the future of the church's youth ministry at the Vision Valley Conference and Retreat Centre, Galston (NSW), from April 24 to 26.

"What we have is a lot of empowered people who have been given a platform

to express the shape and form they think youth ministry ought to have in the local church," says Pastor Gilbert Cangy, director of youth ministries for the South Pacific Division. "Not only have they expressed that but they have left with the resolve to make it happen."

The invited participants completed a survey of their current youth ministry in preparation for their involvement in the summit and Pastor Tony Knight, director of youth ministries for the Australian Union Conference (AUC), presented the findings of this survey as a starting point for discussions. *(Continued on page 4)*



I know the pain I feel; how much more must God feel?

A “still, small voice” in action

A BANGLADESHI WOMAN SQUATS ON the ground with shoulders sagging, sari pulled over her head, tightly clutching her baby—all she has left after Cyclone Sidr ripped through her coastal village, destroying everything in its path. A young ADRA Myanmar staff member, still in her teens, is caught by a huge tidal surge caused by Cyclone Nargis and is swept to her death, leaving an already-poor family struggling to cope with their loss.

These are two small glimpses into the impact disasters have on people. Think about it for a moment. Imagine what it might be like. Picture the scenes in your mind.

“This tsunami was sent by God to open up the area to Christians and destroy the Muslims.” “God is punishing these people for their sins; that is why this cyclone was sent.” These are statements I have heard spoken by Seventh-day Adventist Christians. But picture again the suffering of human beings. Is this God in action? Is this what God would want for His created beings?

Obviously, things don’t change. In Luke 13:1-5, Jesus refers to a couple of topical events—the execution of a group of Galileans by Pilate and the collapse of a tower at Siloam, killing 18 people. The thinking back then was that those killed were the worst sinners, implying that this was God’s judgment on them. But Jesus makes it clear this is not the case—those killed were no worse than anyone else. In Mat-

thew 5:45, Jesus says, “This is what God does. He gives His best—the sun to warm and the rain to nourish—to everyone, regardless: the good and bad, the nice and nasty” (*The Message*).

Do we see God in at least some of the disasters happening around us? I recall the story of Elijah, recorded in 1 Kings 19. Here we read about the persecution the prophet Elijah was suffering at the hands of Queen Jezebel. When he hears she wants to kill him, he runs for his life and eventually ends up in a cave in Horeb.

God instructs Elijah to go outside the cave and stand in the presence of the Lord. A mighty and great wind tears the mountain apart—but the Lord was not in the wind. Then there is a powerful earthquake—but the Lord was not in the earthquake. Then comes a raging fire and the Lord is also not in the fire. So where was God? In the calm and gentle breeze: the still, small voice.

Over the past eight or nine years, I have witnessed firsthand the catastrophic impact of at least six major disasters in the Asia-Pacific region—the most disaster-prone area in the world. About 80 per cent of all deaths caused by disasters are in this region. I have met and talked with children who are orphaned, parents who have lost children and elderly people who are left totally alone. I have observed people who have sustained terrible injuries, seen those who are hungry, and witnessed people with no clean water to drink and no shelter for

protection.

It is not unusual for me to share their tears, grief and heartache. And I know no loving God would ever want to inflict this on these people. I know the pain I feel; how much more must God feel?

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is an exceptional organisation, with dedicated staff worldwide. In my role, I have worked alongside ADRA employees who have been personally affected by disaster. Despite this, they work tirelessly to meet the survival needs of broken communities and care for them as Jesus would—unconditionally.

There are no thoughts of whether this was a punishment from God and who might be the ones being punished. Quietly they work on, rewarded by the looks of extreme gratitude on people’s faces. I am sure I can “hear” the “still, small voice of God” in the actions of those dedicated workers and the people behind them who support this vital work.

Not everyone has the opportunity or skills to directly help those affected by disasters or crises. However, everyone can help by giving generously to the annual ADRA Disaster and Famine Relief Offering being collected in Adventist churches next week, May 23. Please give to save a precious life.

Robert Patton
 Manager of Emergency Management
 ADRA New Zealand



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

Churches study Melbourne challenges

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

On March 12, the results of a major study of churches in the city of Melbourne, titled “All Melbourne Matters,” were officially released to heads of denominations and theological colleges. On April 1, they were also presented to almost 200 pastors and church leaders.

Pastor Peter Roennfeldt, church planting coordinator and associate ministerial secretary for the Victorian Conference, gave a presentation at the launch of “All Melbourne Matters” on the need for organic church growth, and believes the Adventist Church has a unique contribution to make to the work of Christianity in Melbourne. He also believes the church has much to gain through participating in Transforming Melbourne.

Transforming Melbourne is an organisation of 25 Christian denominations and a number of missional ministries in Melbourne.

“No part of the church can fulfil the call of God on its own,” he says. “There is a need to recognise the wider body of Christ in our city. Jesus’ passionate call and prayer is for his followers to be as one, as He and the Father are one.”

“All Melbourne Matters” is the culmination of two years of research into the

spiritual life of Melbourne’s residents, combining results from the National Church Life Study and surveys conducted by Transforming Melbourne, with additional Christian Research Association research included. More than 1700 churches were identified across greater Melbourne, where more than 200 nations are represented.

Pastor Roennfeldt has extensive experience in church planting and is a member of Transforming Melbourne’s Mission Response Group. This small group of mission leaders had the role of assessing data as it came to hand and developing possible responses for churches to consider.

He says the research results contain “major challenges,” as 1.1 million of the city’s population describe themselves as having no religion.

He adds, “While the population of the city is increasing by 90,000 per annum, all churches are losing 4500 people in attendance per year—equal to a congregation of 90 every week. Church members and leaders are also ageing—23 per cent of current attendees are over 75 and 53 per cent over 55. This suggests a further major decline in the not-so-distant future.”

Additionally, 48 per cent of Generation Y believe in God, while 79 per cent of the population as a whole believes in Him, which has major implications for future

trends in spirituality.

According to Pastor Roennfeldt, the Adventist Church has some advantages over other denominations in these areas. “The Adventist Church is more effective than most other denominations in reaching children and young people,” he says. “The average age of its pastors is considerably lower than most other denominations as well.”

He believes the Adventist health message is something that could be a significant contribution to the life and mission of the church, and says its effective counselling, refugee and community centres make valuable contributions to the ministry of the church.

Connecting with other churches is an important component to strengthening the Christian cause, and Pastor Roennfeldt says, “Closer relationships with the wider Body of Christ would mean these and other strengths in the Adventist Church would be shared and contribute in a collaborative way to the impact of the gospel across Melbourne.

“It is as we, with all our differences, choose to love another, and bring our different gifts together that the ‘world will know who Jesus is,’ they will see the power of the cross to bring the reconciliation that they all need, and the Lord will release His blessing.”

—Adele Nash

More @ www.transformingmelbourne.org.au



◆ A 91-year-old war veteran, **Eric Robert Rackham**, was the honoured guest at the **Anzac Day** commemoration ceremony in **Reedy Creek church, Qld**, on April 25. Mr Rackham lives at the **Melody Park Retirement Village**. He served in the **Royal Corps of Signals Army** in North Africa in 1942 and Italy from 1943 to 1945.

The wreath-laying ceremony included a church parade by the children of the **Reedy Creek Pathfinder Club**. During the children’s segment, **Pastor Geoff Donovan**, a former soldier, told of his visit to the **Gallipoli site**, illustrated with photos. Other features of the celebration included flag raising, the **Anzac Requiem**, **Ode of Remembrance**, one minute’s silence and the **Last Post**.

—Reg Brown

◆ **Correction:** Kwailabesi clinic is located in the Solomon

Islands, not Vanuatu, as stated in the caption on the cover of **RECORD**, May 9.

◆ Students at **Central Coast Adventist School (CCAS), NSW**, recently participated in **World Maths Day**. **World Maths Day** is an **online mental mathematics challenge**, where students play other students from all over the world. This year, more than **one million students** worldwide registered to play. Over two days, students logged on to answer as many correct answers as they could. They



had several weeks to practice before the big event. Some 262 students took part from CCAS. They answered **395,534 correct questions** in **18,060 combined minutes**. The average improvement in their mental arithmetic was **179 per cent**. The school champion, with 28,567 correct answers, was **Tait Johnston**.

—Dianne Hillsdon

Summit refocuses on local youth ministry

(Continued from page 1)

“Most of those contributing to the survey reported a functional youth group in their local church,” reports Pastor Knight, “but about half do not have clear goals or objectives for their youth group and suggest they are not meeting the needs of their young people.”

Pastor Knight says many conference youth events are rated highly but some churches seem to have decided not to connect their young people with these events, which he described as “really disappointing.” “But there was also a perception that conference youth departments are not supporting local church youth groups,” he reflects. “Despite the fact that some things aren’t working as well as everyone would like, young people are still loyal and eager, and they want to do ministry.”

These results were underlined by feedback from the discussion sessions, which highlighted issues in local churches and difficulties with finding, training and supporting local youth leaders as the two greatest challenges to youth ministry.

Pastor Chester Stanley, president of the AUC and worship speaker for the weekend program, describes these findings as sobering. “It’s a finding we should take seriously as a church. We need to give young people

more opportunities for involvement, for action, for leadership.”

“The honesty from participants has been refreshing,” says Pastor Togamau Tuaoi, director of youth ministries for the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference. “They have not hesitated to tell us where they think we are not fulfilling our role. The action is in the local church and we need to work to help them go, rather than focusing on building a ‘cool’ conference program. Whether a small or large church, there must be models they can adopt because the local church is where the kingdom of God grows. I am hearing our young people and youth leaders say they want us to help them do that.”

According to Pastor Cangy, the outcomes of the Catalyst summit will be considered in detail by upcoming meetings on youth directors in Australia and New Zealand, as well as reported to church leaders and administrators at all levels of the church. He also hopes similar consultations will happen in local conferences and churches.

“We are focused on developing sustainable, functional and effective youth ministries in the local church,” he says. “And what we have created here is a repeatable process for all levels of youth ministry.”

“I was pleasantly surprised to see when people had the chance to express their vision

of youth ministry that spirituality, community, service, social justice and reaching out were high priorities,” Pastor Cangy reports. “If young people have this kind of vision, we don’t need to tell them, all we need to do is release them to give new expression to their fresh understanding of church.”

Pastor Stanley shares the youth leaders’ enthusiasm for the process and outcomes from the Catalyst summit. “I was interested to see the young people’s appreciation of the opportunity to have a voice, which indicates there is a sense that they are not always heard,” he observes. “And I have been reminded that we have some great young people in our church around Australia and New Zealand. It has been inspiring.”

“I have also been reminded again of the value of our youth work and our youth leadership team, and the enormous amount of time and energy they put into their ministry for our young people.”

Pastor Stanley says he hopes this process will continue. “We need more dreaming, new ministries, a new focus on the mission of the church, a new focus on being engaged in the community and issues in the community, and ministries to reach out to former church members,” he urges. “This event has been an exciting beginning for a quantum leap forward for an important component of our church family.”—**Nathan Brown**



◆ Rome, Berlin, London and Edinburgh were all stopovers on the Adventist Singles Network (ASN) reformation tour of Europe. The group, aged between 32 and 72, followed tour guide and reformation history specialist Pastor Harold Harker around Europe. Among many highlights were visits to the Vatican, catacombs, Tower

of Pisa, Waldensian Valley, Wittenberg, and John Wesley’s Chapel and home in London. One of the musicians in the group, Desire Bera, played Charles Wesley’s organ in the small Foundry Chapel on which Charles composed many of his well-known hymns. Pastor Peter Cousins, director of family ministries for the North New South Wales Conference, says that these events create great personal and spiritual memories for individuals, as well as opportunities to travel with others of like faith. At least two participants

have been asked to preach in their local churches since the conclusion of the tour.—**NNSW Conference**

◆ QANTAS will again feature Sanitarium cereals on their flights, thanks to a million-dollar contract. An estimated 2,700,000 sample tubs of Honey Crunch, Granola Clusters and Light’n’Tasty Macadamia and Honey will be served throughout this year. “This is a fantastic opportunity to once again raise the awareness of our Sanitarium brand and new prod-

uct,” says Dean Epps, Sanitarium’s National Sales Manager.—**Sanco News**

◆ Despite the rain, 54 interested people attended the first of the free Healthy Cooking Classes, held at the Cranebrook Community Centre (NSW) on April 21 by Penrith church. Five more sessions are running on successive Tuesday nights. Not only were they shown how to prepare healthy savouries and salads but delicious peppermint slice as well, all with healthy ingredients. In addition, participants were able to have their blood

DAYS AND OFFERINGS: ◆ JUNE 6—PACIFIC ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OFFERING

NNSW empowers church members

GRASSY HEAD, NEW SOUTH WALES

The North New South Wales (NNSW) Conference church member training weekend, with the theme of “Empower the people,” was held at Yarahapinni from March 6 to 8.

With more than 160 people attending, including 40 Avondale College theology students, the weekend featured guest speakers including Johnny Wong, a founding member and elder of the Gateway Adventist church in Victoria; Dr Allan Lindsay, previous director of the Ellen White Estate at Avondale College; Pastor Justin Lawman, evangelism director for the NNSW Conference; and Dr Russell Burrill, ministerial association secretary for the North America Division.

In his keynote presentation, Dr Burrill challenged those attending to return to their heritage as Adventists and place mission at the centre of who they are and what they do. Mr Wong shared inspirational stories and practical insights about soul-winning CARE groups, a small-group ministry.

Dr Allan Lindsay conducted workshops on Adventist heritage at the retreat and encouraged attendees to remember God’s leading of the church throughout its history. Pastor Lawman’s workshop focused



Dr Russell Burrill.

on the difference between sermons and presentations. Tracey Shannon, of Macksville, says, “Not only did I come away from the workshop feeling confident in how to put together and preach a biblical sermon, I also feel more focused about what God wants from His people.”

Pastor Lawman says, “The response has been incredible—better than we could have dreamed. The phone calls and emails from people who have gone home to pray and refocus their church to make sharing the good news the centre of everything they do has been amazing.”

Gordon Hilleary of Nelson Bay Adventist church said almost half of his church membership attended the training weekend. “We all agree it was great,” he says. “The best part of the weekend for us was being able to recognise and evaluate the spiritual condition of our church and set in place plans to improve our congregation.”—*Libby Hergenhan*

Brett Lee a “Weet-Bix kid” for 12 years

BERKELEY VALE, NEW SOUTH WALES

Sanitarium Health Food Company announced on April 8 that it has signed Australian cricketer Brett Lee as the face of Weet-Bix for a further three years, which will take the total years he has been associated with the brand to 12.

Mr Lee signed his first commercial contract with Sanitarium as a fresh-faced cricketer in 2000, and has since become synonymous with the Weet-Bix brand.

“The relationship I have with Sanitarium is unheard of these days,” said Mr Lee. “To be with a company for 12 years is a testament to the strength, loyalty and trust we have formed over the years.

“I am fortunate to work with a brand that is genuinely committed to ensuring that Australians live healthy, happy lives. It is evident through their products, their nutritional services, and their community involvement in the Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRY-athlon and Red Cross Good Start Breakfast Club.”

Over the past nine years, Mr Lee has appeared in more than 10 Weet-Bix commercials, on dozens of packets of the cereal and saw the brief change of Weet-Bix to “Brett-Bix” as part of a short-term promotion.—*Sharyn Brady*



pressure taken on the night. They listened to a short talk on the types of food and percentage of acid versus alkaline foods that should be eaten for a healthy lifestyle. These classes followed on from a viewing of a DVD titled *Reversing Diabetes in 30 Days*. Following the six weeks, a three-week course on **colon health** is planned, and the cooking classes will be repeated

later in the year. The church is also holding the same cooking classes at Warragamba on Monday nights and has had 26 in attendance. The Warragamba venue is also giving out copies of the *Final Events* DVD by Pastor Doug Batchelor, *Steps to Christ* and *The Ministry of Healing*.—*Leonie Duff*

◆ This year, **Longburn Adventist College, NZ**, will be providing **driver education** for students who are eligible. This will take the form of practical driving lessons, lessons on theory and defensive-driving classes. These lessons will

be partly STAR (Secondary Tertiary Alignment Resource) funded and available to students at a discount.—*Julene Deurksen-Kapao*

◆ **Seventh-day Adventist Church leaders** recognised spiritual maturity and financial stability when they voted a change of administrative status for the North Philippines in March. As a “**union conference**,” the region is fully self-sufficient and responsible for electing its three main administrative officers: president, secretary and treasurer. Under their former “**union**

mission” status, the North Philippines received appropriations for operation from the **Southern Asia-Pacific Division**. Home to the nation’s capital, **Manila**, the North Philippine region is the second largest and wealthiest of the church’s three union conferences in the Philippines, says **Claude Sabot**, General Conference secretary for the church’s Southern Asia-Pacific region. The North Philippine church administration will focus on stewardship, membership growth, and the development of the region’s medical and educational institutions.—*ANN*

Erina church celebrates 90 years

ERINA, NEW SOUTH WALES

On April 18, members, former members and friends gathered at the Erina Adventist church to celebrate its 90th anniversary. Attendees of the celebration rejoiced in the way God has led the church over the past 90 years.

On April 12, 1919, Pastor L D A Lemke dedicated the first Erina Adventist church building, which was on the same site as the present church. Over the years, a number of alterations and additions were made to the original building.

Then, on December 18, 1976, the current church building was opened and later also underwent alterations and additions.

The anniversary program commenced with a combined worship service. The sermon was given by Pastor David McKibben, a former minister of the church who currently pastors in the South Australian Conference.

Following a combined lunch and period of fellowship, the afternoon meeting provided attendees with time for reflection and sharing memories.



The current Erina church building.

During this meeting, presentations were made to Laurie and Betty Dixon, who have been members of the church for 55 years, as well as to Madge Geddes, a former member of the church who is 100 years of age. She addressed those present for several minutes following the presentation.

Many former pastors of the church were present, as well as South Pacific Division president Dr Barry Oliver, who represented his late father, Pastor Ted Oliver, who was a pastor at Erina.

The church is already planning for the future, with a development application currently before the Gosford City Council for a new church complex to be constructed two kilometres from the current site on the same road. Land for the new building has already been secured.

—*Nat Devenish*

Adventist religious liaison for Obama administration

WASHINGTON D C, USA

A Seventh-day Adventist will help United States President Barack Obama's administration consider the concerns of faith communities as it makes policy decisions, the White House announced recently. The Obama administration appointed Paul Monteiro, a lawyer and former senate staffer, to serve as religious liaison in its Office of Public Liaison.

"The president is serious about involving the views of faith communities in [policy] discussions—from health care to education reform, immigration to scientific research—not just looping them in after the fact," Mr Monteiro said. "It's a privilege to be part of that effort to bring more people to the table."

At his new post, Mr Monteiro schedules events and meetings with representatives from various organisations and denominations, whose concerns he passes on to the appropriate office or agency. Mr Monteiro graduated from Howard University School of Law in Washington, DC, in 2007.

—*Elizabeth Lechleitner/ANN staff*

More @ <http://news.adventist.org>

◆ Victims of gender-based violence told their stories through video presentations at the **United Nations Commission on the Status of Women** recently. The digital storytelling seminar, sponsored by the **Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)**, highlighted mini documentaries as a way to inform communities about gender violence. Many ADRA projects around the world provide women with opportunities to become self-sufficient, and sponsoring digital storytelling is another step in that direction, an ADRA spokesperson

said. The videos tell the stories of women in abusive relationships, and use photos and footage the women shoot and edit on their own.—*ANN*

◆ Award-winning New Zealand author **Joy Cowley** has teamed up with the **Bible Society** to write the remarkable story of **Tarore**, a young **Maori girl** who converted to **Christianity** but was then murdered. In 1835, the Bible Society published **100 copies** of the New Testament Book of Luke in Maori. In 1836, missionaries gave a copy to Tarore at a mission school near

Matamata. Tarore's subsequent acceptance of the Christian faith, then murder at a young age had a great impact on the Maori people, with many joining the faith as a result. The Tarore story will be published and distributed free to **140,000 primary school children**. The book will be illustrated using a series of 18 paintings depicting the story, created by **Waipawa artist Mary Glover Bibby** in the 1920s.—*NZPA*

◆ The **Archbishop of Adelaide** has told **Catholics** they should not tell **Jewish jokes** or use the

Jewish name "**Yahweh**" in readings and songs. In a pastoral letter to priests, **Archbishop Philip Wilson** has asked for a substitute word, such as "Lord," to be used instead of the Jewish sacred name. Archbishop Wilson says Catholics must be respectful and sensitive toward Jewish people. "My sense about this is we have to be especially careful about the way we talk about the Jewish people because of the way they've been persecuted and treated for over 1000 years, especially during the **Holocaust** in the **Second World War**," he said.—*ABCOffbeat*

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

Freedom of choice sees more students at worship

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

Attendance at worship services on Avondale College's Lake Macquarie campus is increasing as students respond positively to greater freedom of choice.

A policy compelling students to attend services on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings and assemblies or forums on Wednesday mornings changed at the beginning of the 2009 academic year. So, it seems, did the attitudes of students.

"You sense it with the guys," says men's residence director Pastor Mark McNeill. "They're turning up because they want to be here."

College chaplain Dr Wayne French initiated the change on behalf of the residence directors and the student services director after meeting with college president Dr Ray Roennfeldt. He and the directors felt uneasy about fining students for non-attendance at worship—\$A75 for less than 75 per cent, with the money going to charity or to improving services for students. "It isn't biblical," says assistant men's residence director Shane Roberts. He wanted the students to worship as God intended—by choosing to. The change is about "treating the students as adults," says Dr French.

"You can't coerce people into going to worship," says women's residence director Deirdre Hough.

Students worship in small groups in



Students participating in praise and worship time at Avondale College.

their residences once a week, corporately as residences once a week and corporately as combined residences once a week. Student Associated Ministries coordinates the latter but leader Daniela Brown does not attribute all the increase in numbers to the change in policy.

"We've got more students involved, so other students then want to come to support their friends," she says. The same is true in the women's residences, where attendance at corporate worship on Mondays has increased from 80 to 120. "We've been more collaborative and intentional," says assistant women's residence director Mere Neale.

Opinion among students appears to be in favour of the change but the support is not as one-sided as expected. "It's a bit of a shame," says Ashleigh Mucha, who is completing a Bachelor of Education (early childhood). "Students come to Avondale partly for the Christian experience and they sometimes need to be pushed into it to reap the benefits. But you can't put a price on coming to worship."—*Brenton Stacey/Lyndelle Lawrence/Christel Price*

Village in Gela given new water supply

RAVUSODUKOSI, SOLOMON ISLANDS

Ravusodukosi villagers on Sandfly Island in Gela, in the Solomon Islands' Central Province, took delivery of their new water supply on April 21.

The water supply was funded by the Australian Community Sector Program (CSP) and implemented by the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA).

Representatives of CSP, AusAid and

ADRA urged the villagers to look after the new facility, which has brought their reliance on a nearby stream to an end.

Village secretary James Sala said the new system will make it easier for them to fetch water and improve health and sanitation in the village, and thanked ADRA and CSP for meeting one of the village's most urgent needs.

"Without water, we would not be able to survive and live to develop our village," Mr Sala said.—*Solomon Star News*

More @ www.solomonstarnews.com

Adventist artist awarded OAM

ARMIDALE, NEW SOUTH WALES

Melvin Duffy, an Adventist artist, was the recipient of a Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division (OAM) in the 2009 Australia Day Awards.

Mr Duffy began creating art at the age of four, after drinking a bottle of kerosene and becoming very ill. "I became like a skeleton," he says. His mother, who enjoyed art, encouraged him to draw pictures as his health improved. He opened his first "art gallery" in the backyard toilet on the farm where his family lived.

Mr Duffy graduated from Avondale College's arts course in 1951, where he studied under Howard Totenhofer, and has spent almost 50 years working full-time on his art. His work is primarily focused on traditional Australian landscapes and, in recent years, has also included a heritage focus.

The Sydney Royal Easter Show has provided the most exposure for Mr Duffy's works, which have been exhibited there since 1959. This has resulted in winning the "Popular (People's) Choice Award" at the show 12 times, most recently in 2008.

Mr Duffy has won more than 80 individual awards for his work, including the Macleay Valley Heritage Award and NSW Conservation Award. "I love Australia. My work's all over the world now and people can see Australian and rural scenery," Mr Duffy told the *Armidale Express*.

Mr Duffy supports a number of charities, church and state schools through the proceeds of his art.—*Margaret Miller Krejci/Armidale Express*



Melvin Duffy.

Emergency! ADRA responds

BY CHRIS OLAFSON

LOCATED IN THE BISMARCK SEA, JUST off the coast of the north-eastern province of Madang, Papua New Guinea (PNG), lies the volcanically-active island of Manam. In October 2004, the volcano erupted, spewing a thick layer of ash over the island. The ash was so heavy that homes collapsed under the weight. Those living on the island experienced breathing problems and increases in gastro-intestinal diseases as the air and water became polluted. The ash also damaged the food gardens many residents rely on for their livelihood. The entire island's population of 10,000 was displaced, with many evacuated to the mainland.

The neighbouring island of Karkar faces a similar threat. Karkar Island also has an active volcano, which could devastate communities should it erupt. Rumours and speculation about the activity of the volcano are making residents anxious and nervous about their safety. When Karkar's volcano last erupted in the 1970s, the population of the island was about 23,000. Now, an eruption on the island could tragically change the lives of almost 50,000 people. And when a disaster strikes those already struggling under the weight of poverty and vulnerability, the effect is absolutely devastating.

But Karkar Island hasn't waited idly for disaster to strike. It has played host to staff from 11 PNG disaster-response agencies to help prepare communities to respond to disaster. The 11 agencies, under the leadership of ADRA, joined together to participate in a coordinated disaster response to a simulated volcanic eruption. By meeting together to develop and practice their emergency response skills as a coordinated unit, these humanitarian professionals built their capacity to provide vital disaster-relief services to their fellow PNG citizens. Through this simulation exercise, emergency response personnel are now far better equipped to support communities affected by disasters on Karkar Island, Manam Island and other areas around PNG.

ADRA: A key contributor

ADRA Australia and ADRA New Zealand play an important role in reducing the risks of disasters to communities across the Asia-Pacific region and beyond. By advising and contributing to high-level national forums in Australia and New Zealand, international ADRA advisory groups and regional organisations, as well as locally-based volunteer groups, we are connected to all levels of emergency management so the best possible outcomes are delivered to affected communities.

As a significant contributor to government and non-government emergency management in the region, ADRA works under formal disaster plans to provide the highest level of response and recovery services anywhere in the world. All agencies abide by tested and proven arrangements to ensure that wherever possible, those who are injured, distressed or bereaved are protected and supported so their communities can recover and rebuild. The resilience of disaster-affected communities is remarkable but they need skilled, professional and well-planned support. That's where agencies like ADRA play an important role around the world.

Preparing for the expected

Disaster Preparedness is a key component of ADRA Australia and ADRA New Zealand's work in our region—the most disaster-prone in the world. By building the expertise of our own and our partner's staff, our joint goal is to assist local emergency workers to be as effective as possible in the support of their own affected communities. This reinforces the principle that the most immediate and effective response is provided locally.



ADRA staff from around Asia meet in Thailand to participate in a simulation training exercise to practice and further develop their disaster-response skills.

As I write, our dedicated humanitarian professionals are participating in a disaster simulation exercise in the Philippines to assist local ADRA and World Vision staff from five Asian nations to develop their skills in serving disaster-affected people in their region. The scenario for the training is a typhoon that has devastated a remote island and caused widespread flooding and landslides, leaving many people homeless with limited or no water and food. Also attending this exercise are key staff from Anglican Board of Mission and local agencies, to observe and learn from a realistic training situation.

Under the guidance of government agencies, and by linking with fellow organisations such as World Vision, Caritas, Rural Fire Services and the Red Cross, our plans for emergency management include developing policies for disaster response, making comprehensive plans about our areas of responsibility and participating in joint training. No disaster can be effectively managed unless those who have the responsibility to their community have been well prepared and practised before disaster strikes.

Partnerships are key

A critical element of successful emergency management is the collaborative partnerships between response organisations, communities and governments. No single response organisation can expect to meet all the diverse needs of affected communities. Therefore, it is essential that these agencies work together in a coordinated way to ensure various needs are being addressed. Partnerships also enable agencies to learn from each other, which develops their capacity to provide more effective responses in the future.

Most of ADRA's work, especially in disaster response, occurs within these partnerships. In Australia, ADRA works in four states and territories in partnership with other agencies, such as Australian Red Cross and Salvation Army, to assist communities as they recover from the devastating effects of disasters. ADRA's specific role is to coordinate emergency accommodation for those affected by serious disasters in New South Wales, the Australian Capital Territory, Western Australia and Queensland. We also coordinate emergency accommodation for disaster-response workers, should it be needed. ADRA Australia has had a partnership with government in Australia for more than 35 years, and it is a privilege to be counted among the official team of agencies and services that do so much to protect and assist our communities when they need professional help in times of emergency.

Focus on the Pacific

ADRA Australia works as a professional partner in emergency management, supporting both ADRA offices around the Asia-Pacific and fellow agencies that share our passion for the poor and disadvantaged. We do this by assisting them to learn skills and prepare to be a critical contributor to their country's government-coordinated responses.

To help neighbouring ADRA offices better prepare for disasters, ADRA Australia and ADRA New Zealand provide guidance and mentoring as each office researches their national response plans, including those of government and other agencies. When they have determined the services already available and the needs still to be met, our ADRA partners decide on the services they can provide to comple-



ADRA Australia's response to international disasters, such as last year's civil unrest in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, is usually provided in partnership with other ADRA offices to provide even more support to communities in need.

ment these plans in the event of a disaster. ADRA offices' disaster-response plans may include partnerships with local service or welfare organisations, including Dorcas and Community Services volunteers, to further strengthen ADRA's emergency-response efforts. In addition, each ADRA office can prepare for disaster by buying essential equipment, pre-positioning the supply of relief materials and funding other innovative support initiatives. Through this comprehensive planning process, ADRA Australia and ADRA New Zealand are helping empower our Pacific offices to be strong contributors to their communities' response efforts during times of emergency.

An ADRA Australia project in the Pacific is working with four nations—Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and Tonga—to provide training resources, training events and field simulations that equip local field officers to prepare vulnerable village communities for the disasters that so often strike in remote regions.

Under a new concept initiated by ADRA New Zealand, a pilot project will be launched later this year to prepare Seventh-day Adventist missions in the Pacific to work through local churches to provide a coordinated and effective response to disasters that affect their communities. This initiative recognises that our church has a strong existing network within the Pacific and often plays an important role within communities. By partnering with mission offices, ADRA will be able to help commu-

nities prepare for and respond to disasters, even in countries where there is no local ADRA office. We are excited about the prospects of this initiative and look forward to developing the concept, based on the pilot program being rolled out in the Cook Islands in late 2009.

Recent relief efforts

In addition to our disaster preparedness work, ADRA also responds to emergencies when they hit. In Australia, the tragic Victorian bushfires are still vivid in our memories. ADRA Australia assisted the coordinated response efforts by supporting the government's formal response to the tragedy, the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund. Also, ADRA Australia provided support to the Queensland government's response to the widespread flooding that occurred in the north and north-west of the state earlier this year. The support for these recovery efforts has been amazing—with more than \$A220,000 provided through ADRA for these two disasters—and we express our sincere appreciation to the generous donors who support ADRA's disaster-relief efforts.

Overseas, ADRA Australia provided support in the past year to the recent floods in Fiji, the terrible cholera outbreak in Zimbabwe, floods in India and Nepal, a typhoon in the Philippines, and civil unrest in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. ADRA Australia's response to most international disasters is strengthened through partnership with other ADRA offices around the world, as we join together to make one large network-wide response to help those affected.

Responding to emergencies forms an important part of ADRA's efforts to assist those facing poverty and hardship to develop a better life. But there are many more communities in need of support. On May 23, Adventist churches around the world are collecting the Disaster and Famine Relief Offering for ADRA. Please plan to make a tax-deductible gift so ADRA can continue to support communities affected by emergencies, especially those in the Asia-Pacific region. **R**

Chris Olafson is director of emergency management for ADRA Australia, based in Wahroonga, New South Wales.



Got questions? We're here to help

EVERY MONTH, SANITARIUM BRINGS you an article about nutrition, health or—our favourite topic—food! But there's much more to the Sanitarium Nutrition Service.

Our Australian team (pictured, above left) has eight fully-qualified nutritionists and dietitians who are passionate about helping people enjoy simple, healthy living. New Zealand also has a team of nutritionists and dietitians who are equally passionate about healthy living (pictured, above centre). And we are all lovers of good food. We understand how important it is to enjoy delicious food, as well as care for your health and wellbeing through healthy food choices.

So here are some ways you can take advantage of the Sanitarium Nutrition Service:

- **Speak with one of our nutritionists** if you have a question about health and nutrition or food and recipes. We've got loads of handy hints and tips to share.
- We develop **nutrition booklets and leaflets** on topics such as lowering cholesterol, getting enough iron, healthy eating for kids and weight loss.
- You can subscribe to our "Recipe of the Week" email or "Good Food News" newsletter, which is full of great articles and the latest nutrition news. Just visit <www.sanitarium.com.au> (Australia)

or <www.sanitarium.co.nz> (New Zealand).

- Each year, we develop a new cookbook and our latest is **Food for Health and Happiness**. It's full of great recipes that nourish and care for your body. We're featuring one of the recipes from the book on this page. You can order a copy online by visiting <www.sanitarium.com.au>. (Please allow 28 days for postage.)

If you need credible and practical advice about health and nutrition, or if you're just looking for healthy meal ideas for you and your family, contact us at the Sanitarium Nutrition Service on 1800 673 392 (in Australia) or 0800 100 257 (in New Zealand). Alternatively, you can email us at <nutrition@sanitarium.com.au> (Australia) or <nutrition@sanitarium.co.nz> (New Zealand). It's free and we'd love to hear from you! **R**

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

THE HEALTH FOOD COMPANY



nutrition
healthy for life service™

Spicy pumpkin and lentil tagine

- 1 tbsp sunflower oil
- 1 brown onion, finely chopped
- 3 garlic cloves, crushed
- 1 tsp ground cumin
- 1 tsp ground sumac
- 1 tsp ground coriander
- ¼ tsp ground chilli (optional)
- 420g can low-salt diced tomatoes
- 1 tbsp tomato paste
- ½ tsp sugar
- ¼ cup flat leaf parsley, chopped
- ¼ cup coriander leaves, chopped
- 400g can brown lentils (drained and rinsed)
- 600g butternut pumpkin, seeded and chopped into 2 cm pieces

1. Heat oil in a large saucepan, add the onion and cook over low heat until softened. Add the garlic, cook for a few seconds, then stir in the ground spices. Cook for 30 seconds, then add tomatoes, tomato paste, sugar, and half of the parsley and coriander.
2. Add the lentils and chopped pumpkin, stir well, then cover and simmer for 15–20 minutes or until the pumpkin is tender.
3. Sprinkle with remaining parsley and coriander as garnish.
4. Serve with couscous. Serves 4 to 6.

Per Serve: 775kJ (185cal); Protein 5g; Total Fat 11g; Saturated Fat 1g; Carbohydrate 14g; Total Sugars 9g; Sodium 170mg; Potassium 750mg; Calcium 60mg; Iron 2.1mg; Fibre 4g.

Necessary but not enough

BY CLIFFORD GOLDSTEIN

IN JANUARY THIS YEAR, I HAD A GREAT time doing a week of prayer at Spicer Memorial College in India. As well as the meetings, I loved walking through the city, Pune; my senses soaked in images and impressions of a humanity radically tilted from my own familiar angles.

As I walked, a woman holding a baby put her hand to the infant's mouth, a gesture that didn't need interpreting. I handed her a bill. Mothers with hungry infants suddenly rose out of the pavement like steam on a hot day. I peeled off bill after bill until my wallet was stripped of all Indian currency (about \$US60 worth). Realising no more was coming, the crowd pressed me so intently that a hotel guard had to intervene.

The next day, near the hotel, another mother holding another baby made the same gesture. Not wanting a repeat of the day before, I made sure my iPhone earplugs were snugly and loudly in place as I tried to ignore her and her hungry baby. She kept on reaching for me, insisting on money; I kept on acting as if she weren't there, my eyes never meeting hers—or the infant's. This pantomime continued until I entered the sanctuary of my hotel, where I went to my room and hurried to change because I had to get to Spicer—and preach the gospel.

Preach the gospel? I had just brushed off a mother asking me to help feed a hungry infant and now I was going to preach the gospel? The gospel? Every parable, every prophetic utterance, every verse about oppression, poverty and greed zeroed in on me. The hypocritical contrast between what I had just done and what I was getting ready to do condemned my soul. A conscience, heavy and uneasy, reached deep into and soured my gut as I changed clothes and went outside to wait for my pickup.

After a minute, a boy of about six asked to shine my shoes for two rupees (less than half a cent). Now, unless my wife shines them, my shoes don't get shined. So I said, "Sure."

Afterward, not having anything smaller, and seeking to ease my unease, I handed



him a 100 rupee bill. A moment later another boy, about five, came up and they hugged each other. They said they were brothers. Then, in King's English, the second boy looked up at me and said, "Please, sir, I want to start my own shoe-shining business but I don't have the money."

Already resigned, I asked, "How much would it cost?"

"It's very expensive, sir—500 rupees." Then, in words that have haunted me since, he continued. "Please, it would change my life."

Change his life? We're talking about a five-year-old boy. He should have been playing in a sandpit, not begging for start-up capital on the street. Yet what could I do? If I wanted to preach that evening, if I wanted to be able to look myself in the mirror, if I didn't want to sell my soul for a pitiful \$10 that wouldn't have changed my lifestyle one bit but would, this child said, change his life—I had no choice. I handed him the money. My conscience would have

strangled me otherwise.

I preached soon afterward, yet I couldn't shake this sense of futility: I'm standing behind a pulpit, uttering, while on the streets outside were people—mothers with hungry infants, five year olds shining shoes—who couldn't take any of my uttering out of the air, not even a syllable, no matter how much "present truth" was contained therein, and fill their bellies with it, could they?

We need to preach the gospel. We have a message to give to the world that no-one else is giving. I know all that, I believe all that, I have dedicated my life to all that. Yet the image of that child saying "Please, it will change my life" showed me clearly, however necessary "all that" is, it isn't enough. **R**

Adapted with permission from Adventist Review.

Clifford Goldstein is editor of the Adult Bible Study Guide, based in Silver Spring, Maryland, USA.

Doubt-free?

ANDREW OSTAPOWICZ, NSW

I was appalled to see a picture of Charles Darwin in Record, as well as by the tone of the article (“Darwin bicentennial offers faith-sharing opportunity,” *Adventist World*, April 11). Instead of proclaiming Creation in six days, 6000 years ago in loud and certain tones, it seemed to express doubts. Of all people in this world, Adventists are supposed to spread the message of Creation, as expressed in the First Angel’s message (see Revelation 14:6, 7).

Darwin was a fraud, a plagiarist and a thief of ideas—most notably from his own grandfather, Erasmus, and from Alfred Russell Wallace—though in his youth he was a firm believer and even studied theology. What put him off religion was belief in a false teaching about eternally-lasting punishment.

Evolution is the greatest hoax in science, going against all known and tested physical laws of nature, contradicted by thermodynamics, informatics, statistics, biochemistry, palaeontology, genetics and more. It became popular because it gave excuse to genocide at the time of imperialistic expansion of the mid-19th century. It remains popular for only one reason: it removes accountability before the Creator God. I hope to see articles showing the fallacy of evolution in the right light.

Green bandwagon

G R STARK, QLD

I was disappointed to read “Adventists support Earth Hour in SPD” (News, April 18). I believe this event was nothing but a gimmick and token gesture that will accomplish nothing in the long term for saving energy consumption.

The hidden agenda behind this act is promoting false propaganda about carbon emissions causing global warming, which is the greatest scam and conspiracy foisted upon a gullible and naïve public in the 21st century.

I believe Adventists should not be deluded into jumping on this bandwagon and beating our drum about global warming but rather, should concentrate on spreading the gospel.

Not quite acceptance

MARTIN POELS, ACT

“A climate for growth” (*Adventist World*, April 11) concluded by stating that “Christ accepted us all ‘while we were yet sinners,’” citing Romans 5:8. But reading this verse, I believe the Bible clearly teaches that God’s love for us is unconditional but His acceptance of us is conditional

I believe this event was nothing but a gimmick and token gesture that will accomplish nothing in the long term.

(see 1 John 1:9).

If a person persists in sin, God cannot accept him or her. It seems we either abuse God’s law and become legalists or abuse God’s grace and become antinomian. I am sure our General Conference president does not believe in “cheap grace” but his use of the word “acceptance” in this way left me concerned.

“Are” or “act”?

DAVID PENNINGTON, NSW

Regarding sin as both “acts” and “state,” the celebrated Catholic theologian Augustine went down the same wrong pathway that “‘Acts’ and ‘state’” (Letters, April 25) appears to be taking when it says, “This does not mean we are not sinful in ourselves.” The implication is that we stand condemned in the eyes of God for what we are, rather than what we think, say or do. Logically, this leads to the unscriptural doctrines of “original sin” and infant baptism.

Even in a human law court, no-one is condemned for what he or she is, only for what has been done. Is God less just than humanity? God’s justice is so fair that He condemns no-one for sins of ignorance; the whole of Ezekiel 18 explains that. Paul stated that at times, God “winked at” this ignorance (see Acts 17:30). In John 9:41, Christ confirmed this when He said to the Pharisees, “If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth” (KJV). In Romans 2:6, Paul states clearly the basis of God’s judgments: “Who will render to every man

according to his deeds” (see also verse 7, 8).

However, sin is still sin, and every sin requires a sacrifice for forgiveness (see Hebrews 9:22). We should be ever grateful to our loving Saviour that we can rest in the assurance that His sacrifice is sufficient to expunge all our confessed sins, be they known or unknown to us. Moreover, He is “able to keep you from falling and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory” (Jude 24, KJV).

Perspective counts

STEVE SLEIGHT, NSW

Does divergence necessarily mean combative? (“Undermining belief,” Letters, March 21). Does allowing the text of Genesis speak on its own terms really constitute a “dangerous path”? Using the best tools and informed opinion is a much different proposition to ditching the Creation account, the plan of salvation or embracing theistic evolution, surely? Is it not possible we may, in fact, see a grander picture?

Genesis 1 has humankind created as the crowning act of a grand, ordered sequence. Genesis 2 is a more close-up, personal Creation scene, where God gets His hands into the dirt. These are divergent views. Both are thrilling—but one is not wrong and the other right! A sunset may look grand from your backyard but a view from the lake or mountain is not wrong or dangerous on the basis of its different perspective alone.

We cannot expect Scripture to say only what we allow of it, as it will often go scandalously beyond. Equally, our ministers are not paid to be victims of our holy wrath. We should judge the evidence, rather than the (wo)man!

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.

Record Roo



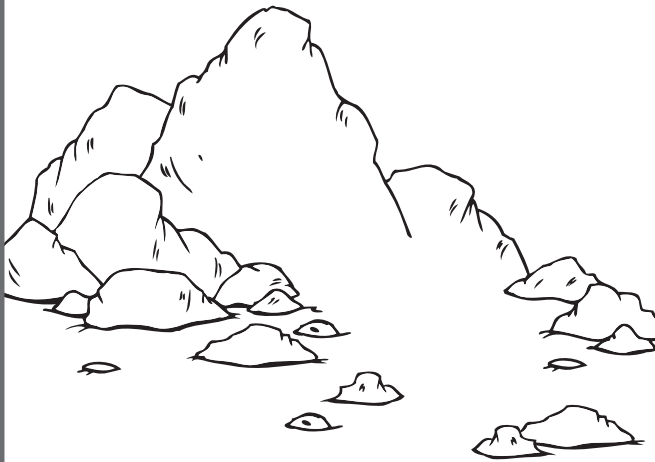
Hi kids!
The Israelites were on the move, camping at Rephidim. Unfortunately, there wasn't any water there! What would God do this time to look after His people?

Bible Text

But the people were _____ for water there and they _____ against Moses. They said, "Why did you _____ us up out of _____ to make us and our _____ and our _____ die of _____?" Exodus 17:3 NIV

Draw

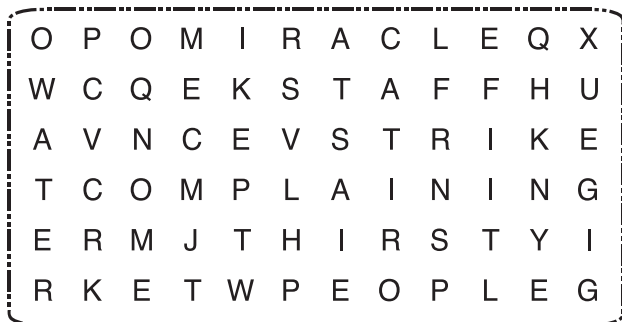
God told Moses to strike a rock with his staff and He would make water come out of it. Can you draw Moses striking the rock?



Word Search

Find these words in the puzzle below:

COMPLAINING, THIRSTY, PEOPLE, ROCK, STAFF, STRIKE, WATER, MIRACLE



Anniversaries

Ackland, William (Bill) and Barbara (nee Lyons) were married on 11.3.1959 by Pastor W J Cole at North Fitzroy church, Vic. Their two sons, Darren and Nigel, and their families, arranged a celebration on March 1 at the Avondale School MPC, for family and friends to mark their golden anniversary. Granddaughter Tori presented "Ma" with flowers, and grandsons Declan and Toby gave a speech and said grace respectively. Bill and Barbara are tireless workers, supporting their local churches over the years in many different roles. Bill worked as an accountant/manager for the church for over 40 years in the Adventist Book Centres, Home Health Education Service and Division Central Supplies. They continue to serve the Lord in retirement at Lakeside church, Bonnells Bay, and we wish them God's rich blessing for the future.

Cooper, Barrie and Claribel (nee Jurananz), celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on 21.3.09 in Bendigo, Vic, at their daughter Jenny's home. They were married by Pastor JB Conley in Bendigo on 29.3.1959. Present were their three children, Jenny Bloomfield (Bendigo), John (Melbourne) and Lindy Deitz (Campbelltown, NSW); with spouses and families. Also present, their great-granddaughter, Aria Gwendolyn Cooper-Green. Friends travelled from Papua New Guinea, Sydney and Melbourne to celebrate with them.

Gane, Alva and Gwen (nee Davis) celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with family, friends, grandchildren and great-grandchildren on March 22. They were married on 17.3.1949 by Pastor Wood-stotesbury in North Sydney church. Their children are Barry (married to Marilyn), Stephanie and Julie (married to Daniel Koziol). Alva



served the church as an elder for over 40 years, with the longest portion of this time being at the Arcadia/Galston church in Sydney. They are now retired and living on the Gold Coast. Throughout their lives, they have had an open home where anyone was welcome. God has blessed them and they have been a blessing.

Quick, Dr Graeme and Marlene, faithful members of Landsborough congregation, Qld, who reside on a tree farm in Peachester in SE Queensland, recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They enjoyed visits from their family and friends, and received congratulatory messages from the governor-general, the Prime Minister and their local MP.

Tooley, Ian and Brenda (nee Reid) were married on the 4.2.1959 in Oxford Adventist church, South New Zealand, by Pastor Ball. They recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with an afternoon tea at the Oxford Hall with their large family, including five of their six children, 14 grandchildren and all members of the original bridal party. They have been active church members all through the years.

Williss, Gordon and Ness (nee Willson) were married on the 31.3.1949 in the old Perth Seventh-day Adventist church, WA. To this union seven children, 22 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren were born. On the 5.4.09, they celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary at a luncheon at



Miss Maud in Perth, with family members, Ness' bridesmaids and friends. They received citations for this special occasion from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the governor-general of Australia, the Prime Minister of Australia, the Governor of WA, the Premier and Opposition Leader of WA, and their State Member of Parliament.

Retirements

- **Warren Fedorow**, SQld Conference (36 years).
- **Robert Granger**, Tasmanian Conference (43 years).
- **Reginald Morgan**, SQld Schools (41 years).
- **George Porter**, Greater Sydney Conference (46 years).
- **Nelson Rojas**, Greater Sydney Conference (35 years).
- **Murray Scott**, SHF Christchurch, NZ (50 years).
- **Gilda Tonkin**, SHF Adelaide (44 years).
- **Colin Tyler**, Greater Sydney Conference (28 years).

Trans-Pacific Union Mission
Fiji Mission
● **Sainiana Lawedrau**.

Papua New Guinea Union Mission
New Britain—New Ireland Mission
● **Gideon Wut**.
Madang—Manus Mission
● **Nancy Pehai**.

Weddings

Hardy—Wiese. Victor Stanley Hardy, son of David and Rosalind Hardy (Geelong, Vic), and Rachel Frances Wiese, daughter of Lionel Wiese and Ruth Smith (Geelong), were married on 19.4.09 in Geelong church.

John O'Malley

Saunders—Weslake. Ronald Victor Saunders, son of Bob and Angela Saunders (Sydney, NSW), and Amy Marga-

ret Weslake, daughter of Ken and Julie Weslake (Bonnells Bay), were married on 14.4.09 on Balmoral Beach.

Roger Maxwell Vince

Tsang—Petchareun. Edmund Tsang, son of Lin Chit Tsang (Macao, China) and Diana Lai (Perth, WA), and Damone Petchareun, daughter of Kham-souk and Chanh Petchareun (Sydney, NSW), were married on 12.4.09 in Sydney Chinese church, Strathfield. Edmund is a civic engineer and Damone is a marketing executive. The couple met at Cabramatta church.

Daniel Chong

Valele—Garrido. Pita Valele, son of Uona and Moala Valele (Auckland, NZ), and Mariela Garrido, daughter of Antonio and Myriam Garrido (Denham Court, Sydney, NSW), were married on Easter Sunday 12.4.09 in Campbelltown church.

Garth Bainbridge

Obituaries

Hain, Leslie James, born 14.4.1915; died 6.3.09 at Toowoomba, Qld. Leslie is survived by his sons, Malcolm and James; and his daughter, Janelle. At the age of 2, he contracted polio and it was not expected that he would ever walk. Through prayer and care from his mother, Emma, and father, James, he learned to walk again at age 4. Leslie married Cicely Borghardt in 1947. He spent his life working at a cheese factory at Kooroongarra; on a cattle station in Rockhampton; as owner of a corner store in Toowoomba; operating a dairy on his farm and later, farming grain and cattle. Leslie was injured when a tractor accidentally ran over him. After the death of his wife in 1982, Leslie stayed on his farm at Kooroongarra, from which he moved to a nursing home in Toowoomba. Leslie will be remembered by his children; grandchildren; many friends and the Millmerran church members. He now rests in peace and waits the call of Jesus at the Resurrection, with a new body and eternal life.

Douw Venter

McKeough, John William, born 23.3.1921 at Peterborough, SA; died 25.12.08 in the Cooranbong Adventist Retirement Village, NSW. In October 1944, he married Melva Sluggert in Adelaide City church. Melva predeceased him. He is survived by his children and their spouses, Beverley and Geoff Latona (Tea Gardens), and Linden and Heather (Keith, SA); his grandchildren, Shiralee and Shaun; and his sister, Irene Taylor (Cooranbong, NSW). John loved his family, his Lord and his church. His bright personality endeared him to all he came in contact with. His commitment to his community will be long remembered. He sleeps, awaiting the call of the Master and to be reunited with his beloved Melva.

Fergy McKay, John Lang

Pitt, Beryl Grace, born 1.7.1913 at

Volunteers!

Fly'n'Build—Atoifi Hospital, Solomon Islands. Urgent need to replace roof on Atoifi Hospital (August, 2009). Looking for 15–20 volunteers. For more information, write to Brian Larwood, PO Box 2169, Midland WA 6056. Email <team@project-atoifi.org>.

Volunteer Team Leader or Small Team—Solomon Islands, to oversee the construction of the Form 7 Building, Kukudu Adventist College in the Western Province of the Solomon Islands. Foundation dug and building materials already supplied. Just needs constructing with locals willing to assist. For more information, contact Lyn at <volunteers@adventist.org.au>.

Email:

<volunteers@adventist.org.au>.

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

+61 2 9847 3275



Campbelltown, SA; died 13.3.09 at Narooma Nursing Home, Craigmore. She was predeceased by her husband, Colin, in 1986 and son, Andrew, in 1981. She is survived by her daughter, Wendy; and her three sons, Wylton, Russell and David, and their spouses; her 13 grandchildren and their partners; and her 18 great-grandchildren. A lady with a quiet but strong faith, Beryl served the Trinity Gardens church in many capacities, and will be remembered as a loving and devoted mother. Awaiting the Saviour's call to life when He returns.

David McKibben

Sweeny, Stephanie Jean (nee Liddell), born 17.8.1938 at Concord, NSW; died 17.3.09 in Hornsby State Hospital. Stephanie was a well-known and much-loved family doctor. A colleague paid her the following tribute: "There are doctors who labour long and hard to build a practice; Stephanie always had one ready-made, such were the numbers impressed by her skills, and the lives touched by her warmth and concern." For over 20 years, she worked at Sydney Adventist Hospital, and for most of those years she shared responsibility for the introduction of "rules governing practice" at the hospital, for accreditation of practitioners and for the implementation of the hospital's quality program. Stephanie served the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards as surveyor, then as preceptor and finally, as consultant. She also contributed over a number of years to the Adventist Church's Professional Standards Committee. For 40 years, she and Peter enjoyed a happy marriage, birthing one child, Matthew, who predeceased her in 2007. Peter and Stephanie's mother, Lorna, buried her

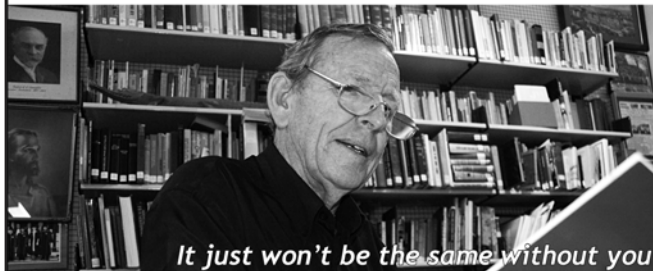


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August 28-30, 2009

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ALUMNI LECTURE

Retired accountant and lecturer Graham Mitchell presents the Alumni Lecture. His topic? "Business education at a theological college?" Graham is a former head of the Commercial Department at Avondale.

ALUMNI LUNCHEON

Meet friends over food. Register now—numbers limited.

REMINISCEWORSHIPRELAX

in sorrow but with their eyes fixed on Jesus, the Resurrection and the Life.

Pam Ludowici, Bert Clifford

Garth Bainbridge, Bob Saunders

Valentine, Gail Ann (nee Cover) born 9.10.1949 at Shorncliffe, Qld; died 23.3.09 at Normanhurst, NSW. She is survived by her husband, Gilbert; her sons, Andrew (Melbourne, Vic) and Lincoln (Singapore); her brother, Alan; her sisters, Marion Harrold and Robyn Burzacott (Cooranbong, NSW); and their families. Gail graduated from Avondale College with a Certificate in Accountancy in 1969, and married Gilbert in 1971. Together, they ministered in Australia, then she supported Gilbert at Andrews University, Michigan, US (1978–82). She studied teaching and helped co-pastor the Castle Hill church from 1982–1990. She served as a teacher at Pakistan Adventist College from 1986–1990. She taught in England at Henley-on-Thames and continued with further study at Reading University and Brunei University, before returning to Australia, where she was the program coordinator and business teacher at Avondale College, NSW (1994–2000). She then served as a Business Studies teacher and the Human Resource Office director at Mission College (2000–2006). She returned to Australia when it was discovered that she had cancer. Her faith in God was an inspiration to her family and friends during this time. Gail is now resting peacefully and in quiet confidence in the Lord, whom she loved and trusted.

Jeanette Kemp, Bruce Manners

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Medical practitioners needed for the Logan Adventist Health Association Health Centre. Full-time and part-time practitioners needed. Contact 0428 486 455.

40th Anniversary Lakeside (formerly Brightwaters) church. Members, former members, former pastors and friends of Lake-

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30 October - 1 November

For further details contact the Community Relations Officer

P: 02 4367 1800 E: 40th_anniversary@ccas.nsw.edu.au

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side church, NSW, are invited to celebrate with us. Please mark July 11, 2009, in your diary. Guest speaker: Pastor Graeme Christian. Inquiries: Pastor Clive Nash (02) 4977 2858 or email <clivenash@adventist.org.au>.

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Notice of NZPUC Special Constituency Meeting. Notice is hereby given that the Special Constituency Meeting of the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church will be convened on June 10, 2009, from 1 pm to 2 pm, at the Seventh-day Adventist Church Headquarters in Auckland, New Zealand,

743 Great South Road, Wiri, Manukau City. The business of the constituency meeting will be in accordance with the constitution and will include the proposed changes to the constitution and by-laws. Registration of the delegates for the Session will be at 12.45 pm on Wednesday, June 10, 2009.

Central Coast Adventist School is celebrating its 40th anniversary. **Reunite, Remember, Celebrate.** October 30–November 1, 2009. For further details and to RSVP, email <40th_anniversary@ccas.nsw.edu.au> or call (02) 4367 1800.

Save on energy bills this winter/summer—insulate your home and receive \$A1600 government rebate. Call Colin Dance, The Eco Battlers, servicing Sydney's northside, (02) 9913 3469 <ecobattlers@gmail.com>.

Smithton Church, Tas. 50th anniversary for church in Gibson Street, Smithton. October 24, 2009. All past and present members and friends are invited for this special celebration. Come and enjoy the history and catch up with friends. Memories and memorabilia welcome. Contact (03) 6456 4158.

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