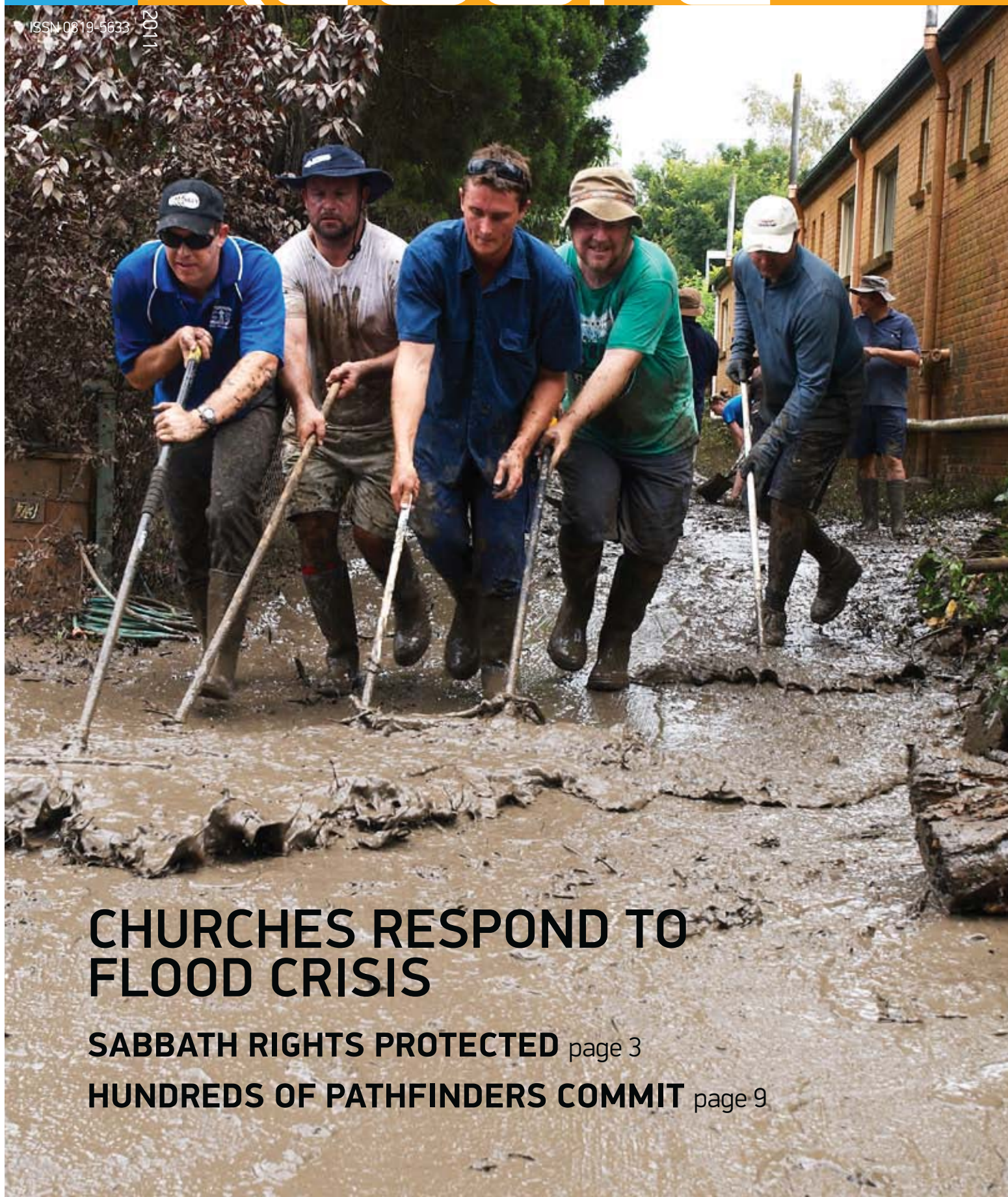


February 5, 2011

Record

ISSN 0819-5633



CHURCHES RESPOND TO FLOOD CRISIS

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HUNDREDS OF PATHFINDERS COMMIT page 9

CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL

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ADRA responds to flood crisis

Braden Blyde—Sydney, New South Wales

As flood waters recede from communities throughout Queensland, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Australia is on the ground meeting the needs of flood-affected individuals and families.

In Brisbane, ADRA volunteers were among the first on the ground to assist in the clean-up efforts. Members from Eight Mile Plains church joined with thousands of volunteers to help remove layers of mud and debris from affected houses and businesses.

ADRA volunteers have also been called upon by the Department of Community Services to staff five evacuation centres in some of the worst affected areas in Brisbane.

In Toowoomba, the ADRA Op Shop assisted in providing food, clothing and emergency accommodation for those impacted by the torrent. Meanwhile, the ADRA Op Shop in Gatton has been working with emergency services to provide clothing and blankets to the region's evacuation centre.

ADRA has also assisted in securing emergency

accommodation for flood-affected families in northern New South Wales, with volunteers safely accommodating more than 500 people in Moree and Grafton.

A special ADRA envelope will be inserted in the February 19 edition of RECORD for those wishing to support ADRA Australia's Queensland Flood Appeal. For more information, or to donate to ADRA Australia's Queensland Flood Appeal, visit <www.adra.org.au> or call toll-free 1800 242 372.



ADRA is working closely with church groups to support projects that meet the long-term recovery needs of affected communities.



Samoan Prime Minister Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi.

Sabbath rights protected

Islands Business.com—Apia, Samoa

Samoaan Prime Minister Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi has rejected a call by a leader of the Congregational Christian Church to ban all business operations on Sunday.

The call followed claims by the church that Sunday trading was the reason why people are not attending services.

In his weekly radio program, the Catholic Prime Minister said everyone's rights to observe or not to observe Sunday were guaranteed under the Constitution. He said it was not the government's role to impose a ban through legislation because once such a ban was imposed it meant no businesses opening or work being done on Sunday. The Prime Minister said if such a law was imposed, the government would also do the same for Saturday to observe the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Sabbath day.

First baptisms in new territory

Marcel Millaud—Papeete, Tahiti

New ground has been broken with the first baptisms held in the crystal clear waters of Aratika's lagoon, 500 kilometres from Tahiti, on January 8.

Pastor Roger Tetuanui, president of the French Polynesian Mission, baptised seven people.

With the help of Global Mission and also thanks to several gifts, a 16,000 square metre block of land had been previously purchased at a low price, and a chapel and worker house had been built. The church was built in 18 days, after a group of 20 volunteers from Tahiti came to assist (see News, Small island territory for new church, November 20, 2010).

Now, the first fruit of the evangelistic work is being harvested on the atoll of 220 inhabitants.

The mission plans to spread the message to the neighbouring atolls, Fakarava, Kauehi, Niau, Raraka, Taiaro and Toau, where there are no Seventh-day Adventists.



One of the first baptisms on Aratika.



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Seventh-day Adventist Church

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experiences
and shares**
our hope in Jesus Christ!

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An inconvenient truth

Pablo Lillo

During the break I was confronted by an inconvenient truth—the Church has developed a “fortress mentality”.

This mentality has a crippling grip on our Church.

I googled “fortress” and found the following definition: something impossible to get into, something that is impenetrable or acts as protection, a stronghold and fortification. So, rather than taking new ground for Christ, we’ve spent our time protecting the ground we have. The reality is that too many Adventists hide themselves inside our churches, hoping the world won’t come in to bother them. The fortress mentality, a prevailing attitude in our Church, is about devoting time and energies to maintaining programs that only serve those within, rather than reaching the lost outside our walls.

The early church didn’t have church buildings. They didn’t have a problem with mixing with their community. They met in homes, and in the temple courtyard, where they could be seen, and they could talk to the people.

As a Seventh-day Adventist, I’ve seen too many who are self-centred and preoccupied with their own pet peeves. They focus on issues like the time of the service, dress code, youth, music, evangelism and debating theology—with very little interest in winning the world for Christ. There is safety and security in this mentality, which is the norm in many churches. The reality is that we’ve become too ingrown, self-serving and selfish, with no desire to follow the Great Commission.

You see, the mentality of the fortress can paralyse and cripple individuals, groups, the pastor and the church itself. I think it’s clear, if we are going to follow Jesus’ example, we’re going to have to get outside the church and go to where the people are. We’re going to have to concern ourselves not only with whether or not they’re members of our church but whether or not they have a need that we can fulfil—and by doing so, demonstrate the love of God.

Today’s offering will help keep RECORD moving forward so that it can keep you nurtured, educated and informed about your church in 2011. In the past year we’ve given you a new-look RECORD, daily news as it breaks, Record InFocus News on Hope Channel, Foxtel (Australia) and online. Your investment today will help make this a “record” offering.

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Prime Minister recites Pathfinder pledge

Jarrod Stackelroth—Sydney, New South Wales

The Cook Islands held its first Union youth event when 900 Pathfinders arrived on Rarotonga for the New Zealand Pacific Union Pathfinder Camporee.

The camporee was held from December 28 to January 2 at the Papaaroa Adventist Primary School. Cook Islands Prime Minister Henry Puna attended the opening ceremony, where he recited the old Pathfinder pledge and law from memory.

Mr Puna, an ex-Pathfinder, attended the ceremony with his wife and told the young people the club was the best thing they could be a part of. He mentioned all the things he had learned including fishing and knot tying. He even asked to be admitted as an honorary Pathfinder member.

Two master guides were invested, including the French Polynesian Mission president, Pastor Roger Tetuanui. This

was the first time the French Polynesian mission had supported a Union event on this scale as 200 Pathfinders chartered a plane from Tahiti. There was a French translation service running during the meetings. Another club came from the far north region of the Cook Islands. It cost them approximately \$A3000, which they raised from selling straw brooms they had made. They received applause in appreciation of their efforts.



Pastor Nick Kross attended three camporees in three weeks.



Some activities continued despite the rain.

Rain fails to dampen Pathfinder spirit

Nathan Brown/Jarrod Stackelroth—Toowoomba, Queensland

Campers at the Australian Pathfinder Camporee in Toowoomba gave more than \$A4700 to support Queensland flood survivors on January 8.

Having experienced some of the extreme weather for themselves during the camporee, many of the young people wanted to make a contribution. "Most of us can simply go home with some muddy clothes and mostly good memories," said camporee director, Tony Knight, "but for thousands of Queenslanders, this is an ongoing crisis."

While some of the programs had to be cancelled and almost 1000 Pathfinders swapped their tents for a shed—affectionately dubbed "Mt Ararat"—the majority made the most of the mud.

Organisers worked with the local council and Lifeline to provide hundreds of dry blankets for Pathfinders who had run out of dry clothes or bedding. At least one laundromat stayed open until 1:30am to allow club leaders to dry bedding and clothes for their young people. On hearing of the needs of the displaced Pathfinders, one local woman turned up with bags of dry towels.

"For more than 2500 young people from around Australia, Toowoomba will be remembered—and, despite the challenges posed by the weather, most of those memories will be very positive," Pastor Knight said.

Leader donates V1 million for camporee

Jarrod Stackelroth—Sydney, New South Wales

Vanuatu's Prime Minister Sato Kilman attended the opening ceremony of the Trans-Pacific Union Mission Pathfinder Camporee and

made a V1.15 million (vatu) donation (approx. \$A12,500).

The money—V1 million from the government and V150,000 from the Prime Minister's personal business—went to the running of the camporee.

More than 2000 Pathfinders attended the camporee, which was held from December 19 to 26 at the Blue Water Resort, Port Vila. Clubs from around the Pacific came together, with the biggest representation from Vanuatu and

the Solomon Islands. The smallest country represented was one Pathfinder and their youth leader from Kiribati and 25 came from Tuvalu.

Some of the Pathfinders from the remote island atolls had never seen farm animals before—it was their first overseas trip and quite an experience.

As the camporee was held by the ocean, most of the activities were water and swimming based.

A helicopter delivered the official flag to the opening ceremony.



Pastor Kross with Vanuatu's prime minister, Sato Kilman, and his wife.

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R
NEWS

Church overflows with support

Pablo Lillo—Sydney, New South Wales

Caboolture Seventh-day Adventist church, in south Queensland, has filled its hall three times over with items to help the flood-affected residents of Queensland.

Word spread around the local community like wildfire as hundreds of people from the region started turning up with car-loads of goods.

Bronwyn Bain, the church's Adventist Development and Relief Agency coordinator, said, "People brought in food, clothing, furniture, toys, electrical goods, back-to-school items and hygiene packs that included soap, toothpaste, nappies, shampoos and other essentials."

Church member Shane Mont, who works for Bidvest, organised two PanTec trucks to transport the goods. His employer, a non-Seventh-day Adventist, volunteered his time to drive one of the trucks and is willing to continue his services.



The pastors' brothers were among 37 baptised.



Volunteers sort through donations.

Throughout the weekend the 300-strong member church united with the community to sort through the donations and organise convoys of cars and trucks bound for the Woodford distribution centre. The goods were destined for Toogoolawah, a small town in south-east Queensland cut off by waters.

"It's moving to see the community respond the way they have. I've met so many incredible people who've given so much to help others," said senior pastor Russell Wilcox. "You don't realise what people are capable of until a crisis like this happens."



Refer to *Recapturing the passion* (page 14).



Magazine celebrates 100 issues

From humble beginnings as an eight-page newsletter in 1986, *Archaeological Diggings* is now 32 full-colour pages and outsells every other archaeology magazine in Australia, combined! Retired pastor and editor-in-chief, David Down, says while the digital revolution is threatening print media, interest in archaeology is higher than ever. —Kent Kingston



Mackay marches on

There were many ways for clubs to be winners at the Australian Union Conference "Under Oath" camporee, Toowoomba, Qld. The Mackay Central Pathfinder club (Qld) performed as a tight unit and took out the marching and drill competition during the camporee, while Logan City Samoan club (Qld) performed an entertaining freestyle drill. According to parade marshal Paul Creswell, "the winning club was obviously well rehearsed and the standard was very high". —Nathan Brown



Weet-Bix for flood hit

In response to the Queensland floods, Sanitarium Health and Wellbeing supplied 64 pallets of 750g Weet-Bix and four pallets of So Good. With a retail value of \$A135,000, the food supplies will be distributed by welfare agencies to people in need. —Julie Praestijn/David Gibbons



Different director

After more than 30 years, the Wantirna Pathfinder Club, Vic, has appointed only its second club director. Phil Fehlberg was the foundation director of the club, a role he continued to fill until the beginning of this year. His successor, Nic Bolto (pictured with some Wantirna Pathfinders), was a foundation member of the club, beginning Pathfinders as a 10-year-old in the year Wantirna began. —Nathan Brown



Flood clean-up

A group from Eight Mile Plains church, Qld, went out to help those whose houses had been affected by the flooding. They cleaned and cleared eight houses with a group of young people from the Eight Mile Plains Mormon church, who they worked, shared and laughed with. The smiles on the faces of those they helped said it all. —Des Turia



Send an SOS

In a first for the South Pacific, all non-Adventist families of students attending Adventist schools in New Zealand will receive a free one-year subscription to *Signs of the Times*. Under the Signs Ministry's Signs for Our Schools (SOS) Project, magazines will be sent to the schools, who will then distribute them to more than 860 families. —Melody Tan



Kiwi evangelist

New Zealand-born Pastor John Bradshaw is the new speaker/director of It Is Written International. He succeeds Shawn Boonstra, who stepped down over health concerns. —Adventist Review



Blog from a bog

A dedicated blog for the Australian Pathfinder Camporee recorded more than 20,000 page views. The site now acts as a record of camporee with stories and photos, as well as making available the daily newsletters and media coverage. Go to <<http://under-oathcamporee.blogspot.com>>.



Pocket library

A new app from the White Estate now makes all of Ellen White's published writings available for the iPhone and iPad. The new app includes all 412 books, search ability of the entire White library, a King James Version Bible and Webster's contemporary 1828 dictionary. It also allows users to create notes to share. An android version is being developed. —Ansel Oliver



New club

The Alice Springs church, NT, started an Adventurer and Pathfinder club in 2010. Pastor Dana Howard, the Northern Australian Conference youth director, invested all the Adventurers on December 18. The children have been very enthusiastic about Adventurers and Pathfinders and are looking forward to an even bigger year in 2011. —Tanya Dutlow



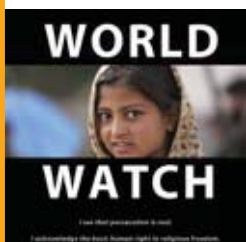
Hard times, high growth

US-based ministry Vision Beyond Borders reports that it is supporting a growing network of churches in Laos with 60,000 believers. Young people, in particular, are expressing an interest in Christianity, despite the persecution that is growing in rural areas. Vision Beyond Borders wants to provide 2000 New Testaments to Christians in Laos. —www.VisionBeyondBorders.org



Grieving together

Thousands of Egyptian Muslims have attended rallies and Coptic Orthodox Christmas (January 7) masses in support of their Christian neighbours after a Coptic Orthodox Church in Alexandria was bombed as worshippers left a New Year's Eve service. Twenty-three people died and at least 90 were injured. —Ikhwan Web



Cup of suffering

Christian organisation Open Doors says persecution of Christians has increased over the past 12 months. North Korea tops Open Doors' annual World Watch list, which ranks countries according to the difficulties faced by Christian citizens. Iraq is new to the list's top 10, with insurgents increasingly targeting Christians. —www.OpenDoorsUSA.org



Shot down

The situation for Christians in Pakistan may have taken a turn for the worse after the governor of Punjab province was assassinated by an extremist bodyguard. Salman Taseer had intervened in the case of Christian woman Asia Bibi, who is facing a death sentence under the country's controversial blasphemy laws. —Mission Network News



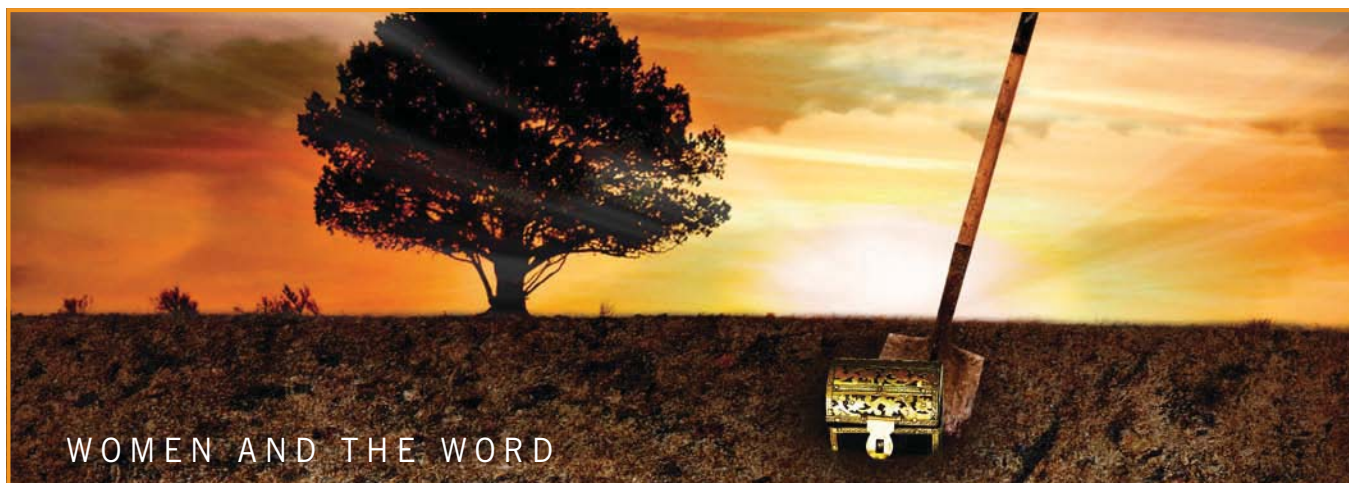
Deadly blasts

Nigerian believers in Jos are in mourning after seven bombs were detonated at two churches and a marketplace in the city of Jos, killing more than 80 people and hospitalising another 120. The city has seen more than 2000 people killed in religious violence over the past decade. —Christian Aid Mission



Boozy brawl

After making official statements against alcohol more than 50 times since 1886, the Southern Baptist Convention is split over the issue as many members and younger leaders have begun to accept social drinking. Supporters say a total prohibition stance is unbiblical. Critics warn of a slide into "Christian hedonism". —Associated Baptist Press



WOMEN AND THE WORD

EXCAVATING GOD'S TRUTH

8th April 2011

6.30pm

LOCATION & COST

Sydney Adventist Hospital

Level 2 Conference Room

185 Fox Valley Road, Wahroonga

\$35 per person / \$20 students

BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

Jan Bolst

Email: janbolst@adventist.org.au

Website: <http://women.adventistconnect.org>

Please register on or before Friday 25th March 2011



DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS THOUSANDS OF PATHFINDERS, young and old, attended Union camporees in three different locations across the Pacific. While the events had different activities, speakers, programs and venues, one common element was the spiritual emphasis and bringing young people to a decision for Christ. Here are some of the spiritual highlights and events that made the programs memorable.

Vanuatu

During the camporee, the Pathfinders had the opportunity to live out the theme, "Courage to tell", by marching through the town, and also cleaning up the entire town zone, for the first time. It was a powerful witness. Young people carried banners through the town, filled with health messages. Director general of health for Vanuatu, Mark Bebe, gave a talk on health to those who witnessed the march.

Pastor Nick Kross, youth director of the South Pacific Division, was the main speaker for the event and focused on different heroes of the Bible who had the "Courage to tell". Litiana Turner, associate youth director, led the praise team with the help of original songs from Abide ministries and the Institute of Worship. There was even a worship CD of all the songs created for the event.

All week Pathfinders and leaders were praying the rain would not affect the outdoor meetings. The rain held off until the Friday night program when Pastor Kross preached for 40 minutes in heavy rain. "What amazed me, was that they stayed," he said. "While they stayed, I will stay I decided."

More than 250 people came to the front to make a commitment to Jesus. During the Sabbath, workshops were run for the Pathfinders, and then in the afternoon, 142 Pathfinders and ambassadors were baptised.

"We could really feel God's presence there," said Pastor Kross.

Cook Islands

The theme of the week was "Power up: stand up, step up, speak up", based on the life of Daniel. The meetings were presented by the former General Conference youth director, Pastor Baraka Muganda.

Another feature of the camporee was when clubs from the Cook Islands hosted some of the clubs from New

Zealand. "The clubs were blown away by the love and hospitality shown by the Cook Island clubs," said Pastor Kross.

Pastor Muganda, in his first trip to the Cook Islands, enjoyed it so much he plans to come back to run an evangelistic program there.

Australia

Pathfinders from across Australia heard Pastor James Black, North American Division youth director, preach on Josiah and the theme, "Under Oath". A drama, written by camporee organiser Pastor Tony Knight, as well as the visit of a messianic Jew, who demonstrated a Jewish Passover service, gave the Pathfinders visual lessons. On Friday night, hundreds of young people came to the front to give Jesus the "idols" in their lives. Sabbath morning, the Pathfinders filled out commitment cards, with more than 1200 committing themselves to God and 446 requesting baptism.

Two Pathfinders from Springwood church were baptised on the Sabbath. Both had studied with young people from the Pathfinder club.

Pastor Black said he had seen the Pathfinders' strength as they battled mud and rain throughout the week. "You have shown strength that doesn't run away from rain but plays and sings in it. Now give that strength to God."

Chaplaincy was an intentional part of the camporee. Each sub-camp had a male and female chaplain, who would pray with leaders, hear the memorised Bible verse of the day and listen to the young people. "We want to see a generation of young people be disciples of Christ," said Steve Kane, youth director and coordinator of the chaplain team. "We want young people to be able to testify about what God has done in their life when they talk with their friends; we want them to listen to their story, share their story and reveal His story." Pastor Kross was tired but excited after attending the three camporees in three weeks. "It has been fantastic to get an overview of Pathfinder ministry across the Division. Three different places in three weeks has been fairly frantic but we learned some great things we'd like to apply to the next camporee."

The next camporee will be held at Stuarts Point from January 6 to 10, 2015. The theme is "iThirst".

Jarrod Stackelroth is assistant editor of RECORD.



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CLASSES COMMENCE
April 4, 2011



OPINION

Steve Parker

In praise of a secular society

As good as we might think it would be, I would not want to live in a society where Christianity determined every aspect of how we live. I am very pleased that we live in a secular society in the form we have here in Australia. A secular society is one that is not based on religion. I have three reasons for my praise of a secular society.

Firstly, a secular society means that a person must decide to live a Christian life rather than being born into it. Someone has said that God has no grandchildren. A decision as significant as following Jesus needs to be made consciously rather than merely happening by default.

Secondly, a secular society that values the right of people to believe as they wish means that our own decisions to follow Christ are respected. A secular society coupled with a genuine belief in freedom means that I, too, remain free. There are too many examples of societies which have imposed a particular set of religious beliefs onto people that have ended up as oppressive and demeaning. A multicultural society is unlikely to make laws that force people to believe a certain thing.

Thirdly, it forces me to engage in dialogue with others that will, if my approach is appropriate, teach me things I could not learn otherwise. Being isolated inside a fortress of belief that tries to prevent me from being "contaminated" by other perspectives will only lead to self-righteous dogmatism and exclusivity.

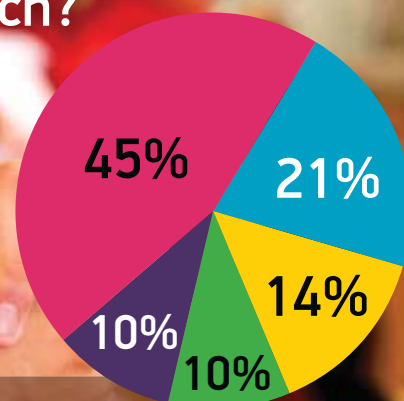
For all these reasons I value living in a secular society. I will share the good news of Jesus as I see it. But I will always value the freedom of people to choose to believe as they wish.

Dr Steve Parker is the associate dean (Teaching and Learning) at Flinders University School of Nursing and Midwifery. His interests are in communication, critical thinking and ethics. He writes a blog called The Thinking Christian and lives in Adelaide, SA, with his wife and two daughters. He attends Morphett Vale church.

OPINION POLL

Which of these "sins" is most common in the church?

- Pride of position
- Rule intoxication
- Keeping score
- Expert fascination
- None



Next Poll

Why aren't you, as a church member, more engaged in frontline mission?

- It's the pastor's job
- I don't feel equipped
- I don't feel confident
- I AM involved

See *Recapturing The Passion* (page 14).

Visit record.net.au to answer this poll.



Fad diets

People's dietary habits have changed over the past few decades to include larger serving sizes, more processed foods—containing higher amounts of fats and sugars—increased snacking (without decreasing meal size) and less activity. This means there are now twice as many overweight people compared to two decades ago.

Aside from the issues of appearance and finding clothes to fit, being a healthy weight significantly reduces the risk of developing high blood pressure, high cholesterol, heart disease, diabetes, stroke, gallstones, respiratory problems, sleep apnoea, gout, arthritis, and certain types of cancer. You will also have more energy and feel healthier and more confident!

Beware of fad diets

There is no quick fix for weight loss, despite what the latest celebrity endorsement suggests. Excess body weight doesn't appear overnight and it won't disappear that quickly either. Many of the diets we try are classified as 'fad diets' and there is a wide variety of weird and sometimes scary diet plans. Despite all their promises fad diets do not work. The initial weight loss which occurs on fad diets is mostly due to loss of glycogen (stored energy in muscle) and water, not fat. As soon as you start to eat 'normally' the weight comes back on again—usually with a bit extra for your effort.

To be successful with weight loss and the maintenance of a healthy weight, it helps to look at common factors among those who manage to successfully maintain a healthy weight. Usually this involves choosing a lifestyle that embraces eating nutritious food and exercising regularly, with the occasional indulgent treat thrown in to satisfy cravings.

Signs of a fad diet

- An important food group is totally removed from the diet plan—beware as this can result in nutrient deficiencies.
- Promotion of a specific food group or supplement to excess.
- Promises of huge weight loss in a short period of time. Losing more than 1kg per week is unlikely to last and often it is mainly fluids that are lost. Losing ½ to 1 kg per week is more realistic.
- Rigid menus or schedules—these can be unrealistic, resulting in the inability to stick to the diet and subsequent binge eating.
- Unrealistic menu plans for the long-term or average lifestyle—this generally leads to yo-yo dieting, as these diets can be difficult to stick to and can lead to more weight gain than pre diet.
- The diet plans are all low calorie—extremely low energy diets or those that reduce particular food groups can result in dehydration, muscle breakdown and deficiencies in several important nutrients.
- Claims that sound too good to be true.
- Diets where the focus is on appearance rather than overall health and wellbeing.

Call and speak with one of our nutritionists, 1800 673 392 (Aus) or 0800 100 257 (NZ). Alternatively, email us with a nutrition question at <nutrition@sanitarium.com.au> (Aus) or <nutrition@sanitarium.co.nz> (NZ). We'd love to hear from you! And don't forget to order your FREE copy of *Food for Health and Happiness Cookbook*—it has plenty of delicious and wholesome recipes. You may order the cookbook by visiting our website <www.sanitarium.com.au> or <www.sanitarium.co.nz>.

Sanitarium[™]
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RECIPE

Blueberry, lemon and ricotta hotcakes



- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| ■ 1 cup plain white flour | ■ ½ cup plain wholemeal flour |
| ■ 1 ½ teaspoon baking powder | ■ ½ cup sugar |
| ■ 2 eggs | ■ 200g low-fat ricotta cheese |
| ■ ¾ cup blueberries | ■ Grated rind 1 lemon |
| ■ 1 cup Sanitarium So Good Essential soymilk | |

1. In a large bowl combine flours, baking powder and sugar.
2. Blend eggs, So Good and ricotta cheese together and add to dry mix to form a batter. Carefully fold in blueberries and lemon rind.
3. Heat a lightly greased non-stick frypan and cook ¼ cup quantities of batter for 2 minutes each side or until golden and cooked through.

Serves 4.

Preparation time: 10 minutes.

Cook time: 10 minutes.

Tip: Serve with sliced banana, berries and yoghurt.

PER SERVE: Kilojoules 1844kJ; Protein 16.6g; Fat 8.6g; Carbohydrate 71.0g; Sodium 378mg; Fibre 4.3g.

Lonely me

by Graham Hood

THE MORE I RUN A “MANHOOD MATTERS” program and speak to other men, I realise there seems to be one common denominator in men who become addicted to pornography—loneliness. I only have to review my own sordid 40-year history in pornography to understand how this works.

When I was 12, I was suffering with rheumatic fever. We lived in a caravan on a bush block. My parents worked long hours so I spent six months alone every day in a five-metre long caravan. The boredom and loneliness drove me crazy.

Then one day while searching for something to amuse myself, I found a box with soft-core pornographic magazines. This was the beginning of a destructive occupation with pornography that almost lead me to suicide in 2006.

I would always seek pornography when lonely—loneliness became the trigger for my addiction. Because watching porn requires you to do so in private, the loneliness only continues and the downward spiral increases.

I talk to many men who are lonely even in the midst of what appears to be a healthy relationship. It is true that people can surround you, but you still feel alone.

When my first wife would go out, my first instinct was to go to the computer. When our marriage deteriorated and the loneliness increased, I would go into the study and watch pornography. My life became a shameful waste of time and my integrity and passion for life drained away.

Addiction to pornography is very destructive on so many fronts. By its nature it isolates us from our relationships with family, friends, church and most of all, God.

It is now well known that pornography causes chemical dependency. Pornography over stimulates the brain and this causes the body to produce 13 different chemicals in over-dose proportions. I suffered physical withdrawal symptoms such as shaking and sleep loss when I was giving it up.

Many people think that it's not hurting anyone, as it's just you and what you see and read. When our partners know that we're watching it they struggle with feelings of gross inadequacy knowing that they can never compare to the

images seen and this causes them to suffer.

Did you know the pornography industry grossed in excess of \$18 billion globally in 2009 and much of this went into the hands of organised crime that uses this money to buy young children into the industry as slaves. People support this every time they watch, even if they don't pay.

As Adventists, most of us would not smoke, drink or do drugs and yet this is in many ways far worse than these.

Most people addicted to pornography find it difficult to give it up “cold turkey”. I would remain free from porn for several weeks and feel good about myself only to stumble in a time of weakness. I would then feel so defeated and contemplate giving up altogether. This is exactly what Satan wants us to do.

On the other hand, Jesus is waiting to help us and encourage us to continue the Christian journey. It is vital that we trust in Him every time we stumble. When we do get up we must keep our eyes fixed firmly on Jesus and keep walking.

One helpful way of staying in control of this sinful addiction is to give it to the Lord. The apostle Paul struggled with his weaknesses and found that admitting to them gave him the strength to abandon them.

God's grace is all we need. His power is all we need. His power works best in our weakness (see 2 Corinthians 12: 9, 10.) I have made Paul's words my own, “So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. That's why I'm willing to talk about my past, and accept the insults, hardships, persecutions and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”

Paul states clearly that his strength lies in his vulnerability. Sharing my testimony in public has been a great help. Having an accountability partner, in whom I confide my weaknesses, has helped me grow.

Another Bible text that has been helpful in my journey is: “For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say no to ungodliness and

n

worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age" (Titus 2:11, 12).

I have chosen to live a godly life—a life of integrity—and say no to pornography. I believe it's time our Church addressed the issue of pornography as it is tearing apart marriages, families and affecting the spreading of the Gospel message. The deepening isolation of men also needs to be addressed in order to make church more relevant to them.

I am encouraged by the writings of Adventist author Marvin Moore, in his wonderful book, *Conquering the Dragon Within*. Drawing on the distilled counsel of the Bible, the Spirit of Prophecy and the Twelve-Step Recovery movement, Moore shows us how to overcome the "dragons" within. I recommend this book to thousands of Christians who struggle with addictions. I am now free of my addiction and dedicated to helping God free others.

My freedom must be always maintained with prayer, accountability, diligence and a constant re-evaluation of my walk.

On this walk I thank God for the Beatitudes and the twelve-steps to recovery that I need every day to stay focused on the Lord Jesus Christ.



Graham Hood is a pilot for Australia's largest airline and runs a ministry called Mission Serenity <www.missionserenity.com.au>.

LETTERS

EXPONENTS OF PERFECTIONISM

Errol Webster, NSW

Thank you Pastor Grolimund for your encouraging words in, "Ellen White, the Bible and perfection" (Feature, December 4, 2010). We're reminded the Bible is the ultimate authority for us; that it "interprets" the writings of Ellen White—not the other way around.

Exponents of perfectionism have used Ellen White's statements to promote perfectionism for decades. Unfortunately, many have left the faith in despair because of their inability to totally overcome sin.

When Robert Brinsmead dropped the perfectionism baton in 1970, there were many Adventists who picked it up. Today, some very prominent Adventists promote a more subtle form of sinless perfectionism in the Church.

While we talk more about grace, many good Adventists still consider they have to reach a certain level of holiness and sinlessness before being ready for heaven.

UNCONFESED SINS?

Kevin Trehwella, NZ

I do not feel Pastor Gromilund's article provides a balanced biblical perspective on this topic.

Scripture points us to the sanctuary where, aside from the life and example of Christ, we have arguably the most profound insight into the character of God and His plan for His people.

Ellen White states that while Christ's robe of righteousness indeed covers confessed sins it, "is not a cloak to cover unconfessed and unforsaken sin; it is a principle of life that transforms the character," (DA p556).

The Word of God assures us that if, "We sin wilfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins," (see Hebrews 10:26). As Joshua urged sanctification preparatory to Israel's entry to the promised land, so God's church today is being called to such a preparatory work.

FORGIVE SEVENTY TIMES SEVEN

Name withheld, VIC

I have been saddened and disappointed at the lack of forgiveness shown by some Adventists. Jesus tells us in Matthew to forgive our brother seventy times seven. Why then is it so hard to forgive someone once?

Forgiveness brings healing, not only to the person who is forgiven but especially to the one who forgives. Let's follow Jesus' example and admonition.

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.

Recapturing the Passion

AT ITS HEART, CHRISTIANITY IS ALL ABOUT JESUS. New Testament believers were amazed at His love, transformed by His grace and witnessed through His power. They shared a Christ they knew. They testified of a love that was real. Christ changed their lives, and they could not be silent. When the Jewish authorities tried to silence Peter and John, the apostles exclaimed: "For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20, NKJV).

The dynamic of first-century Christianity was simply this: the disciples shared a faith in Jesus that was authentic. It was no make-believe, artificial Christianity. They proclaimed a Christ whom they had experienced. Their witness was powerful because their faith was personal. Paul cried out: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes" (Rom. 1:16, NKJV). John added: "That which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ" (1 John 1:3, NKJV).

These newly-converted believers, filled with the Spirit, had hearts overflowing with the desire to proclaim His love to everyone they met. Historian Will Durant made this insightful observation: "Nearly every convert, with the ardour of a revolutionary, made himself an office of propaganda."¹ Ellen White adds: "No sooner does one come to Christ than there is born in his heart a desire to make known to others what a precious friend he has found in Jesus; the saving and sanctifying truth cannot be shut up in his heart."²

From the New Testament record, we learn that witnessing was not the role of some select super-gifted few. Soul winning was not the exclusive function of the disciples. It was the role of the entire church. The apostle Paul gives us a beautiful picture of what the church is all

about in

1 Corinthians 12: "For we were all baptised by one Spirit into one body. . . . Now the body is not made up of one part but of many" (verses 13, 14). Paul likens believers to members of Christ's body: "Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it" (verse 27). Just as each part of the human body has a special function that contributes to the whole, so each member of the church has been gifted by God to contribute to the mission of the church.

Witnessing is not a spiritual gift. It is a calling God gives to each believer. We are all called to witness. God gives us different gifts so we can witness effectively. All believers are witnesses and all believers have been given gifts to witness. This is the revolutionary teaching of the New Testament. In this light we can never say, "I am just a layperson; I don't have a theology degree, I don't really have the knowledge or skill to do the work of witnessing." Every one of us as a member of Christ's body, the church, has been called by God to witness and each one of us has been given gifts to minister for the Master. Even if you feel your gifts are exceedingly modest, those gifts are indispensable to the whole church. God longs to use you powerfully. As you use the gifts He has given you, they will increase. He will bless your efforts beyond what you can ever imagine.

An Old Deception

One of Satan's greatest deceptions is that soul winning, witnessing and evangelism are the work of a few highly trained clergy specialists. This falsehood has its roots in the Middle Ages when various heresies compromised the church. In that era, the clergy were elevated far above the laity. Their standing before God was sharply divided from that of their congregations. The clergy were considered to be spiritually strong and the laity spiritually weak. The clergy were thought to have special privi-

(part1)

by Mark Finley



leges as dispensers of the sacraments and interpreters of Scripture. As a result, the laity remained spiritually dependent on the clergy. The clergy had a spiritual calling for the work of God, and the laity a secular calling. And according to the theology of the day, in heaven the clergy would occupy special positions close to God that ordinary believers could not enjoy.

A Revolutionary Discovery

In the sixteenth century the Reformation truth of the priesthood of all believers burst upon the horizon in the blazing light of Scripture. Students of Scripture made this startling discovery: "But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light" (1 Peter 2:9, NKJV).

All believers are priests with direct access to God through Jesus Christ. Just as the Old Testament priests were representatives of God, witnesses for the Most High, each believer, called as a priest of the Most High God, is a witness to His grace and glory. It sounded like heresy when Martin Luther thundered from his pulpit in Wittenberg: "Every shoemaker, every carpenter, every farmer, every doctor is a priest." But Luther was right. Sharing the Gospel is not the exclusive right of the clergy: it is the privilege of the entire church. Every believer takes Christ into this world through his or her profession. Sharing Christ in the marketplace is what we do because of who we are. Our occupations provide opportunities for witness. William Carey was right when he said: "I cobble shoes to pay expenses, but soul winning is my business."³ Protestants armed with the truth of the priesthood of all believers during the Protestant Reformation changed the history of the world.

Whatever your job—whether you are a cleaner, lawyer, truck driver, physician, construction worker, teacher, labourer or computer programmer—the purpose of life is

to share Jesus' love with others. Ellen White was certainly on target when she declared: "The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers."⁴

God longs for the entire church to come alive with missionary zeal. He longs for each of us to recapture the passion of the New Testament church. He is waiting to pour out His Holy Spirit on a church passionate about sharing a Christ who has changed them personally. It happened in the first century and it will happen in the last century. It happened at the beginning of church history and it will happen at the close of church history. It happened then and it will happen again. It happened there and it will happen here. Dwight L. Moody was a layperson won to Christ by another layperson, and he rocked two continents with the power of the Gospel. William Miller the farmer, Joseph Bates the sea captain, James White the teacher, Ellen White the humble teenager—they are all examples of laypeople who were mightily used of God in the Second Advent movement. God is gathering laypeople around the world for a final movement at the climax of earth's history. But if this lay movement is going to fulfil its destiny in this generation, it will require rethinking the role of the local pastor and the local church. It will necessitate recapturing the biblical role of the pastor. It calls for a radically new understanding of the church.

¹ Will Durant, *The Story of Civilization*, vol 3 (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1972), p 602.

² Ellen G White, *Steps to Christ*, p 78.

³ In *A Handbook Christian Theology*, Marvin Halverson and Arthur A. Cohen, eds. (New York: Meridian Books, 1958), p 281.

⁴ Ellen G White, *Gospel Workers*, p 352.

Mark Finley has been a pastor, administrator, and evangelist for the Seventh-day Adventist Church for 40 years.



OPENING HIS WORD

Gary Webster

Revival and reformation

Our General Conference president's call for revival and reformation is very timely at this point in earth's history. But what do we mean by these terms? How does it happen?

Revival

- means "a restoration to life". It is what the Bible calls "being born again", being "a new creature", and having a "new heart". Having been "dead in sin" by the loving grace of God, we are made "alive" with Christ.

Read John 3:3; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 4:24; 2:4,5; Colossians 3:10; Ezekiel 36:26

- It is the work of the Holy Spirit who "revives" or brings this new life to a person, which is why the Holy Spirit is called the "Spirit of Life".

Read John 3:5,6,8; 6:63; Romans 8:10,11; 2 Corinthians 3:6

- How does the Spirit bring "revival?" When a person comes to Jesus, just as they are, and puts their trust in Christ, leaning their whole weight on Him, who died and rose again for them, then the Spirit comes into them, bringing with Him, new life, even the very life of Jesus Himself.

Read John 3:9,14,15; 7:37-39; Galatians 2:20; 1 John 5:1

Reformation

- means a "re-ordering and a re-organisation" of a person's life. The Bible's term is a "transformation", a "growing up" and "renewing" into the image or likeness of Jesus. It is an ongoing process throughout life. It follows on from "new life", just as a baby grows after birth.

Read Romans 12:2; Ephesians 4:13,15; Colossians 3:10

- This also is the work of the Holy Spirit, and takes place within an environment of grace, as we continue to "look to Jesus, the Author and the Finisher of our faith", and spend time in God's Word and in serious prayer.

Read Ezekiel 36:27; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 12:1-3; 2 Peter 3:18; Acts 20:32; Ephesians 3:14,16; Matthew 26:41

Why not ask the Lord right now, "Create in me a clean heart, oh God, and renew a right Spirit within me (Psalm 51:10)." He will answer, "yes," immediately.

Pastor Gary Webster is director of the Institute of Public Evangelism.



HEALTH WISE

Dr James Wright

Feeling stressed?

Today, stress is overtaking our lives. It is the result of too many nerve impulses reaching our brain, resulting in overload. The neurones cannot cope with the extra work leading to a vast range of symptoms, like irritability, yelling at your kids and spouse, restless nights, bad dreams, headaches, fatigue. Then there's a heap of unrelated "psycho-somatic" symptoms (symptoms present but not due to disease)—tummy upsets, lack of appetite, or eating ravenously, wheezing, aches and pains, nervous coughing, itchy skin, the twitches, feeling anxious or foreboding thoughts. The list goes on.

Sit down and re-assess your life. Prioritise. Reset your daily work schedule. Make lists and apply it to writing. Try and reorganise workplace relationships and schedules. Or negotiate with your superiors and workmates. Eight hours sleep a night is essential. Three simple, sensible, low-fat, low-carb meals a day with minimum salt are vital. Get 30 minutes physical activity. Walking is best. Don't use food and caffeinated fizz drinks as a solace. You'll get fat, feel worse and lose self-esteem. Take a relaxing shower at bedtime. Have a warm milk drink. This contains "tryptophan", nature's natural sedative. Read Psalms 23 before turning the lights out, then work through the others. Repeat the Lord's Prayer. This calms the spirit, and is so refreshing and encouraging. Don't resort to medication unless essential. If the downhill spiral continues, seek counselling from a competent friend, psychologist or doctor.

Unwell? Go to <docwright.com.au>. Enter symptom and click for immediate help. If symptoms continue, see your doctor.

MY MINISTRY IDEA

My name's Daniel and I'm a theology student at Avondale College. Last year, one of our lecturers was showing us how the Christian church has changed over the past 2000 years. He ended by telling us about how we are moving into a digital culture and the way that people communicate today is very different to what it used to be. He mentioned that we need to start being open to new ways to communicate the Gospel to the lost. That affected me.

I went home and really prayed for God to give me a new way to speak to people about the love of Christ. In the middle of the night God woke me up with an idea about starting a Facebook group that regularly emails all its members a Gospel message, with inspiring YouTube clip links and prayers for those who don't know how to pray. So I set up a page called "FacebookChurch" and invited all my friends. Within a week there were 90 members. So I sent out the first "sermon". I've been sending them out about once a month and the group has grown to about 360. Many of them are completely unknown to me and I think about a quarter of them don't regularly attend a church. I have now realised that we have a real opportunity to reach people here that many of us aren't using. I pray that more and more Adventists will start to view social networking sites like Facebook, not just as a place to socialise, but as a new medium to communicate the three angels' messages to the world.



Daniel Matteo has started a group called "FacebookChurch".



IMAGES FILL MY MIND . . . A BLUE CAR ROARING DOWN the rapids of main street Toowoomba; a yacht's mast slapping into the man on his tinny; a tiny tug boat straining against the Riverwalk; and faces, hundreds of faces. The waters have ravaged our cities, our towns, our people. The devastation has filled our TV screens and scarred our hearts. But as the waters have receded, the streets and homes have been filled with a different tide, a Kingdom tide.

I dug around in my yard clothes until I found a retired StormCo shirt. It seemed eager to go to work. It was Sunday morning, and the Coastlife Church response was growing . . . Chris Morrissey marshalled the 50 volunteers armed with generators, wheelbarrows, high pressure cleaners, gumboots and shovels. But nothing could prepare us for what we witnessed as we rolled into Goodna that morning. Caravans in trees, a skip bin on top of a two-storey home, the stench of rotting vegetation and mud. Dumbstruck, we drove through the army-controlled gate into some of the worst affected areas.

One team started to work at Peter's house. It was devastating to see what the floods had done to his property, purchased a few months ago in September, 2010. The gardens and yard were covered in foul thick muck 10 centimetres deep. The house was no better. Everything was covered—kitchen, bathroom, tiles, hardwood floors. All day we blasted mud off the house while brooms and shovels worked the ground. At one stage a carpet snake made its retreat to another part of the roof that still had its ceiling intact. Trying to get him out we could see the ceiling still had 6 centimetres of mud in it.

Up and down every street it was the same. But the Kingdom of God had come out of hiding and masses of people swarmed over piles of rubbish and mud. Where had they come from? Someone was heard to say, "Have a BBQ and three people turn up. Have a flood and everyone shows up."

A "congo line" (at least that's what we called it) formed at a Chinese person's home. He was a businessman who had only one month before put 4000 car parts in the shed at the back of his property. Now, they were unsaleable. But the mud was so thick leading down his property that it pulled your gumboots off. The only solution to getting the rubbish to the front of his property where machines could

collect it was to form a congo line. So we swung parts up the line for hours on end. Cheers and laughter would go up every time something slipped through someone's muddy hands and hit the ground. We were actually having fun. One strong Samoan brother carted a wheelie bin full of stuff up and down. He was cheered on every time he went by us skinny guys. At one stage I even passed a 40 centimetre earthworm up the line—it only got as far as the Samoan girls before screams ended its rescue.

I got chatting to the smiling brother beside me. He told me he was a Sudanese refugee granted asylum in Australia. I asked him how he was enjoying Australia. He said, "It is wonderful. I have many friends at the South Brisbane Adventist Church I go to." I nearly fell over backwards in the mud. Then after the congo finished, one of the earthworm sisters said, "So you're an Adventist hey. I saw your StormCo shirt. We're all Adventists too from the Sandgate church." Most of the congo were made up of Adventists from three different churches, though we weren't marshalled there by human hands. All day people showed up to work or to offer food and drinks. The love felt there made Goodna feel like the kind of place you would want to live despite the flood damage.

Jesus said, "You are the light of the world," (Matthew 5:14). Sometimes it feels like there is little light being shone in our communities. These floods have shown me that it's in the times of darkness that you can see the lights that have been shining all along. This day, in this place, lights were shining everywhere. You felt privileged to be part of something that was greater than any of us; greater than any human organisation. The love of God wore yard clothes and retired StormCo shirts.

There is much left to do, but as we find time to reflect, we can grieve what the floods have swept away, but we can also rejoice in what the waters have brought us . . . the long forgotten idea that we are family, all of us. And that despite our best efforts, we are barely clinging to a broken rock in outer space, totally dependent on the grace and glory of Jesus our King. I hope your yard shirts can also find new life in the will of God.

R

Pastor Wes Tolhurst is senior pastor of Coastlife Adventist church, Gold Coast, Qld. Coastlife is a church where service is a part of life.

CHURCH PLANTING *Conference*

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RECORD REWIND

Lester Devine

Pioneer mission vessel

The *Pitcairn*, a pioneer mission vessel, was dedicated on September 25, 1890, during the California camp meeting and set sail on its first voyage to the South Pacific on October 20, 1890. The money to build the *Pitcairn* was raised through Sabbath School offerings.

The church members had been inspired by the story of John Tay, a ship's carpenter and missionary who, following up on literature sent 10 years previously, worked his way on six different ships to Pitcairn Island. For five weeks he gave Bible studies with the end result that the entire population of the island made a decision for the seventh-day Sabbath.

On November 25, 1890, John Tay visited Pitcairn Island again—this time travelling on its namesake mission vessel. This three-week visit resulted in the organisation of a church of 82 members. Travelling further on the *Pitcairn*, Tay became the first missionary to Fiji where he became ill and died in 1891.

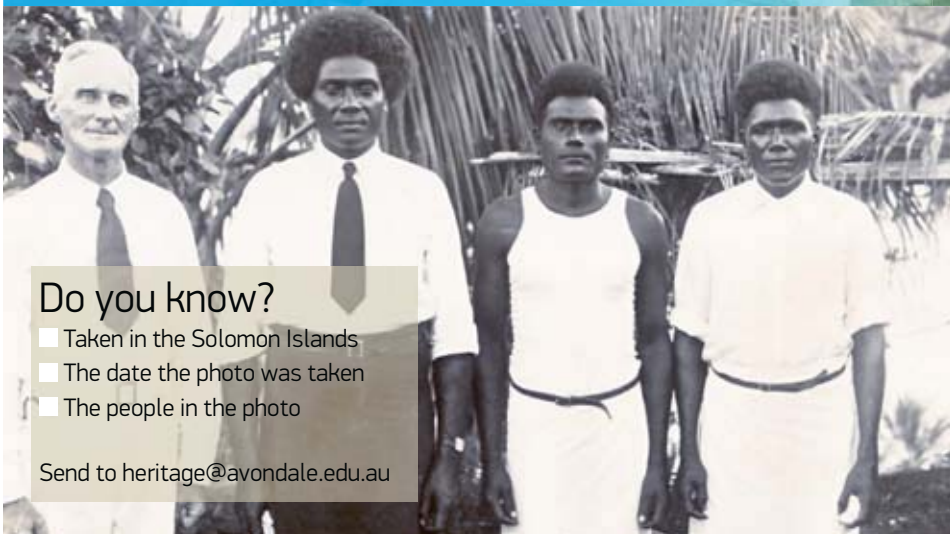
The vessel *Pitcairn* proved not suitable for tropical waters. A deckhouse was built to improve ventilation below decks and an auxiliary steam engine was installed so it could manoeuvre through island reefs. Eventually, because the cost of operation was high, and steamship schedules were improving, the *Pitcairn* was sold in 1900 and sank in a storm off the Philippines in 1911.



Dr Lester Devine is director emeritus of the Ellen G White Seventh-day Adventist Research Centre.



MYSTERY HISTORY



Do you know?

- ☐ Taken in the Solomon Islands
- ☐ The date the photo was taken
- ☐ The people in the photo

Send to heritage@avondale.edu.au

Kids' Space

Hi kids

Have you ever lost something precious to you?

In Luke 15 there are three stories of precious things going missing. There is the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son.

No matter what happens remember that Jesus loves you and He wants the best for you.

FIND

3 lost things in this picture



BIBLE TEXT

For _____ Son of _____ came
_____ seek _____ to _____
what was _____.

Luke 19:10

GRACELINK MESSAGE

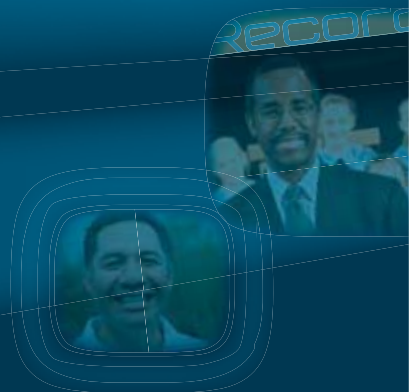
Jesus looks for me, because I am precious to Him

Record Offering

5 Feb 2011



KEEP IN
TOUCH
WITH THE
NEWS
THAT
TOUCHES
YOU





with Dr Barry Oliver

Natural disasters

Many of our South Pacific communities have been terribly affected by major events in recent months. I am thinking, for example, of the tsunami in Samoa; cyclones in a number of places including Tonga, The Cook Islands and Queensland; the earthquake in Christchurch; floods in Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria; bushfires in Western Australia. The list seems to go on and on.

Of course, natural and man-made disasters are no surprise. Jesus Himself clearly told us that their increasing occurrence would be a sign of the nearness of His return—and His return is good news! But the disasters themselves are anything but good news for those directly involved.

On behalf of our Church I want to express our support and the assurance of our ongoing prayers for those who have suffered so much. As a wider Church we should continue to remember in prayer these communities—and our church members within them—who have suffered immense loss of life and property. While our newspapers and TV screens may progress to the next sensational report, those who have suffered are left behind to put their lives together again—somehow.

May I encourage us all wherever possible to show our care in tangible ways. We can donate funds to ADRA or other relief agencies. Most importantly, we can roll up our shirt sleeves and really show that we care by getting involved—just like Jesus! Genuine love really shines when it is needed most.

Dr Barry Oliver is president of the South Pacific Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.



WHY I AM AN ADVENTIST

I am Kula Lenora Baravi. I am a fifth year MBBS student at the Fiji School of Medicine and I am Fijian. I believe it is very important to be a Seventh-day Adventist because the Church has a holistic approach to life. When the Church's teachings are instilled in a child, they help the child to grow well in every aspect of life. The Church is a specially organised body designed to modify a person in this life, preparing him/her for eternity. This is channelled through various church groups like Pathfinders, youth, Adventist Men and Dorcas. In these groups, the biblical principles/values that are taught are vital for the livelihood of a person. These values help a person to be spiritually fit, and uplift their personality to a more Christ-like character. A person also grows physically healthy by taking heed of the health message proclaimed by the Church. It emphasises love in Adventists' hearts that help them to serve others irrespective of differences and to love one another just as Christ has loved His Church. Finally, the Church produces good, kind, lovable and law abiding citizens in the nation. That's why I am an Adventist.



MY CHURCH

3am Company, Sydney, NSW

Boli Kim

I attend the 3am Company in Sydney and worship at Eastwood Heights Public School every Sabbath.

We have a regular attendance of about 40. Our main focus is to reach out to university students from overseas.

Our group was formed in November 2004, with 10 committed Seventh-day Adventist youth, who wanted to share the Gospel message with a group of people who weren't catered for.

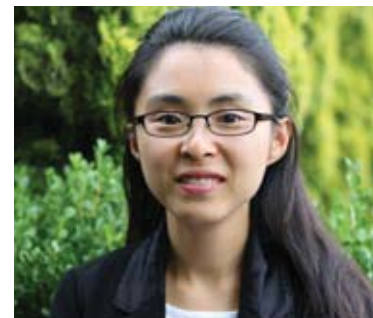
For evangelism we run CareGroup, an acronym for Christ's attitude reflected in everyone. During the week four groups come together in different locations to share their lives, eat food and open God's Word. We also have Bible workers building friendships and opening doors. This allows 3am members and the Bible workers the opportunity to give Bible studies to students at Macquarie University. Social events are organised throughout the year to connect with students who are open to forming new friendships.

At Macquarie University we have a club called ASOC—Adventist Students On Campus. Through the club we can have an active presence, connect with students and advertise our events.

I enjoy being actively involved in church life, in sharing my faith and in co-ordinating the praise and worship. Witnessing to overseas students is something I'm passionate about as I have been one myself.

In March we're planning to run an evangelistic campaign, with Pastor Geoff Youlden as the keynote speaker. The theme for the 11 meetings, run over three weeks, is "Life After Life".

Our group is in need of more committed Adventists who are passionate about sharing their faith with university students. We're also in need of greater funding for more Bible workers spreading the Gospel message with us.



POSITIONS VACANT

■ **Administration assistant—It Is Written Oceania (Wahroonga, NSW)** is seeking a full-time admin. assistant, based at Wahroonga, NSW. Flexible working arrangements are possible. For more information about It Is Written Oceania visit <www.itiwrittenoceania.tv>. The successful applicant will assist in day-to-day management of the database system for recording donations, creating reports and mailing lists; handling phone and web enquiries; coordinating the ministry resources of DVDs and other printed material; providing general administrative support with filing, documentation, minute taking and other administrative support activities as requested from time-to-time. The successful applicant must be a baptised member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church with full commitment to its message, mission and lifestyle. He/she should have interest, skills and experience in working within a small team of dedicated staff and volunteers; effective communication; coordinating projects to ensure deadlines are met; attention to detail and accuracy; willing to take the initiative to develop the role's responsibilities; and public and personal evangelism. Overseas applicants should ensure they can satisfy Australian working visa requirements before applying for this position. It Is Written Oceania reserves the right to fill this vacancy at its discretion. Applications and enquiries should be directed to: Calvin Dever, Corporate Services, Adventist Media Network on (02) 9847 2222 or email <kalvindever@adventistmedia.org.au>. Applications close **March 11, 2011**.

■ **Systems analyst—Development, Training and Support—South Pacific Division (Wahroonga, NSW)**. The Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Limited is seeking expressions of interest from suitable candidates. This full-time role involves developing and supporting our tithes and offering system. It also involves SUN system (accounting software) support and training. To apply, please forward all written applications, including your CV, three work-related referees and the contact information of your church pastor, to: Human Resources Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD), Ltd Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga, NSW 2076 or fax to (02) 9489 0943 or email <hr@adventist.org.au>. Applications close **February 11, 2011**.

■ **Clinical care manager—Adventist Aged Care (Sth Qld) (Capricorn Adventist Retirement Village, Yeppoon, Qld)**. Adventist Aged Care is seeking a suitably qualified and motivated person to lead our aged care team at Yeppoon. Duties will include providing clinical oversight of the 66 (high/low and special care) beds, ensuring that the quality of care provided exceeds government standards and ensuring that financial and human resource benchmarks set by the corporate office are met. Demonstrated knowledge and skills in contemporary aged care delivery an advantage. Located 38km north-east of Rockhampton, Yeppoon is the gateway to the Capricorn Coast and beautiful Keppel Bay and offshore islands. Enquiries to: Paul Mitchell, Chief Executive Officer, Adventist Aged Care (Sth Qld), 1/3974 Pacific Hwy, Loganholme, Qld, 4129 or phone (07) 3451 5900 or email <paulmitchell@adventist.org.au>. Applications close **February 25, 2011**.

For more employment options, go to
<adventistemployment.org.au>



ANNIVERSARY

Davy—Teulon. Linton and Thelma celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on 10.10.10. They met and were married in Toowoomba and first lived at Goondiwindi, where Linton worked as a stationhand and Thelma as a nurse. They later moved to Toowoomba where

Linton worked as a fitter-welder and Thelma owned and operated a kindergarten. They have three daughters, one son; nine grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. They retired in 1976 and moved to Caloundra where they were founding members of Caloundra church. They celebrated their anniversary with their church family at Caloundra.

WEDDINGS

Borg—Howard. Joseph Michael Borg, son of Emanuel and Henrietta Borg (Glenwood, NSW), and Alison Catherine Hasian Howard, daughter of Gordon and Floris Howard (Cooranbong), were married 3.10.10 at The Turpentine Tree, Blue Mountains. It was a beautiful garden wedding with a backdrop of God's creation.

AJ Grant

Gardiner—Richardson. Michael James Gardiner, son of Terry and the late Chris Gardiner (Nunawading, Vic), and Chantel Lauren Richardson, daughter of Roy and Nerida Richardson (Brisbane, Qld), were married 16.5.10 at Robina Woods, in the presence of family and friends.

Travis Manners, John Hancock

Groves—Shield. Timothy William Groves, son of Robert and Joy Groves (Central Coast, NSW), and Jane Elaine Shield, daughter of Bruce and Elaine Shield (Sydney), were married 17.10.10 at Toronto church. The couple are setting up their home on the Central Coast.

Bruce Shield

Hinze—Otto. Jason Hinze, son of Greg and Shirley Hinze (Sydney, NSW), and Melissa Otto, daughter of Bill and Wan Otto (Newcastle), were married 5.4.10 at The Tree House, Brunkerville, NSW. Jason and Melissa were married in a beautiful, natural outdoor setting.

Ian Howie

O'Berg—Deeming. Nathan O'Berg, son of Michael and Tracey O'Berg, and Kaylee Deeming, daughter of Alan and Tammy Lewis, were married 26.9.10 at Fairbridge Chapel, Pinjarra.

Derek McCutcheon

Rankin—Irrgang. Daniel Rankin, son of David and Trudy Rankin (Lower Hutt, NZ), and Ina Irrgang, daughter of Gerd and Susanne Irrgang (Harburg, Germany), were married 23.10.10 at Harburg church, Hamburg. Daniel and Ina met while student missionaries in Denmark and have now set up their home in Hamburg.

Scott—Hutchinson. Matthew Steven Scott, son of Steven and Julie Scott (NSW), and Jennifer Maree Hutchinson, daughter of

Graeme Hutchinson and Joanne Miller, were married 10.10.10 at Camelot House, Camden, NSW.

Nataniel Pereira

Sialeipata—Simeona. Panini Sialeipata, son of Fetulima and Lumepa Sialeipata, and Lynn Sina Simeona, daughter of Aivalu and Judy Simeona, were married 10.10.10 at Mt Gravatt church. It was a beautiful wedding attended by family from across Australia and overseas.

William Strickland

Taylor—Richards. James Taylor, son of Kenneth Taylor (Central Coast, NSW) and Rosemary Ansell (Swan Hill, Vic), and Leonie Richards, daughter of Neil and Carolyn Richards (Budgewoi, NSW), were married 23.10.10 at Catherine Hill Bay Surf Club.

Peter Ansell

OBITUARIES

Bailey, Tirata Tutai, born 15.10.1930 in Aitutaki, Cook Islands; died 11.6.09 in Blacktown Hospital, NSW. On 3.3.1955, she married William Bailey. She was predeceased by her daughter, Teremoana, in 2005. She is survived by her husband, Bill; her children, Bill Jnr, Galina, Dean, Paul, Cinata, Marie; 18 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren; and siblings, David and Sarah and their families. Tirata dedicated her life to God and was a devout Adventist. The past five years she struggled with kidney disease and was on a dialysis machine three days a week in order to survive. She loved helping out people less fortunate than herself and became an invaluable part of the Cook Islands community.

Tai Mokoroa

Baiton, Mary Jean, of Tailam Bend; died 20.9.10 in Melbourne, Vic, aged 69. Loved mother of Terry, Sue, Scott, Julie and John and their families; and also her church family at Murray Bridge, SA. Now awaiting the great resurrection together with all of God's children who are looking forward to His Second Coming.

Nonu Maiava

Brian, Penny Susan (nee Waddington), born 29.12.1959 at Mt Hagen, PNG; died 25.10.10 in Sydney, NSW. In 1986, she

married Russell. She is survived by her husband; her children, Daniel and Hannah; her mother, Joan; and her siblings, Hal, Cheryl Chamley and Lindy Cohen. Born of missionary parents in PNG, Penny returned to Australia in 1966. She completed nursing training at the San, and worked in Thailand for the Seventh-Day Adventist World Service. In 1982 she returned to Australia and worked at The Children's Hospital at Westmead, NSW, until February 2010, when she was forced to leave due to deteriorating health. She was originally diagnosed with a brain tumour in 2006. Penny loved the Lord and her Parramatta church where she led out in various children's Sabbath School classes, Adventurers and Pathfinders activities in partnership with husband Russell.

Gilbert Cangy, Johnny Murison

Curnuck, Lawrence Joseph, born 11.5.1925 at Loxton, SA; died 30.8.10 at Bunbury, WA. On 11.11.1961, he married Marleen Farmer. He is survived by his wife (Bunbury, WA); and his children, Brenda, Shirley, Rosemary,

Reginald, Melanie Napper (Perth) and Roxanne Ciallella (Bunbury). Laurie is remembered as Pathfinder director for many years in Busselton and more recently for his work in prison ministry. He had many talents and enjoyed a renewed relationship with the Lord in recent years and eagerly anticipated Christ's return.

Robert Kingdon

Elliott, Aaron Albert, born 14.9.10 at Launceston, Tas; died 26.9.10 in Hobart. He is survived by his parents, Aldon and Elma Elliott; his sister, Alexandra; and his grandparents, David Elliott, Leonie Brazendale and Elpedio and Editha Lisona (Philippines). Precious baby Aaron bravely fought for his life. Eagerly awaited and much loved, the very sad loss of Aaron is only softened by God's encircling arms of love and the hope of soon being placed in his parents' arms on the resurrection day. Isaiah 11:6-9.

Bruce Grosse, Brad Coome

Elston/Appleton, Phyllis (nee Ward), born 13.12.1914 in Perth, WA; died 12.5.10 at Sherwin

Lodge Hostel, Perth. As a young person she married her beloved Bob Elston. Phyl and Bob served for some time at Karalundi Mission in WA, and their lives were filled with a willingness to serve. Bob died at the age of 57, and she later married Bill Appleton of Northam, who was known as "Happy Appy", and who also predeceased her. She is survived by her children, Kaye Grubb, Bob Elston and Wendy Prnich; her nine grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Daniel Hanbury

Foster, Brian Neville, born 13.5.1930 in Western Australia; died 29.9.10 in the Philippines. Brian is survived by his wife, Nita Foster; children, Roslyn Browne, Joanne Dodd and Susan Foster; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. His last words were "The Lord is coming".

Jackson, Clyde Francis Melvin, born 16.4.1926 at Napier, NZ; died 21.7.10 at Ashhurst. Melvin spent a great portion of his life in the Wanganui area with his late wife Joyce, faithful members and

workers in the Wanganui church. He was a loved father of Murray (Palmerston North), Desiree (Australia), Darryl (deceased) and Grant (Ashhurst, NZ). He had a strong marriage and mourned much over the loss of Joyce. He kept his faith strong also, for he always longed for the day when he could see his Joyce again without the blight of sin to separate. May we each hasten that day to see Jesus return.

Doug Hurley

Kalyniuk, Basil, born 16.1.1924 in West Ukraine; died 1.8.10 at Fremantle Hospital, WA. On 29.10.1952, he married Joan Hayes. He is survived by his wife (Maddington); and his children and their families, Annette and Wayne Norrish (Leeming), Michael and Janice Kalyniuk (Forrestfield) and Stephen and Donna Kalyniuk (North Perth). After World War II, Basil migrated to Perth. In the migrant camp he came into contact with Pastor Powrie, who led him to the Lord and into the Adventist church. He also had a passion for gardening.

Robert Kingdon



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29 December, 2011 - 2 January, 2012

Pietruszewska, Eugenia, born 17.6.1923 in Poland; died 26.8.10 at Alfred Hospital, Melbourne, Vic. She is survived by her four daughters and their families, Bogumila (Poland), Marysia, Ania and Veronika (Melbourne, Vic); six grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; her brother and his family in Melbourne and another brother and sister and their families in Poland. She loved Jesus and was always looking for ways to share her faith and the good news of salvation with others. She was a lady of prayer.

Pawel Ustupski

Rex, Pastor Stanley Steinbeck Richmond, born 25.9.1921 at Fluatele, Niue Island; died 23.5.10 in Christchurch, NZ. In 1998, he was predeceased by his wife, Elaine Salcui Jessop. Stan is survived by his children and their families, Ella-Jo and Lawrence (Amberly), Anita (Karalundi, WA), Idena and Dallas (Sydney, NSW), Raewin (Newcastle), Rhonda and Jeff (Christchurch, NZ), Angela and Craig (Sydney, NSW), Charmaine (Newcastle) and Adrielle and Danny (Christchurch, NZ); 24 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren. Stan was an Adventist all his life, fully committed to serving his Lord, as a literature evangelist and then as a minister to many churches. Stan is the only Seventh-day Adventist minister Niue has produced, and he was proud of this.

Neil Thompson

Wierzbicki, Sylwester, born 28.12.1923 in Poland; died 22.8.10 at Warrigal Hospital, Vic. He is

survived by his wife, Anna; his sons, Eugeniusz and Aleksander (Alek) and their families; and grandsons, Marcin and Rafal. His conversations with others often included the praising of God for His salvation through Jesus Christ.

Pawel Ustupski

ADVERTISEMENTS

Narromine church 50th anniversary, September 3, 2011. Inviting past members for a day to celebrate with praise and thanksgiving. For further information, contact Melinda (02) 6889 6135, or email Winsome <wheck@iprimus.com.au>. RSVP August 1, 2011.

Wollongong church 70th anniversary. Past ministers, teachers, members are invited to share our celebrations, Sabbath, April 2, 2011, 10:30am. Luncheon will be served. RSVP by March 16, phone John 0414640954 or email <noeleenthelfo@yahoo.com.au>.

Old Signs magazines wanted please, for distribution to the local community for outreach purposes. Please send to Woodford Church Plant, C/-515 Cove Road, Stanmore, Qld 4514.

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Endless Praise is urgently seeking a male guitarist (electric and/or acoustic/bass) and also a sound technician and bus driver to be part of the 2011 team. For auditions or enquiries please contact us via email <ep@epraise.com.au> or phone +61 2 8783 7000, or go to <www.epraise.com.au> and contact us through Facebook.

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Finally

The wisest mind has something yet to learn.

Next Record February 19

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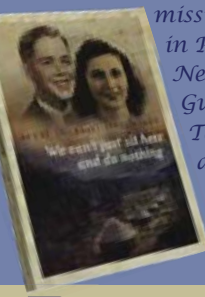
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