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Record

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100 motorbikes for remote pastors

Lae, Papua New Guinea

More than 100 motorcycles have been provided to Adventist pastors ministering in the South Pacific's most remote regions.

The motorbikes were dedicated and handed over in the Ela Motors Yamaha showroom in Lae, Papua New Guinea (PNG). Another seven are being negotiated for Port Vila for use in the Vanuatu Mission.

This will bring the total number of bikes being used in three island missions—PNG, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands—to just over 100 Yamaha GA 100s and 125s.

Retired Brisbane pastor David Lawson saw the need in 2006 when he visited some of the pastors in their districts in PNG's Western Highlands. Funds for the motorbikes have been raised from gifts by members in Australia, proceeds from five books Pastor Lawson has written and personal donations.

Other income has come from grants from the South Pacific Division, the

South Queensland Conference, the Quiet Hour, Papua New Guinea Union Mission (PNGUM), and local missions in PNG, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands.

The total cost of the bikes is around \$A350,000. Through negotiation and the generosity of Yamaha and its distribution centres in the islands, almost all have been purchased at 55 per cent of their retail value.

PNGUM administrators and departmental leaders, together with some local pastors and Morobe Mission staff, attended the handing over ceremony.

After recounting the story of the motorcycle ministry, Pius, manager of Ela Motors and a Seventh-day Adventist, handed over the keys to Union Mission president, Leigh Rice.

Pastor Rice gave the dedication address and also offered special prayer. He told the pastors who would be receiving the bikes for use in their



Pastors, including PNGUM president Leigh Rice (centre) try out new bikes.

districts to care for them responsibly and remember not to "drive fast or recklessly".

The meeting of Pastor Rice and Pastor Lawson was special for another reason as 45 years ago Pastor Lawson had the joy of baptising Pastor Rice at Bundaberg, Queensland.

The bikes are owned by the local missions which will assign them to pastors who need them for their ministries.—David Lawson

New Adventist hospital coming to PNG

Komo, Papua New Guinea

The Papua New Guinea Union Mission (PNGUM) has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Hela provincial government to administer a new K9.4 million hospital.

It has been more than 10 years since the Adventist Church operated a hospital in PNG. For some time the PNGUM administration and the Adventist Health Department (SPD) have been looking at ways of reactivating the Church's clinical/hospital ministry.

The Hela provincial government, with the support of the natural gas sector, has built the new regional hospital at Komo (south of Tari in the Southern Highlands region). The memory of Sopas lives on as the provincial government has asked the Church to operate its new medical facility as an Adventist hospital. It will also be providing the funding for the hospital's operations.

Dr Chester Kuma, associate director for Adventist Health Ministries (SPD), who formerly worked at Sopas Hospital and at Atoifi Hospital in the Solomon Islands, said: "This is a very exciting time for our health work. PNG has one of the highest infant mortality and maternal mortality rates in the world and it's only getting worse.

"We know that it is through our comprehensive approach

to health and wellness that Adventist clinics and hospitals can make a major contribution to addressing community health needs. I believe that when our doctors and nurses work in an Adventist health institution they are able to deliver the quality of care that we are famous for."

The PNGUM team, with support from Adventist Health (SPD), will now work towards equipping, staffing and administering the new facility. Adventist Health has received donations of 100 hospital beds and mattresses, but will be looking for the other medical and surgical equipment that is needed. The provincial government has also committed to build staff housing.—Kevin Price



PNGUM CFO Bob Butler, signs the MOU.



So far, some good

James Standish

Several years ago when I approached the White House about making a video for the Seventh-day Adventist Church, I mentioned in the background material that we were approximately 150 years old. The approximately got lost in translation. When the video arrived from then president George Bush, he congratulated us, in part, on our 150th anniversary! Strangely enough, despite hundreds of thousands of people viewing the video, I've never had anyone note that the president's congratulations were a little premature.

At any rate, good things come to those who wait I suppose, and here we are at our 150th anniversary. If you feel like reliving the moment, we've added links to the former president's video on record.net.au and we've added a link to another video, featuring Hillary Clinton, as well, just for good measure. As we look back, we may be tempted to think of every mistake, missed opportunity, every deficiency and tally up our faults with ruthless efficiency. But it wouldn't hurt to pause and also consider the astonishingly good things God has done through the Seventh-day Adventist Church over the past 150 years.

I was recently in the offices of another denomination that started at roughly the same time as we did, in roughly the same region and who are, today, roughly the same size. As I sat in the conference room, I looked at the photos of their world leaders. What was interesting to me was that every one of them was an American white male. What a contrast to our senior General Conference leadership team! Among our most senior leaders you'll find Africans, Asians, North Americans, Central Americans and Europeans. You will even find a woman! Only one, it's true, but she is easily among the most capable leaders in our world Church headquarters.

Do you know how hard it is to achieve a truly global, culturally integrated organisation like we have? Every culture has its own way of doing things. Every region has its operational norms. It isn't that cultures like New Zealand and Australia don't have multicultural workforces, but they generally operate within the constructs of the dominant culture of the nation. Not so with the Adventist Church.

I got a taste of this when I went to work at the General Conference and had my first meeting with our religious liberty leaders from the 13 world divisions. Frankly, it was a pretty confusing experience. Why? Although everyone was talking in English, everyone was communicating within the constructs of their culture. So simple answers like "yes" or "no" could have completely different meanings. Multiply that by the highly complex networks of institutions and initiatives we operate in virtually every nation on earth, and you start to get a taste of what a truly amazing miracle the world Adventist Church is. Yes, it may be inefficient and ineffective at times, but after doing some work at the United Nations I can attest that the Adventist Church is a model of functionality and transparency for a global body!

And it's not just that God has raised up a Church that truly is from virtually every nation, kindred, tongue and people who work remarkably well together, but it's a Church that does more practical good for humanity, pound for pound, than any other entity I've ever witnessed.

Anyone feeling cynical about the Adventist Church at our 150th, needs to pack their bags and spend some time helping out at one of the Adventist clinics on Vanuatu's volcanic island of Tanna, or at the Khurda Adventist school in India's Odisha State, or maybe Mae La refugee camp just across the border from Burma, or Queen Elizabeth Adventist Orphanage in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, where precious children are cared for. Rolling up our sleeves and pitching in to assist with this great global Adventist endeavour for God is the best remedy available for armchair cynicism!

So, here we are at 150. Not perfect, and not home. We can all name 101 things we should do differently or better, faster or higher. But God has done something truly miraculous to take a tiny group of under-educated young outsiders from the sticks, and turn us into a global family, blessing our world with health, education, acts of practical love and the good news that, yes, though the Master delays, He will soon return. And after 150 years, one thing we can still all agree on is that day can't come soon enough!

James Standish is editor of RECORD.

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SEVENTH-DAY
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"Dr Barry Oliver presents on the
difficulties the church faced to
formally organise."



Mental matters

Linden Chuang

As Adventists, we can be proud of the impact we've made on health in society. Ever heard about the dangers of smoking? That awareness began with us. Our campaigns against alcohol consumption have also been significant, and need I mention the countless lives changed through our message of vegetarianism and healthy eating?

Most of us—as average church members, without extensive medical training—are aware of fundamental health concepts, to the point where we would be ready to offer help to somebody struggling physically in certain situations.

But what about somebody struggling mentally?

I was diagnosed with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) in 2010. As a result of this condition, I'm prone to obsess over cleanliness, and am vulnerable to panic and anxiety attacks. More discouraging than the attacks themselves is the understanding that these stress episodes are completely irrational. My triggers are basic, normal, acceptable things, and shouldn't prompt such negative cognitive reactions.

My OCD, while tolerable, is a significant burden in my life, and not something I would wish on anybody. In fact, I'd be happy if the statistics showed that few people suffer from such mental illnesses. But that's simply not the case.

In 2007, the year of the most recent National Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing in Australia, the Bureau of Statistics found that "of the 16 million Australians aged 16–85 years, almost half (45 per cent or 7.3 million) had a mental disorder at some time in their life . . . One in five (20 per cent or 3.2 million) Australians had a 12-month mental disorder. There were also 4.1 million people who had experienced a mental disorder in their lifetime but did not have symptoms in the 12 months prior to the survey interview".¹

Chances are somebody close to you is struggling psychologically. The question is, if they came to you, would you know how to help? Say a friend approached you and started divulging all the details of a serious depression disorder. How would you react? With a naive "I'm sorry" and an encouraging—but not-so encouraging—"it will be okay"? Or would you simply handball them off to somebody else?

From personal experience, I know that a listening ear goes a long way. I'm not saying we all need to become mental health experts. Nor am I suggesting we should feel the need to solve everybody's problems on our own. As with major physical health issues, people with serious mental disorders should be encouraged to seek out professional help.

What I am advocating is we—as average church members—increase our awareness and understanding of mental health issues, to the point where we would be ready to offer appropriate assistance if the opportunity presented itself.

To those of us who are struggling mentally, change needs to take place on our part as well. Let's not be afraid to admit our problems and ask for help. There's something liberating about being open and honest, firstly with God, and also with other people. Just a couple of thoughts for you to keep in mind this Adventist Health Week.

1. <http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Latestproducts/4326.0Main%20Features32007?opendocument&tabname=Summary&prodno=4326.0&issue=2007&num=&view=>

Linden Chuang is assistant editor—Digital.

Heading in the right direction

In Lewis Carroll's classic children's story *Through the Looking Glass*, he recounts this perceptive interchange between two of the leading characters:

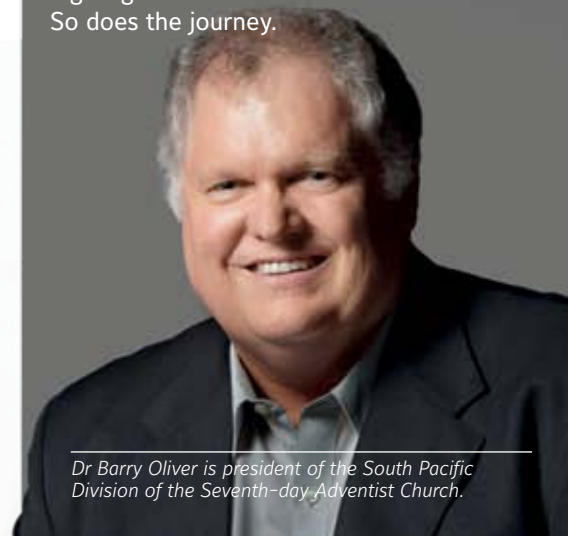
"Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?" / "That depends a good deal on where you want to get to."

"I don't much care where I go." / "Then it doesn't matter which way you go to get there."

For the Seventh-day Adventist Christian, both the journey and the destination are of the greatest importance. The destination is important because it informs how we live—the choices we make, the exercise of faith and hope and love. We keenly anticipate the establishment of the coming kingdom of God and we choose to experience life as a preparation for being full participants in the kingdom.

But inversely, the life we live also informs the destination we will reach. The choices we make about the gifts that God offers now; how we exercise faith, hope and love; these are all instruments that enable us to reach out and accept what has been offered by a gracious God. We are given the privilege of experiencing life in the kingdom of grace while we are on the journey to the kingdom of glory. But the destination is not a given if we travel any old road in order to arrive. Life is a complex of many roads and not all arrive at the same destination, no matter how well intentioned the traveller may be.

Both individually and corporately it is vital for us to have a vision: to know where we are going and how we are going to get there. The destination matters. So does the journey.



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

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Record enrolment at Avondale

Cooranbong, New South Wales

New courses in arts and a loan scheme for outdoor recreation students have contributed to another record enrolment at Avondale College of Higher Education.

Enrolment for semester one is 1394, 22 more students than the previous semester one record set last year.

The Bachelor of Arts course recorded one of the largest increases in Equivalent Full Time Student Load (EFTSL), up 8.25. Part of the

appeal may be that Avondale is now the only higher education provider in the Hunter to offer a specialisation in counselling. Dean Jones enrolled in the course even though he had already graduated from theology in 2011.

"I enjoyed the one-to-one relationships. I could see myself making a career out of it," he said. The course complements the chaplaincy course that Avondale introduced last year, and the service ethos of the institution. "Avondale trains students to go into the world and make a difference," Mr Jones said. "This Christian imperative gives counsellors an edge in an industry that relies heavily on empathy, understanding and communication." Students who complete the course will graduate as registered counsellors.

Completing a Diploma of Outdoor Recreation at Avondale has been easier since the introduction of VET FEE-HELP in 2011. The loan scheme means students do not have to pay their tuition fees up front. This may help explain a significant increase in the number of students who have enrolled in the course, up from 12 last year to 26 this year.

The Bachelor of Nursing remains Avondale's most popular course, with a record enrolment of 336 students, up from 325 last year. Increases in these courses more than offset decreases in business, science and theology.

The record enrolment at Avondale again comes despite universities offering an uncapped number of Commonwealth supported places. Students in a Commonwealth supported place get help from the government and pay a lower tuition fee called the student contribution amount. The federal government's decision this past year to uncap places allows universities to offer a place to any number of eligible students—Avondale can offer places only to eligible students in the national priority areas of education and nursing.

Avondale is maximising the support it receives from the government, with every eligible student getting the offer of a Commonwealth supported place receiving one this year. —*Brenton Stacey*



Dean Jones has returned to Avondale to complete the new, and popular, counselling course.

REVIVED BY HIS WORD

May 18–31, 2013

**READING THROUGH THE BIBLE TOGETHER
ONE CHAPTER A DAY**

18 - 2 Chr. 30	22 - 2 Chr. 34	26 - Ezr. 2	30 - Ezr. 6
19 - 2 Chr. 31	23 - 2 Chr. 35	27 - Ezr. 3	31 - Ezr. 7
20 - 2 Chr. 32	24 - 2 Chr. 36	28 - Ezr. 4	
21 - 2 Chr. 33	25 - Ezr. 1	29 - Ezr. 5	

Adventist schools welcome funding boost

Ringwood, Victoria

The Australian Government's announcement of a proposed extra \$A14.5 billion in education funding over the next six years has been received positively by Adventist Schools Australia.

Independent schools will receive an extra \$A1 billion, according to analysis by the ABC.

"Any additional funding is appreciated," said Daryl Murdoch, who heads up Adventist Schools Australia. "While the majority of funding is going to the state sector, we certainly will see a benefit for our school system."

Mr Murdoch is particularly pleased that funding will follow students according to their needs, regardless of whether they attend a government or non-government school. But he's worried at the stoush that has developed as state governments refuse to sign up to the agreement, saying they're unable to afford their contribution, and arguing for a larger slice of the pie.

"The biggest concern I have," Mr Murdoch said, "is that we end up with divisiveness, with some states running with

this and others not. That would fragment what needs to be a very clear national approach."

There's also been dismay at revelations that the new arrangements will be partially funded by a reduction in tertiary education funding. According to Dr Ray Roennfeldt, president of Avondale College, it's still "early days". He believes the impact on private institutions is likely to be less but concerns remain.

"Where the cuts will have an impact is in changes to student income support and HECS fees," Dr Roennfeldt said. "It will be harder for our students to access support for living expenses and students with Commonwealth supported places will graduate with increased indebtedness.

"The hard fact is that there are votes in the schools sector, but no votes in the higher education arena." —*Kent Kingston*



The federal government's announcement is positively received.



Ted Wilson and other delegates pray at groundbreaking ceremony.

Church leaders remember 150 years

Battle Creek, Michigan, US

In a replica of the meeting house where Seventh-day Adventist Church pioneer and prophet Ellen White once spoke for 10 hours on the great controversy, world Church leaders met on April 12 to commemorate the Church's 150th anniversary.

The Second Meeting House is located on the campus of the Adventist Historic Village in Battle Creek, the birthplace of the Adventist Church and the site of this year's spring meeting, a biannual business session of the Church's top governing body. Delegates received a crash course in Adventist history, with a side of some of the more obscure events surrounding the Church's early formation.

During a midday break, delegates witnessed the ground-breaking of two new buildings on the campus of the Adventist Historic Village—replicas of the Church's first publishing house and first health reform institute in Battle Creek.

When the Church was officially established in 1863, there were 3500 Adventists. —*Elizabeth Lechleitner/ANN*

500,000 books distributed across Pacific

Sydney, New South Wales

The South Pacific Division's Project Hope evangelism initiative is in full motion, with distribution of more than 500,000 books in regions across the Division.

Copies of *Great Hope* (a condensed version of *Great Controversy*), *Step Beyond (Steps to Christ)*, and the full versions of *Great Controversy* and *Desire of Ages* were dispatched to church unions earlier this year.

"Prayer is needed for people who will be distributing them," said Dr Danijela Schubert, Project Hope coordinator and assistant to the SPD president, "and for people who will receive them, that they will be brought to Christ."

The distribution project was recently launched in Fiji where church members from one local church gathered to pray over the books.

While most books have been dispatched, extra copies of *Great Hope* and other titles are still available for order. Visit <www.ProjectHope.net.au> for more information.

Project Hope is part of the Great Controversy project, an initiative of the General Conference to place a copy of the *Great Controversy* in every home within reach of our members, churches and institutions. —*Linden Chuang*



The book being launched at Suva Central church, Fiji.



Free to worship

Only a few years ago Protestants were being persecuted in the Mexican state of Chiapas; imprisoned for their faith, denied permission to build churches, and facing hostility from their Catholic neighbours. But after changes to the law the situation is much improved. 25,000 Adventists celebrated their freedom in Tuxtla Gutiérrez. –*Adventist News Network*



Solidarity

Congregations across the British Isles are meeting outdoors this month as part of "The Great Outdoors Church Service", an initiative of Release International, which works with persecuted Christians around the world. The event focuses on those believers who worship without a church building, due to poverty or persecution. –*Christian Today*



Freedom tour

Romania's constitutional draft process is prompting religious groups to consider how the Eastern Orthodox-majority nation deals with freedom of worship. The Adventist Church has organised an interfaith "Freedom Caravan", a 20-city tour promoting a constitution that guarantees religious freedom for all faiths, rather than privileging one above another. –*Adventist News Network*



The God factor

A study of 159 short-term patients at the Harvard-affiliated McLean Hospital, found those suffering from depression who believed in a higher power were twice as likely to respond to treatment, compared to those patients with no strong belief. Researchers cited improvements in wellbeing, and decreases in intentions to self-harm. –*Journal of Affective Disorders*



Abducted

Two Syrian church leaders have been kidnapped by unknown gunmen, with both the army and opposition fighters denying responsibility for the abduction of Greek Orthodox archbishop Paul Yazigi and Syriac Orthodox archbishop Yohanna Ibrahim. A number of Islamist groups pushing for sharia law are amongst the rebel fighters. –*Reuters*



Clash coming

Former Australian prime minister Malcolm Fraser has warned that Australia is sliding towards religious conflict between Christians and Muslims, and politicians are only making it worse. Mr Fraser said both major parties are playing politics with asylum seekers, many of whom are Muslim, and are feeding the animosity of the electorate. –*Herald Sun*

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Navigating the supermarket with kids

With bright colours and exciting packaging, the supermarket can be an enticing place for children. Parents know all too well the influence of "pester power". So how can you navigate the supermarket, avoid the junk food and tantrums? The following tips may help you to fill the trolley with healthy food and keep the children happy and entertained.

- **Stick to the walls:** The edges of the supermarket tend to contain the healthiest, least processed foods including breads, fresh fruit and vegetables.
- **Get your children involved:** Children are more likely to try foods that they've helped choose. Getting them to help is a great way to educate them and will also stop them getting bored. Let them know what you're looking for in each section of the supermarket—younger children can help spot different foods, while older ones can grab specific items in each aisle.
- **Stay together:** Supermarkets may put products that are attractive to certain people in their line of sight and reach. Placing small children in the seat at the front of the trolley can help keep them away from temptation.
- **Beware of chocolate covered checkouts:** Don't let all that good work come undone when it's time to pay. Most supermarkets have confectionery-free registers, so make use of these for a stress-free exit.
- **Healthy treats:** Grocery shopping can be a long outing for children, so there's nothing wrong with giving them a treat—just make sure it's a healthy choice. Let them pick some of their favourite fruit, a low fat yoghurt, flavoured milk or soy milk as a healthy option.
- **Be organised:** If you have a shopping list and stick to it you will be in and out of the supermarket a lot faster. Sticking to a list can also stop you venturing down tempting aisles altogether.

• **Porcini mushrooms are dried and can be found at most supermarkets or delicatessens. They have a strong, earthy mushroom taste. If not available, use a different type of fresh mushroom to give a little extra flavour and texture.**

Trio of mushrooms stroganoff

Preparation time: 10 minutes Cooking time: 50 minutes Serves: 4-6



- 10g dried porcini mushrooms
- 500g field mushrooms
- 250g brown button mushrooms, quartered
- 1 large onion, peeled, sliced into half rings
- 3 tbsp oil
- 2 tbsp balsamic vinegar
- 150g light sour cream
- Some grated nutmeg
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- Ciabatta, Greek yoghurt and chopped parsley to serve

1. Place the porcini mushrooms in a small bowl and cover with boiling water. Soak for 20 minutes. Clean the remaining mushrooms with kitchen paper to remove any grit. Slice the field mushrooms into thick slices and cut the button mushrooms.
2. In a large frying pan heat olive oil. Cook onion until it has softened and turned golden brown. Remove it to a plate. Turn the heat up to high, and add a third of the fresh mushrooms (cook them in batches). Brown them and then transfer them to a side plate.
3. When all the mushrooms are browned, return the whole lot to the pan, along with the onions. Meanwhile, drain the porcini mushrooms, reserving the liquid and roughly chop them. Add them to the pan with the balsamic vinegar and reserved liquid. Bring it to a simmer, turn the heat to low, put a lid on and leave for 30 minutes.
4. Remove the pan from the heat and stir in the sour cream with the fresh nutmeg. Re-heat, without allowing it to come back to the boil.
5. Serve with toasted garlic ciabatta, plenty of chopped flat leaf parsley and a dollop of Greek yogurt.

NUTRITION INFORMATION

PER SERVE: 920kJ (220Cal);

Protein 9g; Total Fat 8g;

Saturated Fat 2g; Carbohydrate 24g; Total Sugars 6g; Sodium 880mg;

Potassium 135mg; Calcium 75mg; Iron 4.7mg; Fibre 7g.

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The Oliver interview

PART 2

RECORD: We are commemorating the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Seventh-day Adventist Church this Sabbath. What are your thoughts on this occasion?

OLIVER: My reaction is, like most Adventists I suspect, mixed. On one hand, seeing how God has worked through this Church over the years is truly inspiring. On the other, wouldn't it be great to be home by now? I suppose we're like the children of Israel in the wilderness—but one day God will take us to the Promised Land, and from what I see around the world, I believe that day is not far from now.

RECORD: In Part I of this interview, we asked you about the core mission of the Adventist Church—making disciples. In this second part, we'd like to ask you about some specific issues facing Adventists in this part of the world.

OLIVER: Sure, fire away.

RECORD: Are Adventists contributing to public life, and if so, how?

OLIVER: One of my firm convictions is that we should be finding as many ways as possible to engage with the community. And we are doing many things—it's just that we should be doing more.

We have many Adventists in positions of civil authority across the Pacific. They're in elected positions in many cases and also in positions of permanent, high level leadership in government, business and education. To these members our Church's call is "make your Church and your Lord proud". Be like Daniel—incorruptible, honest and faithful. We expect you to be examples of integrity.

We are working with government agencies on various proposed legislative changes in Australia. In Fiji, there is a new constitution under consideration and our Church is involved in submitting proposals. In Papua New Guinea, Seventh-day Adventist civic and community leaders are at the forefront of guiding the rapid economic development that's taking place right now.

On the local church level I encourage all of us to become involved in the many service entities that exist in our communities. We should have more Seventh-day Adventists actively living their faith and serving in such entities as Rotary, Lions, emergency services, bushfire brigades, parent and citizen associations, etc. I can give you many wonderful examples of church members who are doing

this, but many more can be involved in this way.

RECORD: What is the most attractive thing we have to offer our community?

OLIVER: That's a hard question because we have so much to offer. I'm constantly meeting people who are almost incredulous at what we have. Our problem is that we still do not seem to be doing all that we could to share the wonderful positives and privileges of the Gospel and our way of life.

I know the devil is alive and well, but with God on our side we cannot use his efforts to thwart us as an excuse for our failure to do what we can to communicate our positive message of hope. We should be shoulder-to-shoulder supporting one another and encouraging one another. Yes, we want to be discerning, but we have to be careful not to let the spirit of criticism and vindictiveness colour the way we treat each other.

RECORD: What are we doing to develop leaders?

OLIVER: One of the greatest challenges for the Church is leadership. Each level of our Church is involved in providing resources, training and, maybe most importantly, mentoring of leaders.

I think the most important place for training leaders is at the local church. And there are some great programs in place. For example, last year I attended an elders' retreat organised by the elders of the Mildura church in Victoria. Regularly the elders have a weekend where they and their spouses meet together for a time of prayer, fellowship and growth. On that weekend we talked about what it meant to be an elder and we practised and honed our preaching skills. It was wonderful. I commend such an event to every church. I also thoroughly recommend Elder's Digest, which is produced by the Ministerial department of the General Conference for those in local church leadership. Good leadership does not just happen. It does not just come to us. We who are called to leadership must go seeking it. We must be intentional about being the best servant leaders that we can be under the leading and blessing of the Holy Spirit.

There are a few more things I will mention. Lay training schools are an excellent initiative. In more recent times the New Zealand Pacific Union and the Australian Union have established training institutions. I highly commend them to you. The Papua New Guinea Union and the Trans Pacific

Union have a history of very successful lay training schools. I would personally like to see both unions re-establish some of the schools that have fallen by the wayside over the years.

At the Division, as part of our People Services Department under the leadership of David Potter, we have a very strong leadership and professional development program. Dr Branimir Schubert is very active in providing a whole range of opportunities for leadership development and professional training, not the least of which is a very exciting suite of online training courses which can be accessed by people from the local church as well as by the paid professional. You can contact David on davidpotter@adventist.org.au or Branimir on branimirschubert@adventist.org.au

RECORD: Last month Margaret Thatcher died. Whether people liked her or not, everyone agreed she was a very powerful leader. Do you think we are missing an opportunity by having so few women in church leadership?

OLIVER: Yes. How's that for a succinct answer? The Bible and our church history indicate the enormous contribution women can make in leadership. It's my hope that as a global community we will do a better job in years to come at utilising this enormous source of leadership talent.

RECORD Why is our medical work in the Pacific in such great need, while our hospital in Australia is doing a multi-million dollar development? Is the SPD investing in one, and not the other?

OLIVER: Let me answer on a few levels.

First, the health work of the Church throughout the Division has never been stronger. We are currently running an amazingly successful Adopt-a-Clinic program that has seen many of our clinics renewed and rejuvenated. This has brought incredible goodwill as well as health and healing for communities across Melanesia. A very big thank you and well done to those churches and individuals who have worked to make this a reality.

In addition, we are working right now with government agencies in Papua New Guinea who want us to operate several hospitals in the country. This is a huge undertaking and one that we must move into carefully and prayerfully.

The Isolated Medical Outposts and Building Healthy Churches initiatives of the Division Health Department are both making an incredible difference in rural communities in the Pacific.

We are also diversifying our activities to become even more focused on wellbeing. An example is our acquisition, rejuvenation and dissemination of the remarkably successful Complete Health Improvement Program (CHIP). This is being rolled out right across the Pacific and, in fact, the world, as I speak. CHIP was presented in Prague at the European Health Summit last month, for example; it has been discussed on the floor of the Asian Pacific Regional World

Health Organization Conference and there's been tremendous excitement in America. This is something really big that is going to help all those who commit to it, to become a little smaller and a lot healthier. We hope to have a little reverse church growth!

At the recent launch of the renewed CHIP program at Avondale College, a high level government delegation from the Solomon Islands was in attendance, including a number of government ministers and permanent secretaries, because they desire to utilise the program right through the Solomons. This is exactly what our community—including myself—need right now!

With respect to our development at the Sydney Adventist Hospital we have explained previously that no other development is impeded or prevented because of the development that is taking place there. The enhanced services and extra capacity at the hospital are what enable the development to take place.

We have not used one cent of tithe in the project. And we have not used any other church monies committed to other projects for the hospital development. Rather the Division Executive Committee and the hospital Board have authorised financing which allows the development to proceed and for repayments to be made from the extra capacity of the hospital. Simply put, it must pay for itself. That is the only way the Church could contemplate such a development. No other entity or program of the Church is placed in a risk situation because of the development. Any business risk (and there is always some in a venture such as this—some call it faith!) is confined to the project itself. Put another way, the San is developing the way it always has—moving ahead in faith and covering the cost of growth through revenues generated by services provided to the public.

RECORD OK, enough about operational issues, now for a little about you. What do you do for fun?

OLIVER: I enjoy life! I enjoy time with family and friends. Being a husband, father and grandfather has immense rewards. I enjoy gardening. Year round, we are always picking something from our garden. And I get a great deal of satisfaction when Julie puts a vase of beautiful homegrown roses on our table.

I have always been an active person. I enjoy any healthy outdoor activity. Whenever I can, I take a long walk in the bush. I enjoy the health benefits but I also find that I have time to think, meditate and pray. I have always considered my time walking in the bush as the time I am closest to God.

RECORD What are you most looking forward to in heaven?

OLIVER: Many things but given my inquisitive nature, I have a whole lot of questions for God for which I would like answers. Of course, those answers will probably generate more questions. No problem. We have eternity after all. ☞

LETTERS

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 Page 4 for contact details.

BRAVE ANZACS

Malcolm Ford, NZ

In an otherwise well-written article "War and peace" (Feature, April 20), the author introduced a note of unease when he said, referring to the Gallipoli campaign "those young soldiers, naive though they may have been . . ."

The choice of "naive" I thought, seems to suggest that these young soldiers lacked experience, wisdom and judgement to face the enemy. They were obviously inexperienced in terms of actual battle conditions but they would have been well trained in traditional military actions. The naivety should be reserved for the British and French military strategists who did not comprehend the complex (land/ naval) nature of the task they were committed to.

The brave Anzacs were pawns in a military fiasco not unlike the Crimean War (Battle of Balaclava) 60 years before and in the same geographical region.

IMMUNISATION AND SPIRITUALITY

Dr Hamley Perry, Tas

I read with interest Dr Andrew Pennington's article "Vaccination: What should a Christian parent know", and the accompanying Editorial, "An Ounce of Prevention", (April 20). As a fellow medical practitioner, I wholeheartedly agree with the advice given. Attitudes towards vaccination provide a metaphor for spirituality and our place in God's kingdom. Think of the gospel of God's grace as vaccination. Vaccination rates, as reported by the Australian Health Performance Authority (April 11), are lowest, with corresponding increased risk to health, in the

extremes of socioeconomic demographics. I wonder, is our denomination (am I) going into the "streets and lanes" (Luke 14:21,23) as effectively as it (I) might. Also concerning, being as well educated in biblical matters as many Adventists are, is a strong desire not to be among the "elect" who may be deceived regarding spiritual matters (Matthew 24:24), yet paradoxically missing accepting the simplicity of God's saving grace. A further worrisome metaphor is the reliance of some on "herd immunity". To be part of God's kingdom, we must individually choose to accept being vaccinated by His grace and not be fooled into relying on the vaccination status of those around us. Booster doses recommended!

WEIGHING DECISIONS

Michelle, via website

There is no doubt that God will continue to bless and guide people who do and who do not vaccinate. We can all praise Him for that! God has given us minds to weigh things up for ourselves and make individual decisions. It's such a shame that those who choose not to vaccinate are immediately judged as being believers of conspiracies and couldn't possibly have anything rational to contribute to the debate.

It's also disheartening and a little disturbing that people in such prominent positions choose to go with the argument of "what is best for the majority must be best for all and the minority should not be considered" . . . herd mentality. Hopefully this argument will not be one held to when far more serious spiritual issues come into play on the world scene with regard to the grab for power and control. We are

all currently setting up and strengthening neural pathways that will have great influence on our decisions in the future. May God bless us all with good health and wisdom.

BEST INTERESTS

Andrew Fraser, via website

Unfortunately, having had chicken pox as an adult—as a result of not receiving the chicken pox vaccine—I must say from personal experience that I absolutely recommend everyone having this vaccination. What I went through was terrible!

All my three girls have had vaccinations and I'm very glad they have done so. I'm glad my wife and I made that decision for them as we have their best interests at heart. The evidence to vaccinate I think is really undeniable.

WOMEN PASTORS

Rosita Frost, Vic

If women want to devote their lives to God's work, then there should be an opening for them. Women need to serve in the best possible way which would include preaching and spreading the Word of God. Also visiting the sick and members of the church and whatever else a pastor does.

Adventist church members are supposed to be people of the Book. All women in our Church must be encouraged to be leaders in God's Word. I have heard some of the most inspiring messages from women.

If God chose Ellen White to do the most important work in starting the most prominent and powerful Church in modern history, we should be using all the humble means we can to continue this great work.



A century worth celebrating

Jane Whippy celebrated her 100th birthday on April 5. Friends and family—some traveling from as far as Australia and Tonga—gathered at Palmerston North Adventist church, New Zealand, to commemorate the special day. Jane was born and raised in Fiji. She served at the Adventist Mission in Tonga before eventually settling in New Zealand in the early 1950s.—Anton van Wyk



Looking sharp

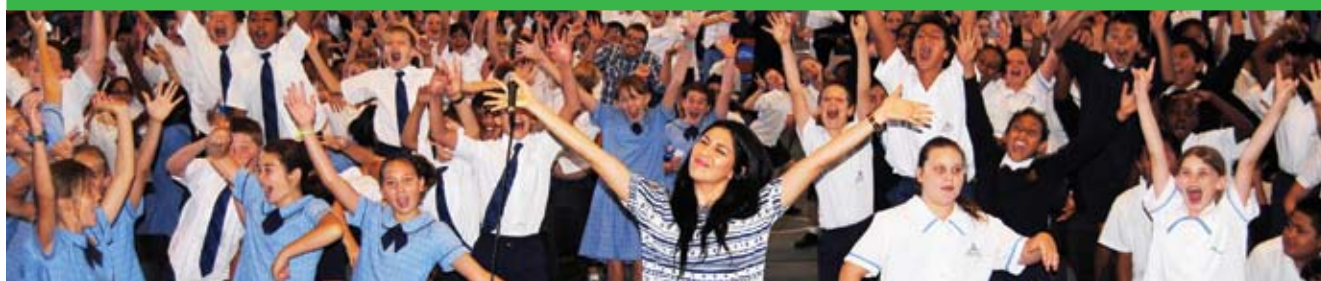
More than 70 students of Hiu School in Torres, Vanuatu, each received two pairs of new school uniforms in early April. Adventist volunteer John Joseph donated the uniforms, much to the delight of students and staff. "It's [been] a long time prayer for the school's students to be in uniform," headmaster Nores Richard said.

—Adventist Media: Vanuatu



Podium finish

Eleven-year-old Joshua Lesic won the bronze medal in the under-11 boys' 100m sprint at the IGA State Track and Field Championships at the La Trobe University Athletics Complex in Bendigo (Vic) on March 24. Joshua, a Year 6 student at Nunawading Christian College, finished with a time of 13.95 seconds, just shy of the winning time of 13.69 seconds.—Jill Lesic



Sydney schools worship together

Students from all six Sydney Adventist schools came together for special programs of worship and fellowship earlier this year. On March 7, 600 middle school students (Years 5-8) met at the new Kellyville campus of Hills Adventist College for a morning of activities, music and a special presentation from Christopher Wayne, a Christian magician. On March 14, approximately 800 junior school (Years K-4) students from across Sydney met at Mountain View Adventist College in Doonside for their combined worship day. It included special items from all schools and a presentation about courage from the

chaplain of Hurstville Adventist School, Pastor Raul Moran, as well as a guest appearance from the brave "Mr Monkey". A week later, 360 students from the three senior schools (Years 9-12) met at Macarthur Adventist College in Macquarie Fields. Students participated in activities and heard a message from Pastor David Gillespie based on the theme of "Crazy Love". "Our theme was about showing the students that Jesus loves us and has done the craziest thing ever for each of us," said Macarthur chaplain, Pastor Andre Afamasaga.—Candice Jaques



Policing the Signs

Adelaide City Adventist church has been "losing" up to 30 *Signs of the Times* magazines every week since staff moved into the new South Australian Police headquarters a few doors away. "As soon as the police building was occupied, the number of magazines being taken has increased," says church member Bert Eitel. The church has now replaced its *Signs* magazine rack with a bigger one.—Melody Tan



Turning 10

The cutting of cake and a crazy hair day marked the 10th anniversary of the Avondale Early Learning Centre in Cooranbong, NSW. Past and present pupils, staff members and both the original architect and builder came together on April 3 to celebrate the milestone. Since opening in 2003, close to 800 children have passed through the centre doors.—Felicity Pittaway



More than money

Meekatharra Adventist church in Karalundi (WA) hosted the "Great Meeka Garage Sale" on April 14 to raise money for the installation of air-conditioners in the church. Hosted on the front lawn of the local swimming pool, the event not only raised \$1500 but also showed local residents the living, vibrant and active presence of the Adventist church in the Meekatharra community.—Simon Morton

NOT ONLY DOES 2013 MARK 150 YEARS since the official organisation of our Church, but it also marks 150 years since Ellen White's Osetego (Michigan) vision which set the course for our Church's emphasis on health. It was the basis for the medical missionary model for sharing our health message with others. From small churches impacting local communities to universities whose influence circles the world, from remote bush clinics to large regional hospitals, from healthy food expos to health food companies, our Church sees health as a vital aspect of its global mission.

This calls for **CELEBRATIONS**.

Here at Adventist Health (South Pacific) we are designating **CELEBRATIONS** as the emphasis for our Adventist Health Week (May 18–25).



EXERCISE

Prolonged sitting is becoming the enemy of good health. Our bodies, and particularly our muscles, are designed for movement. We need to put activity back in if we are not getting it as part of our normal day. There are numerous health benefits from increasing physical activity.



ENVIRONMENT

Good health requires a supportive environment. True, there are environmental risks to be avoided but there are also environmental benefits to be enjoyed. While we can all do our little bit to help the global environment, we should also consider what we can do to improve our personal environment.



REST

The importance of adequate sleep and sufficient times of rest are increasingly demonstrated by research studies. The opposite of being stressed is being rested and relaxed. God set aside one day of rest and spiritual renewal. We need this rest to restore our fatigued bodies, our tired minds and to lift our spirits.

CELEBRATIONS

CHOICE

Good health is about building on what we have inherited by making sound, healthy choices. We choose how we live, the risks we take and the balance we seek in our lives. Choose wisely, it will pay great health dividends.



LIQUIDS

Adequate hydration is another vital part of staying healthy. We need to drink lots of clean water to maintain our 70 per cent by weight water levels. Your body is a water cooled machine. It is not a coffee or alcohol cooled mechanism. Next to air, water is the most vital element needed for survival.



BELIEF

Belief or faith in a loving God brings improvements in health and life satisfaction. Spiritual people have fewer problems with alcohol and drugs and are better placed to deal with emotional health and relational challenges. New research is now demonstrating the advantages of a life of faith.



AIR

Breathing in fresh air fills the lungs which then oxygenates our blood, which in turn supplies oxygen to the cells in our bodies. It is this process that delivers efficient cell metabolism and the transfer of energy. Polluted air is to be avoided. We need oxygen for life and pure, fresh air for optimum health.





TEMPERANCE

Two of the biggest global and personal health challenges today are drinking alcohol and smoking tobacco. Temperance may be an old-fashioned word but in today's society it's a much-needed virtue. True temperance involves avoiding everything that is harmful and to use in moderation that which is healthful.



OPTIMISM

When life is hard and it all seems way too difficult, it's optimism and hope that can carry us forward. Research has shown that these are two indispensable ingredients for a full, healthy and happy life. An optimistic outlook provides personal resilience which is health protective.



SOCIAL SUPPORT

We now know that a social network of friends who support us is a vital factor in individual health, as well as for the health of our communities. We are social by nature and we need to love and feel loved. One of the highest expressions of this is in service to others. This is a key part of high-level wellness. It is a reaching out to others, like God reached out to us.

God wants us to be healthy and happy. Christ demonstrated this concern in His ministry. Much of His time was spent addressing the health needs of His community. He provided healing and health when He came in contact with those who were sick and suffering.

The longer you live the healthier you have been. If you want to postpone your funeral start your CELEBRATIONS today. "Beloved, I wish above all things that you may prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers"(3 John 1:2). ☞

Kevin Price is director of Adventist Health for the South Pacific Division.

CELEBRATIONS

150 years of health

INTEGRITY

In a life lived with integrity, decisions and actions are based upon ethical, moral standards and virtues. There is also honesty along with a harmony between what we say and what we do. This may also involve a difficult balance between what is good for a community as well as for the individual.

NUTRITION

We are living in a fast-food age with so many people consuming highly packaged and highly processed foods that are high in sugar, salt and saturated fats. These poor quality foods are driving the global epidemic of obesity, diabetes, vascular diseases and cancers. Food is the fuel for our bodies. The best foods are fresh or cooked fruits, vegetables, grains and nuts.



by Kevin Price

The General Conference's Health Ministries Department has produced a book and a health program: CELEBRATIONS. If you would like to obtain a copy of the book and CD contact your local Adventist Health director. CELEBRATIONS is a great way to share our health message with family, friends or your community.



Still on a mission

by David Trim

THE MILLERITES FIRMLY BELIEVED THAT JESUS Christ would return to earth on October 22, 1844. When the second coming did not occur, many were disillusioned and abandoned belief in a literal second advent. Others, stung by disappointment and seeking any explanation, adopted extreme biblical interpretations. On the one hand, some embraced allegorical and symbolic readings of Scripture, adopting interpretations that Jesus had returned to this world—but not in a literal, physical form. At the other extreme, some ex-Millerites embraced exceedingly literal readings of the Bible, teaching, for example, that true believers should act like children (Matthew 18:3): they therefore cried aloud, sat on the floor rather than a chair, and crawled around their houses, or occasionally in the streets. A huge range of irrational and fanatical behaviours was spawned by the mental trauma of the Great Disappointment.

Some ex-Millerites, though, went back to studying the Bible with renewed determination, yet without extremism. During the late 1840s they met in a series of Bible conferences, during which they studied and debated the Scriptures. Slowly, they identified a series of distinctive Bible truths they held in common, most of them largely forgotten since the days of the early Christian church. Key beliefs were:

1) Christ's second coming is imminent and will be

literal, witnessed by all the world, and will begin the millennium described in Revelation 20.

2) The seventh day, Saturday, not Sunday, is God's Sabbath and the obligation to keep it is eternal.

3) Christ ministers in the heavenly sanctuary, mediating to those who have faith in Him the benefits of His death on the cross (a doctrine first propounded by Hiram Edson).

4) The dead "sleep" until the second coming, when the righteous will be given eternal life, while the unrighteous will be instantly annihilated at the last judgement.

5) Just before the second coming, Christians will be tempted by apostasy but will be called back to divine truth—the "third angel's message" of Revelation 14—by a small "remnant" of faithful believers.

6) The remnant church will be marked by the gift of the "spirit of prophecy"—a recurrence of the prophetic ministry of the Bible.

In all this, they were guided by a young woman, Ellen Harmon (who in 1846 married a former Millerite evangelist, James White), believing that the spirit of prophecy was manifested in her. This was a seventh core belief—but was not, of course, a biblical doctrine, as Ellen White herself always emphasised.

While maintaining Miller's historicist approach to apocalyptic prophecy and his belief in a literal, pre-millennial second coming, the Sabbatarian adventists, as

they gradually emerged, were characterised by a decidedly rational approach to theology. They eschewed both highly literal and highly spiritualising or symbolic readings of Scripture. They engaged in collaborative, systematic Bible study, consistently seeking to compare text with text, and with an eye for the context. They would only accept a premise that seemed to have scriptural foundation if they could reconcile it with other beliefs whose biblical basis they had previously demonstrated. They actively sought criticism and comment from fellow believers.

Joseph Bates, who had been one of the Millerite leaders and was one of the first to adopt the seventh-day Sabbath, led the way in this, but his methods were also those of Hiram Edson, who won over Bates to his view of the sanctuary (while Bates converted him to the Sabbath); of Joseph Frisbie, forgotten today, but a powerful preacher and a theologian whose densely exegetical studies of theological issues appeared frequently in the early 1850s in the *Adventist Review and Sabbath Herald*, the periodical that kept the Sabbatarian adventists in touch with each other; and by eager young Bible students such as John N Andrews and John N Loughborough, who emerged in the 1850s as leading evangelists and defenders of the developing Sabbatarian doctrines. Above all, these were the Bible study methods embraced, embodied and endorsed by James White, editor of the *Review and Herald*, as the journal was familiarly known, and by Ellen, his wife. Together, they provided a model of careful, holistic Bible study.

The group grew, slowly but steadily, and yet 19 years after the Great Disappointment of 1844 there was still no Seventh-day Adventist Church—only small groups scattered across the northern United States, who did not yet even have a name for themselves, and who, because of the way William Miller and his followers had been disfellowshipped and shunned by mainstream churches in the early 1840s, were wary of any kind of formal organisation. Gradually, however, inspired by Christ’s great commission to “Go and make disciples” and by the visions of Ellen White, the Sabbatarian adventists accepted the need to organise, so they could more effectively and more widely proclaim the third angel’s message. Finally, on May 21, 1863, the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists was founded—an organised Church, focused on mission and on proclaiming the good news of a God who created us, lived among us, died for us and redeems us. Seventh-day Adventists had united for mission.

This month, 150 years later, is a good time to pause, reflect on “the way the Lord has led us and His teaching in our past history”, as Ellen White urged (*Life Sketches*, p 196) and to recommit ourselves to the mission of the

Church. There are many lessons that can be learned from God’s “teaching in our past history”, but here is just one—the inclusiveness of the early Seventh-day Adventist Church, and the model it offers for our mission to the world.

Because our image of the founders of our Church is shaped by photographs of middle-aged or elderly white men, we often do not realise how diverse our pioneers were. We fail to recognise that young and old, men and women, and people of diverse ethnicities, all played leading parts in the founding of our Church.

Most of them were young. To take just a few of the future founders and leaders of the Church, at the time of the Great Disappointment of 1844, James White was 23; Merritt Cornell was 17; Ellen White and Annie Smith were 16; John Andrews 15; Minerva Loughborough was 14, while John, her brother, and Uriah Smith were only 13; Stephen Haskell was 11; and George Butler was just 10. Yet it was these young men and women, aided by elder statesmen like Joseph Bates and John Byington (aged 52 and 46 respectively in 1844), who played essential roles in establishing the General Conference in 1863.

The Whites, George Amadon, the Smiths, and Minerva Loughborough published the *Review and Herald*, the *Youth’s Instructor*, aimed at children, and books and pamphlets that persuasively set out the new beliefs. Andrews, Loughborough, James White, Cornell, Haskell and Butler led the evangelistic efforts that increased the ranks of the Sabbatarians from around 200 in 1850 to about 3000 in 1863 when the Church was organised. The Whites, Uriah Smith, John Loughborough, Andrews and Amadon played key roles in transforming the network of small, widespread groups of Sabbatarian believers and uniting them for mission. The teenagers and twenty-somethings of the 1840s and 1850s continued to provide leadership to the Church into the 1880s and beyond.

It is the case that only white males were delegates to the original GC Session in 1863. Yet among the first members of the new Church was the African-American Hardy family, members of the Battle Creek Church (where the first General Conference Session was held). Women too were prominent among the first members of the Church in 1863, several of whom were subsequently leaders around the world: Ellen White, the prophetess; Minerva Chapman (nee Loughborough), a key figure in the publishing work and treasurer of the General Conference; Nellie Druillard (nee Rankin), pioneer missionary to Africa and an influential educator and health reformer; and Maud Boyd (nee Sisley), educator and pioneer missionary to Europe, South Africa and Australia, who taught at Avondale (where she is bur-

(continued on page 18)

We fail to recognise that young and old, men and women, and people of diverse ethnicities, all played leadership parts in the founding of our Church.

(continued from page 17)

ied), influencing many future Adventist leaders in the South Pacific.

We forget the age of the men and women who played key roles in building up and uniting the Church. We forget, too, that though Adventists never ordained women to gospel ministry, they accorded women an important role in leadership. And too few Adventists know that in 1889, when blacks were being legally relegated to second-class citizens across the United States, Seventh-day Adventists ordained a black man, Charles Kinney, as a minister; and that within a few years they sent a Chinese-American man, Law Keem, and an African-American woman, Anna Knight, as missionaries.

As we mark 150 years of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, there's more need than ever for all Adventists to follow the example of our founders. There's a need and a place for everyone—young, old and middle-aged, men and women, of all ethnic and social backgrounds—to proclaim Christ and Him crucified, and His desire that we be reconciled with Him and strive to “keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus” (Revelation 14:12).

This anniversary is a significant moment. It's not a time for triumphalism or boastful celebration—it's easy to imagine what those who founded the GC would say if we could somehow travel back to 1863 in a time machine and tell them we are still here! But it's a time for prayerful reflection and thankful commemoration, even quiet celebration, not of what we have done, but of what God has done through us and despite us.

This Sabbath, Adventists across the world will commemorate our 150th anniversary with prayer, remembrance and recommitment to mission. As we reflect on 150 years of Seventh-day Adventists united for mission, let's recommit ourselves, regardless of age, gender, colour or race, to preaching “the everlasting gospel . . . to every nation, tribe, tongue and people” (Revelation 14:6). R

Dr David Trim, an Australian, is director of the General Conference's department of Archives, Statistics and Research.

Kids' Space

TALOFA KIDS

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego refused to bow down to King Nebuchadnezzar's gold statue. The king was so angry he threw the boys into a fiery furnace.

God sent an angel to save them and they came out of the fire safely!

DRAW THESE IMAGES IN THE SPACE BELOW

Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, Angel, Fire, Fire, Fire

FIND THE LETTERS IN THE FLAMES AND WRITE THEM IN THE BLANKS BELOW

MEMORY VERSE
“We will _____ the Lord” Joshua 24:15

WORSHIP MESSAGE
We _____ God when we refuse to do wrong things.

* Hello in Samoan

Primal Adventism

by Alex Bryan

THE STREAM OF ADVENTISM IS FED BY THE teardrops of the Great Disappointment.

We cannot understand our movement without an empathetic grasp of the punch-in-the-gut of October 22, 1844. It didn't happen on that day. He didn't appear. The clock struck midnight. And the Adventists were wrong. Tragically wrong. They argued from the Bible that the second coming of Jesus would happen on this date. They quit their jobs, left their homes, walked out of their churches. They sold their stuff. They looked to the sky. But there was no trumpet. There were no angels. There was no cloud.

Jesus did not return. The Great Disappointment.

Here is a truth: disappointments distil. Like distilled water—purged of other substances that may cloud it—the disappointments of our lives bring sharper vision. Human disappointments clarify. They show us for who and what we are. They make the hearts of men and women transparent.

When a couple breaks up, the disappointment on their faces—or lack thereof—tells a story.

When a son looks for his father in the stands, a father who fails to show up for his son's basketball game . . . the look of disappointment speaks.

When a daughter looks for her mother in the audience, a mother who fails to show up for her daughter's violin concert . . . the look of disappointment speaks.

How does the Great Disappointment of 1844 distil Adventism? How does it make the movement and makeup of this Christian faith stream clear?

Consider the personal recollections of 17-year-old Ellen Harmon after her experience of that October 22: "Those who sincerely love Jesus can appreciate the feelings of those who watched with the most intense longing for the coming of their Saviour" (Life Sketches of Ellen White, pages 56-57).

All religious movements have a beginning. They have a foundational, formational, inaugural, initial reason for existence. But Adventism was not born as a religious reform movement, though it gained reformation tendencies. Adventism was not born as a temperance movement, though it found something to say about healthful living. Adventism was not born as a movement of theology, as a correction of pre-existing denominations, nor in response to some liturgical or lifestyle concern. Adventism, despite its prophet, did not come into being because

of unique, private revelation.

Adventism was born by a wrong calculation about the second coming—fuelled by an intense, emotional, highly personal, fervent and ultimately right desire to be with Jesus.

Adventism—primal Adventism—was about men and women who longed to be with Jesus, the Desire of the Ages.

The stream of Adventism is fed by the teardrops of the Great Disappointment: cries that reveal an intense affection and love for Jesus and a longing to be with Him above all. This is Adventism distilled, made most clear.

When we find Christ in the middle of our lives, we are on the right track. When He is worshipped and loved, and when we serve and love others with His love . . . Adventism shines.

Adventism at its best also looks up. It searches the skies in the very same hope of October 22, 1844. To be with Jesus. To enter His arms and find a world without suffering and pain, sans tears and disappointment. Adventism (again, at its best) has raised eyes—not in fear-mongering predictions about the end of the world, not in wild speculations about when it will happen and how. Instead, with eyes filled with hope, humility and love.

Jesus, later today—if not, then tomorrow. Is Jesus worth the tears and the desire? This enduring and endearing passion? John 3:16 (KJV) says: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son . . ." Only begotten? The word is actually: monogene. Mono: unique, one, one of a kind. Monotone: one pitch. Monochrome: one colour. Monopoly: one who has it all. The One. The look. The sound. The One who has it all. Gene = genetics, human genes, homo sapiens DNA. A one of a kind Human Being.

Jesus isn't a big deal. Jesus is The Deal. 1 John 5:12 (KJV) makes this bold claim: "He that hath the Son hath life; [and] he that hath not the Son of God hath not life."

The future of Adventism is not top-down nor bottom-up. If Adventism is to have a bright, energetic, vibrant future. If Adventism is going to "get a life" and "have a life", it must—we must—have the Son.

Jesus. Primal Adventism.



Alex Bryan is senior pastor of Walla Walla University Church in Washington, USA. He is author of The Green Cord Dream and co-chair of The One Project. He will be a speaker at The One Project gathering in Newcastle on July 20-21. More information at <www.the1project.org>.



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WHY I BECAME AN ADVENTIST

My name is Rafaele Tui from Koro Island in Fiji where I work as a teacher. One Saturday afternoon in 2010, my wife Ana and I were visited by Peni Vula, an Adventist literature evangelist. Being Catholic, we were a bit suspicious but accepted a copy of the book *Great Controversy*.

What we didn't know was that Peni sent up a prayer for us, asking for God's Holy Spirit to impress our hearts. He also went back to his church and asked for their prayers too.

I started reading *Great Controversy* but lost interest, so I threw it into a carton that was about to be burned. But in early 2011 I started to feel uneasy as I remembered some of what I'd read, so I began searching the house, trying to find the book again.

I finally found the carton—somehow it hadn't been burned and I hugged the book with joy, for I thought I had lost it. I continued reading it until I read about Martin Luther, a devoted Catholic who left the Catholic Church when he found out about God's truth. I also learned about the Sabbath. I sent the book to my wife to read. She had gone to give birth to our baby on another island. As she read the book, she was convinced about God's truth and the Sabbath.

When Peni Vula returned to our house we told him our story and said, "Now we can see how great is God's love." We bought some other books from him—*Steps to Christ*, *Desire of Ages*, *Health and Happiness*, the *Stampley Bible* and the *Tiny Tots Library*. He gave us *Patriarchs and Prophets* as a gift.

We started keeping the Sabbath from that time on and not long after began Bible studies with the local Adventist pastor. On September 3, 2011, Ana and I joined the remnant church by stepping into the waters of baptism. We are both rejoicing in God's truth.

Ellen White wrote: "The results of the circulation of this book, the *Great Controversy*, are not to be judged by what now appears. By reading it, some souls will be aroused, and will have courage to unite themselves at once with those who keep the commandments of God" (*Colporteur Ministry*, p 128). —*InTouch*



OPINION POLL



What is the greatest contribution God has given to our world through the Adventist Church in 150 years?

- Improved health awareness
- Wholistic education
- Bible truth
- Changed cultural practices
- Aid and development

Visit <record.net.au> to answer this poll.

APPRECIATION

Philip, Lisa, Haylee, Michael and Ariana would like to sincerely thank everybody for the love and support given to us on the loss of our beloved mother, mother-in-law and gran, Elsie Baker, of Sherwin Lodge, Perth, WA.

Carol Stoneman and family would like to extend their sincere thanks for the love and support shown to us in so many ways following the recent passing of Carl. We look forward to seeing him again soon at the resurrection.

ANNIVERSARY



Parker. Pastor Lewis and Dulcie Parker celebrated their 50th

wedding anniversary on 15.12.12 at a small gathering with family in Brisbane, Qld. Throughout their combined ministry, they have served their God and church

families in Papua New Guinea and various churches throughout Australia. They continue to reach out to others through various activities and by volunteering. The couple lives in the Brisbane area and attend Caboolture church.

WEDDINGS



Turner–Blandin-de-Chalain.

Christopher Jonathan Turner,

son of Graham and Barbara Turner, and Narelle Blandin-de-Chalain, daughter of Roger and Kay Blandin-de-Chalain (all of Sydney, NSW), were married 10.3.13 at Campbelltown. The day before their wedding Christopher and Narelle were baptised at the Campbelltown church.

Rein Muhlberg

Al-Obaydi–Smith. Samir Al-Obaydi, son of Kafia and Carmen Al-Obaydi, and Lydia Smith,

daughter of Milton and Marie-Antoinette Smith, were married 5.5.13 at Mt Gravatt church. Samir and Lydia met in 2007, and were married on their six-year anniversary.

Joseph Khabbaz

OBITUARIES

Bellchambers, Leonie Del, born 22.7.1948 in Suva, Fiji; died 25.1.13 in Gawler Health Service, Gawler, SA. She is survived by her husband, Neville; her

daughters, Fiona (Melbourne, Vic), Karen and Nerissa (both of Adelaide, SA); son-in-law, Fernando; four grandchildren, Jaradyn, Breanna, Jonathan and Maddison; her father, Bert; and stepmother, Merle (Cooranbong, NSW); and her brothers, Glenn and his wife, Julie (Casino), and Irwin and his wife, Irene (Wagga Wagga) and their families. Leonie had a special gift for friendship and hospitality. She had a deep love for her Saviour, and she displayed a strong faith

POSITIONS VACANT

■ **Dean, School of Health Science–Pacific Adventist University (Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea).** The dean of the School of Health Science reports directly to the deputy vice-chancellor of the university and is responsible for the management of the academic program of the school as well as providing vision and future direction to the school. For more information or for a copy of the job description, please contact HR on <hr@pau.ac.pg> or call +675 3280208 To apply, please forward applications, including a cover letter, your CV, three work-related referees and the contact information of your Adventist church pastor, to <hr@pau.ac.pg>. Applications close **May 20, 2013.**

■ **Team leader, manufacturing–Sanitarium (Moorooka, Qld).** This is a fantastic opportunity to join the iconic Sanitarium, producers of Australia's favourite breakfast cereal–Weet-Bix. The position is based at our Moorooka, Qld site and rotates between morning and afternoon shifts. The team leader is responsible for the management of the production team in an efficient and effective manner, consistent with Sanitarium's policies and procedures. The successful candidate will have a minimum of three years' recent food manufacturing experience and be conversant in all facets of production. To apply, or for more information, go to <www.sanitarium.com.au/about-us/career-opportunities>. Applications close **May 24, 2013.**

■ **Assistant manager–Camp Howqua, Seventh-day Adventist Church (Victorian Conference) Limited.** Do you have the passion and skills to become part of the management team of Camp Howqua? Camp Howqua is an educational, recreational and camping facility owned and operated by the Adventist Church. This live-in, lifestyle position would suit an energetic, outgoing Adventist couple; as the part-time position of Camp Howqua administrative officer is also available as part of the package deal and would suit a person possessing very good interpersonal and written communication skills. The successful applicant for the assistant manager position will report to the Camp Howqua manager and assist with all areas of management, maintenance, outdoor activities and Camp Howqua development. Applicants must apply in writing and address the job description selection criteria as well as provide their resume complete with references. (A job description is also available for the part-time administrative officer position as there may be a requirement to verbally address the selection criteria for that position at interview.) For a copy of the job descriptions and other information, please contact Warren Vaughan on: (03) 5777 3509 or email <howqua@adventist.org.au>. To apply, please email or send to: Camp Howqua Manager, Warren Vaughan, PO Box 291, Mansfield, Victoria, 3724. Applications close **June 21, 2013.**

INDEPENDENT MINISTRY

■ **Director of Marketing–ICC Australia (Sydney, NSW).** International Children's Care Australia has a new part-time position (four days per week) for a marketing director. This person will take a leading role in development and implementation of ICC Australia's marketing strategy; coordinate the marketing team and take responsibility for our exciting Voluntour and Ambassador programs. Travel to overseas project sites is required. The successful applicant will have previous fundraising experience in a not-for-profit organisation and an understanding of issues in international development and the impact of poverty on communities and children. A full position description is available on the ICC Australia website <www.iccaustralia.org.au>. Expressions of interest should be sent to <groberts@iccaustralia.org.au>. Applications close **May 20, 2013.**

■ **International Programs director–ICC Australia (Sydney, NSW).** International Children's Care Australia has a part-time position (four days per week) for an International Programs manager. This person will plan, manage and evaluate our community-based development programs with a focus on children across three South-East Asian countries. Travel to overseas project sites is required. The successful applicant will have previous successful international aid project management experience. An understanding of international development and the impact of poverty on communities and the wellbeing of children is essential. A position description is available at <www.iccaustralia.org.au>. Expressions of interest should be sent to <groberts@iccaustralia.org.au>. Applications close **May 20, 2013.** ing August 2013. Includes several nationally accredited courses and on-the-job training in a health retreat setting. This is a great opportunity to become trained in health ministry. Visit <www.cedarvaleeducation.com.au> or email <info@cedarvaleeducation.com.au> or phone (02) 4465 1362. Applications close **May 16, 2013.**

International Children's Care (ICC) is independent of the Seventh-day Adventist Church organisation but is supportive of the Church.

For more vacant positions or to advertise, go to <adventistemployment.org.au>.



and a quiet courage in the battle against her final illness. She will be greatly missed by her family, her church family at Para Vista, and a wide circle of friends across Australia and further afield.

David McKibben, Garry Hodgkin



Henson, Margaret Ellen (nee McBryde), born 1.9.1936 in Port Augusta, SA; died 28.2.13 in Adelaide. On 3.10.1959, she married Carl Henson, who predeceased her. She is survived by Scott Henson (Adelaide) and Mark Henson (Perth, WA). Margaret will be remembered and sadly missed by Mark and Scott, Carolin, Amanda, Naomi and Rachael. She was a quiet achiever and member of Morphett Vale church, SA.

Nigel Ackland

Marshall, Kenneth George Garner, born 11.3.1933 in Sydney, NSW; died 20.3.13 in Albany, WA. On 23.7.1961, he married Joan Ainsworth. He was predeceased by his daughter, Jennifer, in 1963. He is survived by his wife (Albany); their children, Deborah and John Waring, Geoffrey Marshall (all of Albany) and Wayne and Nikki Marshall (Sydney, NSW); 10 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Ken worked as a

builder in Sydney and Albany. He served faithfully as a deacon over many years in Castle Hill church in Sydney and Albany church in WA. He was a keen gardener and enjoyed the beauty of God's creation.

Robert Kingdon

Pease, Ann Agnes (nee Piercy), born 21.9.1913 in Forsyth, Qld; died 19.3.13 in Adventist Retirement Village, Victoria Point. On 23.3.1933, she married Edward Pease. She was predeceased by her husband and her son, Bill (Tiny) Pease. She is survived by Roy Pease (Atherton), Bonnie Irvin (Atherton), Kevin Pease (Mission Beach) and Val Walker (Brisbane). Ann was a faithful member of the church, especially in Tully where she took part in ingathering activities, entertained many guests for Sabbath lunch and visited the local hospital every week. She loved and lived life to the full and will be sadly missed.

Alvin Coltheart, Bob Possingham

Wolff, Warwick Evan, born 2.5.1977 in Brisbane, Qld; died 13.1.13 in St. Vincent's Hospital, Brisbane. Warwick is survived by his parents, John and Dianne (Beerwah); his brother, Andrew, sister-in-law, Gwen; and niece, Emily (Collegedale, Tennessee, USA). Warwick worked as an

analytical chemist for Xstrata and also as an honorary scientific officer for the Fire and Rescue Service in Mount Isa. Warwick was held in high regard in both organisations and this was evident from the large contingent of friends and work colleagues from Mount Isa who attended his funeral and also from the presence of three senior officers from the Fire and Rescue Service, Brisbane, who acted as pallbearers.

Barry Harker

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

Finally...

Nothing is impossible, even the word itself spells I'M POSSIBLE.

—Unknown

Next RECORD June 1

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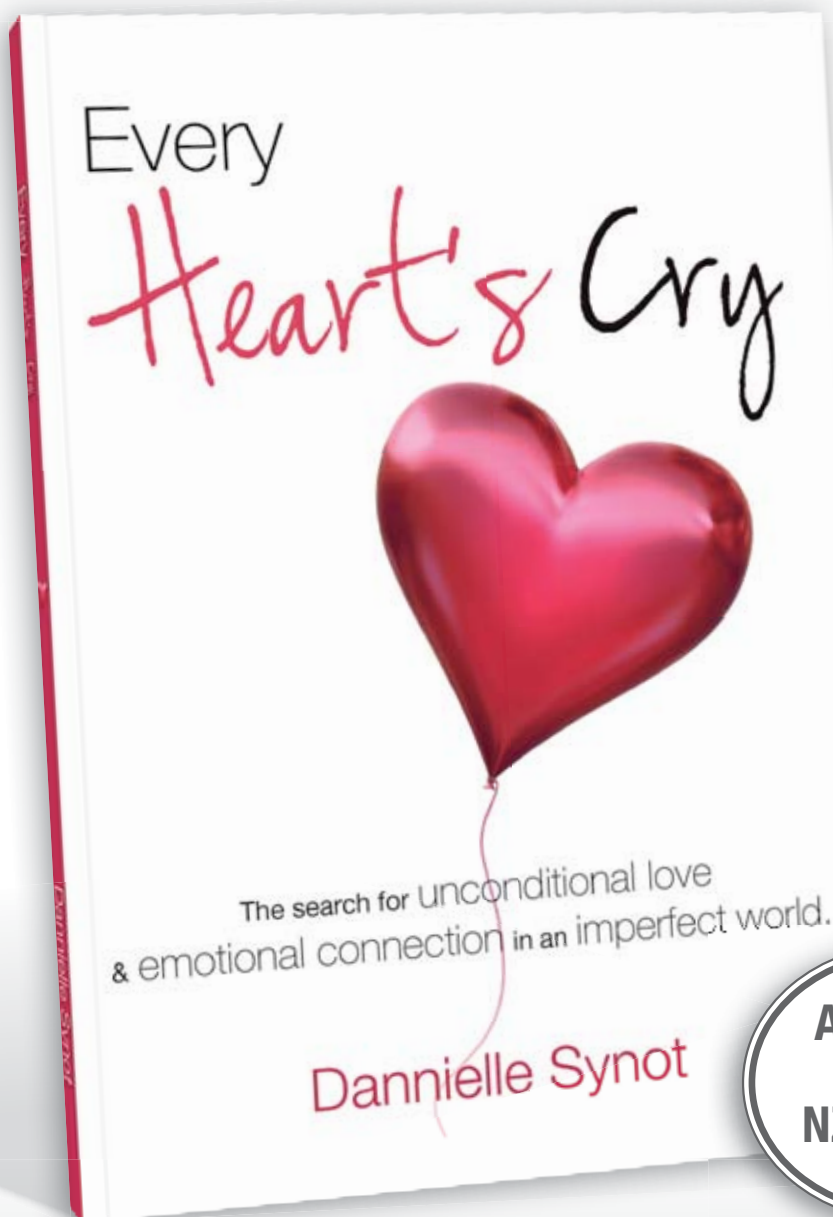
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A GREATER VISION OF WORLD NEEDS
Worship services will reflect Avondale's motto and will feature stories of how alumni and students are serving.
Register: www.avondale.edu.au/alumni.

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Helping



THE HEALTH PROMOTING CHURCHES INITIATIVE

You may picture the Pacific island nations as being idyllic tourist type destinations where all is serenity and everyone is smiling and perpetually happy. True, but there is another sadder side to the story. Most of these countries are fighting infectious diseases, while trying to combat the rapid rise of lifestyle related illnesses. This comprehensive Pacific wide initiative takes our health message and applies it to these health challenges.

In addition to the great work done by your local Conference or Mission Health Director, there are numerous programs and projects at Division level. Below are a few examples of current projects:



Discover your own health profile.
Help develop health initiatives for community, schools and churches.
Understand the changing lifestyle of students.



THE 3RD ADVENTIST HEALTH AND LIFESTYLE SURVEY 2012

7,000 questionnaires have been distributed across Australia and New Zealand. Data has been processed and the report is now being finalised.

MINISTERS' HEALTH STUDY 2013

Lifestyle Survey linked with other tests including comprehensive blood pathology analysis. This is an ongoing study that has been conducted five times since 1992.



CHIP ROLLOUT

Adventist Health (SPD) is assisting with the roll out of the new CHIP program across the conferences and churches. We are also responding to the strong Pacific interest in using CHIP to address the diabetes and related diseases epidemic.



ADOPT-A-CLINIC

All six clinics in Vanuatu have been renovated or totally rebuilt. In the Solomon Islands all 17 clinics have been adopted and 13 have been completed. Our major challenge is still in PNG where we have 31 clinics with only 9 adopted and now completed. A big thank you goes to the teams and churches that have raised funds. The up skilling of the nurses has commenced and now, community health educator training, is being planned.



THINK DON'T DRINK

The 2012 Health Week Alcohol Abstinence DVD and posters project is still ongoing. Additional DVDs have been distributed both nationally and internationally and there is now a free iPhone app.

To support these and other ongoing programs, please give generously.

HEALTH OFFERING MAY 25, 2013