## RECORD



## Those with "Sanitarium spirit" to be awarded

Julie Praestiin, Communications, Sanitarium

Sanitarium Health Food Company celebrated its 105th birthday on April 27 and, as a gift to the organisation and its employees in Australia and New Zealand, Kevin Jackson, CEO, announced the Sanitarium Ambassador Award program. The award aims to acknowledge employees who share the "Sanitarium spirit."

"The Sanitarium spirit is unique and invaluable in our world today. It's based on integrity, commitment and dedication," says Mr Jackson. "We want to affirm these characteristics in our employees through the Sanitarium Ambassador Award program."

After a series of recognition meetings and nominations by employees of a branch ambassador, one staff member in Australia and another in New Zealand will be acknowledged with the Company Ambassador Award in November. The awards are named after former Sanitarium employees.

"We searched through our history and identified two people I believe demonstrated the kind of Sanitarium spirit that pervades our company today," says Mr Jackson. "They are Laura Lee (Ulrich), who commenced the health-education work in Australia, and Sam Bearpark, a sales representative in New Zealand often referred to as 'Mr Sanitarium." (Continued on page 6)

#### In this issue

Debrief a first for long-term volunteers

Thoughts on the drought and prayer

God created mothers



You can't run forever

#### Inasmuch . . .

The little girl looked up at me out of eyes encased in sunken sockets. So small. So fragile. So helpless. Her mother had died at her daughter's birth. She had died as a result of AIDS. And now her girl was dying too—HIV positive. Lying in a little crib in the corner in the orphanage . . .

We sat together in a small rural African home. Mother, father and three children. The home was new. School fees had been paid. They were hoping soon to be able to buy a cow. They had set up a small business with capital advanced by the village bank. They were able to do so much with so little . . .

We picked up Safari from his school in Nairobi and, together with his dad, travelled to their home village of Kasaala. There we participated in the inauguration of the completed projects—a new equipped classroom block for the secondary school, a new equipped classroom block for the primary school, a renovated and equipped dispensary, water tanks.

We witnessed work in progress on the administration block at the secondary school and the location of four wells about to be sunk. We joined in the celebrations of the whole community and the visiting government dignitaries and caught the enthusiasm that comes from a sense of great satisfaction at a job well done . . .

I listened as the young people of the village Adventist church described the work they are doing to assist the orphans in their village—27 of them—who had lost their parents to AIDS.

An attractive young woman stepped forward. "I have lost both my mum and dad. I'm caring for my sister and three brothers. I thank God for the loving care of these young people. They have shown us what real Christianity is all about."

The young people conducted me on a guided tour, showing me some of the self-help projects they had set up to assist the orphans—basket weaving, goat husbandry, vegetable growing, pineapples, second-hand clothing . . .

Pastor David Syme, executive director of Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)–Australia, and I have just returned from Kenya and Malawi where we were involved in monitoring several ADRA projects. We saw the ravages of HIV/AIDS in the church and the community, and examined the way in which ADRA and the church are working together to provide education for the community, and care and support for victims. It is estimated that 40 per cent of the population of Kenya is now HIV-positive!

We participated in the opening of a village bank that facilitates the provision of small capital loans for family projects. This project has given opportunity for ADRA to provide food security and a source of income for families in poverty. It gives the people opportunity to be trained in sound business principles and to improve the quality of their lives.

It gave us great satisfaction to visit the village of Kasaala in Eastern Kenya—Safari's village. ADRA is very active in the area and has a competent staff of Kenyan Seventh-day Adventists who are making a huge difference in their country.

During my visit I experienced hugely contrasting emotions:

• Horror and shock at the ravages of HIV/AIDS—despite what I'd read, the reality is even more horrific than I'd anticipated

- Fear that what is happening in Africa is almost certain to happen in the South Pacific Division—in Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and elsewhere—unless we accept our responsibility as agents of change in the community and intentionally educate both church members and the broader community of the dangers of illicit sexual liaisons
- Thanks for the commitment of ADRA staff and church members who have an incredible level of commitment to service
- Pride in my church and the people who are the church.

Jesus' ministry was intensely practical. He went to the people. He mixed with the people. He healed their sicknesses and relieved their pain.

"Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, 'Follow Me'" (*The Ministry of Healing*, page 143).

"Inasmuch . . . "\*

\* Jesus said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my

brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matthew 25:40, KJV).

Barry Oliver General Secretary South Pacific Division.

Chairperson, ADRA-South Pacific and ADRA-Australia.





OFFICIAL PAPER South Pacific Division Seventh-day Adventist Church ACN 000 003 930

Vol 108 No 17 Cover: Sanitarium Editor Bruce Manners
Senior assistant editor Lee Dunstan
Assistant editor Kellie Hancock
Copy editor Graeme Brown
Editorial secretary Meryl McDonald-Gough
SPD news correspondent Brenton Stacey
Senior consulting editor Barry Oliver

Web site www.record.net.au

Mail: Signs Publishing Company
3485 Warburton Highway
Warburton, Vic 3799, Australia
Phone: (03) 5966 9111 Fax: (03) 5966 9019
Email Letters: editor@signspublishing.com.au
Email Newsfront: record@signspublishing.com.au
Email Noticeboard: editorsec@signspublishing.com.au
Subscriptions: South Pacific Division mailed within
Australia and to New Zealand, \$A43.80 \$NZ73.00.
Other prices on application. Printed weekly.



- Christian education in the country
   Children preach in PNG
   Women meet in the west
   Bibles become "a wish come true"
   Illiterate woman gives Bible studies
   and more
  - —Compiled by Kellie Hancock—

• Earlier in the year Gary Blagden (pictured, right), education director for the Western Australian Conference, visited Esperance Christian Primary School to observe Liesel Schulz (pictured, left), their new lower primary teacher, in action.



"The school has 47 students enrolled this year," reports principal

Anne Tonkin (pictured, centre). "If any families were thinking of moving to the country and looking for Christian education, we have vacancies for new students still available."

On Children's Emphasis
 Day, March 29, Jeanette
 Selan, Children's Ministries

director for the Papua New Guinea Union Mission, attended the Corrective Insitutional Services church in Lae. "I saw an eight-year-old boy preach a five-

minute sermon to
the inmates of
Buimo prison," she
reports. On the same
day at the Unitech
church, Lae, three
children took part in
preaching the
sermon. "The church
pastor was so



touched," she says, "that he shed tears hearing the children preach a strong message." A junior girl preached at the Top-town One church, Lae, without looking at her notes; and parents were impressed with a drama in which their children acted out a story.

#### "Eggscellent" Easter outreach

The Christchurch Adventist School in Papanui brightened up Easter this year for many children.

In exchange for a mufti day, the student council requested that all students bring an



Easter egg to school, and to choose an encouraging Bible text to attach to their egg.

These eggs were donated to children at Cholmondeley Children's Home on April 9, and Ronald McDonald House (pictured), Footsteps Preschool and the children's ward of the Christchurch Hospital on April 10.

Kevin Hsaio and Biddy Chambers, two of the students who helped to deliver the eggs, commented that "the best part of the trip was making the children smile."

The Christchurch Adventist School's vision statement is to "Empower students to be the best they can be in God." By reaching out to others this Easter, students were able to learn about becoming what God wants them to be.—V Bell/A Botha. For more information see <www.christchurchadventist.school.nz>.

• Adventist Media and the Victorian Conference plan a television campaign in the **Melbourne** area offering viewers a free viewing of the Search 6 video, **Search for a New World**, between **May 17 and 25**. This campaign aims to encourage church members to **connect with people** from their local community, by providing them with a bridging opportunity.

• Some 33 women attended the **first Women's Ministries retreat for Western NSW** held at Lake Keepit, Tamworth, over the weekend of March 29, 30. "Due to the hours of travel required, Adventist women in the western region of NSW are often unable to attend retreats that are held in the coastal areas," says **Barb Sadler**, Women's Ministries coordinator for the mid-north coast and western NSW. After

seeing this need when visiting the churches west of the ranges, she felt God urging her to arrange a special time for these "isolated but very special people." Ursula Hedges, Women's Ministries director for the North New South Wales Conference, was the guest speaker. Over the course of the weekend, each attendee dressed their own personal "doll" in new garments and a crown, to take home as a reminder that they are daughters of the King, and clothed with His love and forgiveness. Some \$A300 was collected in an offering for the Nowarat Children's Program Thailand during the retreat.

• There was a strong international and interdenominational atmosphere

in many Adventist churches on the **Annual World Day of Prayer**, Friday March 7. **Victoria Point church** was the venue for the Redlands district in Brisbane, Qld, and visitors from **some 13 denominations joined Adventist members in the prayer program** devised by women from Lebanon. The church minister, **Pastor Jorge Munoz**, gave colour to the event as he wore the ethnic dress of Lebanon while welcoming those attending the service (pictured). Some

guests indicated this was the first time they had fellowshipped with Adventists and said they looked forward to continuing the association.—Focus



May 3, 2003 \_\_\_\_

• An **ill teenager** recently chose to **supply Bibles to African pastors** when he was granted a wish through the **Make-A-Wish Foundation**. Steven Downey, 16, of Texas, USA, was diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease last year. He learned through his church that ALARM, which trains pastors and ministry leaders, needed Bibles. When the North Texas chapter of Make-A-Wish Foundation offered to grant him a wish,

Downey asked to provide study Bibles to ALARM. With the assistance of the Bible Society based in Colorado Springs, ALARM pastors in Burundi, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo received 210 French study Bibles. Downey said he chose his particular wish because he believed it "was going to have the most impact for God's kingdom for eternity."—Crosswalk

## Cuisine night raises more than \$A10,000 for orphans

While many think of cricket when they hear of Sri Lanka, Sam Arulanandam (pictured, right, with his wife, Molsy) thinks of his homeland and the thousands of orphans there as a result of 26 years of civil war.



Members of Burwood church, Vic, Mr and Mrs Arulanandam organised an Indian Cuisine Night to raise funds for International Children's Care (ICC). Chefs from six Indian and Sri Lankan restaurants fed some 275 patrons. The evening included films on Indian culture, and an auction of goods and services donated by 25 non-Adventist businesspeople.

The \$A10,700 raised on the night will be used to replace a bus for "Children's Village Sri Lanka" that is supported by ICC.

Mr Arulanandam's passion for those in need continues to burn. He aims to raise \$A30,000 by year end, and is looking for a Melbourne venue that will cater for 600 in October.—*Intravic* 

 According to Assist News, in Dubai, about 1300 km from southern Iraq, a "Miracle Healing Festival" became instead a "Miracle Prayer Festival" after the local authorities cancelled the main gathering for "security" reasons. On the day the event was due to begin in the Grand Hyatt Dubai Convention Center, and after some 70 Christians had arrived from Korea, the organisers were told that due to the war in Iraq, the local authorities could not guarantee the safety of the team and those attending. So instead, the Koreans gathered for intercessory prayer for Dubai and the Middle East, and it went on for hours. A pastor from Russia, who had brought a media team to cover the event, said he was sorry it had been cancelled, but felt privileged to come to the Gulf to pray for the region. Dr Lee Jae-Rock, senior pastor of a church in Seoul, Korea, was to have led the meeting. After it was cancelled, the Dubai Handicapped Club, a government organisation, invited him to meet with them and minister and pray for physically challenged people.

• Notable qoute: "I'm 49, but I never lived a single day . . . only now will I start living. That Saddam Hussein is a murderer and a criminal," said Yusuf Abed Kazim, a Baghdad imam who was present as a 12-metre statue of Saddam Hussein was knocked down in the middle of Baghdad's Firdos Square.—Crosswalk

#### **Days and offerings**

Today—Tertiary Students Day
May 10—Commencement of Health Week
May 17—Conclusion of Health Week

—Health Offering

#### Off the record

- An illiterate woman from Bougainville, Papua New Guinea, is using a Global Mission picture roll to witness to a minister from another denomination. In a dream someone gave her the Bible reference Ezekiel 46:1 and told her to ask this minister to read it for her. The next day she did this and he read, "Thus says the Lord God: 'The gateway of the inner court that faces towards the east shall be shut the six working days; but on the Sabbath it shall be opened. . . . " After reading the text, the pastor told her, "Now my door [gateway] is open to you. I want you to come and visit me every Sabbath and give me Bible studies." Although this woman cannot read or write, she is using the picture roll to give Bible studies.—Jeanette Selan
- Green Pastures is a ministry of online spiritual encouragement recently established by Pastor Richard Daly (pictured), from the Bristol district



in the UK. The web site aims to provide biblical inspiration through the promises of God and other materials to help bring spiritual healing

and encouragement. "We chose the name Green Pastures because it reflects the image portrayed by David in the 23rd psalm," says Pastor Daly. "When people have searched everywhere, true rest can be found in the presence of God." See <www.greenpastures ministry.com>.

• A student from Tweed Valley College,

Murwillumbah, NSW, Lachelle Dobson (pictured), was named the Primary 12-year-old-girl Age Champion at the North Coast Sporting Association swimming carnival at Ballina in March.



4

## Debrief a first for long-term volunteers

#### **Brenton Stacey**

Returning home is difficult after serving overseas for a year. This is the common feeling among the more than 20 young adults who attended the first reentry program for long-term volunteers, at the Yarrahapinni Adventist Youth and Ecology Centre, NSW, March 21-23.

"Coming home is the hardest part," says Hayley Masters. She and two Avondale College students—Kara Dale and Lindsay Morton—organised the program in association with Adventist Volunteer Service. "There is a daily routine at home. There are no hiccups to get you out of your comfort zone."

Ms Masters describes her volunteer experience as "not the most positive, but I grew a lot in 12 months, and that's a blessing."

"Long-term overseas service is not all roses," says Pastor Mel Lemke, director of Adventist Volunteer Service for the South Pacific Division. "But the experience is incredibly enriching. It's an adventure, in all senses of the word."

The volunteers attending the program said they enjoyed sharing their experience with others who understood. "It helped me realise what I'm going through is normal," wrote one volunteer.

"It helped me deal with emotions in a constructive and safe way," wrote another.

"Volunteers who serve overseas for 12 months experience significant changes in their lives," says Pastor Lemke. Adventist Volunteer Service sends a re-entry pack—which includes a book and a certificate—to all long-term volunteers three months before their period of service ends.

"But they return home and find their friends haven't changed as much. Their friends find it difficult to identify with them being different—some don't even want to know about their stories. It's frustrating."

Pastor Lemke describes as "poignant" the Sunday-morning worship celebrating new beginnings. "Graeme [Fraunfelder, group facilitator] took us to the beach at sunrise.



Returned long-term volunteers recently met to debrief at Yarrahapinni, NSW. With them was Adventist Volunteer Service director Pastor Mel Lemke (far left, at back), musician Peter Dixon (far left, front) and Graeme Fraunfelder (far right, at back, with tongue).

"He asked the question, 'Where to from here?' then invited us to write in the sand our dreams for the future. We watched as the waves washed over what we had written, a symbol of releasing our dreams to God."

Adventist Volunteer Service plans to organise the re-entry program each year. It also plans to establish: a mentoring program where volunteers who have returned from long-term overseas service will contact volunteers who are about to take their place; and an orientation

program for new volunteers featuring returned volunteers as presenters.

Pastor Lemke says he and his personal assistant, Kylie Stacey, have committed, since the re-entry program, to contact all volunteers who have returned from long-term overseas service.

"We're passionate about including longterm volunteers in our ministry," he says. "They're experienced. They're specialists. They're an extension of our team. We're committed to establishing long-term relationships."

#### Resignation of Avondale president leads to search

Asearch for a new president for Avondale College is in progress, with the current president, Dr Geoffrey Madigan, taking leave from mid-September to the end of the year. Dr Madigan announced his resignation from his position late last year (as reported in RECORD, January 18).

He says his future is uncertain, but his intention is to continue working for the church. A search committee has been appointed and the position has been advertised in the South Pacific Division (including the Record) and in other parts of the world. The final appointment is made by the Avondale College Council.



Dr Geoffrey Madigan.

After 13 years in his role, Dr Madigan says it has been a challenging role, but it is time to move on. "The thing that I've enjoyed most is working with the students and staff," he says. "I enjoy seeing the development of young people who come here and the professionalism they show when they leave.

"They show a real dedication to the task and the church. I'm encouraged by the way students, in their own way, relate to the needs of the church and their commitment to God. And the staff are just a great group of people to work with."—*Bruce Manners* 

### "Sanitarium spirit" to be awarded

#### **Introducing Laura Lee**

aura Lee, a Tasmanian, spent some time in Ellen White's home as a cook. In 1899, she enrolled at the Summer Hill Sanitarium to train as a nurse. That same



Laura Lee.

year she attended the Maitland camp-meeting and observed campers' interest in the foods sold in the health food exhibition tent, and gained an insight and interest in the value of

teaching the benefits of vegetarian foods to the public.

After the camp-meeting she opened a health foods shop in Maitland and gave health advice. This was an innovative idea and forerunner to Sanitarium's retail work. The shop remained open for about three months.

She completed her nursing training at Summer Hill and then assisted Mrs Tuxford on the opening of the first health food cafe in Pitt Street, Sydney, in 1902. She gave health lectures and treatments in rooms associated with the cafe.

She then married August Ulrich and returned to Tasmania when he became ill. She opened a small cafe in Liverpool Street, Hobart, after his accidental death in 1904.

In 1908, she was invited back to Sydney to train new staff. She travelled extensively for many years supervising the Australian cafes, lecturing and demonstrating the preparation of healthy meals and good nutrition. She also experimented with the development of new foods at the Cooranbong, NSW, factory and prepared printed material about health foods and recipes.

Laura Lee had a passion and commitment to sharing health-reform principles to improve the health and wellbeing of the Australian community. She demonstrated innovation and leadership through her work with others, while caring for her family and those around her.

(Continued from page 1)

In Australia the Sanitarium Ambassador Award will be named the Laura Lee Award and in New Zealand it will be referred to as the Sam Bearpark Award.

"Sanitarium employees are often acknowledged for their performance and contribution to our economic outcomes. The Sanitarium Ambassador Award program acknowledges employees for who they are and their personal involvement in the

#### **Introducing Sam Bearpark**

ittle is known about Sam Bearpark, but to be called "Mr Sanitarium" is in itself powerful. He was a travelling salesman in the South Island of New Zealand during the 1930s and 1950s.

It is said that he had a broad smile and happy disposition and was counted as a friend by every grocer in his territory. His dedication and singleness of purpose, his popul-



Sam Bearpark.

arity with his clients and his Christian courtesy were well recognised.

He was widely known for his reliability and trustworthiness—if Sam Bearpark said he would do it, he would. What he believed in and did set him apart.

In 1951, during a bleak period in New Zealand's history with a series of strikes threatening to paralyse trade and commerce, he and other sales reps ensured Marmite and Weet-Bix got to the grocers. When the watersiders went on strike, they loaded the products onto fishing trawlers to be shipped to Parmata on the North Island.

No job was too big or too small, and no person to great or too lowly for him to acknowledge and befriend. Sam embraced his Christian philosophy and lived the Sanitarium spirit.

company," says Mr Jackson.

The Sanitarium Ambassador Award will seek to acknowledge an employee who does one or more of the following:

- •value good work and business relationships
  - •participate in community projects
- •demonstrate an enthusiasm and balanced approach to lifestyle
  - •share an enjoyment and vitality for life
- •understand and respect Sanitarium's heritage and philosophy
- •show leadership and innovation at work

"This is not about putting a person on a pedestal," says Mr Jackson. "It's about taking time to recognise our staff and saying thank you."

Laura Lee and Sam Bearpark are seen as two different people in different eras and different countries who shared the Sanitarium spirit. It is this spirit, says Mr Jackson, that sets Sanitarium apart.

"It's imperative to our success in the future that we continue to value and encourage the Sanitarium spirit, which was the foundation of the company and its health food work."

## Church's statement of peace read at the UN

Representatives of the Adventist Church reaffirmed commitment to principles of peace and justice during the 59th Session of the Commission on Human Rights meeting at the United Nations (UN) in Geneva.

In a prepared statement read to the commission on April 3, Dr Gianfranco Rossi, the church's UN representative in Geneva, affirmed that it was "madness to use religion as an instrument of terror and death," and that "the true spirit of religion supports justice, brotherhood, peace and life."

The statement recommended the Commission on Human Rights "not underestimate the importance of religion in education for human rights and for peace."—ANN

## Adventist students take a stand for religious freedom

Uganda, Africa

Exams are a part of life that most college students regard as little more than a minor inconvenience. But for three Adventist students at Makerere University in Uganda, their exams have become a matter of conscience and religious freedom.

On January 25—a Saturday—Sharon Dimache, a senior law student; Luck Nansereko, a second-year urban planning major; and Gilphine Mokeira Omwega, a first-year law student, did not show up for exams because, they said, Saturday (Sabbath) is the day that they as Adventists regard as a holy day for a time of prayer and Christian fellowship.

Their decision to miss the exams was not one made lightly. They spoke with the lecturers involved as well as the university deans to try and reschedule the exams on an alternate day. Their request was denied.

Because of their decision not to take the test, all three students are now being asked to repeat an entire year of schooling. With the help of several lawyers, the students have now decided to file a case for redress against the university for not respecting their right to freedom of conscience and belief.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church leadership in Uganda has voiced support for the students for standing up for their beliefs.

"[We] assessed the situation of the students and were very convinced that the way forward chosen by the students in counsel with the church was the right one," said Mutuku J Mutinga, director for the Department of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty for the Uganda Union Mission. "All other avenues had been exhausted."

Adventist leaders abroad have also voiced approval of the students' actions and regret over their situation.

"Over the years, many Adventist students in many parts of the world have faced similar situations, and we will continue to work with governments and educational institutions to help them promote understanding of religious tolerance," commented Dr John Graz, director for the Department of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty for the General Conference.—Katie Galbraith/Viola Hughes

#### Arts appreciated at Newbold College

Melody Tan, Newbold College, UK

Students and staff at Newbold College, UK, were given the opportunity to exhibit their varied forms of creative expression during the Newbold Arts Festival Week, April 7-12.

The Newbold Arts Festival began with a music adjudication for several Newbold College students and community members who have attended music classes at Newbold. The adjudicator was Ruth Gerald, former head of keyboard studies at the Royal College of Music in London.

Lecturers in the School of English, Ursula Lewis and Hazel Rennalls, became rap artists for the poetry reading session on Monday evening. Ms Lewis's poem about living with sin and the eventual realisation of the grace of God was read out to a beat and was received with much appreciative amusement and applause by the 30 students and staff members who attended.

Various students and staff also read out pieces of their own compositions.

Photos and drawings by staff and students of Newbold were exhibited in Salisbury Hall throughout the week for general viewing. The Newbold Church Centre was transformed into an art gallery during the weekly prayer breakfast meeting. The high quality of the exhibits surprised many, as hidden talents were uncovered.

"There is a lot of expression and diversity that is of interest to so many people. There is real creativity here," Angela Matthews, a second-year humanities student, commented.

A Music Arts Festival Concert featuring Newbold students and church members was held at the church midweek, and a seperate violin concert another evening.

The Newbold College Arts Festival concluded on Saturday evening with two on-campus writers directing the first performances of their own work for a drama night. The week was a celebration of Adventist students' music, art, poetry, prose and drama.

#### **Fulton students recommit**

Between March 30 and April 5, guest speaker Pastor Paul Cavanagh, Ministerial Association secretary for the Trans-Pacific Union Mission, focused on the theme of "I, if I be lifted up," along with students and staff at Fulton College, Fiji.

"The Fulton family's walk with Christ

was truly blessed and enriched during the college's Week of Prayer," says Elisapesi Latu, Fulton College church's communication secretary. "Many



Students at Fulton College recommitted their lives to Christ during a recent Week of Prayer.

recommitted their lives to live as sons and daughters of God."

"It's amazing how simple God's Word can be," was one student's reflection. Another student affirmed, "God's message of hope is more real in my life than ever."

## You can't run forever

by Jasmine Blank

grew up doing the motions of religion, going to church Saturdays and eventually attending an Adventist high school, but I wasn't happy. I eventually rebelled toward the end of Year 9 and refused to continue at that school.

I ended up at a public high school where I had friends and a boyfriend. At the age of 14 my life there was filled with partying and drinking, and I took up smoking. I was doing this to try to fit in, but I still wasn't really happy. I finished Year 10, went to secretarial school and got a job.

After several relationships I ended up in a de facto relationship that eventually turned into marriage. This lasted 17 years. I don't know how we got through the first nine years because we had cycles of good and cycles of really bad that usually ended in domestic violence.

Whenever we argued he became so angry. I'd end up black and blue, and sore for days, but somehow when I tried to get out, it seemed too hard. Besides, by the time I'd tried to sort it through we were over the hurts and anger, and things were good again.

The bad times were the only times I ever prayed to God. When things were back to normal, I soon forgot about God.

I became pregnant and, just a few days before my baby was born, my mother died of cancer. My mother loved the Lord and as she was dying, I told my mother I would bring our baby up to know God.

When the baby was born I had this strong realisation that I was responsible for her. Priorities began to change in my life. But while I remembered my promise to my mother, I couldn't seem to bring myself to go to church.

I'd started yoga classes around this



time—for the exercise. The yoga included meditation, sometimes getting into past lives and finishing with chanting and "oms." Although wary, I figured this was pretty harmless.

I even tried doing angel cords to tell my future. I thought angels would be safe but, just in case, told God that if it wasn't right He should stop me. I became busy and lost interest.

One night, I went to an Indian drumming circle. I was wary, but thought this was harmless enough even if they were drumming up spirits. Everyone seemed to be having fun.

That night I had a disturbing dream that woke me with a jolt. I dreamt that I was one of God's people being told to flee to the mountains, to take my baby and not to stop to take anything else. I didn't know

what to do; this felt like it was really happening and yet how could it be? I wasn't even following God.

For some reason, I turned on the TV just as "It is Written" with George Vandeman came on. I can't remember the message but it I knew it was for me. It was around this time that I had been given a bagful of *Signs* magazines that had been Mum's, which were assigned to the toilet room to read half a page here and there. I remember reading an article on Eastern religions and the other side of them.

My second daughter was born 18 months after the first, at about the time our business experienced severe financial problems. For survival, I began to go on the road selling our product just so we could pay things like the phone bill. Things were tight.

At the end of every day, I would count the takings. There was always enough for the bills, with about 50 cents over. I began to sense that God was providing for us because each time I'd gone out I had prayed in my mind, and I was talking to God.

One Saturday I decided I would like to go to church, but my husband said if I went and changed any more than I had, our marriage was through. I was devastated and didn't go.

Our business went bankrupt. We decided to shift.

One day, after we had shifted into a new area, there was a leaflet in the mailbox for a kids club, a holiday program being run by the local Adventist church. I took the children and met a woman there who'd been particularly impressed to be there on that day. We started talking.

All of a sudden I just knew I had to give my heart to God. It was the most incredible experience. I was on the biggest high all day. This was something I'd never experienced before.

A couple of weeks later someone visited from the church and my husband allowed me to go to church the next day for a visitors day. I started attending regularly and then attended the Net '99 program. In fact, I attended all the programs—they were great.

I was so happy, but my husband wasn't. One day he threw me to the floor. While lying there, I looked up at him and said, "You can kill me but you can't get God out of my heart." I had no fear even if he did

kill me.

He left me alone but threw my Bible off the veranda, he was so angry. All that night, although my world was falling apart, I had this incredible sense of peace.

We remained, I thought, quite happily married for another 12 months, but he decided he wanted out. He left because he felt there was more to life and he wanted to enjoy it. We parted peacefully. We didn't argue. We hugged and I packed him off with foods I knew he liked. My heart was breaking, but I couldn't make him stay.

That was about two years ago and my

life is rebuilding, but I am content and peaceful. God has helped me through the hurts. Since coming back to God, I've never felt so happy and fulfilled. The kids are happy and seem to have adjusted well.

My husband is still on his search for happiness and I can see his life becoming more tangled. We pray for him every day and I believe that one day he'll come to know God.

You can't run forever. I know that.

. 18

Jasmine Blank is a pseudonym.

#### Thoughts on the drought and prayer

by Brian Timms

while it is arguable just how bad it was and still is in some areas, there's no doubt it was, and is, debilitating to those directly affected and to the country's economy as a whole.

As Christians, we pray for rain during such hard times. After all, God's creation is suffering, animals are dying, and people's livelihoods are in jeopardy. Perhaps there's also the thought that tithes and offerings to the Lord's storehouse will diminish. However, to pray for rain in a drought is cave-person theology.

Praying for rain at such times indicates a childish picture of God being a big old man sitting up in the sky, turning on and off levers and taps. Every now and again He gets it wrong, so we need to plead to remind Him of His responsibilities.

Or, perhaps being a little more educated, we ask God to break the laws of nature and to somehow conjure up clouds and rain from a persistent weather pattern of low humidity, stationary highs and negative ENSO indices. I believe God can do this, but rarely does, for there are other solutions to this problem.

Paul reminds us in Corinthians 13 that when we are children we think like children, but when we are adults we need to put aside our childish ways. This also applies to praying for rain.

These days scientists largely understand why Australia is prone to droughts. Briefly, weather over much of Australia and the nearby islands to the north is affected by natural oscillations in sea temperatures between the eastern and western Pacific, which influences rainfall patterns, particularly over the vast inland.

It's common to have a run of wet years (1998-2000) followed by two to three dry years (2001 to early 2003). So not only do we live in the driest inhabited continent, but weather patterns are naturally the most variable on earth. And I'm not thinking of Melbourne's legendary daily weather, but of rainfall variations like that in the Paroo (south-western Qld), which had 660 millimetres of rain in 2000 and 72 millimetres in 2002.

It's time we came to terms with this natural variation. Joseph, in



Pharaoh's Egypt, provides us with an example. He had the dream of seven fat years and seven lean years. He didn't go to Pharaoh and say, "We need to pray to avoid this." Instead he said, "We have to get real, we need to prepare during the good years so that we can survive the bad years."

Our prayers should be for wisdom to do this, and for skills to know how to survive the bad times. Prayer should not be a last resort to save us from our lack of foresight.

Scientists tell us that global climate change will make weather patterns in Australia even more variable. The future is only going to be worse. If we continue to be cave-persons in our prayers, our faith will be severely tested by a lack of response to what we expect (immediate rain), but if we are mature and ask God for solutions to the effect of predictable droughts on our lives, He will see us through. **R** 

Brian Timms is a professor in the School of Environmental and Life Sciences at the University of Newcastle, NSW. He researches wetlands in the arid zone and has experienced the devastation of drought first-hand.

## The San: The book

by Alan Holman

lmost everyone I know has a connection Sydney Adventist Hospital. Mine started in 1959 when my parents moved Browns Road, an extension of Fox Valley Road where the hospital is sited in Wahroonga. We'd migrated from Melbourne and I hadn't heard of the place before. It sure dominated the landscape.

I hadn't heard of Seventh-day Adventists either. But as I drove to work past the San (as those who know the hospital well, call it) and back each day, I casually noticed the type of people who worked there. Large white capes, immaculately dressed, slow walkers and rather pale in appearance, it seemed.

My dad used to tell me that the wages were so bad, the employees couldn't afford make-up or meat. That explained it.

Life moved on until late in 1961 when I raced home from my workplace in the Riverina to my mother's funeral. She'd died unexpectedly at the San and many Adventists attended the sad event. They were kind and supportive of my father, sister and myself.

Apart from a friendly Adventist neighbour in Wahroonga, this was my first real contact. I would never have guessed that, just over a decade later, I would be art director at the Signs Publishing Company and privately design the new hospital logo that would last until 2000. I was paid the princely sum of \$50!

In those days, most of the hospital printing was done at the Signs Publishing Company. I well remember hand-ruling what seemed like a million varieties of m e d i c a l record sheets and working with the San on their early healtheducation outreach material.

The San loomed

ever larger as my life

unfolded. I lived in its

shadow, almost literally, for 12 years during the 1980s. Three of my children were born there. Three other children worked there at the start of their careers. I regularly dined out at the "caf" and frankly, though some may not believe me, never tired of the food. I knew the people and they knew

This year happens to be the San's centenary year. And Dr Tom Ludowici, project coordinator, and Dr Arthur Patrick, author, have produced a large, hardcover coffee-table book to celebrate the event. It was also my privilege to be part of the team

It's an "ooh, ahh" book that will render anyone with a San memory almost speechless with delight. There will be murmured comments: "Look at this . . ."; "Do you remember . . . ?"; or "I wonder where they are now?"

But how do you condense a century of people and history into a 278-page book that people will actually read? Dr Patrick has achieved this by a brilliant exercise in historical and pictorial précis. The style is as user-friendly as the text is sparse. But the content is there and not much has been missed (except for an inadvertent lack of reference to my logo!).

The author looks at the San's history in five distinct areas of activity—the overall history, the leaders, the staff, the supporters (with San babies and volunteers) and the

future. Each area is treated sequentially and is supported by copious pictures, mostly taken from the Sydney Adventist Hospital Museum's vast collection.

Some years ago, when the old San was pulled down and rebuilt, someone mentioned to me that it looked like a car battery with windows. I recalled this when I read this book, not that I subscribe to the description. But it has been a century of energy and Dr Patrick has been astute enough to capture this mood in his well-researched text.

He highlights the countless nurses, missionaries, health professionals and educators who have streamed through the doors. He looks at the innumerable lives, both in Australia and overseas, that have been touched by the San's brand of Adventist Christian service and care. And he records how the swirling changes of 100 years, both in medical practice and ethics, have been managed.

This centenary book reinforces the opinion that the best years of the San are yet to come. That's something that would have been impossible without the dedication, foresight and deep Christian virtues of those now long-gone people in the old pictures: in stiff uniforms, serious faces, black suits and uncomfortable batwing collars. **R** 

The San—100 Years of Christian Caring 1903-2003 by Arthur Patrick is available from the Department of Mission at Sydney Adventist Hospital. Price is \$A45 plus postage (add \$A8 for Australia and \$A27 for New Zealand). To order send cheque or credit card details to the department at 185 Fox Valley Road Wahroonga, 2076; phone (02) 9487 9411; fax 9487 9425; or email <margaretsm@sah.org.au>. The book will also be available during homecoming weekend (June 27 and 28).

Alan Holman is the print marketing manager at Signs Publishing Company where he still helps people with logos.

10

## My leap of faith

by Julie Anne Hokin

error gripped me as I stood at the base of the 20-metre pole I was expected to climb. Thick at the bottom it narrowed to the peak where the diameter was less than the length of my foot.

For one who has panic attacks at the thought of peeking out a second-storey window, this was a big ask. Jay, my life-mastery team-mate, coupled my body harness to the safety rope, gave me a reassuring pat on the shoulder and whispered, "You can master it."

I took a step and planted my foot with determination on the first climbing spike.

Why was I choosing this journey? For months I'd maintained it was a part of the life-mastery program I wouldn't and didn't need to do. What had changed? Perhaps it was the fear of failing in front of a couple of hundred fellow life-mastery participants. Maybe it was the fact that a TV camera crew stood ready and waiting to embarrass me nationwide if my courage wavered.

Those who had made the climb at another time encouraged me.

"Do it Julie, you will learn so much."
"What will I learn?"

"We all need different lessons," came the reply. "Just do it. Have faith that you will be enlightened."

Four spikes up I wavered. The only thing I was learning was that my fear of heights was an absolute truth. Eight spikes up and, Hey, the spikes are getting smaller and farther apart.

Faith is a bit like that, I thought. Take the first step, trust in small ways then as faith grows, cling more tightly to the Lord and take bigger steps of faith. Something to think about!

I'd almost reached the top. A considerable distance from the top, the climbing spikes ceased. The challenge now, to figure out how to balance on top of the pole. This daunted me. It was impossible. Besides I was petrified.

I have a physical disability that makes balance at the best of times a challenge. Feeling inadequate to the task, I began to rationalise. I'd achieved something, more than I thought I would, and my balance problem was a plausible excuse.

The climb wasn't wasted. I'd conquered my fear of heights and had some thoughts on faith. Surely I could just climb back down the pole. I hadn't failed. I'd achieved far more than I ever thought I would, and others would recognise this achievement.

As my foot searched for a descending spike, a member of my team yelled out, "Step up!" The next thing I knew I was on top of the pole, balancing and exhilarated.

The view was magnificent, with the coastline of the beautiful big island of Hawaii seen from a perspective that was impossible from the ground, or even part way up the pole.

Another lesson in faith. It's impossible to do things in my own strength—by my own thinking, by my own efforts. God calls me to step up even when, from my human perspective life or challenges, it appears hopeless. He doesn't ask me to think about it or work out how to do it, He simply asks me to step up-to shift my focus from myself and what I can do, to focus on what He can and will do.

In stepping up I gain a view of God, a magnificent view of who He is and what He can do.

Four metres out from the top of the pole was a trapeze bar. The object was to leap from the pole and grasp the bar. Before the climb, I'd felt this would be a metaphor

for achieving goals.

Terror struck again. What if I missed? Would this saddle me with failure? Would I be unable to set goals and attain them?

"Faith Julie, faith," a voice whispered.

Suddenly my lesson was clear. I realised I never did anything, never attempt anything unless there was a safe, foreseeable, plausible outcome. Always there had to be a certainty of what would happen, a certainty of success.

This would be a leap of faith. And I could fail

I'd never seen anyone leap from the pole because I was the first climber at this seminar. But it was decision time.

I leapt from the pole into midair. Then I panicked as I free fell. I was totally out of control. The safety harness gently but firmly slowed me and let me swing slowly, allowing me to gain my bearings and enjoy

the view as I descended to the ground.

God asks me to take such leaps and to trust Him to take care of the journey and the outcome. He asks me to trust Him with what may seem terrifying or impossible. Sometimes it feels as if my life is out of control and I don't know what is going to happen. That's when God steps in.

Usually when I have no control He can use me most. He's my safety harness and when I fall into His loving, secure arms, it's a safe landing.

He's always there when I take the leap of faith. **Q** 



Julie Anne Hokin writes from Morisset, NSW.

## **God created mothers**

by De-anne Tasker

he movie *Where the Heart Is* stars Natalie Portman as a young woman gives birth in a Wal-Mart. In hospital she makes this comment, "How can you love someone so much when you've only just met them?"

She was talking about her newborn daughter. Any new mother can relate to that comment, as can anyone who is a mother.

Jesus does the same. He looks at us, sees us for who we are and still loves us. "See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands," is how the Bible verse goes.

A mother carries her baby for nine months. Each month it slowly develops. From a tiny egg to a baby with arms, legs and a head. When I saw the ultrasound photos of my daughter, I had trouble working out what was what. When I put them on the computer to print out, I placed arrows and names of what was shown. Nose, hand, mouth. It didn't look like much, but it was our baby.

I loved it, sang to it, played music and talked to it. I even tried to get the baby to hurry up with a pep talk—I was 11 days late; well, the baby was. She took after me.

The Bible doesn't really say what Mary went through to give birth to Jesus. No doctors, no pain medication. Just Joseph, a stable, animals and some hay. Mary went through a lot for her perfect son. What of the anguish she must have felt when He was nailed to the cross.

In the novel *Book of God—The Bible as a Novel*, Walter Wangerin goes into the detail of Mary giving birth to Jesus. Wangerin uses his imagination to tell the Bible story of both the Old and New Testaments, often in great personal detail. Perhaps he has captured this scene.

Almost all mothers have that special something in them that, when a child is hurt, makes the child run to them for comfort. Mum kisses the spot that hurts to make it feel better. A hug helps soothe a crying child and helps them feel better.

As the saying goes, "God couldn't be everywhere, so he created mothers." Now God is everywhere, but needed someone to help ease what hurts us.

The mothering instinct seems to kick in when you give birth to your first child. You hold your little bundle of joy for the first time and smile. Sometimes you cry. I cried. It was either from pure happiness or perhaps from exhaustion and glad it was all over with.

The labour that mums go through is worth it. I know that for sure when I look at my beautiful 19-month-old daughter.

Mother's Day is next week. Cards are out. Flowers will be bought. But this year, take some time to think about your mum.

Remember all that she has done for you, all that you've done for her.

If you've lost your mum, remember the good and fun times you had. Treasure the memories. If you're a new mum or a reasonably new mum (like me), you've got lots and lots of memories to make. Make the most of what you have.

I'm grateful to my mum for all she has done. I'm also grateful for her mum (my late grandmother); she was a good mother and example to Mum. I thank them both for all they've done, and all Mum continues to do.

I thank God, because without Him mums (and dads, too) wouldn't be here. Happy Mother's Day to all the mums, new mums and soon-to-be ones too!

De-anne Tasker writes from Rockhampton, Qld.



eta laylor

#### Responses to the bonsai family

#### A teacher

To the "Bonsai family" (Letters, March 22), my heart goes out to you. We as a church have had a "disposable" mentality toward our ministers and, sometimes, teachers. In the honeymoon period of a new arrival, some bask in comparisons about how much *better* things are than under the previous person. Then comes reality: the new person has faults too! Then some begin to lobby to move them on.

Thankfully, this situation is changing. With longer tenure comes accountability, a realisation that not only is the minister imperfect, so is the church! And both must work together for growth.

Thank you for sharing your pain. Many church members have no idea of the trauma of transplanting families. After 10 churches and 15 houses over many years in church work—tossed from one house to another, losing money in forced home sales, realising the hidden costs of relocation, uprooting children from school and making new friends—I know how you feel.

I'm grateful to have had an extended period in one place. I feel I've been able to deal with some of the emotional issues that were affecting my health, happiness and personal growth. With constant transplanting, this is not possible. Not only is growth stunted, survival is jeapordised.

Add to such problems long hours, criticism and a lack of workplace support, it isn't surprising the burnout rate and loss of church employees is high.

#### Name supplied

Tears came to my eyes as I read of the bonsai family's experience. Being the child of a minister myself, and having relatives in ministry, I felt anger, sadness, frustration and sympathy for them.

I'd like to ask churches to consider the ramifications of their decisions on the pastor's wife, children and local community.

Wake up, church! Let's start loving and praying for our pastors and their families.

minor matters of Christianity. However, one thing they held in common was their belief in Christ as the One who rose from the grave. The rest really doesn't matter so much at the final count.

In the church, with some exceptions, we've not learned how to look after each other very well. If what the bonsai family wrote is a fair and accurate description of events and, knowing that she isn't the first to have experienced such treatment, then we all should feel chastened.

#### Many church members have no idea of the trauma of continually transplanting families.

#### D H Powell, Vic

## My heart goes out to the bonsai family, and my anger to church members responsible for this situation. As I read the letters and listen to conversations around my church, I wonder at Christ's words, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another" (John 13:35, KJV). Note, this test of discipleship isn't Sabbath-keeping, health reform or baptism. If we don't treat our fellow church members properly, then

I'm amazed at the vitriol that comes from the pens of people who know better as they write about some infringement of what they perceive to be an aberration in doctrine. For 2000 years there have been countless people with differing views on

those things aren't worth a cent.

#### Name supplied

I feel for the bonsai family. My own church went through a similar experience to what was described. While I can only speak for what we on its board experienced, I assume your church may have had similar emotions.

Our board worked with the pastor and conference for many months to mentor him in his ministry and find resolution to areas of concern. One of the main reasons for the long time span was to protect the pastor's family. Knowing how upsetting and unsettling another move so soon would be, we wanted to avoid this scenario at all costs. In the end, it became clear to the conference administration that a move was necessary.

I know from attending those board meetings that there were tears, much concern and agonising over the situation, but never anger.

There was some embarrassment and uncertainty as to how to behave once the decision was made, and we struggled with an appropriate response for the family. I'm sure we didn't always handle the aftermath appropriately, and for that I'm truly sorry.

To the bonsai family, I pray that for you time will bring healing, as well as clarification of the issues, because they're always complex.

**Note:** Views in Letters do not necessarily represent those of the editors or the denomination. Letters should be less than 250 words, and writers must include their name, address and phone number. All letters are edited to meet space and literary requirements, but the author's original meaning will not be changed. Not all letters received are published. See masthead (page 2) for contact details.



#### **ATTENTION ADVENTIST LAWYERS!**

The General Conference publish a compilation of Adventist lawyers and update this every two years. The next edition of the <u>Adventist Lawyer</u> is scheduled for publication in 2004, so it is time to gather current information to forward to them.

If you are a Seventh-day Adventist lawyer or law student, please send details of your practice, including:

- address/contact information—name and mailing address, telephone, fax and email;
- education/qualifications—colleges/universities where you received your degree/s;
- jurisdictions where you are fully qualified to practise law;
- the areas in law in which you practise or offer services—the nature of your practice; to:

Archives and Statistics Locked Bag 2014 Wahroonga NSW 2076

or email lrelihan@adventist.org.au before May 30, 2003.

Your details will be grouped in the publication by country and in larger areas by province or state.

#### Wanna surf?

#### www.edgeonweb.org

Do you believe in Christ and wanna live the life? Edgeonweb helps connect your Christian walk with the realities of living in today's culture. With practical info on relationships, health and spiritual issues; reviews of recent-release music, movies and books; edgeonweb is the **youth** web site brought to you by **The Edge** magazine.

#### **Anniversary**

Ward, Wal and Pheobe (nee Savige) were married on 6.4.53 in the old Moe Seventh-day Adventist church, Vic. On 6.4.03 their family (including six sons) and many friends celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in the Albury Adventist church. In 1963 Wal and Pheobe moved from Victoria to Cooranbong, where they both worked at the Sanitarium Health Food Company. Wal worked there for 32 years before retiring.

#### BARRIER REEF AND RED CENTRE DISCOVERY TOUR 20 - 29 JULY 2003

Travel with fellow Adventists on this special tour to Cairns, Alice Springs and Ayers Rock.
Including a cruise to Green Island, Kuranda Scenic Railway/Skyrail combination, School of the Air, optional balloon flight over Alice and Uluru—and watch the sunset over Ayers Rock.
For full details and prices please contact Debbie at:
ALLROUND TRAVEL

CENTRE

Phone: (07) 55 303555 or Email: alltrav@bigpond.net.au

#### **Weddings**

Lowe—Godfrey. Brenton Lowe, son of Laurie and Lorraine Lowe (Esperance, WA), and Sandra Godfrey, daughter of Pastor Keith and Christine Godfrey (Kalamunda), were married on 23.3.03 in the Bickley Adventist church.

Stephen Belson, Keith Godfrey

**McCutcheon—Lall.** Wayne Gregory McCutcheon, son of Graham and Laureen McCutcheon (Albany, WA), and Indera (Cindy) Lall, daughter of Kissoon

#### **Volunteers** needed

**Primary Teacher—Costa Rica**—to teach Grades 1-3. Some teaching experience preferable. Living allowance, lodging and food provided. Term: 7 months, commencing May 15, 2003.

**ESL Teacher—China**—to be involved in English classes, lectures, testing, promotional programs and special student activities. Term: 12 months, commencing May 1, 2003.

**Assistant Dean—Denmark.** Male and female required. Living allowance and lodging provided. Must be 18–25 years old and have 3–4 years college experience. Term: 11 months, commencing August 1, 2003.

**Assistant Librarian—Sagunta Adventist College, Spain.** Male aged 21–29 required with 1–2 years college experience. Living allowance and dormitory lodging provided. Must speak some Spanish. Term: 10 months, commencing September 2003.

**Computer/English Teacher—Cambodia Adventist School, Cambodia**—to teach secondary students English, keyboarding, word processing, spreadsheets and publisher programs. Accommodation and living allowance provided. Must have 3–4 years college experience. Term: 11 months, commencing September 2003.

**Maths/Science Teacher—Eden Valley Academy, Thailand.** Degree preferred in maths or science. Must be a native English speaker with some teaching experience. Lodging and partial meals provided. Term: 12–24 months, commencing May, 2003.

Mail: AVS, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga NSW 2076

**Phone:** (02) 9847 3333

**Email:** volunteers@adventist.org.au www.adventistvolunteers.org



and Rajwanti Lall (Toronto, Canada), were married on 30.3.03 in the garden of the groom's parent's home, Albany.

Robert Kingdon

#### **Obituaries**

Bautovich, Anna (nee Chakovan), born 8.7.1908 at Glogon Banat, Yugoslavia; died 22.3.03 at Hornsby, NSW. In 1926 she married Milan Vasic, who predeceased her in 1929. In 1931 she married Stane Staic, who predeceased her in 1933. On 25.1.49 she married Yero Bautovich, who predeceased her on 25.4.95. She is survived by her children, Zora, Olga, Amy and Pauline: her sons-in-law. Pat. Semi and Invica; her 10 grandchildren; and 19 greatgrandchildren. Anna was very industrious, working at her long stitch until the day she entered hospital. She was a kind and caring lady, who loved her God. She will be sadly missed but never forgotten.

Peter Theuerkauf Dino Mastromihalis, David Pearce

Breakwell, Elsie (nee Sewell), born 19.11.1937 at Moss Vale, NSW; died 13.1.03 at Nowra. She is survived by her son, John; her brother, Ralph; her sister, Mary; and her special friend, Sam. Elsie was a creative, caring person with a gift for ministering to the lonely. She was a pioneer as a female sales representative for Sanitarium. Ken Bird, John Breakwell

**Dobson,** Wayne John, born 26.2.1966 at Kurri Kurri, NSW; died 14.3.03 at his home in Geham, Qld. On 13.10.96 he married Lynnelle (nee Butzbach). He is survived by his wife; and his children, Dylan and Harrison. Wayne will be remembered with great love and affection.

David Stojcic, Chris Foote

Mitchell, Donald Leslie George, born 21.9.1955 in Perth, WA; died 5.3.03 in the home of his sister, Lyn Spain, Woori Yallock, Vic. He is survived by his wife, Gillian; his daughters, Alarna and Janina; his mother, Lorraine Mitchell; his sisters, Grace Kane, Narell Godber (both of Guyra, NSW), Earlene Hokin and Lyn Spain (both of Melbourne, Vic). Even though he suffered greatly over the past 10 years from major heart problems, his great faith in his Lord shone through. Donny will be remembered as a man of God, who loved his family deeply and loved to share the love of Jesus with those in his com-Rex Cobbin, John Rabbas munity. Bruce Campbell, Frank Cantrill

#### **Advertisements**

**Note:** Neither the editor, Signs Publishing Company, nor the Seventh-day Adventist Church is responsible for the quality of goods or services advertised. Publication does not indicate endorsement of a product or service. Advertisements approved by the editor will be inserted at the following rates: first 30 words or less, \$A33; each additional word, \$A1.65. For your advertisement to appear, payment must be enclosed. Classified advertisements in RECORD are available to Seventh-day Adventist members, churches and institutions only. See masthead (page 2) for contact details.

Manjimup Centenary—July 12, 2003. You are invited to attend. Past members, pastors and friends are invited to send written memories or photos of their time in Manjimup to: Centenary, PO Box 1148, Manjimup 6258 or email <giblettdn@wn.com.au>. Photos will be copied and returned.

14

#### **Positions vacant**

▲ Karalundi Aboriginal Education Centre (Meekatharra, WA) is seeking expressions of interest for the years 2003 and 2004 for the following positions: Manual Arts teacher; Primary teacher; Mechanic; Builder. Karalundi encourages people of Aboriginal descent to apply. For further information contact Glenn Grey (08) 9981 2000; fax (08) 9981 2801 or email <administrator@karalundi.wa.edu.au>.

Northern Australian Conference special session. Notice is hereby given that the Northern Australian Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church will convene a special session at Riverside Convention Centre, Leopold Street, Aitkenvale, on July 4, 2003. The business session will commence at 1.30 pm, with registration of delegates from 1.00 pm. Delegates will be appointed in harmony with the constitution of the conference. The business of the session will be to consider a change in constitution and to incorporate the conference and school system. Andrew Wanke, Secretary-Treasurer

A1 Rent-a-Car Christchurch (NZ). "Thrifty" cars, vans from \$NZ49/day, "Budget" cars from \$NZ39/day all inclusive (5/10 day minimum). Free pick-up. Phone 0011 64 3 349 8022; fax 0011 64 3 349 8218. Check our web calculator <a href="http://www.alrentacar.co.nz">http://www.alrentacar.co.nz</a>>.

Funeral directors—K & E Swanborough. Compassionate and professional care at an affordable cost from those who understand. Obligation-free advice on all your funeral requirements, including pre-planning. Phone (07) 3297 1141 24 hours.

Medical Ministry Certificate Course (correspondence). Share our health message more effectively. Prepare yourself NOW! Information/fees enrolment (02) 6043 1484 (evenings). "Murray Park" Health Education Centre, Corrys Road, Thurgoona NSW 2640, Australia.

Giant book sale—Nunawading church, Central Road—Sunday, May 18, between 11 am and 3 pm. 2500 books at bargain prices, choir music (multiples), videos, SPC tin food, garden hoses, non-alcoholic wines, plants. Make a calendar note.

25th anniversary Northpine Christian College (Qld). Past students, parents and staff of Northpine Christian College (formerly known as Pine Rivers Adventist School/Brisbane North Adventist College) are invited to join us in a weekend of celebration on June 21 and 22, 2003. For further information please phone Katy (07) 3204 6511.

**Bowen** (Qld)—best of bush and beach—deceased estate, quiet, 7.5 fertile acres, fruit trees, 2 dams, 2 bores, coldroom, 3-bay shed, 2 unique homes. (07) 4785 2456; mobile 0403 337 729.

**Handyman/gardener required** for a country property in north NSW. 1–2 bedroom s/c furnished dwelling provided rent free. Suitable pensioner couple or single. Phone (02) 6636 4275.



Signs needs you! Each month Signs of the Times tells a story of faith. Have you experienced pain? A loss? Faced financial disaster? Walked through a dark valley? Where was God when you needed Him most? God is good. And He is real. Why not tell the world that through your experience! Not all stories have a happy ending, but in the end, God is still there. You don't have to write the story, just tell us about it. Signs will do the rest. Stories of faith are to uphold Christ, the great Comforter. The editors would love to hear from you.

Considering employment options? Want to be a part of a vibrant and diverse work force? Denominational employment may be for you. Register your interest in an active employment database from which the South Pacific Division, Sanitarium and Sydney Adventist Hospital can source quality employees. For further information contact

(02) 9847 3209.

Cashflow positive property investment for under \$A100,000. Return is government pension indexed and in

excess of 6.5% net plus capital growth. Phone (02) 9651 7940 for information.

<pwrankmore@adventist.org.au>; phone

**Digital photography.** Like a camera but don't know where to start? Have a camera but want to improve your skills? Give Andrew a call on 0411 078 382 or see <a href="https://www.ircomm.com.au">www.ircomm.com.au</a>.



If God is your Copilot—swap seats.

## RETIRING,

#### Considering retirement but not wanting to enter a retirement village?

Alstonville Adventist Retirement Village, located on the North Coast of NSW, may be able to help you.

Alstonville Village has a four-bedroom double-garage house on five-and-a-quarter acres adjacent to the village. This house is available on the standard village contract, which includes maintenance of grounds, gardens and house.

For further information contact John Kingston, CEO Adventist Retirement Villages NNSW, on (02) 4977 1071.



## MAYBOOK OF THE MONTH

# WIFAIGEIS

by Larry L Lichtenwalter

The story of Jacob is the story of the conquest of self. Born into a dysfunctional family, Jacob was a fighter. He was ambitious, clever, strong, resourceful, resilient, scheming. Nothing could take him down: not his hotheaded brother Esau, his conniving uncle Laban, his quarrelling wives, or his fierce children.

We wrestle too. Not against flesh and blood, but with the ghosts of decision past that have compromised our birthright. But as we grow with Jacob through *Wrestling With Angels*, we find new hope to face our own fears in the grip of Jacob's God.

Well-known author Larry Lee Lichtenwalter is also the author of Well-Driven Nails; Out of the Pit: Joseph's Story and Yours; and Behind the Seen: God's Hand in Esther's Life—and Yours.

Regular Price \$A32.95 \$NZ39.95 K59.00

SPECIAL PRICE \$A27.50 \$NZ32.95 K49.50