

APRIL 3, 2004

RECORD



The Bible Society's Easter Celebration of Word and Song celebrates its 10th anniversary this year and will again be broadcast around Australia and the world, courtesy of Adventist Media.

Easter service goes global

Wahroonga, NSW

Seventh-day Adventists will again play a prominent role in the production of the Bible Society's Easter Celebration of Word and Song. Representatives from Adventist Media and the South Pacific Division's Communication Department have helped organise the program, Adventist Media will uplink the program to satellite and Golden Gospel Award-winner Francine Bell will perform during the program.

"The Celebration of Word and Song is the original Easter story direct from the Bible," says Adam Sparke, the public relations assistant for the church, who sits on the program's organising committee. "As Bible-based Christians, we're proud to work with the society in presenting it."

"It's been exciting working with Adventists on various projects, especially over the years with the Celebration of Word and Song," says Geoff Warren, the general manager of marketing and fundraising for the Bible Society in New South Wales.

Mr Warren says the program is growing in stature. The Bible Society in Canada will take Adventist Media's satellite feed of the Celebration of Word and Song as its Easter event this year. "Our determination to pursue a program of excellence has certainly paid off," says Mr Warren.

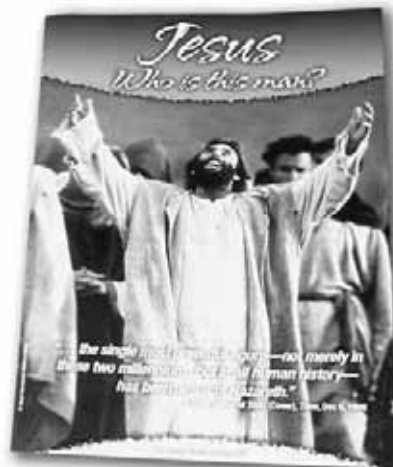
The Seven Network in Australia will broadcast the program on television at 11 am on April 9 except in Victoria, where it will broadcast the program at a to-be-announced time on April 10. The program will also air on the Australian Christian Channel, the Vision FM radio network in Australia, FM103.2 in Sydney and Shine TV in New Zealand.—**Brenton Stacey**

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New Bible-study guides

It's not a new job

For most of last year, Friday mornings would find me circling the lawn areas of the Aitkenvale church in Townsville. The job consisted of about two hours trudging behind the mower, regularly emptying the grass-catcher and—being northern Queensland—sweating. But the weekly task was also a good opportunity to enjoy the morning sunshine and get a little exercise. As well as these personal advantages, mowing the church lawn was a way of contributing to my local church.

Now when I visit or drive past a church with a recently mown lawn, I have a greater appreciation of the unknown person who has made that contribution. And so it should be with all the “behind-the-scenes” contributors to every Sabbath worship at every local church. We all need a greater appreciation for all these seemingly mundane acts of service to the church and its members.

Perhaps we should create an Organisation for Promoting the Appreciation of the Weekly Contributions of Those Who Mow Church Lawns (although perhaps the acronym OPAWCTWMCL is a little too unwieldy). All current and veteran mowers of church lawns would be eligible for membership, with invitations to associate membership extended to those who care for church gardens, flower providers and arrangers, church cleaners and others who contribute in such practical ways to worship each week.

As a charter member of the (as yet) fictional OPAWCTWMCL, I would suggest Psalm 84:10 as a suitable mission statement: “I’d rather scrub floors in the house of my God than be honoured as a guest in the palace of sin”—or perhaps the paraphrase, “I’d rather mow the lawns around the house of my God. . . .”

Although the aims of the organisation may sound somewhat pretentious to those focusing on the seemingly humble nature of these roles, one must remember the kingdom in which we serve is an upside-down kingdom—a kingdom in which “whoever wants to be great must become a servant” (Matthew 20:27). So the aims of OPAWCTWMCL (although perhaps rarely formalised in a specific statement) could go a little like the following, in order of priority:

Aim 1: To serve God. Whatever you do, whether you’re mowing the church lawn or serving in other ways, “do everything that way, heartily and freely to God’s glory” (1 Corinthians 10:31). With this attitude, the church exists as a venue and facilitator for our service to God.

Aim 2: To serve our community. God works through our service. Like “a breath of fresh air in this squalid and polluted society” we are to “provide people with a glimpse of good living and of the living God” (Philippians 2:15).

Aim 3: To serve our church community. Service to the church is a way of encouraging fellow members of our church community, allowing them to take a healthy pride in their church and to find a place where they can belong.

Aim 4: To serve because it is good for us personally. “You’re blessed when you care. At the moment of being ‘care-full,’ you find yourself cared for” (Matthew 5:7). As Jesus explained, service is the way to true greatness.

But after detailing the aims in these terms, perhaps our suggested organisation should not be defined so narrowly. These OPAWCTWMCL aims should be recognised more broadly in other church roles. The recognition of this order of priority

puts the “service” back into church service.

But they are also the mission statement and aims applicable to my new role on this page, with RECORD and with the other publications of the church in this part of the world.

In questioning his own contribution to the wider world, Christian writer Philip Yancey describes “another day making the sound of insect clicks on my computer keyboard,” but his conclusion is prefigured in the title of his essay: “They also serve who only sit and click” (*Finding God in Unexpected Places*).

It seems the invitation to membership of OPAWCTWMCL should perhaps be broadened still further to include writers and editors—and everyone else who wants to take their opportunities to serve God in their community and in their church. In fact, it might just be easier to call our organisation “church” (it’s certainly easier to pronounce—and spell). “It’s all the different-but-similar parts . . . functioning together”—the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:14).

So, for me, it’s not a new job. In making the transition from mowing the church lawn (and sweating) in Townsville to working on producing RECORD (and shivering) in Warburton, I haven’t changed jobs: I’m doing more of the same, just in a different place and role. In Psalm 84:10 terms, I’m scrubbing a different piece of floor in the house of my God.

* All Bible quotations are from The Message.

Nathan Brown



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Editor Nathan Brown
Senior assistant editor Lee Dunstan
Assistant editor Kellie Hancock
Copyeditor Graeme Brown
Editorial secretary Meryl McDonald-Gough
SPD news correspondent Brenton Stacey
Senior consulting editor Barry Oliver

www.record.net.au

Mail: Signs Publishing Company
3485 Warburton Highway
Warburton, Vic 3799, Australia
Phone: (03) 5966 9111 **Fax:** (03) 5966 9019
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Our vision is to...
know
experience
and **share**
our hope in Jesus Christ!

- New name for outdoor activity group • Aussie evangelist overcomes opposition overseas
- Online learning introduced for senior students • Students to run around Australia • and more

—Compiled by Kellie Hancock—

● It's official. the National Adventist Outdoor Activity Training and Accreditation Council (known as **NAO-ATAC**) has a **new name: Adventist Outdoors**. For information on regional outdoor activities and training for youth and Pathfinders, contact your local conference Youth Department.

● An Australian minister presented an evangelistic series in Prilep, Macedonia, earlier this year, despite fierce opposition from the Orthodox Church in the lead-up to the event. Presenter of the series Pastor **John Denne**, Ministerial Association secretary for the Victorian



Conference, introduced himself as an **explorer of Bible truths** during an interview on an evening television talk show (pictured), which encouraged many to attend the meetings. About 130 people attended the series in its entirety with some expressing interest in further Bible study with the local Adventist minister.

● Students at **Brisbane Adventist College**, Qld, now have the option of studying Senior Information Processing and Technology (IPT) for the first time, thanks to the **new**



Music scales up at Avondale

The music department at Avondale College has enrolled a record number of first-year music majors in 2004. The average number of enrolments in the past has fluctuated from around five or six to as low as one. But this year 10



new music majors have enrolled. This follows on from a record number of music graduates in 2003 (RECORD, January 14).

Music coordinator David Clark says he's delighted with the growth in numbers and hopes it will be a continuing trend. "There are many career opportunities in music, and in fact there is a shortage of music teachers out there," he says. "We're always getting phone calls from schools wanting music teachers, and musicians always have the option of teaching private lessons as well."

He adds that career options are not restricted to teaching. "Our graduates go into all sorts of careers. Advertising offers a huge number of opportunities and there are also plenty of jobs in the music industry, the film industry and media in general. Students can also carry on their education by doing further specialisations in areas like music therapy."

The main challenge for people wishing to study music at tertiary level is the entry requirements. Students require a minimum of grade five theory and practical passes in order to get into the music program. But for those who cannot meet the prerequisite, bridging courses are also available.—Heather Potter

online delivery course offered through the Brisbane School of Distance Education. Three Year 11 students now share IPT classes with students from two other independent schools. Their teacher talks to them via a phone-based conferencing system while demonstrating procedures on his computer screen through an **Internet-based conferencing system, which includes an electronic whiteboard**. "The biggest challenge for planning the class was arranging the timetables," says marketing coordinator **Shirley Rowney**. "The technology didn't present any significant problems."

● After trialling it for three months in Australia and New Zealand, the Three Angels Broadcasting Network (**3ABN**) is on **Optus B3 to stay** (Newsfront, February 28). "We'll be there for three years," says **Danny Shelton**, founder of 3ABN, "or for as long as we continue to get financial support from Australia and New Zealand."

● Staff and students from **Edinburgh Adventist Primary School**, Lilydale, Vic, are on their way around Australia to improve their fitness and raise funds for new sporting equipment. The "**Run around Australia**" was officially launched by Sam Mitchell—Hawthorn football team member and former student of Lilydale Academy—on March 9. He encouraged the students to turn off the TV and get active outdoors. Laps are completed around a 400metre course and each week the distance covered is

converted onto a large map of Australia. Year 2/3 teacher **Daryl Thomson** predicts it will take till the end of the school year to cover the 13,458 kilometres. "Their enthusiasm is fantastic. They have run from Melbourne to Mount Gambier in just four days!" he says.—Jacqui Knight



● The biggest victory in the 70-year history of **liquor polling** in Victoria was won when 99 residents recently voted “yes” and **350 voted “no”** for a liquor licence at the tenpin bowling centre in **Box Hill**, a suburb known for its “dry” status.

● The **multiple-murder tragedy in Fresno**, California, USA, of March 12 has

Bible Society celebrates bicentenary

The Bible Society is celebrating its bicentenary this year. The birth of the movement began with the founding of the British and Foreign Bible Society (BFBS) in London in 1804. Its purpose was to increase the availability of Scriptures in England and Wales, but quickly widened its missionary vision. The BFBS, by confining itself to the distribution of the Bible only, “without note or comment,” hoped to enlist the support of Christians of all denominations.

The Bible Society in New South Wales came into being through an act of parliament in 1817. Governor Lachlan Macquarie signed the society’s charter.

The United Bible Societies (UBS), a worldwide family of national Bible Societies, began in Haywards Heath, England, in 1946. UBS invited other Bible Societies to join the new fellowship. Seventeen responded within the first year.

UBS estimates the Bible or some part of it had been translated into 67 languages by 1804. Largely through the work of the Bible Societies, that number had risen to 200 by 1850, to 500 by 1900 and to 1000 by 1950.

Since then, Bible Societies and other Scripture translation organisations have brought that number to 2355. There are about 6500 languages in the world.

The 136 national Bible Societies that make up UBS distributed 578.1 million Scriptures in more than 200 countries and territories in 2002.—*Brenton Stacey*

made news headlines throughout the world. Some of those reports have included **misinformed references about the Seventh-day Adventist Church**. The Seventh-day Adventist Church in the United States of America released the following statement on March 16:

We grieve with all of Fresno, and all of the United States. At this time of tragedy, we call on people of faith to pray that God will comfort those who have been hurt deeply by these senseless events.

Some news reports have referred to Marcus Wesson as being a Seventh-day Adventist. That is incorrect. We cannot find any record of Mr Wesson’s being a member of any Seventh-day Adventist church. The Seventh-day Adventist Church is a mainstream Protestant Church with more than 13 million members in more than 200 countries worldwide.

Again, we are praying for the families and the community who are affected by this horrible tragedy.

● **Christian women** in Orissa State were recently **attacked and humiliated** by Hindus **for refusing to give up their faith**. Hindu extremists dragged eight women, including two 15-year-old girls, out of their homes while their husbands were at work and tried to persuade them to renounce Christianity. When the women refused, the group beat them, stripped them naked and forced them to walk through their villages before shaving their heads.—*Charisma News Service*

● Two Harris Polls taken in 2003 among Christians in the United States that questioned their **beliefs about God** showed that:

- 42 per cent believe God is a **male**,
- 1 per cent believe God is female,
- 38 per cent believe God has **no gender**,
- 11 per cent believe God is both genders.

Days and offerings

April 10—World Mission Budget Offering

April 17—Literature Evangelism Rally Day

April 24—Union Institutions Offering

Off the record

● A teacher from **Carmel Adventist College-Secondary**, graduated from Curtin University with a master’s in science (science education) after **eight years** of part-time study while teaching full-time and being involved with family life. Carmel staff are pictured with **Stephen Walker** celebrating his accomplishment.



● Weather forecasters said Queensland’s Sunshine Coast would be hit by a **cyclone-strength storm** on March 5. However, three hours before the expected peak, Adventist radio announcer **Phil Ward** suggested to his 20,000 listeners on Sunshine FM that they pray for God to protect the Sunshine Coast. Official records show the wind intensity started fading almost immediately. Three hours after Sunshine FM broadcast the suggestion to pray, the winds had dropped to 46 km/h—one-third of the predicted peak of 130 km/h. The following day an Adventist worker at the SES emergency headquarters said SES staff had been baffled by the storm unexpectedly losing its intensity.

● A **young couple committed to children’s ministry** at Ipswich church, Qld, took up the challenge to ensure **every Ipswich family** with children recently received a special **gift bag** that contained a children’s video about Jesus, an interactive computer game, and other puzzles and booklets. The gift bag was put together by an inter-denominational committee for Year of the Child last year. A local businessman pledged \$A5000, which enabled **Shane and Michelle Eakins** to purchase 748 gift bags.—*Karen Gazsik*



Adventist represents PNG in USA

Washington, DC, USA

Evan Jeremy Paki was formally accredited as Papua New Guinea's Ambassador to the United States on September 8, 2003. A 30-year-old trained lawyer, he is the youngest head of mission of his country's diplomatic service. Ambassador Paki had previously studied and worked in the United States and Australia, as well as Papua New Guinea, and he is a dedicated Seventh-day Adventist church member.

In an interview at his country's embassy in Washington, DC, Ambassador Paki spoke of his work, and of the need for the church to become more involved in the international community.

Ambassador Paki comments, "We as a church frequently miss the overall picture. For a successfully operating church, we need more interaction with society, and more involvement of church members. We ought to be seeing more than we do.

"This world is not a utopia—we are looking for a better world to come—but we are still in the world, and should be working for religious liberty, education, health and humanitarian needs. Everyone, including those outside of our church setting, shares such concerns, and

Adventists need to be proactive with governments.

"We certainly should not shut out governments and 'outsiders,'" he continues. "Church leadership sometimes is not welcoming of those involved in government and international agencies, and as a result they are not properly communicating the church's needs and contributions. We need a transparent process," he adds.

Representing his country has meant Ambassador Paki recognises how important it is to be engaged with society, particularly at the highest levels. "We need to develop an interface with government, church leaders and professionals in the church," he observes.

"Adventists are very successful and are contributing enormously to society, but are not well known. Catering for people's immediate needs paves the way for the spiritual approach. We must meet such

needs as education and health before bringing the gospel truth to them, otherwise the gospel message does not get to where it needs to be. We can help modify policies, obtain funding, information sharing, and so on.

"We can seek advice from and consult with Adventists who are also members of professional groups to help us in our work. There needs to be more interfacing and dialogue. We are not thinking strategically when we don't see the bigger picture."

The ambassador says he is strongly committed to an Adventist presence internationally.

"I support the church's presence at the United Nations, and at other international forums to which we are invited," he says with enthusiasm.

"At times our church leadership at its various levels is not effective in communicating problems, challenges and growth even to its own workers—even church members. Meaningful leadership should be about taking constructive and useful criticism, being open to suggestions. All too often the church is detached from civil society. We should not be; we should be part of civil society."—**Jonathan Gallagher/ANN**



Ambassador Evan Jeremy Paki, Papua New Guinea's new Ambassador to the United States.

Spanish Adventists mourn victims of Madrid terrorism

Madrid, Spain

Seventh-day Adventist Church members in Spain are mourning the loss of at least two of their fellow believers who are among more than 200 killed in coordinated bomb attacks in and around Madrid on March 11.

One member, 27-year-old Nicoleta Diac, was identified late on March 12. The other, Emilian Popescu, has not yet been identified, according to Pastor Adrian Bocaneanu, president of the Romanian Union Conference, who is currently in Spain. However, Mr Popescu has not been heard from since the attacks and his papers were found at a blast site.

"Yesterday [Sabbath] on two different live transmissions from Madrid, a crew from the

only news channel in Romania, Realitatea TV, featured members of the Adventist churches in Madrid who have been injured by the blasts or were on board the trains," Pastor Bocaneanu says. "They also carried a report on church meetings on Sabbath and the way the church responds to the crisis."

In a message to fellow believers, Spanish Union of Churches president Pastor Alberto F Guaita expressed his deep emotions over the attack and its aftermath.

"As any citizen, I want God to deliver justice, not only this time but in all injustices, crimes and wickedness that surround us," he wrote.

"I beg our God not to fill our hearts with hate to the unknown guilty parties, whoever they might be, but [that] His

peace and His promises compensate the suffering and sorrow of so many families that also are mine, all the victims of one or other, who suffer without knowing why."

Church leaders have had reports of 14 members who required treatment for injuries received. The attack is being called one of the worst terrorist attacks in Europe's modern history.

There is a large Romanian population in Spain, and the attacks come during a time when the Adventist Church is holding special meetings for Romanians, with Pastor Bocaneanu as speaker. Local pastors and members are forming prayer groups and offering help to victims.

Approximately 4000 Adventist members live in Madrid.—**Mark Kellner/ANN**

“Round table” refocuses student ministry

Wahroonga, NSW

Ministry to Seventh-day Adventists studying at tertiary institutions will improve following a meeting of chaplains, church leaders and students. The round-table discussion, held at Crosslands Youth and Convention Centre in Sydney, was organised by the Adventist Students Association (ASA)—an umbrella organisation serving 12 local tertiary student societies in Australia, Fiji, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea.

“Cohesion, common objectives and coordination are all missing from tertiary student ministry,” says Pastor Gilbert Cangy, director of Youth Ministries for the South Pacific Division, who describes the round-table discussion as like “cleaning house.”

Church supports UN plan to promote women’s peace in Pacific

Wahroonga, NSW

The Seventh-day Adventist Church is supporting a plan by the United Nations (UN) to promote women’s peace and security in the Pacific islands.

Joy Butler, Rose Howson and Bronwyn Mison, all departmental directors or managers at the South Pacific Division, attended a breakfast organised by the UN’s Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) in Sydney on March 8 to raise money for the plan.

“I believe it is our responsibility as women to be peacemakers, both from a political and Christian point of view,” says Mrs Butler, director of Women’s Ministries. “If women could stop men going to war, there would be fewer wars.”

Dr Elsinia Wainwright, strategy and program director for the Australian Strategic Policy Institute, spoke at the breakfast of the critical role women have played in bringing peace to the Pacific islands. She told stories of women on Bougainville, in Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands taking guns off men and

“Numbers are dwindling at [ASA-organised events] convention and symposium,” Pastor Cangy reflects. “Local societies are not functioning in some conferences.

“I don’t want to run tertiary student ministry, but I can provide a forum where those with a vested interest in it can talk about where it’s come from, where it’s at and where they’d like it to go.”

“The round table has given all of us a vision for tertiary student ministry across the division,” says Melissa Stojanovic, president of ASA. “ASA is going to change for the better, but it’s going to take time and dedicated students.”

The round-table discussion produced a number of recommendations for the restructuring and support of ASA. Several of the other recommendations encouraged

members of the ASA executive committee to give more support to those who replace them and to the leaders of local societies. One recommendation also encouraged the executive to write job descriptions for chaplains.

“I’d like to see ASA clarify the role of a chaplain,” says Pastor Trafford Fischer, who calls himself an “adviser” to the Queensland University Seventh-day Adventist Society. “And I’d like to see ASA organise a retreat for chaplains, perhaps in the couple of days before convention. We would benefit from sharing ideas and resources.”

Vince Kumura, president of the Papua New Guinea Adventist Tertiary Students Association, which was formed in 1984 and now has 10,000 members, challenged the ASA executive committee to organise programs with a more evangelistic focus.

He describes the round table as “timely.” “The number of Adventists studying at non-Adventist institutions far outweighs the number studying in Adventist institutions. I’m glad the church is looking to improve the way it ministers to us.”

Michael Sikuri, chaplain for Adventists at the University of the South Pacific in Fiji, also attended the round table. “It’s important for students in the Pacific islands to feel part of ASA,” says Miss Stojanovic. “But it’s also important for us—students in Australia and New Zealand—to hear of their success, because we also have that potential.”

The Youth Department will present the recommendation to create the position of tertiary students coordinator at the division’s midyear executive committee meetings. It also has plans to establish a tertiary student advisory and, for the first time this year, gave \$A20,000 for tertiary student ministry in the Pacific islands.

“Tertiary students are vital to the future of the church,” says Pastor Cangy. “They are training—often in challenging environments—as professionals who will become church, community and corporate leaders. The very least we can do for them is to provide a network of support during these critical years.”—

Brenton Stacey



This woman is a victim of violence, losing her fingers. “The husband of this woman is from another denomination and was angry she was sending money to Adventists,” explains Joy Butler of the Women’s Ministries Department. The church is supporting a UN plan to promote women’s peace and security in the Pacific islands.

New Bible-study guides available now



The new Try Jesus Bible Guides, written by Pastor Errol Webster, are now available from your union conference office.

Wahroonga, NSW

A new set of Bible-study lessons suitable for contemporary, non-churchgoers are now printed and available throughout Australia and New Zealand.

Written by Pastor Errol Webster over a period of several years, the new *Try Jesus Bible Guides* will appeal to non-church people seeking answers about Jesus Christ. "Clichés and 'churchy' phrases have been avoided to make the lessons user-friendly," says Pastor Webster. "Up-to-date stories and illustrations are used to make them relevant for today's generation."

The *Try Jesus Bible Guides* are one of the follow-up resources for the church's Sow 1 Billion program, a worldwide plan to invite one billion people to study the Bible.

The Adventist Discovery Centre will use *Try Jesus* as part of their correspondence program and in support of Sow One Billion. Pr John Gate, manager of the Discovery Centre, is pleased with the new lessons. "It's an exciting course," he comments, "and it's even more so because we're all participating in it; it's nice to be part of the team."

The guides complement the "Try Jesus" cards, which are currently being distributed as the Sow 1 Billion invitation throughout Australia and the South Pacific.

The *Try Jesus Bible Guides* are illustrated in full colour with high-quality photos and

graphics, yet they maintain the integrity of the Christian message. Associate director of Youth Ministries for the South Pacific Division, Pastor Andrew Kingston, describes the set of 24 guides as "refreshing, gospel-centred and contemporary."

When preparing these guides, the author had in mind the lonely and the hurting. Pastor Webster says he hopes the *Try Jesus* guides will "help them find purpose and meaning through knowing Jesus as a Friend, Saviour and Lord." However, he emphasises the importance of sharing our friendships with these people. "We don't need to be great theologians to do this," he says. He has written a *Try Jesus Visitation Procedure* booklet to equip church members in personal evangelism using these guides and other available resources.

The South Pacific Division has worked closely with Pastor Webster and Signs Publishing Company to ensure these guides are readily available and affordable for local churches. The South Pacific Division has subsidised the costs for the first printing of the lessons and they, including the *Visitation Procedure* booklet, are available for purchase through the Australian Union Conference Resource Centre (phone 03 9728 5739) and the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference (phone 9 262 5620).—**Linzi Aitken**

Signs farewells long-time editor

Warburton, Vic

Former RECORD editor Pastor Bruce Manners was farewelled by the Signs Publishing Company at a lunch for staff and board members on March 17. Pastor Manners has been at Signs for 16 years, the last 12 as senior editor of RECORD and *Signs of the Times*.

Pastor Chester Stanley, president of the Australian Union Conference and Signs board member, paid tribute to Pastor Manners's contribution to the church across the division and noted the hundreds of deadlines Pastor Manners has met in his time working on the church's regular publications.

General manager of the Signs Publishing Company, Warren Jones, expressed gratitude for Pastor Manners's involvement in Signs management and the publishing house as a whole.

"It has been a privilege to work with Bruce over the past few years," comments new RECORD editor Nathan Brown. "Both as a regular writer for the magazines and more recently sharing an office as we have made the transition. He will be missed—but the influence of his work will continue."

Assistant editor Kellie Hancock reflects, "While the church as a whole has benefited from Bruce's



Pastor Bruce Manners.

ministry at Signs, I've been impacted personally. Working in a small team under tight weekly deadlines you get to know the 'real' person. He has been always gracious, always flexible, and always ready to laugh."

She adds that his support and encouragement to continually improve *The Edge* magazine for Adventist young people in Australia and New Zealand proves he is passionate about ministering to young adults, so he will fit in well as he takes up his new role at the Avondale College church in July.

A people-powered church

by Bruce Manners

Pastor John Lang has been a president for just over two years, and he's excited about his conference, the North New South Wales Conference. His excitement is fuelled, he says, by the people within the conference.

He reflects on the last camp-meeting, in October of last year, when the speaker made an appeal on the Wednesday, and he estimates some 400–500 people stood to commit themselves to God. Pastor Lang says it was only a short appeal, but the response is what he calls exciting.

"So is the desire people have to want to share the gospel," he says. "More and more people want to know how to reach out. We've been holding elders meetings around the conference, and the elders are saying, 'Please teach us how to reach out.' I believe that's one of the most exciting things happening right now."

This desire is being further fed by the dream of a lay discipleship school to be set up at the Stuarts Point Convention Centre.

He does have a burden to "lift the spirituality of our pastors and our teachers, and all of our conference staff. I would like to see it higher than it has ever been before. We must get out of the maintenance mould of ministry and get on the offensive and spread the gospel more.

"We've almost fallen into a defensive role of ministry that's more maintaining than reaching out. We have some good things happening with outreach and that sort of thing, but it's more in pockets than all over. We need to empower church members to be able to witness to their full potential.

"When the pastor is able to train church members to conduct Bible studies, as well as himself, his influence is multiplied. Imagine, for instance, if the pastor has another 10 church members doing them. And imagine if they were each studying with 10 people, they would be working with 110 interested people. In these kinds



of ways we can multiply the effect."

The conference, he says, is not only committed to church members being involved in reaching out, but to also have them doing some of the "housekeeping" duties of the church to free the pastor for more ministry and evangelism.

He senses that the schools have accepted their mission in an "amazing way." He tells of some schools being willing to fund a pastor to help in keeping the right kind of focus.

"We've been saying, 'Look, we need to be doing a lot more than just teaching the three Rs.' If that's all we're doing, let's forget it. We're really here to introduce these young people to Jesus."

At the same time he admits that the school system—the largest in the Australian Union Conference, two and three times the size of some systems—is a challenge.

"The challenge is to know how we're going to expand our teaching ministry within our schools to reach young people," he says. "About 60 per cent or more attending our schools are non-Adventists. Just think about all the families related to those children; the potential there is just enormous.

"We now have a church on the campus of the Central Coast Adventist School and a church on the campus of Macquarie

College. One day we'd like a church on the campus of Avondale School, if it's possible.

"Where schools have a church, those non-Adventist children see it as *their* church. You see it already at Central Coast and Macquarie, with these young people coming across into those churches. Even at our last camp we had a lot of non-Adventists attend because of the schools, with young people bringing their friends—there would have been a couple of hundred non-Adventist young people. That's enough to run an outreach summer camp."

An expanding education system, though, challenges conference finances and staffing capabilities. He talks about how the conference has had to employ some non-Adventist teachers to fill the need, but is pleased with the dedication of these teachers and their willingness to uphold the Adventist ethos.

"We have quality teachers," he says, "and we need them. We have high schools wanting to introduce other class and curriculum streams. When you get large Years 11 and 12 classes you have to start offering a wider range of subjects, and to find the right teachers to fill those specialist areas is difficult."

What pleases him is the way the schools do not attempt to hide their Adventist ethos.

"It's interesting to me that principals of our schools are so up-front about it. They say to parents, 'Look, if your child comes to our school they may become Seventh-day Adventists. How do you feel about that?'"

For the past two-and-a-half years, Pastor Lang and the conference administration have been working on a strategic plan for all aspects of the conference to be presented to the conference session later this year.

"What we want to do is mesh the mission focus plans of the schools, the

departments of the conference, pastors and the local churches so that we are all going in the same direction.”

Consultation has been an ongoing process during this time and has involved church groups, ministers, departmental leaders, school principals and aged-care administrators.

“We’re hoping that the session will endorse the plan for the next three years,” he says.

Personally, in five years time, he would like to see many more people involved in forms of ministry where there are now 50 pastors doing pastoral work. In other words, where the pastor has “empowered people to be involved in the church.”

“We’re all ministers but, unfortunately, the pressures of life don’t allow us to be involved in this way. But I see it working at Port Macquarie, for instance, where the pastor has disciplined at least two people who now work only four days a week and then work for the church. They have already seen several baptisms.

“In five years time I’d like to see that pattern all over the conference.

“By then I want to see the schools grow to their potential as well and to be more focused on their mission. And, at the other end of the spectrum, I want to see the needs of our aged people cared for. We have just opened a new 50-bed aged-in-place facility at Alstonville, and the plans for the replacement of the Charles Harrison Memorial Home and Kressville Hostel are well under way.

“Then I would like to see a lot more literature evangelists working in our conference—and our baptisms quadruple.”

He is quite biased toward his conference, believing it is one of the “most wonderful areas in Australia.” But it is more than that.

“God has given us a message for these last days and I believe we’re living in a day and age when everything is right to give that message. I think the potential in this conference is great. The staff and members are onsite. You can feel they want to tell their friends the wonderful good news of salvation and the soon return of Jesus.” **R**

Bruce Manners is a former editor of RECORD. This is one of a series of interviews with conference presidents.

Go back to Bethel

by Vyrona Parker

I stop and look out the window at the sunshine, surprised I hadn’t noticed it before. I feel the warmth within. It has been a trying week, and today I don’t have to work. But there is always something that needs to be done immediately.

Feeling the joy of the sun, I take time out and talk to God. My search is to find peace. I know true peace comes only from God, and I find it difficult to believe there is so little peace in my life. I’ve been a Christian for many years, and there seems to be much I need to learn, and much more I need to unlearn.

I close my eyes and try to remember the last time I really immersed my soul in God’s Spirit. My mind goes back to special events: the day my daughter came home from college for the midyear break; the birthday surprise for my husband. These are special memories.

But then my mind focuses on what our minister said a few Sabbaths ago, telling us to go back to Bethel, challenging us to return to the experience we had with the Lord—as Jacob did when he was in the presence of God (Genesis 28). I remember a time in my life when I was feeling despondent. I was with a friend, and we were talking about our feelings and what to do with them.

I close my eyes and I can picture us talking about Jesus and how much He loves us. I found it difficult to believe He could love someone like me, and I questioned my friend about it. I was struggling with some issues that had to be undone in my life and I felt it was a losing battle.

Remembering the pain, I also remembered the feeling I had when I sensed the presence of Jesus. There was joy, peace and love. I wanted that same feeling.



Tired and worn, I know I need this time with Jesus to be revived. I close my eyes and simply think of what God has done for me. I’m often overwhelmed as I think back on the times Jesus made things work out in my life.

Today, though, I just need to be in the presence of God. With eyes closed, I picture Jesus sitting in the sun on the floor with me. The sense of His presence brings feelings of peace. I know my life today will be in Jesus’ hands.

I soak up my Bethel experience again. Talking to God I can only praise Him for His goodness, His care, His love and His gift to me. I feel less tired, less stressed, and I’m able to carry out the work that needs to be accomplished today.

Thank You, Lord, for your continued care and love, and especially Your sacrifice. One day I will be able to tell Him that face to face. Until then, I will continue to go back to Bethel and feel His presence. **R**

Vyrona Parker writes from Nairne, SA.

Religious terrorists

by Stuart Barons

An arc of flame lacerated the darkness of the night as the Molotov cocktail flew from the hand of the arsonist and shattered against the walls of the car dealer's showroom. In a string of such attacks in cities across the United States of America, environmental terrorists target dealerships that specialise in the sale of gas-guzzling off-roaders such as the "Hummer." That's according to a *Herald Sun* report (August 29, 2003).

In Melbourne, in September 2000, extremists battled police and bystanders as they demonstrated against what they saw as wealthy capitalist countries exploiting

unwilling to conform to themselves.

It made me think about church members. About me and you.

We all interact socially—at church, at work and within our families. We laugh, we cry, we pray for and often challenge each other. Our spirits soar as we unite in enacting our God-given mission statement in worship and service.

However, what do we do when . . . ?

The current pastor receives a call to another church and his replacement has a reputation as a "mover and a shaker." You've been perfectly happy to maintain the status quo for the past few years and you feel you're too old to change now. Do you actively agitate against the appointment or do you ask the Lord to give you strength to do His will?

The conference session has concluded with most departmental directors and administrators returned for a further three-year period. You feel aggrieved that a certain person has survived and that your personal desire has not been fulfilled. Do you now work to undermine the authority of that person or do you ask the Lord—the all-

knowing, all-powerful God who knows the end from the beginning—to give you grace to pray for and encourage that person?

As a teacher, you've had a new principal appointed to your school. You consider that you're a gifted academic but you've heard that their strengths lie in other areas. Has your professional training equipped you to overlook the new principal's perceived shortcomings to understand that education is a multifaceted vocation that will allow your strengths to complement their

obvious strengths, albeit in a different area?

We often feel a great sense of injustice when the difficulties we have with others are not reflected in other people's decisions. You've heard it. Have you said it? "He ignored me . . ."; "He doesn't know how to chair a meeting . . ."; "He's too young to know how to minister to our church . . .?"

Along with the examples of misguided justice at the beginning, I'm reminded of the environmentalists who fill fuel tanks of bulldozers with sand so they're rendered useless to push down trees. Is it right that those opposed to certain actions should tread underfoot the law of the land to deny people basic rights to achieve our purposes? I think not.

How much more should we take this principle into our interactions with others within our church?

"The church is the one object upon which God bestows in a special sense His supreme regard" (*The Acts of the Apostles*, page 12). And yet there are differences within each church. You can multiply those differences if you extend your circle to those in other congregations.

Our character is on view as we're confronted with two choices. Will we exhibit the kind of grace Jesus demonstrated and work alongside those we have trouble accommodating so that His kingdom may be extended? Or will we choose to agitate against and undermine the influence of other pilgrims on their journey to the kingdom, and become religious terrorists?

Our choice will have implications throughout eternity. So, what *will* you do with that Molotov cocktail? **R**



poor developing world countries. Delegates to the World Economic Forum lost not only their liberty to come and go freely, but their personal safety was jeopardised as they waited out the confrontation.

In both these incidents people who had a passion for, arguably, a worthy cause were prepared to break the law, cause inconvenience and inflict physical injury on others. Such people seem unable to comprehend that social injustices cannot be rectified by flouting laws they want others to respect, but which they are

Stuart Barons is the middle-school coordinator at South Coast Christian College, Leongatha, Vic.

Of leaders and sheep

by Brad Kemp

Feed my sheep." What was behind Jesus' words to Peter? Considering Peter's recent past he must have felt pretty sheepish himself. He boldly claims he will never desert Jesus and then, only hours later, declares he doesn't even know Him. How embarrassing!

Then, after the Resurrection, Jesus takes him aside and says, "Peter, do you love me? . . . Feed my sheep."

The lives of the disciples demonstrate that leadership is a developmental process.



There is a foundational stage in which calling, commissioning, commitment to follow and initial training occurs. In the next stage leaders focus on their competence to lead. This includes character and value formation and, more particularly, skill development.

The final stage occurs when *being* becomes more important than *doing*. The focus on competency transfers to character. And ministry concerns shift from what one does, to who one is. This stage is characterized by a matching of gifts to roles, of bringing convergence of life to ministry.

The call to serve

The Gospel of Luke records the calling of Peter, James, John and Levi, and the choosing of the Twelve (Luke 5:8-11, 27; 6:12-16). However, before these men were called, God had been at work in their lives, preparing and shaping them for the work that lay ahead.

It was no coincidence that Jesus chose Peter's boat, saw Nathaniel under the fig-tree, or found Levi working in his tax booth. As it was with Jeremiah, whom God had chosen even before his birth to be a prophet (Jeremiah 1:5), so it was with the choosing of the Twelve. Leadership has a starting point, and this starting point builds on the life experience of the person.

When Jesus called Peter, he was already a grown man with many life experiences. He knew what it meant to work with a team of fishermen, to suffer the ravages of the sea, to work all night and catch nothing. These experiences prepared Peter for the road that lay ahead.

Peter was also a product of his culture. He had grown up looking for the coming of the Promised One. And so, when Jesus instructed him to let down his nets and the nets became full and began to break, he sensed he was in the presence of someone great. His terminology for Jesus moves from master (*epistata*) to Lord (*kurie*), and Peter senses his sinfulness. The call of Peter, therefore, is both significant and appropriate: "Don't be afraid; from now on you will catch men" (Luke 5:10, NIV).

Not until after the resurrection of Jesus is Peter able to make a deep commitment to follow the call and commission given. This is in part what John 21:15-18 is referring to when Jesus tells Peter, "Feed my sheep." So what does feeding sheep have to do with being a leader?

Shepherd leaders

In one sense, leadership is shepherding. In Matthew 2:6, it refers to the Messiah, as

"the leader who will shepherd my sheep" (see also Micah 5:2), and so provides us with a context of the leader as guide or shepherd. The concept of *episkopos* (elder/leader) carries over from the Old Testament, but it does not bring with it any sense of office. In the New Testament it is most often translated "bishop," "overseer" or "shepherd" (Acts 20:28; 1 Timothy 3:1, 2; Titus 1:7). It is generally used to denote caring or nurture.

The *episkopos* was a leader of the community and had the responsibility of showing care to the congregation as shepherds would for their flocks. Thus, the term overseer was not one that designated lordship or rulership, but service and care.

The words of Jesus to Peter, "Feed my sheep," are a direct reference to leadership. It defines the kind of leadership we are to give. First, a shepherd is a nurturing leader. He is appointed to look out for his sheep, to guide them away from danger and to provide for their needs.

A shepherd is a service-oriented leader. Jesus, speaking of such leadership, states, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:25-28, NIV).

This passage attacks many presuppositions held concerning leadership. It teaches that greatness is found through the path of service. That the Christian leader is not to seek position, but to find ways of serving in leadership as Christ did. That a leader is not "over," but a servant "among" the people.

A shepherd is to be a visionary leader. He is to look ahead and makes preparation




for the welfare of his sheep—to understand the seasons and the times.

Spirit-filled leaders

The leader as shepherd also needs to be Spirit filled. The Holy Spirit is pivotal to this ministry, for it is not ours but God's. This isn't something we do, but what He does through us. The Holy Spirit empowers God's people through His presence in their lives and through the endowment of spiritual gifts (Romans 12:4-8; Ephesians 4:11, 12; 1 Corinthians 12:1-10).

These gifts are given in accordance with the will of the Spirit to enable the church to do its God-ordained work. Leadership is one of the gifts of the Spirit given to fulfil this mission, and has the responsibility of guiding the church forward and empowering every member to do their part in ministry.

Peter was instructed to "feed my sheep," to care for the membership of the church. He was lifted out of his shame to serve in the building up of God's kingdom. The same call is made to the leaders in God's church today.

"Feed my sheep" is saying to us that leadership is not about ruling, but about caring service. It is not about bossing, but directing God's people into fruitful avenues of ministry. 

Brad Kemp is the director of the Leadership and Pacific Resources Department of the South Pacific Division.

The prayer, the promise

by Wendy A Millen

Lord,
I'm asked to serve in ways untrod.
You know my abilities, my gifts, my weaknesses, my needs.
This role is new to me. My doubts rush in.
Lord, choose another. So my spirit pleads.

Today, again, I read your promises. The Psalms reveal
Petitions, praise and confidence. My fears subside, my heart is still.
Lord, give me wisdom. Through Your Spirit
Illuminate my mind to recognise Your will.

*I will instruct and teach you in the way that you should go.
By day and night the issue dominates my thoughts.
I will counsel you with My eye on you.
Draw near the throne of grace.
Walk in My ways and keep My charge.
Rule My house, have charge of my courts.*

I think of what the role requires—consider my approach.
Should I accept the challenge? Lord, is this your leading?
Is this Your Spirit speaking, impressing through my mind?
O Lord, confirm Your will. My heart continues pleading.

Lord,
I take again Your Word to find Your answer there.
*You are my servant, I have chosen you.
Your voice speaks clear.
Fear not, I am with you, I am your God.
I will strengthen, I will help. You are My choice.
God speaks. I listen. I accept.*

Wendy A Millen writes from Thornleigh, WA.

Just for children

Do you know... Hilkiah?

Hilkiah was a priest. He found the forgotten
Book of the Law in the Temple.
His scribe took it to King Josiah.

Read Hilkiah's story in
2 Kings chapter 22



Peta Taylor

More on Ellen White

The four articles "Ellen White for today" have generated quite a number of letters. The following are greatly reduced, except the first, to get a range of opinions across.

Name withheld

Regarding the work of Ellen G White, those who read the Spirit of Prophecy know that truth needs no defence. Maranatha!

Stephen Otto, Qld

I appeal to the leaders of our church: please do not put doubt upon the writings of Sister White. She has been a gift from God to His people so that they are not "tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine" (Ephesians 4:14, KJV). "The very last deception of Satan will be to make of none effect the testimony of the Spirit of God" (*Selected Messages*, Book 1, page 48). Take heed!

John Hassall Abbey, Qld

I have no doubt those involved in the articles had good motives and intentions, but although they purport to support and defend her writings, the result leaves more questions unanswered than answered.

It was the unerring and detailed accuracy of the fulfilment of prophecies of Daniel chapters 2 and 7 that convinced me (at the time an atheist and communist) the Bible is the word of the living God.

Similarly it was the inspired spiritual truths in Ellen White's books on Christ, and learning of the many times her visions resulted in giving our leaders messages that enabled them to avoid disastrous decisions. I am convinced that she was God's messenger to the remnant church.

Andrew Fowler, NSW

Is this the official view of the church and the White Estate? There were so many qualifications about her ministry that she can have no relevance to us at all in 2004. Taken to the logical conclusion it must also raise doubts about her authenticity as a

counsel and she ate oysters 10 years after her health vision. These are confirmed from her writings, diary entries and the White Estate. These accusations and others on the Internet appear to have solid foundation. The articles did not give sufficient answers to these accusations. RECORD was being kind, indeed, toward her writings.

Adrian Ebens, Qld

I agree that we have nothing to fear from investigating the ministry of Ellen White. Many have taken the position on inspiration that can lead to serious problems. My request is that this investigation be candid

After reading the articles, I explored the Internet for myself. I am amazed that RECORD states "we have nothing to fear."

prophet. Even her health message is reduced to comparisons with "current" scientific opinion, which I find especially odd given that health advice today is often contradictory and influenced heavily by financial interests. I'm confused and dismayed by this, which seems to cut across what the church has held to be true for so long.

Peter Bamford, NSW

After reading the articles, I explored the Internet for myself. I am amazed that RECORD states "we have nothing to fear." What is this statement based upon? It is clear that Ellen White contradicts herself; she at times did not live up to her own

and open. I would have liked to have seen the points noted in the last article footnoted so readers can check the sources and make their own determination.

RECORD refers to verified evidence; I would like the opportunity to examine the verification. Could there also be a wider representation with different scholars presenting their research? I am keenly aware that others up to date with the latest research would interpret the findings in a slightly different manner or shed further insights to the points already presented.

The Ellen G White SDA Research Centre will provide (free) a pack of research material that verifies points made and will answer any other questions. Contact PO Box 19, Cooranbong, NSW 2265, phone (02) 4980 2138, fax (02) 4980 2137 or email <egwrc@avondale.edu.au>. A popular-style book that tackles issues from the Internet is Prophets Are Human by Graeme Bradford. For the serious student, Messenger of the Lord by Herbert E Douglass is recent and well researched. It is heavily referenced to original documents, which are available from the Research Centre upon request. Both books are now available at Adventist Book Centres.

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.



Volunteers!

Youth worker, Charlestown SDA church—a self-starter with leadership qualities; must love working with young people. Preferably aged 20-22. Charlestown has a lively program with about 200 members. Full job description available. Term: 12 months, commencing July/August 2004. Accommodation, living allowance, return airfare and car provided.

Email: <volunteers@adventist.org.au>. For more positions, check the web on <www.adventistvolunteers.org>

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Appreciation

Murchison, Avis and family sincerely thank all kind friends for your prayers, cards, flowers, phone calls, letters and visits at the time of the passing of their loved one. Special thanks to those who gave gifts of money towards *Signs* ministry or plants for the memorial garden. We deeply appreciate your love.

Shirley, Aubrey and family wish to thank all for their support and kindness following Val's sudden passing. The phone calls, cards and floral tributes were much appreciated. It was a real comfort to have your love and support on this sad occasion.

Townend, Pastor Max Townend and family would like to thank the large number of people who have sent to them messages of sympathy and understanding on the recent loss of their wife and mother, Eunice May Townend. Your prayers and words of love and friendship are greatly appreciated.

Waters, John, daughters, Beverley and Jan, and their families, thank their many friends for the expressions of love and support following Peggy's sudden passing. Death has stolen the wind from under our wings, but because our Redeemer lives, we know we will meet her again.

Anniversaries

Parramatta church has had two 50th wedding anniversaries in one year. Norm and June Griffin and John and Beryl Gerahy have both celebrated their golden wedding anniversaries with special church lunches at the Parramatta church.

Gerahy, John and Beryl were married on 23.11.53 at Parramatta church. They have two children, six grandchildren and one great-grandchild. John holds the honour of being Pathfinder leader when Parramatta church was the first club in the conference to win the Pathfinder shield, which is still held in trust at Parramatta church. Beryl helped organise and also worked in the opportunity shop at Toongabbie. They have now retired at McGraths Hill.

Griffin, Norm and June were married on 26.3.53 in the old Parramatta church and have been long-time committed church workers. Norm has served as senior elder and senior Sabbath school leader, as well as many other leading positions. June has been cradle roll leader for 10 years, and also participated in raising funds for the present Parramatta church. They have four children, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Currently they reside at Kenthurst.

Litster, Graham and Shirley (nee House) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary quietly on 14.12.03 with their three children and spouses, Gregory and Sharon, Delwyn and Stephen, and Rodney and Belinda; and their five grandchildren, at the Brisbane home of Rodney and Belinda. Also present was Graham's brother and sister-in-law, Glynn and Elva. Graham is one of a very few teachers who has taught in every Australian state. He was also principal of nine Adventist schools, including Carmel College, over the more than 40 years of his teaching life. Graham and Shirley are now enjoying retirement at Shailer Park, south of Brisbane.

Weddings

Bowen—Bennett. Ashley Bowen, son of Ray and Florence Bowen (Yellingbo, Vic), and Bernadette Bennett, daughter of Michael and Mary Murphy (Melbourne), were married on 13.3.04 at The Arboretum, Boronia.

Morrie Krieg

Caswell—Finney. Jasen Caswell, son of Russel and Dianne Caswell (Bowen, Qld), and Karen Finney, daughter of Robert and Lyn Finney (Bowen), were married on 25.1.04 in the Townsville Adventist church, Aitkenvale, Townsville.

Cranville Tooley

Greck—Turpin. David Greck, son of Victoria Greck (Gympie, Qld), and Jodie Turpin, daughter of Gary Turpin (Gympie) and Sandra Taafe (Finley, NSW), were married on 14.3.04 at Victoria Point, Qld.

Neil Marks

Hasluck—Sequerah. Derek Hasluck, son of the late William and Doreen Hasluck, and Rachael Sequerah, daughter of Desmond and Cheryl Sequerah (Perth, WA), were married on 14.12.03 in the Armadale Adventist church, WA.

Jim Tonkin

Jones—Paxman. Regan Jones, son of Keith and Janette Jones (Perth, WA), and Melinda Paxman, daughter of Steve and Pam Paxman (Northam), were married on 28.2.04 in the Fremantle Adventist church, Perth.

Andrew Skeggs

Justins—Moore. Lincoln Justins, son of Lynden and Elaine Justins (Brisbane, Qld), and Tebony Moore, daughter of Wayne and Glenda Moore (Brisbane), were married on 7.3.04 at Wanganui River Gardens, Yeronga.

Trafford Fischer

Positions vacant

▲ **Teacher—Parkside Christian SDA School (Napier, NNZ)** is seeking a Years 6-8 teacher (permanent scale A position, tagged .5 principals release) to join our dedicated staff. Familiarity with the NumPa maths program, the new literacy program (reading and writing), music, PE and an ability to lead the school sports program and a passion for student achievement will be an advantage. Must be available to begin Term 3, 2004. A willingness and ability to take part in religious instruction and uphold the special Seventh-day Adventist character of the school is a condition of employment. **Applications in writing** should be forwarded to Principal, PO Box 5085, Greenmeadows, Napier, NZ; phone (06) 844 8401; fax (06) 844 8401; email <jv1@parkside.school.nz>. Applications close May 21, 2004.

▲ **Sales Representative—Sanitarium Health Food Company (Perth, WA)** is seeking a highly motivated, energetic, ambitious, enthusiastic person, driven by achievement and success, to join our progressive Perth sales team. The successful applicant will have a high level of responsibility and ownership, computer literacy, particularly Microsoft Office suite; high level of self-motivation and dedication; work closely with the State Operations manager in developing all aspects of the assigned sales territory; and achieve monthly/annual sales targets. **Applications in writing** (with a current résumé) should be forwarded to Corporate Human Resources, Sanitarium, Locked Bag 7, Central Coast Mail Centre NSW 2252; or email <humanresources@sanitarium.com.au> no later than April 16, 2004.

Leeds—Bylund. Tim Leeds, son of Richard and Beth Leeds (Geraldton, WA), and Raelene Bylund, daughter of Ivan and Margaret Bylund (Geraldton), were married on 25.1.04 at Kings Park, Perth.

Andrew Skeggs

Roberts—Twist. Sean Roberts, son of William and Loraine Roberts (Townsville, Qld), and Sheridan Twist, daughter of Marie French and Grenville Twist (both of Newcastle, NSW), were married on 25.1.04 at Hunter Valley Gardens.

Wayne French

Ellis, Alice Yvonne Nancy, born 2.8.1936 at Kaitaia, NNZ; died 23.1.04 at Raumati, Wellington, after bravely battling illness for six years. Yvonne married Griff on 22.3.56. She was predeceased by her daughter, Sheryllyn. She is survived by her husband, Griff; her sons, Peter-jon (Dubai) and Darryl (Wellington); her daughter, Leanne Michaelson (California, USA); and her 13 grandchildren. Yvonne and Griff gave unstintingly to the church and community. In recent years Yvonne put much effort into establishing the new North Harbour church in Auckland. Her hope in the soon coming of her Saviour sustained her through her years of illness.

Ken Curtis

Obituaries

Buzzard, John Owen, born 29.4.1931 at Christchurch, SNZ; died 5.3.04 at Nelson. He was predeceased by his wife, Joy, in 1997. He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Peter and Debby (Nelson); his daughter, Ava; and his son, Paul (both of Christchurch). John was a faithful member of Bishopdale church, Christchurch, who found his wife's Lord after her death.

Graeme Loftus

Cousland, Patricia Emily (nee Gillard), born 12.3.1931 at Swan Hill, Vic; died 8.2.04 at Phillip Island. She was predeceased by her former husband, the late Ian Lunn. She is survived by her husband of only one year, Jack Cousland; her sons, Geoff and David Lunn; her daughter, Robyn Corkran; their spouses; her seven grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. As well as her strong dedication to her Lord and her service to her local church, Pat was also a tireless community worker on the island, being involved with the Cemetery Trust, the Inter-church Council, World Vision, Neighbourhood Watch and teaching religious instruction. She also worked for the Shire in their home-help program. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her, as indicated by the huge attendance at her funeral.

Kingsley Andrews

Green, Audrey Margo (Teitzel), born 3.11.1917 at Bowen, Qld; died 29.2.04 in the Adventist Retirement Village, Victoria Point. She is survived by her husband, Les; her three daughters and their spouses; her sister; her brother; her seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Audrey was a good homemaker and an untiring worker in the churches the family attended. Her life was a life of self-denial, patient labour and undying devotion. Christ was the object of her love, the chief subject of her thoughts, and to please Him was the grand purpose of her life.

David Lawson, Selwyn Bartlett

Mastersson, Peter Leslie, born 4.1.1942 at Carlton, Vic; died 3.3.04 in Royal Adelaide Hospital, Adelaide, SA. He is survived by his first wife, Lynn; also his second wife, Jan (Zados Landing); his children to his first marriage, Glenn, Sue, David, Craig, twins Gregory and Bradley; and his children to his second marriage, Luke and Hannah. Peter attended Murray Bridge and Mannum churches. He was a well known and respected business and community identity in the Murray Bridge district.

Dave Hamilton, Lee Bowditch-Wals

Muir, Florence Annie, born 5.10.1919 at Barcardine, Qld; died 5.3.04 in Redland Bay Public Hospital. On 11.4.42 she married David. She is survived by her husband

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(Victoria Point); her children, Marelle Charton, William, Esther Ison and Heather Carsley (all of Brisbane); her 20 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Flo was a triple certificated nurse and matron of several Brisbane hospitals and nursing homes.

*Selwyn Bartlett
Ern Lemke, Vic Novelly*

Nicholson, Garry, born 9.3.1939 at Kalgoorlie, WA; died 8.9.03 in Perth. On 12.7.69 he married Patricia. He is survived by his wife (Perth); his daughters and sons-in-law, Dianne and Alex Hodgkinson (Narrakup), Annette and Brad Flynn (Perth), and Carolyn and Alty Frisby (London, UK). Garry was kind and courageous with a cheeky warmth. He showed us he knew God's love by the way he cared.

Andrew Skeggs

O'Donnell, Evan Craig, born 23.10.1967 at Christchurch, SNZ; died 4.12.03 at Barrytown, Greymouth. He is survived by his parents, Fred and Jan; his sister, Trudy Walker; and his brother, Nigel. Evan will be remembered as a cheerful and helpful fellow, who had a passion and love for dairying. He also loved being involved in Pathfinders. The St Albans church was filled with family and friends who supported the O'Donnell family in their unexpected loss.

Robert Granger

Rabe, Maria Jose, born 16.5.1950 at Madeira, Portugal; died 7.3.04 in western

Sydney, NSW. She is survived by her husband, Kevin; and her daughters, Fiona and Kylie. This whole family were members of the Castle Hill church which hosted the funeral of "Josie." Most esteemed by a large group of Portuguese Adventists in Sydney, many were present to witness her burial. This dear Christian lady looked forward to the coming of her Lord and to the day when all things will be made new.

Bill Sleight, Nathaniel Pereira

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, \$A44; each additional word, \$A2.20. For your advertisement to appear, payment must be enclosed. Classified advertisements in RECORD are available to Seventh-day Adventist members, churches and institutions only. See masthead (page 2) for contact details.

Part-time drug educator for primary/secondary schools. Closing date for applications April 30, 2004. Contact WCTU Drug-Free Lifestyles, 1st Floor, 15 Collins Street, Melbourne Vic 3000; phone (03) 9654 6491; email <drugfree@net2000.com.au>.

Executive Director of ADRA-South Pacific and CEO of ADRA-Australia

The South Pacific Division is seeking applications for the position of Executive Director of ADRA-South Pacific/CEO of ADRA-Australia. The appointee will have the following qualities:

Essential

- Strong commitment to the Seventh-day Adventist Church and the mission of ADRA
- Proven administrative ability
- Advanced strategic thinking
- The ability to articulate and facilitate the realisation of ADRA's vision
- Advanced people skills which function across a broad range of environments

Desirable

- Field experience with ADRA or complementary NGO
- Degree to master's level in international development or business administration

This position is based in Wairoonga, NSW Australia. Commencement date mid-2004.

Direct all inquiries to:
Lyndrea Maywald
Phone (02) 9847 3211
Email <lmaywald@adventist.org.au>

Applications to:
Colin Clark
Director of Human Resources
Email <hr@adventist.org.au>

Applications close April 16, 2004

The South Pacific Division reserves the right to make or not make an appointment at its discretion.

Go Veg—providing Sydney with delicious frozen vegetarian foods to eat at your leisure. Many products—make catering easy! 21 Berry Street, Clyde. Phone (02) 9897 0000. Hours: Wednesday-Friday 10 am-4 pm, Sundays 10 am-1 pm. Go Veg will be closed April 9-20, 2004. Products now available at Wairoonga ABC.

Glen Innes church, Auckland (NNZ) invites former members and friends to our 40th anniversary celebrations on Friday evening, July 2, and Sabbath, July 3, 2004. Please contact <pan.dgreenfield@xtra.co.nz> or Christina Willcocks, 7 Armein Road, Panmure, Auckland 1006 if you can attend.

For sale—Glenorie, NSW. Secluded 6 acres where you can feel a million miles away, yet only 25 min to Wairoonga and 45 min CBD. Large pool and entertaining area. Comfortable cottage. Phone 0418 255 299 or 0412 903 866.

Weddings/Conferences. The Tree House Gallery and Convention Centre, 15 minutes north of Avondale College, set on 30 acres, next to rainforest. Seats 140. Phone Anne (02) 4938 0030 or 0439 380 360.

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) 3800 9655 24 hours.

Adventist Singles Network (Sydney, NSW). **April 8-12:** Easter camp, Yarrhapinni. **April 17:** Southern Chapter dinner, Charlestown. **April 24:** 6 pm. Pizza/movie night—"bad taste" theme, 6 Neiwand Avenue, Kellyville. **May:** *Lion King* (date to be advised). **May 8:** Manly walk, 3.30 pm. Meet cnr The Corso/South Steyne Street (opposite Steyne Hotel). **June 19:** Day convention—Ryde SDA church, Lane Cove Road. **July 17:** Christmas in July—Aunt Molly's Restaurant, Morisset; 3-course dinner and comedy show; \$39.50. Inquiries (02) 9623 4235.

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.

Small Cooranbong home available, SA75 weekly, approximately May-Sept (flexible), suit couple/active single. Use all our facilities, care flowers, chooks, mow tiny lawn, use garden produce. Pastor's reference. Phone (02) 4977 1235.

Finally

Compassion is difficult to give away because it keeps coming back.