

RECORD



Children at the International Children's Care orphanage in Sri Lanka stand proudly in front of the bus donated as a result of recent fundraising in Australian churches.

Australians donate bus

Melbourne, Vic

An orphanage in Sri Lanka has received a new bus, thanks to the fundraising work and generosity of church members in Australia. The orphanage is run by International Children's Care—a supporting ministry of the Adventist Church—and is home to 45 children. The new 32-seat bus will provide reliable transportation for orphanage children and staff.

The purchase of the bus was made possible by two fundraising events. In October last year, Sam Arul organised a fundraising dinner in Forest Hill (Victoria), which was attended by 730 people. "The dinner was well supported by a number of Melbourne churches," says Mr Arul. "But people from as far away as Carnarvon in Western Australia purchased tickets for the night as a donation."

According to Mr Arul, the fundraising evening also attracted the imagination of the wider community. "Indian and Sri Lankan restaurateurs from across Melbourne donated about 80 per cent of the food," he reports. "And businesses in Victoria and interstate provided goods and services for a fundraising auction."

The Riverland church in Berri (South Australia) also made a significant contribution, with proceeds from their harvest auction in February this year going to the Sri Lankan orphanage bus project.

With the bus now delivered, the balance of funds raised are being held in trust for a building project to extend the orphanage. —**Nathan Brown**

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Student youth program succeeds at PAU



Character valued in NZ schools

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● **Avondale School's secondary campus** has been energetically collecting **cans of food** for those in need. School prefects **Krystal Head** and **Tessa Vogel** organised the tin-can drive and motivated their fellow students towards an aimed collection of 2004 cans. The students were excited when they exceeded their goal, reaching 2070 cans in total (pictured being



Tessa Vogel

loaded). The cans were donated to the local **Salvation Army Winter Appeal**, and will help to stock the cupboards of many needy families during the winter months. The prefects and captains of Avondale Secondary School have decided that each term they will do something to support a local charity.

● The 105th anniversary of **Stanmore church**, NSW (Flashpoint, February 7), has led to a historical investigation of their **pipe organ** and plans for its restoration. Discovered to be an Opus 363, it was built by **J W Walker** in **1848** for a church in Shropshire, England. Moved to St Stephen's Anglican church, Mittagong, NSW, in 1892, it was later bought by senior

elder **Arthur Shannon** for Stanmore church and used for the first time in the September 22 spring service, 1928. The



and tonal integrity." —*John Jackson*

Organ Historical Trust of Australia says, "The organ is of national and state significance on account of its age, rarity, Gothic-styled case and state of mechanical

Student youth program succeeds

A day-long youth program entitled "The road less travelled" was attended by 316 students from the 12 largest secondary schools in Port Moresby at Pacific Adventist University, PNG, recently. The program highlighted the "road" that many young people overlook because they are attracted to the "road more travelled."



Containing a lively song service, discussion of the positive and negative elements of peer pressure, a worship service, "Sensing the time," by lecturer Leeroy Elisha, with short stories and a skit, the meeting ended with a candle-lighting ceremony (pictured), when the high school students were challenged to sense the urgency of the times they are in.

This program, organised by Mr Elisha and a team of students from the school of education, is an annual event organised to "touch base" with and evangelise youth within Port Moresby, the capital of PNG. Now in its second year, and after staff and students agreed on its success, the students may break tradition and organise another youth program for next semester. —*Laurel Rikis*

● The **Rotorua church**, NZ, received positive front-page coverage in their **local newspaper** after installing a six-metre-high **satellite dish** (pictured). As well as explaining its purpose, the story of divine intervention was also included in the article, with the church pastor's wife, Lynelle Laws, stating, "After trying unsuccessfully all day to get the dish up, Phil said we needed a prayer ... a minute later it fell right into place!"



● The teen Sabbath school from **Wallsend Adventist church**, NSW, visited Rhema FM **Christian radio station** recently. **Ebon Knox** (pictured left), music coordinator for the station, showed the class around and explained how it is a missionary station in the community. Reaching out to an audience of 20,000, of which 41 per cent are non-Christians, the station plans to expand out to Gosford and then to Muswellbrook, which will give it a potential audience of one million people. —*Ray Boyce*



OFFICIAL PAPER
South Pacific Division
Seventh-day Adventist
Church
ACN 000 003 930
www.adventist.org.au

Vol 109 No 26
Cover: ICC

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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 SNZ73.00.
Other prices on application. Printed weekly.

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know
experience
and
share
our hope in Jesus Christ!

Character valued in New Zealand schools

Auckland, New Zealand

Students and staff at Adventist schools in New Zealand are embarking on a new adventure with the recent launch of Project VIP (Values in People).

An initiative of the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference (NZPUC) Education Department, Project VIP is a program and resource that provides schools with a framework and practical tools for developing and strengthening important values that build Christian character. “Most would agree that Adventist education is not about informing or conforming, but transforming lives,” says Lanelle Cobbin, curriculum specialist for the NZPUC Education Department and compiler of the project.

“In the past, we’ve taught standards more than values, and the net result of that is we focused on the don’ts rather than the *do*s—*do* honour one another above yourselves, *do* be kind, *do* be deferring and so on.”

Owen Ellis, director of NZPUC’s Education Department, believes Project VIP has benefits for staff and students at Adventist schools. “Teachers are so busy today that finding time to collect resources and develop new programs proves a real challenge. Having a ready-to-go resource

like this supports our teachers in doing what they love to do—building up young people of character.

“We are told that our characters are the only thing we’ll take to heaven. In light of this, Christian character education is the most important thing that we do in our schools. Values are the bedrock of character and it is a privilege to support our schools in the ongoing task of strengthening this foundation in the lives of the students who attend our schools.”

Mr Ellis says feedback has been positive. “It has been great to see many teachers enthusiastically implementing and personalising Project VIP in their classrooms and schools.”

When asked what the inspiration was behind establishing Project VIP, Mrs Cobbin says, “I guess my dream was to invite a more rigorous vision of values where the entire school culture was defined by the values that are actively seen through all the relationships within a school.



The Project VIP kit for secondary schools contains similar items as the primary kit, with the addition of experiential devotional books for teenagers, ready-to-use lessons and activities for Years 7-12 students, and videos exploring the values of integrity, caring, courage and respect.

“If we are serious about Adventist education, this is an invitation to be even more intentional about character education. We need to move beyond the check lists that dominate the lives of teachers and focus on the inner life.”

To help teachers create that kind of environment in their classrooms, a kit of resources has been compiled. The New Zealand Christian Foundation provided a \$NZ5000 grant to the NZPUC Education Department to fund the kits.

The primary school kit has a sunflower theme and the tag line, “Know them, Show them, Grow them.” Contents include values posters and cards, teachers guides, storybook, honouring buttons, music CD and games book, a book on character building, the Project VIP manual and some sunflower seeds for the school to plant.

Following the positive feedback from primary schools, the secondary kit has just been released. Adopting the slogans “Think, believe, achieve” and “Go the extra mile—it’s never crowded,” the secondary kits include videos, age-appropriate devotional books and lesson plans.

“There is much exploration of these issues in the public sector and we have a higher mandate for being involved in such a pursuit,” says Mrs Cobbin. “In the final analysis, character education is not another thing on our plate; it is the plate.”—**Kellie Hancock**

Values in People in action

Recently, in Noelene Timothy’s Year 3 and 4 class at South Auckland Primary School, Joshua was honoured. For one week his photo was on the computer screen saver and his name “floating” on the sleep mode. Taking pride of place on the teacher’s desk was Joshua’s photo with an accompanying list of all the values he shows to others.

At the end of the week Joshua shares with the class how he has seen God work in his life. He speaks with quiet confidence. He is proud to share.

After his talk, Mrs Timothy presents him with a treasure chest—all his very own. It has a lock and key and inside are treasures that will be held close to the heart—for all of Joshua’s classmates have written notes sharing with him words of kindness about the values he shows them daily. At the bottom of the box is a laminated business-sized card with a summary of these qualities and his photo. After this experience, Joshua has a gentle glow and wants to show those qualities even more tomorrow. Surprising? Not at all, really.—**Lanelle Cobbin**



Joshua shares how God has worked in his life.

Sanitarium helps young mums

Logan City, Qld

A day care centre for young mums has been completed at Woodridge High School just south of Brisbane, Qld, thanks to the efforts of a group of Sanitarium employees and some funding.

Hodgen, state operations manager for Sanitarium in Queensland, contacted her. They had \$A6000 and a band of workers—some of whom had trade qualifications—and were looking for a project to help the community in some way.

Woodridge High School had acquired an ex-Olympic residential demountable, transported it from Sydney to the school and located it on site. However, being a school that battles for funds, the money had run out. Mr Hodgen and his team visited the school with Mrs Scott, and although the project was considerably larger than they had anticipated, they took up the challenge.

The Wellbeing Centre has now been transformed into a warm, inviting home away from home. It has three bedrooms with cots and small beds, a bathing and change area, kitchenette, laundry, lounge area and outside a shaded playground.

The Sanitarium team put approximately 2000 hours into the project. With additional help from other businesses and

organisations that supplied furniture, screens, floor coverings, whitegoods, air-conditioning and toys, the original donation of \$A6000 swelled to almost \$A18,000 in goods and services.

Women from the Adventist Retirement Village at Redland Bay crocheted colourful baby rugs. “They would undoubtedly feel so proud and happy if they could see these young mums with their babies snugly wrapped up in their rugs,” says Mrs Scott. “This project has been a great partnership.”

The school community expressed their thanks with a morning tea when the centre was officially opened. Many young women will now be able to complete their high school education and go on to further study, giving them a chance to reach their true potential and enjoy a brighter future.

“The men and women from Sanitarium have put in a huge effort and the results are just fantastic. The school is extremely grateful,” observes Mrs Scott. “It has been a true example of loving Christianity put into practice.”—**ANN South Pacific**



Pictured at the official opening of the Woodridge High Wellbeing Centre are: Sanitarium employees (L-R): Stuart Forbes, Bob Norris, Col Christensen, Greg Hodgen, Ann Piper, Jeremy Irving and Steve Morgan. In the centre, Desley Scott with former principal Helen Jamieson, deputy Michael Widemeyer and principal Ken Kennedy (at back).

Desley Scott, the State Member for Woodridge, had no trouble deciding where to direct the offer of assistance when Greg

Short-term service record for South Pacific Division

Wahroonga, NSW

The popularity of the Seventh-day Adventists' short-term volunteer service ministry continues to grow, with a record number of teams volunteering in the community.

Youth leaders in Australia and New Zealand indicate that 65 teams will be going out on STORM Co (Service To Others Really Matters) trips from their conferences this year. This is up from the previous record—at 37—last year.

The more than 600 people who served as members of STORM Co teams last year made up more than half of the record number of Adventists who served the church in the South Pacific Division as volunteers during 2003.

STORM Co teams serve in local communities only after members of those communities have invited them to do so.

Dr Mel Lemke, director of Adventist

Volunteer Service, says STORM Co has “significantly” changed Adventist young-adult culture over the past 10 years. “STORM Co not only grows faith, but it also provides a positive environment for identity formation, the main psychosocial task of adolescence.”

Dr Lemke mentions his friend, Pastor Wayne French, director of Youth Ministries for the North New South Wales Conference. “He believes teaching young adults to serve is a shield against materialism. He says young adults in his conference don't feel good about a project unless there's a service component to it.”

STORM Co began in 1992 with chaplain Jerry Unser and a group of his high school



A STORM Co team in Smithton, Tasmania.

students from Brisbane who did not have enough time or money to volunteer overseas, but wanted to express their faith in a practical way. They served for 10 days in Moree, NSW, sleeping in the hall of the local Adventist church. However, the group did not have enough money to return to the town the next year. Veteran Outback missionary Lawrens Adair

recognised the group's spirit of service and convinced them to serve instead at Charleville in Queensland, a town with no Adventist church.—**Brenton Stacey**

Visit <www.adventistvolunteers.org> or phone +61 2 9847 3275 if you are interested in serving as a volunteer.

The “last deception” revisited

James R Nix, Ellen G White Estate

In Letters (May 22) reference was made to Ellen White’s statement, “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). The letter stated that the compilers of *Selected Messages* left out words—“spurious visions”—identifying what that deception will be.

The quotation comes from a long letter written on August 12, 1890, to a Brother and Sister Garmire. Ellen White expressed several areas of concerns to Brother Garmire, including his support of his daughter’s claim to be receiving visions.

The quotation in *Selected Messages* is found in the part of the letter that deals with the daughter’s spurious visions. The next paragraph expands upon Mrs White’s understanding of the means Satan will use to destroy confidence in the testimonies:

“The very last deception of Satan will be to make of none effect the testimony of the Spirit of God. ‘Where there is no vision, the people perish.’ Satan will work ingeniously, in different ways and through different agencies, to unsettle the confidence of God’s remnant people in the true testimony. He will bring in spurious visions to mislead and mingle the false with the true, and so disgust people that they will regard everything that bears the name of visions, as a species of fanaticism. . . .

“Likewise, he works through persons who have been reprovved for some

inconsistency in their religious life, for some course of action which was dangerous to themselves and others; and instead of receiving the testimony as a blessing from God, they refuse the means God uses to set them right. Such may be apparently very zealous for God, but they put their own interpretation upon the Word, and make it contradict what the Lord has revealed in the testimonies. They think they are doing God’s service, but such work God has not given them to do” (Letter 12, 1890, emphasis supplied).

Clearly, Mrs White was describing more

We need a clear perspective of just who we are looking to for salvation.

than just “spurious visions.” The quotation as printed does not violate its context. Rather, it reflects fairly her view of Satan’s last deception.

Peter Bamford, NSW

I reply to Adrian Welsh’s suggestion (June 12) that people will perish if Ellen White’s writings are made of none-effect.

Her writings can give guidance as collateral reading alongside Scripture, but to claim people will perish as a result of disregarding them isn’t substantiated in Scripture. In more than 116 places (using the word *perish*), it teaches this will be the end of people who reject Christ and His teaching.

We need a clear perspective of just who we are looking to for salvation.

Why make excuses?

Eric Hort, WA

Why do we, as Bible students and enlightened by the Spirit of Prophecy, make excuses for sinning? The grace of our omnipotent God is given to eradicate sin, not excuse it. Although we as sinners can’t of ourselves keep a holy law, God helps and protects us, which makes obedience twice as important.

Why would He want to empower us if Jesus does it all for us? Have we forgotten to put on the “armour” of Ephesians 6?

This is Christ’s righteousness, which must be asked for day by day. If we want to cling to our filthy garments, that’s our choice and we must accept the consequences. God wants us to be overcomers, not to go out of our way to find excuses for defeat. There are many wonderful promises regarding overcoming, that is, obedience.

The gospel of grace is to save us completely from the power of Satan. It is Satan who claims God’s law can’t be kept. Why do we want to follow him? Rather, let us preach, teach and sing about victory through the power of Christ.

Righteousness by faith is simply obedience by faith in God’s grace.

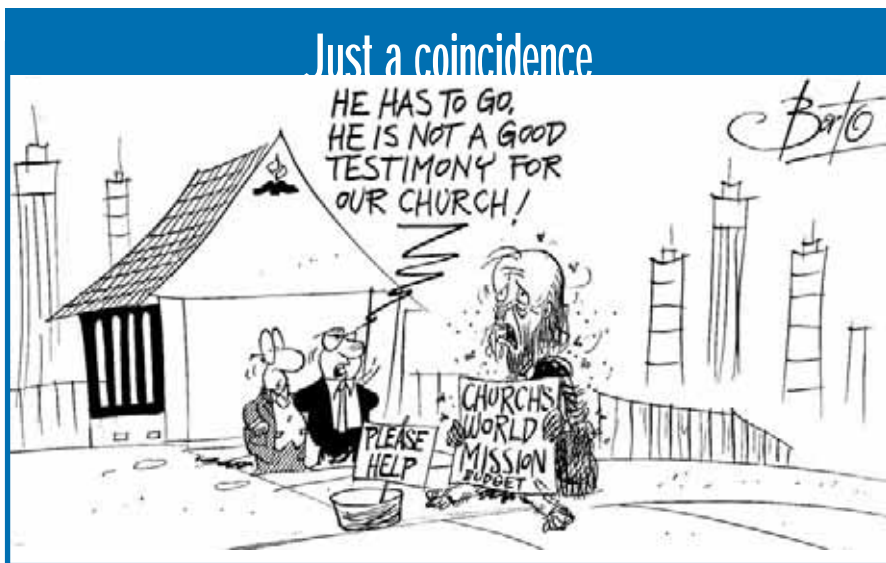
A pillar or a can?

David Caldwell, NSW

John Wallace’s proposition (June 19) that “understanding comes from faith, not faith from understanding,” has a genuine ring to it.

I’ve grown up with the concept that faith cuts in where understanding cuts out. But if understanding equates to reason, we’re getting into Kant’s territory where morality is based on rationalism rather than revelation. John’s proposition sounds like a pillar of truth, though it could also contain a can of worms.

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.



Weddings

Bateman—Short. Mark Leslie Bateman, son of Les (Brighton, Qld) and the late Betty Bateman, and Catherine Margaret Short, daughter of the late Bill and Mary Short (formerly of Melbourne, Vic), were married on 5.6.04 at Ewen Maddock Dam, Qld.

Mike Brownhill

Faulkner—Gray. Wayne Faulkner, son of Raelene Christie (Burgpengary, Qld) and Charlie Faulkner (Narangba), and Susan Gray, daughter of Maureen (Pine Rivers) and Stephen Gray (Burnie, Tas), were married on 30.5.04 at the Koolamara Beach Resort, Bribie Island, Sunshine Coast, Qld.

Chris Foote

Kulk—Ansell. Jim Kulk, son of Willemina Kulk (Lakes Entrance, Vic) and the late Jan Kulk, and Noela Jean Ansell, daughter of Margaret Bampton (Yandina, Qld) and the late Fred Bampton, were married on 3.6.04 at the bride's home in Witta, via Maleny.

Mike Brownhill

MacArthur—Prenter. Donald Malcolm MacArthur and Rae Muriel Prenter were married on 6.6.04 in the Coffs Harbour Adventist church, NSW.

Eric Greenwell

Tonga—Kaufusi. Sosuia Tui Tavake Tonga, son of Fakavale Holoua and Vika Siulolovao Tonga (Lakemba, NSW), and Lorna Betty Kaufusi, daughter of Kali and Elizabeta Leslie Kaufusi (Canterbury), were married on 14.6.04 in the Uniting church, Hurlstone Park, Sydney.

Ilaisa Teupa, Bruce Shield

Obituaries

Anderson, Cyril Grenville, born 26.11.1951 at Murwillumbah, NSW; died 31.5.04 in Murwillumbah District Hospital, after injuries sustained in a car accident 11 years ago. He is survived by his wife, Sue (Crabbes Creek); his sons, Darren and Paul (both of Newcastle); his father, Sid (Uralla); his brother, Adrian (Mooloolaba, Qld); his sister, Gaylene Nolan (Adelaide, SA); and his grandchildren.

Ernie Krause, Wayne Boehm

Ball, Raymond Brian, born 25.5.1949 at Cooranbong, NSW; died 14.6.04 at Newcastle. He is survived by his mother, Rachel Ball; his brothers, Les, Trevor, Lyle, Malcolm and Stanley; and his sisters, Heather, Eileen and Beryl.

Joe Webb, Les Coombe

Best, Edith Doreen Best (nee Thrift), born 20.8.1917 at Quirindi, NSW; died 12.6.04 at Cooranbong. She was predeceased by her husband, Pastor George Best, on 23.2.04. She is survived by her daughter, Daphne Bruce (Canberra, ACT); her sisters, Joyce McLaughlan and Dulcie Robinson (both of Cooranbong); and her brothers, Pastor Lyndon Thrift (Taree) and Dr Errol Thrift (Gosford).

Les Coombe, Clive Barritt

Volunteers!

Public Relations/Student Officer—Stanborough Secondary School, England—to assist in enhancing the school by maintaining mutually beneficial relationships between the school and the public. Responsibilities include press releases, advertising, organise events and write promotional material about the school.

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Brown, Glen Ethel (nee Poulton), born 20.3.1924 at Armidale, NSW; died 30.5.04 in Campbelltown Hospital. On 16.4.49 she married Bernie, who predeceased her in 1994. She was also predeceased by her siblings, Neville, Neil, Jack and Jean. She is survived by her children, Wayne, Diane and Lorraine; her siblings, Ross and Pat; her nine grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. Glen served as a volunteer in both primary and high school canteens and auxiliary, as well as the local hospital canteen. She was also Campbelltown church welfare leader for 13 years, which led to many visits to local nursing homes. She was happiest when giving to others or helping people in need. She loved others "no matter what."

Kevin Brown, Barnabas Shelley

Garrick, Robert (Bruce), born 21.10.1943 in Napier, NZ; died 22.5.04 in the Gold Coast Palliative Hospital, Qld, after a brief struggle with illness. He is survived by his wife, Faye (nee Marchant); his sons, Desmond (Kandanga) and Landon (Palmwoods); their spouses; his sisters, Ilma Lillioja and Margaret Flinn (both of Auckland, NZ); and his four granddaughters. Shortly after graduation from the theology course at Avondale College in 1973, an accident foreclosed his ministerial career. Bruce became widely known, respected and appreciated for his extensive voluntary service in the church and the community, and for his skill and commitment as an ADRA Appeal and Red Shield fundraiser. He will be missed for his sunny disposition and confident faith despite misfortune.

Paul Goltz
Gil Valentine, Carol Ferch-Johnson

Gerahty, John Adrian Mildmay, born 17.11.1922 at Epping, NSW; died 10.6.04 at Windsor. He is survived by his wife, Beryl; his daughter, Kerry Markham; his son, Wayne; his six grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. During World War II John served in the Australian Army at Milne Bay, Papua New Guinea. He served the Parramatta church with great dedication and was heavily involved in its relocation from Charles Street, Parramatta, to the present location in Old Toongabbie. His interest in and support of young people was appreciated by the church family.

Rein Muhlberg

Jones, John William Morris, born 13.6.1914 at Glenlyn, Bridgetown, WA; died 8.6.04 at Sherwin Lodge, Rossmoynce. On 14.5.36 he married Faith Cooper, who

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For church-related employment opportunities visit the Employment section on the SPD web site <www.adventist.org.au>.

predeceased him in 1995. He was also predeceased by his infant daughter, Leah, at nine months; his son, Ross, in 1990; and his grandson, Murray, in 1971. On 26.5.96 he married Edith Cockersole. He is survived by his wife (Sherwin Lodge); his children, Elwyn van Zwol (Bunbury), Peter, Estelle Hahn and Gill (all of Perth); his 15 grandchildren; and 20 great-grandchildren. John was a faithful, committed Christian and church member, holding a number of offices during his 35 years at Osborne Park church.

Cyrus Adams, Philip Rhodes

Lee, Emily Schumann (nee Adam), born 6.9.1919 at Inglewood, Vic; died 14.6.04 at Bendigo. On 5.12.40 she married George, who predeceased her. She was also predeceased by her sister, Harriet Mansfield. She is survived by her children, Belton, David (both of Sydney, NSW), Robert (Bendigo, Vic), Paul (Magalia, California, USA); her sister, Eve McKenzie (Katamatite, Vic); and her 10 grandchildren. Emily was very involved in welfare and her church. Her faith in Christ was always strong.

James Stanford

McCrukie, Kenneth, born 4.7.1922 at Launceston, Tas; died 1.6.04 in Wauchop Hospital, NSW, after a prolonged illness. He was predeceased by his son, Kenneth. He is survived by his wife, Beverley; and his children, Evelyn, Marilyn, Karilyn, Debbie and Lyndon; his sons-in-law, Philip Newell, Bruce Snyder; his brother, Max; his sister, Jean Jones; his two grandsons; his three granddaughters; and four great-grandchildren. He was much loved and is sadly missed. He died looking forward to the great reunion with his loved ones when the Lord returns.

Alexander Penman, Thor Pedersen

McLean, Edna Eva, born 29.10.1912 at Parramatta, NSW; died 30.10.03 in Blacktown Hospital. In 1935 she married John, who predeceased her in 1995. She is survived by her son, Ronald; and her daughters, Merril Wardle, Marlene Young and Glennis Young. Edna had been a long-time member of the Parramatta church and a faithful servant of her Lord.

Rein Muhlberg

Morrison, Marjorie (nee Cook), born 1.10.1921 at Coopernook, NSW; died 30.4.04 at Earle Haven Nursing Home, Nerang, Qld. On 25.11.42 she married Robert, who predeceased her in 1995. She is survived by her children, Julienne

Chuter (Robina), Geoffrey (Burleigh Waters), and Leanne Griffin (Portland, Vic). Marj was an active member of the Port Macquarie church for 60 years. She was also well known for her charity work in the community.

Justin Lawman, Rex Moe

Papprill, Amanda Joy (nee Doust), born 13.11.1969 at Subiaco, Perth, WA; died 22.5.04 in Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Perth. On 4.12.88 she married John. She is survived by her husband (Carmel); and her children, Benjamin, Kristina and Alexander. Mandy was a loving, devoted, young mother and wife. Although her illness debilitated her physical body, her will remained strong and she was determined to be "normal" within her disease.

Lynn Weber, Andrew Skeggs

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Allround Travel Centre. Our program for 2004/2005: ●Reformation/Alpine/UK tour, September 2004. ●GC, St Louis, June 2005. For further details contact Anita or Debbie on phone (07) 5530 3555; fax (07) 5530 3846; email <alltrav@big pond.net.au>.

Adventist Support Line

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Finally

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