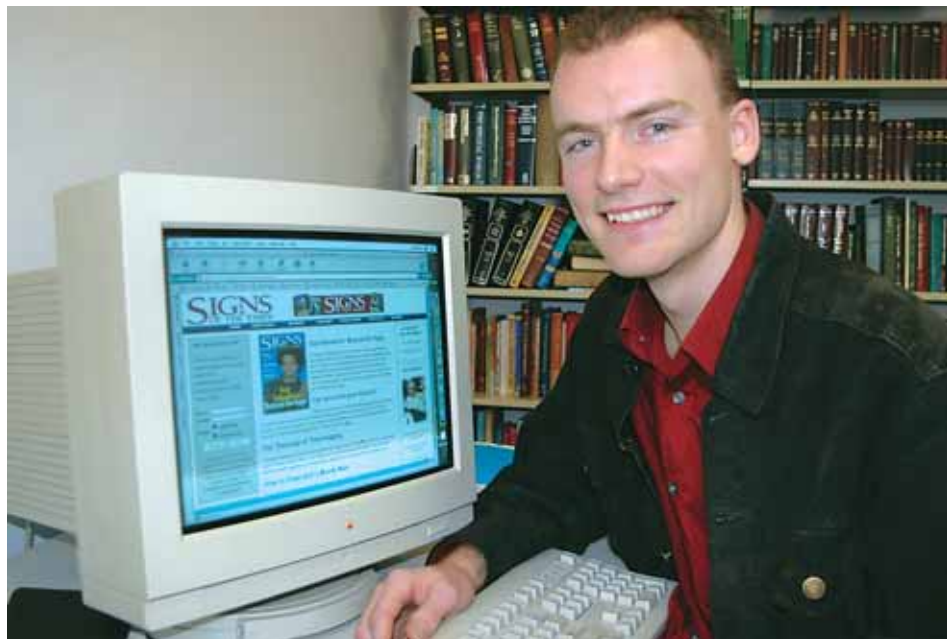


# RECORD



*Editorial assistant and online editor Scott Wegener puts the finishing touches on the new Signs of the Times web site, which is launched today.*

[www.signsofthetimes.org.au](http://www.signsofthetimes.org.au)

*Warburton, Vic*

To launch *Signs* Month in this Year of Evangelism, *Signs of the Times* magazine is now available in cyberspace.

“It took us 118 years to get to this point, with our quality magazine rolling off the press every month,” says *Signs* senior assistant editor Lee Dunstan. “Now we’re moving into the next phase of *Signs* ministry. With partial thanks to Tim Berners-Lee [creator of the Internet, as we know it today], we are now able to connect with an even wider audience.”

According to *Signs* online editor Scott Wegener, the site, in its debut, offers a number of features in addition to what is already available in the printed magazine. “Not only can you take a quick browse through the current magazine’s leading stories and special offers, but you can also peek at what is coming up in future issues,” he says.

An “About us” page presents information on the team behind the magazine and some of the history of its development. An online subscription facility allows Internet users to order a new subscription, renew their existing subscription and sponsor bulk orders. For those who want to give their feedback about the magazine there’s an online survey, which will contribute to the planning of future issues.

“The web site is going to help us strike while the Holy Spirit’s hot,” says Mr Wegener. “It’s great to have an awesome army of *Signs* distributors out there already, distributing this evangelistic tool, and now the web site is available as another link to Christ. A person can pick up the magazine anywhere in the world and, after reading it and so moved by the Holy Spirit, they have a place they can go to find out more about the good news instantly.” *(Continued on page 5)*

## *In this issue*

*Save our Signs*

*Northern Australian camp marks 100 years*

*Aussie evangelist popular in Singapore*



*Rocfish  
back on  
the road*

# Signs in never-never land

It's amazing where in the world you can find *Signs*—airports, bus terminals, railway stations, reception counters and church foyers. But God has bigger and more amazing plans for the magazine. For example, a few years back The Discovery Centre told me about an inmate who'd sent in a coupon for Bible studies clipped from a *Signs* he'd retrieved from a rubbish bin in the jail's exercise yard. Unfortunately, I can't tell you what happened to him, but no doubt he had the time to complete the lessons and contemplate their meaning.

August is *Signs* Month, and underlying our campaign is the imperative "Go ye . . ." of Matthew 28:19, 20. Jesus' command to "go . . . teach . . . baptise" is the charter of the Christian church, which, according to His promise, would see the "gospel . . . preached in all the world" (Matthew 24:14) in the last days. It is this that has driven Christian mission for the past century-and-a-half, taking Christianity to the ends of the earth.

Former *Signs* editor Bruce Manners never tired of reminding all he met that *Signs* is the church's longest-running evangelistic campaign. And he's right; it's been running in Australia and New Zealand for almost 120 years. *Signs* is committed to evangelism. And in this Year of Evangelism, *Signs* is committing considerable resources to make the magazine more accessible and more effective in outreach.

Each month some 45,000 *Signs* are delivered to those mailboxes, racks and railway stations, and handed out by members around our division. Our research reveals each magazine is read by an average of three to four individuals, giving it a readership in excess of 150,000 in places as far away as Russia, Vanuatu, Switzerland and Malawi. However, as

encouraging as that is, in the context of the world's population of more than six billion people, it isn't a lot. So *Signs* has invested to bridge that gap, taking its message to the Internet, with its potential readership of *billions*.

Today is D-day for the new *Signs* web site. Today it goes online. I encourage everyone with access to the Web to take a peek. There you'll see why you can be proud of *Signs* and, if you're not already a subscriber, how to join with *Signs* in evangelism. But be prepared for a surprise.

Arthur Dougherty was surprised when he entered a dilapidated building on the Ali-Curung Aboriginal settlement, five hours travel north-east of Alice Springs, where he coordinates a development program. Some of the buildings had been abandoned because of spirits, while others were derelict, the result of a hard life.

In one particular building, it was obvious to Arthur that children were using it as a cubbyhouse of sorts, with sections of the rooms variously divided into "kitchens," "bedrooms" etc, using bits and pieces to turn them into make-believe homes.

As Arthur walked through this maze, he came upon a grubby and torn booklet lying neatly on the pretend coffee table of a pretend lounge room. Intrigued as to the minds of the children, he picked it up to discover it was a *Signs of the Times*.

"It brought tears to my eyes. I couldn't believe that this could be," Arthur says. "There's only a Baptist church here, and it's used only by a few faithful Christians who are praying for change [in the community]. I believe that's why there's no petrol sniffing here—they're praying that this evil, and the violence that follows, will not come."

*Signs* does impact people's lives with its message of hope for the future and of a

better way of living now, and in places and ways that would never occur to you.

I don't know the impact of that lonely magazine in the Ali-Curung community, just as I don't know the RECORD reader who put it there or paid for it. But thanks to the generosity of many and the dedication of a few—people such as Mary Haberfield, Les and Dawn Goldsworthy, Arthur and many others—*Signs* gets to the most amazing and remote corners of our world.

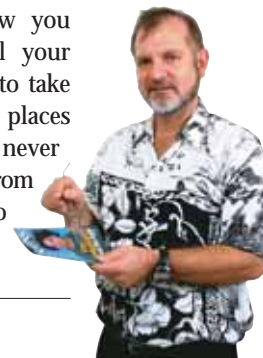
Says Arthur (and unsolicited, I hasten to add), "I encourage the church and its members to support *Signs*; you never know what God can do by your effort.

"Someone once said: God has done everything He's going to do except to come and take us home—the rest is up to us!"

Sure, this is just as much advertorial as editorial, but don't be put off by that, because your donated *Signs* might be the only contact that people such as those at Ali-Curung will ever have with your church and its message of hope.

There are more such stories about what *Signs* is doing to impact lives—and information about what you can do—in *SignsTalk*, buried deep in this week's RECORD.

*SignsTalk* will tell you how to connect with *Signs*—both on the World Wide Web and in the more familiar hard copy—and how you can help fulfil your Christian duty to take the gospel to places you'd never, never dream about, from Ali-Curung to cyberspace.



Lee Dunstan



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

Vol 109 No 29  
Cover: Nathan Chee

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

[www.record.net.au](http://www.record.net.au)

**Mail:** Signs Publishing Company  
3485 Warburton Highway  
Warburton, Vic 3799, Australia  
**Phone:** (03) 5966 9111 **Fax:** (03) 5966 9019  
**Email Letters:** editor@signspublishing.com.au  
**Email Newsfront:** record@signspublishing.com.au  
**Email Noticeboard:** editorsec@signspublishing.com.au  
**Subscriptions:** South Pacific Division mailed within  
Australia and to New Zealand, SA43.80 SNZ73.00.  
Other prices on application. Printed weekly.

Our vision is to...  
**know**  
**experience**  
**and share**  
our hope in Jesus Christ!

- Camp offerings to help volcano-damaged office
  - PAU students from all over world
  - Christian-style American Idol to air on TV
  - Day of prayer for rain
  - and more
- Compiled by Scott Wegener—

● Money given during mission pageants at Seventh-day Adventist **camp-meetings** in Australia and New Zealand this financial year will fund two projects in the South Pacific. Three-quarters of the offering will help fund the relocation of the administrative office of the church in Papua New Guinea's New Britain New Ireland Mission. **Ash from the eruption** of the Tavoruvur volcano buried the mission's Rabaul-based office in 1994 (pictured), forcing the mission to move into two offices, one in Kavieng on New Ireland and one in Butuwin near Kokopo on New Britain. The site of the new office is in Kokopo. The remainder of the offering will help support the ministry of the church on French Polynesia's Radio LVDL (La



voix de l'esperance, or "The voice of hope").—Brenton Stacey

● The 2004 **enrolment figures for Pacific Adventist University**, Papua New Guinea, show it is catering for students from 12 countries. Of the 441 students enrolled this year, the largest representation comes from PNG, with 312 students. The Solomon Islands comes in second with 61 students, Fiji third with 24 students and Vanuatu close behind on 21. The other countries

## Signs, reaching further . . .



**S**igns magazines are now available to passers-by at the busy Broome International Airport terminal—gateway to and from Asia.

"I thought they were going to put it in the souvenir shop, but instead, it's right in the waiting lounge next to the cafeteria," says volunteer minister Pastor John Chan, and organiser of the *Signs* rack placement. "Ours is the only display unit in that area, which is wonderful."

Graeme Fitzclare (pictured above) services the rack with 200 donated subscriptions once or twice a week. Pastor Chan has also gained permission to place a *Signs* rack at the Broome caravan park.

Further from home, Becky Wilkstrom (pictured below right, with two recipients from her *Signs* round) is an Australian who has lived and distributed *Signs* magazines in Switzerland for some years. As part of her distribution, Mrs Wilkstrom gives the magazines to school students and to an Adventist, a ranger at a youth hostel, who also passes on the magazines. Mrs Wilkstrom's next plan is to place a rack in the Zurich Airport.—*Desmond Hills*



represented are Samoa nine, Tonga seven, Nauru two and Kiribati, Tahiti, Philippines, China and Pakistan each with a single representative. Over half of the students attending are single females, 189, while 79 are single males and the remaining 58 students are married.

● Recently the **Esperance Christian School**, which has 50 full-time students, planned and ran the **worship program** for the Esperance church worship service. The students led out, **sang and shared** their thoughts on the characteristics of Bible characters, such as Joseph, Moses,



Esther and Samuel, and their noble traits, strong commitment, their right choices and how they stayed true to God even in extreme and difficult circumstances. With a regular weekly attendance of 50-60, parents, grandparents, friends and church members **swelled the congregation** to 170 people for the service—and many stayed for the luncheon afterwards for a time of fellowship.—*Rhonda Morcombe*

● **Fremantle church** has updated their **web site** to be more appealing and user-friendly **for unchurched** people. The site includes helpful material for newcomers with pages of information including what they can expect when they visit and what the church has for their family. Their web site

can be found at <[www.freochurch.com](http://www.freochurch.com)>.

● **Cairns Adventist School** recently held their **first fete** and raised more than \$A1200. The family fun day included a



giant jumping castle, mini go-karts (pictured), trash 'n' treasure stall, face painting, treasure hunt, bush band and food stalls. Another recent fundraising effort by the school, with some 60 students, also managed to raise \$A1017 for **World Vision Day**—more than twice their target of \$A400.—*Shirley Westacott*



● The **world's largest Christmas card** was unveiled recently by **Rick Tocquigny** (pictured), president of Lawson-Falle Publishing, North America's second largest privately owned Christian greeting-card company, at the Christian Booksellers Association Show in Atlanta, USA. The 3 m by 1.5 m card was created to help raise funds for **Operation Christmas Child**, an initiative of Samaritan's Purse, which



provides an opportunity for people to be involved in the simple, hands-on mission project of giving gift-filled shoe boxes to needy children around the world. In 2003, more than 6.6 million shoe-box gifts, along with Gospel booklets in their own language, were distributed to children in 95 countries.

## Baptismal demand exceeds robes

**I**t Is Written's "Revelation of hope" series in Denver, Colorado, USA, yielded so many baptisms that churches couldn't provide enough baptismal robes.

From April 16 to May 22, visitors packed the Teikyo Loretto Heights University auditorium night after night to hear Mark Finley, speaker/director for It Is Written Television, and It Is Written's associate speaker, Shawn Boonstra, proclaim God's Word through the "Revelation of hope" series.

More than 600 people have made decisions to be baptised or rebaptised, causing a unique predicament for local pastors—they lacked enough robes to keep up with the demand! Fortunately, several male candidates agreed to be baptised in their own clothes. On the final day of the series, hundreds of people packed into the university's indoor swimming pool area for a major baptismal ceremony. Some 16 pastors entered the pool and baptised more than 150 people in one hour.

By the end of the series, local pastors had baptised a total of 433 people. "This proves once again that evangelism still works in North America," said Pastor Boonstra. "It happened as the result of prayer, planning and the synergy of ministries, pastors and church members."—*Adventist Review*



● The **Trinity Broadcasting Network** (TBN), the world's largest religious TV network, has announced plans for a Christian version of the popular "**American idol**" TV show, titled "Gifted," to debut in October. TBN partner Wright Generation's mission statement reads: "God gives us so many gifts, but we reach for the one with the prettiest wrapping. In a world where MTV dictates trends and pop stars become idols, Christianity seems to be wrapped in conditions and judgments. It is our goal to wrap God's message—His love—in acceptance, and in a way that blends seamlessly into 'pop' culture while still upholding the values we, as Christians, value most." Contestants will be performing gospel or contemporary spiritual songs.—*Charisma News Service*

● Many Christian churches in New South Wales will be holding a special **day of prayer for rain** in the month of August. The Rev **Chris Moroney**, president of the New South Wales **Council of Churches**, has written to all heads of the council's member churches calling for a special day of prayer for rain on Sunday, August 15. "The drought in Australia is very extensive and has created many difficulties for families and communities across our land. We need to call upon our nation to turn to God in prayer," says Mr Moroney. "If God does bless us with drought-breaking rain before that date, we will make the focus one of thanksgiving and praise."—*Ramon Williams*

## Days and offerings

**August 28**—Pathfinder Day  
—Abuse Prevention Emphasis Day

## Off the record

● Avondale School's **Cameron Rogers** and **Leigh Mason** (pictured), inspired to help those affected by cancer and through donations and the sale of chocolates, raised \$A2080 for **The Cancer Council of Australia**. While Leigh shaved his head during school assembly, Cameron shaved his after performing as Proctor in the Avondale School production of *The Crucible*, and gave donors the opportunity to shave part of his head.—*Karen Zeuschner*



● To celebrate **Ernie Pascoe's** (pictured) **100th birthday**, a special service was held at the Napier Adventist church, NZ, on May 22. On his birthday, the following Monday, the Greendale Residential Care Centre also held a party, where he received a letter of congratulations from the Queen.



Ernie looks forward to the coming of Jesus, saying, "What a day that will be, when my Jesus I'll see, just to look upon His face, the One who has saved me by His grace. What a day, glorious day that will be."—*Frank Boniface*.

● "Bring a beanie" was one of the weekly clues to an adult **Kellyville Sabbath school class**, NSW, who had a "**mystery**" weekend recently. The bus driver tricked the 46 participants by appearing to head toward the Blue Mountains, but the final destination was Kangaroo Valley. The weekend included mystery cabin allocations, a BBQ dinner, charades, tennis, shopping and a lunch at Kiama. The organiser, Brett Partridge, planned the weekend as a way Sabbath school class members could get better acquainted with friends.—*Robyn Crabtree*



## Signs magazine hits cyberspace



Peta Taylor

Signs editor Nathan Brown.

(Continued from page 1)

Signs editor Nathan Brown envisages the web site allowing even more quality content to be made readily available, loosening some of the restrictions of the printed magazine. "A great feature of the Web version of the magazine is the ability to present additional or expanded material that the print version does not allow us

to offer due to space limitations," says Mr Brown. "It also gives us the opportunity to share multimedia content too."

The site will see other features added in the near future. The major drawcard currently being developed is a magazine archive. This will allow site visitors to search through the years of previous editions for articles on topics or people of interest.

Those wanting to keep up with Signs magazine news, events and special offers—both for the Web and printed versions—can sign up for a Signs email newsletter via the web site.

"The Signs web site is not ultimately meant to be a substitute to the printed version," says Mr Dunstan, "but more as a most valuable supplement that can be used for both research and outreach."

The Signs of the Times web site will be available at <www.signs of the times.org.au> from today.

## Northern Australian camp marks 100 years

Townsville, Queensland

Members of the Northern Australian Conference have marked the centenary of the church's official organised presence and work in their region at a camp with a strong historical flavour. The conference's annual camp-meeting was held in Townsville, Qld, from June 25 to July 3 and included a number of special features.

Conference president Pastor Deane Jackson says he does not see the centenary as merely a celebration, but rather as an opportunity to "reflect on what we as Adventists in northern Australia have achieved, on what we can achieve and,

most importantly, on Christ as the only means by which the accomplishment of our God-given commission may be made possible."

The conference, which now includes all of Queensland north of Rockhampton as well as the Northern Territory, was established as a mission in August 1904.

The centenary features of the camp included historical sketches produced by Selwyn Hawken, who recounted stories and events from the pioneering days of the church's work in northern Queensland, and a working display of the publishing heritage of the church. Featured speaker for the week was Dr Allan Lindsay, who provided a larger context to the Christian heritage suggested in the camp theme, "Footprints to the flame."

"The camp program concluded with a combined Communion service in the big tent, focusing on the challenge of mission that still confronts us and the incredible future that is ours in Christ," reports Pastor Jackson.

"The balance within the camp program was an important feature," he reflects,

"from the fun run and activities of the family fun day, to the spiritual encouragement and inspiration provided by keynote speakers and culminating in a panoramic musical overview of Scripture, centring on the triumph of the cross and the ultimate bursting asunder of the heavens at the return of the crucified."

Pastor Jackson sees value in remembering such milestones. "Marking a centenary in this way helps us value the sacrifice of those whose feet have paved the way," he comments, citing as examples stories of literature evangelists riding bicycles hundreds of miles in intense tropical heat to remote and isolated regions in order to sell books containing our thrilling message of the coming Saviour. "Such reminders should encourage us to be faithful and to continue in the legacy and heritage of our pioneers and, indeed, in the footprints of Christ Himself."—**Nathan Brown/Brenton Stacey**



Innisfail's volunteer minister Dana Howard and Mackay church member Graeme Wadd were among 200 participants in a fun run as a part of the Northern Australian Conference's centenary camp-meeting.



Young people watch Derwent Barber (second from right) operate the historic press from Signs Publishing Company that was the centrepiece of a display of the church's publishing heritage at the Northern Australian Conference camp.



# Rocfish back on the road in Australia

Melbourne, Victoria

After 18 months away from full-time touring, Christian children's music group Rocfish have returned with a whirlwind tour of Australia. The "Fishbowl tour" included 14 performances spread over 8000 kilometres and five states in 17 days.

"It's been amazing," says Rocfish performer Brie Taylor. "We've been so happy with the turnout, the number of non-Christian kids who have come and the impact it's been having on people."

Rocfish has been created and managed by a group of young adults from the Kingscliff Adventist church on the northern New South Wales coast. Rocfish launched in 2001, with extensive touring in Australia and New Zealand in 2001 and 2002.

The new tour saw the release of the first new music from Rocfish in more than two years. "The Prodigal Tale"—available on CD, video and DVD—was recorded with the second Rocfish team, which is working to establish Rocfish in the United States. The new story is a musical reworking of the parable of the prodigal son—but with two daughters instead of sons.

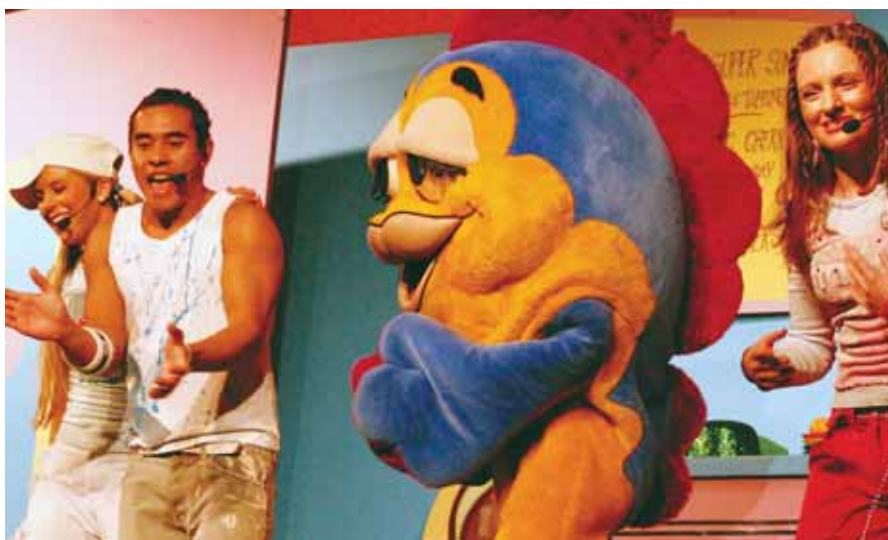
"It's set in a fun 1950s diner," Emily Pollard explains. "The prodigal character leaves life on the farm. She thinks it's dull and boring and she wants an exciting life. So she heads off to the city life, she meets up with friends and has a good time, but uses up all her money and her friends lead her astray."

"It's a story about finding your true friends and your true love," adds Joey Grey.

"And there's that ever-loving father, who demonstrates how God relates to us, who is always there no matter what we do, no matter what we say or think," Emily continues. "He will always welcome us back home anytime. It's just up to us to come back home and to say, 'God, I want you to be Lord of my life.'"

"And the kids are seeing that with the prodigal child coming back to the dad, it's like the prodigal child coming back to God," says Brie.

"It relates to everyone—everyone can connect," says Emily. "We are the prodigal characters and that father is God."



Rocfish —(left to right) Brie Taylor, Joey Grey, Roxi and Emily Pollard—perform in Melbourne on their "Fishbowl tour" of Australia.

"By the end of the story people realise that the father's love is unconditional," says Joey. "It didn't matter what the bad girl did or the good girl did; His love was there always—it never changed."

Nearing the end of their tour, the members of the group are excited by the impact they have seen their performances have on children. According to Brie, the highlight of the tour has been "the spiritual strength at the end of each concert when we're asking kids to give their lives to Jesus."

"The kids repeat a prayer, and hearing these little five- and six-year-old kids praying this salvation prayer and knowing that God is meeting them right at that moment—possibly for the first time—almost brings me to tears, just knowing that God is using us to be humble servants for Him to help win souls for the kingdom. It's a big reality."

Each of the members of Rocfish have stories of children who have responded to their music and message.

"I had a little girl come up to me the other day," says Brie. "She was about 10—and she said, 'Brie, thank you so much for the story. I'm the one that gets picked on in the story—I'm the rebellious girl.' And she said, 'I had a best friend last year and she treated me the way they treated you.'"

"It was one of the hardest things that she's had to go through, but she said, 'I'm just so grateful that you went home and

Jesus is your best friend.' She was crying while it was happening on stage and she was almost crying with me while I was signing autographs."

And they also receive feedback from parents of their young fans. "We had a mum tell us, 'We couldn't live without Rocfish in our lives,'" says Brie. "She said, 'Thank you for being such a part of my kids' lives.'"

"But on the other hand, there was a parent the other day who said, 'Thank you for a new product. I'm so over the old music. I need some new songs; the kids are driving me crazy.'"

With the "Fishbowl tour" now a past success, Rocfish are planning more intensive touring in New Zealand, South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales through the remainder of this year.

"We will be going back to more 'grassroots' touring, visiting local churches and schools," says Joey.

"We will be reconnecting with some of the places we have toured previously," adds Emily. "It's much more about relationships. We've been doing this for three or four years now. We've seen kids grow up. They were these little babies who are now three- and four-year-olds and they've grown up on Rocfish—on our messages and our songs."

"We'll never know the impact that we are making on these kids' lives," comments Emily.—**Nathan Brown**

Angela Brown

# Aussie evangelist popular in Singapore

Wahroonga, New South Wales

A lifestyle series presented by an Australian Seventh-day Adventist evangelist has proved popular in Singapore.

Average attendance for each of the programs in Pastor Peter Jack's "Taking charge" series ranged from 150 to 290 over three months. The Adventist Media evangelist presented the programs at the Singapore Conference Hall and the Singapore Power Auditorium.

"An Australian-based life-management presenter working in Singapore at the time attended all the programs with his Singapore-based marketing director," says

Pastor Jack. "She attended initially with reservation because she belongs to a non-Christian religious faith. But the programs changed her life and she's now started her own business."

Pastor Jack created the "Taking charge" series, which includes the seminars "Taking charge of your life" (currently screening on Optus TV's Australian Christian Channel), "Living your dreams" and "Taking charge of your future," as an alternative to the church's traditional archaeological-based evangelistic programs.

Pastor Jack presented the series in Sydney when Pastor Bill Townend served as president of the church in the Greater Sydney Conference. Pastor Townend is now president of the church's Southeast Asia Union Mission. "We saw the series as having the same impact in Singapore where the culture is, arguably, even more sophisticated than here in Australia," says Pastor Jack.

Pastor Jack lived in Singapore 20 years ago while serving as the evangelist for the former Far Eastern Division.—**Brenton Stacey**



Noeline Jack

Attendance at each of the programs in Pastor Peter Jack's "Taking charge" series in Singapore reached almost 300.

# Mission awareness boosted with new role

Maryland, United States

The worldwide mission work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church will receive a new emphasis and focus with the reopening of a church Office of Mission Awareness, due to start on September 1. The move was voted by the Administrative Committee of the General Conference leadership on July 6.

Gary Krause, currently communication director for Global Mission, will become director of the new office, as well as a general field secretary of the world church. A veteran journalist and communicator, Mr Krause says he hopes the new emphasis on mission will help inspire renewed interest and support for the mission work of the church.

"In more than 200 countries around the world, including the challenging '10/40 Window' of nations virtually unreached by the gospel, Adventists are making major efforts to bring hope and healing to people," says Mr Krause. "The Office of Mission Awareness will do what its name suggests—make people aware of what the church is doing, and how they can support this with prayer, personal effort and financial contributions."—**Mark Kellner/ANN**



Gary Krause.

# Thousands in PNG board the Go One Million longboat

Lae, Papua New Guinea

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Papua New Guinea has trained more than 14,000 of its members to give Bible studies. This is five times the number set in their original goal.

Members who have received training at one of the church's more than 70 programs over the past year speak of converting villagers who once practised spiritualism to seventh-day Sabbath-keepers.

An Adventist from Bulu on New Ireland

organised an evangelistic series in his village after attending a training program.

"Locals call Bulu the 'devil's place,'" says Pastor Julius Divu, the former Personal Ministries director for New Britain New Ireland. "But all the villagers met each evening to watch slides of the Bible lands and to hear the Adventist message. At the end of the series, the villagers invited the Adventists to establish a church in Bulu."

New people are attending worship services at the Havi Huga Adventist church

in the Western Highlands each week because of the church's commitment to small-group ministry, reports Alex Palie of the local mission.

"The church has already planted congregations in areas where members are meeting in small groups," says Mr Palie.

The training programs in Papua New Guinea are part of the Go One Million initiative, which aims to train one million Adventists to share their faith before mid-2005.—**Linzi Aitken/Brenton Stacey**

# Save our *Signs*

by Desmond B Hills

Time is limited for the distribution—and perhaps the production—of our one and only evangelistic, health and lifestyle magazine—*Signs of the Times*.

After almost nine years finding outlets and donations for the distribution of *Signs* magazine, this is my conclusion. The prediction is based on facts and trends, which are increasing every year. This is not an alarmist statement and I have waited a long time before calling out SOS—save our *Signs*.

## Distributing *Signs*

Let's note three reasons why some of us involved in finding and funding these strategically placed outlets consider that time may be limited for distribution:

**First, permission is being withdrawn for Liteboxes and display racks, even when monthly rents are paid and they have been in place for many years**

This has particularly affected airports in both Australia and New Zealand. The latest casualty is the flagship Litebox that was located in the departure terminal of the Auckland International Airport. It was the flagship of airport ministry, as it was the first one commissioned and about 800 magazines have been taken each month for almost eight years. Air travellers have taken many of these approximately three-quarters of a million magazines across Australia and New Zealand and to the ends of the earth.

Other airports where *Signs* has recently been ordered out by airport management are Perth and Blenheim.

Liteboxes have been removed in the Christchurch and Gold Coast airports but *Signs* magazines are now available at the airport information centres, which are not controlled by the major airlines. There, however, fewer copies of our message magazine are being taken than previously.

But there are still large, attractive Liteboxes in the Wellington, Dunedin and Townsville airports. Generous church



Volunteer *Signs* ministry coordinator Pastor Des Hills.

members who also donate hundreds of subscriptions for these unique and effective witnesses pay the annual rent. A layman in Western Australian donated the construction and installation of the Townsville Litebox.

**Second, refusal to allow the placement of new Liteboxes and display racks.**

The major airlines in Australia have consistently vetoed approval by major advertising agencies we have employed to present the case for Liteboxes. Also the owners of brochure displays in many airports continually refuse to place *Signs* in their displays, although they advertise for literature.

The refusal is not only because the magazine is considered to be different from the kind of tourist literature needed by travellers. *Signs* is regarded by management of many transportation terminals, shopping malls and national advertising agencies to be a community service providing free reading material. The hundreds of thousands of copies taken from airports and other transportation

terminals each year confirm that the public considers it to be a magazine with value.

Once again we can rejoice that our premium lifestyle magazine also carrying the good news of eternal life is still in rented displays in Melbourne, Adelaide, Hobart, Launceston, Devonport, Gisborne and Tauranga airports. There are also *Signs* racks in a score of regional airports, including Emerald, Geraldton, Palmerston North, Queenstown, Invercargill and Broken Hill.

**Third, there seems to be growing prejudice toward Christianity and Christian literature in Australia and New Zealand.**

Although we are living in a time when various belief systems are embraced, there is an increasingly negative attitude to Christianity and Christian literature. This intolerance was highlighted at the time the Litebox in the international charter terminal at the Gold Coast Airport was closed and the Litebox was being transferred to the terminal of one of the major airlines. The day before the installation in the new location a visiting



politician is reported to have said to the airline management, "You should not have religious literature in your terminal." What he meant was Christian literature; religions based on culture would have appealed to the anti-discrimination legislation. Permission was withdrawn that day.

The main excuse given when permission is denied to place a *Signs* display in a shopping mall, transportation terminal or reception area is "no religious or political literature." If this policy were consistently applied it could be readily accepted.

### Supporting Signs

But there are also trends in relation to subscriptions, sponsorship and support of *Signs* that—unless reversed—may cause the demise of our missionary magazine.

### The loss of more than 10,000 subscriptions every year.

This is presently being offset by the 200+ *Signs* Ministry Partnership Projects, which attract sponsors who donate money for subscriptions amounting to 15,000 subscriptions per annum at present. When the Partnership Projects commenced eight years ago, there was an increase of only 6000 to 10,000 subs per year

The decline in donating and subscribing to *Signs* evangelism is due to a variety of factors. These are a few of them:

- The paradigm shift about 20 years ago in all denominations, including ours, from direct evangelistic outreach and personal witnessing to humanitarian, social welfare and building projects;
- The appeal of projects that offer tax benefits to the donor;
- The proliferation of other worthy causes. For example, at the South Queensland Conference camp-meeting, there are up to 40 exhibits in the expo pavilion and most are appealing for money;

For the latest *Signs* news, find your all-new *SignsTalk* in the centre of this RECORD.

- The death and retirement of senior church members who have been the strongest supporters of *Signs* ministry;

- The lack of financial support from youth and young adults in the church, although the magazine appeals to these groups in the community. The recent display of *Signs* at the Australian Gospel Music Festival and each year at the Christian Resources Exhibition in Sydney have demonstrated the appeal of *Signs* to younger audiences;

- And perhaps the most disturbing of all reasons—a lack of interest in personal witnessing and sharing our faith with relatives, neighbours and friends. Most people who join our church are greatly influenced to do so due to our contact with these three groups of people.

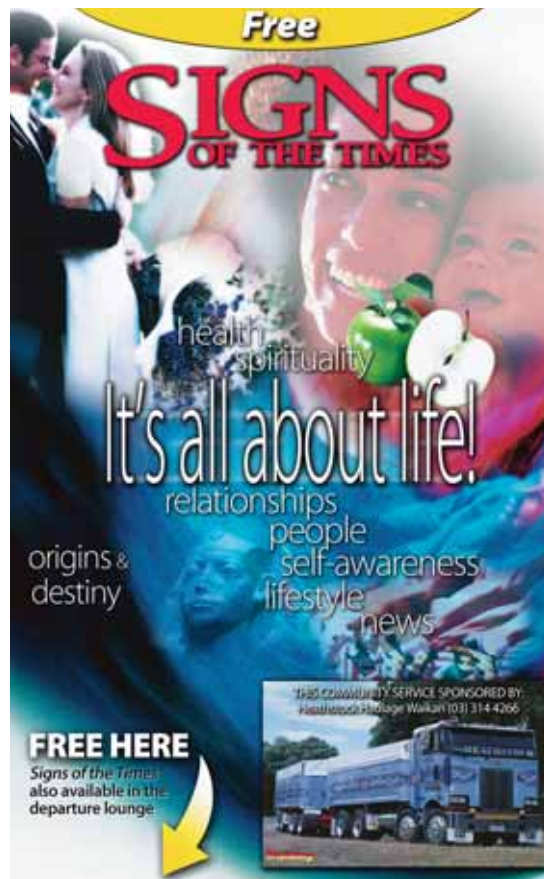
The words *ministries* and *missions* have been extended to include any community contact.

*Evangelism* has been stretched to include everything to do with the church in the community. These transfers of meaning are OK, if we continue to actively and at every opportunity give our time, talents and tithe to announce "the everlasting gospel." However, many times these other "ministries" are substituted for studying the Scriptures with people and personally introducing them to "the way, the truth and the life." Ours is the privilege to pass on our knowledge and experience of Jesus Christ our Friend, Saviour, Mediator, Judge and coming King.

### The need to have at least 40,000 subscriptions to print.

The present print of about 44,000 is too close to that point of viability. *Signs of the Times* is not subsidised by the church, unlike many outreach productions. Ten thousand additional magazines could be distributed each month in *Signs* Ministry Partnership Projects and at least another 10,000 would be greatly appreciated for placement in hundreds of other outlets throughout this division.

Many readers share my vision of 50,000 subscriptions as soon as possible and to set



in place a 10-year plan to send at least one *Signs* to every one of the 10 million homes in Australia and New Zealand, and also to increase the number of *Signs* mailed to homes in other countries. *Signs* go to more than 50 countries of the world

### An evangelism challenge

Let's take decisive actions at the division, unions, conferences and churches—as well as individually—to keep the *Signs of the Times* printed for as long as there are printing presses or other means of publication.

Yes, let's have it on the Web too—but not in place of the proven and powerful printed page that introduces people to Christianity in such an effective way.

*Signs of the Times* "is the longest running evangelistic campaign in the South Pacific"—118 years of effective evangelism. We must seize every opportunity to distribute as many *Signs* as possible before more doors are closed. ☪

*Desmond B Hills is the volunteer Signs ministry coordinator.*

# A billion prayers at once

by Ross Chadwick

I was sitting in church in Brazil one day, not able to understand a word that was being spoken. I was there to worship and to listen to God's Spirit. I had been reading two books that week and suddenly, as the Spirit of God ministered to me, the two came together as one indelible thought.

F W Boreham—in his book *The Luggage of Life*—asks how “He who created the worlds and inhabits all time can have the patience to hear me speak to Him about my examinations, and my love affairs, and my prospects.” And which of us when we dared to be honest have not asked the same question about how God can hear millions of prayers all at once.

Our problem, when we ask this question, is that we conceive God in our own image and we make Him too small. The other book I was reading at the time was *In His Image* by Philip Yancey and Dr Paul Brand in which they discuss the complexity of the human body, particularly the brain. Yancey and Brand draw the analogy of the human body as applied to the spiritual body of Christ. But I saw something different.

We are told the brain performs 5 trillion operations every second, coordinating the catalogue of five senses plus all the other vital functions that are taking place, informing my brain of things like muscle tension, pressure on the joints and tendons. My brain knows the tilt of my head, the bend of my elbow, the position of my left foot. Other senses inform me of lunchtime, bladder capacity and the like. Below the conscious there are automatic controls on temperature, blood pressure, infection control and a multitude of chemical processes.

Five trillion operations per second! Apparently billions of computations are required to recognise a piece of music in just seconds. Recognising the distance between a ball and the moon are processes that occur with blinding speed and no



conscious effort.

As you sit there, your eyes are capable of interpreting your environment with a complexity that beggars the imagination and defies the evolutionists, because no evolutionist can explain what a half-evolved eye was doing while it waited to be switched on in working order. Some 127,000,000 cells called rods and cones line up in rows as the “seeing” elements that receive light and transmit messages to the brain. The rods are so sensitive that the smallest measurable amount of light, one photon, can excite them. In optimum conditions the eye can detect a candle at 20 kilometers.

Your ears are processing sound as you sit there, detecting the slightest movement around you. Your ears are capable of recognising 300,000 tones. All this is done by vibrations in the ear, that the brain must then interpret. Some 25,000 auditory cells in the ear are connected by thousands of neurons (wires) to the brain.

Your sense of smell goes beyond the world of quantifiable physics and approaches mystery. Your nose can detect one garlic molecule in the waftage of 50,000 other molecules. Humans are capable of distinguishing 10,000 different odours.

A mere gram of brain tissue may contain

as many as 400 billion synaptic junctions. As a result, each cell can communicate with every other cell at lightning speed—as if a population far larger than the earth's were linked together so that all the inhabitants could talk at once. The brain's total number of connections rivals the stars and galaxies of the universe. It's as if there were 10 billion bureaucrats constantly phoning each other about plans and instructions for keeping a country running. Every nerve cell in the brain has up to 10,000 of its own private lines.

And if this is all going on in my head, then consider Him who is infinite and in whose image we are made. If the brain between my ears can, with blinding speed, process 5 trillion actions per second, how many prayers can God listen to per second? The answer is . . . I don't know, but I have been taken to the edge of the chasm and bid to look beyond.

If God is great to the point of absolute infinity, it follows, beyond all controversy, that there is no stick or stone in all the universe of which He is not perpetually aware and conscious. If there is a feather or a straw blowing about in the solar system, which has for a fraction of a second eluded His knowledge or escaped His observation, then, by just that amount, His greatness falls short of infinity.

If, therefore, I really believe God is not only great enough to be the generator of universes and creator of everything, but great enough to be infinite, then I cannot help believing that no sparrow falls to the ground without His notice and that the very hairs of my head are all numbered! And just as every cell must relate to my body and remain in communication with it, so can I remain in contact with Him who made all these things. ☛

Ross Chadwick writes from Oak Flats, New South Wales.

# The unexpected

by Deanne de Berg

A few years ago I was lucky to have the experience of living in New Zealand for about three months while I did work experience. But before I knew it, it was time for me to leave and return to Australia and continue my studies. I packed all my things and phoned an airport shuttle company and booked a time for the taxi to come and take me to the airport. My trip to the airport was one I will never forget.

## The journey

I handed my luggage to the taxidriver, who put it all in the boot of the taxi. We were talking away and the driver kept saying how I reminded him of some woman on TV. He kept looking at me and laughing away to himself at how much he thought I was like this character he had in his mind. We began the drive and he told me he was going to take a short cut to the airport. That sounded good to me—the sooner we got to the airport, the more time I would have to check in my luggage for the flight.

I had driven to the airport before and knew it took about half an hour, but the driver told me we would be there in 15 minutes—that sounded impressive. But we seemed to be heading in the opposite direction. More disturbingly, we were constantly passing signs pointing left to the airport—and the taxidriver was turning right! It seemed then we would drive a bit further and there would be another sign this time pointing right to the airport—and we would be turning left. We seemed not only to be turning in the opposite direction of every sign to the airport but we seemed to be leaving the city. There were no freeways like I had been on before on my way to the airport. In fact there were no other cars around at all.

Where is the taxidriver taking me? I began to wonder. Surely a short cut to the airport would include a fast freeway, bypassing the city and getting me express to the airport.



*Surely with a short cut we should be flying along at maximum speed. So why are we going 20 kilometres per hour? And why are we suddenly driving on a secluded road in an industrial estate surrounded by large warehouses out in the middle of nowhere?*

The taxidriver chuckled and continued to look at me with a sinister look on his face. Turning to the taxidriver I timidly asked, “How far are we from the airport?”

Continuing his frequent chuckles he looked at me and said, “About one hour by now,” and then chuckled some more.

*One hour!* I thought. The sound of dark music began to flood my mind as I thought of TV murder shows and my mind began to envisage the worst. *Am I going to end up dead in one of these warehouses where there is no-one around to hear my screams for help?*

I started to undo the seatbelt and my

heart was thumping harder than ever. The prayers that I had been whispering to myself, I was now starting to scream inside up to Heaven, and I was ready to leave all my luggage behind in the boot of the taxi and bail out the front door. We kept driving slowly and my prayers were soaring heavenward. Eventually we drove through the industrial estate and a while later we emerged onto another road.

We passed more signs to the airport, but this time the driver seemed to follow them. A while later, we entered the freeway I recognised as our way to the airport. The intensity of my prayers slowly started to subside and my heart rate started to decrease slightly. But I was on edge for the rest of the trip, not knowing what to make of the taxidriver’s strange ways. But eventually we pulled up at the airport.



Thankfully, I jumped out of the taxi and the driver unloaded my luggage.

I had a strange feeling as I entered the airport. *Was the taxidriver psycho or was he just trying to scare me?* Whatever it was, the trip was not what I had been expecting.

### Another unexpected journey

But reflecting on this experience of the unexpected sometime later, I realised it has some similarities to the experience of Joseph.

Joseph probably began his life's experience with the expectation of tending flocks with his brothers, meeting a nice girl one day, getting married and having a family of his own. Do you think he ever expected he would end up being sold as a slave into Egypt? Not to mention being sold by his own brothers? This turn in the road would have looked very discouraging to Joseph, and I guess at this point he was probably doing a lot of praying and wondering. Yet if Joseph could have seen further down the track, would he ever have

expected to end up as "lord of all Egypt" (Genesis 45:8)?

The plans God has for each of our lives might be vastly different to the plans we might have or expect for ourselves. If you try to plan everything in your life and take control, do you ever find things just don't seem to go right anyway? Like my trip to the airport, I can assume and expect one thing—yet what actually happens can be so vastly different.

### Our journey

Like my trip to the airport we are all on a trip to heaven. Many of us are expecting to arrive there, yet sometimes the roads we take can seem obscure, strange and lonely. There may even be people like my taxidriver looking over at us strangely and chuckling. Instead of going full-speed ahead down the expressway to heaven, many of us find unpleasant delays. Instead of bypassing the stops and starts of the city traffic, we find ourselves held up and delayed at every red light possible. Maybe some of us make a detour into the industrial part of town where we work to accumulate wealth and build up warehouses filled with money and

possessions.

But God is the navigator of the unexpected. There isn't a turn or a situation He cannot work out for good. Let's turn everything over to Him and trust in Him who created and loves us. **R**

*Deanne de Berg works in the treasury department of the South Pacific Division in Wahroonga, New South Wales.*



## We want to hear from you

Join our Year of Evangelism brainstorming session. Send us your stories of evangelism you have tried or your dreams of how we can make a greater impact in our communities.

You don't need to write the perfect report; just send us the answers to Who? What? When? Where? How? and Why? Include contact details so we can get in touch to get any further information and a photo, if you are reporting on something already happening and if a photo is available.

### Send your evangelism stories, ideas and dreams to:

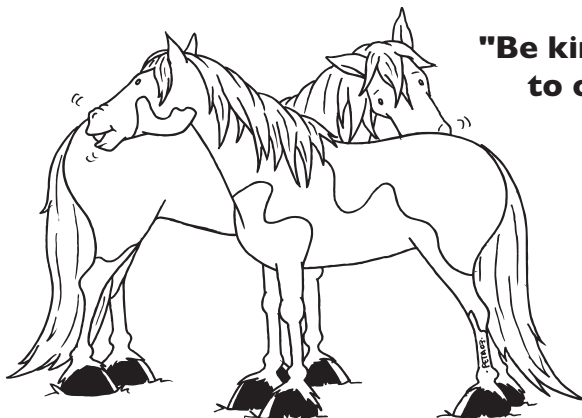
**Post:**

RECORD, Signs Publishing Company  
3485 Warburton Highway  
Warburton Vic 3799  
Australia

**Fax:** +61 3 5966 9109

**Email:** editor@signspublishing.com.au

## Just for children



**"Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honour giving preference to one another."**

**Romans 12:10**

Peia Taylor

## A dishonourable mention

G J Parkinson, NSW

The *Aussie Bible* (Flashpoint, June 26) may have a “fan club,” but is the substance of their experience the same as portrayed in this book—a joke?

The image of Jesus has been depicted in this way in a popular TV program, with actors dressed as Jesus making fun of Him. The *Aussie Bible* is in the same category—blasphemous, sacrilegious and profane. It is Satan’s method to mix truth with error, confusing and tricking people. To report favourably on this book, condoning it, doesn’t help our commission of upholding the truth of the living Word and respect for God.

## Baptismal questions

B and S Johnstone, Qld

We agree with Beauchamp (June 26). Baptism and church membership are separate issues. Jesus did say to go and baptise people, “teaching them to observe all . . . I have commanded” (Matthew 28:20), but I don’t find evidence of Jesus preaching our 27 fundamentals. Such would have come later as the church grew.

Paul talks about his frustration with Christians going ahead of themselves with their theology when they need to get the basics right, first feeding on spiritual “milk” (1 Corinthians 3:2; Hebrews 5:12-14). Surely, we see this today, with members feeding on the meaty head knowledge

of doctrine while choking on the milk of salvation through faith. Perhaps this comes from being obliged to accept all those doctrines as a prerequisite for baptism.

There are Adventists of many years who still aren’t convicted of all the church’s doctrines yet are sincere Christians; we must have faith that the Holy Spirit will teach each person in God’s time, not ours.

Accepting Jesus as our Saviour and being baptised is but the first step.

## Great controversy

Jan Knopper, NSW

After the editorial of February 7, 2004 (“An Ellen White reality check”), and following the directions given to go to the Ellen G White Research Centre at

and gives evidence without a shadow of doubt that there were Sabbath-keepers among the Waldenses. The second document provides evidence that the story of John Huss as stated in *The Great Controversy* is 100 per cent correct.

If there is a reader who maintains that there are other historical errors, of which we have not been informed, please tell us.

*Response from Dr Lester Devine, director of the Ellen G White Research Centre : Jan Knopper wants a list of the “historical errors” in The Great Controversy. The practical issue for me is does he want “errors” when she wrote in 1911 or “2004 errors?” Ellen White went to enormous effort to ensure her 1911 revision of The Great Controversy was as perfect as she could make it (see Selected Messages, Book 3,*

**The bottom line is that Ellen White cannot win in either time frame if people insist on a verbal inspiration, inerrant view of her ministry.**

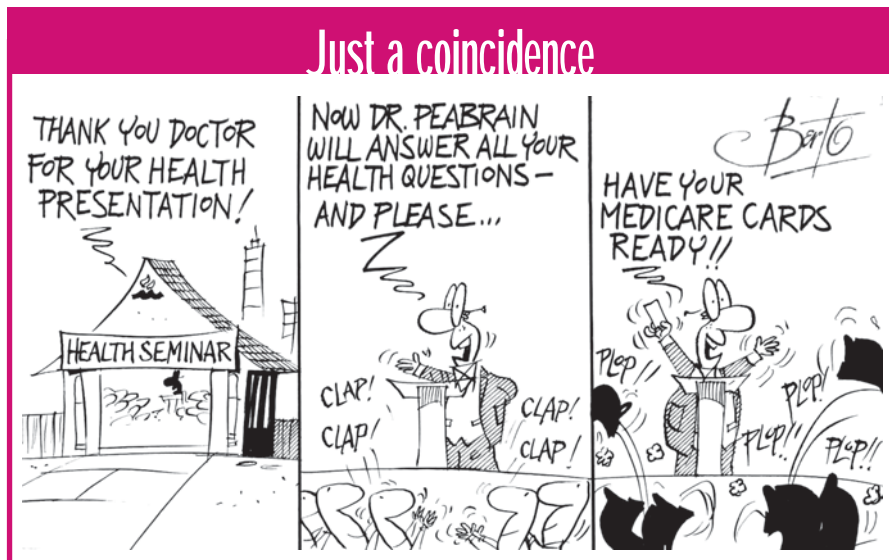
Avondale College to find the facts regarding “errors” in *The Great Controversy*, we can now let the readers of RECORD know that there are no errors in *The Great Controversy* and neither were Ellen White’s historical sources in error.

We found only two alleged errors: the first regarding the Waldenses and Sabbath-keeping; and the second regarding the John Huss story.

For everybody to read, we now have two documents. One deals with the Waldenses

appendices a, b and c) and congruent with the best historians of her day. If she wrote in 1911 what we know today, her first readers would have considered some aspects of her historical commentary inaccurate. The bottom line is that Ellen White cannot win in either time frame if people insist on a verbal inspiration, inerrant view of her ministry. For this type of “inerrancy” to continue to work over 100 years there must be no increase in knowledge during that time—a concept in conflict with Adventist belief that knowledge will increase to the end of time. Ellen White makes no claim to being authoritative as a historian—rather she is using historical events descriptively to illustrate the great principles of the great controversy. She points this out in the introduction to her book and which we all need to read carefully in order to understand the claims she made for her ministry on these issues—claims more limited than some sincere church members today make on her behalf.

**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.



## NUNAWADING ADVENTIST COLLEGE NUNAWADING ADVENTIST PRIMARY

All past & present staff and students are invited to  
this weekend celebration of the past 40 years.

# REUNION CELEBRATION

Sept 10-12, 2004

Friday Sept 10:  
7.00pm - Registration,  
Worship & Light Supper

Register on-line at:  
[reunion@nac.vic.edu.au](mailto:reunion@nac.vic.edu.au)

Sabbath Sept 11:  
10am - Celebration  
Service  
12.30pm - Bring a picnic  
lunch to share  
2.00pm - Walk down  
Memory lane  
6.30pm - Gala Evening

Secondary - 9877 3555  
Primary - 9878 9927

Sunday Sept 12:  
10.30am - 3.00pm -  
Sunday Funday



## Volunteers

**Construction workers needed—  
Guam-Micronesia Mission**—to assist  
in rebuilding typhoon-damaged school.  
Masonry, carpentry, electrical, painting,  
removal of damaged building and general  
clean-up. Ages 18–75. Term: 1–7  
months, between June 1, 2004 and Feb-  
ruary 1, 2005. Apartment and vehicle  
provided.

**Intern Masters Student in Pastoral Min-  
istry:** Young couple, graduate of ministe-  
rial program at Newbold College, offer-  
ing services to a local church from Janu-  
ary to July 2005. He has BA in pastoral  
ministries and part-way through a mas-  
ter's program. She has degree in social  
work and experience with youth groups  
in the areas of music and drama.

**Youth Coordinator—Nerang Church,  
Qld**—to work with youth. Aged 18–30.  
Living allowance SA400/ month,  
accommodation with church members,  
car, petrol, computer and phone provid-  
ed. Term: For 6, 12 or 18 months, com-  
mencing August 1, 2004.

Email: <[volunteers@adventist.org.au](mailto:volunteers@adventist.org.au)>.  
For more positions, check the web on  
<[www.adventistvolunteers.org](http://www.adventistvolunteers.org)>

+61 2 9847 3275



## Anniversary

**Tolhurst,** Pastor Len and Val were mar-  
ried on 8.6.54 in Sidney, British Colum-  
bia, Canada, and celebrated their golden  
wedding anniversary on Sunday, 13.6.04,  
at an open-house party at their home in  
Cooranbong, NSW. During the day 100  
people came to congratulate them; also  
160 others sent messages, including the  
Governor-General of Australia, the Gov-  
ernor of the State of New South Wales,  
John Howard, the Prime Minister of Aus-  
tralia, Bob Carr, the State Premier, and  
other dignitaries. Their three children  
and three granddaughters were present,  
as well as other relatives. One special per-  
son to attend was Val's bridesmaid,  
Olivine Coso (nee Rampton).

## Weddings

**Auld—Gianatti.** Wayne Auld, son of  
John and Janice Auld (Perth, WA),  
and Lorilei Gianatti, daughter of Norm  
and Kaye Gianatti (Perth), were mar-  
ried on 4.7.04 in the Morley Adventist  
church, Perth. *Andrew Skeggs*

**Hawken—Moore.** Wayne Graham  
Hawken, son of Graham and Maree  
Hawken (Cooranbong, NSW), and Rebec-  
ca Georgina Moore, daughter of Darryl  
Moore, and Judith and David Simpson  
(Attunga, NSW), were married on 13.6.04  
at Blue Cow Ski Fields, NSW.

*Wayne French*

## Position vacant

▲ **Director of Nursing—Avondale Retirement Village (Cooranbong, NSW)** is seeking a full-time Director of Nursing. The successful applicant will need to be a committed, baptised and practising Seventh-day Adventist, NSW registered (List A), RN8 or higher (preferably with post-graduate qualifications in either management or aged care), and have a minimum of three years senior aged care experience in a nursing home. As DON, your main tasks will be managing the nursing home, and overseeing the legal and policy aspects of the hostels. **Applications in writing** should be forwarded to John Kingston, PO Box 105, Cooranbong NSW 2265; email <[ceo@aacnsw.com.au](mailto:ceo@aacnsw.com.au)>, no later than August 7, 2004.

## Obituaries

**Byfield,** Norma (nee Williams), born 28.8.1922 at Dinas Hill, Wales, UK; died 28.6.04 in Royal Perth Hospital, Perth. On 5.5.45 she married Cliff. Norma served for almost five years in the British Royal Air Force and came to Australia as a war bride in 1946. She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, John and Marie (Perth); her daughter and son-in-law, Robin and Paul Ginever (Hayling Island, UK); her daughter, Jennifer (Perth, WA); her sister, Margaret Russel (Edinburgh, Scotland); and her eight grandchildren. Norma was won to the Adventist message by Pastor George Burnside in 1956. She was greatly loved by family and friends and will be sadly missed.

*Cyrus Adams*

**Devine,** Herbert Don, born 28.5.1913 at Gisborne, NZ; died 1.6.04 in Napier. Herb moved to Napier in 1931 to help rebuild the Napier SDA church, which had been destroyed in the earthquake. He married Monnie Carter on 22.2.38. He is survived by his wife; his children, Lester, Paul, Peter and Marilyn; his eight grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter. He enjoyed a long, healthy life, for which he always thanked the Lord. Herb loved the Lord and passed away expectantly awaiting the coming of Jesus.

*Frank Boniface*

**Hall,** Hazel, born 31.12.1918 in Hobart, Tas; died 22.6.04 in Cooranbong, NSW. She was predeceased by her husband, Albert, on 13.7.03. She is survived by her sister, Joan Roy. Hazel had a bright personality and brought sunshine to all around her. She was loyal to her Lord all her life. Her last few years were saddened by sickness, but she now rests safely in the arms of her Master. She died with her life-long hope of eternal life burning brightly in her heart.

*Len Barnard, David Hay*

**Hodgkinson,** Ivy, born 26.3.1918 in Brisbane, Qld; died 28.6.04 in Wyong Hospital, NSW. She is survived by her brother, Reg (Haden, Qld); her seven nieces; and six nephews. Ivy worked for 38 years for the Sanitarium Health Food Company and held numerous church offices at Avondale Memorial church, including 12 years as catering supervisor.

*Jim Beamish  
Bert Grosser, Rob Dixon*

**Keegan,** Eileen, born 1.5.1922 at North Fremantle, WA; died 14.5.04 in Perth. On 1.2.43 she married Ralph, who predeceased her in 1990. She is survived by her children and their partners, Ross and

Protect your Cash with ACF Investments



## Great Rates

### ACF Investments

(02) 9989 8355

Helen Keegan, Dianne and Wayne Coleman (all of Perth), Lester (Laos), and Debbie and Ron Day (Newcastle, NSW); her siblings, Beryl, Ray and Gwen; her six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Eileen was a caring wife, mother and friend, and a lifetime supporter of Fremantle Adventist church.

*Andrew Skeggs*

**Kovacs,** Veronika, born 13.2.1932 in Trojanowice, Poland; died 3.7.04 in Brisbane, Qld. Vera migrated to Australia with her first husband, Karl Schmidt and parents, in June 1964, settling in Melbourne, Vic. She married Geza Kovacs on 6.1.70, who predeceased her in September 2003. The family shifted to Brisbane in June 1975 and were part of the faithful pioneering members at Springwood SDA church. She is survived by her children and their partners, Andrew and Bettina (Bowral, NSW), John and Janette, and Anna and Matthew Guitman (Brisbane, Qld). Vera faithfully served her Lord at Springwood church and rests till Jesus comes.

*Andre van Rensburg, Jeff Webster*

**Loong,** Mabel, born 21.5.1910; died 22.6.04 in the Lottie Stewart Hospital, Dundas, Sydney, NSW. She is survived by her children, Norman, Rita, Edmund, Nancy and Edward. Until her hospitalisation, Mabel was an active member of the Strathfield Chinese church.

*Nick Brightman*

**Ostapowicz,** Krystyna, born 29.10.1921, near Warsaw, Poland; died peacefully 16.5.04 at St James Park Health Care Centre, Qld. She is survived by her




# BUILDING A THINKING GENERATION

Today's leaders of children and youth are the hope of the future. If we can pass on a generation of "thinking" young people to lead our grandchildren and their grandchildren - what better legacy could we leave? Calling all leaders of young minds to join us at the

**National Family Life Conference 2004.**

Presenters Include:

- Diane Levy** (Keynote Speaker) Family Life Specialist & Author
- Bryan Craig** Director for Family Ministries Seventh-day Adventist Church
- Graeme Ure** Counsellor MNZAC, MITAA
- Jack Ryan** Principal Auckland Seventh-day Adventist High School
- Emily Maca** Lawyer / Community & Family Law Lecturer



**23-24 August 2004**  
9:00am - 4:00pm

Waipuna Hotel & Conference Centre  
58 Waipuna Road, Mt Wellington, Auckland  
NZ\$80 Registration Fee  
(For bookings phone +64 9 262 5620)

## New From Rocfish!

**NEW**



**The Prodigal Tale**  
The International and Oz teams combine to form the new Rocfish super team! It's double the action - double the fun!!! You won't want to miss their exciting new production of the gospel parable, 'The Prodigal Tale'. Experience the laughter and the tears as Rocfish take you on a journey to discover the meaning of true friends and true love!

Available now from your local ABC store or from [www.rocfishkids.com](http://www.rocfishkids.com)

**DVD \$24.95 Video \$24.95 CD \$19.95**

son and daughter-in-law, Dr George and Yvonne Ostapowicz. Krystyna patiently endured her terminal illness and passed away looking forward to that amazing reunion when her Lord returns. Family and friends celebrated her life at Avondale Cemetery Chapel; a truly blessed time of reflection and warm memories.

Jan Jankiewicz, Romuald Varzonek

**Russell**, Beryl Margaret, born 21.4.1916 at Bundaberg, Qld; died 5.6.04 in Caboolture Hospital after a short illness. Being widowed twice and losing her first son, Bobbie, in a road accident, Beryl endured many hardships. However, she loved the Lord and was always willing to share her faith with others. She is survived by her children, Charles and Denise; and her sisters, Lyle and Billie. She was a friendly and caring person and always willing to help others. She is greatly missed by all.

David Stojic

**Shears**, Fay Stafford (nee McPhee), born 19.8.1925 in Dunedin, NZ; died 24.6.04 at Timaru, after a prolonged illness. On 20.12.50 she married Ben in the

Barbadoes Street Adventist church, Christchurch. In 1941 she was baptised by Pastor Albert Macaulay in the Invercargill church. She was predeceased by her brother, Dougald, on 28.3.97. She is survived by her husband (Timaru); her daughter and son-in-law, Karen and John Hopkins (Berrien Springs, Michigan, USA); her son, Phillip (Christchurch, NZ); her brothers, Nathan McPhee (Cooranbong, NSW) and Pastor Angus McPhee (Walleroo, SA); and her five grandchildren. Fay taught at Papanui and Timaru SDA primary schools, and served as clerk, treasurer and elder of the Timaru church.

Ray Colling  
Angus and Nathan McPhee

**Tripovich**, Lucy Esmarelda (Esmae), born 29.9.1917 in Melbourne, Vic; died 27.6.04 at Yarra View Retirement Hostel, Warburton. She is survived by her brother and sister-in-law, Peter and Jan (Bamawm). Esmae was one of the early residents of Yarra View Retirement Hostel. She was generous, thoughtful, and respected.

Eric Kingdon

## 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.

**1770 Getaway Holiday Retreat—stay in paradise** and visit Great Barrier Reef and historical town of 1770. <[www.1770getaway.com](http://www.1770getaway.com)> or phone (07) 4974 9323.

**A1 Rent-a-Car Christchurch (NZ).** "Thrifty" cars, vans from SNZ49/day, "Budget" cars from

# THE EDGE

**TAKES A LOOK AT CREATIVE CHRISTIANS**

Youth magazine  
out next week - August 7

\$NZ39/day all inclusive (5/10 day minimum). Free pick-up. Phone 0011 64 3 349 8022; fax 0011 64 3 349 8218. Check our web calculator <<http://www.a1rentacar.co.nz>>.



## In your August Signs:

- Grant Hackett talks about winning (and losing)
- Enzed's Barbara Kendall goes for gold
- Telling kids about sex
- Prophecy foretold the Middle East quagmire
- Meet our new Web watcher!