

RECORD



Lee Dunstan, senior assistant editor for Signs Publishing Company, shares a book from the shelves of the newly renovated Honiara ABC with some young readers. Mr Dunstan was one of 11 Signs personnel helping in a renovation-refurbishment of the premises.

Adventist Book Centre grows

Honiara, Solomon Islands

In order to meet the rising demand for Christian literature in the developing countries of the South Pacific—most of whom are experiencing adverse exchange rates and declining employment rates—Signs Publishing Company (SPC), the principal distributor of titles for the Adventist Book Centres (ABC), is investing heavily in retail infrastructure in the island missions.

Signs staff constructed an entire bookshop in Port Vila, Vanuatu, in April 2000. In a practical demonstration of its continued commitment, SPC recently underwrote a staff “fly’n’renovate” of the ABC in Honiara. Signs staff assisted in the refurbishment of the premises from August 20 to 28.

“Signs has a strong commitment to the ABC outlets in the Pacific,” says Elizabeth Dunstan, Signs Publishing Company’s book department manager. “Not only is there an emphasis on growing new outlets, but also on branding to establish the ‘ABC’ name. It’s our plan that they’ll be the pre-eminent bookseller in all population centres. We want our bookshops to be where a person goes for a quality book—the ‘Borders’ of [Christian] bookshops in the Pacific.”

She reports that Pacific wide, ABCs are experiencing modest growth, with most recent forward sales estimates suggesting they will soon exceed those of the generally declining Australian and New Zealand markets, where Christian book sales, as in most of the developed world, are in decline.

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Feature: Discovering passion

The art of grace—2

Let's give this guy the biggest tip he's ever had," said Pastor Phil Camden of Mount Eden Christian Life Centre during an evening service at his Auckland, New Zealand, church. He had just hung up the speaker phone from ordering pizza for the children's group at the church.

As reported in the *New Zealand Herald* last month, Pastor Camden reminded the congregation that pizza workers were often robbed, so it would be nice to do something for one of them. So while the 21-year-old pizza delivery driver made his way to the church, the worshippers took up an offering as a random act of kindness.

The driver, who had been at the job for only two months, arrived at the church without realising what the place was. He delivered the pizzas and was told to wait a couple of minutes. The result: a tip of \$NZ\$20. The *Heralds* report concludes, "The windfall . . . made him believe in God. If he had time, he said he might even go to church."

In Australian parlance, tipping usually has more to do with which horse or football team is going to win on the weekend. Yet tipping—giving a small amount of money above the standard charge in appreciation of a service rendered—is a subtle art, with various shades of generosity of spirit accompanying the gift.

I have a soft spot for good stories of pizza drivers because, a few years ago, I took up the red vinyl warming box and joined the forces of Australia's pizza delivery drivers. I was studying at university and there are not many jobs available to anyone over the age of 18 and thus no longer eligible for junior wages. A person may have qualifications but is not able to commit to working 30-something hours per week and does not want to work on weekends. So

the job seemed to fit. Yet it is quite possible I should have had higher ethical standards and not simply surrendered so easily to the ranks of corporate lackey and purveyor of junk food to the already overweight masses. Yet in the course of my employment over that year, I came to appreciate the finer points of the art of tipping.

Of course, the most common "tip" is the non-tip—and there is nothing necessarily wrong with this. The purchaser exchanges the price for the product and the transaction is concluded satisfactorily. The next most common tip is that of giving change to the nearest dollar, usually leaving between five and 15 cents as a small bonus. This is similar to the next form of tip, which is the larger "keep the change" amounts. But these are ambiguous in nature: one is left unsure as to whether the tip is the result of laziness, impatience or generosity.

By far, the nicest tips are those that are obviously intentional. This is indicated by the availability of correct change in the cash delivered, but with an additional amount added—and it does not need to be \$820 to be noticed. It is a simple act of kindness—an act of grace—that brightens an evening, not to mention helping to pay for the petrol.

However, the kind of tipping that would truly astound any pizza deliverer would be that of the completely random and unscheduled tip. And it is healthier too: no pizza involved. It would be someone simply stopping you in the street and "tipping" you. It would be so unexpected that you may even be offended by it. It just would not make sense.

Yet God seems to be into this type of tipping. Individually and as a planet, we were wandering along the street of life only to be interrupted by the most unexpected

tip in the universe. We were not delivering anything to God—we had nothing to give—"but God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8*).

And to take this irrational tipping a huge step further, consider that the tip might not be just enough to help you buy some petrol that day. Instead, it is enough to buy you a new car; in fact, it means you never have to work again. You are set for life. By this stage, you would be calling into question the sanity of this manic tipper.

This is grace: "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God" (1 Corinthians 1:18). In Christ, God gave you the craziest, most extravagant tip in the history of the universe.

Grace does not make sense, but we should be overwhelmingly grateful it doesn't. If God dealt with us with mere justice, we would find ourselves quickly back on our dead-end street—going nowhere in particular. The non-sense of grace is our only hope.

By a strange—but truly divine—logic, the inexplicable grace of God has become the strongest force in the universe—the biggest, craziest tipping ever seen. "For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength" (1 Corinthians 1:25).

* Bible quotations are from the *New International Version*.



Nathan Brown



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

- Gold medals presented to Esperance fathers
- Gilson College tops “On Track” chart
- Aussie Olympic basketballer shares his faith
- The Passion DVD launched
- and more

—Compiled by Scott Wegener—

● **Yarra View Retirement Village**, Warburton, Vic, has been presented with a three-year **accreditation certificate**. Local Federal MP **Fran Bailey** (pictured, left) handed over the certificate to the manager of Yarra View,



Alexander Bolek (right). “The three-year certification is the highest level of accreditation available,” said Ms Bailey, “and the awarding of this level of accreditation is indicative of the hard work and commitment of Yarra View staff.”—*Eric Kingdon*

● **Gold medals** were given to 20 men in **Esperance church**, WA for **Father’s Day**. The congregation sang the hymn “All things bright and beautiful,” changing the word *creatures* to *fathers*, while the gold medals were presented to all the fathers (pictured) in recognition of their support,



willingness, love, prayers and as an appreciation for all they do as fathers in the church.

● Recently 25 students and three teachers, from the Kirbati Mission’s **Kauma Adventist High School** at Abemama, travelled 48 kilometres on a 12-metre wooden catamaran to conduct a two-

Mobile vote for Jesus campaign

Pastor Ted White has had a unique idea to promote Jesus while the current Australian Federal election campaign is on people’s minds.

The Albion and Mitchelton churches, Qld, have an advertising trailer used for promoting their outreach programs. Similar to the politicians’ “Vote for” posters seen hanging around the suburbs, Pastor White has had his own “Vote for” sign made up for the trailer (pictured), promoting Jesus as the one who should be trusted.

“I’m towing it around everywhere I go to help people be aware of who they should really be voting for,” says Pastor White. “Surprisingly, I have had a very good response.” The advertising board is double sided for viewing on each side of the street and also has another face showing to traffic behind the trailer. “Whichever way you are coming from you can’t miss it,” he says.



week outreach program. “We had more than 200 attend every night,” says Pastor Terry Atauea, who travelled with the group. “They appreciated our students singing and enjoyed listening to our Bible presentations.” More than 40 people filled in decision cards and four women attended church the following Sabbath.

● What began a couple of years ago as a vision of the Victorian Youth Department to provide training for leaders involved in youth work, **Grace to grow** has quickly evolved into a Victoria-wide general **leadership training weekend**. This year more than 260 church members, from many church leadership positions, attended from more than 60 churches around the state. As well as the 20 plus topics presented, including keynote speaker Pastor **Stuart Tyner’s** presentations, was singer **Francine Bell** and **Frontier** worship group presenting musical treats.—*Intraviv*

● The French Polynesia and New Caledonia Missions have recently trained

church members in the new updated **French-language stop-smoking program** called *Libre Sans Tabac*. The author of the new program, Professor **Raymond Romand**, does voluntary work for the Health Ministries Department in France, and donated his time to assist the local missions update the new program. In Noumea a collaboration was established with Dr **Harley Stanton**, Health Promotion Adviser, Tobacco and Alcohol Secretariat of the Pacific Community, to run a public stop-smoking program, which 150 people attended, including 30 local doctors.—*Judy McAnulty*

● **Living Waters**, a church plant established on the campus of **Gilson College**, Vic, has the college classes rostered each month to provide the worship theme through music, drama and readings. Teachers work in conjunction with Pastor **Derek McCutcheon** to create the program for the children. At a recent monthly program, Years 1, 3 and 4 contributed, with the home economics department providing soup and buns for a luncheon for some 200 people—most non-



Adventists. Gilson College is the largest Adventist school in Victoria, and recently **topped the chart** with their “On Track” data showing the highest percentage of students moving into tertiary study compared to the other schools of the region.—*Mark Vodell*

● Returning from playing **basketball** for the Boomers at the **Athens Olympics**, **Jason Smith** spoke on Sydney Christian radio station FM103.2 about how the “older and wiser” he gets, the more his faith helps him keep things in perspective and deal with issues related to being a professional athlete. Mr Smith enjoyed hanging out with the many Christians

Bega drought relief

A combination of government, community and business sectors recently delivered support to farmers from around the Bega district, NSW.

Jan Bruce, drought support worker for the NSW Department of Agriculture, combined efforts with Sanitarium, Linfox transport, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)—Australia and Bega’s own Hayes Haulage to create a special evening for drought-affected farmers from the region.

Farmers were treated to a dinner that was supplemented by take-home goods donated by Sanitarium. Pastor Ken Bird, minister of the Bega Adventist church, says, “ADRA had asked Sanitarium to support its efforts in drought relief for the south-east of NSW. Sanitarium reciprocated with 22 pallets of breakfast foods and its Water Plus product.”

Distribution of the donated goods was carried out at a meeting of drought-affected farmers organised by the NSW Department of Agriculture. Each farmer

was able to take away boxes of Weet-Bix, Up & Go and cartons of Water Plus.

“Farmers were also encouraged to load breakfast food and water onto their trucks for other farmers in their area that are doing it tough,” says Pastor Bird.

ADRA—Australia will be distributing more than \$A35,000 of drought relief funds in southern NSW, as well as in the Echuca region of Victoria. Funds are used to assist with electricity and phone bills and council rate payments.

among the athletes assembled in Athens and a real highlight was “travelling in the footsteps of Paul the apostle” with a visit to Corinth. Before a big game, Jason normally prays with fellow Christian team member C J Bruton, asking that they’ll get through the game unscathed and that the Lord will “help us play to the best of our abilities and bring glory to Him.” Mr Smith encourages young Christians, particularly athletes, reaching for their dreams, but encountering difficult times, ethical questions or temptations, to read their Bible. “The answers and the plans for your life are all right there in black and white.” Jason concluded by asking listeners to pray for all Christian athletes around the world who are finding it very hard to share, and grow in, their faith.—ACC

● The **The Passion of The Christ DVD** sold **4.1 million copies** on its August 31 release in the USA. *Finding Nemo* still holds the record with about 8 million copies. The *Passion* grossed more than \$US370 million in ticket sales, making it second only to *Shrek 2*. Twentieth Century Fox, who are distributing the DVD, are offering church groups the opportunity to purchase the DVD in bulk for **mass distribution**. A survey found 47.8 per cent of buyers planned to use the DVD for sharing their faith. “If you have been concerned by the violence in the film, you can **cut short the violent scenes** on DVD,” says *New Life* newspaper editor Helen Woodall.—ACC/*New Life*

● The Missouri, USA, superintendent who **lost his job** for posting the **Ten Commandments** on a school wall says God turned an ugly situation into a beautiful one. A day after the plaque was removed from the Humansville High School cafeteria, **75 students** posted the Ten Commandments on their lockers at the school. The former superintendent says he was born an educator, and he plans to be back in a public school some day.—*AgapePress*

Days and offerings

October 16—Spirit of Prophecy Day

October 23—Children’s Day

Off the record

● **Internet Bible studies** have recently led to a baptism at Alstonville church, NSW. **Matthew Brown** (pictured, left)

was baptised by Pastor **David Edgren** (right), who was the teens’ guest speaker at Goulburn camp



seven years ago. After two years of correspondence, Matthew decided to be baptised and studied 14 lessons at <www.amazingfacts.com>, discussing each lesson over the Internet with Pastor Edgren. Presently caring for two churches in Hobart, Tas, Pastor Edgren flew to Alstonville to be guest speaker of a regional youth day, where he baptised Matthew.—*Northpoint*

● **Fijian athlete Mereoni Vibose** was baptised on August 28 at the end of a Dorcas Federation biannual meeting in Fiji. Some of Mereoni’s sporting achievements include representing Fiji in discus and javelin through six South Pacific Games, acquiring three gold medals, four silver and two bronze, touring New Zealand with the Fiji women’s hockey team and representing Fiji in the 1974 and 1982 **Commonwealth Games**. Mereoni, the sole Adventist living in Raiwaqa, makes a one-hour bus ride to Laselase village every Sabbath for church. Mereoni says she has now **found the truth** she was searching for.—*Peni Dakua*

● Recently 50 students from **Prescott Primary Northern** visited Para Vista church, SA, to present **Noah the musical** during the worship service. Prescott Primary Northern has 321 students, of which 35 per cent are from Adventist homes, with the remainder made up of at least eight other denominations.—*Lawreen McIver*



Church leaders speak on Sydney radio

Wahroonga, New South Wales

Three Seventh-day Adventist Church leaders accepted invitations to speak on commercial radio in Sydney in August.

Joy Butler spoke about her new role as the director of Christian outreach for the World Women's Christian Temperance Movement in a pre-recorded interview with Dr Gordon Moyes on August 24.

Dr Percy Harrold spoke about Alcohol Awareness Week in a prerecorded interview with Dr Moyes the same day.

Pastor Ray Coombe spoke about the separation of church and state in a live interview with Reverend Bill Crews five days later.

Dr Moyes will feature the interview with Mrs Butler in the "Ordinary person" spot on his program, Sunday Night Live, broadcast from 9 pm on Radio 2 1611 AM.

Mrs Butler, the director of Women's Ministries for the South Pacific Division (SPD), spoke to Dr Moyes at a meeting of the Sydney chapter of Association of Adventist Forums. Dr Moyes, a guest of the association, "spoke about how the



Joy Butler.

world sees Adventists," says Mrs Butler. "He mentioned how we used to take a strong stand on temperance but now don't say much about it. I spoke to him after the presentation. He suggested we meet for morning tea, but his secretary proved too protective. So, I emailed and he called almost immediately."

"Ordinary person" is a biographical interview with a member of the community who has a story to share about their trials, tribulations and Christian contribution to the people they have encountered in their life journey.



Dr Percy Harrold.

Dr Moyes broadcast his interview with Dr Harrold, the SPD associate Adventist Health Ministries director, on September 5. The two took a total-abstinence approach to the personal use of alcohol as being a positive lifestyle choice. They mentioned the non-alcoholic wine tasting at Sydney Adventist Hospital and Wesley Mission during the awareness week, likening it to a non-alcoholic "pub crawl." They also spoke of the effects of alcohol on the behaviour of Members of Parliament and compared the celebration of sporting victories with and without alcohol.

Dr Harrold has appeared on Dr Moyes's radio program three times.

Reverend Crews aired the interview with Pastor Coombe on his Sunday Night Crews program, broadcast from 8 pm to midnight on 2GB 873 AM.

Pastor Coombe, the director of public affairs and religious liberty for the SPD, responded in the interview to comments from the director of the Christian Democratic Party in New South Wales, Phil Lamb. Mr Lamb had criticised Christian church leaders for declining to publicly endorse Reverend Fred Nile's bid for a seat in the Senate in the upcoming Federal election.

Pastor Coombe said we should congratulate churches for refusing to sponsor political parties or candidates (see "Church, state criticism addresses," Newsfront, September 18).

Reverend Crews's producer spotted Pastor Coombe's comments in an article that first appeared on the SPD web site, <www.adventist.org.au>. —**Brenton Stacey**



Pastor Ray Coombe.

Wanted: Help tracing history of financial reports

Wahroonga, New South Wales

The Seventh-day Adventist Church needs help to document the history of a hard-copy financial reporting system it is replacing with an electronic system.

The "Long Tom" is a handwritten reporting system used by local church treasurers for more than 65 years to keep records of income and expense and provide monthly tithe and offering reports.

"We're keen to trace the history of the 'Long Tom' as part of the work we're doing to develop a new Internet-based system for reporting tithes and offerings," says Kelvin Peuser, an



Kelvin Peuser would like to hear from anyone with knowledge of the hard-copy financial reporting system the church has used.

associate chief financial officer for the South Pacific Division (SPD). "The 'Long Tom' has served the church well, but the technology we now have will enable more efficient financial reporting."

He has spoken with Edgar Langsford, the treasurer for the Concord church, who remembers first using the "Long Tom" soon after graduating from Avondale College in 1937.

If you can help, email Mr Peuser or the SPD's investment and financial services manager, Virgilio Cadungog, at <kpeuser@adventist.org.au> or <vcadungog@adventist.org.au> or phone +61 2 9847 3222. —**ANN South Pacific**

Adventist Book Centre grows

(Continued from page 1)

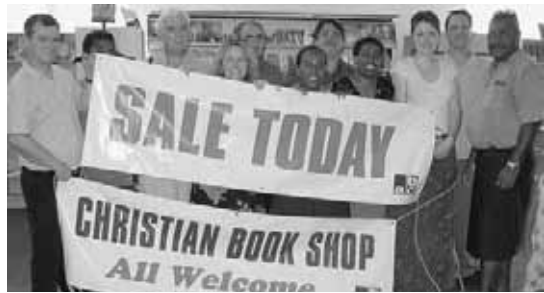
During the recent spate of violence in the Solomon Islands—euphemistically referred to as “tension” by locals—one of the few businesses in Honiara to remain open was the church’s ABC, located on the grounds of the large Kukum church. As ethnic rivalry and hostility spiralled into bloodshed, lawlessness and fear shut down most of Honiara and slowed economic activity to a trickle. But the country’s central Adventist bookshop (one of two) remained open, with business as usual.



The new store was “piped in” by the **Betikama High School’s SHF Pipes and Drums band.**

Mrs Dunstan monitors wholesale figures for the various ABCs, and she says it appears that during times of upheaval, such as in Honiara, ABC sales tend to rise.

Total book sales in Pacific ABCs rose by some \$A100,000 to \$A944,000 over the past year—almost half the sales in the division.



Some of the SPC staff who renovated the Honiara store.

“With the plans Signs has for the expansion of the network throughout the South Pacific, including a major infrastructure investment at Pacific Adventist University, we expect the growth will continue to surprise us and, as a result, more people will be influenced and helped through the written word sold in our church’s outlets,” she concludes.—**Lee Dunstan**

New fee assistance for Avondale students

Cooranbong, NSW

The Commonwealth government has announced extensive new fee assistance for Avondale College students. The new package, to commence in 2005, includes:

- 42 Commonwealth-funded places in nursing;
- 30 new Commonwealth-funded places in secondary teacher education;
- Retention of Avondale’s existing 235 Commonwealth-funded places in teacher education; and
- FEE-HELP for all Avondale students enrolled in higher-education courses who are Australian citizens and who do not have Commonwealth-funded places.

Higher-education courses include all undergraduate and postgraduate courses and Avondale’s Diploma of General Studies (Foundation Studies).

From 2005, all Australian citizens enrolled in these courses at Avondale will have the option of deferring their tuition fees. The government will pay the fees to Avondale and the student will repay the government via the tax system. Repayments commence when the person earns more than \$36,184 (indexed annually). Repayments are in small annual amounts spread over an extended period.

The financial assistance is a loan

indexed each year to the CPI, but with no additional interest. The assistance applies to tuition fees only (not facility fees or accommodation costs).

Dr John Cox, president of Avondale College, said the assistance package is the most significant ever offered to Avondale students. “Finance need no longer be a barrier to any student eligible for the government assistance,” he says.

Dr Cox notes that Avondale’s distinctive ethos is in no way diminished by accepting the student assistance. On the contrary, “Avondale’s distinctiveness was an important factor in securing the funding package,” he says. The college was required to demonstrate how it contributes to the diversity of Australian higher education. “We did this,” he explains, “by highlighting Avondale’s distinctive approach to Christian education.”

While Avondale’s eligibility for the newly announced financial assistance has been gazetted by the Commonwealth government, this approval is subject to review within the first 15 days of the next sitting of Federal Parliament. The college will announce if there is any change in funding assistance status.

Further details of the new fee assistance are available on Avondale’s web site <www.avondale.edu.au>.

Church expresses sympathy for school massacre victims

Wahroonga, New South Wales

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in the South Pacific has expressed “deep sympathy” to the families of those killed or injured in the Beslan school massacre. “Images of young children who have lost classmates, mothers and fathers who have lost children and those of the community of Beslan trying to deal with the shock . . . have moved us deeply,” writes president Pastor Laurie Evans in a letter to Leonid Moiseev, the Russian Ambassador to Australia.

The massacre took place between September 1 and 3, when armed terrorists took students and teachers of the Middle School Number One in Beslan, North Ossetia, hostage. Security forces broke the stand-off with the terrorists, but not before more than 330 people were killed, almost half of them children.

Pastor Evans describes the massacre as an “inhumane act of terrorism.” He writes to Ambassador Moiseev of the church providing spiritual support. “Our office staff and our prayer network have been praying and will continue to pray for the community. . . . [May God] fill all our hearts with peace.”

While none of the 146 Adventists in the North Ossetia region were harmed, many of their friends and acquaintances were. Adventists are visiting children in hospital, helping families arrange funerals, and praying with them.—**Brenton Stacey/Inna Ivanova**

Visionary students plan for future ministry

Lilydale, Victoria

A new executive team for the Adventist Students Association (ASA) was elected during their July Convention in Lilydale, Victoria.

"Throughout the South Pacific Division (SPD), God is raising up a group of people who are passionate about seeing the kingdom of God being established on secular university campuses," says ASA president Sven Ostring. "They are committed to developing a proactive Adventist presence in educational institutions where the world views of hedonism, scientism and postmodernism have until now prevailed."

There are four groups of students ASA hopes to minister to. Mr Ostring says there are many Adventist students who arrive at university without having committed their lives to Jesus Christ. "We want to put in place a safety net of people who will reach out to provide such students with friendship at this critical period, and challenge them to accept the gospel."

For Adventist students who are already committed Christians, ASA provides a group of like-minded students in which they can feel at home. ASA also wants to provide Christian fellowship for students from other Christian denominations who could benefit from experiencing some of the most special and attractive parts of the Adventist message, such as the Sabbath.

Finally, ASA will establish a strong outreach ministry for non-Christian students.

The new ASA executive team recently met at Warners Bay, NSW, to collectively discern God's vision for student ministry in Australia and New Zealand and set in place a strategic plan for achieving it.

Four broad elements were identified as:

Communication—linking with individual students, ASA leaders and their local groups, through to the various levels of church leadership. This will include but not be limited to the use of the ASA



The newly elected ASA executive team is (back row L-R): graduate adviser Philip Rodionoff, president Sven Ostring, vice-president James Etwell, co-convenor of convention Michelle King; (front row L-R) public relations coordinator Claire Egan, secretary Alysia Greive, Dei Gratia editor Marissa Ansell, web-site coordinator Justin Brown, co-convenor of convention Lauren Norman. Not pictured are treasurer David Vincent and symposium convenor Matthew Hunter.

publication *Dei Gratia* and web site <www.myasa.org.au>.

Leadership training—programs will be established to develop ASA leaders of the future. One concept being investigated is to provide research funding for graduate students to pursue research programs on student ministry in areas such as sociology, psychology and pastoral ministry.

Outreach—discipleship and friendship evangelism will be a key priority. Seminars, church plants and mission trips are some evangelistic methods ASA are considering.

Support resources—currently ASA receives financial support from the SPD and the Australian Union Conference. An anonymous donation of \$A10,000 has just been given to ASA, and the concept of developing an ASA Foundation is being investigated.

"It's a big vision," concedes Mr Ostring, "but the ASA team is convinced that God has called us for 'such a time as this.'" He adds, "Being a student is all about the opportunity to explore life, and the vision of ASA is provide opportunities to explore what life with God is like."—**Kellie Hancock**

Adventist MP speaks in Fiji

Suva, Fiji

Also a Member of Parliament in Hawaii has shared his testimony with church members holding public office in Fiji.

Pastor David Pendelton spoke at a seminar for Adventists in government about balancing the demands of ministry and of politics.

"He has survived four election campaigns in his eight years in parliament," says Pastor Ray Coombe, the director of public affairs and religious liberty (PARL) for the South Pacific Division (SPD).

Pastor Pendelton continues to sit in the Legislative Assembly even after accepting a call from the Hawaiian Conference to serve as its PARL director and to care for two local churches. "He's a modern Daniel who understands the importance of being a witness in public office," says Pastor Coombe.

Thirty Adventists attended the seminar, held in the capital, Suva, August 13-15, and organised by the Trans-Pacific Union's PARL director, Pastor Waisea Vuniwa.

The president of the Senate in Fiji, Taito Waqavakatoga, spoke at the opening. Other speakers included the SPD president, Pastor Laurie Evans, Pastor Coombe, the Trans-Pacific Union's general secretary, Pastor Lawrence Tanabose, and the acting director of health services for the western division of Fiji, Dr Tui Taoi.

The seminar is the latest in a series organised in the Pacific islands by the church. "Adventists in politics and public affairs do not have the time to regularly attend their local church and so do not receive the same nurture others do," says Pastor Coombe. "The demands of their job also challenge their commitment to God and to the church. That's why we organise these seminars."—**ANN South Pacific**



Pastor Laurie Evans speaks to the 30 church members attending an Adventists in government seminar in Suva, Fiji, August 15.

Who is lord?

by Laurie Evans

Stewardship is a word that has come to be associated primarily with finance, budgeting and money. But the dictionary gives a broader application. One such meaning given to it is “a charge committed to one.”

The Bible also has a lot to say about the concept of stewardship. We are described as stewards of His grace (1 Peter 4:10); stewards of the mysteries of God (1 Corinthians 4:1); stewards of the gospel (Matthew 20:8); and stewards of the church (Colossians 1:25).

The rich young man

From a biblical perspective, *stewardship* is not really about money or material things. Ironically, Jesus illustrated this in His dealing with the rich young ruler. The Bible tells the story: “As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. ‘Good teacher,’ he asked, ‘what must I do to inherit eternal life?’” (Mark 10:17*).

This is the most important question that can ever be asked, a question of eternal consequence. The young man focuses on salvation and eternity and seeks a clear statement from Jesus as to how this is achieved.

But the young man saw Jesus only as a “good teacher” and did not acknowledge Him as the “God-man.” He thought eternal life was based on “doing.” In an effort to draw the young man out, Jesus responded to him as He does to all who think their works can earn them salvation—You have to keep the commandments. Jesus reminds him—and us—that if we don’t recognise that the goodness of God leads us to salvation and we decide to get there on our merits, then we must keep the commandments perfectly!

Having testified to his obedience to the law, Jesus then confronts him with the real



stumbling block in his life. He bids the rich man to go and sell everything he has, give to the poor and then he would have what he sought. “Then [and only then] come, follow me” (verse 21). Jesus here is trying to get the rich young ruler to understand that an outward compliance to the law and living a respectable life is not enough. And all the riches in the world cannot buy us a ticket to heaven.

What Jesus wanted this inquirer after truth to understand was that salvation has to do with who is lord of our lives.

Lordship

Stewardship is all about lordship—who is lord of our lives? This rich young man failed the stewardship test. The Bible tells us, “He went away sad, because he had great wealth” (verse 22).

There have been many before and after this young man who failed the stewardship test. All forfeited their right to eternal life. The same question applies to us. The

journey to eternity is all about who is lord of our lives, who has pride of place in our thinking and priorities. It is about total commitment.

The Bible makes it clear that God is a jealous God. He wants all or nothing. Jesus made this clear in response to the question about which is the greatest commandment: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment” (Matthew 22:37, 38).

The widow’s offering

But the Bible does not just show us the negative. It also tells us the beautiful story of one who passed this supreme test.

It took place while Jesus was seemingly having a rest near where people put money into the temple treasury (Mark 12:41). As He watched,

He noticed many rich people throw in large amounts. Then He observed a poor widow who put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny.

The poor widow was in extreme want. She lived a hand-to-mouth existence and who had to labour each day in order to have something to eat the next day.

As Jesus watched what unfolded before Him and saw the action of this poor widow, He used this incident to teach an important truth regarding sacrifice and commitment. He made it clear that the value of what one gives is determined by motive, not by the size of the gift. Similarly, the amount of the gift is determined by how much a person has left after they have given.

In this simple offering, the widow out-gave the combined donations of all the rich based on this criterion. The rich gave from the abundance of their wealth, with an abundance remaining for their own use. The widow gave all she had to live on with nothing left.

The woman gave out of a heart of love with no thought of reward or of receiving anything in return. Her gift represented total commitment and trust. It demonstrated she had her priorities right. Anyone who observed her closely would know she loved Jesus supremely. Her actions revealed it. Her personal budget gave an unambiguous indication as to who was in control of her life.

The lordship test

To pass the stewardship test is to pass the lordship test. Our stewardship gives a clear signal as to who is lord of our lives. If Jesus is truly Lord of all, this will be reflected in the allocation of our funds, the way we utilise our time, our attitudes to others, what we look at and what we read—and everything we do.

But what about the corporate church? The church is also implicated, being made stewards of His grace, His church, the mysteries of God and the gospel. As the *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary* reminds us, “The gospel minister is charged with caring for the church of God on earth and providing that which is necessary for its wellbeing” (Vol 6, page 681).

If an audit were conducted to determine whether the corporate church at each level—local churches, conferences, unions and the division—has successfully passed the stewardship, the lordship test, how would it fare?

If Jesus is truly Lord of the church, we will be faithful stewards of **His grace**. This will be evidenced by:

- The way we deal with people. This includes the little people who have no influence or status, the disempowered ones. It will show in the letters and emails we write.
- Our policies and practice and the care we show the wounded—the people who have become hurt or the victim of the tragedies of life.
- Our ability to recognise when we have made mistakes. Legal implications and the threat of liability suits are proving to be impediments to us being able to genuinely say to someone who has been hurt, “I’m sorry.” Instead, we seek legal advice as to how we can craft a letter that infers we are sorry but without saying it. Alternatively—too often—we seek to

ignore the situation and pretend nothing happened.

If Jesus is truly Lord of the church, we will be faithful stewards of **His church**. This will be evidenced by:

- How open and transparent we are. This point was repeatedly mentioned in a consultation with church members we held earlier this year.
- Our willingness to surrender some of our autonomy if it is in the best interests of the wider church and the more effective carrying out of mission.
- The degree to which structure and policies are seen to be the servant of the church rather than the master.

If Jesus is truly Lord of the church, we will be faithful stewards of **the mysteries of God**. This will be evidenced by:

- The degree to which we maintain, in the face of the pressures of the world and popular opinion, the integrity of the teachings of Scripture.
- How we deal with science in relation to faith and Scripture. The mysteries of God are contained not only in Scripture; they are also to be found in the natural world.
- Our interpretation of prophecy and how we express our understanding of the remnant and the gift of prophecy.

If Jesus is truly Lord of the church, we will be faithful stewards of **the gospel**. This will be evidenced by:


- The degree to which we are focused on mission as compared to maintenance, remembering that “mission” includes both witness and nurture. This can be gauged by examining the agendas of our executive committees, boards and councils. What absorbs most of the time and energies of the members of these administrative bodies? On what do administrators spend most of their time?
- Our strategic plans or even if we have meaningful strategic plans. Do we have a strategic initiative that covers every town, village and area of the geographical territory under our jurisdiction? But at the same time, we are committed to supporting the expansion of God’s kingdom in all parts of the world.
- An analysis of our budgets and where we are spending the major portion of our income and in particular tithe, which is to be devoted to the support of gospel ministry. I fear that over time the

definition of what this means has gradually expanded to the point where we can justify the inclusion of a number of expenses that are questionable. That means that currently a significant proportion of tithe is expended on administration, the superstructure and support of ministry. Under the lordship test we have to ask ourselves: Is this an acceptable practice?

A challenge to the church

It is interesting to note many of these issues are touched upon in the description of the end-time church are found in the letter to the church in Laodicea (Revelation 3:14-21). The letter is all about the lordship question, which means it centres around the core of stewardship. The problem with the church at the end of time spoken of here is not that it has not returned a faithful tithe or a generous offering. Instead, this church does not have a vibrant relationship with Jesus and lacks the gold of love tried in the fire, the seamless robe of Christ’s righteousness, and the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

If the church of which we have been speaking accepts the remedy offered by the “faithful and true Witness” and opens its heart to the One who stands at the door and knocks and allows Him to enter and occupy His rightful place as Lord, stewardship will not be a problem,

We need to examine the question of stewardship in the broader context of who is in control of our lives and the church. Who has pride of place and priority? We need a renewal of our commitment to Jesus Christ, not only as our Friend and Saviour, but also as Lord: “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches” (Revelation 3:22). 

** Bible quotations are from the New International Version.*

“Stewardship—It’s a lifestyle.” This is the fifth in a series of articles highlighting the importance of stewardship as it impacts on many aspects of our lives.

Laurie Evans is president of the South Pacific Division (SPD), based in Wairoa, New South Wales. This article is adapted from the opening address given by Pastor Evans at the SPD Stewardship Summit last month.

Discovering passion

by Fiona Kingston

I love that word *passion*. For me it brings images of lingering kisses with your loved one, warm embraces, a bursting in of love and wonder, an excitement that tears inside when you have been apart for a time and you are going to meet.

I remember being in primary school. On sweltering days we would go to the pool, or sometimes the river. The anticipation in getting there was so great we'd run madly across the grass to get into the water as quickly as possible. Other childhood passions were early Christmas mornings prior to opening presents, unwrapping the newspaper around hot chips, finding money in the Christmas pudding, going to our holiday spot and racing down to the beach as soon as we arrived.

God wants us to be passionate, not only with the stuff of life but most of all with Him. In Revelation, the Laodicians are condemned for being lukewarm, neither hot nor cold. Jesus says He will "spit you out of my mouth." (Revelation 3:16*). Toward the end of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said there will be many who thought they had it right with Him, but in fact they didn't because He "never knew" them (Matthew 7:23). To *know* is the secret; not a head knowledge, but a heart knowledge, a passion for relationship with God.

Passion cannot be taught; it has to be experienced. We cannot be passionate for our Father if we don't feel loved by Him. Do we know how much God loves and adores us? Have we experienced the tiniest inkling of this? When we have, we are flat on our face in awe of our amazing God.

He is a God who reads our sad hearts and sees our fragile happiness. This awesome God is majestic Creator and King eternal on the one hand, but is also personally passionate about each one of us.

I had no clue about unconditional love until I had children. Parenthood gives us a taste of what it must be like for God. My



son seems determined on pushing the boundaries, and there are the quiet but determined conversations at night trying to seek solutions. I will not stop until he is right. I will not stop worrying and trying and seeking help and praying and reading experts and sticking my neck out for my kid until he is safe. I will not give up. I am his mother. This is my job. This is my heart.

It reminds me of Jesus when His heart was breaking for His Jewish nation and even the priests and leaders who rejected Him: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem . . . how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings" (Matthew 23:37).

This is God's mission for us. He wants to save us. He has done everything possible to ensure we have eternal life. We are in His heart. His love for us is constant, eternal and extreme. Jesus was executed on the cross for you and me. God loves us so much He can hear billions of prayers at once, individually picking you out of the crowd and knowing you intimately. He knows how many hairs are on your head, less the seven that fell out this morning.

He knows when you mess up and sometimes He chuckles at your funny

mistakes. He knows when your heart is breaking and He has strength to carry your load. He gives the best gift of all with the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit, the inner source of peace.

God has so much to give us, so much He wants to do for us, and He waits sadly, patiently, for us to notice, to spend time with Him, to seek a relationship with Him. We might ask Him for a drip when He wants to give an ocean. When we consider that, how can we want to be anything but passionate?

Among the turbulence of Psalm 46, we are told to "be still, and know that I am God" (verse 10). Sometimes we need to stop all that "do-ing" and simply *be* with our Father. Sit down at His feet like Mary did and listen to Him. Our Father is waiting for us—He always has, He always will. Realising that is the first step to being passionate about our God. 🕊

* Bible quotations are from the New International Version.

Fiona Kingston is a teacher who writes from Normanhurst, New South Wales.

Temptation surprises

by W A Townend

My girlfriend and I have had so much temptation lately, we feel we need to go through a moral dry-cleaning machine," Bruce told me when he asked that I speak on temptation at the next youth rally.

Cheer up, Bruce and girlfriend, temptation is not sin. The devil would like you to believe that it is, then he's won—you're another loser, beaten. Yet the devil himself knows from personal experiences that temptation is not sin. He tempted Jesus for 40 days and nights, nonstop—tempted, tempted and tempted some more—but Jesus did not sin (Matthew 4:1-11). As Paul put it, "[He] has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin" (Hebrews 4:15*).

If temptation is the devil's merchandise, he is a one-product merchant. The only thing he has to sell—and selling is his occupation—is death. How would you and I go as salespeople for death? We'd have to market it as life. And that's exactly what the devil does. His buyers imagine they are going to experience the exuberance of unrestricted life and freedom from restraint. But "after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death" (James 1:15).

We buy the devil's product with our own coinage given to each one of us by God—our free will. We, as it were, put our hand into our moral purse, take out our free will and hand it over to the devil. But the thing he wants is ours. Temptation, although in itself not sin, becomes the vehicle for our sin experience. But never forget we bought it with the coinage of our will exercised by our choice.

Hand your will over to the devil and his product is yours! Hold on to your will and the devil is out of business with you—for the time being, at least. He will try again, but if God enables you to hold on to your will once, why not twice?

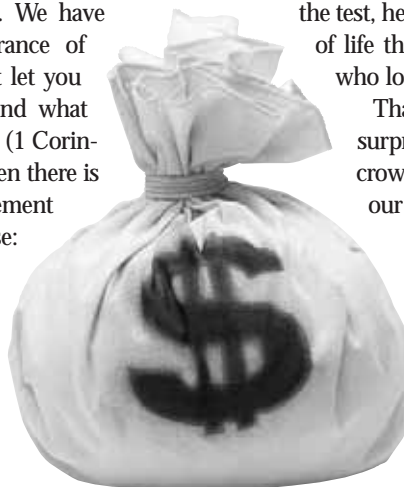
And never forget: the devil cannot make you put his evil hand into your moral purse

and help himself to your will. Never.

A hefty young fellow elbowed his way past me on a downtown street. On the back of his white T-shirt was emblazoned *The Devil Made Me Do It*. But that's one thing the devil can't do: he can't make us sin. No matter how great the pressure he may bring to bear, sin is our own purchase. We have the currency and we can give it in exchange for temptations, but not even the devil can take it from us. Great news, Bruce and girlfriend. And there's more.

The devil is not permitted by God to tempt us beyond the point of our capacity to resist. We have God's own assurance of this: "He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear . . ." (1 Corinthians 10:13). Then there is an intriguing statement that ends the verse:

"But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it."



Jesus is that "way out" of the temptation—and all temptations. Little wonder the experienced Jude referred to Jesus as "him who is able to keep you from falling" (verse 24). But Jesus' victory over temptation and sin in His life and death for us gives the ring of assurance to Paul's inspired words of certainty: "God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Corinthians 5:21).

It's true. As James puts it, "Blessed is the man [or woman] who perseveres under trial, because when he [or she] has stood the test, he [or she] will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him" (James 1:12).

That will be temptation's greatest surprise: the glory of the victor's crown and eternity! That's beyond our imagination. **R**

* Bible quotations are from the New International Version.

W A Townend is a retired church administrator, who writes from Cooranbong, New South Wales.

Just for children

"Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid.... He will never leave you nor forsake you."

Deuteronomy 31:6



Peta Taylor

Evangelism is good

Colin Job, Vic

“Spiritual skinny-dippers” (Editorial, August 21) does not go far enough in exposing Jesus. We are to take off our religious robes and help people in the various trying circumstances we find them. The old-fashioned term is “love them into the church.”

But then the writer states, “And that will attract more people to Jesus long term than any evangelistic campaign.” Why are

There is no greater peace and freedom that comes from the contentment of knowing that everything I need, I have, and has been provided to me by a loving and caring God. Sure, there are plenty of things I want, but *I have everything I need*. There can be no greater abundance than that.

Being content with what I have and who I am will bring me happiness—perhaps not all the time, but at least when I am not overwhelmed by happiness, I still have that sense of contentment.

choose their own songs. The reason for this is that if they are told what to present there is the danger that the songs will mean nothing to the leader, and therefore will be presented with no heart and soul attached to them. It is all too easy to tell when a worship leader or team member does not have a personal connection with a song being sung. But how powerful can be the witness when a song that means much is presented with sincerity and as an offering to the Lord

As long as those responsible for choosing songs for worship remember that personal conviction will magnify the message in that song, the worshippers will be blessed.

I am everything in God's eyes because of my belief in Jesus and acceptance of His grace.

people against public evangelism? A good speaker and an excellent subject is the best way to teach people about Jesus. By your kind influence you may invite a person to an evangelic meeting where they may decide for Jesus.

Our help may influence, but it is the knowledge of Jesus that gives people “rest.” Jesus says, “Come unto me,” and we are to take our friends to Jesus, not to our social services.

Idolatry revisited

Hamley Perry, Tas

Reflecting on “Idolatry in aisle seven” (Features, August 28), I have found myself weighed down by the expectation of achievement (my own of myself and my imagined expectation of others) and the material demonstration and enjoyment of this. Having read Philip Yancey’s *What’s So Amazing About Grace* and been through a few life experiences, I have found this is unnecessary. I am everything in God’s eyes because of my belief in Jesus and acceptance of His grace. There is nothing more I need or need to prove (to myself or others).

I have found it refreshing and liberating to live knowing and believing this. I particularly appreciated the paragraph beginning, “She might say, ‘Daddy, was part of you worshipping that shiny silver object?’” and then goes on with what we might give up to serve this object. This hit home as not too far away from where I was a few years ago.

“Prepackaged” worship

Glynis Walsh, NNZ

As a worship leader for our church’s contemporary service, I read with interest the editorial “Worship for sale” (Editorial, August 28). I find it difficult to agree with the implication that “prepackaged” worship songs cannot be worshipful. However, I do wholeheartedly agree with the statement, “Worship is about God and our connection with Him.”

In my experience, any song that speaks to my heart and nourishes my soul is appropriate for presentation in a worship setting, regardless of who wrote it or how it was “packaged,” because I can present it from a personal perspective. In our church, worship leaders are expected to

Kent Dean, Vic

Having read the editorial “Worship for sale,” I believe the words of the songs on *For All You’ve Done* are inspired of the Holy Spirit and are evidence of Him working through the Hillsong Church (see 1 Corinthians 12:3 and Matthew 7:20).

While we sit in criticism of its music style, and query the motivation of its marketing team (or—dare I say envy—its commercial success), the Hillsong Church takes the message of Jesus Christ’s saving grace and love, and presents it to the world in a format that is culturally relevant and widely accepted.

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

Beck—Tonkin. Andrew James Beck, son of John and Annette Beck (Esperance, WA), and Janine Helen Tonkin, daughter of Robert and Anne Tonkin (Esperance), were married on 11.7.04 in the Esperance Adventist church. *Kevin Tonkin*

Chambers—Triantafilo. Simon Chambers, son of Michael and Anna Chambers (Sydney, NSW), and Sarah Triantafilo, daughter of Joshua and Danny Triantafilo (Sydney), were married on 11.7.04 at Woolarah Adventist church, Woolarah. *Dino Mastromihalas, Samuel Braga*

Dawson—Moxon. Dale Dawson, son of Garry and Daphne Dawson (Sydney, NSW), and Jillian Moxon, daughter of Ted and Fay Moxon (Sydney), were married on 29.8.04 in Cathedral Cave, Jenolan. *Peter Fowler*

Fedorow—Potts. Stephen Fedorow, son of Pastor Warren and Mary Fedorow (Warwick, Qld), and Heidi Potts, daughter of Pastor Des and Susie Potts (Balwyn, Vic), were married on 4.4.04 in the Brecoft Presbyterian church, NSW. *Grenville Kent*

Honti—Allen. Laszlo Jenó Honti, son of Jenó and Maria Honti (Mako, Hungary), and Rachel Rebekah Allen, daughter of David and Rebekah Allen (Woombie, Qld), were married on 26.7.04 in the Maroochy Baptist church, Maroochydore. *Mark Pearce*

Kerr—Rosenburg. Alan Hardely Kerr and Patricia Ruth Rosenburg were married on 28.8.04 in the Murray Bridge Adventist church, Murray Bridge, SA. *Dave Hamilton*

Lukitsch—Sutton. Bertrand Lukitsch, son of Paul Lukitsch (Perth, WA) and Minh Williams (Darwin, NT), and Linda Sutton, daughter of Murray and Chris Sutton (Darwin), were married on 13.6.04 in George Brown Botanical Gardens, Darwin. *Patricia Williams*

Nezar—Owen. Gregory James Nezar, son of Bridget (Gympie, Qld) and the late John Nezar, and Sarah Owen, daughter of Jennifer Smith (Bundaberg) and Rodney Owen (Maleny), were married on 30.5.04 in the Maroochydore Adventist church. *Mark Pearce*

Passfield—Fry. Daniel Craig Passfield, son of David and Rhonda Passfield (Mackay, Qld), and Tracey Anne Fry, daughter of Graham and Lyn Fry (Mackay), were married on 3.5.04 at the groom's parents' property at Homebush, Mackay. *Rick Ferret*

Rajcany—Rice. Andrew Rajcany, son of Ferdinand and Christine Rajcany (Hazelbrook, NSW), and Belinda Rice, daughter of Peter and Lyn Rice (Goulburn), were married on 25.1.04 in Springwood Anglican church, Springwood. *Gilberto Diaz, Samuel Braga*

Volunteers!

Youth Pastor/Chaplain—Equatorial Guinea (South America)—two positions available. Living allowance SA250/month. Lodging with furniture provided. Pay own travel costs. Term: 24 months, commencing asap.

Elementary Teacher—Maranatha Bilingual School, Honduras—7 positions now available for teaching Science, English, Reading or Maths for 11 months. Three years college/university required and fair Spanish level. Living allowance SUS200. Lodging and medical benefits provided.

ESL Teachers—English Language Centre, Moscow, Russia—4 positions available Sept 1. One year college/university required. Living allowance SA200/month. Lodging provided. Pay own travel costs. Term: 12 months.

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

+61 2 9847 3275



Positions vacant

▲ Primary School Teachers—Cairns Adventist Primary School (Cairns, Qld). Committed, enthusiastic and qualified teachers needed in 2005. Great opportunity! Exciting, go-ahead school! Terrific location! (Snorkel the reef, explore the rainforest, enjoy a relaxed tropical lifestyle and get paid for the experience!) **For further information** contact Ruth Jackson; phone (07) 4779 3988; or email <rjackson@adventist.org.au>.

▲ Teachers/Principals—The Seventh-day Adventist Schools (NSW) Ltd is seeking expressions of interest from qualified teachers (earlychild, primary and secondary) for their 11 schools, from one-teacher to 50+ teachers, located from urban to rural along the great coast of north NSW that stretches from the Hawkesbury River to the Qld border. Tweed Valley College is needing Maths/Physics, Science, Design and Technology and Music teachers. **For further information** go to <http://www.adventist.nsw.edu.au/> and <http://www.adventist.edu.au/>; or contact Peter Michalski on 0414 555 372 or email <pmichalski@adventist.org.au>.

▲ Human Resources Coordinator—Sanitarium Health Food Company (Berkeley Vale, NSW) is seeking a self-motivated Human Resources Coordinator. The successful applicant will: be degree qualified or equivalent; have proven competency with an Employee Relations emphasis; have solid HR Generalist ability; have good written and verbal communication skills and computer skills in Word and Excel. **Applications in writing** should be forwarded to Group Human Resources, Sanitarium Health Food Company, Locked Bag 7, Central Coast Mail Centre, NSW 2252; fax (02) 4348 7610; or email <HumanResources@sanitarium.com.au> no later than Friday, October 8, 2004.

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

Obituaries

Adams, David McLeod, born 23.8.1923 at Woodend, Qld; died 22.8.04 at Brassall. On 1.12.66 he married Anne DeBerg. He is survived by his wife (Brassall); his stepchildren, Kevin Deberg (Avondale, NSW) and Charmaine Pearce (Murrumba Downs, Qld); his sister, Lorna Hughes (Silkstone); and his brother, Henry (Scarborough). David found great solace in his home and family, especially his grandchildren. Those whom he loved will miss him greatly. *Sandor Gazsik*

Barrell, Christina Tilney, born 8.7.1915 at Aberdeen, Scotland; died 5.8.04 at Nelson, NZ. She was predeceased by her husband, Walter. She is survived by her daughters, Christine (Sydney, NSW) and Anita (Nelson, NZ); her grandchildren; and great-grandchildren. Christina and her family migrated from England to New Zealand in 1970, and she became an Adventist from Pastor Duffy's mission in Nelson in 1984. She was a gracious Christian woman with a warm smile. *Carl Landall*

Bartnick, Gerhard Fritz Christian, born 23.1.1922 at Wittenberge, Germany; died 30.7.04 in Bayside Nursing Home, Bonnells Bay, NSW. He was predeceased by his wife, Joy, in 2000. He is survived by his daughter, Betty-Anne Kelly (Balcolyn); his two granddaughters; and other numerous relatives and friends. A faithful Sanitarium worker for many years, he now waits for God's call. *Les Coombe, Jim Beamish*

Black, James, born 23.10.1920 in Scotland; died 20.6.04 in Perth, WA. In 1963 he married Anne. He was predeceased by

his first wife; also his daughter, Pamela. He is survived by his children, John and Susan (both of Cannington). *Jim Tonkin*

Bodly, Lawrence George, born 9.8.1916 at Northcote, Vic; died 29.6.04 in Latrobe Valley Hospital, Traralgon. In 1938 he married Margery, who predeceased him in 1995. He was also predeceased by his children, Robert and Linda. He is survived by his son, John (Moe); his daughter, Margery Skilbeck (Morwell); and their families. *Tim O'Keefe*

Eigenhuis, Jacob, born 12.6.1935 at Bussum, the Netherlands; died 22.8.04 at Redcliffe, Qld. In 1962 he married Johanna Reinhardt, in Cape Town, South Africa, before they migrated to Australia. He is survived by his wife (Ocean View, Qld); his children, Leon (Darwin, NT), Jacob (Cairns, Qld), Henk (Brisbane), Hein (Perth, WA) and Margeurite Guilhot (Brisbane, Qld). He died in the certain hope of his resurrection to glory. *David Stojic, Mike Brownhill*

Grant, Ivan Keith, born 19.2.1913 at Glen Innes, NSW; died 19.8.04 at Hurstville. He was predeceased by his wife, Gloria, in December 1999. He is survived by his daughter, Robyn; his sons, Ian and Warren; his six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. *Kerry Hortop*

Gray, Marlene, born 17.9.1938 at Port Pirie, SA; died 15.8.04 at Port Pirie. On 28.10.72 she was baptised by Pastor Tom Potts. She is survived by her brother, Ron Gray (Port Pirie). A lonely and patient sufferer at rest, until the return of the Life-giver. *Angus McPhee*

Hawke, Samuel John (Jack), born 7.1.1911 at Timaru, NZ; died peacefully

7.8.04 at Cornwall Park Rest Home, Hastings, NZ. He was predeceased by both his wives, Elsie and Jessie. He is survived by his children, Eleanor and Ivan Scale (Cooanbong, NSW), Graeme and Joy (Melbourne, Vic), Barrie and Carol, Ngaire and Russell Anderson, David and Gabriel (all of Hastings, NZ); his 12 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. Until he was confined to a rest home, he was an active member of the Hastings church. *William Strickland*

Hess, Phyllis Dorothy, born 6.8.1915 at Mackay, Qld; died 27.7.04 in Jindalee Nursing Home, Narrabundah, ACT. In 1938 she married Cedric, who predeceased her in September 2000. She is survived by her children and their spouses, Cedric and Penelope (ACT), and Julian and Cath (Mackay, Qld); her six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Phyllis was a devoted wife, loving mother, caring grandmother, and faithful member of the Advent family. Greatly missed by family and friends. *Graham Wynniatt*

Hopkin, Amy Martha, born 18.11.1915; died 7.8.04 in Concord Hospital, Sydney, NSW. She is survived by her cousin, Sandra Rayner (Kempsey); and her sister-in-law, Daphne Hopkin (Nerang, Qld); and a broadly extended family whose hearts she won by her Christian hospitality. Especially close were the families of Serge Papin (Canberra, ACT) and Sheryll Parkinson (Goulburn, NSW). Her musical skills, along with her other talents, made her a strong pillar in the worship services at Kings Langley Retirement Village, where she will be greatly missed. *Wal Taylor*

Bill Sleight, Austin Fletcher

Howse, Laura Joy (nee Harris), born 11.11.1923 at Cooanbong, NSW; died

16.8.04 at Cooranbong. She is survived by her husband, Ron; her daughter and son-in-law, Desiree and Ross Osmond (Auckland, NZ); her sons and daughters-in-law, Rony and Margie, and Geoffrey and Lynn; her three grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. Joy was a loving and lovable Christian, with a firm faith in the Second Advent and a joyful resurrection to eternal life. *Claude Judd, Rex Cobbin*

Kooke, Pastor Nicolaas Johannes Gerardus, born 30.9.1911 in Amsterdam, the Netherlands; died 3.7.04 at Townsville, Qld. On 1.6.33 he married Elisabeth Witteveen, who predeceased him in 1998. He was also predeceased by his grandson, Nicky. He is survived by his children, Cornelia van Schuilenburg (Whyalla, SA); Joanna Haanstra (Aitkenville, Qld) and Willem (Bill) (Callington, SA); their spouses, Jan, Rinus and Brenda; his 12 grandchildren; his 10 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. He was a respected leader of God's remnant church and was laid to rest in Salisbury, SA, where he awaits the call of the Life-giver. *Deane Jackson, David Hamilton*

Ly, Phuoc, born 12.7.1910; died 13.8.04 in Canterbury Hospital, Sydney, NSW. She is survived by her children, Frank, Brian and Loc Binh. Phuoc became an Adventist in Vietnam and later migrated to Australia in 1988, where she became an active member of the Strathfield Chinese church. *Nick Brightman*

Madden, Arthur, born 5.6.1914 at Liverpool, UK; died 8.8.04 at Warwick, Qld. On 8.6.46 he married Jean. He is survived by his wife (Warwick); and his children, Ken (Brisbane) and Irene Hain (Millmeran). Arthur faithfully served his country, his community and his God. *Warren Fedorow*

May, Delores Jean (Del), born 15.7.1916 at Kalgoorlie, WA; died 27.4.04 at Mandurah. On 8.7.42 she married Allan, who predeceased her in 1997. She is survived by her sons, Adrian (Beckenham), Allan and Phillip; also her sister, Aileen Tait. *Jim Tonkin*

Nielsen, Sigrid, born 27.1.1900 in Denmark; died 2.8.04 in the nursing home, Adventist Retirement Village, Victoria Point, Qld. In 1923 she married Peter, who predeceased her. She is survived by her daughter, Ingrid Fong; her son, Erick (both of Brisbane); her 10 grandchildren; her 18 great-grandchildren; and two great-great grandchildren. Sigrid was a remarkable person and kept very good health until about 12 months ago. *Selwyn Bartlett, Orm Speck*

Percival, George Robert, born 7.3.1922; died 4.8.04 in Brisbane, Qld. On 9.11.46 he married Doris. He is survived by his wife (Woodenbong, NSW). *Paul von Bratt*

Phillips, Allyn Wayne, born 16.8.1946 at Wollongong, NSW; died 10.8.04 in Wollongong Hospital. He is survived by his mother, Clare Hobbs (Wollongong); his brothers, Tom and Peter; and his children, Jamie and Danielle. *Kerry Hortop*

Power, Thora Elaine, born 29.10.1916 at Penguin, Tas; died 12.8.04 in Jindalee Nursing Home, Narrabundah, ACT. On 18.8.42 she married Jim. She is survived by her husband (Ngunnawal); her daughter, Audrey (Ngunnawal); her son-in-law, Peter (Jindabyne); her sister, Valda Harker (Victoria Point, Qld); her two grandchildren; and her two great-grandchildren. Thora was a devoted wife, a caring mother, and a loving grandmother. She loved her God and her family, and truly lived her faith. Her full life blessed many, even during her final years of illness. *Neil Lawson, Graham Wynniatt*

Radford, Olive Lois (nee McDougall), born 7.8.1935 at Yarra Junction, Vic; died 31.7.04 in Prince of Wales Hospital, Randwick, Sydney, NSW. On 4.4.59 she married Kevin. She is survived by her husband (Narangba); her children and their spouses, Neil and Karen (Stuarts Point), Colin and Kimberly (Madagascar, Africa), Heather and Dean Powrie, Anthony (all of Narangba, Qld), Lynley and Robert Woolley (Mangrove Mountain, NSW); and her six grandchildren. Lois was a gracious Christian woman who always lived for others. Her life was an inspiration and challenge to all who knew her. She was well known for her singing talent, her welfare ministry, her bus driving and her love of children. She will be greatly missed. *Bob Possingham, Stephen McGuire*

Roosendaal, Felix Aristide Henri, born 29.5.1918 in Batavia (now Jakarta, Indonesia); died 30.7.04 at Wagga Wagga, NSW. He is survived by his wife, Ida; his sons, William and Roel; his daughter and son-in-law, Felice and Gary Hone; and their families; plus many other relatives and friends. Felix was grandson of an Indonesian governor. He had an eventful life: prewar as a businessman, then spent three-and-half years in a prison camp. Started again in Holland, then later Australia. *John Kosmeier, Chris Barrett*

Skzypaszek, Pastor Jan Anthony, born 12.6.1911 in Poland; died 25.7.04 in Charles Harrison Memorial Home, Cooranbong, NSW. In 1939 he married

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Elizabeth Kaszyca, who predeceased him in 1997. He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Barbara and Paul Przychozki (Melbourne, Vic); and his son and daughter-in-law, Pastor John and Brenda Skzypaszek (Cooranbong); his four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Because of political pressures he and his family were forced to leave Poland and in 1961 he migrated to Australia. From March 1962 Jan set up the ethnic work for Polish migrants in the Victorian Conference. The Lord blessed the work and within 16 years the Oakleigh church was one of the largest within the metropolitan area. After his retirement in 1979 he worked in voluntary ministry as stewardship director of the Victorian Conference for three years; then he was called to help the Polish ethnic work in South Africa. He had a deep love and commitment to Jesus and the Seventh-day Adventist message. *Ray Stanley, John Lang, Claude Judd*

Townend, Mavis (nee Walworth), born in Palmerston North, NZ; died peacefully 27.7.04 at Mary Potter Hospice, Adelaide, SA. In 1942 she married Les, who prede-

ceased her in 1996. She was also predeceased by her son-in-law, Keith. She is survived by her daughters, Cynthia and Suzanne; her son-in-law, Robert; her eight grandchildren; and her five great-grandchildren. After Les returned from the war a sick man, she nursed him back to health and they both worked in the retail section of Sanitarium until their retirement. She was known by all as a loving and gracious Christian woman. *Brian Townend, Graeme Olson*

Truscott, William Emerson, born 2.10.1910 at East Kew, Vic; died 16.8.04 in Greenslopes Hospital, Brisbane, Qld. He was predeceased by his wife, Daisy, in 1978; and his daughter-in-law, Helen, in 2002. He is survived by his sons and daughters-in-law, John (Sacramento, California); Peter and Barbara (Cooranbong, NSW), Paul and Linda (Brisbane, Qld), Stephen and Michelle (Gold Coast) and Anthony (Brisbane); his 22 grandchildren; and 28 great-grandchildren. He died with confidence in the merits of Christ as his personal Saviour. *Peter Truscott*



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Worboys, Ferne Althea (nee Mills), born 13.12.1920 at Wahroonga, NSW; died 30.7.04 at Newcastle. On 24.12.41 she married Harry, who predeceased her. She was also predeceased by her son, Graham. She is survived by her children, Warren (Adamstown) and Carol Worboys (Maitland). Throughout her life Fern loved and nurtured many church members in their times of difficulty. She was always the gracious host and support to Harry as the marketing manager for Sanitarium in New Zealand, Tasmania and Victoria.

Colin Renfrew, Cecil Ogg

2006 will be the centenary of Seventh-day Adventist education in South Australia! Celebrations, a commemorative book and reunions are planned. Did you attend school or teach in South Australia? Do you have photos, anecdotes or historical information? Register on the database now. Contact Marion Shields: phone (08) 8269 2177 or email <mshields@adventist.org.au>.

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Guillermo Mordillo