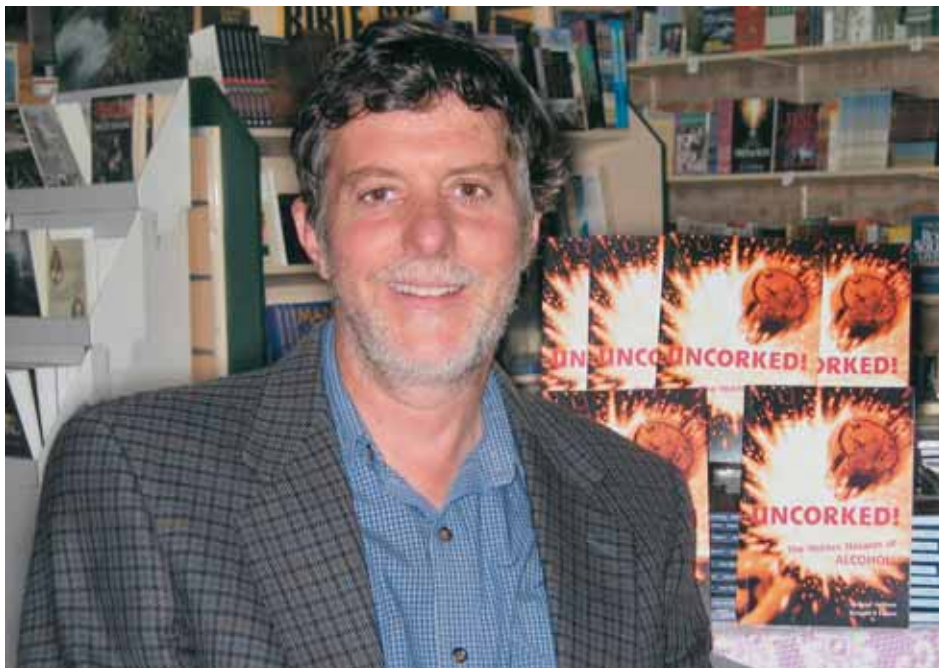


RECORD



Dr John Ashton, co-author of *Uncorked! The Hidden Hazards of Alcohol*, recently launched at the South Queensland Conference camp-meeting: "I felt compelled to fight."

New book "uncorked" at camp

Brisbane, Queensland

A book exploring the dangers of alcohol and its impact on health and society was launched at South Queensland Conference camp-meeting in Brisbane, on September 19. *Uncorked! The Hidden Hazards of Alcohol* has been co-authored by Dr John Ashton, strategic research manager for Sanitarium, and Dr Ron Laura, professor of education at Newcastle University.

According to Dr Ashton, the book—his 11th, but first published by Signs Publishing Company—was motivated by a need to speak out. "I saw the impact alcohol is having on the community," he says. "And I also saw the clever advertising the alcohol industry is producing that is encouraging people to drink more. I think this is an injustice within the community and, as a Christian, I felt compelled to fight against this."

Drawing on scientific, medical and social research, as well as anecdotes, *Uncorked!* draws a big picture of the impact of alcohol in our culture. "There's no other book I am aware of that pulls together a holistic picture of not only the health impact but also the social impact, and the negative interactions that are produced by alcohol," comments Dr Ashton.

Uncorked! was prereleased for the Women's Christian Temperance Union world conference in New Zealand in April of this year. "There was a very encouraging reaction," Dr Ashton reports. "The women who initially bought the book were amazed; they thoroughly enjoyed it and they learned many things."

Uncorked! is now readily available at Adventist Book Centres in Australia and New Zealand. For details, see Noticeboard, page 15.—**Nathan Brown**

In this issue

*Faith and science
conference
"affirms Creation"*

*Church communicator
awarded for service*

*Women keen for
ministries*



Students heart for Indonesia

- **Black-tie event in Port Macquarie raises \$A3000 for ADRA**
- **Avondale alumni goes online**
- **International Day in Brisbane**
- **Scholarships for PAU students**
- **Bug Safari helps orphanages**

● **Port Macquarie Pathfinder Club, NSW**, hosted a **black-tie dinner** recently, catering for nearly 100 people. It was a candle-and-red-carpet affair for the paying patrons, with live music and valet parking. “**Church Logie**” awards were presented between courses for 12 categories of church endeavour, including Grinning Greeter, Diligent Deacon, Songleader Sensation, Classic Cleaner and Passionate Prayer (the longest). Says Pathfinder director Anne Doyle, “We raised nearly \$A3000 for Adventist Development and Relief Agency, completed a Pathfinder requirement and had heaps of fun.”—*Bob Donaldson*



● **Central church, Brisbane**, recently held an **International Day**. Joining hands with their sister church, Morningside, this year's theme was “Hand in hand.” The church overflowed with a mini United Nations, many in **colourful national dress**, as they celebrated their diversity of cultures with musical items from the many represented countries.



Women united and in spirit

The Greater Sydney and North New South Wales Conferences recently combined for a Women's Ministries retreat at Merroo. More than 350 women stayed the



weekend, with some 500 present on the Sabbath to hear guest speaker Ginny Allen. Testimonies, worship segments, workshops, crafts and a mini Olympics were some features of the weekend.

Elsewhere the women of the Victorian Conference gathered for their annual retreat at Mountain Valley Centre, Boronia, Vic. More than 200 women from 43 churches Victoria-wide participated in an agape feast, daily messages from Ginny Allen, testimonies and a multi-ethnic concert. A panel discussion included a variety of medical professionals talking about family, parenting, psychology and health.

Nunawading church's Women's Ministries organised a couples evening for reminding couples of God's plans for partners and His gift of love. Some 44 couples attended, with several never having set foot in a church before. They were treated to a candlelit three-course dinner in a rose-filled venue, musical items and presentations by Pastor Adrian Bocaneanu, president of the Romanian Union.

● A **new web site** has been dedicated to **Avondale alumni**. It contains general information, photos, an online message board and the ability to contact other registered alumni members. The site can be found at <alumni.avondale.edu.au>.

● **Pacific Adventist University** has just received K21,000 in **new scholarship awards** to distribute between 25 theology students. The funding comes from interest gained from a donated trust fund intended to help provide training of ministers for the Pacific region. A K500 textbook subsidy for academic success will be awarded to 10

students. The remaining 15 will each receive K1000 in various awards, including: the **Amos** Award for faithfulness in manual labour; the **Andrew** Award for supporting evangelism; the **Apollos** Award for skill in planting a new church; the **Barnabas** Award for encouraging team support; the **Jeremiah** Award for being an outstanding spiritual leader on campus; the **Paul** Award for skill in pastoring a church; the **Timothy** Award for a special aptitude to ministry; and, the **Student Missionary** Award for spending a year out of the classroom in a volunteer capacity.—*David Tasker*

● The **Taree church, NSW**, added a mission twist to its recent Bug Safari program, which was attended by 46

children from the community. Among many games, songs and crafts, “**Operation kid-to-kid**” involved the participants personalising Bible colouring books (pictured) to be distributed by the International Bible Society to **Russian and Romanian orphanages**.—*Dawn Jerrard*



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Church communicator awarded for service

Wahroonga, New South

Wales

Adventist Media operations manager Pastor Kevin Townend, who is suffering from cancer, has received an award for outstanding service to media and church in a ceremony commemorating his 33 years of work within the church.

In an interview recorded in Pastor Kevin Townend's home, Adventist Media's general manager Pastor Calvyn Townend presented a commemorative



Viewed on a video monitor, Adventist Media general manager Pastor Calvyn Townend, left, presents a commemorative plaque to Pastor Kevin Townend for 33 years of service.

plaque. Board, staff members and clients met to watch the interview and then recorded their own tributes.

"I've never not wanted to go to work," said Pastor Kevin Townend, "I've spent almost 19 years at Adventist Media. That's 19 well-spent years."

Pastor Townend spoke of ministry and mission as the motivating factors behind his years of service at Adventist Media. He said highlights were the production of the two video series *Digging up the Past* and *Keepers of the Flame* and the youth satellite-evangelism series, REZ10. "Watching the Holy Spirit work was fantastic," he said.

Peter Brewin, Adventist Media board chairman, thanked Pastor Townend for his contribution to the church. "Your faith and perseverance inspire me," he said, and also acknowledged the role of Pastor Townend's wife, Julie, who unveiled the plaque at the Adventist Media Wahroonga office and studios.

Pastor Townend began his ministry in South Australia in 1972. He served the church in Western Australia and Tasmania before accepting a call to Adventist Media as principal of the then Bible School. He was appointed production superintendent in November 1986.—**Brenton Stacey/ANN**

Students with a heart for Indonesia

Doonside, New South Wales

Students at Mountain View Adventist College in Sydney's west raised some \$A700 for a Bible Society program that teaches Indonesian children to read using the Bible. Every \$A124 raised helps one child to read.

Classes came up with their own creative ideas to raise money.

While students from the younger grades did extra jobs at home then donated the money, children from Grades Two and Three held a "white elephant" stall, baking cakes and muffins to sell. They also brought their own toys to sell to other students. The older Grade Five students ran a car wash.—**Emma Douglas**



Some Mountain View College students with their "Indonesia wall."

Dick Smith Foods off Sanitarium table

Berkeley Vale, New South Wales

Southern Sky Foods, a Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Ltd entity, has announced an agreement with Australian icon and entrepreneur Dick Smith to return to him the licence of the Dick Smith Foods brand.

Southern Sky Foods decided to hand the licensing arrangement back to Dick Smith to enable him to focus more on the marketing of the brand to ensure its long-term sustainability.

"Dick Smith granted a licence to carry out the marketing, distribution, product development and quality control of Dick Smith Foods in July 2002," says Pierre Van Heerden, managing director of Dick Smith Foods (Newsfront, June 15, 2002).

"Since then our team has improved the quality of the products and slowed a sales decline, enabling Dick Smith to donate \$A1.5 million to charities and humanitarian work. However, at an early stage it became clear that significant marketing

funds would be required to build this brand for the long term."

Kevin Jackson, CEO of Sanitarium, said Sanitarium has had a close association with Dick Smith over a number of years and support him in promoting Australian-owned businesses.

Sanitarium will continue to produce Dick Smith products such as Peanut Butter, Bush Foods Breakfast and other new products for the Dick Smith brand.—

Julie Praestiin

Faith and science conference “affirms Creation”

Denver, Colorado, USA

Seventh-day Adventist scientists, theologians and church leaders concluded the second International Faith and Science Conference, held in Denver, Colorado, by affirming the biblical account of Creation and Adventist scholarship in theology and science.

Some 135 delegates attended the August 2004 conference, including Pastor Laurie Evans, South Pacific Division (SPD) president; Dr

Barry Oliver, SPD general secretary; and Drs Ray Roennfeldt and Lynden Rogers, deans of the Theology and Science and Mathematics Faculties at Avondale College. Dr Michael Tarburton, dean of the School of Science and Technology at Pacific Adventist University, Port Moresby, also attended.

General vice-president of the General Conference Pastor Lowell Cooper says the discussions centred on the contrast between viewing the claims based on a study of Scripture and those arising from the scientific methodologies used in the study of nature.

In his opening address at the first conference, held three years ago in Utah, USA, General Conference president Dr Jan Paulsen spoke of the church not coming to the discussions from a “neutral position.” His concluding remarks in Denver reiterated this conviction, stating, “We began these discussions to talk about challenges that arise when faith engages science in conversation about origins. We felt we should do it not because the fundamental issues were so unclear but because we share a common platform.

“Whether we are scientists, theologians or administrators, we come as *believers*. We care for the truth, we care for the church . . . and we submit to the Lord as the Almighty Creator.”



General Conference president Dr Jan Paulsen spoke of the church not coming to the discussions from a “neutral position.”

The discussions highlighted the rapid advances in scientific knowledge, particularly in the natural and social sciences. Presenters said the advances bring into greater prominence (within the church) the question of how to reconcile the differing explanations of origins offered by faith and science.

Several presenters spoke passionately about wanting the conference to affirm

“more clearly” the historic Adventist understanding of the Genesis narrative of Creation. Some proposed the church re-evaluate the wording of its fundamental belief on the topic.

An eight-page report from the conference

advocates making the church’s stand on Creation more prominent. It says the conferences were organised not only for intellectual stimulation but also to provide orientation and guidance for church members and educators. It also said the church should not pretend to keep its beliefs secure from all challenge.

In his concluding observations, Dr Paulsen spoke of the role of faith in guiding a spiritual community. “I pray as the Spirit seeks to lead the church [that] we . . . will submit to that leading. . . . Knowing and understanding may not always be comfortable on this walk, but this is faith’s world; it is a world of mysteries; it is the world of God’s moving and doing. I submit that our view of origins belongs to that world.”

The General Conference executive committee will table the conference report at its annual council in October.—**Ray Dabrowski/ANN**

View from the top

Pastor Laurie Evans, South Pacific Division president, attended the second Faith and Science Conference (see main story). Brenton Stacey asked him for his views on the topic.

Is there room in the church for different opinions of faith and science?

“There is in the area where Scripture, which we regard as the ultimate authority, doesn’t answer or is unclear about a relevant scientific question.”

You hold a ministerial credential. Did the science presented at the conference challenge you?

“Yes. I now have a better appreciation of the scientific issues that are in conflict with Scripture and the impact these can have

on a person’s faith. And I have a deeper regard for those who deal with these issues. They maintain their faith and confidence in God’s Word despite not finding answers to all their questions.”

The church has a fundamental belief about Creation, so why do we need this series of conferences?

“The fundamental belief [number 6] affirms a literal, consecutive six-day creation followed by the Sabbath. We’re not about to change this. But that doesn’t mean we shouldn’t study or discuss this or any other of the fundamentals. If we don’t, it precludes the church from a progressive understanding of truth.”—**Brenton Stacey**



Pastor Laurie Evans, president of the South Pacific Division, shares his views on faith and science.

Child discrimination

Name withheld

My son attended his first Communion service at three years of age ("Including children," Letters, September 18). In the week before, we discussed what it was about and he fully understood. As the service was presented, I again explained each part and shared my bread, wine and the foot washing with him. There were mixed reactions from fellow members.

The first few times we did this, other members seemed to not mind, but would never allow me to take a cup or piece of bread for him.

I'm fully aware that children understand things at different ages. My son has understood the Communion service from the start and wanted to participate. He is not immune to the discouraging looks from other church members, and now that he's seven, no longer has an interest. Communion was something special, but because he isn't allowed to participate, it is now just a long, boring process for him.

We no longer attend church on Communion days. With three children and two old enough (ages five and seven years) to participate, it is too frustrating.

A better way, please!

Jocelyn Norman, NSW

I support the writer of "Wider application" (Letters, August 28) in condemning abuse in the form of power

games in the church. Having had a corporate abuse experience touch my life, I would like to state that truthful acknowledgment, accountability, repentance and forgiveness is the Holy Spirit's way of managing and healing spiritual and physiological trauma in the body of Christ for the perpetrator and victim alike.

Unfortunately, this process still doesn't seem to be an accepted automatic protocol for managing so-called apostatised members, when often all they're trying to do is to relate to Adventism at large during a period of suffering.

I praise God that the Holy Spirit

We no longer attend church on Communion days. With three children . . . it is too frustrating.

convicts, comforts and enables personal growth and healing to occur. I pray that this individual spiritual microcotic process will be enhanced and engaged in as action management for corporate Adventism, exampling to the body of Christ, of whom He is the Head, and to the community at large.

Wrong directions

John Stewart, Vic

Chris Blake expresses the advantage of active learning over passive (Feature, September 11) in the statement, "Humans tend to believe what we do even more than we do what we believe."

Does the process of education proceed in

an opposite direction to the process of justification? In justification, works (actions) have to follow faith (belief), while in education, what we do (actions) comes before and augments what we believe.

Perhaps this is because justification is the means by which human beings are re-connected to God. It's the process of bringing unity where sin has caused separation. On the other hand, education is the process by which humans learn how to relate to their environment. It's when the direction elements in these processes are confused or separated that problems arise.

In education, a hands-on approach is

the most effective, particularly when the subject to be learned is introduced by a related physical task. Theoretical learning tends toward an unbalanced experience. In justification, attempts to do things that we think will make us acceptable to God in the hope that our faith will increase, may result in a works-righteousness life.

It's when we realise how Christ has paid the penalty for our sin and we are freed from condemnation that the motive for our actions will be gratitude to God for His undeserved gift of eternal life.

Infertility treatment

Barb Loman, SA

"A lonely journey" (Feature, September 18) is an issue dear to me. It happens too often now, with one in six couples having fertility problems.

We don't know what to say to women in your position (and I've been there and I still don't know), as the future is uncertain. And our pastors don't know how to deal with the issue, as it requires great expertise.

I pray that our pastors and members will follow the counsel in our *Sabbath School Bible Study Guide* on being tactful.

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.



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Obituaries

Clemens, Mary Dorreen (Tatts-nee Powell), born 24.12.1927 at Tettana, NZ; died 16.8.04 in Oakhaven Hospital, Whangarei. She is survived by her nephews, Tom Powell (Hamilton) and Mark Chand (Wellsford); her nieces, Marilyn Kemp (Auckland), Jan Gurney (Whangarei) and Anne Codling (Timaru). Tatts worked enthusiastically for ADRAcare for many years in the Whangarei church. *Ken Curtis*

Dawson, Clare Edith, born 24.12.1933 at Dunedin, NZ; died 27.8.04 in Singleton Hospital, NSW. On 24.12.43 she married George Kini, who predeceased her in 1972. In 1986 she married Len (Silver) Dawson, who predeceased her in 1988. She is survived by her sons, Laardi Kini (Singleton), John Kini (Invercargill, NZ); her daughter, Barbara Mitchell (Singleton); their spouses; her 15 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren. While not a member, Clare was like one of the church family through her long-term attendance. Singleton church overflowed with family and friends to farewell a much loved person. *Clive Nash*

Henderson, Robyn Jean (nee Brown), born 19.11.1951 at Warburton, Vic; died 26.8.04 at Murdoch Community Hospice, Murdoch, WA. She was predeceased by her father, Pastor Ron Brown. On 18.5.71 she married Shane. She is survived by her husband; her daughters, Antonia and Megan Henderson (both of Perth); her sister, Alison Ashby; and her mother, Vera Brown (both of Sydney, NSW). Robyn was a devoted wife and mother and dearly loved by her family and friends. *Clem van Ballegooyen*

McMahon, Paul James, born 20.9.1944 at Orbost, Vic; died 8.8.04 at Port Macquarie, NSW. He is survived by his chil-

dren, Andrew, Louise, Troy and Tara. Paul was thankful to God for his life and family and had assurance of salvation until the end. *Justin Lawman*

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▲ **Business Manager, Sonoma Adventist College—Papua New Guinea Union Mission** is seeking to appoint a Business Manager for Sonoma Adventist College in Papua New Guinea. The successful applicant will primarily work with the Principal to ensure the sound financial management of the college. **For further information** visit the employment section on the SPD web site <www.adventist.org.au>. **Applications in writing** should be forwarded to Human Resources Department, South Pacific Division, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga, NSW 2076; email <hradventist.org.au>; fax (02) 9489 0943.

▲ **Director of Nursing—Avondale Retirement Village (Cooranbong NSW)** is seeking a full-time Director of Nursing. The facility includes 184 independent living units; 72-bed nursing home; and 35 and 40 bed hostels. The successful applicant will be a committed, baptised and practising Seventh-day Adventist; NSW registered (List A); RN8 or higher (preferably with postgraduate qualifications in either management or aged care); and have a minimum of 3 years senior aged care experience in a nursing home. **Applications in writing** should be forwarded to John Kingston, PO Box 105, Cooranbong NSW 2265; email <ceo@aacnsw.com.au>, no later than November 20, 2004.

▲ **Assistant Editor—Signs Publishing Company (Warburton, Vic)** is seeking a person to join the editorial team that produces *Record*, *Signs of the Times* and *Edge* magazines, who will work full-time with the editor in producing news and other content for these magazines. The successful applicant will think critically about a wide range of issues; have strong communication and interpersonal skills; demonstrate dedication to the Adventist community and enthusiasm for communicating Christianity to a broad readership. This is a superb opportunity for a talented person to play a critical role in the church community. **Applications in writing** (including résumé giving communication background and interests) should be forwarded on email to <editor@signspublishing.com.au>, no later than October 28, 2004.

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▲ **Assistant to the CEO—ADRA—Australia (Wahroonga, NSW).** For further information please visit the employment section of the SPD web site on <www.adventist.org.au>. Applications close on Friday, October 22, 2004.

▲ **Associate National Director (secondary curriculum) for Adventist Schools Australia—Australian Union Conference (Ringwood, Vic)** is seeking expressions of interest from people with suitable qualifications and an interest in secondary curriculum. Applicants must have a successful teaching background; be able to write in the secondary curriculum area; be available to travel widely within Australia and to personify the role at a national level. **Applications in writing** should be forwarded to Dr John Hammond, National Director, Adventist Schools Australia, PO Box 4368, Ringwood Vic 3134; or email <schools@adventist.edu.au>. Applications close November 1, 2004.

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vention Centre, Old Gympie Road, Dakabin, December 4-5, 2004. The business of the session will be as provided for in the constitution of the South Queensland Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, including possible constitutional changes and reports covering all phases of the work carried on within the South Queensland Conference. The officers, executive committee, standing nominating committee and directors of departments of the conference for the next triennium will also be elected.

Malcolm Potts, General Secretary

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Finally

A stranger in town asked a shoeshine boy if he could direct him to the bank. "I will for a quarter," replied the boy. "Isn't that pretty high?" asked the man. "Not for a bank director," replied the lad.

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