

RECORD



Family members of founding “father” Pastor Dudley Vaughan and “mother” Avy Curly unveil the remembrance wall at Karalundi. Pictured from left are: Mrs Curly’s cousin, Clarrie Cameron, daughter, Joan Simpson, Pastor Vaughan’s daughter, Margaret Harders, and former students Jeanie Kyanga and John Kyanga.

Karalundi marks 50 years

Meekatharra, Western Australia

The Karalundi Aboriginal Education Centre has celebrated its 50th anniversary by opening a new building and unveiling a remembrance wall. The school has named its new administration building after the late Eileen Harris, chair of the board at the time of her death. Her graveside service took place a week before the anniversary. Former chair John Kyanga says the naming of the building recognises Mrs Harris’s dedication. “Karalundi is a part of Eileen. She’s done so much for the school. This will help us remember her.”

Mr Kyanga, also a former student, helped unveil the remembrance wall, too. The wall recognises the contribution of former staff, students and volunteers. The plaque on the wall makes special mention of God, “who makes all this possible.”

The wall sits near a tree under which evangelist and founding “father” Pastor Dudley Vaughan presented the first Sabbath school and worship service at Karalundi. Family members of Pastor Vaughan and the school’s founding “mother,” Avy Curly, spoke at the unveiling.

Five former principals joined staff and students at Karalundi’s annual camp, held from October 1 to 4 this year, to celebrate the anniversary. The Seventh-day Adventist Church’s most senior Aboriginal minister, Pastor George Quinlin, preached the Sabbath morning sermon. Six people, including a mother and her four children, were baptised in the afternoon.

Pastor Glenn Townend, the president of the Western Australian Conference, enjoyed the spirit of praise at the camp. “I was blessed by the . . . reliance on God that is evident at Karalundi,” he commented.

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A badge of honour?

Pop quiz time: What's the most common answer to the question "How are you?"

The one I hear the most, and find myself saying is, "Busy!"

Granted, some people may not say it in a single word, but the run-down we feel compelled to give each other about the frantic pace at which we live our daily lives says it all.

In *Too Busy Not to Pray*, Bill Hybels writes, "The archenemy of spiritual authenticity is busyness, which is closely tied to something the Bible calls worldliness—getting caught up with this society's agenda, objectives and activities to the neglect of walking with God."

Busyness. Worldliness. Words with the suffix *-ness* at the end mean "the state of being." So the state of being busy is tied to the state of being worldly.

One would think that we—who are called to live radical, counter-cultural lives—should know little of being in these states. Unfortunately, it is often we in the church who wear the "busy badge" with such pride. And it starts early.

Those of you old enough to remember Sabbath afternoons filled with JMV (now called Adventurers) activities will recall the names of the classes. The first level is Busy Bee! We then progress through Sunbeam, Builder, and Helping Hand. While the other three levels foster images of industrious activity, being a Sunbeam sounds good. But then we get taught the words to "Jesus wants me for a sunbeam," and being good is equated with being busy trying hard to please Him.

Have you ever heard a pastor say to a church member, "I don't think you should take on an extra ministry role this year. I recommend you actually allow yourself time to spend with God, your family and

with your non-church friends." And it's not often that a pastor hears a church member say, "Why don't I fill the preaching plan next month so you can spend time in spiritual renewal and get to know your family again?"

Over the years various jobs have allowed me to experience different work environments. My observation is that denominational employees are some of the most stressed people around. The level of stress-induced illnesses [many quite serious] among our workers belies the fact that we are the church with the "health message."

The causes of workplace stress are many and include things similar to the secular marketplace. Budget cutbacks mean fewer staff produce more. Technology raises our expectations of what can be achieved in a given time. Perhaps one cause of stress particular to this group is the blurring of boundaries between one's public work and personal spirituality.

Whether you're denominationally employed or not, there are many reasons we allow ourselves to get so busy. Janet Ruffing, in her essay "Resisting the demon of busyness," expresses perfectly the intoxicating addictiveness of busyness and how it impacts our life: "When I'm busy being busy, my field of awareness constricts and I tend not to notice my surroundings or other people. I tend to be unresponsive either to the needs of those who cross my path or to my own. I lose my contemplative attitude and so deprive myself of moments of beauty, surprise, delight or love. When I'm busy being busy, I avoid making time for leisure, for play, for relationships, for reflection. I take delight in moving fast, being caught up in the rhythm of an institution, a city, a community that runs me, that overwhelms

my internal sense of self and my felt responses to internal and external events. I am actually being captivated by a 'false' consciousness that is largely generated by the culture outside of me. I go on automatic while believing I am still in charge. When I am busy, I can believe myself to be incredibly important to the scheme of things. I become indispensable, necessary. My ego becomes reassured that I am productive, accomplishing something worthwhile and valuable.

"After all, time is money and I am spending it well. I am measuring out the least amount of time possible for each task. By being so efficient, I become free to accept more work. I'm so good at being busy I continually escalate the demands on my time, attention, and care. This illusory state of mind is continually reinforced by my social world. If I project a state of busyness, others will notice how important I am. Maybe I will appear to be so important they won't disturb me. Maybe I will appear to be so important they will seek me out for something even more important."

Maybe our quest for being busy does stem from those JMV days. Maybe we've never outgrown the desire to put one more badge of accomplishment and recognition on our sash.

But for the good of our spirituality, families, health and even our church, we need to check our priorities and choose to become less busy.



Kellie Hancock

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- SAH health checks for passing shoppers • Aussie pastor joins John Carter's ministry
- New Chinese language broadcast is touching lives • Surfers Bible in Japanese • and more

—Compiled by Scott Wegener—

● Visitors to the Hornsby Westfield shopping centre had the chance to find out their state of general health at the **Sydney Adventist Hospital's** shopping centre **Health Expo** in September. More than 350 people had their health age checked, with many more stopping by for



blood pressure checks or to pick up information on the hospital. Event organiser **Sharlene Till** says, "People were very surprised, and appreciative, that we would provide the Health Expo and information for free. Many had stories of their own or a family member's admission to the Sydney Adventist Hospital, and the positive feedback they gave was fantastic to hear."—*Pacemaker*

● **Stephen Bews** reports of an "encouraging" number turning up to hear his first sermon at the Adventist church on **Pitcairn Island**, "but there is always room for more," he says. Having recently arrived on Pitcairn, Mr Bews is making a point of **visiting all the islanders** and offering to talk and pray with them. "It's great to think that he'll be visiting the entire population of this small island," adds Pastor **Ray Coombe**, who had been the minister on the island for the previous two weeks. Pastor Coombe and his wife, **Daphne**, had been asked to offer pastoral support during the initial stages of Pitcairn's sexual-abuse trials. According to Pastor Coombe, a number of the islanders have come back to

Radd breakfast book wins award

Sue Radd, a leading Australian nutritionist and health communicator, and a regular columnist for *Signs of the Times* magazine, recently received the award for 'Best nutrition writing for 2004' for her book *The Breakfast Book*.

Ms Radd won the award, which included a modern glass trophy, flowers and prize money, at the Food Media Club of Australia awards dinner held in Sydney at the Four Seasons Hotel and hosted by TV personality H G Nelson.

"It came as a big surprise to me as one never thinks that they are going to win," says Ms Radd (pictured, with her agent, Brett Osmond). "It was also a great honour coming from the peak food media body in our country."

Ms Radd is director of the Nutrition and Wellbeing Clinic in Castle Hill, NSW, and a consultant to the food and pharmaceutical industries in product development, communications and nutrition policy in Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the UK.



Recognised by her peers as an expert on plant foods and phytonutrients, Ms Radd is co-author of the internationally published *Eat to Live*. Her most recent work is *The Breakfast Book*, a wake-up guide to the most important meal of the day—a book that looks at breakfast history, facts, recipes, insights, anecdotes, plans and solutions.

"What you eat should not only be good for you but it should taste divine!" she says.

More information is available at <www.sueradd.com>.

church who had not been for some time. Though the trials may soon conclude, Mr Bews will continue serving the spiritual needs of the church and community on the island.—*Adam Sparke*

● Port Macquarie church, NSW, pastor **Justin Lawman** will be heading to Arcadia,



California, with his family to join Pastor **John Carter's** team as a pastor of the **Community Adventist Fellowship Church**. Pastor Lawman has just completed an outdoor series in Papua New Guinea and saw 10,000 people nightly at the meetings—even through torrential rain.

● Despite the Saturday being the **coldest September day** in 10 years, more than 1000 people filled the marquee and hall at the **Nunawading Adventist Primary School and College 40-year anniversary celebration**. "The weather on Saturday could not have been worse and the Sunday Funday was looking to be cancelled. Yet the good Lord provided a beautiful day for us," says college principal **Jacques Calais**. "There was such a wonderful feeling of joy and fellowship



as friends and past and present school community got together." Among items and ceremonies, the three-day celebration included many stories, photos, videos and school tours, which brought back memories for past students and teachers. The current students enjoyed the various activities of the Funday, in particular **drenching their teachers** with the dunking machine (pictured). Saturday's Gala Evening and the Sunday Funday raised more than \$A6000 for the school.

● **Adventist World Radio** (AWR) recently began broadcasting in a **new language, Uyghur**, spoken by people of Turkic background and Muslim religion in the region of China near Kazakhstan. AWR has received their first response to the Uyghur program, translated as, "If it is possible, please send me some Bible books. . . . I really decided to trust to the God, since a long time. But I could not know which religion is good. Now I know." Elsewhere in China AWR continues to receive many responses. From Anhui Province: "One morning as I turned on my radio, I found

Voice of Hope. I listened carefully and was deeply touched. That was a calling from God. He poured out His spirit of love upon me through the radio waves. . . . Your words injected God's love and truth into my vein and carried them to my heart where all the filth of the past was cleansed. I opened my heart and accepted Jesus as my Saviour! . . . Would you please send a copy of Bible to me? . . . **I want to enrol** in the Bible correspondence lessons. I'm eager to share the good news of salvation with the people around me." For information on AWR visit <www.awr.org>.—*Benjamin Schoun*

First WM retreat in Israel

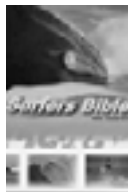
Kibutz Sasa, northern Galilee, was the venue for the first Women's Ministries retreat held in Israel, where 34 women from Romanian-, Russian-, English- and Hebrew-speaking churches met to fellowship together. This event was the product of months of preparation by Nina Usachev, director of Women's Ministries for the Israel Field. Guest speaker for the event was Anne-May Wollan, director of Women's Ministries for the Trans-European Division, whose topics included "Girl, you are something else!" and "Nobody loves you like He does."

The three-day event with the theme "Keep growing together" commenced with a tour from Tel-Aviv, consisting of a four-hour drive to the Bahai, breathtaking scenery in Haifa; Nazareth and a visit to the Church of Annunciation, the Greek Orthodox Church and the Iconostas where Mary's well is located; Sea of Galilee and a boat cruise followed by a picnic lunch; Jordan River and an exciting kayaking experience.

Friday included gymnastics, an early morning walk, health checks, seminars, worships, crafts, vegetarian cookery demonstrations, games and swimming.

The Sabbath day was celebrated in praise and worship, Bible study and a message from Anne-May drew the retreat to a close. "Interesting, inspiring, enjoyable, remarkable experience" were some of the expressions of gratitude by those who attended.—*Joyce Aquino/ANR*

● After 18 months of translation and six months of preparation, **Christian Surfers Japan** has brought out the **Surfers Bible** in easy-to-read Japanese. The Surfers Bible has had success around the world, with some 60,000 copies in print in six different countries, as an easy-to-read Bible with stories, quotes and full-colour pictures of some of the world's best professional surfers. Christian Surfers first started as a national body in Australia in 1983, and today its surf ministry has spread to South and North America, Europe, Japan and South Africa.—www.christiansurfers.com



● The **US Supreme Court** announced that it will hear arguments early next year regarding the constitutionality of **Ten Commandments** displays on government land and buildings in Kentucky and Texas. The Constitution currently bars any state "establishment" of religion, which means that the **government cannot promote religion** in general or favour one faith over another. Until now, the justices have repeatedly chosen not to revisit issues raised by their decision in 1980.—*Randy Hall/CNSNews*

Days and offerings

November 7—ABC Day

November 13—World Mission Budget Offering
(Go One Million)

Off the record

● A dozen Avondale students paid \$A5 each to get muddy. **The Muddy Buddy** contest is an annual event to raise money for the **Avondale Bushwalking Recreation Club** (ABARC). Two-person teams required skill and stamina to conquer the hazards in record time to win the top prize, and that's exactly what **Grace Banks** and **Boris Ambrus** (pictured) did to win the 2004 Muddy



Buddy mixed team trophy. The course consisted of a one-kilometre bike ride through the bush of boys walk through mud pits, made just for them, and then another kilometre back to campus to tag their team member to repeat the same. The second leg consisted of a run to the water slide, through the bush of girls walk, through a mud pit, swim across Dora Creek and sprint back to College Hall. ABARC president **Jim Zenith** says, "It was great fun and helped remind everyone on campus that a great outdoor recreation club is still alive and active at Avondale."—*Connections*

● Having eight high-school captains among their grandchildren may put **Tony and Nancy Platt** of Mandurama church, NSW, up near the record holders for the **most school captain grandchildren**. The youngest child of **Dean and Jan Platt** of Lyndhurst, **Bradley Platt**, is the current boy school captain at Blayney High. The daughter of **Leon and Carole Platt** of Mullumbimby, **Karyn Platt**, and the son of **Coralee Roberts** (nee Platt) of Ocean Shores church, **Dylan Roberts**, are the current girl and boy captains respectively of Tweed Valley College, Murwillumbah. Bradley's three siblings, **Rachel, Melanie and Justin**, have also been Blayney High captains, and Karyn's two brothers, **Jonathon and Stephen**, had the same honour at Tweed Valley College—that makes eight!

Leaders urged to "discover like a child"

Rotorua, New Zealand

More than 100 children's ministries leaders from across the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference (NZPUC) were challenged to "discover like a child" at a recent training weekend held at Tui Ridge Park, Rotorua, New Zealand.

"The networking that took place was wonderful, allowing the experienced to share with those less experienced," says Felicity Stone, NZPUC Children's Ministries coordinator. "It was fantastic to meet the individuals and teams that attended, learn of their needs and see the enthusiasm of 100 dedicated workers in children's ministries."

Ms Stone noted the small minority of men participating in this training. "Although a few men were present for the

weekend, many more should be involved in children's ministries if we are to grow strong spirituality in our children.

"We'd also like to see parents take responsibility for connecting their children to their heavenly Father instead of relying solely on church programs," she added.

Workshop topics included discipline, family-friendly churches, prayer, puppetry, leadership and team building, and learning about Jesus while having fun and games.

Further NZPUC children's ministries training days are planned for 2005. These will be held in Auckland and Palmerston North. Reflecting on the recent training weekend, Ms Stone recommends involvement. "You'll return home refreshed and invigorated in your mission for children," she says.

"The Auckland training sessions will be



Leaders from Christchurch, New Zealand, were among more than 100 participants in a children's ministries weekend held at Tui Ridge Park.

videod," says Ms Stone. "Nothing can beat actually being at a training session, but I appreciate the need for the more remote children's ministries leaders to have some form of training with their peers."—

Christine Miles

Medical missionary training course accredited

Townsville, Queensland

A training institute near Townsville in northern Queensland is offering the first medical missionary training course accredited with the Department of Employment and Training in Australia. Based on a permaculture farm 50 kilometres west of Townsville, the accreditation of the Medical Missionary Training Institute (MMTI) is the realisation of a dream for administrator Bev Krogdahl.



Administrator Bev Krogdahl (top right) with prospective students at the Medical Missionary Training Institute, near Townsville, Queensland.

"In Australia we have thousands of 'therapists,' such as doctors, nurses, naturopaths, chiropractors, osteopaths," Mrs Krogdahl explains, "but very few professional educators in healthy lifestyle."

"The *medical* refers to 'preventive' medicine," she continues. "The Institute offers informal courses in health, healing, wellbeing and lifestyle to the general public. These courses are based on the eight laws of health and supported by use of appropriate scientific data.

"The *missionary* refers to graduates trained in formal accredited courses, leaving the institute to be employed as professional health educators and lifestyle counsellors."

While not a church institution, MMTI is governed by a nine-member board, all of whom are Adventist church members and, according to Dr John Hammond, Australian national director for Adventist education, this training course fills a gap in Adventist education opportunities.

"It is refreshing to find that we still have people of faith and courage who have the boldness to take us back to our

foundational beliefs by setting up a Medical Missionary Training Institute," says Dr Hammond. "Despite the amazing advances in modern medicine, the true secret to a healthy life lies in the application of effective but largely forgotten health principles. When these principles are linked to the gospel message, then we have a winner."

Gary Christian, national program director for the Adventist Development and Relief Agency, echoes this enthusiasm. "We see this course as a viable way ahead for health promotion," he says, adding that this course may be a model for training indigenous health educators to tackle the specific health issues of indigenous communities.

The accreditation means MMTI students will be eligible for government financial assistance and graduates will receive a recognised Diploma of Community Education.

"This is the first time in Australia an accredited medical missionary course based on the unique health message of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is being offered," says Mrs Krogdahl.—**Nathan Brown**

State of church in SNZ “encouraging”

Christchurch, New Zealand

The state of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in South New Zealand is “encouraging,” says conference president Pastor Lindsay Sleight.

Pastor Sleight notes the “significant” increase in tithe, the increase in enrolment at the church’s schools and the increasing number of young adults involved with mission and service-type activities as signs “God does have a future for His church.”

Some 167 delegates returned Pastor Sleight as conference president during the South New Zealand Conference’s 61st session held at the Ilam church, October 16, 17.

Tithe returned to the conference grew from \$NZ1.1 million in 2001 to \$NZ1.4 million in 2003. The increase last year outstripped inflation by more than 12 per cent.

The conference has reversed a three-year decline in membership, with membership now 1762, but kingdom growth (adding baptisms and professions of faith after subtracting apostasies and missing members) is less than 2 per cent of this. And the population continues to grow faster, with the ratio of Adventists to non-Adventists now at 1:546, up from 1:510 a decade ago.

Enrolment in church schools increased by 11 per cent. Southland in Invercargill is full, while Christchurch has only 20 places available. About 45 per cent of the students are non-Adventists.

Pastor Sleight also notes the increase in the number of young adults attending the conference’s annual camp. He gives as an example the number of teenagers—70—who attended this year—many invited their friends. “We encourage them to see camp as a mission opportunity,” he says.

Mission is a key word around South New Zealand, with Pastor Sleight describing church members as rallying to the conference’s mission statement, “From maintenance to mission.”

“There’s an optimistic spirit in this conference,” he says.—**Brenton Stacey**

Balancing the world church

Silver Spring, Maryland, USA

Recently appointed director of the Office of Mission Awareness for the General Conference, Gary Krause reflects on last month’s Annual Council, the meeting of the worldwide church’s executive committee.

Helping steer a worldwide church down a balanced middle road means much prayer, discussion and deliberation. It means listening to many different angles to the same report; different viewpoints informed by different cultures and backgrounds. It means some delegates sitting through items in which they may have no personal interest—but taking an interest for the sake of the church. It means searching for unifying aspects, things to hold in common, ways to keep opposing views in tension.

At times, trying to balance church business can seem tedious, even boring. But balance is underrated. Lack of balance results in crusades and 9/11s. And if you’re a Houdini, perched improbably on a high wire above Niagara Falls, balance becomes an exceedingly healthy thing.

How does balance show in Annual Council? Take just one example from the first day of session. World church president Dr Jan Paulsen began the day by stressing the importance of mission. “It’s important to take quality time on the first day we are together to focus on mission,” he said. “Everything else we do here finds its meaning only in mission. All decisions, all discussions, are there to make the church effective in mission.”

Thus, the first morning was devoted to reports and discussion of mission initiatives: the Office of Global Evangelism (and specifically the Elijah project to involve 10,000 young people in evangelism); Sow 1 Billion; Go One Million; Global Mission; the Office of Mission Awareness and more. Dr Mike Ryan, a vice-president of the General Conference, who heads strategic planning for the church, said, “The strategic plan is

focused on mission—a mission to invite every person in the world to respond to the good news about Jesus and His soon return.”

The following day, Bert Haloviak, director of the office of archives and statistics, reported that on average, 2756 new Adventists are baptised every day, and 13 congregations formed. More than a million new Adventists have joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church so far this year.

Yet there’s another vital aspect to mission—discipleship, nurture, establishing believers in their new-found faith. General Conference secretary Pastor Matthew Bediako reported that 30 per cent of people who join the church later leave it.

In some parts of the world, the figure is much higher.

Dr Roger Dudley, director of the Institute of Church Ministry at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, estimated that 40–50 per cent of teenagers baptised either leave the denomination or become inactive by their mid-20s. Richard Osborn, president of Pacific Union

College in California, urged church leaders to direct more energy and resources toward keeping young people in the church.

Pastor Jim Cress, ministerial secretary for the General Conference, paraphrased Jesus’ words and urged those gathered to “pray for the keepers”—pastors and local church elders. He said the church’s task is not complete just when people are baptised. In fact, the Bible and Ellen White say that those brought to conversion without adequate efforts of follow-up, nurture and discipleship, end up worse off than if they had never been contacted.

The call to outreach and the call to nurture are both vital parts of mission. Ignore either, and our mission is distorted and unhealthy. The church in session this week sought to address the two—a balancing act worthy of our support.—**Gary Krause/Adventist Review**



Gary Krause.

GC Annual Council thinks big

Silver Spring, Maryland, USA

More than 200 church leaders and representatives from around the world gathered at the General Conference (GC) headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland, USA, October 9 to 14. Annual Council is the business meeting of the worldwide Adventist Church's executive committee, which this year included the celebration of the centenary of the Takoma Park Adventist church nearby. This commemoration set the tone for a business meeting focused on the church's historical, current and future mission.

As well as reports on current operations, issues considered at Annual Council included the following:

New fundamental belief

Delegates to the Annual Council voted to recommend the addition of a new statement to the 27 doctrinal affirmations currently identified in the church's fundamental beliefs. The proposed statement, "Growing in Christ," will be placed on the agenda of the General Conference in July 2005 in St. Louis, Missouri (See "A new fundamental belief?" RECORD, July 7).

Balancing the budget

Although local church offerings have held at approximately 35 per cent of tithe over the past 40 years, overall worldwide mission offerings have not kept pace with

tithe increases, Pastor Bob Lemon, GC treasurer, told Annual Council delegates. Mission offerings as a percentage of total world tithe have decreased sharply from about 65 per cent in 1930 to about 5 per cent in 2003. Delegates saw the need to work to create awareness of mission and offerings for expanding the work of the church.

Delegates voted to establish a commission to review the use of tithe at all levels of the church.

Delegates also voted to approve the 2005 budget proposal. Sixty-two per cent of the budget comes from tithe, 36 per cent from offerings, and 2 per cent from investments and donations.

GC operations review

Annual Council voted to establish a "General Conference Ministries and Services Review Commission" to report back in less than six months on how operations can be improved or streamlined.

Mission statement revised

Adventist leaders voted revised wording for the church's mission statement. The amendments to the mission statement talk about the everlasting gospel "of God's love" in the context of Revelation 14:6-12 "and as revealed in the life, death, resurrection and high priestly ministry of Jesus Christ," and leading them to accept Jesus as personal Saviour "and Lord." The mission



Ray Dabrowski/ANN

Some of the more than 200 delegates to the GC Annual Council, held October 9-14.

statement now calls for people to unite with Christ's "remnant church" and for the church to nurture "believers as disciples" in preparation for His return.

Distributing 2 million books

A new plan for worldwide distribution of two million books by Ellen White was voted by delegates. A document outlining the project cited an apparent decline in readership of these volumes, despite a continuing belief in their importance for the church today. "It is widely acknowledged, both within and outside of Adventism, that the Spirit of Prophecy has been—and continues to be—primarily responsible for the church's remarkable theological and administrative unity worldwide. The church needs to nurture this historical and ongoing spiritual influence," the document states.—*ANN/Adventist Review*



Don Fehlberg

John Kyanga and acting chairperson Gwen Merritt cut a cake to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Karalundi Aboriginal Education Centre.

Karalundi marks 50 years

(Continued from page 1)

Pastor Townend, who is new to Western Australia, attended the camp for the first time this year. "You sense something is different about Karalundi. The campus is green. There's order and structure."

Pastor Don Fehlberg is an associate director of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministries in the western region of Australia. He says the 50th anniversary is

"significant." "The church hasn't gone in, made a big splash and said goodbye. We've lasted the distance. I think the Aboriginal people appreciate that."

"For the Aboriginal people of the Western Desert, Karalundi is the Adventist Church," says Pastor Townend.—*Brenton Stacey*

For more on Karalundi Aboriginal Education Centre, see pages 8 and 9.

The spirit of Karalundi

by Brenton Stacey

John Kyanga exemplifies the Karalundi spirit. An example: Mr Kyanga brings a rock to a meeting of independent school leaders and the Australian Government's education minister. Mr Kyanga is representing Karalundi, an Aboriginal education centre near Meekatharra, 800 kilometres north of Perth, Western Australia. He hands the rock to the minister saying, "Canberra's as hard as a rock and the only way to get funding is to tap away until it cracks."

Mr Kyanga began serving at the school as the "milking boy" and gardener in 1955. Karalundi's founding "father," evangelist Pastor Dudley Vaughan, baptised Mr Kyanga at the school a year later. "Karalundi's changed my life," says Mr Kyanga. "It's God's sacred ground."

Mr Kyanga served as chair of the board for almost 14 years and received a Centenary Medal from the government for "service to the Karalundi Aboriginal community."

A former president of the Western Australian Conference says Karalundi would not operate today if it were not for God's response to Mr Kyanga's "faith-filled" leadership.

Pastor Ken Vogel speaks of an open day at Karalundi in 1992. "It seemed a pipe-dream, but Johnny stirred us up. Then he surprised us by relinquishing the title of chair of the day to a political activist. Something happened to that man that can't be explained and he said at the end of the day, 'I came to see Karalundi close, but I've changed my mind.' *Why would Johnny do that?*"

Gordon Topperwien is another example of the determination that has seen the school celebrate its 50th anniversary this



year. Mr Topperwien volunteered to teach at Karalundi after graduating from a teacher's college in Western Australia in 1955. He served for about four months by himself while he built a house for his wife and two children. "Keith [Irvine, secretary-treasurer of the Western Australian Conference] took me for a walk to the west of the dormitories the morning after I arrived," says Mr Topperwien. "Second-hand timber from the old Meekatharra Hospital sat stacked in two piles. The stumps, bearers and floor joists sat nearby. 'I hope you've brought your hammer and saw,' he said. 'That heap is your house.'"

Mr Topperwien, who says he "can't even remember building a cubbyhouse as a kid," built his house after completing his day's teaching.

Karalundi administrator Glenn Grey says Avy Curly and other members of the Aboriginal community in the Murchison and surrounding areas, inspired by Pastor Vaughan's Voice of Prophecy evangelistic program, asked the church to establish the mission.

"Members of the community have said they received visions from *Mama* [God] instructing them to seek the Bible-based church that worships on Sabbath," says Mr Grey. "They see Karalundi as a representation of the church."

Church members such as Mr Topperwien volunteered to build the

school on 90 acres of freehold land then part of the Munarra station.

The church called the mission Karalundi—the name means crystal, clear water—because it sits on a limestone rise in the Yalgarr River flood plain. An underground river flows through the property. A large alluvial flat makes growing fruit and

vegetables easy.

A change in government policy took away funding for Aboriginal missions, eventually forcing the closure of Karalundi in 1972. However, a group of former students, dissatisfied with the educational alternatives, worked to reopen the school. They succeeded in 1986.

Former administrator Steve Piez has completed a thesis on Karalundi. He says the church, although at times "misguided," operated the mission with the "best of intentions."

"Karalundi provided hope for the future and a holistic education. . . . [This helped many Aboriginal people] access the dominant power structures and find gainful employment. . . . Many Karalundi students became leaders in their communities."

Mr Piez says the church "underestimated its impact on the Aboriginal people. Many were devastated by the closure of the school, which they expected 'would keep going until Jesus comes.'" However, he also quotes a former Aboriginal staff member who reflects that the closure of Karalundi "helped the people decide what they wanted instead of letting other people make decisions for them. [It gave] power back to the Aboriginal people." **R**

Brenton Stacey is news correspondent for the South Pacific Division, Wahroonga, New South Wales.

Karalundi today

by Nathan Brown

Karalundi today is an independent, parent-controlled Christian boarding school offering classes from kindergarten to Year 10. Enrolment varies between 80 and 100, with students coming from communities across Western Australia.

According to Karalundi chaplain David Fletcher, the communities represented—from the Kimberleys, Wyndham, Derby, Nullagine, Port Hedland, Jigalong, Carnarvon, Wiluna, Warburton and Geraldton—are all communities in which Karalundi is having an influence.

Maragaret Samson, a member of the Jigalong community who now works as assistant dormitory parent for girls at Karalundi, agrees. “The communities see the difference in the kids when they come back from Karalundi,” she says.

In his third year as Karalundi’s chaplain, Mr Fletcher uses his involvement with the school as a way of connecting with these communities. “It connects with parents of kids straight away,” he says. “My network in town [Meekatharra] is primarily through the kids who come from there and so I keep in contact with them. On weekends during school holidays, I try to get into town and get together the parents and kids so they have that consistent church attendance.”

This connection adds impact to the school’s evangelistic focus. In August, Western Australian conference president Pastor Glenn Townend ran an evangelistic series in Meekatharra supported by Mr Fletcher and the Karalundi school community.

“We made a call and 10 students and staff responded, saying they would like to be baptised,” reports Mr Fletcher. “So I have my hands full following those up.

“We have had weeks of prayer in the past two years and students and staff have been baptised both times,” he explains. “Staff members come here with varying degrees of Christian experience and develop that



through the church program and the environment here and many of them make the choice.”

According to Karalundi administrator Glenn Grey, such decisions are the highlight of working at Karalundi. “When a child stands up and proclaims their need of a Saviour, it’s all worthwhile,” he says. “Then we see that light go back to a community and influence and change their own families, because that’s the true test of it. We’ve had groups of students go back to their communities and organise their own prayer groups. We didn’t tell them to go and do that; it had to be the Holy Spirit. That’s what it’s all about—a changed life.”

It was a similar decision that saw Mrs Samson become involved with Karalundi some years ago after encouragement from Pastor Eric Davey, director of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministries. “I realised it was important for me to learn about God and that I should send my kids to Karalundi so they can learn about God as well,” she recalls.

Three of Mrs Samson’s children have attended Karalundi. “I have seen my children change from coming to Karalundi,” she says.

Mr Grey emphasises the ministry aspect and opportunities of Karalundi. “The dream is to see Karalundi supporting ministry right through Western Australia.

Something uniquely Karalundi—uniquely Aboriginal—probably has the chance to step into places where the church doesn’t have the ability to because we represent the people.”

According to Mr Fletcher, this partnership between the communities and the church makes Karalundi unique. “It’s based on the loyalty of the community rather than dependence on the church. It’s a twist to what the traditional mission has been and if we push that boundary a bit, it empowers the people. I think that model is starting to really work here—we have people who have been students here coming back to work and that bodes well for the future.”

While there are continuing challenges in the operation of Karalundi, the opportunities are even bigger. Possibilities include increasing student numbers, adding post-secondary education, drug- and alcohol-rehabilitation programs, building new Karalundi-like schools, new industries and more.

But Mr Grey says Karalundi’s greatest achievement over the past 50 years is “not losing its focus. It’s God’s place—leading people to Jesus and readying them for His soon coming.” **R**

Nathan Brown is editor of RECORD.

Stars in my crown?

by Christine Miles

It's an old hymn, perhaps sung by our grandparents:

Will there be any stars, any stars in my crown,
When at evening the sun goeth down?
When I wake with the blest
In the mansions of rest,
Will there be any stars in my crown?¹

But how's the theology?

A few years ago, the beginners (cradle roll) Sabbath school team at the Papatoetoe church (North New Zealand) planned to focus on heaven for the children's program. A great deal of thought and effort went into the many props and handouts to be used. A glistening street of gold was made for the children to walk on. Enough little white robes were sewn for every child to wear. A father made a great pile of harps—again, one for each child in Sabbath school. Little trumpets for praising God were laid in stock. And a host of golden crowns were made.

It was suggested that the crowns be beautified with stars. And this is where we hit trouble. Where in the Bible does it state that there will be stars in my crown?

The search for stars

Some of our team had already looked in their Bible concordance to no avail. Others asked the head elder and the pastor. A great deal of head-wagging ensued.

We searched in higher places. The conference president was consulted, as was the Children's Ministries leader. More head-wagging.

We asked our own parents, who surely must have been slightly responsible for this new generation of parents. Nobody was able to confirm that "Stars in my crown" was Bible based.

So we didn't do "Stars in my crown" in Sabbath school. And I always wondered if the children had been denied a bit of the buzz of heaven.

To "star" or not to "star"

Not that everyone thinks a public display of stars on their crown in heaven is a great idea. Some people worry they won't have any stars and they will be embarrassed. Others think it unfair that ministers get a greater opportunity for having saved a soul.

Still others have been brought up on the idea that the stars are not rewarded for saving a soul, but rather for doing good deeds. These good deeds must be done without anyone else knowing of them, otherwise the star is withheld.

Many of us have sung "Will there be any stars in my crown?" with gusto. We've been raised in a society that rewards those who do good. Wearing a crown be-jewelled with stars fits our image. But where is the biblical evidence?

Crowns, biblically

The heavenly crown is mentioned in five different ways in the Bible. There is the incorruptible crown, the crown of rejoicing, the crown of righteousness, the crown of life, and the crown of glory (see box next page). But where are the stars?

In Daniel 12:3, we read, "Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever." Ellen White links this passage to a reward in the kingdom of heaven for those who have saved souls: "What a noble enterprise! One soul to praise God through eternity! One soul to enjoy happiness and everlasting life! One gem in their crown to shine as a star forever and ever! . . . Then

those who engage with Christ and angels in the work of saving perishing souls are richly rewarded in the kingdom of heaven."²

Two further references are found in Ellen White's writings concerning stars in heavenly crowns. In *Testimonies for the Church*, she writes, "Had your mind been turned in the direction of doing good, of placing the truth before others, you would now be qualified to become a successful labourer for God, and as your reward you would see many souls saved that would be as stars in the crown of your rejoicing."³

In an 1886 issue of *Signs of the Times*,



Ellen White again refers to the crown of rejoicing: “If we possess the same unwavering integrity that characterised the prophet of old, God will be honoured through our course, and souls will be saved to shine as stars in the crown of our rejoicing.”⁴


But the phrase “the crown of my rejoicing” reminds me of 1 Thessalonians 2:19: “For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?” (NKJV).

Different stars, different crown

So the phrase isn’t “stars in my crown” but “stars in the crown of my rejoicing.” And it’s not me with the stars, it’s God: “I beseech you to do something for Christ, and to do it now. . . . Souls may be saved from ruin to shine as stars in the Redeemer’s crown.”⁵

Maybe, just maybe, this crown is more a distinction than a physical object. Maybe

those who have been instrumental in saving souls display an extra degree of hope and joy. Having led a soul to Jesus, those people can bask in the glow from their Redeemer’s crown.

My answer isn’t solely found in the Bible. Ellen White has provided the filling. I might wear a crown with not one star in it, but I don’t care. I would rather be filled with rejoicing for the saving power of God, than spend a millennium counting the stars in my crown. 

1. “Will there be any stars in my crown?” Music by John R Sweney, text by Eliza Edmunds Hewitt.
2. Messages to Young People, page 205.
3. Testimonies for the Church, Vol 4, page 52.
4. “Daniel an Example of Faithfulness,” Signs of the Times, November 4, 1886.
5. Testimonies for the Church, Vol 6, page 30.

**Unless otherwise stated, Bible quotations are from the New International Version.*

Christine Miles writes from Auckland, New Zealand.



Creation

by Michael Godfrey

God and Jesus made our world,
They made it all in just six days.
They said it was very good
And that’s why they deserve our praise.

On the first day God did say,
“Let there be light to shine all ’round.”
So, later, when He did look down
That everything could then be found.


On the second day God made
The clouds and air and sea and sky,
So when He made the pretty birds
They’d have a lovely place to fly.

On the third day God made trees
And lots of them grow fruit to eat.
He also made the plants and flowers
And lots of them smell nice and sweet.

On fourth day God made stars
And then the moon to shine at night.
He also made the big, bright sun
To make us warm and give us light.

On the fifth day God made fish
And birds to fly up in the air.
He made sea creatures of all types
To swim in oceans everywhere.

On the sixth day Jesus made
The animals—all different kinds,
And then He made all the people too
And gave them very clever minds.

On day seven God did rest
From all the work He’d had to do,
And said it was the Sabbath day
And that He’d made it just for you. 

Michael Godfrey is eight years old and attends the Coffs Harbour church.

The heavenly crown

1. The incorruptible crown

“Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever” (1 Corinthians 9:25).

2. The crown of rejoicing

“For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ when he comes? Is it not you? Indeed, you are our glory and joy” (1 Thessalonians 2:19, 20).

3. The crown of righteousness

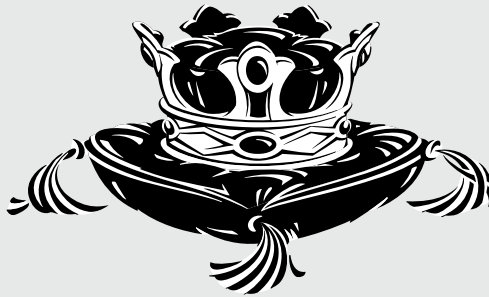
“Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing” (2 Timothy 4:8).

4. The crown of life

“Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life” (Revelation 2:10).

5. The crown of glory

“And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away” (1 Peter 5:4).



Youth leaders and lost dogs

by Muriel Cross

I'm 92 years old, and I think youth leaders are the best: those wonderful people who organise and conduct camps for kids. I'm sure they will never know on this earth the influence they have had on the children—in some cases changing their lives forever. I personally thank God for this unsung form of evangelism that touched my children many years ago.

The story goes like this . . .

Our family had lived on a cane farm on the Tweed River. Our little dog Trixie was part of the family and we all (Mum, Dad and two girls) loved her. After nine years, we sold the farm, bought a caravan and decided to travel during the school holidays.

As there was a junior camp about to begin at Lennox Head, we parked the caravan and the girls moved into the dormitories with the other children. They had a great time and came away singing new choruses they had learned at camp. My husband and I helped where we could and observed the endless hours the staff spent working to give the children a memorable time.

When the camp was finished, we moved on and stopped at Grafton to replenish our food supplies. And Trixie became lost.

We had parked the caravan out of town and gone into a big store, crowded with Christmas shoppers. In those days, dogs were allowed in shops so we took Trixie with us. She was part of the family and always stayed with us. However, she must have become confused with all the legs she was going through and when we came out of the store she wasn't with us.

We searched for her for many hours, driving up one street after another and another and another but there was no sign of Trixie. By this time it was getting late in the day and Dad made the announcement that we would have to drive on without her.



"Well now," said Dad, "you direct me which way to drive."

"Up this street, Dad. Turn left, turn right . . . now left."

And there we saw Trixie on the green footpath outside a house playing with another dog.

Dad stopped the car and the girls opened the back door. When Trixie saw us, like a bolt of lightning she leapt in with tail wagging as if it would fly off any minute. She was so excited as much as to say, *Where have you been? You found me at last.*

When the girls calmed her, she lay between them with her head on her paws blinking her brown eyes at one and then the other. They each were stroking her back and singing a chorus

they had learned at junior camp a few days earlier:

God answers prayer in the morning
 God answers prayer at noon
 God answers prayer in the evening
 So keep your heart in tune. ®

After howls of anguish from the back seat, one of the girls said, "Dad, pull over and stop."

"What for?" he asked, but did as requested.

"We believe in prayer, don't we?" both girls responded. "Jesus knows where Trixie is and will take us to her."

They both said a short prayer of faith and both Dad and I humbly followed.

Muriel Cross writes from the Adventist Retirement Village at Victoria Point, Queensland.



Peta Taylor

Communion options

Annette Lambertus, Qld

When my son and niece were younger and wondered why they couldn't share in the emblems of Communion, their grandmother started bringing unleavened bread and grape juice to share with them. We have now expanded this to include the other children of the church. Sometimes we have a special story time for the children to explain the significance of the service, or the children attend the foot-washing service with their parents and then meet in the foyer for their own serve of unblest bread and grape juice. We have found this a successful way of including children without offending others.

Marian Jones, Qld

It is wonderful to include our children in spiritual lessons, but we must check what Jesus expects. I was confronted with this issue myself when my child requested bread and grape juice in Communion. So I studied the topic of Communion and found this helpful comment in the *Seventh-day Adventist Ministers Handbook*: "Children should not participate until mature enough to have received formal instruction in the meaning of the service and committed themselves to Christ in baptism" (pages 223, 224). It is still possible to help the children feel included by making Communion a special time. Praise God He winks at our ignorance.

Gender sensitivity missing

Josephine Hallam, Qld

What an inspirational Christian story in "Adventist pastor: Holocaust hero" (Newsfront, September 11). But who washed, ironed, cooked and cleaned for six children and the "many Jews" hidden in the Michnay home? Even with stock-piled food, who organised meals during a time of severe rationing? And who was prepared to put her own life and that of her children at risk? What was Mrs Michnay doing during this time? I'm sure she wasn't lounging on a sofa applying lipstick and painting her nails. The silence around Mrs Michnay is deafening.

I'm doubtful about such a change being the means of pulling the church out of a rut.

A better way

Ray Stanley, NSW

"Everything is changing" (Feature, October 2)—well, not quite. God hasn't. The Word of truth hasn't. And my need of that Word hasn't.

I'm not opposed to changing the order of the cutlery in the drawer, but I'm doubtful about such a change being the means of pulling the church out of a rut and making us more aware of our Saviour.

The Bible says, "Faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ" (Romans 10:17, NRSV). So, back to the Bible is the answer to our awareness of a Saviour.

Questioning diversity

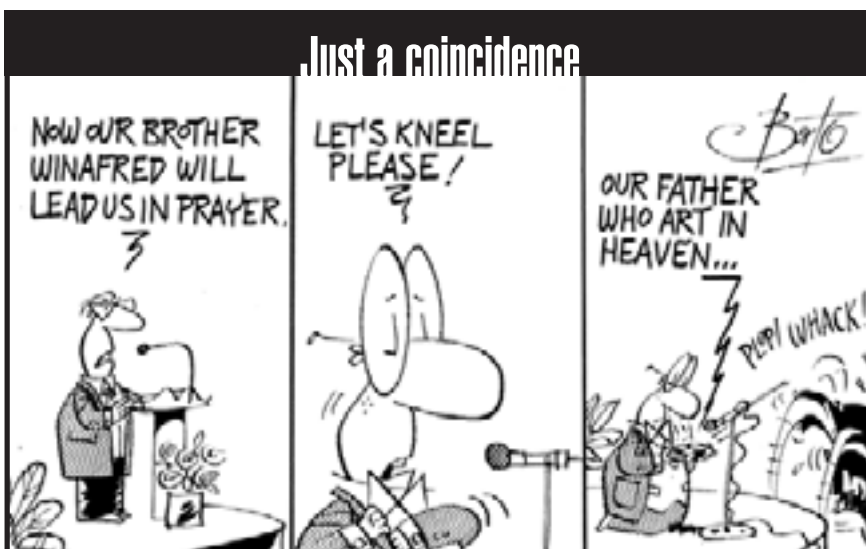
John Wallace, NNZ

Articles appearing in September 11 and 18 extol "diversity" and the celebration of it in the church. Unfortunately this "politically correct" idea promotes racism in its truest form. Racism is more than the belief that one race is superior to another: It is the notion that one's race determines one's identity; it is the belief that one's convictions, values and character are determined not by the judgment of one's mind but by one's blood.

We cannot espouse multiculturalism and expect people to see each other as individual human beings. To the multiculturalist they aren't; race is what counts.

Colour blindness is now considered evil or even impossible. Advocates of diversity claim to tolerate and celebrate their differences, but the differences they have in mind are racial differences, which means we're being urged to glorify race and institutionalise racism. Racial identity erects an unbridgeable gulf between people, as though they were different species, with nothing fundamental in common. This is in direct contradiction of the Bible model of unity (see Galatians 3:28).

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.



Appreciation

Andrews, Craig and family sincerely thank all who gave of their sympathy and support in so many ways following the tragic loss of Belinda, a dearly loved wife, mother, daughter-in-law, sister-in-law and aunt. Your cards, letters and flowers have meant much to us at this sad time.

Anniversary

Davis, Verna and Martin were married on 30.9.54 in Adelaide, SA. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with their four children, Robyn (Gold Coast, Qld), Anthony and Melitah, Michael and Grace, Dianne and Lester (Adelaide, SA) at the Hotel Adelaide, North Adelaide, where there was much hilarity as each family member reminisced on past good times. They also have seven grandchildren.

Weddings

Cocks—Devitt. Adam Barry Cocks, son of Kerry and Julie Cocks (Kingscliff, NSW), and Jade Renee Devitt, daughter of Michael (Brisbane, Qld) and Kathy Devitt (Palm Beach), were married on 25.9.04 in the Kingscliff Adventist community church.

Adrian Raethel

Edward—Penfound. Grant William Edward, son of Bill and Helen Edward (Kyogle, NSW), and Elizabeth Janet Penfound, daughter of George and Mele Penfound (Canberra, ACT), were married on 10.10.04 at Canberra National Adventist church.

André van Renburg

Farinella—Freitas. Marco Farinella, son of Guisepe and Annamaria Farinella (Berkeley, NSW), and Lisa Freitas, daughter of Agostinho and Manuela Freitas (Port Kembla), were married on 3.10.04 in the Wollongong Adventist church, NSW.

Kerry Hortop

Hughes—Randall. Ashley Peter Hughes, son of Tom Hughes (Toowoomba, Qld) and Lillian Brac (Brisbane), and Magda Randall, daughter of Robert and Jillian Randall (Helidon), were married on 29.8.04 in the Ma Ma Creek Anglican church.

Barry Linsket, Terry Goltz

Mulder—Stafford. John Carl Mulder, son of William and Helen Mulder (New Plymouth, NZ), and Rochelle Amanda Stafford, daughter of Kevin and Marilyn Stafford (Perth, WA), were married on 7.10.04 at St Stephen's Anglican church, Serpentine, Perth.

Lynn Weber

Warden—Hughes. Richard James Warden, son of Richard and Diane Warden (Toowoomba, Qld), and Rebecca Jade Hughes, daughter of John and Janet Hughes (Kingshorpe), were married on 17.10.04 at Spring Bluff Railway Station, Ballard.

John Rabbus

Obituaries

Hatch, Florence (Betty) Elizabeth, born 20.7.1922 at Subiaco, WA; died 24.9.04 at Merredin. On 2.3.46 she married Ron. She was predeceased by her son, Teddy. She is survived by her husband; and her children, Roger (Southern Cross), Daphne Skinner (Cunderdin), Rick, Rosa Robertson, David (all of Merredin), Alex (Marongaroo), Laurie (Geraldton), John, Janet Rimpel (both of California, USA), Ruth Lundstrom (Lesmurdie, WA). Betty was a loving wife and a wonderful mother. The grace of her Saviour overflowed to all who surrounded her. She sleeps with assurance.

Norm Hardy

Piper—Clarke, Gwendoline Blanch (nee Bridge), born 23.4.1909 at Quirindi, Tamworth, NSW; died 22.9.04 at Turrumurra, Sydney. In 1930 she married Lawrence Piper, who predeceased her in 1987. In 1988 she married Cecil Clarke, who predeceased her in 1989. She is survived by her daughter, Margaret Withycombe; and her four grandsons, Nicholas, Mark, Richard and Geoffrey. Gwen supported her husband, Lawrence, as he served the church in management positions in the Sanitarium Health Food Company. She was also a loyal supporter of the Royal Blind Society and a faithful member of the Wahroonga Adventist church.

Max Townend, Tom Andrews

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www.aucsda.com—Australian Union Conference web site. Do you have a ministry idea to share? Or are you needing assistance? Check out the new Ideas Exchange forum.

Bundaberg church would like to inform all past ministers, members and visitors planning to attend the dedication of the church on November 27 that this event has been postponed. The Bundaberg Regional day will still take place on this date and all are invited to attend.

Position vacant

▲ **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 three 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.

Invitation to a celebration—Pathfinder Golden Jubilee. You are invited to a celebration of Pathfinders at the annual Pathfinder Rally and award ceremony at Lilydale Adventist Academy, on November 13, from 10 am to 4 pm (BYO lunch). To ensure your club or former clubs feature in the program, please contact Rebecca at Vic youth on (03) 9259 2157.

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Fremantle church's 100th birthday party! Fremantle church (WA) will be celebrating its centenary at 11.00 am, November 20. Past friends and members are all invited. More info: <www.frcchurch.com>; (08) 9319 2313.

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