RECORD



Members of the ADRA-Papua New Guinea board with ADRA-Australia CEO David Jack (fifth from left) and facilitator Murray Millar (third from right) at the first board governance training session.

ADRA—PNG continues to grow

Lae, Papua New Guinea

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) in Papua New Guinea has outgrown its office space and is in the process of purchasing a new office. Much of the growth is due to an increase in donations being made to ADRA–PNG.

The total number of full-time salaried staff at ADRA–PNG has increased to 70 with a number of recent additions to the team. Ten new HIV/AIDS employees started work at ADRA–PNG in February. With so many new staff beginning at the same time, an orientation program was held, and big-picture topics regarding HIV/AIDS were examined.

Eight new positions for local PNG staff are also about to be advertised. Four new positions are open in the literacy program, two in the HIV/AIDS program, one in Morobe Rural Health and Sanitation Project (MRHSP) and one as Community Liaison Manager.

ADRA-PNG board members also participated in a two-day training session to discuss board governance. This was held at the Melanesian Hotel in Lae in early February. This type of training for board members was a first for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the South Pacific, and is the first activity to take place with a grant from AusAID Community Development Scheme (CDS) for capacity-building activities in the areas of agency governance.

The training was facilitated by Murray Millar, a consultant who had previously worked with ADRA in Asia. It was attended by ADRA-PNG board members, as well as ADRA-Australia's CEO David Jack and International Programs director Warren Scale.

As a result of the training, the board members have a vision to provide more "hands on" leadership and direction in their country that enables ADRA-PNG to be a well-led, resourced, efficient and credible organisation.—**Kym Piez**

In this issue

Questions on Manly Flats sale addressed

Myanmar affirms religious liberty

The why of resurrection



Sanitarium and SPD give tsunami aid

Changing the world

As a long-time fan of Irish band U2, one of the highlights of 2004 for me was the release of a new album—"How to Dismantle an Atomic Bomb." It is a collection of songs about life, death, love and God, described by some reviewers as the most spiritually focused of the band's 25-year musical career. But I was particularly struck by a passing comment in a review of the album by *Mojo* magazine: "The lifeblood of '. . . Atomic Bomb' is Bono's unstinting belief that pop stars can make a difference and that they

matter how late or how hungry I might be, I don't think the Golden Arches money machine skips a beat. When I choose to occasionally walk to work, the advertisements for bigger, faster, newer cars continue unabated and the oil economy continues to run the world. When I choose to live TV-free, the ratings battle between the various brands of inanity broadcast on. When I sponsor an orphan child in India, there is no appreciable difference made to world poverty levels.

Although I endeavour to choose

There is always the chance that somewhere along the way we just might change the world.

should use their power for something above and beyond mere personal reward."

In recent years, Bono has put that belief into practice in some big ways, taking on the challenges of the developing world—with a particular focus on Africa—under the headings of debt, AIDS and fair trade (see <www.datadata.org>). Bono has used his celebrity to raise the profile of these most pressing humanitarian issues. Last month, his efforts were recognised with a Nobel Peace Prize nomination.

But where does that leave us? Maybe pop stars—and some of the other rich and powerful headline-makers—can change the world, but at times I begin to suspect I'm not going to change the world.

And it's not that I don't try in my own feeble ways. When I go out of my way to contact someone I know needs encouragement, it does little to decrease the sum of suffering in the world. When I write a letter for Amnesty International—even when there is a positive reaction in the specific situation—it is hard to believe my single letter made much difference. When I choose not to go to McDonald's, no

environmentally responsible options in various aspects of my life, I don't think I've saved any whales or other endangered species. When I write to a politician, I hold little hope of influencing government policy. When I try to forgive someone who I feel has hurt me, I am not bringing peace to the Middle East. When I plant a tree or garden, I am not saving a rapidly disappearing rainforest. When I refuse to see shopping as a legitimate recreational activity, I do little to curb rampant consumerism and rising household-debt levels.

When I try to take steps to live a more simple life, I am so easily distracted. When I try to make choices to live more usefully and responsibly, my best intentions fade to hypocrisy. And when I write on these kind of real-life issues, I get occasional support from those who would have agreed with me anyway and criticism from those who would have disagreed with me anyway.

But when I am most tempted to despair, I remind myself that each of these choices—faltering and misguided as they may be at times—is a vote for how the world should be. As a part of the kingdom of God, I am

choosing to live by different rules—out of step with the world around me—with my "top priority to be part of what God is doing and to have the kind of goodness He has" (Matthew 6:33, as paraphrased in Dallas Willard's *The Divine Conspiracy*).

The good news of the Bible is that because of God's love and goodness, He invites us to participate in the kingdom of God—right here, right now. When we accept that invitation, we become ambassadors for this alternative reality and messengers of the promise that in the end the kingdom of God will be made complete.

Citizens of the kingdom of God become more fully engaged with our world. We—individually and as a community of kingdom people—are called to make the world a better place, to contribute to growing the reality of the kingdom of God in this world.

As such, there is always the chance that somewhere along the way we just might change the world.

As veteran muck-raker I F Stone explained it, "The only kinds of fights worth fighting are those you are going to lose, because somebody has to fight them and lose and lose and lose until some day, somebody who believes as you do wins. In order for somebody to win an important, major fight 100 years hence, a lot of other people have got to be

willing—for the sheer fun and joy of it—to go right ahead and fight, knowing you're going to lose. You musn't feel like a martyr. You've got to enjoy it."

Nathan Brown



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

Vol 110 No 11 Cover: Warren Scale Editor Nathan Brown
Senior assistant editor Lee Dunstan
Editorial assistant Adele Nash
Editorial assistant Scott Wegener
Copyeditor Graeme Brown
Editorial secretary Meryl McDonald-Gough
Layout Nathan Chee
Senior consulting editor Barry Oliver

www.record.net.au

Mail: Signs Publishing Company 3485 Warburton Highway Warburton, Vic 3799, Australia Phone: (03) 5966 9111 Fax: (03) 5966 9019 Email Letters: editor@signspublishing.com.au Email Newsfront: record@signspublishing.com.au Email Noticeboard: editorsec@signspublishing.com.

Email Newsfront: record@signspublishing.com.au
Email Noticeboard: editorsec@signspublishing.com.au
Email Noticeboard: editorsec@signspublishing.com.au
Subscriptions: South Pacific Division mailed within
Australia and to New Zealand, SA43.80 SNZ73.00.
Other prices on application. Printed weekly.



- School wins \$A20,000 for being waterwise "Breakfast with tissues" at Avondale School
- "Let's talk Europe" to air unique issues Giant Jesus befuddles passing traffic and more

—Compiled by Scott Wegener—

- Members from Croydon's New Life Christian Community Network, Vic, recently relocated to the **Mornington** Peninsula to establish a new branch church to witness in the area. They joined ranks with Pastor Errol de Silva's enthusiastic Search video distribution team from Frankston church, helping to deliver the videos to the 43 peninsulaarea contacts out of the 100plus requests gained from the recent Melbourne television campaign. Reports indicate that recipients have been eager to chat and some new friendships have developed, with Bible studies being requested, in one instance, on the second visit.-Ken Raymond
- Queensland's **first Korean Adventist church** was formed recently in Brisbane, Qld, led by Pastor **Brian Je.** Some 200 people, including 86 Koreans, celebrated their new status. A

specially designed certificate was signed



by 36 foundation members to prove their willingness to keep the flame burning high.— Focus

• Sanctuary Ministry Team, an outreach arm of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, has raised \$SBD700 during a concert for the Arao Health Aid Post in the Solomon Islands. Team director Pastor Francis Feratalia, coordinator John Baiabe and 30 members conducted evenings of preaching and teaching from February 18 to 26 at Arao Aid Post compound and finished off the series with the fundraising concert, featuring various singing groups.

Clean street, clean reputation

n Clean Up Australia
Day, March 6, from 8
am to 12 pm, the Wallsend, NSW, church participated in the Clean Up of
Link Road, which
stretches from Wallsend
to the Sydney to Newcastle expressway.



The group of about 30 was made up of Pathfinders, Adventures, who did Wallsend Park, and church members. A truck-size blue bin was filled during the morning with many items of rubbish, such as tyres, lounges, highchairs, dryers, cans, mattresses, bottles, glass, much paper, many needles, and even a discarded *Signs of the Times* magazine.

Wallsend has collected rubbish in this area over many years creating a reputation for their work. NBN Television was present to film this year's effort, which was also mentioned on ABC Radio.

"The Wallsend church has always had many volunteers come



forward to help out with this activity," says Ray Boyce, Wallsend communications secretary. "The publicity that we gain helps to create awareness and improve the name of the Seventh-day Adventist Church."

The health committee of Arao Aid Post thanked the Sanctuary Ministry Team for the funds, saying, "This will certainly **benefit ward six communities,** as these funds will go directly into the development program to upgrade and build our facilities."—*Solomon Star*

● The World Day of Prayer hosted by the Burleigh Gardens, Gold Coast, Qld, church, on March 4, had more than 80 people from across five denominations attend. This year's theme, "Let our light shine," was developed in Poland. Guest speaker Deanna Pitchford, clinical psychologist and South Queensland Conference women's ministries coordinator, in her address said, "Let our light shine.' How do we do that? We can

only **share what we have.** You cannot give what you do not yourself have. Our light comes from Jesus Christ, from His presence within our lives. He is the source of light. We have to get to know Jesus, and when we do, the light will shine automatically."—Reg Brown

• Starting kindergarten can be stressful not only for students, but also parents. This year Avondale School tried to make the first day of school easier on the parents of kindergarten students. An inaugural "Breakfast with tissues" meal was held with the primary school's principal, head and assistant head in the primary school staffroom after the parents had waved goodbye to their child. Everyone was able to share stories of their child and express their feelings of saying goodbye for the first day.—Northpoint

• On February 9, the Port Macquarie Adventist Primary School, NSW, received a new school sign advertising it as "Most waterwise primary school in Hastings 2005." Presented by the Hastings Mayor, Rob Drew (pictured, left, with school

principal George Smith), the title was won in a council-run poster competition. The prize included the supply and **installation of a rainwater tank** and electric pump,



servicing of all existing taps and replacement of drinking bubblers with a new spring-loaded variety—a total prize **value of \$A20,000.**—Debbie King

• The dialogue between General Conference president Pastor **Jan Paulsen** and Adventist young people continues in April with a broadcast from Darmstadt, Germany. **"Let's talk Europe"** will bring together Adventist young people who attend secular universities and colleges for an unscripted, unedited conversation with the world church leader. Four students will represent the Trans-European Division, two from Britain and one each from Serbia and Sweden—each with **unique concerns** and questions from their European setting.

Kingdom growth takes time

The Rowville, Vic, church had a steady growth of around four members per year until last year's record 11 baptisms. Making these baptisms even more notable is the fact that none of the candidates grew up in an Adventist home—making this what some would call "kingdom growth."

The baptised group represents a microcosm of Australia, with their heritage coming from the Czech Republic, Poland, the island of Rodrigues (next to Mauritius), and New Zealand.

In their journey to baptism, some of the candidates' hurtful lifestyle behaviours and addictions, overcome by the power of God, included atheism, idolatry, occult and witchcraft, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, gambling, theft, foul language, unclean foods and tattoos.



"Another interesting fact with these baptisms is that it took much longer to bring these individuals to a decision," says Rowville's minister, Pastor Slawomir Malarek. "Most of them came in contact with the church back in 2000. Today it takes much longer to befriend people and to teach them the knowledge of the Bible. Churches must plan long-term evangelistic outreach for several years."

The April 26 program will be aired on the **Hope Channel** and other Adventist networks the following day. Check with the Hope Channel at <hopetv.org> or on the "Let's talk" website <letstalk.adventist.org> for broadcast times and more information.—*Jennifer Stymiest/ANR*

• A 19-metre statue of Jesus outside a church in Monroe, Ohio, USA, fronting onto an interstate highway, has been decried by some as a roadside distraction or an idolatrous "graven image," says Lawrence Bishop, co-pastor of the 3000-member Solid Rock Church, which funded the project. The "giant Jesus," whose hands are the size of tip trucks, has become something of a tourist attraction,



considered the largest image of Christ in North America. But Pastor Bishop and his wife, **Darlene**, say the \$US250,000 project wasn't designed to make history. "We've had people say, 'Why didn't you take that money and feed the poor?" says Mrs Bishop. "Maybe we could have fed a few hungry people, but for years to come, I believe, this is going to **give people hope.** Not just a meal to eat, but hope for their eternal life." "We tell them, also, that we do feed the poor," Mr Bishop added. "That's why we can afford to build this Jesus. God has blessed us because we do help the poor."—*Charisma News Service*

• Godcasting is the latest advancement in online religion, in which preachers convert their sermons to audio files to be heard on portable digital audio devices. After downloading an audio program, it can be listened to anytime, anywhere.—Kathleen Murphy

Days and offerings **April 9**—Hope for Big Cities Offering **April 16**—Literature Evangelism

Rally Day

Off the record

Avondale College 2004 graduate
 Tamsyn Hillier has received a High
 Achiever Award from the Royal College
 of Nursing. The award is for "outstanding performance and commitment to

the profession." Miss Hillier says receiving the award "surprised" her, but is pleased the recognition is for "more then just marks. **Nursing is about attitude.** You've got to



have your heart in it." Miss Hillier graduated with a distinction and is now working in the colorectal ward at Sydney Adventist Hospital.—*Brenton Stacey*

● Ted Long, a 79-year-old Toowoomba Central, Qld, church member, recently received a "Volunteer of the year" award. Mr Long has worked as much as 16 hours a day in a volunteer capacity for a host of organisations until advised by his medical practitioner to reduce his workload, reluctantly reducing to 12 hours per day. As well as assisting with the Toowoomba Youth Services, Care Flight Air, Medical and Rescue Services,

Muscular Dystrophy Group and Older People's Action Group, Mr Long's main passion is his work with the **Toowoomba Older Men's network** (TOMnet). TOMnet



assists in the **prevention of suicide in older men.** "The biggest problem is getting men to discuss their problems," says Mr Long, "which often revolve around financial difficulties, life after retirement, social isolation or the death of a spouse."—Focus

• In January, the **Sydney Adventist Hospital**, NSW, had **18 baby boys born in a row** in just over 48 hours. Nursing unit manager **Greta Fellows** says this is a record for the hospital. "There can be six or seven boys in a row, not 18," she says.—*Pacemaker*

Sanitarium and SPD tsunami donation

Brisbane, Queensland

ASA100,000 donation given by Sanitarium and the South Pacific Division (SPD) to the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) in January has been targeted toward the affected areas of the Pondicherry Union Territory and Tamil Nadu State in India.

The sum of money, officially handed over by Australian cricketer Brett Lee at the Gabba, Brisbane, during the One Day Series, represents profits gained from an overwhelming consumer response to the Sanitarium Weet-Bix Limited Edition collectors cricket tin.

For every tin sold, Sanitarium worked in partnership with the SPD to donate \$A1 to ADRA's Asian tsunami appeal. ADRA will subsequently allocate the \$A100,000 donation to the "Tsunami relief and restoration initiative for women" Project.

Dean Powrie, Sanitarium Australian general manager, said, "Sanitarium is proud to be able to assist the tsunami appeal, and together with ADRA we will be able to help rebuild the lives of those affected by the tsunami who are in dire need of critical support and relief."

The project is expected to take up to 12 months and intends to focus on protecting women affected by the disaster in this region and stop them from becoming victims to those who prey on the vulnerable.

The project, which is scheduled to commence shortly, will support a region over seven coastal districts, which suffered significant damage and a death toll of more than 10.000.

ADRA's overall strategy is to implement support and counselling, instil health knowledge and education, raise HIV/AIDS awareness and improve the general livelihood of women in the region. These steps have all been made possible because of the Sanitarium/SPD donation.

Mr Kelvin Peuser, the SPD associate chief financial officer, said, "It is great to see the various arms of the church working together to provide much needed support



ADRA CEO David Jack with Australian cricketer Brett Lee and David Woolley, Sanitarium general manager corporate.

to some of those who face the difficult challenge of re-establishing their lives and livelihoods in the wake of the tsunami."

In addition, Sanitarium also assisted the devastated areas by sending a truck load of Up and Go to the Food-share organisation to be included in a container that has left for Sri Lanka. Another container will be sent when ADRA has finished assessing what is most needed in the tsunami-affected countries.—**Julie Praestiin**

Adventist opens vegetarian restaurant in Auckland

Auckland, New Zealand

Auckland has acquired a unique new restaurant with the dedication of the Revive Health Bar on February 10. Guests in attendance for the opening of the all-vegetarian restaurant were greeted by delicious smells wafting from the kitchen, and a warm welcome by owner Jeremy Dixon

Mr Dixon, a member of the Papatoetoe church, had long held the dream of sharing health food and Jesus with the people of Auckland, and after almost four years of dreaming and planning, decided to go ahead with the business venture, which meant leaving his job at Sanitarium.

"I loved Sanitarium—it's such a great company with fantastic people. I had given 12 years of my life to my job but it was time to chase my dream," says Mr Dixon, who has always had an interest in health and cooking. The menu at Revive reflects the



Staff at the all-vegetarian Revive Health Bar in Auckland, New Zealand.

interest in health, and Mr Dixon hopes it will help to redefine vegetarian food and show people it can be more than the stereotypical "rabbit food."

He had wanted to get into the hospitality industry for some time, but says the possibility of having to work on Sabbath and issues with meat and alcohol always held him back.

"I thought I could never get into the industry with a clear conscience. But about a year ago I stumbled across some Ellen White writings on healthy restaurants. She talked about what a need there is in the cities for a witness through healthy food and says that the health message is successful in leading people to Christ. So, I decided if God gave this great advice through her, I would be willing to put it all on the line to follow it," says Mr Dixon.

He has felt God leading in this venture, which he describes as the biggest faith experience in his life. "I have had so many answers to prayer. God has kept me relying on Him, so I will keep humble and let Him run the show. The ultimate mission is to win people to Christ. If all it does is win one person, then it will have been worthwhile."—Amanda Bews

Questions on Manly Flats sale addressed

Wahroonga, New South Wales

The Seventh-day Adventist Church's decision to sell the Woodburn Flats in the Sydney suburb of Manly, as reported in RECORD (December 11, 2004), has raised questions and concerns among some church members.

Members of the South Pacific Division (SPD) executive committee had voted to approve the sale after receiving a report from the church's property development officer during their year-end meetings in 2004. The sale was recommended, based largely on the potential of maximising resources for the mission of the church. The committee decided to preserve the proceeds from the sale and invest it to provide an additional income stream.

Rodney Brady, chief financial officer of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the South Pacific, responds to some key issues raised from the decision.

I understand the primary intention of the bequest was to benefit church employees, particularly the workers of the Sydney Adventist Hospital. Is this correct?

Not exactly. The Woodburn Flats were an unconditional gift to advance the work of the church, and therefore could be sold or held in any way deemed best.

Contrary to some reports, the Woodburn Flats were given to the church by a deed of gift, and not a will. There are many variations and understandings by members on what is believed to be their intended use and how they were given, but the deed is very explicit. The gift was to "aid and forward the work of the denomination," with no stipulation that they were never to be sold.

We have endeavoured to be faithful to the intention of the donors. We went back to the original deed of gift, other source documents and committee actions. We also sought legal opinion to review the matter to make sure the situation is as we understood it to be.

Why should the decision to sell the flats be made by a few members of a

committee?

The SPD executive committee is composed of an elected representative group selected by delegates of the last division session in 2000. These delegates were appointed by their local church to represent church members at large. The committee has 66 members, including church members, ministers and other church employees who come from different areas of the church in the South Pacific.

The committee took the decision to sell the Woodburn Flats seriously. In fact, it was one of the longest agenda items over the course of two major meetings.

Since present leasing arrangements are not profitable, why not employ someone to advertise the flats to church members and others?

The decision to sell the Woodburn Flats did not come about because of a lack of profit, although they virtually operate on just a little better than a break-even basis. Current statistics show that the Woodburn Flats average about 70 per cent occupancy rate and a third of the usage is by denominational employees. Enough members are aware of the availability of the flats to provide a high level of occupancy.

However, we need to take into consideration that there are only eight rooms for rent on 641 square metres of land. Only a small fraction of the 360,000 members of the church in the South Pacific will ever be able to use the flats. A huge marketing campaign to promote the flats will only result in us having to turn away disappointed members.

Even though zoning changes will limit the development potential of the property, surely there are still possibilities of upgrading or rebuilding?

The committee did consider at length various building options but unfortunately, none of them were viable. There are a number of factors that limit the potential of doing any major development works on the site.

The flats operate with a boarding house licence, which is intended to provide low-

cost accommodation for those who cannot afford standard accommodation. Current usage does not strictly comply with that licence. Any development would have to take this into account.

The building has a heritage listing on the front sandstone gutters. Any major works would require a heritage impact statement with the possibility that the whole building could be heritage listed—that would limit options greatly.

We talked to the council about renovation or redevelopment options, but they have indicated in all probability they would not approve these options.

The church seems to be becoming more like a large business. Maybe the Woodburn Flats should not be seen as just a money-making enterprise but a ministry in itself to the staff and families that use it. Economic consideration is only one way of evaluating the effectiveness of a ministry area.

The decision to sell the flats was based on the wishes of the donor to advance the work of the church and not on making profit. The church has a stewardship responsibility when it comes to its assets, and we need to come up with the best solutions when faced with competing needs and limited resources. We are focused on the gospel commission to tell others about Jesus. Decisions are made in the context of how to do this in the most effective way.

There are many competing uses for the church's resources. The pressing demands across the South Pacific, including the needs of the mission fields, played an important role in the committee's decision to sell the Woodburn Flats. The annual proceeds that will be available from the sale of the Woodburn Flats will assist the church significantly in its ministry.

Keeping the flats would have been an easier decision, but the committee decided to challenge the status quo.

This decision demonstrates the church is serious about completing its mission and is willing to make the hard decisions to do so.—*Melody Tan*

6

Myanmar affirms religious liberty

Rangoon, Myanmar

For the first time since the once-open nation of Burma entered a phase of martial law, renamed itself Myanmar and turned away from significant contact with the world community, a conference of more than 40 leaders of the Christian community was held on February 10 in Rangoon, Myanmar, to express commitment to religious freedom and Christian solidarity.

The Myanmar Council of Churches (MCC), a Christian "umbrella" group most recognised by the government, worked with the Seventh-day Adventist Church and Kenneth Htang Suanzanang, public affairs and religious liberty director for the church in Myanmar, to make the historic gathering possible.

Local and overseas guests and Christian delegations from a variety of Christian churches and groups attended the meetings, including the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Ways in which to maximise Christian cooperation between churches and non-Christians in Myanmar were discussed at the meetings.

"This is an important time because Myanmar is beginning the process of developing a new constitution," says Smith N Za Thawng, general secretary of the MCC.

Myanmar is a predominantly Buddhist country, with just 6 per cent of the population of 52 million being Christian. Community resistance and government suspicion has often caused difficulties for Christians trying to witness to others.

While the government has appropriated church property in the past and continues to restrict some church activities, most attendees see hope in recent developments that have seen a growth in respect and awareness of Christians on a national level.

A number of Buddhist priests have opened their communities to Christians, and an increasing number of government officials have facilitated Christian activities.

The MCC and the Christian community in Myanmar have committed to holding more such consultations in the future to work toward more positive Christian relations in the country.—**ANN**

Rockhampton church explores "New perspectives on Christianity"

Rockhampton, Queensland

The Rockhampton church recently organised and hosted a weekend conference that explored a number of issues facing the contemporary church.

With the theme of "New perspectives on Christianity," the purpose of the conference was to initiate new discussions, extend current ideas and promote Bible study, as well as provide people with a chance to interact with academics, students, church members and pastors of various faiths.

Dr Vivienne Watts, vice-president of academic affairs at Avondale College, was approached by the church to organise and facilitate the conference, which was held in the Rockhampton church buildings.

Because of the diversity of opinions that would be represented at the conference, the church was declared to be a "safe" venue that people felt comfortable in to express particular but differing points of view, and to ask difficult questions for discussion.

Topics included grey areas and dogmatism, church survival in the 21st century, what is wisdom, Psalm 105 and protein synthesis, the gospel in song and analytical philosophy.

Papers were presented by people from varying denominations, and included academic professors, leaders in church schools, students from high school level to those in doctoral study programs, church members and business leaders.

The conference was considered a success from the viewpoint of the church, participants and presenters, as people enjoyed socialising, sharing their faith and thoughts and celebrating the reality of Christ in their lives.—**Sonja Watts**

NET 2005 begins in USA and Ukraine

Silver Spring, Maryland, USA

A lively, attentive audience of more than 1000 people filled the auditorium of the General Conference for the March 4 start of "The prophecy code," a series of satellite television evangelistic meetings conducted by Pastor Doug Batchelor, director and speaker of Amazing Facts.

The meetings are part of the NET 2005 outreach of the Adventist Church, along with companion meetings that opened the same day in Kiev, Ukraine, led by Pastor Mark Finley and sponsored by the "It is written" television ministry.

Pastor Batchelor's 20-meeting series of evangelistic seminars is designed to unfold Bible prophecy for those questioning the subject, which has seen a revival in popularity. His goal is to put the key to prophecy in the hands of his viewers and listeners.

"The prophecy code" is being broadcast over several satellite television networks, including the Hope Channel, 3ABN and Esperanza, and will be beamed into 225 countries. At the same time, a total of 1841 registered downlink sites have been established in the United States alone, with many more in other countries, including Australia and New Zealand.

"Through this incredible technology, God's church has become one huge family," says Pastor Batchelor.

Pastor Finley, director of global evangelism for the General Conference, is also conducting a month-long series of meetings called ACTS 2005 in Kiev, Ukraine. These meetings complement "The prophecy code," and are being broadcast via satellite across the former Soviet Union.

Along with the live meetings and public events, a number of cable channels in Russia and other surrounding countries are carrying the broadcasts, including the "Young culture" cable system in Novosibirsk.

These series are part of the 10th anniversary of satellite evangelism series run by the Adventist Church.—*ANN*

Time for mission

by Margaret Davis

Time is most precious, don't throw it away, Use well the moments, each hour of the day; Time never ceases since time first began. God is its maker, He gave it to man. Time is most friendly to diligent men, Use it, don't lose it, it ne'er comes again. Time is fast fleeting; do all that you can; For to each is allotted a single brief span.

teacher at the old Zillmere Seventh-Aday Adventist School (in Brisbane, Qld) wrote this verse in my autograph book in 1959—words of advice that have stayed with me to this day.

Around the same time, missionaries in interesting costumes would tell exciting stories from Papua New Guinea and other South Pacific islands at the Zillmere campmeetings. I always thought how exciting it must be to work for Jesus in "the mission fields." I will never forget the excitement of walking round the big tent and have the pennies, sixpences, shillings and pounds put in our cups, which we then emptied into the blankets down the front. We were doing our part; this money was going to help in the mission fields of the South Pacific!

Now I look back on wonderful childhood memories. But more exciting is that I now have the opportunity to see and hear stories that will forever be memories of my time in the "mission field." For the past six years my husband and I have had the privilege of living in Papua New Guinea, from where many of the stories I heard as a child came. Sometimes I stop to remind myself I am visiting some of the villages, climbing some of the mountains and riding some of the seas mentioned in those mission stories.

I hasten to add that life in the mission field now is nothing compared to the life of missionary families in earlier years. But we see ourselves as modern-day missionaries and, no matter what decade, "mission life" has an awe about it. You have to live it, to really know it.

I look forward to the resurrection when I will meet my parents and thank them for the unselfish life they lived as I was growing up. There was always room for someone else, always time for someone in need, always someone more needy than our family. What an example they lived! And now I remember Mum's words from 1989, "Margaret, you would never survive in Papua New Guinea." What a surprise they will receive and what "mission stories" I will have to tell them!

PNG time

I find myself now with "time" in Papua New Guinea, and with much of my "allotted brief span" behind me, life could not be more fulfilling. In my morning prayers, I ask the Lord to "take my life and lead me to someone in need, and give me the right words and actions to make a difference in lives." Although at times when facing some "activities," I

wish I had put some

stipulations in my prayer!

With Papua New Guinea being a developing country, it is not difficult to "use well the moments, each hour of the day"poverty abounds. As in every country, there are the "haves" and the "have-nots." But with high unemployment and no social security benefits, the "have-nots" make up the majority of the country's 4.5 million people. How important that my time be spent in giving to others; Jesus expects no less (see Matthew 25:35, 36).

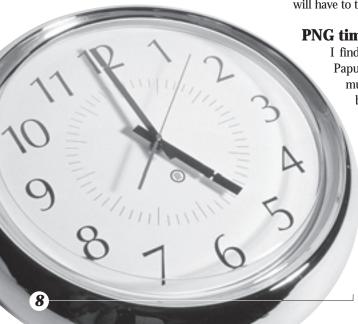
When "God employed" in Papua New Guinea, one becomes Jill-of-all-trades. Although quite unqualified in most cases, with the Lord's backing I seem to come through each undertaking

Clothing the needy

We receive clothing requests almost daily. Many people do not have enough money to live from day to day, let alone purchase clothing from second-hand

With kerosene lamps and candles being the main source of lighting in villages and settlement areas, accidents reduce many houses or huts to smoking ruins. Villages are often wiped out due to fires, floods and mudslides. Out of such disasters comes the opportunity to give clothing and household items, sent from Australia or New Zealand.

It is my privilege to help the less fortunate. With each item goes a prayer that someone will be touched. What a bonus when men and women find Jesus and truth as a result of this love in action. The 4 Mile Hill church stands because clothing was given to needy families in the area. This kind of giving can touch the hardest of hearts: "First meet the temporal necessities of the needy and relieve their physical wants and sufferings, and you will then find an open avenue to the heart, where you may plant the good seeds of virtue and religion" (Testimonies for the



Church, Vol 4, page 227).

Last week required more sorting and packing bags of second-hand items for:

- 1. A family from Wau and two families from Menyamya who had been burnt out.
- 2. Mr Ino Oga, a worker from the mountainous Marawaka area, where people still wear grass clothing.
- 3. Mr Solomon Wai, a worker from Chillichilli, a Lutheran area. He will also take clothing into a "new work" area two days walk in the mountains.
- 4. Pastor Lester and Banabin community service ladies plan to visit mountain villages, where villagers are unable to sell their produce, due to distance from a market.
- 5. A "new work" area close to Finschhafen.
- 6. Pastor Elisha Tewasan, who requested clothing for the bush people of Wantuat.
- 7. Pastor Lawrence Tabu from the Antiragen church, working in villages burnt by rascals.
- 8. Pastor Ben Soga takes clothing back to Popondetta.
- 9. The Kaintiba community service ladies were desperate for clothing to help in an area where many wear grass clothing.
- 10. Families at the Omaura School of Ministry, who often have used their funds to pay the school fees.

All other requests will have to wait till next week.

Thank you, Lord, for those who made it possible for containers of second-hand goods to arrive in Papua New Guinea. Thank you, Lord, for committed workers, willing to work in remote areas. Thank you, Lord, for giving me time to follow your example in helping those in need.

Bibles for Buimo

What a warm welcome awaited me last week from the 27 ladies inside Buimo Kalabus (prison). Peggy was quick to show me our year-end holiday dates in Australia had been crossed off the calendar—they had been waiting for me. After all, I had been back in Lae three days! How was my holiday? How are the children? With questions answered, a chat, gifts given and a prayer, the visit was over.

My connection with Buimo ladies began 15 months ago. Having never been



The ladies in Buimo prison—95 per cent of whom are convicted murderers—receive their new Bibles.

"inside" before, as the gate locked behind me at 8.30 on Sabbath morning, I wondered what lay ahead. What a surprise was in store.

We sat on the floor around the perimeter of the room for worship. Three ladies led out in singing, another told the mission story, another told how the Lord had answered her prayer during the week. Eileen Joe and I gave a brief talks.

The ladies asked if Suzette—a four-yearold Papua New Guinean girl, who is part of our extended family and was the first child allowed inside to visit—would say something. Without hesitation, she stood and said, "Nau harim mi olgeta meris, Jesus says in the Bible, you must love your enemies and do good to all that hate you."

As 95 per cent are in there for murder, how relieved I felt when they applauded and said, "Amen." I walked out of the *kalabus* with the promise I would return. I had just had one of the best Sabbaths, one I will never forget.

I had noticed only two ladies had Bibles, but most seemed keen to learn of Jesus. Having purchased Pidgin Bibles with donations from Australia, I asked if the warden could give the names of ladies she thought would read a Bible-not just accept one because it was free. Tuesday I returned with excitement to see grown women—convicted murderers—crying as their names were called out. To feel their firm embrace as they showed their gratitude was unforgettable. If only those who had donated the Bibles could have felt the joy of the moment. Words cannot describe the atmosphere of the room or my feelings.

What a joy to see them using the Bibles! When sending a message, they always include a Bible verse.

Changing lives

How thrilling in December last year when three ladies sang of their past life of sin and how they now were going to follow Jesus all the way. I believe the courts of heaven were ringing on January 1, 2005, as five ladies were baptised, with others ready for the next baptism.

What a thrill for me, when Maria said the turning point in her life was when she had received her Bible. She was admitted to hospital that afternoon with appendicitis. The following afternoon, I happened to visit to the ward where she was lying. We talked of the love of Jesus and how He remembers our sins no more when we ask for forgiveness, then we prayed together. Two days later, as I walked from the children's ward, she was waiting for me. She asked me to always remember her and the other ladies in my prayers.

I am so pleased God made sure I had time to visit the *kalabus* and the hospital that extra busy week. I did not dream that my meetings with Maria would be the means of turning her life around. I never dreamed when the warden locked the gate behind me that first time that I would play a small part in lives being given to Jesus.

As Betty wrote, "Mi yet ridim Baibel, God i opim eye bilong spirit man bilong mi na mi tok thank you long God Papa. Mi laik tok tenkyu long God Papa i bringim mi kam insait long haus kalabus. Nau mi mekim decision long bihainim Jisas olgeta taim long laip bilong mi."

A life of mission

Life for a modern-day missionary in Papua New Guinea is rewarding. Thank you to my schoolteacher, the missionaries I heard as a child and my parents. You taught me the importance of "stewardship of time."

And thank you, God, for allowing "my single brief span." May I always use it diligently to bring honour and glory to Your name. •

Stewardship—It's a lifestyle." This is the tenth in a series of articles highlighting the importance of stewardship as it impacts on many aspects of our lives.

Margaret Davis writes from Lae, Papua New Guinea.

March 26, 2005 _____

The why of resurrection

by Bruce Prince



God's plan of salvation entailed the opportunity—through grace based on love—for sinners to believe that by willingly confessing their sins, and repenting of them, that He would forgive them of their sins and cleanse them from all unrighteousness (see 1 John 1:9). The means by which this is achieved is by Jesus,

who came to earth as an ordinary man, living completely in accordance with God's will, and not sinning, but willingly taking upon Himself the sins of all believers, in all ages, and suffering the penalty that the sinner deserves.

Thus, justice has been done. The result of this is that all believers are no longer prevented by sin from spending eternity with God, as was His original plan when He created our first parents.

Therefore, to all intent and purposes, the plan of salvation finished at the cross of Calvary, where Jesus paid that terrible price to redeem us from the consequence of our sinful state, and from which we had no means whatsoever of extracting ourselves. Christ—the Sinless One—suffered the penalty that you and I deserve, so that we might obtain His righteousness, and therefore, favour in the eyes of God.

If God's original plan for humanity found its fulfilment at the cross, why then is Jesus' resurrection also considered to be part of that plan? As Paul puts it, "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins" (1 Corinthians 15:17*). This statement makes it clear that Jesus' resurrection is very much part of the plan, but doesn't in itself tell us why.

As a Bible student for many years, this subject has always been one that—although in no way taken for granted—was relegated to one of those topics that I considered to warrant no further thought than the fact that it had taken place, and for which I was always grateful. But why was Jesus resurrected? What part does Jesus' resurrection play in God's overall plan of salvation? I believe there is more than one aspect to be looked at that explains the necessity to the plan of Jesus' resurrection.

Death defeated

First, in the same section of Scripture mentioned previously, Paul also writes, "The last enemy to be destroyed is death" (verse 26). It was the work of God's enemy—the accuser, Satan—that caused the introduction of death into a perfect creation. Of course, death was not the only enemy to be destroyed, simply the last. Unfortunately, Satan is the prince of this world, and it is not until every aspect of his evil kingdom is defeated that Jesus will be

able to return this realm to its rightful owner, God, from whom it was usurped (see verse 24).

Death, as the last aspect of Satan's evil reign to be defeated, means that Satan has suffered a mortal blow at this point in time. We still live in his world, but not under his power. God has promised that the world, too, will come to an end, and so will his satanic highness. Thus, to the believer, Satan's eventual and effective eradication is assured.

Death was part of Satan's domain, and if Christ had remained in the tomb, not only would his end have been no different to all those other good people who have come and gone throughout the ages, but death, the hallmark of the enemy, would have been allowed to remain for all eternity.

The plan of salvation had to not only provide the means by which believing sinners might love, follow and serve a loving God for the remainder of time, but it also had to provide a means by which all evidence of insurrection and evil must be obliterated. After all, we're talking about eternity, and to have the hallmark of the enemy evident for eternity would indeed be a sad and perpetual reminder. The marks on Jesus' hands and body will be reminder enough.

Thus Paul, in this important and interesting portion of Scripture, explains his statement concerning our faith as being futile and we remaining in our sins if Christ was not raised. He tells how Jesus, in being raised from the dead, represented the "first fruits" of those who have died. Then, at Jesus' second coming, those also who believe in Him (verse 23).

Earlier, when Paul was writing to the church at Thessalonica, he had explained in some detail how the saints would be resurrected at the second coming of Jesus, and it is clear that if Christ had not been raised after His death, then there would have been little point in any consideration being given to ours. Christ would not have been able to come again if He had remained dead in a tomb.

Promise fulfilled

A second aspect to consider is that God had promised this part of His plan of salvation to our ancestors. We are indebted to the accuracy of Luke's writings as he records the words of Paul as he spoke to the congregation at Antioch in Pisidia.

Paul gave a brief outline of the history of the children of Israel, right up to where Jesus was killed, and then raised from the dead. Paul told the people that he and his companions were bringing to them the good news that God had promised to "our ancestors." Not only had He promised it, but He had actually fulfilled His promise by raising Jesus from the dead (see Acts 13:1-33). This is an important point: to finish the plan of salvation at the cross would not have allowed the fulfilment of God's promise regarding the resurrection. This, as we have seen, is essential for the final execution of the plan, yet to be completed.

We are indebted also to Paul for his knowledge of these things. Other New Testament writers were able to tell and explain the principles of living the Christian life, and to record the events of the time when Jesus walked the earth. However, it is Paul who is able to explain these things to us, as well as telling us such things concerning the actual mechanics of salvation.

It is amazing also how God, who is always in control, primed some of these great men and women that He was able to use. Moses not only learned about the law and order of Egypt, but for 40 years was an integral part of it, and thus was enabled, like no other person could possibly have been, to lead God's children out of bondage and slavery.

And in the early church, we have Paul, who sat at the feet of the greatest teacher of his time, learning to become an expert in the history of God's people. Paul's summary of Jewish history is so concise and accurate that it could come only from one who knew it in intimate detail.

This important background and training becomes evident when one reads many of Paul's writings, particularly in his letter to the church at Rome when he speaks of how God's promise is not only fulfilled through the resurrection of Jesus, but the part that our faith plays in its realisation. To explain this, Paul refers to the faith of Abraham in the promises of God (see Romans 4:13-25).

Abraham's faith was reckoned to him as righteousness, and Paul states that such was not only for Abraham's advantage; it is for ours also (Romans 4:23, 24a). Just as

Abraham's righteousness came about because of his faith in God's promises, our righteousness is also considered in the light of our faith in a God who is able to raise Jesus from the dead (see Romans 4:24b).

Peter, in his first epistle, picks up this same point when he states that through Jesus we have been enabled to trust God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory (see 1 Peter 1:21). For what purpose? So that our faith and hope are set on God. Once again, God's resurrection of Jesus is cited as a basis for our faith in God, which is considered as our righteousness, according to Paul.

Resurrection whys

- 1. When God created humankind, He loved them with such love that He desired their company for all time. However, the introduction of sin, and humanity's choice to go down that track, placed an obstacle in God's original plan because it would be impossible for sinful human beings to exist in the presence of God.
- 2. Christ's atoning sacrifice at Calvary provided the means by which a believer will be seen as righteous in the eyes of God.
- 3. However, belief in Jesus can only purify the heart. To enable the physical part of humanity to live eternally, its very nature has to be changed.
- 4. This will occur on a day that God has fixed (see Acts 17:31), when Christ will come to this earth for the second time. At that time, the physical aspect of all believers of all ages will be changed into a form that will be the same as Jesus (see 1 John 3:2) and one that will allow us to exist in God's presence.
- 5. For Jesus to come again, He had to be resurrected from the death that He suffered on our behalf.

Not only does Jesus' resurrection establish and prove victory over death—one of the hallmarks of the accuser—but it also establishes Jesus as the first fruits, blazing a trail that God will have us follow when Jesus comes a second time.

*All Bible quotations are from the New International Version.

Bruce Prince writes from Warrimoo, New South Wales.

The centurion's sermon

by John Silver

Today the darkness came at noon! And as I groped within its pall The lightning struck; The veil was rent; And as He shouted, "Done!" The quaking earth convulsed. The Father's sacrifice was made— The Son of man was dead.

As He who had created light
Hung shrouded in the darkness of all sin,
Those time-warped hours had hid in shame.
The rabble jeered and clerics mocked,
"Come down, you mad deluded one.
Come down and we'll believe."
But He? He bowed His head and prayed,
"O Abba, Father, please forgive.

They know not what they do."
And then I knew he was God's Son.
I sealed and symbolised my choice
By smashing Caesar's spear.
Then preached and worshipped at His feet,
As from my anguished heart I sobbed,
"O God, today, what have I done?
Today I nailed You to a cross."

John Silver writes (and paints) from North Nowra, New South



www. signsof thetimes .org



eta laylor

The abortion question

Charmaine Davison, Qld

As a female, mother, Christian and community health professional, I support the views in "Abortion: A mixed perspective" (Viewpoint, March 5). What a well-written short precis on such a difficult topic. Well done, Rodney, and thank you for sharing your male perspective with us.

It is my prayer that women who find themselves with an unplanned pregnancy Of course, there are some who take advantage of all welfare agencies, but if we stopped and analysed the actual situation, we would understand that even these people are in great need in many areas of their lives.

The need for training for those involved in any welfare aspect of our church is great; it should be mandatory. People skills and compassion are essential if we are going to address the needs of the poor, and lead people to Christ, rather than drive them away from the church.

It is my prayer that women . . . with an unplanned pregnancy will find the same attitude.

will find the same attitude of love, caring, acceptance, help and support from their local church. I feel sure that would be how Christ would treat such women in need (see Matthew 18:5; 19:14).

If our whole society desired and valued children and provided a supportive environment for pregnant women, there would be a greater chance these expectant mothers would choose to keep the child.

Keith Johanson, Vic

I think most people would agree that abortion is not an ideal solution in any situation. However, if men had to bear the babies there would almost certainly be different options. If abortion is being considered, it is the woman's right alone to make the decision without pressure from anyone, not even the father.

The poor among us

Robert and Lexie Lord, NSW

"Judith Helper" could not have articulated our concerns more eloquently in her article "Being Adventist and poor" (Viewpoint, February 19). The love of Christ is not usually observed by recipients of local church-sponsored welfare assistance. As recipients of a food voucher or other service already feel demoralised and humiliated about the need to ask for help, the last thing they need to be exposed to is the "attitude" with which they are confronted.

Baker's delight

Kellie Hancock, Vic

Thank you for publishing "The humble sausage roll" (Feature, March 5). How refreshing to read a personal story from someone who invites God into every aspect of their life. I could smell the sausage rolls baking and taste that yummy homemade pastry.

I felt like I was walking with someone who practises what Paul talks about in Romans 12:1: "So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him"

(*The Message*). When we live this way, He can turn the heart of an unbeliever through something as simple as a sausage roll

An inclusive "joyful noise"

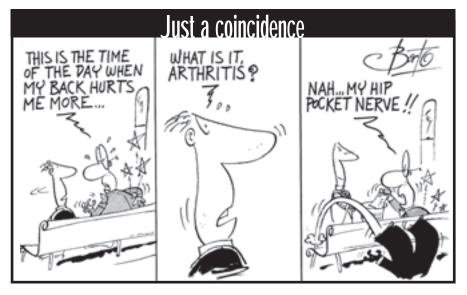
Wayne R Davey, Qld

As an organist, I agree with the sentiments of the writer of "Give us a fair go" (Letters March 5). Whether at the local church, regional meetings or campmeetings, the traditional song service is fast becoming a "musical presentation." The role of the song leader/s is to lead the people in singing—tempo, volume, phrasing etc. It is not the role of leaders to be amplified to the extent that the congregation is a noise in the background.

At our camp-meetings, the volume of the "song leaders" and in some cases the "instrumentalists" overpowers the singing of the congregation.

Scripture tells me to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord" (Psalm 98:4, KJV). I pray that all musicians, song leaders and sound engineers will work and train together so that our times of praise will involve all people, including the congregation, to offer the very best music to God.

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.



☐ March 26, 2005 ☐

Appreciation

Hulls, Fran, Max and Lynn, Craig and Sonja, Annette and Mark, and families, would like to convey their heartfelt thanks to all those who shared their grief and who acknowledged the passing of Max with cards, calls, flowers and prayers. They look forward to seeing their beloved husband, dad and pop restored when Jesus comes again.

Anniversary

King. Alan and Wilma of Cooranbong, NSW, celebrated 60 years of married life together on Sunday, December 5, 2004. A large number of family and friends from Victoria through to Queensland were present to celebrate this great achievement, including members of the original bridal



party. The Kings worked for Sanitarium for many years, and have lived in New Zealand, Sydney (NSW), Lima (Peru), Brazil and Jamaica in this role. They now live happily in Alton Villas among friends made in different places and times in their lives. A wonderful time was had by all, hearing stories of mischief and fun, sharing special food, and enjoying the company of friends and family.

Weddings

Carey—House. Daniel Carey, son of Paul and Vivienne Carey (Byron Bay, NSW), and Charlotte House, daughter of Dudley and Lyn House (Croydon, Vic), were married on 6.3.05 in the Ringwood Adventist church.

Morrie Krieg

King-Adams—Wright. Digby Mark King-Adams, son of Elwin (Christchurch, NZ) and Lyn King-Adams (Castle Hill, NSW), and Amanda (Mandy) Lee Wright, daughter of Merwyn and Irene Wright (Cape Town, South Africa), were married on 28.12.04 at Silverleaf Chapel, Helderberg College, Cape Town. Arnold Neuhoff Heino Torlage, Walter Veith

Pincheira—Melic. David Pincheira, son of the late Abel and Rosena Pincheira (formerly of Chile), and Jenny Melic, daughter of Tomo and Slobodanka Melic (Sydney, NSW), were married on 28.2.05 in the Waitara Adventist church.

Geoffrey Youlden

Sissons—Patrick. Bradley William Sissons, son of Peter and Pauline Sissons (Brisbane, Qld), and Kirsty May Patrick, daughter of David and Carol-joy Patrick (Brisbane), were married on 6.3.05 in the Springwood Adventist church.

Trafford Fischer

Obituaries

Fellows, Dearne, born 20.3.1965 in Melbourne, Vic; died 15.1.05 in Kyneton Hospital, after a two-and-a-half-year battle with a terminal illness. She is survived by her parents, Les and Nola Fellows; her sister and brother-in-law, Annette and Max; their children, Blaed, Daniel and Briar-Rose; her brother, Leslie; and her great-aunt Iris Pedrana. In God's keeping.

Loren Pratt, Gideon Okesene

Froude, John Bruce, born 7.11.1927 in the Dubbo district, NSW; died 18.9.04 in Wyong Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Gloria (nee Cowan, Morisset), who is a stalwart member of Dora Creek church; his children, Sharon, Anne, Pat, Rod and Tanya; and his stepchildren, Ruth and Edward.

George Drinkall

Ostrowski, Alida (Lydia), born 27.9.1935 at Piotrkow Trybunalski, Poland; died 17.2.05 in Tumut Nursing Home, NSW, after a prolonged illness. In September 1956 she married Kazimierz (Kaz). She is survived by her husband (Tumut); her son and daughter-in-law, Adam and Sandra; her grandchildren, Megan and Johnathon (NSW); and her sisters, Alfreda (Poland), Melania (Vic), Halina (Poland) and Elizabeth (ACT). Lydia was a very talented person, devoted to her Lord, her family and her church. She will be sadly missed, but awaits a glorious resurrection.

Neil Lawson, Nicu Dumbrava

Sheppard, Patsy Ada, born 16.6.1936 at Mackay, Qld; died 14.2.05 at Bowen. In 1956 she married Theodore. She was predeceased her son, Theodore, in 1994; also her brothers, Barry and John Bobongie. She is survived by her children, Neville, Stanley (both of Mareeba, Qld), Jennifer Kissier, Peter (both of Proserpine, Qld), Bronwyn Sheppard (Townsville), Edwina Paulson (Tweed Heads, NSW); her twin sister, Florence Richardson (Mackay, Qld); her other siblings, Faith Fatnowna (Brisbane), Bob Bobongie (Townsville), Frank Bobongie (Perth, WA), Sam Bobongie (Cairns, Qld), Charles Bobongie (Mackay), Dennis Bobongie (Brisbane), Adrain (Abby) Bobongie (Townsville), David Bobongie (Port Macquarie, NSW) and Daniel Bobongie (Mackay, Qld). Patsy worked as a nurse and spent some time working at Karalundi Education Centre, WA, and Mirriwinni Gardens Aboriginal Academy, NSW.

Eddie Hastie, George Quinlin

Walker, Ilma Jessie (nee Pasfield), born 25.8.1923 in Sydney, NSW; died 17.2.05 in Coffs Harbour Base Hospital. She was predeceased by her husband; also her infant son, Roderick; and son-in-law, Michael Pickin. She is survived by her daughters and sons-in-law, Carol and Ken Burke (Coffs Harbour); Jennifer and Colin Maddy (Surfers Paradise, Qld), Elaine and Keith Davey (Manly, NSW); her son, Paul (Boambee East); her 10 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. As a young woman, relatives keenly opposed her decision to become an Adventist. After she was

Positions vacant

▲ High School Teachers—Karalundi Aboriginal Education Centre (Meekatharra, WA) is seeking expressions of interest for the following positions: High School Teacher, 2 x Primary School Teachers. With expanding student numbers Karalundi is looking for qualified teachers with a willingness to serve their God through missionary endeavour in our own backyard as well as a passion to help make a difference in a world of indifference.

▲ Farm Manager—Karalundi Aboriginal Education Centre (Meekatharra, WA) is seeking expressions of interest in the position of Farm Manager. The successful applicant will be able to manage a combination of a small crop operation, prime lucerne production, animal husbandry including horses, sheep, and a future small cattle enterprise. Note: Karalundi encourages people of Aboriginal descent to apply. For further information contact Glenn Grey on (08) 9981 2000; fax (08) 9981 2801; or email <administrator@karalundi.wa.edu.au>.

▲ Marketing Communications Manager—Sydney Adventist College (Strathfield, NSW) is seeking a Marketing Communications Manager, preferably with three+ years experience in a marketing or related role and be degree qualified, with a business degree (marketing major) or BA (communications). The successful applicant will also possess well-developed communication and project-management skills, high level analytical and strategic skills, drive and enthusiasm, and a strong spiritual commitment. For further information contact Murray Chapman (02) 9764 3200; <chapmanm@sac.nsw.edu.au>. Applications in writing should be forwarded to 159 Albert Road. Strathfield. NSW 2135.

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

led to open her Bible to Galatians 5:10 (Clear Word), "Under no circumstances should you let go of the truth," she made her decision to be baptised by Pastor Stacey and for many years attended the Blacktown (NSW) church. Dearly loved by her family and friends, she will be sadly missed.

Bruce Price

Advertisements

Note: Neither the editor, Signs Publishing Company, nor the Seventh-day Adventist Church is responsible for the quality of goods or services advertised. Publication does not indicate endorsement of a product or service. Advertisements approved by the editor will be inserted at the following rates: first 30 words or less, SA44; each additional word, SA2.20. For your advertisement to appear, payment must be enclosed. Classified advertisements in RECORD are available to Seventh-day Adventist members, churches and institutions only. See masthead (page 2) for contact details.

Back to Birwood (SA) 50th anniversary celebration—November 5, 2005. Welcoming all past members, pastors and friends. Memorabilia, including photos, wanted. Contact Merv (08) 8568 5130; or email <zilm@arcom.com.au>.

Wahroonga Adventist School Centenary—May 20, 21, 22. Join us in celebrating 100 years! A weekend filled with memories, fellowship and appreciation. Please register now for your information pack. (02) 9487 2100 or <info@wahroonga.adventist.edu.au>.

Wanted—excavator operator. Suit semiretired person, must be experienced. Family accommodation available. Ardlethan, NSW. Phone (02) 6978 2237; or (02) 6978 2140.



Wanted—your stewardship stories. Share a spiritual lesson rooted in your own faith experience with God in stewardship of time, means, talents/opportunities, health, or other aspects of the Christian life. Make sure the relationship to the concept of stewardship is clear. Write your testimony in no more than 750 words-the shorter, the better. Make sure your testimony is a story. Let the narrative speak for itself. Keep any moral or homily to a minimum. Include a relevant Bible text to be placed at the end of your story and your contact details. Send your stories to the editor, Signs Publishing Company. (See contact details on masthead, page 2.)

Go Veg for delicious vegetarian pies, schnitzels, lasagnas and more. Fundraising packages available. http://www.goveg.com.au/; 21 Berry Street, Granville NSW; (02) 9897 0000. Wednesday–Friday, 10.30 am to 4.00 pm. Delivery available Sydney area, conditions apply.



Offering courses designed for you!

Enhance your ministry today by joining either our 1 or 2 year programme. To meet your needs we also offer both short and distance programmes.

We will help you with:

Soul Winning, Personal Evangelism and Bible Work. Medical Missionary Evangelism combined with Natural Therapies as "the entering wedge." Agriculture as "the A, B & C of Education."

Come and Join Us!

Situated in the Beautiful Bellingen Valley of New South Wales you will meet new friends and enjoy the benefits of practical small class education.

P.O. Box 40, Bellingen, NSW, 2454 0427112310 or eMail: eastmail@eastward.biz



An independent ministry supportive of the mission of the SDA Church

Christian television available now 24/7. Satellite kits only \$A325 (+freight) and your purchase price includes a donation to Adventist Media to expand satellite broadcasting. Six Christian channels available now, free to air-no further charges (Australia & NZ only). Phone Rural Electronics on (02) 6361 3636; email <ruralele@bigpond.net.au>.

Financial security. Need qualified, professional Adventist help to achieve financial security? Property, shares, super, insurances, loans etc. We can take the stress out of your financial future. Phone David or Russell of DMS Financial Solutions on (02) 9238 6623; or email <advice@dmsavage.com.au>. Reps in Sydney, Brisbane and Perth (Australia wide service).

Incredible India! Spectacular Himalayan Sector Tour, July 2005. North/south tour scheduled for October 2005. Reserve your place now. Details: http://www.pgsindia.net>. Email: <info@pgsindia.net> or write: Personal Guide Services-India, PO Box 42066, Casuarina NT 0811; phone (08) 8945 2845; 0427 510 841; 0413 340 897.

How secure is your future? Are you sure you have adequate finance or insurance? Phone M & A and Associates, consultants for your finance and insurance requirements, on phone/fax (07) 4634 3995: 0419 789 940: or email <milo512002@yahoo.com.au>.

Adventist Support Line

Freecall phone numbers

Australia 1800 220 468 0800 442 458 New Zealand Norfolk Island 1800 1410

Employment solutions. We are specialists in assisting businesses manage their entry-level staffing requirements. No termination penalty. No recruitment costs. No advertising costs. No workers' compensation claims. Phone Globalone Group Training now. 1300 762 948. http://www.globalonegt.com.au/>.

Data projectors, screens, sound equipment, TVs, DVD players, VCRs, PA systems. Rural Electronics Orange is run by an Adventist couple committed to helping SDAs to get a better deal for their churches, schools, homes etc. Avondale College, Wahroonga and many NSW churches helped already. For more information phone Trish (02) 6361 3636; <ruralele@big pond.net.au>.

Never pass on curve or hill—if the cops don't get you the mortician will.

Career **Opportunities**



Join a Professional Team

Sydney Adventist Hospital is a Christian, acute care, private, not-for-profit facility which is currently celebrating its centenary. We offer: • refurbished wards • child care on-site • library and educational assistance on campus • free staff parking • flexible rostering • holistic approach to healthcare • smoke-free campus • social club with tennis courts and heated pool.

Registered Nurses, Clinical Nurse Specialists and Enrolled Nurses

(Night duty attracts an additional 20% loading; Salary Sacrificing benefits are available to all staff)

- 4 hour shifts, 5.30pm 9.30pm (negotiable)
- 6 hour shifts
- 8 hour shifts, 7.00am 3.30pm

Enquiries:

- Colorectal and General Surgical contact Sid Nicholas 9487 9251
- Urology, Plastics and ENT contact Judy Lewis 9487 9151
 Orthopaedics and General Surgical contact Fiona De Sousa 9487 9951
- Cardio Thoracic contact Kathie Erickson 9487 9851
- General Medical, Respiratory, Stroke contact Karen Hazell 9487 9751
- Oncology, Palliative Care contact Bernie Millbank 9487 9653
- Orthopaedics contact Jill Beall 9487 9053

The following checks will be carried out on all prospective employees applying for positions that have been identified as working with children - national criminal record; apprehended violence orders; and completed disciplinary proceedings in previous employment.

www.sah.org.au



March 26, 2005

www.signsofthetimes.com.au