

RECORD

April 2, 2005

In this issue

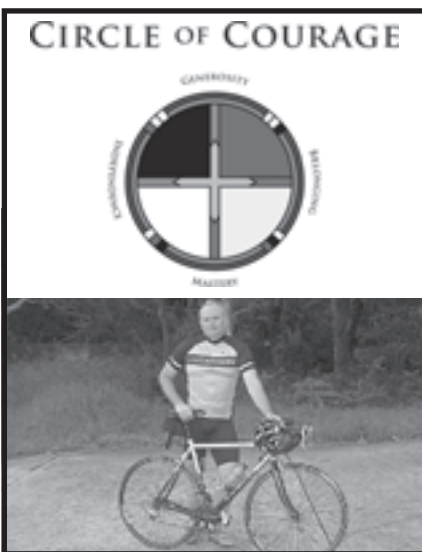
Bomb damages
Iraqi church

ADRA thanks
tsunami volunteers

The adventure of
faith



TRY-athlon participant Lachlan White with Australian Olympic swimmer Daniel Kawolski at the Melbourne TRY-athlon event where a record-breaking 3100 children registered to race.



Cycling a "Circle of courage"

Weet-Bix TRY-athlon sets records

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

The 2005 Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRY-athlon has continued to be a success with more than 10,000 children participating in events around Australia, making it the largest children's event series to be held in the country.

Students and teachers have experienced the TRY-athlon through school visits, and many more children have been involved through volunteer-run events that have been organised in most capital cities.

The Sydney Olympic Park hosted the first event of the series on February 13, which attracted more than 1600 children. World champion triathlete Chris McCormack and Sydney Swans Jared

Crouch and Ryan Quade presented the children who participated with medallions. The day's activities were filmed by Channel 10's kids program "Totally wild," and were aired on March 7 and 8.

Melbourne was the next city to host the event and attracted a record 3100 children, which made it the biggest kids triathlon in Australia. Channel 7 covered Daniel Kowalski at the event as he swam beside heart-patient Lachlan White.

Lachlan's mother, Sue White, says, "Lachlan had a wonderful time. Daniel was just delightful and Lachlan thinks he's a great guy."

(Continued on page 5)



As Christians, we are representing the idea of true forgiveness to the world.

How do we forgive?

Naturally, as a Christian, I freely forgive people. . . . Naturally. I'd like to take a sharp stone and scratch 'I forgive you' on the bonnets of their cars."

When I first read that statement from Christian writer and humorist, Adrian Plass, I knew exactly what he meant.

Of course I'd forgiven the person who had hurt me, but it would be so nice to have something like that happen to him. Perhaps God could arrange to have him stamped by emus the following week, too . . .

But wait a minute.

That's not forgiveness.

In his statement about "forgiveness," I think Plass expressed something we all occasionally feel when someone hurts us and we realise we have to forgive them, even though we don't really want to.

David Stoop speaks about this in his book *Real Solutions for Forgiving the Unforgivable* when he says, "When horrible things happen to us, there is typically a period of time when we fantasise about all kinds of retributive punishment. However, staying with vengeful thoughts is like playing an endless and painful video in our minds over and over again."

Constantly dwelling on these things is likely to make us bitter and twisted, rather than better people who are loving and demonstrate Christ's love to others.

And by maintaining an attitude of hostility and hurt, we can be doing ourselves more damage than we realise.

Social science researchers are finding

that far from being "just a Christian obligation," forgiveness can help to heal victims, both emotionally and physically.*

When we don't forgive others, there can be physical problems because we are living in a state of stress. This can cause physical, mental or emotional burnout. Adrenaline increases, and maintained high levels of this have a serious effect on the heart and nervous and immune systems.

It can be difficult to let go of the hurt, and harder still to replace it with forgiveness of those who caused it in the first place. But it's better than cultivating a grudge, which is what some people actually seem to enjoy doing (presumably so they can hand it down to the next generation along with the Royal Doulton hand-painted periwinkle tea set).

This can mean that the lack of forgiveness lives on way past its use-by date, and get to the point where people no longer remember why they don't speak to certain other people.

For some reason, I suspect this isn't the way God wants us to live. Jesus made things clear about His expectations of forgiveness when He was on earth, and He set the example of how we should be in our dealings with others.

Jesus asked God to forgive the people who executed Him, even as He was on the cross, which is amazing. He also told us to love one another as He has loved us, and if that wasn't enough of a command, to love our enemies and pray for those who aren't all that nice to us.

And who could forget that we are told to forgive those who wrong us 70 times seven? Not that we should keep a notebook with the number of times we've said "I forgive you" to people tallied up in it. There is meant to be no limit to the number of times we forgive people, in the same way there is no limit to the number of times God forgives us for the mistakes we make that hurt Him.

However, we cannot expect that God will allow us to be unforgiving of others while we are forgiven. The parable Jesus told of the unforgiving servant in Matthew 18 is an example of this. In Luke 6:37, He says, "Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven" (NIV).

As Christians, we are representing the idea of true forgiveness to the world. It's not something we can keep to ourselves, either, but a gift we should be sharing with others. Although not every person will accept it, you can still offer it to them and be a peacemaker on behalf of God.

As Dietrich Bonhoeffer noted, we are destroyed by sin and healed with forgiveness. We will make it into heaven because we have given ourselves over to God's grace and forgiveness, not because we have done something to earn it.

*Gary Thomas, "The forgiveness factor," <www.ctlibrary.com/ct/2000/jan10/1.38.html>.

Adele Nash



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

Vol 110 No 12
Cover: Sanitarium Public Relations

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.au
Subscriptions: South Pacific Division mailed within Australia and to New Zealand, \$A43.80 \$NZ73.00. Other prices on application. Printed weekly.

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

ADRA thanks tsunami volunteers

WAHROONGA, NSW

ADRA-Australia wishes to thank the hundreds of volunteers who have helped out during the recent tsunami disaster.

"The support has been amazing," says David Jack, CEO of ADRA-Australia. "We are thrilled to see that there are so many people willing to donate their time and resources to helping other people."

The ADRA call centre, based at the ADRA-Australia office in Wahroonga, NSW, was manned by about 50 volunteers who spent more than 140 hours answering phones and providing support to ADRA staff. The call centre was open for three

weeks following the disaster and received hundreds of calls from people wanting to donate or make inquiries.

Many ADRA supporters have also helped at fundraising events. For example, South Brisbane church members Suraj and Gill Shrestha organised a fundraising dinner at the Karma Indian Restaurant on January 22, 2005, which raised almost \$A5000 for tsunami relief.

In Western Sydney, NSW, more than 100 ADRA supporters volunteered for a concert held to raise money for tsunami victims on Sun-day, February 20, 2005.

The concert was organised by AFD Enterprises and held at Marconi Stadium. As recipient of the proceeds, ADRA provided volunteers to assist on the day. "The turnout of volunteers was fantastic," says John Tompson, Sydney director of ADRA Services. "The support from so many was just great, and we

thank everyone who volunteered."

Volunteers have also helped ADRA by contacting local media. Articles about fundraisers and ADRA's involvement with the relief effort have appeared in newspapers around Australia. "We are very appreciative of the effort people have gone to to help ADRA in this way," says Mr Jack. "We would like to encourage supporters to continue to share ADRA's story with their communities."

ADRA-Australia also received more than 100 calls from people offering to volunteer in affected regions. Offers came from people with skills ranging from trades to teaching to medical.

Overwhelmed by the response, ADRA no longer requires offers to volunteer overseas but would like to thank people for such generosity.—*Candice Jaques*



Volunteers answering the phones at the ADRA call centre, where 50 volunteers worked more than 140 hours.



Some of the people who attended the fundraising dinner at the Karma Indian Restaurant in January.



◆ The church in PNG recently welcomed its **third generation of local ministers** when **Nellie Hamura** graduated from Pacific Adventist University with a BA in Theology. She follows the footsteps of her father, Pastor **John Hamura**, president of Morobe Mission, and grandfather Pastor **Hamura Esasa**. "Your grandfather is not alive to witness your great

achievement, but I encourage you to serve our good Lord always and I wish you God's blessing as you begin your ministry," Ms Hamura's grandmother told her after the graduation ceremony. She now serves in the Eastern Highlands Chimbu Mission.—*John Hamura/Melody Tan*

◆ There has been an encouraging response to the new **Boards and Committees Online Database** (Flashpoint, March 19). "I strongly urge anybody who feels that their skills can contribute to the overall running of these organisations, or know someone who does, to reg-

ister their interest on the web site," says **Leighton Cantrill**, recruitment promotions officer for the South Pacific Division. Every five years, the Adventist Church reviews its administrative boards, committees and councils. A database has been created to make it **more convenient** for church members to register their interest to volunteer on various boards and committees for the upcoming review. Interested parties can register their interest at <adventist.org.au/services/human_resources>.—*Melody Tan*

◆ Students from Prep to Year 7 at

Brisbane Adventist College (Old) created a golden trail of coins in aid of the schoolchildren in the tsunami-devastated regions of Asia. A **23-metre trail of gold coins** represented \$A1276, which will be used to re-equip the schools that were destroyed or lost everything.—*Rachel Hosea*





Cycling to build a “circle of courage” in rural areas

WAHROONGA, NSW

Six cyclists will ride across Australia in an endeavour to address issues of “at risk” behaviour among young people in small rural communities beginning on April 5.

“Studies have shown that rural adolescents have some of the highest at-risk statistics,” says Jonathan Duffy, director of Adventist Health for the South Pacific Division. “They are up to four times more likely to commit suicide, and females living in a rural community are up to 11 times more likely to experience physical abuse. They are also more likely to use illicit substances.”

The “Circle of courage” cycle tour is organised by Adventist Health. The cyclists and their support team will start their journey from the Murray Street Mall in Perth on April 5 at 8 am and finish in Sydney on May 5.

The 31-day, 4456 km ride is being sponsored by a number of businesses and Adventist institutions, including Avondale

College, Sydney Adventist Hospital, ADRA and *Signs of the Times*. A compact booklet version of *Signs* will be published and handed out by the team at the places



Jonathan Duffy, director of Adventist Health for the South Pacific Division, is prepared for a gruelling program of cycling and presenting talks across Australia for “at risk” teenagers.

they visit along the way.

This booklet will contain articles about issues facing young people in rural communities and an overview of how communities can make a difference for their young people.

“I am very concerned about the increase of risk behaviour in young people,” says Mr Duffy. “Research shows that the most important protector against risk-taking for young people is to feel valued by significant adults in their community. I want to challenge the adults in rural communities to take the leading role in developing positive community relationships. This will build resilience and self-esteem among the young people.”

Mr Duffy and his team will be speaking at 31 towns across Australia and will be covering an average of 165 km a day during the tour. They will be speaking at local community venues organised through the community every evening. The cyclists will introduce to parents and other interested adults the “Circle of courage” principles for building resilience in young people.

The “Circle of courage” is a model that focuses on four main areas—belonging, mastery, independence and generosity.

—Melody Tan

More @ www.cyclingincircles.org.au



◆ Residents of Coronella Retirement Village, Vic, have had access to the satellite broadcast of Hope Channel and 3ABN in their own rooms since the beginning of this year. “I love watching these new TV channels, particularly the singing as it is so beautiful,” says one resi-

dent. Another says, “I am being strengthened in what I believe and this has been such an encouragement to me at a time when I know that my life is drawing to a close.” —*Intraviv*

◆ The Caboolture church (Qld) raised more than \$A9000 at their auction night recently to support Pastor Michael Worker and his team who are returning to Mongolia for their second trip. Auctioneers Pastor Trafford Fisher and Warren Bailey put under the hammer a variety of goods and services donated for the cause. The tidy sum of \$A240 was paid to give the

manager of Watson Park Convention Centre, Steve Plahn, the dubious privilege of drinking grape



juice that had been freshly pressed by the feet of two local members, Peter Arnold and Brad Marshall. —*Kristiina and Warren Somerville*

◆ Many Adventist schools held a special dedication program to begin their school year on a high spiritual note. Parents, teachers, students and friends of the schools all joined in for a time of praise, worship and prayer that touched many non-Adventist families who attended. The two neighbouring schools on the Victorian Adventist campground have started their year as a new entity. Nunawading Adventist Primary School and Nunawading Adventist College have now united under the one name of Nunawading Christian College, after 30 years as separate schools. —*Intraviv*

Weet-Bix TRY-athlon sets records

(Continued from page 1)

Kids TRY-athlon events in other capital cities including Adelaide, Canberra, Hobart and Perth were well attended by children of all ages and attracted an increasing amount of attention from the media, including Channel 10's TNN interviewing the director of the Avondale Centre for Exercise Sciences, Darren Morton, about the difference that the Kids TRY-athlon makes in children's lives.

The Kids TRY-athlon philosophy is based in the belief that inside every child there is a champion, and it doesn't matter about their physical appearance or sporting ability. The event was designed to encourage children to get involved and feel like a winner because they "had a go." Every child who participates is rewarded with a medallion and a certificate for their achievements, with no placings or times kept. The event provides kids aged between seven and 15 years with a real confidence boost with a challenging and achievable swim, cycle and run course.

Motherinc editor, Claudia Keech, who recently conducted a poll with Sanitarium

about the self-esteem of children, believes that the Kids TRY-athlon is a great way to help build a child's self-esteem.

"The Kids TRY-athlon allows children to have a positive and challenging experience, while helping them to feel confident in their interaction with other children and with their participation in physical activity. A positive experience in these areas of life is sure to lead to greater confidence and improved self-esteem," says Mrs Keech.

Keech's statement is backed by Kids TRY-athlon research that shows 75 per cent of parents reported an increase in their child's self-esteem as a result of participating in the Kids TRY-athlon and 92 per cent of parents say they would encourage their children to take part again.

Sanitarium's corporate communications manager Julie Praestiin says, "Our commitment to the health and wellbeing of our nation is long standing. We believe the Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRY-athlon



Volunteers at a Sanitarium Weet-Bix TRY-athlon event displaying some of the Sanitarium breakfast products that are available.

encourages kids into active, healthy life choices."

Our volunteers are one of the most important factors in ensuring the Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRY-athlon in a positive, fun family day out. When Sanitarium employees and church members who join us offer a welcoming comment and helpful service to kids and their parents, it's a step to creating a connection and potentially lifelong friendship with our consumers."—Adele Nash

The Sanitarium Kids TRY-athlon will visit Brisbane next on April 10.

◆ On March 11, **Josiah Turnbull**, a Year 4 student at Northpine Christian College (Brisbane, Qld), participated in "The world's greatest



shave for a cure." Josiah's nanna is undergoing treatment for cancer and he wanted to **show his support** to her as well as to raise funds for the **Leukaemia Foundation**. "We don't allow our students to

shave their heads, but when we were approached by Josiah's family and they shared his desire to **help others like his nanna** through the "Shave for a cure," we were touched by his passion to serve and his selflessness," says Robyn Dunlop, head of primary. Josiah had his thick hair **clipped back to a #1**, raising \$A800 toward his aim of \$A1000 for the foundation.—*Katy Bidmead*

◆ Africa has been the attention of two of our schools recently. **Noosa Christian College**, Qld, students had a session of African music, dance and traditional stories from

the **jungle home** of Sam from Ghana. "The children were spellbound throughout the whole presentation," says principal **Ross Reid**. The children were introduced and invited to **play various traditional instruments** such as the "talking drum," bells and a gourd. Over at **Darwin Adventist Primary School** (DAPS), NT, they are using \$A38 per week **sponsorships to pay** for young African children to attend their little primary school. "We are looking to undertake an outreach into the **new African members of Australia** who have relocated from their home country to Darwin,"

says school board chairperson **Steve Fuller**. "These new arrivals have very limited resources in every circumstance. In an effort to provide educational support to their children, the school is seeking support from the wider community to provide the **opportunity of experiencing** Christian education." For further information contact **Athol Sparks** on (08) 8927 9596.



Truck bomb damages Adventist church in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

A suicide truck bomb, which rocked the centre of Baghdad on March 9, broke the two remaining stained-glass windows of the Baghdad Seventh-day Adventist church.

The force from the blast also shattered the floor-to-ceiling window that separates the parents room from the worship hall inside the building.

The blast occurred close to the Ministry of Agriculture, just 100 metres from the church compound at around 6.30 am local time. No church members were inside the building at the time.

The Baghdad church has now been damaged three times over the past 17 months. A car bomb at the Red Cross building in October 2003, 200 metres from the church, broke several windows and covered some of the church's office workers with glass.

In September 2004, a car packed with 150 kilograms of explosives was detonated just outside the side entrance of the church, causing \$US150,000 worth of damage. No-



The Seventh-day Adventist church in Baghdad prior to the damage caused by a bomb on March 9.

one was injured.

"We have boarded up windows and done what we can to make the church premises barely usable, but much of the building remains unrepaired," says Basim Fargo, secretary of the Iraq Field.

So far, all efforts to secure funding for the repairs have been unsuccessful.

"This latest hostile incident, while not specifically targeting the Adventist Church,

could not have come at a worse time for the morale of our members," says Homer Trecartin, secretary-treasurer for the Middle East Union.

Already the church administration in Iraq has received 24 requests for membership transfers in 2004.

That translates to one Iraqi member in every nine emigrating to a congregation in another country. The indication is that many more have already left without officially transferring their membership.

Iraqi insurgents have targeted Christians of all denominations, and many Christians have fled the country, particularly in the time prior to the January presidential election.

"While we are eager for our members to remain and flourish," says Pastor Trecartin, "these latest statistics are hardly surprising. Their daily routine of insecurity is nerve-racking.

"They cannot see the situation improving. We are praying that the Lord will give the Adventists a supernatural courage and make them a force of peace in this land of turmoil." —*Alex Elmadjian/ANN*

◆ Balham, UK, church's "street pastors" go out late at night to the streets of major cities, such as London and Birmingham, to offer help and intercede in potentially serious or **dangerous situations**—at times the only people standing between police and people involved in highly charged situations. Predominantly church members, the "street pastors," a concept that comes from Kingston, Jamaica, go out in groups and offer **words of comfort, advice and prayers** to those found in despair. Because of the dangerous nature of the job, all street pastors are trained first for a



number of weeks before they **graduate as fully fledged "street pastors."** With the known and trusted community perception of the "street pastor" service that has now gained credibility from law-enforcement teams, the recent graduation of 11 students (pictured) drew **highly positioned law-enforcement dignitaries** to the graduation ceremony.—

Patrick McKerrow

◆ In 2004, Ray Yelick was **baptised** one month after his **100th birthday** at the Meadow Glade church, Oregon, USA. Ray had lived by Christian principles all his life but had never studied the Bible in such depth before becoming acquainted with Meadow Glade church member Vera Powell. He was thrilled as **Bible studies revealed each new truth** and couldn't understand why everyone could not see the Sabbath truth.—*Gleaner*

◆ Teenagers across the world spent part of a **weekend praying** for the persecuted church as, for

the third year in a row, Open Doors USA organised the weekend international prayer initiative known as "**Shockwave.**" The event gives teenage Christians an opportunity to pray specifically for believers who face persecution for their faith in Christ. **Jeff Shreve**, coordinator for Shockwave, says the initiative is designed to increase young people's **awareness of their fellow believers** in parts of the world where Christian faith is met with oppression and persecution. "This year, tens of thousands of Christian teens took part in this annual prayer event." —*Allie Martin*

ADRA helps in Indonesia

WAHROONGA, NSW

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)—Australia has allocated \$A320,000 to help restore a functional school system in Western Aceh, Indonesia, following the Boxing Day tsunami disaster. In this area, the tsunami swept away schools, along with learning, teaching and recreational materials, supplies and equipment.

“The destruction of school buildings at all levels is causing a major disruption to students’ educational progress, further exacerbating the trauma among students, teachers and parents,” reports an ADRA-Indonesia spokesperson.

In collaboration with UNICEF, ADRA has taken a lead role in addressing the educational needs of tsunami victims in the Western Aceh District through an Emergency School Rehabilitation project. The project aims to help facilitate a return to normal life for tsunami survivors, by rebuilding the school system with a strengthened capacity to manage traumatised students and teachers.

ADRA-Australia’s funding will help to rehabilitate or construct a number of schools and provide materials, equipment and supplies to those schools. It will also help to provide a training program for teachers and administrators on psycho-social counselling, disaster preparedness and management.

The Western Aceh District was one of the worst hit places by the tsunami disaster, affecting tens of thousands of people.

—Candice Jaques



Children in the Western Aceh District will be able to return to school with ADRA’s help.

ADRA display at flood anniversary

MAITLAND, NSW

Maitland’s 1955 Flood Anniversary incorporated displays of the various organisations that comprise the NSW Disaster Recovery Services, which gave the Maitland area Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) team an opportunity to showcase the numerous services preformed by ADRA both locally and internationally.

The flood anniversary display, which was well attended from all parts of the Hunter Valley, was officially opened by Maitland’s Mayor Mr Peter Blackmore, who also introduced dignitaries including



Helen Heath (right) explains the ADRA display to a visitor.



Local ADRA coordinator Terry Heath with Mayor Peter Blackmore at the anniversary.

the Minister for Local Government and Emergency Services, Mr Tony Kelly.

Various speakers recounted memories—both personal and relayed—of experiences during one of the worst floods ever recorded in the Hunter and paid tribute to the efforts of the numerous organisations that provided assistance for people both during and after the flood, which devastated the area.

Many of the visitors to the display, which was held in the Maitland Town Hall, expressed a lot of interest in and appreciation for ADRA, for the work it was accomplishing in Australia and throughout the world.—Northpoint

Today’s New International Version arrives

GRAND RAPIDS, USA

Years in the making, publisher Zondervan has released a new translation of the Bible that’s aimed at young adults—accompanying the effort with a \$US1 million media blitz.

“We believe it’s the best combination of readability and reliability of any Bible,” says Ben Irwin, product development manager of Zondervan’s Bible group. “It doesn’t sacrifice one for the other.”

The translation, called *Today’s New International Version* (TNIV), is one that aims to be more gender neutral in some cases and, in others, a little more clear and plain spoken.

Grand Rapids-based Zondervan, a division of HarperCollins Publishers, is aiming the new Bible at 18- to 34-year-olds by advertising in publications and web sites including *Rolling Stone*, *Modern Bride*, *The Onion*, MTV.com and AOL.

Zondervan’s research shows that young adults are leaving the church in large

numbers, but are “spiritually intrigued” by Jesus and Christianity more than any other demographic

An independent group of 15 leading biblical scholars, led by John Stek, a professor emeritus at Calvin Theological Seminary, developed the new translation. The same group worked on the New International Version of the Bible in the 1970s.

The International Bible Society, a global Bible translation and outreach ministry, commissioned the TNIV. It’s the copyright holder and will publish versions for use by other ministries and evangelists while Zondervan is the commercial publisher.

“We really do believe the translation itself is vital to the new generation,” Caminiti says. “The reality is, while every third Bible sold in the United States is the New International Version, it’s 30 years old and the English language is changing faster than any other language in the world.”—James Prichard More

More @ www.tniv.info

The adventure of faith

BY JEFF CROCOMBE

THE TERM “FUNDAMENTALIST” HAS become a popular label—a label often linked with terrorism, with violence and with religion. *Fundamentalism* has been aptly defined as a world view or movement centred on restoring a religious tradition or sacred text as the guiding force in society, usually in opposition to ideas or practices considered modern. While the term originated with American Protestant conservatives in the early 20th century, it is now commonly applied to the efforts of Islamist groups or regimes favouring conservative morality and strict application of Islamic law.¹

Many similar definitions of fundamentalism exist. However at the heart of each of them is something simple: a fundamentalist is someone who thinks they have all the answers and none of the questions. A fundamentalist believes everyone with a different viewpoint to their own is wrong—at best deluded, at worst, intentionally promoting dangerous error.

In the context of Christianity then, a fundamentalist approaches the Bible with a closed mind and heart, seeing no need for further insight. A fundamentalist knows what the Bible says, seeing no need for debate or discussion; no room for uncertainty or the suspension of judgment. At its core, fundamentalism is ultimately about spiritual arrogance.

We cannot deny the increasing influence of this movement within the Seventh-day Adventist Church, both here in the South Pacific Division and overseas. Fundamentalism is seen as an attractive pathway for many Adventists for a variety of reasons.

First, fundamentalism appeals to our vanity—“Join us and you will be one of God’s chosen, one of the elite, one of those with the truth, one of those who are right.” Fundamentalism appeals to our fear—“Believe what we do or you will be lost.” Fundamentalism also appeals to our desire for certainty—“Join us; we have all the

answers.” Finally, giving in to fundamentalism is simply easier—because the thinking has already been done by someone else—than grappling and wrestling with the difficult questions that confront us as we study the Bible and attempt to live as followers of God.

The author of Hebrews reflects upon the story of Abraham’s journey to a new land in this way: “By faith Abraham, when called to go . . . obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going” (Hebrews 11:8²). Like Abraham, each of us who loves God is called to follow.

In John 12:26, Jesus said, “Whoever serves me must follow me.” There are no ifs, buts or maybes in that command. Following God involves leaving arrogance of heart and mind behind us as we journey—going where we do not know. Such a commitment is difficult and a little (or a lot) scary. However, it is not optional; for such a commitment lies at the core of Christianity.

With Paul we must admit that “we know in part and we prophesy in part” (1 Corinthians 13:9). We do not have all truth. We do not have all the answers. None of us knows where we are going—whether in our jobs, our schooling, where we’ll live, or our belief systems.

We are called by God to humility, to acknowledge that we do not have all the answers. A natural outgrowth of this commitment is the need to approach the Bible with humility, with our hearts and minds open rather than closed. No-one can be a fundamentalist and a follower of God’s leading at the same time. **R**

1. “Fundamentalism,” Globalization Glossary, <www.sociologyemory.edu/globalization/glossary/html>

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

Jeff Crocombe is a postgraduate student in theology at the University of Queensland, Brisbane.

Prayer keys: Praying for schools

BY JOY BUTLER

IN THOSE SCHOOLS WHERE PRAYER IS A priority among parents, friends and teachers, the impact is being felt. The “prayer for schools” network is growing as people realise its importance.

In schools across the South Pacific Division (SPD), parents and children are taking time to pray for protection, for encouragement and for direction to make disciples in every school. The aims of the prayer network is to “bring the needs of the children and their schools before God; to support and encourage one another as Christians within the school communities, to pray that each child will come to know the love of Jesus; to pray for principals, teachers, staff, parents and school bodies; to pray that schools will be directed by biblical values; to be a Christ-centred, positive and supportive influence in the schools.”

Maybe God is calling you to begin a “prayer for schools” network in your area.

Here are some steps to help you begin: Pray for someone to join you, pray together, meet preferably at the school once a week or once a semester (seek permission from school administration for this), set aside one hour to meet, advertise, keep a book of requests and names, co-opt another leader to help and support you. Ask the SPD prayer ministries for a booklet about Prayer for Schools with added guidelines (<eyeo@adventist.org.au>). Contact Miracle Education (<mired@impaq.com.au>) for more material about how to support the school nearest you.

Remember the words of Jesus: “Then little children were brought to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked those who brought them. Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these’” (Matthew 19:13, 14, NIV). **R**

Joy Butler is prayer coordinator for the South Pacific Division.

Meeting the challenges at Fulton College

BY NATHAN BROWN

ALITTLE MORE THAN THREE YEARS ago, Pastor Murray Chapman arrived at Fulton College—an hour's drive out of Fiji's capital, Suva—from the Adventist Church's Middle East College. He says it was a “fairly dramatic” change of climate and circumstance. Now in his fourth year as principal of Fulton College, Pastor Chapman leads an institution similarly facing dramatic challenges.

The most immediate concern is that the lease of the land on which Fulton College is built has recently expired. At the time of writing, the matter is before the courts in Fiji and the church's legal advisers are making slow progress toward ensuring the college's long-term tenancy is renewed.

Fulton College has also had to face a declining enrolment in the past couple of years. The college commenced the 2005 academic year with about 300 students. “It's a significant drop from a couple of years ago when we had close to 450,” comments Pastor Chapman.

He says there is a clear reason for this drop in enrolment. “For five or six years, the Fiji government had a desperate need for primary school teachers,” Pastor Chapman explains. “They would employ every graduate that we could produce. But two years ago, the school system became saturated with teachers and the Minister for Education decided they would no longer employ any of our graduates. They were probably employing 65 out of the 80 and so that had a dramatic impact. The perception was created that going to Fulton might not be the safest thing to do if you want a job at the end. So our yearly intake for primary education has dropped from 80 down to fewer than 30.”

According to Pastor Chapman, this has real effects. “As our numbers grew, our staff also grew,” he says. “Now that the student numbers have fallen, our income has obviously fallen. It's a painful exercise to cut everything back to the point where we can

be economically viable.

“At the end of last year we actually laid off approximately one-third of our staff in order to make it work for this year,” Pastor Chapman continues. “It was very difficult. Most difficult for the people who were being laid off, but for the rest of us who remain it's difficult too because we're all having to work harder. We're continuing to offer the same programs but with a smaller staff. There are a lot of challenges around that.”

But, despite these real challenges, Fulton College continues to attract students from across the Pacific. Currently nine nationalities are represented at Fulton College, from the Solomon Islands in the west to the Cook Islands and French Polynesia in the east.

Pastor Chapman says Fulton is well known in the wider Fijian society. “Wherever you go, there's always someone who knows about Fulton,” he says.

As such, Pastor Chapman sees the college playing an important role in the mission of the church in the region. Another aspect of this role is the expanded theology program beginning this year.

“We have traditionally had a three-year diploma program, but we're adding a fourth year to that program,” says Pastor Chapman. “At the end of that fourth year, successful students will receive a degree in theology from Pacific Adventist University. It means that pastors can be educated to degree level without going to PAU, which is much easier for people in this part of the Pacific.”

Fulton has also recognised the opportunities associated with increasing use of technology and business systems in the Pacific. “We're strengthening our business studies department quite intentionally, in the computing area and also in business management,” says Pastor Chapman. “We see that as a growth for us, not only providing trained people for the church, but also providing a place where Adventist



Pastor Murray Chapman, principal of Fulton College.

young people can come to be trained so they can go and work in the business world.”

And most importantly, Pastor Chapman reports, Fulton College continues to have a strong spiritual focus. “Spiritual activities are really the centre of everything that happens here,” he says. “Maybe a symbol of that is our youth program on Sabbath afternoons. It's usually the best-attended program all day Sabbath, which is unique, I think.

“But our worship program is part of the spiritual life of the place here. Bible studies are always going on. In the three years I've been here, we have baptised about 25 people each year.”

According to Pastor Chapman, Fulton College continues to be a place of vision. “We want to help young people to learn how to use what God's given them to serve others,” he says. “The one-word motto of the college is ‘Others.’ Everybody here knows that and the Fulton family is very proud of that. And it really does work.” **R**

Nathan Brown is editor of RECORD.



“Connect with children”

BY JULIE WESLAKE

IT TAKES A CHURCH¹ TO PROTECT AND save children.¹ Parents and children’s leaders are extremely important spiritual providers, but they cannot do this alone. Children need a church community who loves them, values them and empowers them to minister and serve. They need you to build quality relationships with them. If you don’t do this, you will continue to lose many of the children who are sitting in your church today.

Take time to learn the names of the children at your church. This essential first step will show the children that they are important to you.

Each Sabbath, greet them by name, say hello and ask them how their week has been. Ask simple, open-ended questions such as, What was the best thing you did this week? Then take time to listen. Talking and listening will help you develop friendships.

Spend time with your children. Show them that their activities are important to you. Go to their Sabbath schools, Adventurer clubs and social events and join them in their activities.

Show them unconditional love. Accept them for who they are—children of God. Treat them as you yourself would like to be treated. Support them through their mistakes. Lovingly, but firmly put boundaries around them, and if they fail, help them



live through the consequences.

Model God’s grace. To children the gospel is relational. They need you to be Jesus “with skin on.” Show them what it means to be forgiven and how God’s love for them will never end—how there is nothing they can do that will separate them from God’s love. Teach them that their “works” are a love response back to God for what He has done for them.

Help children develop the gifts that God has given them. Although children may not be baptised members, they are a vital part of your church. Take classes for them to help them see how God has blessed them. Show them how they can use their gifts in service to God and His church.

Involve them in ministry. Children need to know they are an important part of your church. Create opportunities for real leadership. Include them in adult ministries—stand by their side and work with them. Be a mentor.

Include them in worship. Children build faith when they have the opportunity to be a part of a faith community. They learn by modelling and hearing your faith stories. They need to see that your worship is for them as well as the adults. Help connect them to God and your church community through worship.

Support the child’s family. They carry a huge responsibility to nurture their children and build strong and lasting spiritual foundations. Encourage their efforts to worship with their children. Be patient with their children. During church, sit with families to help them.

Provide safe environments for your children. Ensure children are physically safe—protected by your policies and the implementation of them. Keep volunteer screening a high priority.

Pray for your children. This may need to be formalised so every child has someone

who is praying for them. Pray for the children’s parents, pray for the children’s leaders—pray, pray and pray. It makes an enormous difference.

Speak up for the needs of children at your church. Children don’t usually have a voice. They have no way of telling us their needs. They need you to have the courage to do this. Ensure that their activities are adequately funded, and that they are ministered to by dedicated and gifted leaders.

Make time

“Connect with children” is a strategy of the Department of Children’s Ministries of the South Pacific Division. A poster covering these points will soon be arriving at your church to display and help focus your ministry. We are asking that all church members and ministries work cooperatively and creatively to ensure that the children you have in your churches will accept Jesus as their Saviour and always delight in worship. My thanks go to the many who are already giving children the priority they need. Special thanks also goes to the RECORD for their new increased children’s emphasis (see page 12).

“If you connect with children today . . . then you will see the fruit of that effort blossom for decades to come. There is no better investment than nurturing our youngsters.”² **R**

1. Gary Hopkins *It Takes a Church*, 2002.

2. George Barna, *Transforming Children Into Spiritual Champions*, 2003.

Julie Weslake is director of children’s ministries for the South Pacific Division, based in Wahroonga, New South Wales.

"A special, please, Daddy"

BY BRAD WATSON



WHY I VOLUNTEERED, I WILL never really know. Maybe it was a passing moment of madness, one of those on-the-spot decisions that a man lives to regret. At the time, however, I thought I was being a good husband.

"I'll take Caleb and Zoey out, Honey," I said confidently to my tired wife who could do with some time out. With our youngest in bed, taking Caleb and Zoey out was the least I could do.

The pestering began before we even left the driveway.

"Dad, can we have a special?" Caleb asked.

"A special, a special. We're going to have a special," Zoey chimed in with her cute, three-year-old voice.

"Hey, be patient, you kids. If you are good, you can have something nice to eat when we get to the shops. But only if you don't pester."

I thought this tactic would be a sure winner. They would be quiet and I would be the hero who bought them doughnuts. After a few hours of productive shopping, we would return home contentedly. Dad would have done it again!

My optimism was short lived.

"Dad," Caleb asked, with a worried expression, "I don't want an eating special. I want a playing special. Can you buy me a special toy?"

That was just the beginning.

When we arrived, our first stop was to take some bills to Medicare for refunds. When I finally looked up from completing a form, I realised with horror that my chil-

dren were dodging and weaving between the legs of customers standing in line.

Caleb was hiding smugly behind a rather large leg calling out, "Nah, nah, nah, you can't catch me."

Zoey charged toward him, dodging between several knees, completely unaware of the expressions on the faces above.

With the refund pocketed, looks of pity and relief followed us as we left, heading off to the department store.

At this next shop, I got through 50 metres without a single stop after piling both of them into a shopping trolley. For a moment, I felt like I was on the home straight at Bathurst.

The printer cartridges were at the finish line, but available only if I could remember the model of my printer.

"Dad, can I have this pen?" asked Caleb as I wondered if it was an HP 200 or an HP 2200.

"Daddy, look at my new scissors," Zoey chimed in just as my fuzzy brain almost made a breakthrough.

"Dad, Zoey took some scissors!"

At that moment, I gave up trying to remember anything. There are cameras here, I reminded myself, lots of cameras.

I practised the breathing techniques Fiona had learned in antenatal classes.

We eventually found most of the things I had been hoping to buy, and even did a little rearranging along the way.

With the department store conquered, it was off to the bank via the doughnut shop. Caleb chose a small purple doughnut with a plastic Mickey Mouse ring, while Zoey

picked out the largest pink doughnut.

The walk to the bank was heavenly. Peace reigned. For a few short minutes the world became normal, and I even had time to be glad I wasn't the mother of a little boy who had just sprayed his milkshake all over the floor.

She probably wished she had my kids, I thought smugly as they sat in perfect silence, devouring their treats.

By the time we got there, all of 30 seconds later, Caleb had finished his doughnut.

"Dad, I'm still hungry. Can I have another special?"

"What?"

"I'm hungry, Dad. My doughnut was too small."

I tried to block him out and filled in the deposit form instead.

After standing in the wrong line for at least five minutes, we were eventually served.

"Can I have your card please?" the teller behind the counter asked.

"Sure." I opened my wallet. No card. "I'm sorry, I had it just a moment ago," I managed to mumble.

I could sense customers staring at my back as Zoey smeared pink icing on the glass window while I emptied my wallet for the third time.

Finally, I stood aside so they could serve other customers, and went to where I'd filled the form out to look for my card.

"Someone just handed in a card," a bank officer said, and with that I ended up back in the inquiry line.

Finally, with card retrieved and cheque deposited, we left.

Don't look back, I reminded myself as numerous eyes followed our noisy departure. Too much pity does cruel things to a man.

In the supermarket, they wanted everything. Zoey threw her shoes in the trolley and took off down the aisles. Almonds were not good enough. Only cashews would do. One of the items on my shopping list wasn't in stock and this threw me into shock. My concentration was shot. The trolley was out of control. My team manager was at home, and even my cornering was beginning to suffer.

At the auto shop, Zoey did laps of the perimeter and finally ran Caleb off the aisle into a car-seat rack and a pool of tears. I'm sure they had the safety car out while I paid and left.

When we finally buckled up in the car, Zoey was red-faced and crying. Caleb was complaining that he hadn't gotten a special drink, and I was consciously trying to slow down so that I did not look like I was rushing back to my wife.

At home, the kids wouldn't eat their dinner and my princess was not at all happy. So much for the hero returning to his castle in a blaze of glory.

"How was it?" Fiona asked at one point during the handover.

"Yeah, not bad," I replied to my slightly disbelieving wife as I headed upstairs to my study.

Don't look back, I reminded myself. *Don't let her psyche you out.*

It is a few hours later now, and the children are in bed. In an hour or so, it will be shower, prayers and sleep for Mum and Dad. Probably not much sleep actually, if the last few nights are anything to judge by.

Besides being reminded what my wife goes through every day, I think I learned something valuable from my children this afternoon. And it is not just that my fathering skills need a little brushing up on.

When I pray tonight, will I ask God for specials, or will I ask to be led? Will I pester my Father, or find time to encourage or praise Him?

How nice it would have been today to hear my son say, "Dad, you're special. Thanks for everything." I love my son more than life, but somehow, drinks and sweets became so important to him today. It made me feel less.

And yet how many times have I done the same? I guess it's easier to be a kid than years and wrinkles suggest. And I wonder if it drives God nuts too.

Jesus did not pray, "Father in heaven, You can give *me* everything. May *my* will be done through Your power. Give *me* today the desires of *my* heart, leading *me* to greener pastures. Make life easy, providing only the best."

Jesus actually said we should pray like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one." (Matthew 6:9-13, NIV).

There is so much more to prayer than asking God for specials, isn't there? **R**

Brad Watson is a lecturer in international development at Avondale College, Cooranbong, New South Wales.



Fill in the Blanks

In the _____ God created the _____ and the _____. Genesis 1:1, NKJV

Find-a-Word



ANIMALS, BEGINNING, BIRDS, DARKNESS, MAN, EARTH, FIRMAMENT, HEAVEN, LIGHT, REST, SEASONS, SPOKE, STARS, SUN, WATERS

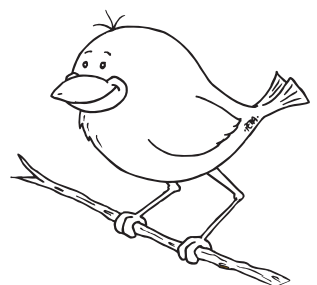


Maze



Help Roo get to the 7th day. Try to get there by passing over the animals God created.

Colour In



Postmodern God?

LEONARD TOLHURST, NSW

James Coffin said in "Mission in postmodernity" (Feature, February 19) that we ought not say to the postmodern generation, "These are the answers; here it is, in this tidy package." But if we're not to tell the world that we have the truth for these last days, then we're not fulfilling our mission.

Postmodernism maintains that there is no absolute truth, and I am concerned that we Adventists are being too influenced by this world view. This is seen in the "soft-peddling" of our distinctive doctrines, the pluralism in the church, and the lack of voices against teachings that aren't Adventist.

Jesus would never have subscribed to postmodern ways of teaching, declaring in John 14:6, "I am the . . . truth." He was no postmodernist, and we Seventh-day Adventists need also resist the pressures of the world lest we fail in our mission.

A higher view

LANCE WEARMOUTH, QLD

I find it strange that someone with Rodney Woods's Bible knowledge wouldn't know how God perceives the unborn dead ("Abortion: A mixed perspective," Viewpoint, March 5) or that He has given us all the information we need.

Most Christians think they should be opposed to abortion because of the command not to kill, but are unable to be

just a coincidence

specific. Abortion is a modern thing, and for this reason it isn't dealt with specifically in the Bible, so we must apply biblical principles to arrive at a judgment.

From the Bible we can believe that the dead have no consciousness and "sleep." Death is referred to as "sleep" only because we will one day awaken from it. Job 3:1-19 makes it clear that the unborn dead are also "asleep" with the rest of the dead. Lamenting the night of his conception and the day of his birth, in verse 11, he wishes he'd been stillborn or, in verse 16, miscarried. In other verses he makes it clear that in either circumstance he would have slept with the the dead.

not sufficient justification where a benefit to self is the motivation. Many would say that abortion is acceptable where the life of the mother-to-be is threatened by the pregnancy. This may well be, but if my wife and I had taken such medical advice, our last three children would never have been born.

Choice of Christians

CORRAN VINCENT, NZ

The letters from Ian Rankin (January 1), Warwick Pascoe and Malcolm Ford (February 26) gave food for thought.

The question remains: When is it lawful to kill an unborn child?

From that we conclude that God counts the unborn dead. Were this not so, it could not be said that Job would've slept. Since a miscarriage can occur any time after conception, it follows that a child is accounted for from that time.

The question remains: When is it lawful to kill an unborn child? Since perceptions and circumstances do vary, I cannot attempt any definitive rule, and clearly there will be circumstances where God would permit it. It's my belief that such a decision should be taken only by the parents and only in circumstances where they both feel they could justify their decision before God. In any decision, it is

For thousands of years humans have tried to control the thinking of others. Nebuchadnezzar, for example, thought he could do it with the threat of the fiery furnace until Daniel and his friends stayed standing.

The Adventist Church has always been at the forefront of religious freedom for all. However, while holding the flag for the ideals of the Christian way, it must also allow people the freedom of choice to go their own way.

God has never forced humankind to accept His way, giving a choice while wooing us to follow His way (see Hosea 4:17). So a most important difference between Christianity and other religions is salvation by faith—a conscious decision in the mind, rather than by what we physically do.

Just as the church claims freedom of choice, so people who want a different lifestyle have the right. While we may not like their lifestyle, they are entitled it.

Those persuaded against their will are of the same opinion still.



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.

Volunteers!

ESL Teacher—Czech Republic. Required experience: must be native English speaker with a good ability to teach and have basic computer skills. Minimum education: 2 years college/university. Duties: Teach English as a second language, Bible studies, witnessing, be involved in church work. Term: 10 months, commencing August 25, 2005.

Sports Coordinator—United Kingdom. One year college required. Duties: creating, planning and executing varied sports programs for the students. Liaise with local sports leagues. Be responsible for the upkeep of the college gymnasium and its equipment. Term: 12 months, commencing June 1, 2005.

English Teacher—Russia. Minimum education: high school diploma. Duties: teach English classes at English Language Centre, Moscow. Term: 9–12 months, commencing September 1, 2005.

Email:

<volunteers@adventist.org.au>

For more positions, check the web on <www.adventistvolunteers.org>

+61 2 9847 3275



Stevens-Whitehead—Fulwood. Paul Stevens-Whitehead, son of Margaret Whitehead (Singleton, NSW) and the late Harry Stevens, and Karen Fulwood, daughter of Rod and Rose Fulwood (Innisfail), were married on 21.11.04 at Avica Wedding Resort, Merrimac, Gold Coast, Qld.

Mark Pearce

Weal—Fautua. Adam Raymond Weal, son of Raymond and Janette Weal (Brisbane, Qld), and Pua Emma Shaleen Fautua, daughter of Melive (Auckland, NZ) and the late Sene Fautua, were married on 12.12.04 in the New Lynn Samoan church, Auckland.

Neone Okesene

Wright—Butler. Warwick Wright, son of Nola (Lismore, NSW) and the late Harold Wright, and Kim Butler, daughter of Raymond and Cheryl Butler (Sydney), were married on 6.3.05 in the Presbyterian church, Beecroft.

Garth Bainbridge

Yoo—Jang. Wan Yoo, son of Hyun Du Yu and Ok Hee Pak (Seoul, South Korea), and Eun Jin Jang, daughter of Pastor James and Anjoa Jang (Strathfield, NSW), were married on 13.3.05 in the Chatswood Adventist church.

Bob Manners

Obituaries

Armstrong, Lloyd, born 7.12.1921 at Boulder, WA; died 17.2.05 in Hollywood Hospital, Nedlands. He was predeceased by his wife, Frances, in 2003. He is survived by his children, Ivan, Bob, Kevin, Carole and Meryl; their families; and his sister, Elsie Crago (Perth). Lloyd moved into Sherwin Lodge, Rossmoyne, at the end of 2004, and went to his rest surrounded by his family. Old soldiers never die, they don't even fade away, they live on forever in the hearts of those who knew them.

Philip Rhodes

Delandgraff, Charles Frederick, born 23.9.1923 at Manjimup, WA; died 13.1.05 in Hollywood Hospital, Nedlands. He was predeceased by his wife, Audrey, in 2003. He is survived by his children, Rodney (Northam), Helen (Perth); his foster daughter, Nanette (Perth); his three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. After moving to the Rossmoyne Adventist Retirement Village, Charles was baptised and became an active member of the Rossmoyne church.

Philip Rhodes

Douglas, Eileen May (nee Otto), born 18.7.1918 at Waikerie, SA; died 7.3.05 in Bentley Hospital, Perth. She was predeceased by her husband, Vivian, in 1994. Since her husband's death, and especially toward the end of her life in Rossmoyne Adventist Retirement Village, Eileen was cared for, in particular, by her son, Neville. She is survived by her sons and daughter-in-law, Kevin and Jeanette; her son, Neville; and her daughter, Jennifer (all of Perth); her four grandchildren; her one great-granddaughter; and her sister-in-law, Doreen

Positions vacant

▲ **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.

▲ **Sales Representatives—Sanitarium Health Food Company (Victoria)** is seeking two highly motivated Sales Representatives to join their Victorian sales team. Ideal candidates will possess exceptional customer service skills, sound negotiation and interpersonal skills, ability to work individually and as part of a team. The candidate will work closely with State Operations Manager to develop all aspects of their assigned territory. Previous sales experience an advantage. Applications in writing (including résumé) should be forwarded to Group Human Resources, Sanitarium Health Food Company, Locked Bag 7, Central Coast Mail Centre, NSW 2252; fax (02) 4348 7610; or email <HumanResources@sanitarium.com.au>, no later than Friday, April 15, 2005.

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

Otto (SA). Eileen's Christianity was authentic—standards cannot be compromised. "In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to everlasting life."

Philip Rhodes

Evans, Hilda Vernie, born 27.12.1905 at Wisemans Creek, NSW; died 20.2.05 in Oberon Hospital. In 1927 she married Alfred, who predeceased her. She was also predeceased by her children, Laurie, Winston and Garnet. She is survived by her children, Jack (Gorokan), Beulah Royal (Tookley), Dawn Booth (Toowoomba, Qld) and Keith (Oberon, NSW).

Ken Bird

Fiegert, Ivy Dorothy Robina (Roe, nee Hordacre, formerly Barrett), born 18.2.1919 at Kilkenny, SA; died 1.3.05 in Lerwin Nursing Home, Murray Bridge. On 16.10.46 she married Clem Fiegert. Roe is survived by her husband (Murray Bridge); her son and daughter-in-law, Denis and Vonda Barrett (Moorook); her daughter and son-in-law, Darlene and Howard Eckermann (Manoora); her four grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. Roe was a member of the Murray Bridge church for many years. She served in various capacities and helped and cared for others through ADRA work. She died at peace with God, awaiting the resurrection morning.

Lee Bowditch-Walsh

Galyer, Jack Hallard, born 23.2.1915 at Featherstone, NZ; died 3.3.05, two weeks after the Waihi church celebrated his 90th birthday with him. He was predeceased by his wife, Ruth. He is survived by his children, Robin, Lyn, Leslie, Raymond, Heather, Susan and Allison; his 16 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. Jack held many offices in the church during his long life, and was very faithful in his attendance at any church function, along with his late wife.

Les Worsley

Leiataua, Talai Pimoe Sulusi, born 14.5.1913 at Sotosolo, Western Samoa; died peacefully 23.2.05 at her home in Mangere East, NZ. She was predeceased by her husband, Pimoe Sulusi; also her daughters, Vaitoa Meaola and Lesa. She is survived by her daughters, Taunese Fuimaono, Luatimu Onesemo, Moli Mamea; her sons, Failautusi, Pimoe-Seleni and Faasootaulao-Nuafesili; her 53 grandchildren; her 69 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. Talai loved the Lord and always encouraged her children to do the same. She was very much a people person. She will be greatly missed as her phenomenal singing and laughter was one of a kind. We love you, Grandma.

Puleia Onesemo, Neone Okesene

Lucas, Helen, born 20.3.1915 at Mentone, Vic; died peacefully 26.2.05 in Northern Hospital, Epping, just three weeks before her 90th birthday. She was predeceased by her husband, Victor. She is survived by her only son, Ramon (Hamilton); her one granddaughter; and her long-time resident "adopted" daughter and carer, Dorothy Wilson. Helen was a member of the North Fitzroy church and will be long remembered for her valued service, and food preparation for its very successful soup kitchen, which still operates today.

Merv Sparrowhawk, Roy Dickens

Slade, Winifred Mary, born 1.11.1920 in Perth, WA; died 14.10.04 in Perth. On 14.1.40 she married Frank, who predeceased her on 6.8.89. She is survived by her children, Aileen, Frank and Wayne; her sister, Eunice (all of Perth); and her brother, George Keegan (Busselton). Winnie's parents joined the Adventist Church in 1926 and throughout her life she remained a faithful and hardworking member of the church she loved. Her faith and confidence in God has always remained strong, and the certainty of the blessed hope was precious to her through all of her busy life.

Philip Rhodes

Weddings

Goodare—McCarty. Scott Goodare, son of Jim and Dianne Goodare (Pukekohe, NZ), and Wendi Louise McCarty, daughter of Wayne McCarty (Florida, USA) and Carolyn Publiski (Michigan), were married on 27.2.05 at Rivermill Estate, Waimauku, Auckland, NZ.

Russell Willcocks

Pratt—Benard. Greg Pratt, son of Wally (Mildura, Vic) and the late Greta Pratt, and Chantelle Benard, daughter of Ross and Linley Benard (Murwillumbah, NSW), were married on 6.1.05 at Merrimac, Qld.

Craig Vanas

Rappell—Lethborg. Clinton Rappell, son of Kevin Rappell (Tas) and Julie Hardwick (Meadow Bank, Auckland, NZ), and Diane Lethborg, daughter of Brian and Val Lethborg (Tauranga), were married on 6.1.05 at Glen Innes Adventist church, Auckland, NZ.

Kendell Cobbin, Warwick Bagg

Selvaratnam—Threlfo. Anton Selvaratnam, son of the late Joseph and Rukmani Selvaratnam (Sri Lanka), and Melissa Threlfo, daughter of Denise Threlfo (Bellbird, NSW) and Darrel Farrelly (Kurri Kurri), were married on 21.11.04 at Blaxlands Restaurant, Pokolbin.

Max Mulligan

Slater—Piatscheck. Andrew Slater and Liza Piatscheck were married on 6.3.05 at the Yandina Adventist church, Qld.

Mark Pearce

