

RECORD

April 23, 2005

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Members of the Adventist Media crew directing the television production of the Celebration of Word and Song.



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Adventist Media directs Easter service

SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES

The annual Easter Celebration of Word and Song worship service was broadcast nationally across Australia on Good Friday, March 25. An audience of 89,000 watched the program, which was jointly presented by Adventist Media and the Bible Society.

“This provided a great opportunity for Adventists to be linked with the main body of Christ in recognising the death of Jesus Christ for our sins,” says David Gibbons, Adventist media’s production manager.

“Adventist Media was largely responsible for the production and the direction of this year’s program, which was also featured on the Australian Christian Channel, Shine

TV [NZ] and the Hope Channel over the same Easter weekend.

“Program directors at Australia’s Seven Network were delighted with the audience that saw the program, and made a request of the Bible Society and Adventist Media that we produce a similar program for Easter 2006,” says Mr Gibbons.

“And Adventists have written to Adventist Media stating how pleased they were to see their church receive such a high profile over the Easter weekend.”

The program, which features drama, music and scripture readings, will be available from Adventist Media or the Bible Society on DVD.—Adele Nash



There is no piece of paper long enough
to write the value of the prize.

Lucky RECORD: Match 'n' win!

TO CELEBRATE THE ARRIVAL OF THE new design of RECORD (we hope you like it), we are running a "Lucky RECORD" competition. Before we get to that, just have a think about this scenario for a moment.

Imagine how you would feel if you had been chosen, at random, to receive any of the following three prizes:

1. A family round-the-world open plane ticket that never expires and can include nominated guests to join you, lifetime worldwide Disney theme park annual passes (complete with your own five-star apartment in their Castle), and free car, boat, plane, helicopter, motorbike and hovercraft hire. In addition you'll receive a credit card to use for spending money with a \$150,000 yearly limit, that need not ever be paid back, no strings attached.

2. \$100 million dollars, tax free, in the currency of your choice, no strings attached.

3. Both of the above.

How would you feel to know you had been awarded any of the above prizes?

Would you accept such a mammoth windfall? Would you be ultra-excited? Feel a sense of relief and freedom? Would you be keen to share with those around you?

I think I would answer yes to all.

Well, 99 per cent of you have figured out we aren't going to be giving away any of the three options above in this "Lucky RECORD" competition—this year's RECORD Offering wasn't that big. We assure you, however, that even though our prize is not of the same magnitude, you should still find

it appealing.

To win this competition, all you need to do is match your Individual Special Selection Number, given out in each RECORD this week, with the winning number we've selected and you win the prize on offer.

OK, ready to play? The winner of this competition will find number 0819-5633 on the front of their RECORD. I'll wait while you have a look now to see if you have won.

Back? Right, if you are fortunate enough to have a RECORD with the number 0819-5633 on the front you have been selected to receive a free pass to heaven, to meet God, Creator of the universe and "Love" Himself, and of course live happily forever after, travelling the worlds of the universe with family, friends and angels.

If you have this winning number on the front of your RECORD, all you need to do to claim your prize is accept that Jesus' death saves you from your sins, of which you repent, reciprocate God's true love for you, and begin to live as if you have already received the prize.

So are you as excited with this knowledge as if you had won the \$100 million dollars or the round-the-world ticket? Because, you know, the cash value of this prize is of a completely different magnitude than the \$100 million we first talked about. There is no piece of paper long enough to write the value of the prize. It's priceless!

What were your answers to how you would feel if you had won the \$100 million? If you interchanged that prize with the

prize (gift) of salvation, would your answers be the same? Do you accept such a mammoth windfall? Are you ultra-excited? Feel a sense of relief and freedom? Are you keen to share with those around you?

Amazingly this prize is available and free to all who read the RECORD (yes, and those who don't too, though they are really missing out on something stunning).

Possibly you've known you have won this prize for a long time, and are still patiently waiting to receive it. As time passes, the end prize for many seems to lose its appeal. You may even begin to doubt your eligibility or think you've misplaced your winning ticket while going about your everyday life.

Though not to be used as our sole focus, don't lose sight of the awesome reward that awaits us. Use it as inspiration every now and then. Remember, the longer and harder your life on earth, the better the final prize will seem when you arrive—greater than anything you can possibly imagine!

Remember, entry is open to anyone who desires the prize and judging* will be based purely on your heart. The prize is limited only to the number of people who apply. Employees and friends of those in God's service may also apply. Entries will close when you least expect it!

**The Judge's decision will be final. Correspondence will be entered into with full explanations given during the first 1000 years.*

Scott Wegener



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

NYM hosts Sonicflood

NEWCASTLE, NEW SOUTH WALES

On March 26, more than 400 people filled the Griffith Duncan Theatre on the Newcastle University campus to see the US worship group Sonicflood live in a concert organised and sponsored by the Newcastle youth ministries (NYM).

Pastor Casey Wolverton, director of NYM and associate pastor of the Wallsend church, says, "It was incredible for Newcastle Youth Ministries to be in charge of this event. It generated a great deal of appreciation from the broader Christian youth ministry community for investing the resources, time and energy into doing this thing that was obviously such a blessing for so many young people. It was exciting to be driving it."

As part of their outreach, NYM also gave away 70 free tickets to Christian youth of a number of denominations so they could find unchurched young people to bring to the concert.

Pastor Wolverton says, "The concert provided an incredible opportunity for NYM to reach out to other Christian youth groups. Bonding took place and there is now a much higher level of trust among

these groups and Adventist youth leaders in Newcastle.

"Youth pastors across denominational lines stepped up and challenged their youth groups to buy tickets for their friends," says Pastor Wolverton.

Performing songs that spanned their

Macateer. This was followed by a 40-minute set from a local group, the Peter Dixon Band. Finally Sonicflood performed for about an hour and 40 minutes, and signed autographs following the concert.

Prior to the concert, local Christian radio station Rhema FM donated more than \$A15000 worth of advertising production and time to promote the concert. The Christian community in the Hunter Valley region also supported NYM in its efforts to bring Sonicflood to Newcastle. Two of the largest non-Adventist youth groups helped with crowd control at the concert.

NYM hopes to bring other Christian artists to the area in the future, and Pastor Wolverton believes that the Sonicflood concert has put Newcastle on the map of future artist tours. They are currently pursuing other artists like Third Day and Mercy Me for similar concerts and outreach opportunities.

"The whole endeavour and investment became an incredible learning experience," says Pastor Wolverton. "We benefited greatly from a number of lessons we learned regarding staging major events like this one in the future." —*Adele Nash*



Members of Sonicflood with hosts Leighton and Jo Darby (third and fourth from left) who ensured the band was well looked after.

career, the night was highlighted by the release of Sonicflood's third album, "This generation."

The concert went without a hitch, and began with a 35-minute set from the Hunter Youth Alive Band. It was followed by a 10-minute gospel presentation from the Hunter Youth Alive director Kirk

◆ A leaders retreat in Lae, Papua New Guinea, recently brought 103 elders, pastors and volunteers from the Morobe Mission together for five days. "The caring church" was the theme presented by Dr Brad Kemp, director of leadership development for the South Pacific Division. "The caring church means reflecting to the world the character of Christ," says Dr Kemp. "Let us relate as servants to the needs of others." —*Kua Nugai*

◆ Avondale College, NSW, has received five-star ratings in several categories of the *Good Universities Guide* for 2005. It received five

stars for qualifications of its staff, the ratio of staff to students, the educational experience rated from graduates and the likelihood of graduates getting a job after completing their studies. "Avondale has consistently scored top ratings for quality of teaching, good generic skills and graduate satisfaction," says college president Dr John Cox. —*Braden Blyde*

◆ Recently Napier church, NNZ, joined in the Napier City annual Art Deco celebrations to commemorate the 1931 earthquake that levelled the city. Members were encouraged to dress up for



Janice Carter

church in Art Deco-style clothing (pictured). A 1930s-style picnic was held afterwards in the park with china teacups and tiered cake serving plates—no plastic containers or wrapping were allowed. —*Janice Carter*

◆ For several years, churches in Bowral, NSW, have participated in The World Day of Prayer and this

year the other churches asked if the service could be held in the Adventist church—and did so on March 4. Glenis Hardy, women's ministries director for the South NSW Conference, presented the service, which was followed by a vegetarian lunch, provided by the ladies of the Bowral church for some 70 people. —*Wallace Bidmead*

◆ The next round of Search video TV advertising will be on WIN Television in Griffith and Wollongong, April 23–May 1; Canberra, April 30–May 8; and Albury/Wodonga, May 21–29.

DAYS AND OFFERINGS: ◆ APRIL 30—TERTIARY STUDENTS DAY ◆ MAY 14—HEALTH OFFERING

New web site launched for Adventist leaders

PORT MORESBY, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

An experimental web site is now officially available to the Adventist community. Designed to help link Adventist leaders, such as pastors, administrators and others, the site <www.sdaleadlink.com> features resources such as quotes, articles and forums where people can meet to share ideas and support.

The forum is live, and visitors can become members by obtaining a password on the web site. More than 50 articles by some of the best leaders in Christian circles

are currently on the web site, and more will be uploaded.

The web site is a new project initiated by Dr Branimir Schubert, senior lecturer in Applied Theology at Pacific Adventist University, Papua New Guinea.

"The purpose of the web site is to provide a way of linking Seventh-day Adventist leaders in order to facilitate leadership development, sharing of ideas and equipping individuals for better service in the context of the Seventh-day Adventist Church," says Dr Schubert.

"This is very much a 'newborn baby' that now needs to be properly nourished

and cared for in order to grow. We hope it will soon reach a degree of desired maturity where individuals will feel this site provides a safe platform for sharing their ideas, frustrations and needs."

Currently, the April edition of the SDA *Lead Link* newsletter is available on the web site. This follows on from the experimental pages first posted in February. Now that the web site is fully functional, Dr Schubert encourages Adventist leaders to visit it, saying, "Let's make this web site alive and as useful to as many Adventist leaders as possible."—*Adele Nash*

More @ www.sdaleadlink.com

Abducted ADRA workers released in Sudan

DAFUR, SUDAN

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency's (ADRA) three workers abducted on December 16, 2004, in Labado on their way from Khartoum to West Darfur, Sudan, have been released and are safely back home with their families.

The three men, all Sudanese nationals, were held in the Darfur region along with the equipment and supplies they were taking to West Darfur to construct water wells to benefit 80,000 internally displaced people and host community members.

Most of the project equipment has also been returned to ADRA's office in Sudan.

"The lengthy detention of our skilled and committed workers has been a detriment to ADRA's assistance programs in an area hard hit by civil unrest and is of concern to the wider international community," says Byron Scheuneman, senior vice-president and chief financial officer, who made a public appeal for the release of the workers. "We're grateful they were returned unharmed, but this ordeal has certainly been arduous."

ADRA is especially thankful for the assistance of the Italian Special Envoy,

Barbara Contini, who spearheaded negotiations to secure the successful release of the three workers.

"We are very happy to be back with our families, and we just want to spend time with them for awhile," says Said Saad Mohmed, one of the abducted workers, expressing the thoughts and feelings of all three. Mohmed has worked with ADRA-Sudan for 16 years and is a valued member of the well-drilling crew.

Despite the challenges of operating in a high-risk environment, ADRA plans to continue its 25 years of humanitarian work in Sudan.—*ADRA International/ANN*



◆ For several hours on a recent Sunday morning, 10 high school students from Kellyville, NSW, church, along with their leader Nick Dixon, volunteered to help out in the "Free health assessment" tent at the recent Castle Hill show. Greeting, computer operating, weighing and measuring heights of community members was carried out by the teen team. Graeme Ferguson, coordinator of

the health tent, was delighted to see the willingness of the young people. "Many positive comments from the community have filtered back to the church," he says. "They're saying it was great to see teens happily involved in the community."—*Robyn Crabtree*

◆ The Easter Sabbath baptisms of Melinda Tonks and her son, Dylan, were a fitting conclusion to Rosny's (Tas) 40 Days of Loving Relationships—designed around *A Love Worth Giving* by Max Lucado, which focuses on the Bible's love chapter, 1 Corinthians 13. Each week's sermon, taken alternately

by Pastor David Edgren and head elder David Walker, introduced a theme, and church members attended midweek small groups to study the theme from the book. Pastor Edgren made a call after the baptism and a newly attending family stood in unison as did a footballer brought to church by his Adventist girlfriend.

◆ A number of Russian immigrants joined Bishopdale church, Christchurch, NZ, some years ago. Their successful methods in growth from inviting non-Christians along to their home group, a separate Russian-speaking Sab-

bath school class became necessary. In 2004 Pastor Ivan Nalchadzhi and family arrived



from Russia and, soon after, a Russian service in the church's seminar room was set up for the 20 or so Russian people who attended. On March 5, a baptismal day had several people, including some brought to church from the home groups, baptized for Christ.—

Peter Burton

Pastoral change on Pitcairn Island

PITCAIRN ISLAND

Pitcairn Island has a new minister, following the return of Pastor Stephen Bews to his native New Zealand. Pastor Bews had served the islands in the Pitcairn Island group after feeling that he was called to be there, and his presence was greatly appreciated.

Pastor Allan Walshe, president of the New Zealand Pacific Union, says, "Stephen, who was there during the recent trial, was greatly appreciated by the islanders, the media teams and representatives from the British Government. As well as being an excellent preacher, singer and passionate worship leader, Stephen was able to also connect with everyone at a friendship level."

Pastor Bews has been replaced on the island by Pastor Michael Browning from Tasmania. Pastor Browning and his wife, Ann, have a wide ministry background, having been a departmental director and pastor in a number of conferences throughout Australia and the islands.

They have been warmly received on Pitcairn and say, "Things are going well here, the people are friendly, generous and warm hearted. We are daily reminded that God wants us here." —*RECORD staff*

"Circle of courage" ride begins

PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

On the morning of April 5, the six cyclists from the "Circle of courage" cycle tour embarked on their ride across Australia from Murray Street Mall in Perth to address issues of at-risk behaviour among young people in small, rural communities.

"They would have to be crazy to attempt something like that," said Joseph Green, who was passing through the mall on his way to work.

The cyclists and their crew gathered in the heart of Perth's central business district at eight in the morning, drawing the attention of a rush-hour crowd. Members of a local cycling group, as well as the students of one of the cyclists were also present to provide the cyclists with a farewell.

Booklets about the "Circle of courage" cycle tour were handed out to the public. Jonathan Duffy, team leader and director of health ministries for the South Pacific Division and organiser of the tour, also spoke about the "Circle of courage" philosophy that will build resilience and self-esteem among young people.



The "Circle of courage" team before they set out on their journey from Perth to Sydney.

The "Circle of courage" focuses on four areas—belonging, mastery, independence and generosity.

At 8.30 am, the cyclists set off from Murray Street Mall toward the Great Eastern Highway to Cunderdin. They were accompanied by three local cyclists to the edge of the city.

The cyclists will finish in Sydney on May 5. They will speak in 21 towns across Australia and will cover an average of 165 kilometres a day. —*Melody Tan*

More @ www.cyclingincircles.org.au

◆ More than 20,000 Pathfinders from throughout South America descended on Santa Helena, Paraná, Brazil, for the **South American Division Camporee** in January, nearly doubling the city's population. One Pathfinder from Belém in the Amazon **cycled 3600 kilometres** to attend the event. The third Pathfinder camporee to be held in South America, and believed to be the largest gathering of Pathfinders outside North America, was broadcast on national and local television stations and made **headlines in local and state newspapers**. The main speakers stage constructed for the meet-

ings was **built to float on an artificial lake**. Each evening a baptism was conducted, building to a finale on the last evening when more than 200 Pathfinders were baptized. —*Leo Ranzolin*

◆ More than 700 participants recently **walked, jogged, ran, cycled or skated** their way around Hyde Park, UK, in this year's ADRA-UK **"13 miles for good"** half-marathon challenge. It is estimated that last year's event raised more than £20,000. —*BUC News*

◆ **Elbasan, Albania**, church plant's celebration of **Hans Christian**



Andersen's 200th anniversary on April 2, received national television news coverage on five stations. More than 70 people attended the celebration, which included a presentation on the life of Andersen, a review of the themes of his literature, and a drama enacting Andersen's *The Princess and the Pea* was performed by children from their community children's program. —*Leigh Rice*

◆ **Correction: Sanctuary Ministries** in the Solomon Islands is **not a recognised outreach arm** of the Seventh-day Adventist Church (as stated in Flashpoint, March 26). **Francis Feratalia** has had his credentials removed by the Trans-Pacific Union Mission and is no longer a recognised Adventist minister. His ministry is **independent and not supporting**. **RECORD** apologises for any confusion this report may have caused.

◆ **Adventists work in 203** of the 228 countries/areas recognised by the United Nations and communicate in more than 717 languages.

Memorial school opens in Bangladesh

DACCA, BANGLADESH

February 9 was a special day for the people of Makhulia in Saver, Bangladesh. In this village, about an hour out of Dacca, people had gathered for the long-awaited opening of the Maisie Fook Memorial School.

A tribute to Maisie, the opening of this school commemorates her hard work in establishing Asian Aid and her dedication to providing an education for the children of developing countries, particularly Bangladesh.

Maisie's husband, Denis Fook, her sister, June Long, and brother-in-law, Norm Long, travelled to Bangladesh for the occasion. They were joined at the opening by Sharon Heise, current CEO of Asian Aid, a number of community leaders and church representatives including Pastor Bonawaree from the East Bangladesh Field Mission, Pastor Isaac Bairagee and Pastor R K Biswas from the Bangladesh Union Mission.

With 65 students already enrolled, the school will not only provide a much needed education to the primary aged children of the village, but offers the church an oppor-



Denis Fook, with Norm Long (left) and Pastor R K Biswas (right), cuts the ribbon to open the Maisie Fook Memorial School.

tunity to interact with and be a witness to the community in this area.

The principal of Dacca Adventist Pre-Seminary, Milton Das, and a number of his colleagues, told of their gratitude for the education they received as a result of Asian Aid sponsorship and the difference this ministry makes to the work of the church.

Before she passed away, Maisie was delighted to see that Asian Aid had grown from very humble beginnings, sponsoring just two children in Korea, into an agency that sponsors more than 7000 children in India, Bangladesh and Nepal. Today, Asian Aid continues to grow and has just begun to work in Sri Lanka.—RECORD staff

ADRA responds to Indonesian earthquake

SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND, USA

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is providing emergency relief to the survivors of the earthquake that rocked Indonesia's Sumatra and Nias Islands on March 28.

ADRA International has pledged an initial \$US10,000 in disaster relief aid to those affected by the earthquake. This will be distributed in the form of non-food items such as tents and medical supplies.

This is in addition to the money and aid already being sent to the region to assist with its recovery following the Boxing Day tsunami, which killed thousands and destroyed homes and livelihoods.

The earthquake struck the western coast of Sumatra Island at 11.09 pm local time and registered 8.7 on the Richter scale.

It is believed that as many as 2000 people have been killed by this earthquake, although official figures will not be known until the clean-up of the areas affected by it has been completed. Many of the survivors have been hospitalised or are being cared for by relatives and are in need of medical equipment.—ADRA International

◆ For the third straight year, the isolated communist nation of **North Korea remains atop** the annual Open Doors International "World watch list" (WWL) of countries where **Christians are persecuted**. Exact figures are difficult to obtain, but it is believed that tens of thousands of Christians are currently suffering in North Korean prison camps. The annual list ranks countries according to the intensity of persecution Christians face for actively pursuing their faith. Five of the top 10 are Islamic-dominated countries, four have communist regimes in power, and one country, Bhutan, is dominated

by Buddhism. Saudi Arabia again held the second spot on the list, followed by Vietnam, Laos and Iran. Other countries listed on the WWL's top 10, from position six to 10, include: Maldives, Somalia, Bhutan, China and Afghanistan. Newcomers to the top 10 are Somalia and Afghanistan. Dropping out of the top 10 are Turkmenistan (12) and Myanmar (17).—Open Doors USA/Assist News Service

◆ Fellowship of Christian Cheerleaders (FCC) was formed nearly 20 years ago—bringing together cheerleaders who have a passion



for Christ and a desire to be servant-leaders. **John Blake**, US national event coordinator for FCC, says there are many cheerleaders who want to honour God with their talents and gifts. "We want to use cheerleading as a way that we can reach out," Blake explains. FCC has chapters and members throughout the US, and reaches out to cheerleading clubs as well as to private and public

schools. "We see the public schools and the all-star squads as our outreach opportunities, our ministry," Blake says. FCC is sponsoring two mission trips this year—one to the Czech Republic and another to Russia.—Allie Martin

More @ www.cheerfcc.org

◆ A couple has been arrested in Ohio, USA, on charges of scamming churches, claiming a desperate need for money. Detectives say the couple pilfered hundreds of thousands of dollars from unsuspecting churches throughout the country.—AgapePress

High school reclaimed for Adventist education in PNG

LAE, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The Bundrahei High School in Manus Province in Papua New Guinea will become an Adventist school again in 2006, with the Manus Provincial Government and the Adventist Church signing an agreement on March 9.

The school was formerly called Loboku and was a mission primary school that was handed over to the government in the late 1970s due to increasing costs associated with running the school and the desire of local parents to have a high school for their children.

In recent years, parents decided that they would like the church to run the school again, and approached the local mission to lobby the provincial government. This was done with the assistance of Charlie Benjamin, the open member of parliament for Manus, the local mission and Stephen Piez, education director for the Papua New Guinea Union Mission.

Mr Piez, who worked with the government and church solicitors before the signing over of the school, says, "It is encouraging to see our education system rebuilding and reclaiming the ground that it has lost in the past. It's also good that parents are keen to see church education return."

The school currently runs with just over 100 students, but there is room for around 300, and it is expected that numbers will rise. Staff and a board of governors will be sourced in the coming months.

To accommodate the anticipated rise in student numbers, some repairs and maintenance will be done, and AusAID has approved renovation work to begin in the middle of the year to prepare for expansion. Plans are also being made for the rededication of the school.

It was also agreed with the government that the school will be renamed Loboku Adventist High School, which reflects its heritage.—*Adele Nash*

Volunteers—and sponsors—help church grow in Solomon Islands



A group of volunteer ministers attending a training seminar in Honiara, Solomon Islands.

HONIARA, SOLOMON ISLANDS

It's a privilege to visit and meet with the church in the Solomon Islands, says Pastor Harold Harker. Pastor Harker is a retired church administrator, who recently visited the three church missions, met with church leaders and assisted in training volunteer ministers in the Solomon Islands.

According to Pastor Harker, the three missions—totalling about 35,000 church members—are feeling huge budgeting strains caused by an economy that is largely subsistence-based, and where the tourist incomes have collapsed due to the uncertainty from the civil unrest in recent years. At the same time, the church is growing rapidly.

"In each of the missions in the Solomon Islands, calls are being received for missionaries in new places—the Shortland Islands, Santa Isabel, Malaita and many other islands," says Pastor Harker. "I saw village chiefs and village councillors make the journey to mission headquarters to plead for their villages."

These are serious challenges. But, says Pastor Harker, many of these requests are being met with volunteers and sponsorship. The highest ratio of volunteers is found in the Malaita Mission, where there are three volunteer ministers for each regular pastor or paid missionary in church employment. All volunteers are approved by the local mission's executive committee and are paid only their basic living expenses. "These unpaid missionaries are often at the front line of opening new villages and they also

care for so many churches," says Pastor Harker.

"I am amazed at the results of these totally committed volunteers," he says. "And those who have a vision of an expanded work support them so regularly and generously. To those churches, Sabbath schools and individuals, I want to assure you that your gifts are being used well."

Pastor Harker's recent visit was in support of the work of Volunteers in Action (VIA), a church-member-funded ministry that connects sponsors in Australia and New Zealand with as many as 600 volunteer ministers in the Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and other nations in the South Pacific.

According to Pastor Harker, "This army of volunteers is responsible for around 3000 baptisms per year," about one-quarter of baptisms in the South Pacific Division each year.

Pastor Harker pays tribute to the vision and foresight of church members Cliff and Val Morgan from Brisbane (Qld), who began VIA 10 years ago after visiting Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands.

"With mission offerings declining in real terms and almost static membership in Australia and New Zealand, mission funding has not been able to keep up with the exploding membership and needs in the Pacific missions," says Pastor Harker. "Volunteers in Action has been able to fill some of this gap."

"The continued growth of the church in the Solomon Islands is the result of the ministers and church members working together."—*Nathan Brown*

The pew-in-front critics

BY GARY KRAUSE

I WAS SITTING IN CHURCH LISTENING TO the sermon, when the woman behind me started whispering loudly to the person next to her. She went on and on. I was so distracted, I could barely resist the temptation to turn and stare.

After awhile, I noticed she wasn't speaking English. *That would be right*, I thought. *Thinks she can get away with it because nobody can understand what she's saying.*

The space in the pew in front of me was vacant, and I considered playing some quick spiritual musical chairs. But she might realise it's because of her, and I don't want to give offence. Self-righteously

There will always be a critic or two sitting in the pew in front of us.

I reminded myself that my entire motivation was spiritual—trying to hear the sermon. Piety almost oozed from my skin.

And then it hit me. The whispering woman was translating the sermon for the person next to her. Naturally, I felt about two centimetres tall.

When we try to reach people for Jesus, there will always be a critic or two sitting in the pew in front of us. Translating the good news to people of different backgrounds and cultures will always mean doing things differently to our norm—changing ways of expression, schedules, rituals, and some of those precious, but ultimately unproductive, “we've always done it this way” things. It doesn't mean changing the truth; it does mean becoming “all things to all men, that I might by all means save some” (1 Corinthians 9:22, NKJV).

After Pentecost, the apostle Peter's life was fired by one mission—to share the love of His precious Saviour with everyone he knew. Nothing could stop him. He preached on city streets, in synagogues and in prison. He healed the sick and raised the dead. Every Spirit-guided day led to some-

thing new, and he was ready to overturn religious habit and ritual whenever necessary.

The classic test came when Peter learned through a vision that God wanted him to reach out to Gentiles. This was unheard of. As a good Jew, Peter wasn't supposed to even visit with a Gentile. But Peter answered God's call and travelled to the house of Cornelius in Caesarea. There he threw out past rules for the sake of the gospel—“God has shown me that I should not call any man impure or unclean. So when I was sent for, I came without raising any objection” (Acts 10:28, 29*). The rest is history. As Peter ministered to the Gentiles in that household, “the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message” and the flood-gates were now open for the good news to go to the entire world (Acts 10:44).

But of course there were righteous people sitting in the pew in front of Peter, and they weren't happy. “The circumcised believers criticised him and said, ‘You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them’” (Acts 11:2).

People will always criticise efforts to translate the good news into terms people can understand. But we can take comfort that there have been critics since the time of the apostles. Of course, we must give Peter's critics credit. After he fully explained what had happened, “they had no further objections and praised God, saying, ‘So then, God has granted even the Gentiles repentance unto life’” (Acts 11:18).

So beautifully understated. The critics cancelled their opposition, and opened the door to a defining moment in the history of the Christian church. What a shame it would have been to have stood in the way back then. What a shame to stand in the way today. **R**

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

Gary Krause is director of the Office of Mission Awareness at the General Conference in Silver Spring, Maryland, USA.

UN meeting urges gender equity

BY TAASHI ROWE

TEN YEARS AFTER MEETING IN Beijing to promote economic, political and social advancement for women worldwide, thousands of women from all around the globe met in New York City, February 28 to March 11, to continue the cause. Among the many women from governments and non-governmental organisations was Heather Dawn Small, acting director of the Women's Ministries Department for the General Conference.

The 49th Session for the United Nations' Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) reviewed progress made since Beijing and encouraged governments to do more to enhance gender equity.

“It was a good opportunity to know what goes on in the outside world,” said Ms Small. “The church can be so isolated. If we are to minister to those women outside the church we need to know and understand their challenges. Surprisingly, many of the issues we are dealing with are the same.”

While the Adventist Church frequently participates in various United Nations programs, Ms Small said this is the first time that the Women's Ministries Department has been a registered CSW participant. As a registered participant, the church could vote on recommendations and resolutions.

“We voted to leave the Beijing recommendations as they were, even though some NGOs had amendments. So many countries have yet to fully implement these recommendations,” Ms Small explained.

“The main thrust of the meeting was about gender equality,” she added. “In many parts of the world women don't have the same access to education or health care as men.”

Ms Small said she focused on conference workshops addressing domestic violence, poverty, HIV/AIDS and human trafficking, issues with which women's ministries is working. **R**

Taashi Rowe writes for Adventist News Network.

Of farmers and builders

BY PETER A MCGOWAN

GEORGE WAS A FARMER. HIS FAMILY had been farmers as far back as anyone could remember. George was a skilful farmer who had become prosperous. People that knew George said it came naturally to him. But while he enjoyed farming, he sometimes wondered what it would be like to do something else, maybe building.

George had two good friends, Alex and Bill, who were also prosperous farmers. They also wondered what it would be like to work at something else.

One day, a series of posters appeared in town advertising a lecture series on how to become a builder. George and his two friends immediately noticed them and they all decided to attend the 27 lectures.

On the first evening they were told some fascinating things and given a Master Builder's Manual written by the Master Builder. At the final lecture, they were asked if they wanted to become builders. This would involve giving up farming and being inducted into a local builder's guild. Each participant had to make a decision.

George and his two friends considered this carefully. His two friends took a short time to decide: Alex chose to become a builder; Bill decided to remain a farmer. However, George was having trouble deciding. He would not earn as much money, and he would need to sell his farm and buy a builder's yard in order to work for others. But, at last, George decided to become a builder.

Soon after, George and Alex were inducted into the local builder's guild by passing under the builder's arch. They were then declared builders. They were encouraged to read the Builder's Manual each day and to ask the Master Builder for advice as often as needed. They were also told that after they started building work, they would discover that the Master Builder had allocated specialised skills to each new builder.

But that evening when George went home, he went home to his farm. The next day, he got up as usual and went into the fields to work the land. Later that day he

went into town to buy some supplies and was met by a stranger. George introduced himself as "George the builder."

"Wonderful," said the stranger. "I need some construction done. Would you be willing to do the work?"

"Well," replied George, "I have only recently become a builder, and have yet to establish myself."

The stranger was understanding and suggested he would be willing for George to use him as his first job. But George still refused the valuable job.

George felt uneasy about this, so he went to the local print shop and ordered some handsome business cards with "George the Builder" printed proudly on them. On his way back to the farm, he managed to give away almost a dozen to various people.

He passed his friend Alex's farm with a large "SOLD" sign out the front. He had seen Alex's new builder's yard in town and had heard that he had also been approached to start several jobs. Feeling uneasy about this situation, George decided to take some drastic steps. He erected a large "George the Builder" sign at the front gate of the farm so no-one would doubt that George was now a builder! He bought some building equipment and planks and scattered them prominently around the farm so visitors might see that George really was a builder, not a farmer.

One day, between harvesting the produce in the eastern paddocks of his farm, George had another truly brilliant idea. He would organise a builders conference and invite visiting speakers and all the local builders. After that, there could be no doubt that George was a builder!

George was soon busy organising the builders conference. He placed advertisements in all the local papers, sent personal invitations to all his friends and even visited them to invite them in person. Everyone greeted the idea with enthusiasm.

The builders conference was a success. The visiting speakers were inspiring, but George had nagging doubts. Few of his builder friends had attended—they said they were too busy with building work.

Then the fateful day arrived: Alex came to see George. "Great to see you Alex!" enthused George. "It is always good to talk with a fellow builder."

"Well," replied Alex, "that is the trouble. Are you really a builder? Do you really want to be a builder?"

George was indignant. "Are you kidding? Here, have one of my business cards. Did you see the impressive sign at the front gate as you came in? Did you hear the reports of the builders conference? Haven't you noticed the building equipment here? I faithfully attend the weekly builders guild meetings and donate generously."

"I am aware of all this, George. But have you built anything yet?"

"No," replied George.

"Do you really want to be a builder? The decision is yours."

"Well, sort of. I think of myself as a half-builder, half-farmer type. It means I am able to speak to both classes of people."

"What nonsense, George! You know what we were told during the 27 lectures. You are either a farmer or a builder—there is no intermediate state. You must one or the other. Anyone who tries to be both, does neither. You have done no building and your farm has suffered badly from your building pretence. Stop fooling around and make a real decision, George."

There was long silence before George answered. "Alex, I'm scared to leave the farming I know so well. What if I don't succeed as a builder?"

"George," replied Alex, "the way you are going, you are going to fail at farming. No builder who has worked for the Master Builder has ever failed. All did good building work and all made enough to live on. And we all have some difficulties and make mistakes—but we have the advice of the Master Builder. Now, George, make a real decision: Will it be building or farming? As for me, I intend to serve the Master Builder." **R**

Peter McGowan writes from Lilydale, Victoria.



Bible-study time

BY ERIKA PUNI

SABBATH SCHOOL IS ESTABLISHED IN local congregations to promote religious education that builds Christian faith and practice. Faith, in this sense, is understood as the knowledge and experience of God that comes from the study of His Word—the Bible.

But as Sabbath school leaders and members we are also interested in the application of biblical principles to our personal lives and as a church living out this life of discipleship in community. It is in this context that Bible study is the primary activity of Sabbath school.

The Bible is the textbook

When we accept the premise that the study of the Bible is the primary focus and activity of Sabbath school, we must seriously consider the following implications for what should happen in our churches.

1. That what we do Sabbath morning is Bible study. This is an opportunity for members and guests to turn the pages of Scripture, and allow God to speak to them in that situation through guided Bible discussion and prayer. The key to a meaningful study is group participation and interaction. The teacher is the facilitator.

2. That small-group leaders must teach from the Bible through the use of a Bible-study outline, and not from the Bible-study guide. The Bible-study guide is only a guide—a course outline—for personal Bible study at home.

3. That those who plan and lead Sabbath school must give most of the time on

Sabbath morning to this part of the program. In fact, everything else—whether it is the congregational singing or the Sabbath school leader's remarks—is secondary to the study of God's Word. And the sooner we get members into their small groups and study of the Bible, the better.

4. That Sabbath school leaders must promote this segment in the program on Sabbath morning as the "Bible study" time, rather than "lesson study." We want our people to focus their study on the Bible.

Why the Bible?

So why is Bible study so important to Sabbath school and the ministry of the church? Paul the apostle makes this observation, "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17, NKJV).

The point is simple: Bible study contributes to faith development. If God's people are to grow spiritually and become strong and responsible members of the church, they will study the Written Word in order to have an encounter and experience with Jesus, the living Lord.

The followers of Christ on the way to Emmaus understood the value of the Scriptures after their personal encounter with Him. And while it is true that they failed to recognise His presence on the way, they certainly did testify to the power of His words when they reflected later—"Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?" (Luke 24:32,

KJV). In fact, they changed direction, and ran back to Jerusalem with the good news that Jesus was alive.

This sudden change of behaviour was a consequence of meeting Jesus personally, and the impact of His words from Scripture on their human hearts. For Sabbath school members, the Bible is the expression of God's will for the world, the church and for the believer. But more importantly, the Bible is the revelation of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and to know Him is to have eternal life now.

How to study the Bible

The study of the Bible can be meaningful, deep and life changing when it is done in context. By context we mean understanding Bible passages in their historical settings.

In the first instance, the Bible is a record of God's dealing with people from the past (both the Old and New Testament), and we should read it as such. It is a history book. In this initial phase of the study process, the student must always try to understand biblical truths from God's perspective by continually asking the question, *What is He saying?*

Another way of doing this is surveying the biblical text objectively from the author's point of view, and asking the question, *How did the writers understand these issues in their time?* We must allow the Bible to speak for itself. Only when we have identified and understood an issue (interpretation) in context, can we then move to

the second phase of the process, which is the personal application of what we have discovered from the passage.

It is in the application part of the study that we allow our human experience, personal journeys and understanding of truth to interact with the Word of God. The emphasis at this point is the present, our experience with God now and the needs of people today. And so in Bible study, the student is continually engaged in listening to the voice of God in the Bible text while at the same time surveying people's human needs and applying the Word to today's context.

Small-group Bible teaching

Teaching the Word of God is a solemn responsibility with eternal consequences. It is a God-given task aimed at transforming lives for Christ. When teaching the Bible, the teacher's ultimate goal is to help members experience Jesus as their personal Saviour and Lord, and hopefully this relationship with Him will translate to a life of service and ministry for God in the church and the local community.

But how can one teach a small-group Bible study? See the table (right) for some observations about the learning process, and suggestions of teaching guidelines and techniques for the Bible teacher to follow this new paradigm of sharing the Word of God.

What can be

I believe that a strong emphasis on Bible study will create for us healthy churches that are mission oriented, committed to serving people in the local community and always reaching out to affirm and encourage fellow believers in their life's journey. As teachers of the Word, it is the way we live and model the Christian life that will make the most impact on our hearers and group members. **R**

This is the first in a series of articles exploring aspects and possibilities of Sabbath school in our church community.

Erika Puni is director of personal ministries and Sabbath school for the South Pacific Division, based in Wahroonga, New South Wales.

A paradigm shift in learning



The learning process:

1. Establish clear learning objectives for the Bible study;
2. Focus on the members' learning experience;
3. Concentrate on the basics of the gospel in the passage;
4. Emphasise comprehension of truth over memorisation of details;
5. Help individuals to think and discover truths for themselves;
6. Use active learning that revolves around a personal experience;
7. Use interactive learning where members learn by working in groups.

Guidelines for teachers:

1. Create a safe learning environment for every person in the group;
2. Start with the learner's context;
3. Begin the study from what people know, and lead to the unknown;
4. Lead and give direction to the discussions;
5. Use humour appropriately;
6. Be willing to listen to other people's points of view;
7. Demonstrate an interest to do further study where necessary;
8. Present Bible truths in a clear and positive manner;
9. Always emphasise the gospel and God's saving grace;
10. Utilise varying teaching methods and approaches

Teaching techniques

1. Teach from the Bible and use the study outline as a help only;
2. Use object lessons to capture interest and attention;
3. Utilise the five human senses;



The Small Group Challenge is a Bible-study outline for teachers to use on Sabbath morning. This teaching tool is located at the end of each week's study in both the standard and teacher's edition of the Adult Bible Study Guide. This page can also be downloaded from the Australian Union Conference's Sabbath school web site at <www.aucsda.com.au>.

4. Invite observations of a picture, painting or scenery;
5. Encourage members to read from the Bible;
6. Show the group how to mark their Bible;
7. Give opportunity for people to write something on paper or a card;
8. Use local stories, cultural sayings and parables for illustrations;
9. Ask different kinds of questions—reflection, interpretation, application;
10. Allow sharing and praying in smaller groups;
11. Use insightful quotations and statements, including Ellen White;
12. Share personal testimonies of participants.

My favourite book

BY JONATHAN WESLAKE

LATE LAST YEAR, MUSICIAN-CROSS-POLITICIAN PETER GARRETT was briefly interviewed on the TV program *My Favourite Book* regarding the Bible. The program presented a survey finding “the one book Australians think everyone should read before they die.” It placed the Bible between *The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy* and *Pride and Prejudice*. Garrett answered, “The Bible is a good book of good moral teachings.”

But Christianity is different from other religions. Christianity is not based on moral teachings. Moral teachings are a side issue to the Bible’s main concern of exposing humanity’s need for God.

Describing the Bible as a book of good moral teachings infers it is a list of “tips for life,” or a book a person could flip through and learn how to become a better person. Rather, the Bible’s main concern is that I should become a changed person.

Becoming a better person will not win entrance into heaven. The Bible teaches entrance into heaven requires perfect morality. Once we make a mistake, we’re out. We are born immoral and it is impossible to fix ourselves. Our best is not perfect. Entrance into heaven requires perfection; none of us is perfect.

The Ten Commandments were handed to Moses for many reasons, two of which are moral guidelines and proof of humanity’s immoral nature. They are moral guidelines in that they teach us to love God and love each other. They are proof of our immoral nature in that we cannot keep them perfectly. Paul explains, “The law was added so that the trespass might increase” (Romans 5:20, NIV). In other words, the Ten Commandments highlight how sinful we are, how we deserve death and how we need Jesus.

Take the seventh commandment—“You shall not commit adultery” (Exodus 20:14, NIV). Jesus expanded it: “Anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart” (Matthew 5:28, NIV). In Jesus’ teaching, the commandment is more difficult, perhaps impossible, to keep. Thankfully, God looks to Jesus, “the door” (see John 10:9). Though we cannot be perfect, Jesus lived and died for us.


People who believe the Bible is a list of rules for moral conduct try to keep them, fail and feel unworthy. This causes people to reject God. Those who see God as a condemning, nitpicking tyrant will always rebel against Him. But what soothing news: because of Jesus’ death, though we are imperfect, we can live.

The Bible is more than a book of good moral teachings; it is the story of humanity—how we’ve failed, and how God in His mercy sent His Son to rescue us. Eternal life can now be ours not by our own efforts but through Jesus. What peace: our God is for us! What joy: He died for us! What wonderful, beautiful empowering news: “If you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved” (Romans 10:9, NIV). Awesome! **R**

Jonathan Weslake is currently studying at Newcastle University, New South Wales.

Record Roo's

Kids corner



Hi kids,
Have you ever been tempted to do something that you shouldn't? Well today we are looking at the story of the first temptation on earth. Have a read in Genesis 3

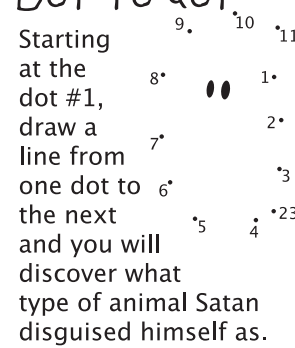
RR

Fill in the Blanks

Now the _____ was more cunning than any beast of the _____ which the LORD _____ had made. And he said to the _____, “Has God indeed said ‘You shall not eat of every _____ of the garden?’”
Genesis 3:1 NKJV

Dot to dot


Starting at the dot #1, draw a line from one dot to the next and you will discover what type of animal Satan disguised himself as.



Find-a-Word

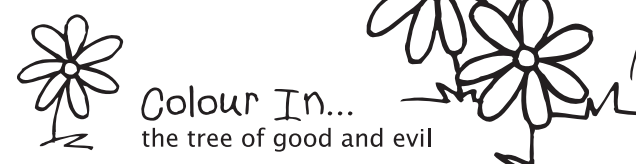
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SERPENT, KNOWLEDGE, LIE, TREE, NAKED, GOOD, EVIL, EAT, FRUIT, HIDING, PAIN, DECEIVED, CURSED, SORROW, DEATH



Colour In...

the tree of good and evil



Encouraging!

BERNICE PANNEKOEK, NSW

The editorial "An open letter to a concerned caller" (March 19) was so encouraging. May we all join together (as you invited) to make our church a better representation of God's love to this world.

Understanding

BARBARA WOOD, NSW

It was good to read an understanding point of view from a male (Letters, March 26) on the topic of abortion. I'm sure most people would agree that, with the exception of a medical doctor and the father of the unborn child (depending upon the circumstances), no-one else should make the decision other than the woman involved. It is the duty of neither church nor government to legislate on such a delicate and personal issue.

Most adults are aware of and have access to contraception, but we must take into account and be understanding of the intensity of emotion involved whatever the circumstance of an unwanted pregnancy. We must never treat the matter lightly, but, sadly, many choose abortion out of convenience, which trivialises both life and relationships.

We cannot generally condone abortion, but we must do all we can as Christian parents to protect our children, teaching them Christian values from an early age, helping

just a coincidence

them to feel valued and loved—by us and God. We must encourage them to discuss any topic openly, so that they are equipped to make wise decisions throughout their lives.

A finer point

IAN RANKIN, NZ

I wish to express my appreciation to those who responded to my letter, "Christian protest" (February 5), and my support for the points they made. However, I need to clarify the particular issue that was of concern to me.

Our freedom to worship on the day of our choice depends upon our defending the right of others to be different.

The legislation that the Christian group mentioned was protesting didn't impose anything on anyone. Rather, it sought to remove an imposition. Our freedom to worship on the day of our choice depends upon our defending the right of others to be different.

One letter mentioned Mother Teresa, Martin Luther King, Jr, and William Wilberforce. Mother Teresa provided care for the sick and dying abandoned by society. The others were Christians who worked to free people from laws that deprived them of their human rights.

In Daniel, we're given the example of what it is to be a follower of God in the

time of judgment: he didn't condemn others, but his integrity and faithfulness to the commandments of God made him a valued member of society and confounded and condemned his accusers.

The Bible condemns the practice of homosexuality, pride, greed and selfishness as incompatible with a profession of Christianity. It also condemns the practice of judging others, because that is putting ourselves in the place of God.

Our concern should be that the witness of our integrity, with the offer of our love and fellowship, will draw others to Jesus and redemption.

Needs unmet

MARGARET DAVIS, PNG

Reflecting on the letters regarding how we treat the poor (March 19, 26), it seems that the consolidation of church departments comes at a price. Unfortunately, the Community Services Department has been one loss! Maybe if community service work were given more than lip service at every level of church administration, members would become enthusiastic about it.

Clothing used to be packed by church members and sent to needy countries. When this work ceased, the needs in those countries still existed. Many people donate clothing, household items and books, but the funds to freight them isn't so readily offered and the church is not forthcoming.

While ADRA does great work in disaster areas, with development works and medicine, there are limitations on the use of ADRA funds. Welfare falls outside their mandate, and no-one donates funds for freighting books to desperate schools.

What can be done to help in such ways?

Note: Views in Letters do not necessarily represent those of the editors or the denomination. Letters should be less than 250 words, and writers must include their name, address and phone number. All letters are edited to meet space and literary requirements, but the author's original meaning will not be changed. Not all letters received are published. See masthead (page 2) for contact details.



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Weddings

Judd—Timms. Pastor David Alfred Judd (Cooanbong, NSW) and Una May Timms (Palmerston North, NZ) were married on 3.4.05 at Berry Park, near Maitland, NSW.

Claude Judd

Rae—Robinson. Bradley Malcolm Rae, son of Malcolm and Elenora Rae (Newcastle, NSW), and Christie Lee Robinson, daughter of Brian and Beverly Robinson (Southgate, London, England), were married on 3.4.05 at The Chapel, Hunter Valley Gardens, Pokolbin, NSW.

Graeme Loftus

Obituaries

Burns, Pastor Linwood Reginald, born 28.2.1926 at Dunolly, Vic; died 25.3.05 at Nazareth House, Ballarat. On 1.6.50 he married June Currow. He is survived by his wife (Ballarat); and his daughters, Ann (Melbourne), Juelynn (Sydney, NSW) and Kamala (Ballarat, Vic); their spouses; his seven grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Many will acknowledge their introduction to Jesus to this faithful man of God. Pastor Burns's service included evangelistic and pastoral work in India; also served as dean of men and teacher at Spicer College, Poona, India, for a number of years, and started two schools in India. He also served as dean of men at Avondale College, and later worked in the Victorian Conference, retiring in 1999. Ballarat church was packed

to celebrate the life of a wonderful worker for God. A letter from his past students in India was read at the funeral service. Many of Pastor Burns's past church members also paid tribute with their presence.

David Down
Mike Francis, Frank Smart

Davis, Joy Merle (nee Robinson), born 23.4.1919 at Hawthorn, Vic; died 10.3.05 in Maroondah Hospital (Ringwood East). On 26.10.41 she married Alan, who predeceased her. She was also predeceased by her son, Lynton, on 13.8.43. She is survived by her daughter, Nola Shortis (Middle Dural, NSW); her sons, Robin (Launching Place, Vic), Tim (Oakleigh South), Mark (Patterson Lakes) and Craig (Chirnside Park). Joy was a truly joyous Christian and made a great contribution to the music of Warburton church and community over many years.

Eric Kingdon
Gordon Box, Joy Kingdon

Donald, Lillian, born 4.8.1914 at Ashfield, NSW; died 3.3.05 at Northaven Nursing Home, Turrumurra. In 1940 she married Shaw. She is survived by her children, Kay (Hervey Bay, Qld), Gavin (Pennant Hills, NSW) and Ross (McMahons Point); her grandsons, Brett and Mark; and her great-grandson, Jesse. Lillian was a skilled teacher, organist, Scrabble player and poet. After retirement she served as a volunteer teacher in the Solomon Islands, Brisbane, Kempsey and Nepal. Her deeply spiritual contribution to our lives will be missed.

Calvyn Townend
Cliff Maberly, Bob Bolt

Fleming, Eric Stafford, born 3.12.1916 at Auburn, NSW; died 28.3.05 in Sydney Adventist Hospital, Wahroonga. He is survived by his wife, Maysie (nee Dawson); his daughters, Janice Foley, Patricia, Lynette, Margaret Ginger; his brother, Kevin; his sister, Gwendoline Hewson; and his three grandchildren, Glendyn Foley, Andrew and Emily Ginger. During World War II he served as an engineer in Papua New Guinea. He was a devoted follower of Jesus and radiated a warmth that endeared him to all who knew him. He was a respected member of the Auburn, then Thornleigh, and finally Parramatta church.

Rein Muhlberg

Judd, Margaret (nee Raphael), born 29.4.1952; died 3.12.04. She is survived by her husband, Geoff; her sons, Luke and Jourdan (all of Sydney). Marg was a beautiful, flamboyant, highly creative person, much loved by her husband, sons, other family and friends. To the large crowd at her memorial service, her husband, Geoff, read a poem including the lines, "In my dreams I'll see you dance across the sky."

Grenville Kent, Claude Judd

Lipski, Pastor Jerzy, born 19.8.1910 in Warsaw, Poland; died 8.12.04 in Royal Adelaide Hospital, Adelaide, SA, aged 94. He is survived by his wife, Lila; his daughter

Positions vacant

▲ **Manager, Adventist Alpine Village—the South Pacific Division** is seeking to appoint a qualified and experienced Manager for the Adventist Alpine Village (AAV), in Jindabyne, NSW. This new position will involve being responsible for the day-to-day management of the village, care for the guests, and ensure the smooth delivery of services. For further information please visit the Positions Vacant of the SPD web site at <adventist.org.au/employment>. Applications in writing (including résumé and three work-related referees and contact details of your church pastor) to Colin Clark, Director of Human Resources, South Pacific Division, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga NSW 2076; email <hr@adventist.org.au>; fax (02) 9489 0943. Applications close May 4, 2005.

▲ **Teacher—Macquarie College (Wallsend, NSW)** is seeking a dynamic, innovative and dedicated Christian teacher for a long-service block and a maternity leave position from May 2005 to December 2006 in PDHPE. Applications in writing (including résumé) should be forwarded to the Principal, PO Box 517, Wallsend, NSW 2287; phone (02) 4954 6222, no later than April 26, 2005.

▲ **PR Officer, Product Brands—Sanitarium (Berkeley Vale, NSW)** is seeking a person experienced in PR within the FMCG industry, development of media relations contact. The successful applicant will possess ability to develop, present, implement and measure effective and creative public relations campaigns. Responsibilities include PR/Public activity on product brands, media relations, monitoring consumer and trade media, establishing systems and protocols for coordination of activity and reporting. Applications in writing (including résumé) should be forwarded to Group Human Resources, Sanitarium, Locked Bag 7, Central Coast Mail Centre NSW 2252; fax (02) 4348 7610; or email <HumanResources@sanitarium.com.au>, by April 29, 2005.

▲ **Relief Boarding House Parents—Carmel College (Carmel, WA)** is seeking Relief Boarding House Parents to work weekends. Married couple preferred, but all applicants considered. Duties include supervising students and taking them to activities. F-class bus licence and police clearance required. For further information please phone (08) 9293 5244; 0427 427 908; or email <nmatheson@adventist-ed.wa.edu.au>.

▲ **Marketing/Accounting Assistant, ACAST and ACA Health Benefits Fund—the South Pacific Division (Wahroonga, NSW)** is seeking an experienced and committed person to serve as Marketing/Accounting Assistant to ACAST Superannuation Fund and ACA Health Benefits Fund. For further information please visit the Positions Vacant section of the SPD web site at <www.adventist.org.au/employment>. Applications in writing (including résumé, three work-related referees and the contact details of your church pastor) to Human Resources, South Pacific Division, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga NSW 2076; email <hr@adventist.org.au>; fax (02) 9489 0943; no later than May 5, 2005.

Volunteers!

Japan needs you! Missionary volunteer teachers who have a genuine love for Jesus, dedication for His work and a love for souls. Teaching conversational English and Bible. Reaching out to students through friendship evangelism, vesper programs, summer camps and so much more. We have 10 schools and one college situated in various locations throughout Japan. Join the team for a life-changing experience! Term: 12 months minimum, commencing August 2005. Contact <els@sda.or.jp>

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ter and son-in-law, Irena and Andrzej Napora; his grandchildren and their spouses, Sophie and Andrew Winnicki, and Lili and Byron Clark. Pastor Lipski was the founder of the Polish SDA church in College Park, Adelaide, where he served for 14 years. During that time he helped 250 people to migrate to Australia from Poland. Dearly loved by his family and church community, he will be sadly missed, but awaits a glorious resurrection.

Dariusz Kuberek

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Finally

For some people religion is like an artificial limb. It has neither warmth nor life; and although it helps them to stumble along, it never becomes part of them. It must be strapped on each day.