

# RECORD

May 28, 2005

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How much do we love?



(Left to right) Martin Vukmanic (Greater Sydney Conference), Nicku Dumbrava (South New South Wales Conference) and Brad Flynn (Western Australian Conference) during small-group discussions.



## “Circle of courage” complete

## Church planting grows

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

The South Pacific Division (SPD) Church Planting Conference had a large turnout at the Fox Valley Community Centre in Wahroonga from May 3 to 5, with representatives from nine conferences from Australia and New Zealand participating.

The Church Planting Conference was organised by the Church Planting Centre of the SPD and ran together with church resource ministries. Wayne Krause, director of the Church Planting Centre, initiated the conference to “promote church planting in Australia and New Zealand, as church planting is another evangelistic tool that the church wants to give priority to.”

Participants of the conference explored strategies for planting and building sustainable Seventh-day Adventist churches.

“The conference has enabled us to build a team that will fuel movement and instigate change,” says Pastor Glenn Townend, president of the Western Australian Conference. “We have been provided resources, tools and a passion to go ahead and plant churches in Western Australia. We are extremely excited and are already thinking up ideas to help the different groups in Western Australia with church-planting plans.”

More church-planting conferences are planned for later in the year.—*Melody Tan*



ADRA is committed to “preaching” that first sermon Jesus preached.

# With rolled-up sleeves . . .

**R**ECOGNISING THE IMPORTANCE OF first impressions, Jesus must have thought carefully about the topic of His first public sermon. He had just returned to Galilee following 40 days of temptation in the desert and travelled to His home town, Nazareth. On Sabbath morning, He went to the synagogue, and read from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah: “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour” (Luke 4:18, 19, NIV).

After rolling up the scroll, Jesus outlined His intention to roll up his sleeves to make a positive difference in people’s lives. He had no interest in being on the speaking circuit only to proclaim a message. Jesus was more interested in modelling a lifestyle of service.

Luke goes on to describe the early months of Jesus’ ministry of service—a healing ministry that connected with the broader needs of people. This was the platform for His public ministry.

When Jesus said He was anointed to “preach good news to the poor,” He was describing His commitment to ensuring people would have the resources they needed to live. To the person with inadequate shelter, insufficient food or a lack of clothing, good news is the provision of these essentials.

If a definition of *poor* were to include a

lack of friends, education or other opportunities, then good news takes on new meaning. This broader definition of *poor* provides new opportunities for service and ministry.

An application of this verse is the small-enterprise development programs facilitated in communities by the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). These initiatives assist people to generate income through setting up small businesses, enabling people to take responsibility for their wellbeing, no longer reliant on welfare programs.

Whatever the definition of *poor*, Jesus’ promise is to fulfil Scripture by rolling up His sleeves. These were not empty words, but the commitment of the Son of God to make a difference; to be good news, not just deliver a nice sermon.

But Jesus went further. It wasn’t just about the poor. He included prisoners, the disabled and the oppressed on the list of those who would qualify for His compassion.

In His commitment to “freedom for prisoners,” Jesus expresses a concern for our social wellbeing. Whether trapped by an addiction, a dysfunctional relationship or a lack of opportunity, Jesus presents Himself as the one who will set us free and invites every Christian to join Him in this ministry.

The promise of “sight for the blind” reflects Jesus’ commitment to our physical wellbeing. Jesus’ promise to bring “release for the oppressed” implies His commitment to our spiritual wellbeing, finding release

through Him.

In February, I had the privilege of visiting Papua New Guinea. The ADRA team has been anointed by God to bless communities through their practical ministry. Programs such as HIV/AIDS education, literacy, water provision and small-enterprise development bring practical benefits to communities, also sharing something of the compassion and love of God. I was excited to be able to visit villages in which this was happening.

In Papua New Guinea, ADRA’s support to communities is short-term and is an empowering, enabling relationship. Jesus’ ministry is the model for this approach. He moved from community to community briefly touching lives and communities, providing education and mentoring so the impact of His time with them would be long-term.

ADRA is committed to “preaching” that first sermon Jesus preached. When He said to preach good news to the poor, he defined preaching as being our practical response to the poor. It was a sermon best “preached” in the community, not in the synagogue or the church.

So, how about rolling up your sleeves, getting into your community, and doing something to make a difference!

**David Jack**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Adventist Development and Relief Agency-Australia



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**know**  
*experience*  
and **share**  
our hope in Jesus Christ!

# “Circle of courage” complete

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

The cyclists from the “Circle of courage” cycle tour finished their 31-day ride across Australia to address issues of at-risk behaviour among young people in small, rural communities on the afternoon of May 5.

The six cyclists were welcomed by City of Sydney Councillor Marcelle Hoff, together with representatives from the sponsors of the tour and friends and family, at the steps of the Sydney Town Hall.



Jonathan Duffy on the steps of the Sydney Town Hall at the end of the “Circle of courage” tour.

“I am relieved, and yet I do feel somewhat disappointed that the cycle tour is now over,” says Jonathan Duffy, team leader and director of health ministries for the South Pacific Division, organiser of the tour. “However, I am very satisfied that we have been able to get the message of the ‘Circle of courage’ out to the rural communities of Australia.”

The “Circle of courage” focuses on four areas—belonging, mastery, independence and generosity. The cyclists started their tour from the Murray Street Mall in Perth on April 5, and have spoken in 21 towns across Australia.

“We have had very cynical social and youth workers turn up for the town meetings, but I have not heard one negative thing from them about the philosophy,” says Mr Duffy.

“At least six towns are now planning projects, and some are already in contact with the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) for seeding money. I think the tour has been a success and we have had a significant impact in the towns.”

Asked if he would do it again, Mr Duffy says, “There is so much more of Australia that still needs to be touched with the ‘Circle of courage’ philosophy. So yes, I will do it again, but certainly not for the span of five weeks for 4456 kilometres, and proba-



The “Circle of courage” riders cycling through Sydney on the final leg of their tour from Perth to Sydney.

bly not by cycling either!”

The tour was sponsored by a number of businesses and Adventist institutions, including Avondale College, Sydney Adventist Hospital and *Signs of the Times*.

RECORD editor Nathan Brown says, “The ‘Circle of courage’ project has been a good example of various church entities and departments working together to make a real impact in the wider community.”—Melody Tan

More @ [www.cyclingincircles.org.au](http://www.cyclingincircles.org.au)

◆ The **men of the church** prepared and served a **Mother’s Day breakfast** for all the women at Stanthorpe church, Qld, on May 7. Much thought had gone into the morning, with a beautifully decorated hall, printed menus, delicious food, **live music and small gifts**. The women appreciated the attention and are hoping this will be an annual event.—Mary Fedorow



◆ Wahroonga church, NSW, has a public noticeboard that regularly **advertises the Sabbath sermon** topic to the public. Advertising for Pastor **Lloyd Grolimund’s** Sabbath sermon topic on the **Asian tsunami tragedy brought eight couples** from the community. Among other topics, he has preached on the *Da Vinci Code* and the Harry Potter books—each occasion drawing people in from the community.—FYI

◆ The STORM Co team from Castle Hill church, NSW, **donated 83 bicycle helmets to children** at a Tingha Police Bicycle Safety Day.

Some 80 local children, from the town’s 850 population, attended. “I’m pleased with the turnout,” Tingha Police Constable **Jay Tuckwell** says. “It’s such a huge problem here. **The kids just ride like mad.**” The STORM Co team were responsible for organising a **community road safety grant** of \$A1400 from the Adventist Development and Relief Agency for the purchase of the helmets. STORM Co leader **Gemma Halliday** said the team of 14 were in Tingha for nine days and ran activities for more than 100 children a day. “We were run off our feet,” she says. “But we like it.”—Matthew Mulligan



◆ The **Moora church, WA**, held its **40th anniversary** celebration on May 7. Some 100 people attended, including previous pastors and members, members of other denominations and local community members. Pastor **Eddie Hastie** presented a sermon entitled “Leading us home,” and after a lunch together the attendees heard about the beginnings of the church and highlights in the church’s life.—Heather Chapman

# Rocfish helps reach children at Avondale Memorial

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

May 7 was the Christian “big day out” for children in Cooranbong and the surrounding area at Avondale Memorial church. Children were invited in the morning to the quarterly Kid’s Reach Rally followed by “The Prodigal Tale” Rocfish concert in the evening.

Pastor Daron Pratt, associate pastor at Avondale Memorial, says, “Memorial has always had a strong emphasis on reaching our children and involving them in ministry and service. We have run the Kid’s Reach Rally for five years now. We now realise that evangelism to children is not just one event but a consistent process over many years.

“What we are noticing now is that the teens who were children five years ago are now helping run the programs. Our Sabbath schools are growing to the point that building expansion is now necessary because we cannot fit all of the children into their Sabbath schools. Commitment to Christ and the church is a natural part of growing up in Memorial church.”

This year, the personal ministries team, supported by the Avondale Memorial church board, took the bold initiative of using their evangelistic dollars to particularly reach unchurched children and their parents in innovative ways.

Pastor Pratt and Rocfish visited Cooranbong, Morrisset, Dora Creek and Bonnells Bay State Schools on the Thursday before the Saturday events. The comment from the schools was that they were overwhelmed that the church was prepared to put something back into the local schools.

“Many of the local schools now have high Adventist enrolments and so we are not just reaching the unchurched children but our own as well,” says Pastor Pratt.

The Kid’s Reach Rally presented the theme “Gotta do it” and encouraged the children to adopt healthy lifestyle choices and to put their trust in God. This was presented through the story of Daniel and his three friends. Rocfish then presented “The prodigal tale,” which is based on the story of the prodigal son.

Pastor Pratt estimated that between 60 and 100 unchurched children attended,



Roxi, the Rocfish mascot, and some fans.

and when the call was made for the children to commit their lives to Jesus, many prayed a prayer of confession and faith in Jesus for the first time.

“Nothing is more exciting than witnessing children making an intentional decision for Christ for the very first time,” says Pastor Pratt. “Several want to attend our church programs and others requested Bible studies.

“Statistics clearly prove that most people make their decision for Christ before the age of 14. After that age, the likelihood of them ever doing so is slim. Children are also the best evangelists and have a great influence on their parents. It makes sense therefore to put our resources into the area that provides the greatest potential and results.”—Adele Nash

◆ North New South Wales Conference recently had **six schools combine** for a spiritual emphasis camp. More than 120 students and 50 teachers and parents from Kempsey, Macksville, Mullumbimby, Port Macquarie, Taree and Toronto Adventist schools attended the **four-day camp**. “Zealos,” a band made up of high school students from Central Coast Adventist School, provided music, and Dr **John Hammond**, Australian Union Conference education system director, spoke in stories on how much Jesus loves each of us. Along with a variety of activities taking place throughout the camp, the

final day fell on April 1. The kitchen team picked up on this and served, **blue and green milk**, hid all the spoons and set the tables on the floor.—*Northpoint*

◆ **Eunice Hancock** (pictured, left) of Murwillumbah church, NSW, recently won the state-wide **Seniors Award** for volunteer service to the community. She received an all-expense-paid trip to Sydney to attend the NSW Premier’s Awards ceremony. She was recognised for her volunteer and community service work with the local **ADRA op-shop**, coordinating a regular food and friendship



kitchen and other projects. Elsewhere, the ADRA contact for Albany church, WA, **Jill Williamson** (right), received the **“Albany citizen of the year”** award on Australia Day for her cheerful work in the church and community.—*Kel-lie Hancock/NewsWest*

◆ Greater Sydney Conference Adventurer club members had to pay an **entry fee of a can of food**

to attend a fun day. The cans were donated to ADRA and each club attending was also **given two collection cans to raise funds** for the Asian Aid—organised “Sri Lankan children’s library books project.” As well as marching around the oval in their uniforms, many games were played at the event including tunnel ball, rat and rabbit, **thong throw** and poison



IS YOUR CHURCH DOING SOMETHING INNOVATIVE? EMAIL US — [RECORD@SIGNSPUBLISHING.COM.AU](mailto:RECORD@SIGNSPUBLISHING.COM.AU)

## Wangaratta church dedicated

WANGARATTA, VICTORIA

With an approximate attendance of 150, the Wangaratta church was dedicated to the glory of God on April 23 by Pastor Chester Stanley, Australian Union Conference president, and opened by the Mayor of Wangaratta, Roberto Paino.

"With a new and renovated kitchen, hall, library and resource centre, worship and Sabbath school facilities, we are better equipped to foster a nurturing environment to church members, particularly the children and youth—as well as ministering to friends and visitors," says Robert Stankovic, the church's lay pastor.

"It's my vision that the church will continue to be a safe and caring place for all who enter its doors."—*Adele Nash*



Mayor Roberto Paino cuts the ribbon to open the church with Pastor Chester Stanley (left) and Robert Stankovic (right).

## Adventist church hosts free health checks in PNG

PORT MORESBY, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The Korobosea Adventist church recently conducted free health checks for people in their community, which was aimed at encouraging people to adopt more healthy lifestyles.

A group of medical professionals, including a paediatrician, gynaecologist, audiologist, GP and midwives who attend the church, gave up time to provide the health checks to more than 330 people. Ranging in age from two to well over 60, people from all around the area were keen to attend.

"We were overwhelmed by the number of people who came, and we are doing referrals for those who will need to go to hospital to have more serious cases looked at," says Dr Malon Paiva, who works at a local private hospital and was head of the team.

"One of our main focuses is to witness to the people through health messages we share with the individuals who attend," he adds.

The church had been conducting the examinations for their own members four times a year since 2002, but decided they



One of the many people who came for a health check at the Korobosea church hall.

needed to open their doors to the public, as it would be a good way to have a positive impact on the area.

People could have their blood pressure, sugar levels, heart and lungs checked by the medical staff. One of the things the examinations revealed was that most of the adults living in urban areas of the region were overweight, something that many of them had not been aware of.

"This problem can be attributed to the type of food these people eat daily and their lifestyle," says Dr Paiva.

He urged those who came to adopt the right kind of diet and exercise regularly to keep themselves healthy and live longer. —*Martina Darius/Adele Nash*

Google  
News BETA

◆ **Adventist News Network (ANN)** is now part of the Google news feed. Anyone searching for news articles on Google News can find ANN headlines mixed in with all the other news feeds. "This opens a **tremendous potential** for our news service, church public awareness," says **Ray Dabrowski**, director of communication for the General Conference.—*ANN*

*More @ news.google.com*

◆ The president of the Slovenian Conference, Pastor **Zmagod Godi-**

**na**, was invited by the **national radio station** to present the Seventh-day Adventist Church and its beliefs and practices in an evening program. For an hour-and-a-half Pastor Godina answered questions about beliefs, the history of the church and the **lifestyle of our members**. In his talk he also emphasised the work of Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), the Bible correspondence school, publishing work and health promotion in the Adventist Church. It is the first time the Adventist Church was presented in a full program on the national radio.—*Zvonko Virtic/ANR*

◆ After a period of heavy snowfall in Penticton, British Columbia, Canada, the students of the Penticton Adventist Christian School on three separate occasions **cheerfully shovelled snow** to lend a helping hand around the community. **Ryan Kennedy** (Year 9) says, "It was worth the hard work to see the smiles on people's faces afterwards."—*Messenger*



◆ The Auburn church, Maine, USA, children's departments were **rid-dled with disciplinary problems**, dwindling attendance, and discouraged leaders. Remembering the enthusiasm found at **Vacation Bible School (VBS)** programs run, they decided to try the VBS format for their children's Sabbath school. All the children meet together for a praise time, then, 20 minutes later, everyone proceeds to **another room** where a new leader has the mission and craft. Another 20 minutes later everyone goes to a third room where the Bible lesson is presented as a skit. Attendance has doubled.—*Sue LeBlond*

# Car crash leads to pastor's ordination in WA

PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

He's passionate about soccer—currently he coaches a team and writes a regular column on soccer for a newspaper—and a car accident led him to a life of ministry.

"I felt a call on my life for many years, but after hitting a mountainside of granite in a car accident, I took that as a wake-up call," says Pastor Jim Fitzsimmons.

An Avondale graduate (2000), Pastor Fitzsimmons has been the minister of Kalgoolie church, WA, for the past four-and-a-half years.

He has three children—Joel, 28, a businessman; Michael, 26, a salesman; and David, 24, an Avondale theology graduate, currently teaching in Korea.

"The most beautiful picture of Jesus for me is not the picture of Jesus in Gethsemane; it's not the picture of Jesus on the cross and it's not the picture of the risen Jesus," he says.

"It's when they put the crown of thorns on Jesus' head and the purple robe over His beaten frame. What was meant to mock Him, was really His glorious coronation



Pastor Ken Vogel (left) prays for Pastor Jim Fitzsimmons and his wife, Annette (right), and their ministry.

before the entire universe. I know as long as I keep that picture of Jesus in my heart, I can do nothing but love him, and be driven by that love.

"What I enjoy most about ministry is building up believers in the faith and leading prospective believers to Christ."

Pastor Fitzsimmons was ordained to the ministry at the Western Australian camp-meeting in March with Pastor Glenn Townend, WA Conference president, and Pastor Ken Vogel, Australian Union Conference general secretary, officiating. —Scott Wegener/NewsWest

# Sri Lankan President, Prime Minister attend ADRA ceremony

HAMBANTOTA DISTRICT, SRI LANKA

The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Mahinda Rajapaksha, and Her Excellency President Chandrika Kumratunga Badaraneyaka attended the opening ceremony for a building project in Sri Lanka on March 15, for which the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is providing water.

Water will go to 200 permanent houses that will be built on 78 acres of land provided by the Sri Lankan government. The development will be located in the Tangalle division of the Hambantota District of Sri Lanka, one of the areas hit hardest by last December's tsunami. Each house will be made with environmentally friendly heat-resistant bricks, and will accommodate two bedrooms, a kitchen, dining room, veranda and an outside connecting bathroom.

Conrad Vine, acting country director of ADRA—Sri Lanka, and Julio Paula, ADRA project director for the Hambantota District, represented ADRA at the ceremony. —ADRA International



◆ What would Jesus smell like? American couple **Bob and Karen Tosterud**, were inspired by Psalm 45 to create a **scented candle** representing **what Jesus smells** like. Karen sourced the fragrances on the Internet and had a friend manufacture the "His essence," 80-hour-burning candle—**Ananova**  
More @ [www.hisessence.com](http://www.hisessence.com)

◆ **SMSBible** allows you to send Bible verses, together with your own personal message, to groups of mobile phones. Each verse is translated into "SMS Language"—the full Contemporary English Version (CEV) **with a modern twist**. True meaning and order of words retained—100 per cent faithful to original text. The purpose of this program is to provide a tool to the Christian community that will assist and encourage engagement with the Word of God. The **free download** is a service of the Bible Society to the church.

More @ [www.biblesociety.com.au/smsbible](http://www.biblesociety.com.au/smsbible)

◆ *Jesus* is the **most watched movie** in history, translated into 888 languages, shown in 228 countries and viewed almost 6 billion times worldwide. Now, *Jesus Video Project America* has distributed its 20 millionth copy of the film—one for every six homes in America. *Jesus Video Project America* identifies Christians with a heart for evangelism and equips them to build teams to use its "saturation evangelism" strategy to **distribute copies** of the *Jesus* video or DVD to every household in their community, county, region or state.—**ASSIST News Service**  
More @ [www.jesusvideo.org](http://www.jesusvideo.org)

◆ "In 1998, for the first time ever, **more missionaries and Christian humanitarian aid workers** were killed in their line of service than United Nations peacekeepers," says **Kevin Turner** of Strategic World Impact (SWI). Because of this, SWI has been offering **disaster assistance response training**. Mr Turner says, "This type of course is important to anyone travelling overseas, offering training in such things as **anti-terrorism, personal safety** and what to do if a missionary, family member or close friend is taken hostage."—**Mission Network News**  
More @ [www.swi.org](http://www.swi.org)

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## Pilot awarded for excellence

WANGARATTA, VICTORIA

An Avondale College graduate has won an award for being Australia's best performing female pilot in professional air transport licensing exams last year.

Hayley Wilson received the Sir Donald Anderson Trophy during a ceremony in Wangaratta, Victoria, on April 24.

The Civil Aviation Safety Authority and the Australian Women's Pilots Association (AWPA) jointly sponsored the award. AWPA presented the award as part of their annual conference.

"It came as a bit of a surprise, but I was thrilled," says 19-year-old Ms Wilson, who averaged about 85 per cent in the exams. "Not many people pass the first time."

Avondale's chief flying instructor, Garry Fraser, says, "We congratulate Hayley on her achievement. The licensing exams are tough. You need an understanding of the material, not just rote knowledge of it."

He speaks of the contribution of ground instructor, Reg Litster, saying, "Reg provides the environment and the context in which students such as Hayley flourish."

Ms Wilson credits Mr Litster's perseverance and describes him as an inspiration. "He's the best theory teacher and the only one who could have got me through the exams," she says.

Ms Wilson began her aviation studies while still a student in high school. She graduated from Avondale College with two diplomas of aviation in 2004. She is a qualified flying instructor who now works for the School of Aviation. "This beats sitting behind a desk," she says.

This is the second time an Avondale College student has won the award in the past five years. Belinda Thompson received it in 2002. — Brenton Stacey



Hayley Wilson at the School of Aviation.

## ABC managers meet in Warburton

WARBURTON, VICTORIA

Managers and supervisors of Adventist Book Centres (ABC) from Australia and New Zealand, meeting in Warburton recently, determined to maintain a vibrant, comprehensive retail book ministry to the church in their conferences.

The three-day product release and marketing seminar was sponsored by Signs Publishing Company (SPC), whose manager, Glen Reed, said the seminar and time of fellowship were "excellent," adding that Dale Galusha, visiting Pacific Press vice-president for marketing, had added "great value" to the group dynamic and spirit.

Rachel Wegener, Book Department assistant, says ABC customers can expect to see the more than 80 new CDs, DVDs and book titles from Pacific Press, Review and Herald and

SPC in ABCs in Australia and New Zealand within weeks.

Liz Dunstan, Book Department manager, said she was delighted with the ABC team's enthusiasm for the mission of the church, and expects their customers will be likewise, as a result of the new, inspirational titles available.—Scott Wegener



Some of the Signs Publishing Company staff and ABC managers and supervisors who attended the meetings in Warburton recently.

## Avondale lecturer presents restored film to New South Wales premier

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

The reconstruction of Australia's first Gallipoli movie has made news for an Avondale College staff member.

*The hero of the Dardanelles* survives, thanks to senior history lecturer Dr Daniel Reynaud (see RECORD, May 7). He screened the film during a media conference at the college on April 21.

Dr Reynaud also presented the movie and a book he has written about it to New South Wales Premier Bob Carr during a function at Government House on the Sunday of the Anzac Day weekend, and

presented a paper before a screening at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image in Melbourne on April 27.

"It's a satisfying feeling since I finished the film 10 years ago, and every year I have expected it to be released," says Dr Reynaud. "It feels good to finally get it out."

Dr Reynaud's work has attracted a lot of media attention, with reporter Geoff Sims and a cameraman from ABC TV News in Sydney flying up from Sydney in a helicopter for the April 21 screening of the film. Reporter Paul Lobb and a cameraman from NBN Television News also attended. The stations ran the stories during their evening news bulletins on the Friday before Anzac Day.

The Herald in Newcastle published a three-quarter-page article with photograph earlier in the day. Dr Reynaud spoke with Brett Lavaring of 1233 ABC Newcastle on the radio station's breakfast program the same morning.

Film writer Lawrie Zion mentioned the movie in a short article as part of *The Weekend Australian's* Anzac Day coverage.—Chris Winzenried



Paul Lobb interviews Dr Daniel Reynaud about the film he worked to restore.

Maurice Ashton

# God is a crutch

BY CHRISTINE MILES

**G**OD IS A CRUTCH.” IT WASN’T SO much the words but the tone in which they were said. I’d gone away for a writing weekend with a group of friends. One was agnostic, one a non-practising Catholic and the other liked to think she was into Wicca, or witchcraft. Really the only thing we had in common was a passion for writing.

I already knew that my sceptic friends considered Christians unable to handle reality. They believe Christians invent some “higher power” in order to cope with everyday life. They argue that Christians

## They had no idea how to respond to a Christian who agreed with their insults.

defer the mysteries of life to some unseen Being instead of dealing with them personally. Hence the crutch.

I prayed a quick prayer: “Are you, God? Are you a crutch?”

Quick as a blink, the answer came to me. I looked at my friends and grinned. “Sure,” I said. “God is a crutch.”

You know what happens when all the weight hits one end of the seesaw? The effect was the same. My friends hit the ground hard. They had no comeback. They had no idea how to respond to a Christian who agreed with their insults.

Later, I consulted with my Bible and checked my dictionary. Even though I figured that an agnostic would not listen to any argument I presented, I wanted my stance on this accusation to be very clear in my own mind.

The *Collins Dictionary* defines a crutch as “something that supports, helps or sustains.”

And I am instantly reminded of my favourite Bible passage: “God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble” (Psalm 46:1\*).

I need my Bible concordance to locate the many other Bible passages that have been burned into my memory from childhood. Here are a few:

Psalm 33:20: “We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.”

Psalm 40:17; 70:5: “You are my help and my deliverer.”

Psalm 115:11: “You who fear him, trust in the Lord—he is their help and shield.”

Psalm 121:1, 2: “I lift up my eyes to the hills—where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.”

Isaiah 41:13: “I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you.”

Hebrews 13:6: “So we say with confidence, ‘The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?’”

It was pride that caused Lucifer to fall from grace. It was pride that brought about the fall of humanity. And it is essentially pride that causes a nonbeliever to declare that God is a crutch to those who believe in the saving power of Jesus Christ.

Pride. Pride in one’s own ability to handle life; pride in self-sufficiency; pride in knowledge.

The difference between a nonbeliever and a Christian is simple: when a Christian stubs his or her toe on the obstacles in life they don’t have to hop around on one foot trying to make it on their own. He or she can lean a little more heavily on his or her Crutch, and God will swing them all the way past the finish line.

Everyone relies on something. Drug addicts rely on their drug; alcoholics rely on alcohol; agnostics rely on themselves. I rely on Someone who is a “very present help” in my time of great need.

What/who is it that you rely on? Is it/he/she really working for you? **R**

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

*Christine Miles writes from Auckland, New Zealand*

# “Reality” show explores origins

BY TAASHI ROWE

**T**wo Seventh-day Adventist college students are out to change the perception of reality television: finding answers to life’s biggest questions along the way.

Tiffany Larson and Matthew Sharrock, two students at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, began a six-week road trip on May 3, hoping to explore the topic from both a biblical and scientific world view. In what is being billed as the first-ever “Adventist reality show,” the pair will travel to 13 locations across the United States that stimulate the faith–science dialogue.

“I felt this incredible draw to the project,” Ms Larson said. “I could feel God pushing me to try out for the part, even though I didn’t think I would get it. But when I found out that I did, I could hear Him say, ‘You should have trusted Me!’”

Stacia Dulan, project coordinator for Church Resource Center (CRC), a division of the North American Division, explained that the goal of CRC is to provide resources such as this series that will help pastors grow healthy congregations. Pastors have consistently said they had no resources for discussing origins.

“It’s a controversial topic. It’s hard to discuss it 100 per cent biblically and 100 per cent scientifically,” Ms Dulan said. “The church teaches one side and schools the other. Young people end up making the decision on their own.”

Ms Dulan said this program will be more of a teaching tool to stimulate discussion, not spoon-feed answers.

“We realised the importance of the subject of origins, as well as the need for making progressive TV and film that is relevant to young people. We’re in need of programming that appeals to young people,” said Paul Kim, producer and director of the TV series, explaining the significance of creating a show like this. **R**

*Taashi Rowe writes for Adventist News Network.*



# How much do we love?

BY VYRONA PARKER

SIT ALONE IN THE SUNNY ROOM, FEELING paralysed. My family and I are stunned, numb, and feeling so lost after the painful death of my mother.

Over and over in my mind I hear her laboured breathing, wheezing from the fluid in her lungs. I long to be held, to be comforted and to hear from my friends that they care.

Cards from all over the state flow in, but few visit. Today, I feel especially vulnerable, feeling I will burst into tears "at the drop of a hat." Lost and alone, I wonder where my church family is and why no-one has visited. Tears well up in my eyes and I let them flow, for there's no shame in crying, especially when you're alone.

Today, I need someone to comfort me; today I don't want to go on alone. At church they are accepting enough, asking politely how things are, but there is constraint, uneasiness and reservation in their voice, as if they might be afraid to ask.

Where is my "family" when I need them most? Why have they stayed away? Am I at fault? Have I not let them in enough to make them realise I need them? Others have lost loved ones so they know of the emptiness, numbness, and need for comfort to help through the day. Why is it so hard to visit someone who is in pain?

Hurt by their absence, I decide to put a barrier around me so I won't get hurt again. On the outside, I try to look as if I'm bearing up, but underneath, I'm angry, hurt, empty and lost. Finding it difficult to cope with daily chores, I long for someone to come and take over the burden of running the house, deciding meals, answering telephone calls and other mundane things.

When I meet those who knew my mother, I see a coolness in them, as if they don't know whether to hug me, or avoid the subject of Mum's death. Mostly, they try to cheer me by talking of something not involving Mum or death. That also hurts, for it makes me think that she wasn't sig-

nificant enough to be spoken about. To me, everything else is inconsequential; my mind can't stop thinking of the last hour or so before her death. I find it difficult to even remember that she is dead.

Each day becomes harder to cope, with so many things reminding me of how wonderful my mother was. Each time I hear a familiar piece of music, I am drawn to thinking of her, as I am when I see roses, sweet peas, poppies, and other beautiful flowers. I walk into shopping centres, and have to walk out again, knowing the wound is yet too open.

Night-time is just a continuation of the day, and there are so many things that trigger the pain, the emptiness and the memories. Is there any way out from this nightmare? At present, I feel there is not. People tell me, "Give it time; it will get easier. Time is a great healer." How I scoff, in my mind, at those who say that. They really must not understand how painful this is to hear.

## Reflecting back

I look back on those months, as they sped by, wondering what I can learn from them. If I am in the situation of being one to give comfort, what will I say? What will my reaction be when someone cries when I mention their loved one? Will I feel lost for words, unable to comfort them, and will I blunder my way through by saying the very same thing said to me, "Time is a great healer"? Maybe I haven't learned from this experience at all.

Are there any words that can heal, when you are hurting so much? Can you find any way to get under that numbness, pain and sadness of loss? Maybe, there need not be words, just actions. Maybe a hug can say a thousand words. It would have helped so much in my situation, just to have someone come and say I brought you some food because I care. Or here is a bunch of flowers to brighten your day. Maybe, there are



more practical ways to show we care. Maybe, instead of feeling awkward as to what to say, just visit anyway, and ask the Lord to lead your conversation. Often, people don't want you to talk; they need to do the talking, and need to have someone just to listen.

Next time, and there will be a next time, don't worry about what to say, or if you are going to upset them when you mention their loved one's name; just follow the golden rule. Yes, try to imagine what they are feeling by imagining what you would feel if you lost the very closest of your loved ones, then put into practice how you would like to be treated. Yes, most people who are hurting just want to talk, to reaffirm that that someone was someone special in their lives and the lives of others.

In John 11, Jesus did that when He spoke to Mary after Lazarus' death. He wept with Mary and Martha, feeling their pain, knowing they hurt so much they couldn't even express their feelings.

How much do we love our church family? How much are we willing to open up to them when they hurt? How much are we able to help in life's situation, whatever that may be? Why not give yourself another chance, let God work through you to lift up someone's spirits and show you really do care? **R**

*Vyrona Parker writes from Nairne, South Australia.*

# Being a steward

BY BOB LOUK

QUITE A FEW DECADES AGO, THE Seventh-day Adventist Church adopted the word *stewardship* as the title for its planned systematic benevolence program in support of the local church budget. Over the years the word has passed into the Adventist lexicon as a synonym for the church budget. It has become the one-word description for anything and everything to do with finance within the church.

One has only to talk with church treasurers to realise that in spite of this almost universal understanding of the financial role of stewardship, meeting the local church budget's budget aspirations is fraught with much anxiety. The financial support is not keeping pace with inflation. Statistics show churches trying to provide the same or similar services and outreach programs with less purchasing power each year. Modern society entices us with so many ways to spend our hard-earned money. We are constantly pressured into wanting bigger, better, faster, flashier models of things we already have. New "must-haves" are added to the consumer lists every day.

More and more charities with increasingly needy causes, and more and better guilt-inducing advertising vie for our discretionary dollars—if we have any. Among other things, the incidence and scale of natural disasters in developing countries cry out for more of our hard-earned dollars.

We are floundering under the weight of competing needs and artificially induced wants. And true happiness often eludes us.

Even non-Christian writers are seeing this trend. Liz van den Nieuwenhof, writing in the *Weekend Australian Magazine* (March 26, 2005) in an article entitled "Are we having fun yet?" observes: "Big houses, flash cars and high flying careers, are failing to fulfil the promise of happiness for

urban Australians."

Interestingly van den Nieuwenhof, after commenting on the growth of Happiness Institutes and other various Laughter Courses (there are even laughter coaches available to businesses), goes on to say, "Having religious faith is said to help. A national spirituality and wellbeing survey of 1514 Australians conducted by Deakin and Edith Cowan universities, in conjunction with Anglicare Sydney and the National Church Life Survey, found that those who are religious or spiritual tended to score higher in the wellbeing scale. The rub? Only 15 per cent of Australians attend church regularly."

Robert Wuthnow in *God and Mammon in America* observes, "We pray that things will go well for us, we hear sermons counselling us to work hard and to be good stewards, and many of us give lip service to the idea that greed is sin or that God is concerned about the poor. . . . [But religion] sends mixed signals about our work, telling us to work hard but not too hard. It counsels us to be diligent with our money but seldom instructs us how to be diligent. It raises our anxieties about money and discourages us from talking openly about them. It warns us against the excessive materialism that pervades our society but offers little to keep us from the temptations of materialism. Feeling ambivalent about the role of faith, we therefore go about our lives pretty much the same as those who have no faith at all."

And so the local church languishes: little growth, not enough money in the budget to mount a challenge to the world, nor for that matter, enough people available to make any appreciable influence.

## Rethinking stewardship

About two decades ago a shift began to occur in general Christian thinking:

Stewardship has a far wider meaning than just money. Many and varied are the modern definitions used to reframe the application of the word and to rescue *stewardship* from the grip of just money.

Richard Niebuhr is on record as saying, "Stewardship is everything we do after we accept Christ." In *Stewards in the Kingdom*, R Scott Rodin takes this further, suggesting, "Stewardship, like discipleship, must be understood as the free and loving response to the grace of God in our lives. Its various forms—worship, Bible study, prayer, service, evangelism and the like—are joyous acts of a people who can do nothing less. If our relationship to God does not engender joy and celebration, then we have missed the good news."

There are some interesting connections in this thought. Note especially the pairing of stewardship with discipleship and the linking of the Christian responses of worship, Bible study, prayer, service and evangelism with "joyous acts" and "joy and celebration." This new paradigm does not eliminate the financial aspects of our relationship with God (the old understanding of stewardship); rather it places our finances within the range of our responses to God's grace. Most of the stewardship literature of the past two decades use *stewardship* and *discipleship* almost synonymously.

Yet in many church circles, the word *stewardship* is considered old fashioned. But what do we replace it with? Rodin, in making a case for retaining the word *steward*, believes:

- *Caretaker* fails to capture the responsibility laid on the steward;
- *Manager* seems inadequate to describe the relationship between the owner and the steward;
- *Custodian* is too passive a term;
- *Agent* is too self-serving in our day;
- *Ambassador* is too political, it lacks the

servant aspect;

- *Warden* is too administrative and loses the sense of the personal;
- *Guardian* is too closely tied solely to parental responsibilities.

Until a better word is found, we need to stay with the term *steward*. Rodin sees four specific conditions associated with being a steward.

1. The term immediately identifies the steward as one who is not the rightful owner of that which is to be stewarded.
2. The term denotes a relationship between the steward who cares for the resources of the owner and those for whom the resources are meant.
3. There is a relationship between the steward and the steward's own needs.
4. There is a relationship between the steward and the resources themselves.

The rightful owner is God. The steward is in relationship to the rightful owner, the resources themselves, the intended recipient of the resources, as well as the steward's own needs. The steward never owned the resources, does not own them now and never will own them. Yet the steward is entitled to have his own needs met from the resources. This latter entitlement is the defining difference between any possible replacement term and that of steward.

## Stewardship foundations

One need only look at the initial chapters of Genesis to see God's intention, and what happens when God's rightful ownership is usurped. It was God who created the earth and its contents, including humankind. It was God who specifically made the Garden of Eden and placed people therein. Although commanded to care for the Garden, what real work did Adam have to do in a perfect paradise? Everything in the garden—bar the fruit of one tree—was to be Adam's daily sustenance. God's daily visits to Adam and Eve would indicate that they were to draw their sense of being from their relationship with Him. Their future was inextricably linked to God.

There were four "no worries" while Adam and Eve remained in the garden: no food worries, no clothing worries, no work worries and no housing worries. The four principal relationships were perfect: God to humans, man to woman/woman to man,

man/woman to themselves and humanity to creation. Contentment reigned supreme.

When Adam "heeded the voice of his wife"—in essence putting his relationship with his wife above his relationship with God—sin gained the ascendancy. Sin turned the "no worries" into daily worries, destroyed all four relationships and added guilt to the life of humankind. Though forgiven by God and clothed in garments of God's devising, Adam and Eve were ejected from the garden and had to live with the consequences of their choices.

## There is a lot of work to be done to recover the full biblical understanding of the word *steward*.

Their first offspring, Cain, rapidly developed a sense of ownership, was not prepared to acknowledge God's rightful claim and became the first murderer.

God today is calling us back to a right relationship with Him, to truly be the stewards He meant us to be in Eden. Recovery of the true meaning of what it really means to be a steward, and thus give stewardship its true meaning will not be easy. Douglas John Hall in *The Steward* says about the words *steward* and *stewardship*. "So thoroughly is the term associated with church management and finances, so demeaned is it by the implicitly unfavourable comparisons with the spiritual end (mission) for which it also means, that it will require a great deal of critical thought and work to bring the stewardship idea to the prominence that its biblical background warrants and the time demands. . . . It would not be an exaggeration to say that stewardship has a distasteful connotation with the majority of church folk, including clergy."

I agree. There is a lot of work to be done to recover the full biblical understanding of the word *steward*. It will require a change in the way we think about life and the way we allow the world view to impact our daily lives. Whether we like it or not, as soon as we accept Christ we become stewards. Our

only choice is whether or not we will be good stewards or poor stewards. Although we celebrate a small increase in total membership each year, as a proportion of the general population we are decreasing every year.

## Being stewards

Personally, we need to take a close look at our lives. Most of us are too busy meeting external expectations to engage in ministry for Christ. To accept the challenge of being a true steward in the kingdom of God will require a realignment of our priorities. We will need to deliberately choose to reduce our wants and our busyness to make time available for ministry. We will need to expand our circle of friends to embrace a wider portion of the population.

At the local church level, we need to recognise that two-and-a-half hours of worship time on Sabbath will never see the church grow as fast as the general population—or members truly becoming stewards in God's kingdom. We must deliberately plan to disciple current church members. We must deliberately plan a complete assimilation process for new members that covers every step from contact through the steps of fellowship and discipleship and on into ministry for Christ.

Church leaders need to stop developing more and better programs and concentrate on consolidating those existing. They need to ask church members about their needs and then meet those needs. I also believe we need a more up-to-date system of governance. The present form of representative democracy has served the church well, but with the increased institutional structure and where committees are top heavy with employees there appears to be too much conflict of interest; and change is such a difficult and long-winded process.

The required change can happen. We must each one deliberately accept the challenge to be good stewards in the kingdom of God. When that happens the Holy Spirit will do the rest. **R**

Stewardship—It's a lifestyle." This is the 12th in a series of articles highlighting the importance of stewardship as it impacts on many aspects of our lives.

**Bob Louk is stewardship director for the South Australian Conference.**

# Meeting him

BY DAVID EDGREN

**H**AVE YOU EVER SEEN SOMEONE FAMOUS? I WAS IN A tourist shop in Hawaii once and noticed a woman, who looked remarkably like actress Sigourney Weaver, looking at stuffed dolphins. Then it struck me: "She *is* Sigourney Weaver!"

She had a baseball cap pulled low over her eyes and was making as little eye contact with people as possible. I, on the other hand, was staring at her and whispering to the person with me about my discovery.

If you met someone famous, how would you act? Flustered? Shy? How would you feel? Intimidated? Overwhelmed?

One day when I was studying the Bible with two young people in Geelong, Victoria, their father walked in the house followed by a man I had never seen before. The young people calmly introduced me to him: "Dave, this is Gary. Gary—Dave."

He said, "Hi Dave, nice to meet you."

I returned the greeting and he left the room.

I returned to the Bible study but the kids were laughing at me. I stopped. "What?" I asked, bewildered.

"Do you know *who* that was?" they asked.

I was lost. "Yes. You said his name was Gary. Nice guy. Why?"

They roared. "That is Gary Abblett!"

Obviously this revelation was supposed to elicit a reaction of some surprise or awe. But it didn't. Being American, I had never heard the name before. "Gary who?" was my unemotional response.

After a lengthy explanation of the "god" of Australian Rules Football, I had a new respect for the man whose hand I had just shaken. A few minutes later Gary re-entered the room and I had a chance to make things right.

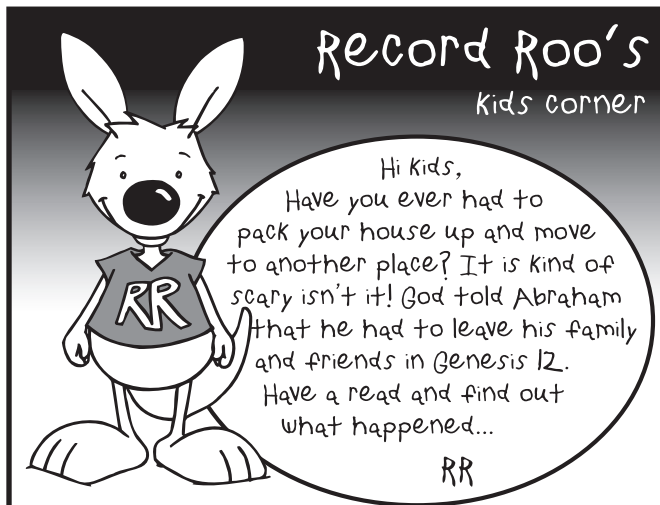
"The kids tell me you play a bit of football," I said.

Mr Abblett smiled, "Bits and pieces."

I am glad that I met Gary. He gave me a better understanding of what it is like for people who meet Jesus for the first time. They may have heard His name, may have even met people who know Him. But, when someone finally explains to you who it is you have just had the pleasure of meeting, the whole picture changes. Your life is changed and you suddenly have a story to tell! A story that's meant to sweep the globe so every person can know Him when He returns.

These personal stories of encounters with Jesus are called testimonies. They are the stories of the day we met Jesus for the first time. Stories of Jesus' impact on our lives. Stories that changed the person telling the story. Stories that can change us as we listen. Share your story with someone today and lead them to Jesus! **R**

*David Edgren pastors the Rosny and Collinsvale churches in Tasmania.*



## Fill in the Blanks

Now the LORD had said to \_\_\_\_: "Get out of your country, from your \_\_\_\_ and from your father's \_\_\_\_, to a land that I will show you."  
Genesis 12:1 NKJV

## Find-a-Word

A	S	G	R	R	S	A	R	A	I	A	B
O	I	N	A	A	N	A	C	A	L	A	S
S	D	E	S	C	E	N	D	A	N	T	S
S	T	A	E	R	G	A	E	G	N	N	T
D	T	T	S	E	N	A	A	E	A	F	E
N	R	L	L	Y	J	G	T	T	L	A	A
M	L	A	C	A	O	O	I	S	T	M	I
L	E	E	B	R	B	O	U	D	E	I	D
G	D	R	H	P	N	L	R	R	R	L	R
D	A	N	Y	T	E	L	E	A	N	Y	O
M	N	B	A	A	E	I	A	S	N	E	L
A	M	L	E	L	L	B	T	E	S	H	Y

BLESS  
FAMILY  
SARAI  
CANAAN  
BETHEL  
DESCENDANTS  
TENTS  
PRAYER  
LORD  
ABRAM  
NATION  
GREAT  
LAND  
ALTER  
JOURNEY



## Point of law

PAUL JOHANSON, QLD

Although I was initially heartened by Dr Young's analysis in "The law duped" (Feature, April 30), my dismay returned with his assertion that the law is "a guide to life."

We seem to have an inability to accept that the law is to point out sin, and that's all it does. When looking for instruction about what we need to actually do, the law is inadequate, and we need to look elsewhere. As in Galatians 3:21, "If a law had been given that could make alive, then righteousness would indeed come through the law" (NRSV).

Consider Jesus' response to the rich young ruler, who claimed to keep all of the commandments: "You lack" (Mark 10:21). If we focus on following the law in order to avoid sin, we never get to apply the meaning behind the theories we know so well.

The New Testament is bursting with resources to follow God in a positive way: "Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 2:5); "Live by the Spirit" (Galatians 5:16); "Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds" (Hebrews 10:24); "Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness" (1 Timothy 6:11); and, "The only thing that counts is faith working through love" (Galatians 5:6).

Let's listen when the law tells us we're wrong, but thank God for all the other ways He helps us learn how to get it right.

*just a coincidence*



## Dream to reality

JAN T KNOPPER, NSW

My heart jumped for joy to read of the literature work in the South Pacific missions ("ABC managers and staff meet in PNG," News, May 7). When in 1975 I arrived from the Northern European Division to establish the literature evangelism (LE) ministry in the South Pacific islands, many thought, and some even told me, it couldn't be done. But 30 years later, we have a thriving, soul-winning LE ministry in the islands, and ABCs dotted in PNG, the Solomons, Fiji and Vanuatu.

## The New Testament is bursting with resources to follow God in a positive way.

Thank you, Signs Publishing Company, for putting your weight behind the initiative. Thank you, LE leaders, for keeping it going and expanding. And, thank you, Lord, for making a dream come true.

## Misrepresentation

CLINTON JACKSON, LACHLAN ROGERS, BRADEN OLIVER, CLANSI ROY, DANIEL VOKURKA, NSW

The report about the "do-we-need-God?" dialogue ("Uni debate backs Christianity," April 30) leaves the impression that its purpose was to "prove" Christianity. As attendees, we feel such a

representation failed to capture the purpose and mood of the event. Our impression was of respectful conversation aimed at exploring issues relating to the relevance of God. Both teams presented ideas that command attention.

As Adventists committed to sharing our idea of God with our community, it was valuable to hear from sceptics as to which areas of belief are hardest for others to accept. Questions put by members of the audience indicated that a wide spectrum of views were held and, as Christians, we felt the triumph was that theological issues were being actively discussed in a secular context.

## No abbreviation

HAROLD GOTTING, NT

I would like to know why the church was referred to as the "Adventist Church" and members as "Adventist families" in News, May 7, page 7. Our denominational name Seventh-day Adventist should never be shortened or altered, as we are recognised as being the denomination that keeps the commandments of God.

## Samaritan spirit

ERIC SULLIVAN, QLD

Congratulations for "A prayer for Catholic friends" (Editorial, April 16). It was beautiful. It was not about the pope; rather, it was about our relationship with others.

Anyone who has attended a prophecy seminar knows about what lies ahead, but in the meantime, we can love our neighbours and show Christian friendship to others.

It is an act of the good Samaritan, and not those who walk on the other side of the rode to avoid helping.

**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—Cambodia.** Duties include: teach English to students at various grade levels and various ability levels in English. Possible teaching of drama, yearbook, basic computer skills in English. Bible—worship activities with dormitory students on occasion. Term: 11-12 months, commencing June 2005.

**Elementary and Secondary Teachers (2)—Hong Kong.** Duties include: teaching English and Music to students aged 12–18, 35 students per class. Instructor of Pathfinder club. Minimum education: Bachelors and experience in teaching an advantage. Term: 12–24 months, commencing September 1, 2005.

**Farm Manager and Educator—Guyana.** Duties include: managing farm and working with students; some classroom teaching in agriculture. Knowledge of a working farm preferred. Responsible for living allowance, insurance and airfares. Term: 10-12 months, commencing August 1, 2005.

**ESL Teachers—Thailand.** The SDA Language Schools in Thailand are needing teachers. Term: 12 months or longer, commencing August/September. For more information see <[www.gothaisda.com](http://www.gothaisda.com)> or contact Hayley on (02) 9847 3275.

Email:

<[volunteers@adventist.org.au](mailto:volunteers@adventist.org.au)>

For more positions, check the web on <[www.adventistvolunteers.org](http://www.adventistvolunteers.org)>

+61 2 9847 3275



## Weddings

**Bailey—Gray.** Warren Bailey and Maureen Gray (both of Narangba, Qld) were married on 8.4.05 in Pine Rivers Adventist church.

Chris Foote

**Cooke—de Ville.** Bradley James Cooke, son of Rod and Cheryl Cooke (Sydney, NSW), and Charmaine de Ville, daughter of Mark (Invercargill, NZ) and Kathy de Ville (Christchurch), were married on 10.4.05 in the Ilam Adventist church.

Austin Cooke, Paul Gredig

**Gallehawk—Krogdahl.** Anthony Gallehawk, son of Neil and Merl Gallehawk (Childers, Qld), and Karen Krogdahl, daughter of Bill and Heather Paynter (Hervey Bay), were married on 12.12.04 in the Hervey Bay Adventist church.

Ross Baines



## Great Rates

### ACF Investments

(02) 9989 8355

**Kalyniuk—Cocking.** Andrew Kalyniuk, son of Micheal and Janice Kalyniuk (Perth, WA), and Jessica Cocking, daughter of Bill and Roslyn Cocking (Mogumber), were married on 24.4.05 at Carmel College church, Carmel.

Peter Fowler

## Obituaries

**Burton,** Alberta Elinor (Betty), born 7.1.1922 at Auckland, NZ; died 13.4.05 in Howick, Auckland. She is survived by her husband, Carlisle (Lisle); her son and daughter-in-law, Wayne and Heather; her daughter and son-in-law, Julie and David Grainger; and her grandchildren, Leigh, Rhys and wife, Tarsh, Ryan and Chelsea. Betty was active in her church as a deaconess and organist. She also worked in the Auckland Adventist Hospital as a nurse and in the day surgery.

Grant Burton, Craig Young

**Dumbleton,** Amy Ethel Emmaline (nee Hayes), born 20.5.1914 at Wallsend, NSW; died 13.4.05 at Forbes, while visiting her daughter, after a brief illness. She was predeceased by her husband, Thomas. She was also predeceased by her children, May, Margaret, Irene and Alex. She is survived by her children, Keith, Marilyn Bryan, Alan and John; their spouses; her sister, Lil; her brother, Bill; her 19 grand- and step-grandchildren; and her 29 great- and step-great-grandchildren. As a teenager in Windsor, Amy remembers helping in the home of Pastor Norman and Ruby Ferris. She loved her Lord, and though blind the last few years of her life, enjoyed the materials received from Christian Services for the Blind. Resting now until Jesus comes to call her to eternal life.

Colin Richardson

**Jenkins,** Elva Claris (nee Steed), born 9.3.1920 in Vic; died 30.4.05 in the Sydney Adventist Hospital, NSW. She is survived by her husband, Pastor Doug Jenkins; her children and their spouses, Dennis and Jill, Elwyn and Glenda (all of Sydney); her sister, Mavis; her brothers, Fred and Ernie; her five grandchildren;

and her two great-grandchildren. Elva's life was one that was intimately bound to her faith in Jesus Christ. She was a wonderful support to her husband during their fruitful ministry in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific islands. It was during this time that she assisted him in conducting 5-Day Plans and also by teaching cooking. She was a gentle, caring person who was loved and respected by all who knew her. She will be sadly missed by her family and friends.

Barry Wright

**Mitchell,** Dawn Elva (nee Steele), born August, 1927; died 26.4.05. In April 1952 she married Victor. She is survived by her husband (Tearoa); and her children, Rodney (Rotorua), Arthur (Wellington), Ruth Davidson (Waihi), Yvonne Williamson (Morrinsville) and Heather Williamson (Wellsford). Dawn was a busy and active person. She was matron of Hislop Hospital in Tearoa for a number of years.

Les Worsley

**North,** Ronald James (Jim), born 23.6.1900 at Warracknabeal, Vic; died 1.5.05 at Murrumbidgee. On 3.5.24 he married Effie Miller, who predeceased him in May 1969. He is survived by his daughter, Rita (Brisbane, Qld). For the past 20 plus years Jim has been a faithful, regular attendee and contributor at Glenhenty church, Vic. His love of God and his trust in Him gave Jim grace and hope right throughout his almost 105 years. "Vale, Jim, you are loved and will be missed by all who knew you."

Morrie Krieg

**Przybylko,** Anna (nee Macko), born 23.7.1915 in Czechoslovakia; died 6.3.05 in Adelaide, SA. In 1927 she married Piotr, who predeceased her in 1988. In 1925 she was baptised in Czechoslovakia and came to Australia in 1966. She is survived by her daughters, Estera Makosz, Alicj Baran, Anna Curkovicz; her sons, Pawel and Joseph; their spouses; her 12 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren (all of Adelaide). Anna was ever strong in faith.

Eugeniusz Majchrowski

**Webber,** Chelsea Walter Edward, born 26.2.1930 at Beaudesert, Qld; died 19.4.05 in Flinders Private Hospital, Adelaide, SA, of a terminal illness. On 3.11.85 he married Lorna Hutchinson. He is survived by his wife (Flagstaff Hill); his children to his first marriage, and their spouses, Geoffrey and Angela (Vic), Jenny and Stirling Greenekle, and Glenn (all of SA); and his sister, Gladys Tyack (Raymond Terrace, NSW). He was also looked upon as "Dad" to Lorna's children of her first marriage, Lynette Blake (WA), Keryn Evans (NSW), Mark and Grant Hutchinson (both of SA); his 19 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Chelsea was a loyal and much respected member of Morphett Vale Adventist church; one of life's true gentlemen.

Allan Croft

**Wishart,** Neville James, born 4.9.1949 at Invercargill, NZ; died 3.4.05 in Toronto Private Hospital, NSW. He is survived by his wife, Jenny; his daughter, Nicole; his son, Wesley; his sister, Leureen; and his

brothers, Elwyn and Reyce. Neville will be remembered for many things: his exceptional skills with all things mechanical; his service as a volunteer missionary mechanic in Papua New Guinea; his many years of dedicated service to the Sanitarium Health Food Company; but most of all, for the loving, Christlike care that he showed for others. He was laid to rest in the Cooranbong Cemetery, where he confidently awaits the resurrection.

Lester Hawkes

Doug Robertson, Bruce Manners

## Advertisements

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

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**Fly'n'build.** Concretor, carpenter and electrician needed July/August at Medical Missionary Training Institute. Volunteers offered free health program. Please apply to MMTI as per previous advertisement.

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