

RECORD

June 4, 2005

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Longburn Adventist College students, teachers and parents at their research presentation night, which was attended by New Zealand's Associate Education Minister.



You can help PAU reach out

Education minister visits Longburn

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

On May 9, David Benson-Pope, New Zealand's Associate Education Minister, visited Longburn Adventist College (LAC) to hear a presentation by students and teachers of LAC on a major research project currently being jointly conducted with Massey University.

The project, entitled "Making sense of learning at secondary school," looked at how the student voice can positively impact the learning process at secondary schools. Students identified situations where the actions of the teacher provided them with the most effective learning, and teachers then modified their approach to improve

the learning process. Six of the students and four teachers spoke on the night about their involvement with the study.

The New Zealand government provided \$NZ250,000 for the study. Mr Benson-Pope praised the students, teachers and school on the contribution to secondary learning in New Zealand, saying, "Nothing gives me greater pleasure than seeing schools positively impact the learning process."

"It was exciting to be involved in such groundbreaking research, which has the opportunity to impact high school learning throughout New Zealand," says LAC principal Brian Mercer.—*Adele Nash*



My reading of each is that they have something in common: pride.

Pride of death

WRITE, PROMPTED BY PUBLICITY SURROUNDING the 60th anniversary commemorations of the ending of the war in Europe, and just days after record crowds attended Anzac Day celebrations at home and overseas. Whether this signals a new generation embracing peace, or simply reflects a curiosity for the past, I don't know. But I hope it's more than mere fascination.

Wars have been fought over some improbable things. Many readers would remember the so-called soccer war, fought between former good neighbours Honduras and El Salvador in July 1969—a war that could have been avoided had soccer fans practised better sportsmanship.

Tensions between the teams were aggravated by the economic inequality between the two countries, and escalated into a fight. And when, as a result, Salvadoran immigrants were expelled from Honduras, the countries went to war. At least 2000 people were killed in 16 days of fighting, ending only when the Organisation of American States intervened.

Then there was Captain Robert Jenkins who stood in Westminster, holding the remains of his ear in his hand. His inflammatory statements to parliament that the Spanish had cut it off after boarding his ship in the West Indies resulted in an immediate declaration of war. It lasted four years (1739-43), with no clear winner.

Or what about the Zulu war in South Africa of 1879? Husbands and wives often disagree, but that doesn't usually start a

war. In this case, Umblana, the wife of the Zulu chief Sitlay, left him and hid in British territory, where she assumed she would be safe. But the Zulus found and shot her. England declared war on the Zulus for crossing into their territory.

Neighbours often fight over straying pets—it almost happened to me. So when the dog of a Greek soldier wandered across the border into neighbouring Macedonia in 1925, the border guard pursued it, and was shot by a Bulgarian guard. The Greek troops were so enraged they invaded Bulgaria. Others have gone to war over things just as petty, including selling pigs and even over a stolen bucket. But my reading of each is that they have something in common: pride.

Pride comes before a fall. According to the Bible, it came before the Fall: "And war broke out in heaven," writes John, in Revelation 12:7. * "Michael and His angels fought against the dragon. . . . The Devil . . . and his angels were thrown down with him" (verse 9).

What tipped Lucifer over the edge into rebellion? By all accounts, pride. Ellen White says that "it is impossible to explain the origin of sin so as to give a reason for its existence," calling it "that which God has never revealed" (*The Great Controversy*, page 492). Lucifer's descent into pride is as far as the Bible goes in describing the origin of sin.

Speaking metaphorically of Satan and the reason for destruction, in a diatribe against the king of Tyre, Ezekiel begins, "Because

your heart is proud . . ." (28:2), adding that it was because of where this led him, that God "cast [him] to the ground" (verse 17).

And once he found himself here, he instilled humankind with the same corrupt attitude. Ellen White says this "same spirit that prompted rebellion in heaven still inspires rebellion on earth" (*ibid*, page 500). In Japan, for example, where "saving face" is the euphemism for "pride," a person might wander for hours rather than pause to ask directions—something with which many long-suffering spouses will be familiar, I am sure.

Pride might impede an apology; it may doom a relationship, or prevent you seeking forgiveness for your sin from God. Pride caused Cain to slay Abel; it was pride that led Nebuchadnezzar to destruction; it was pride that prompted the rejection of Christ at His first Advent and likely will be so at His second. And, today, our pride causes us to do some curious things and leads us to some irrational, irredeemable situations: the loss of 100 million lives to wars and their collateral damage in the 20th century alone.

To remember the sacrifice of the fallen in war is not something we should do with pride; rather we should do it with humility and sorrow. War—and the pride that so often fuels it—is not cause for celebration, but sacrifices and victims to commemorate.

*Bible quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version.

Lee Dunstan



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

Hope channel to show GC session, “Transformed in Christ”

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

The Hope Channel will carry the 58th General Conference (GC) session worldwide for at least three hours a day when it begins later this month in St Louis, Missouri.

More than 2000 delegates will come from more than 200 countries for this important business meeting.

Beginning on June 30 with a spiritual emphasis program featuring Randy Roberts, Hope Channel will transmit up to four hours of the GC session each day until July 10.

Each evening will feature a one-hour news and commentary segment, followed by a half-hour music feature, a half-hour devotional, and inspiring reports from two divisions of the worldwide church each night. The daily devotionals will be web-streamed and archived on the Hope Channel web site <www.hoptv.org>.

The theme “Transformed in Christ” provides the spiritual focus of this GC session. “It will be a celebration of what Christ has performed in our lives, and a reminder that we also have been called to be agents for transformation within our communi-



ties,” says Pastor Jan Paulsen, GC president.

The Adventist Church is rich in musical talent, and the music featured each day on the broadcasts will showcase tremendous diversity. “It will be a wonderful spiritual and musical feast,” says Pastor Ted Wilson, chairman of the GC Session Music Committee. “The session has become much more than just a business meeting. It resembles an enormous camp-meeting. Many people come to the session on the weekends, so the weekends will be rich in special services that will be very spiritual in nature and music will play a part in that.”

Adventist Television Network director, Brad Thorpe, says, “The goal of our Hope Channel programming will be to report the Session for the average in-home viewer. We intend for the broadcasts to be inspirational,

fast-moving and informative.”

He describes the evening world division reports as being the “highlight” of the daily broadcasts.

Sue Robinson of Adventist Media says, “Please remember that because of the date line, there is a one-day delay from the live transmission. This is also designed to make sure that Hope Channel’s GC broadcasts reach us at our ‘prime times.’ Obviously these special broadcasts will replace the regular programming.

“You won’t want to miss the daily news and commentary programs. It will include reports on elections, significant developments and agenda items voted in the business of the day. Commentary with host Pastor Mark Finley will include discussion of key issues relating to mission, evangelism and community involvement.

“Please tell everyone about Hope Channel coverage. Some may be encouraged to get a dish and bring this great experience into their own homes.”

The programs will be broadcast in four languages: English, French, Portuguese and Spanish.—*Adele Nash*

More @ www.hoptv.org/site/1/docs/GC_Session_Promo.pdf

◆ Many families travelled long distances to attend the **Amazing Discoveries** seminar run by Pastor **Mark Wilson**, minister of North Beach church, WA. The opening evening at the **Esperance Civic Centre** saw 82 non-Adventists from the community attend the seminar. Two weeks later, at the concluding worship program at

the Esperance church, 22 of the community members who attended the seminar celebrated Sabbath for the first time. At the end of the worship service, **eight people requested baptism** and five indicated they wanted further studies. Some 25 people were wanting to follow on and attend the next Prophecy Seminar.—*Gray Slade*



◆ The **Busselton Pathfinder Club** recently treated the volunteers of the **Busselton ADRA op-shop**, WA, to a special luncheon in their honour as a **thank you** for all their hard work and dedication. In the past 12 months of the op-shop’s three-year operation, more than **\$A5600 has been donated** to community groups, such as the Royal Flying Doctor Service and MATES, a group helping men overcome

anger and domestic violence. Christmas hampers and nearly **\$A3000** worth of food vouchers have been given to needy families.—*NewsWest*

◆ The **Adventist Discovery Centre**, Wahroonga, NSW, thanks all of the **faithful letterbox card deliverers** who diligently walk the streets spreading evangelistic material. Though not considering the material to be “junk,” a recent **irate householder** is a reminder that their material placed in “**No junk mail**”—marked letterboxes is no way to make friends.—*Discovery News*



Family director's marriage book launched by MP

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

A new book exploring the role of emotions in marriage was launched on May 5 by Kevin Andrews, Australian Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, and author Dr Bryan Craig. Dr Craig is director of the Adventist Institute of Family Relations and director of family ministries for the South Pacific Division. His book *Searching for Intimacy in Marriage* has grown out of his doctoral research and 22 years of practical marriage therapy.

"The emotional dimension of our lives is at the heart of relationships," he says.

He explains that in his professional activities he has continually worked with the question, "How do you improve marriages?"

"I began to think more and more around the issue of marriage education and what it is that builds for a long-term happy relationship," he says "To me it came down to intimacy. Everybody desires intimacy. We have a need for connection with other human beings."

Dr Craig says his focus on human emotions in relationships has been undervalued

by many marriage therapists. "We have been suspicious of emotions, and so discussion of emotion has been somewhat suppressed. We have played down the emotional side of our lives."

This was the central thesis of Dr Craig's doctoral studies, which he completed through Fuller Theological Seminary (California, USA) in 2000. "When I had finished my study, I realised I had written a thesis that was worth putting into a book," he says. "This was one to emphasise something I felt had been neglected in thinking about marriage."

And Dr Craig also felt something of an obligation to the church. "The church has invested in my study," he says. "And I thought, *I've written this thesis but who will ever read it? I should put it in book form and make it available as a resource to the church.*" Four years later, the book has been published by the Ministerial Association of the General Conference.

As well as an accessible book for people wishing to better understand emotion and intimacy in their relationships, Dr Craig has written *Searching for Intimacy in Marriage* for other family therapists. The volume includes an outline for six one-hour



Kevin Andrews, MP (left), and author Dr Bryan Craig look over *Searching for Intimacy in Marriage* at its launch last month.

sessions that marriage and family therapists can use to work through the material in the book.

So as an experienced, highly qualified and now-published expert on marriage, does Dr Craig have the perfect marriage? He laughs at such a suggestion. "I don't know that anybody has the perfect marriage," he says. "I don't know what that is. Marriage is something that requires two people working at it all the time and that changes depending on the circumstances.

"But I do enjoy a good relationship," Dr Craig is quick to add. "And I wouldn't be where I am without the good lady in my life, and I have dedicated this book to her." —*Nathan Brown*



◆ An audience of **4600 young people** and teachers at Vodafone Arena, Melbourne, Vic, heard the school captains of Nunawading Christian College primary campus, **Caroline Roberts** and **Dennis Szymala**, speak about Jesus Christ. "It was a great privilege for our students to be asked to speak at the recent **National Youth Leaders Day** as there were only three schools asked to speak," says principal **Lyn Denne**. Having to talk

about leadership and what they felt made a good leader, they could use an example of a great leader in their **three-minute speeches**. They chose Jesus Christ as the greatest leader who has ever walked this earth.

More @ www.youngleadersfoundation.org

◆ The church members were **out-numbered 15 to 1** at a presentation on Adventist health principles. Gogodala or lagoon dwelling believers, **Western Province, PNG**, met for a week-long **Youth and Pathfinder Bible Camp** at Balimo, PNG. Dr **Warren Shipton's** Sab-

bath presentation challenged the audience to step out of the moral confusion present in society and accept God's entire Word to **guide in their everyday living**. A baptism was conducted the following weekend by representatives from the South West Papua Mission.

More @ www.hearttalk.au.com

◆ **Graham Greenfield** has created a sign for the **double-sided outdoor noticeboard** at his Wanganui church, NNZ. Adding to the collection of previous outreach signs created for display to the passing traffic, his newest creation advertises the Christian satellite broad-



casts of **Hope Channel and 3ABN**. Also at Wanganui, senior deaconess **Vivienne Walker** has recently completed **30 years of service** as a "Friend of the hospital" pink lady at Wanganui Hospital.



IS YOUR CHURCH DOING SOMETHING EXCITING, INOVATIVE OR INSPIRING? EMAIL US — RECORD@SIGNSPUBLISHING.COM.AU

Church in Fiji promotes healthy eating to public

SUVA, FIJI

Concerned about the health of people in Fiji, the Fiji Mission used the annual Health Week to encourage people to adopt vegetarian diets and move away from unhealthy food habits.

Through a series of cooking demonstrations and talks on food, nutrition and general healthy eating held from May 8 to 14 in the Lower Civic Hall in Suva, the church aimed to make local women more aware of the benefits of a vegetarian diet.

This was done to encourage Fijian families to move away from eating styles that rely on cheap but unhealthy foods that aren't good for people to eat.

"The church puts a lot of emphasis on health because it believes a healthy life is most favourable for the perfection of the Christian character and for the development of the powers of the mind and body," says Peni Dakua, communication director for the Fiji Mission.

Mr Dakua says the danger of too much sugar and salt was highlighted long before medical science took the subject seriously, and that the church has always been concerned with healthy eating.—*Fiji Times*

New religious radio show airs in PNG

PORT MORESBY, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

A new religious program aired on Sunday evenings at the Papua New Guinea National Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) has been hailed as having flavour and bringing relevance to Christianity today.

The weekly worship program known as "In tune" started in early April, and uses drama, stories and interaction to bring to life the gospel message.

The program is sponsored and produced by Korobosea Seventh-day Adventist church through their media ministry program and uses most of its young, as well as older, members to take part in the script-writing. They also lend their voices to the radio dramas.

The commercial head of NBC, Joe Kaiyo, says, "The format that the church uses in its program is every effective and will have good results in the long run. We feel that it relates well to day-to-day situations people are faced with."

Along with the weekly sermon, the program features radio drama that portrays real-life situations that Christians can



Organisers of the radio program "In tune," with some of the representatives from Papua New Guinea's NBC.

encounter, as well as drama from Bible stories for the whole family.

"We feel that most commercial radio has little time for God in their programs and the music that they air daily, and we wanted to use the media to spread God's message," says church pastor Matupit Darius

"Many Christians in Papua New Guinea are reluctant to use the media to teach God's way and reach people from all walks of life all over the country," says Pastor Darius.

"We want to present religion as a relevant issue and the choice is up to the people who listen to change their lives."—*Martina Darius/The National Newspaper*

◆ The **South England Conference (SEC)** and the Stanborough Press were among **more than 350 exhibitors** at the four-day **Christian Resources Exhibition** at Sandown Park in Surrey, UK. "Unlike last year, where the church exhibited under the name 'South England Conference,' this year we simply had a sign over the stand marked 'Seventh-day Adventists,'" says SEC communication director Catherine Boldeau. "This change from a gentle to a more direct approach was met with mixed reactions. Some people simply looked at the sign above our exhibit and turned their heads in

the opposite direction, but others showed a **genuine interest** in who we are and what we do." Sharing the stand with the SEC was ADRA-UK. Dr **Tony Campolo**, renowned sociologist, made a personal visit to the stand due to his previous connection with ADRA International.—*BUC News*

◆ One in five people who **failed to vote** in last year's Australian federal election used their religion to avoid fines, prompting the **Government to seek advice** from the Australian Electoral Commission about the process used to hand out **religious voting exemptions**.

Of the 458,950 people who failed to vote in the October poll, 62,290 said religious beliefs stopped them from voting. Under the Electoral Act, people can avoid fines by claiming their religious beliefs prevented them from voting. Special Minister of State **Eric Abetz** says while he respected people's religious views, the religious exemption should not be abused.—*Patricia Karvelas*

◆ They shot four hours of live television from **Universal Studios, Hollywood**, and helped raise more than \$US700,000 to care for animals in the greater Los Angeles

area. Six broadcast production students of **Pacific Union College (PUC)**, California, USA, under the direction of **Terry Cantrell**, PUC instructor in film and television production, **assisted with the production** of the annual fundraising telethon for the LA chapter of the Society for the **Prevention of Cruelty to Animals**. Mr Cantrell directed the telethon three years ago while working for Adventist Media Centre and when called to be the assistant director on the current production he accepted, on the condition that his students could be part of the production crew.—*Joy-Anne Mitchell*

GC president encourages Rwandan university

KIGALI, RWANDA

The Adventist University of Central Africa (AUCA) will soon be housed in a new 20-hectare campus in Masoro, a Kigali neighbourhood.

The new campus will replace that formerly operated by the church, now occupied by Rwandan armed forces.

Pastor Jan Paulsen, General Conference (GC) president, participated in a foundation-laying ceremony at the site of the new university on May 12, and encouraged the church in Rwanda to persevere with Adventist education.

"There were those who said we should walk away from operating a university in Rwanda again because of the political uncertainty of the country, but we should not and cannot walk away," says Pastor Paulsen.

The old university campus was purchased from the church by the Rwandan government a number of years ago.

"The loss of our property still causes me deep sadness, but the mission of the church urges us forward," says Pastor Paulsen.

Without a university campus, classes were being held in a facility in downtown

Kigali, which was too small for the 840 enrolled students. This facility will be retained as an extension of the campus, however.

Jozsef Szilvasi, AUCA rector, welcomed Pastor Paulsen and other distinguished guests including American Consular officer in Kigali, David Kay, saying, "The university enjoys an excellent reputation in the eyes of both the government and the community, so much so that the existing city campus will be kept for continuing education purposes."

In his address, Paulsen said, "Although other universities have academic value, an Adventist university has an added value—that of the spiritual. We believe in the holistic development of the individual in our pursuit of excellence."

The GC president then quoted physicist Albert Einstein's comment: "It is the supreme task of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression, joy in finding knowledge, in exciting discoveries and in finding God," adding, "We want to make our education a supreme testimony to His greatness. My appeal to the teachers is, use your influence wisely and to the very best of your ability."—*ANN*

Aore Adventist Academy to be upgraded

AORE, VANUATU

The Australian Federal Government through AusAid has allocated approximately 32 million vatu to help upgrade facilities at Aore Adventist Academy (AAA). This funding will address key concerns at AAA, and will allow the school to expand to teach Year 13.

At the launch of the AAA project on April 7, Chris Manu, the team leader, said, "You have waited for this day to come and today is the day! It is a dream come true."

Representatives from the Ministry of Education, AusAID, the Vanuatu Mission, Sanma Province and the school community were present at the launch. Mr Manu and Kristina Hedin, AusAID senior program officer, gave assurances in their speeches that the project will change the future of Aore and will benefit the school community, surrounding communities and the province and nation as a whole.

Pastor Nos Terry expressed sincere appreciation for the assistance on behalf of the Vanuatu Mission and confirmed the community's enthusiasm to work with AusAID and the Ministry of Education to complete the upgrade.—*Port Vila Presse*

◆ For the first time in the recent history of **Bible printing in China** the production of pocket-sized Bibles in 2004 **exceeded** that of the standard-sized Bible by 500,000. The change in preference comes from an increasing demand for Bibles from young Chinese. The **younger generation of Chinese Christians** keen to hone their skills in English have also made the demand for Chinese-English diglot Bibles double. A CD-ROM version of the diglot Chinese-English Bible is the first legally approved and locally produced CD-ROM Bible in China.—*Bible Society*

◆ **Open Doors USA** is giving young people the opportunity to participate in "**Night of persecution**," a program that is designed to help them understand what life is like for persecuted Christians by showing them in a vivid way. According to **Jeff Shreve**, who coordinates Open Doors youth ministry "Underground," the experience is intense. "Their eyes are opened to **the reality of Christian persecution**," says Mr Shreve. "A lot of young people are forced through the interrogation and the **intense pressure**, to really give an account for why they believe

what they believe—not so much to the interrogator but for themselves."—*Allie Martin*

More @ www.undergroundusa.org

◆ More than 400,000 pastors and church leaders have attended "purpose driven" life training, based on Pastor **Rick Warren's** book *The Purpose Driven Life*. Now Pastor Warren is preparing to lead all "purpose-driven churches" around the world to embark on a **PEACE plan**—Plant churches, Equip leaders, Assist the poor, Care for the sick and Educate the next generation. Pastor Warren says the

five global evil giants—spiritual emptiness, a shortage of servant leaders, poverty, disease and illiteracy/ignorance—are the biggest problems on the planet, affecting billions, and the PEACE program will be an assault on these problems. "We only do what can be reproduced by normal folks in normal churches. That way the plan will **keep multiplying and never stop**," says Pastor Warren. "Once PEACE is released in 2006, it will continue to reproduce around the world in an exponential fashion."—*Michael Ireland*

More @ www.purposedriven.com

A STUDY INTO ELLEN WHITE'S MEDICAL WRITINGS SHOWS INTERESTING RESULTS @ WWW.ACQUIREDORINSPIRED.COM

Adventist science students published in international journal

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

Four Avondale College students have published articles in the international education journal *Snapshots*. Janita Bond, Clinton Jackson and Daniel Vokurka are final-year science students. Under the supervision of senior education lecturer Dr John Watts, they co-authored an article, "Innovative assessment partnerships in a small Australian community adds value to educational outcomes," that will appear in the next secondary edition of *Snapshots*.

The article describes a partnership among faculties, students and a community secondary school that demonstrates how community partnerships can work effectively to provide a win-win outcome for teachers and students. The students' approach related to an education subject they studied at the time of writing.

Final-year education student Colville Smith co-authored an article entitled, "I taught Grade 6 mathematics on the story mat—and it worked!" that will appear in the next primary edition of *Snapshots*. Mr Smith implemented an innovative storytelling approach in the teaching, learning and assessment of mathematics at a community primary school, basing his approach on assignment work he completed for his curriculum subject in mathematics.

Snapshots is the Specialist Schools Trust Journal of Innovation in Education. Based in the United Kingdom (UK), the journal has a wide readership among teachers and administrators, especially in the UK, the USA and Australia.

Articles focus on new ideas, programs, policies and practices being trialled or fully implemented in schools. School partnerships with universities or colleges and any education-based action research are encouraged, particularly when the innovations deal with the idea of "praxis," the implementation of theory into practice.—

Brenton Stacey

Honours for Adventist handicrafts writer

HOBART, TASMANIA

An Adventist woman was honoured in the inaugural Tasmanian Honour Roll of Women for her contribution to the community through promoting handicrafts such as cooking, gardening and sewing throughout Tasmania.

Marjorie Bligh was presented with a certificate acknowledging her induction to the honour roll on May 10 by the Tasmanian Minister for Women, Paula Wriedt.

Mrs Bligh was born in 1917, and worked as a domestic and cook after leaving school. She later married and went on to be one of the founding members of the Campbell Town Country Women's Association. She also participated in many community activ-

ities, such as shows, fund-raisers and conferences.

She has also written two books about handicrafts and gardening, and penned a regular "home hints" newspaper column.

The honour roll recognises the outstanding accomplishments and contributions made by individual women in the state of Tasmania, and aims to ensure that their achievements are recognised.—*Adele Nash*



Honour Roll for Women inductee Marjorie Bligh.

Avondale College staff and students help fellow student scoot to class

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

Avondale College staff members and students have raised more than \$A1600 to buy a mobility scooter for a 94-year-old student.

Charles Pointon walks to Avondale from his unit at the retirement village on College Drive to promote the student club, COSMOS, of which he is the general secretary and treasurer, and to take the odd subject. While he has a sharp mind, his body is becoming weaker.

"I didn't like watching him struggle up and down that path," says assistant women's residence director Neroli Devine, who coordinated the fundraising. "Nor did the many others who stopped to give him a lift at the end of the day."

Ms Devine spoke to Mr Pointon and suggested he use a scooter to help retain his independence. "He's done so much for the college, I thought we could do something in return," says Ms Devine.

It took Ms Devine only about four weeks to raise the necessary money. "I would like to give a big thank you to everyone who donated," she says. "It's a testament to Charles that we raised such a large sum so quickly."



Charles Pointon with Neroli Devine, who organised the fundraiser for the scooter.

Mr Pointon is also thankful. "I'm deeply moved," he says. The scooter saves Mr Pointon 40 minutes each day. He now makes the trip to college in only five minutes. "You're not supposed to do more than 10 kilometres per hour, but the scooter has no speedometer, so you can't really tell how fast you're going. I make the scooter run pretty fast on the path," he adds.

Mr Pointon is synonymous with COSMOS, having served the club in various capacities over the past 25 years. He has helped raised more than \$A93,000 for various Adventist missions in that time.—

Brenton Stacey

Dualism and holism

BY KENT KINGSTON

DUALISM IS THE IDEA THAT THE world can be understood in terms of opposites: black/white, day/night, male/female, good/evil, life/death, body/spirit. While there is considerable value in the notion of balance, the danger of this perspective is that death and evil become necessary to counterbalance the forces of life and good. How hopeless!—that death is necessary to balance life; that dying is a normal part of living.

Why do we cringe when our cat brings a dead bird to the screen door? Why do we grieve for the loss of our loved ones? Why does every cell in our body scream out, “No! This is not normal”?

We should be careful not to fall into dualistic traps when we discuss the problem of suffering. We often say things like: “You have to go through suffering to appreciate God’s blessings.” *You have to?* Really? How then will we appreciate God’s blessings in heaven, where there is no suffering? It is one thing to say that God can use suffering to His own ends. It is quite another to say we need suffering. It’s tantamount to saying evil itself is necessary.

Or consider the central premise of the hugely successful novel by Dan Brown, *The Da Vinci Code*, which sets up mainstream Christianity and neo-paganism as competing world views. Dan Brown’s characters intersperse their adventures with critiques of a patriarchal Christianity, which is male-dominated, sexist and even misogynist. Instead, the author promotes the “sacred feminine,” particularly as expressed in nature worship, reverence for “the goddess” and pagan fertility rites.

But does the Bible require us to choose between a masculine or feminine religion? No. Scripture clearly states humanity was created in God’s image—“male and female he created them” (Genesis 1:27, NIV). Thus, God cannot be described as either male or female. God transcends gender and each of us, whether male or female, is equally godlike in our design.

This is the unique value of the distinctive Adventist rediscoveries of the state of the

dead, the new earth and the health message. These are doctrines of holism rather than dualism and represent a paradigm shift from other religions and philosophies.

Our pioneers discovered that the Bible teaches a holistic view of the body; that the body is our entire being, made alive by God’s creative power. We do not have a disembodied and separate immortal soul. We were originally designed to live physical lives on our home planet, which will one day be renewed, as will our physical bodies.

So physical life is important. Not because it relates to a polar opposite spiritual realm, but because physicality is spiritual in and of itself. God chooses to live within our body (1 Corinthians 6:19). That is why we treat our bodies with respect in matters of sexual morality, dress and health.

Another difficulty with viewing the world through a dualistic, “natural versus supernatural” lens is knowing which is which. Because the dividing line between these “opposites” keeps moving.

Long ago, everything was explained spiritually. During the past couple of centuries, however, science has explained more and more phenomena in purely physical terms until hardline sceptics have written out God altogether.

But does explanation or diagramming make a baby’s birth any less miraculous? Surely understanding only increases our wonder so, in the end, the spiritual is natural; the physical is magical.

To deny this is to deny that God is as real as the chair you are sitting on. Dualism dulls the urgency of our situation by relegating God to another realm, disconnected from our everyday lives. The Bible teaches that there is one reality. We are in it and so is God. One day soon He will demonstrate once and for all that death and evil are not necessary for cosmic balance. Instead, they are unseemly wrinkles in the fabric of the universe to be smoothed away forever. **R**

Kent Kingston writes from Kuranda, Queensland.

Prayer keys: Join the e-prayer chain

BY JOY BUTLER

AN EMAIL PRAYER CHAIN IS SHARED across the South Pacific Division every Tuesday. If you sense that God wants you to be part of this prayer ministry, please contact us. Consider this an opportunity to be part of the growing prayer network of people who are seeking God and His blessing upon His church in these serious times. We pray for individuals, for missionaries, for ministers and their families. We also pray for corporate church requests. If you can seriously commit to a time of intercessory prayer on a regular basis, do contact us.

Don’t just imagine a praying church—be the catalyst to move it forward.

Don’t just imagine a praying church—be the catalyst to move it forward. “Beyond life itself, prayer is the most universally shared privilege known to humankind. Christians and non-Christians alike turn to God at any time. Prayer defies man-made distinctions between peoples, and places us all at the feet of God. The Lord has promised to hear and respond when His people pray. Our hope is to hear less about prayer and to see more people praying; to make fewer plans that we’ve contrived and leave ourselves open to His direction and to give ourselves opportunity to stand in awe at the mighty working of His power” (Carole Ferch-Johnson, *Uplink*, Vol 1, No 1, 1999).

“Come near to God and he will come near to you” (James 4:8, NIV). To be a part of this prayer ministry contact: <eyeo@adventist.org.au> or <jbutler@adventist.org.au>. **R**

The passing on of prayer requests is at the discretion of the prayer ministries coordinator, South Pacific Division.

Joy Butler is prayer coordinator for the South Pacific Division.



Angela Brown

It really is free!

BY DUANE A VACHON

THE GREAT, CENTRAL THEME OF THE Bible is grace, God's favour. God's love is literally unaccountable. It can't be put in any ledger of accounts. Yet the mind-set of merit—of buying, selling and earning—is common. Until we can give up that mind-set we cannot understand the concept of grace—or truly experience it.

Most people never move beyond the merits and rewards, crime and punishment. It's the mind-set that's behind almost all our stories: novels, plays, almost everybody's script. It's what makes capitalism run. People are always talking about the price of things, and being able to afford things. When you think that way day after day it can become the only way to think and live.

To think of life as being solely about buying and selling creates a "meritocracy." It's a world based on earning merit badges for some and punishment for others, for those who have not done it right. This merit system mentality seems so ingrained in us as humans. Yet perhaps the most "violent" act of Jesus was to make a whip of cords, which He used to go into the Temple to destroy the system of buying and selling (see John 2:14-16).

In its early years, Christianity was much more attuned to the radical nature of God's mercy. After it became the official religion of the Roman Empire in 313 AD, you see

two concepts changing quickly. Grace and forgiveness became politicised, legalised and organised. Suddenly, we think we have the one and only measuring gauge to find who's in and who's out. We began to find ways to earn grace, ways to jump through the correct hoops. And the very concept of grace was lost.

Much of the New Testament is devoted to telling us that salvation is a free gift from God. Nobody can claim credit. If this is not the case, grace is not grace. Once we try to organise it and create "worthiness" or "merit" systems for it, we have destroyed the very possibility of it.

God does not love you because you are good; but you're good because God loves you. Goodness is not something you achieve. God does almost everything.

To allow yourself to be God's beloved is to be God's beloved. To allow yourself to be chosen is to be chosen. To allow yourself to be the blessed one is to be blessed. It's to believe it, to trust it, to allow it to happen. And so many people will not be the loved, they will not be the blessed, they will not allow and imagine that God could be using them in this moment. And once you allow God to use you, God does. It's that simple, but it's so hard for us to believe.

Have you ever noticed in the Gospels that Jesus is not upset at sinners? He's mostly upset at people who don't think

they're sinners. It's a different world once you accept that. Think about that again and again. This concept is the hinge of faith—everything we do hinges on it. We want to turn it around because it's the nature of the ego to hinge everything on our own earned goodness.

We will never get anywhere with that. We have lost power and the biblical revelation at that moment. Life does not hinge on your goodness; it hinges on God's goodness. You do good things because you are good, thanks to God's free gift.

The message Jesus gave to His followers was to get out of the worthiness game entirely. When you have a party invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind so they cannot pay you back. This will mean you are fortunate. We see it at the wedding feast at Cana in John's Gospel and we see it at the Last Supper. In the Gospels, the banquet is a wonderful symbol of God's free, unconditional love—a love often ignored or rejected.

It's still hard for us to believe. God is trying to give away God. And too often it seem no-one wants Him. We seem to prefer the worthiness system, where we earn what we get. But that's not God's invitation. **R**

*Duane A Vachon writes from
Richlands, Queensland.*

You can help PAU

BY MELISSA BIDMEAD

THE DIVISION-WIDE OFFERING ON June 11 will assist Pacific Adventist University (PAU) in the expansion of its library and construction of a new administration building. We spoke with Dr Nemani Tausere, vice-chancellor of Pacific Adventist University, about how church members can help to meet the needs of this institution.

Where is PAU and what does it offer?

Pacific Adventist University is a Seventh-day Adventist tertiary institution located just 15 kilometres from the heart of Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea, and is operated by the South Pacific Division. The University Council members, faculty and staff are committed to quality Christian education, and the university policies and programs focus on the development of the whole of each student's potential. Our mission is to prepare Christian professionals, motivated by a love of God and a concern for humanity, to contribute to the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and to serve the needs of Pacific-island communities.

We offer degrees in areas such as business, theology, science, nursing and education. This year we have a record student enrolment of 461, of which 372 are indoor students. As one of only five universities in the country, PAU is in high demand and receives more than 1000 applications every year. Out of those who apply, only 10 per cent can be accepted. This number of students is exerting extreme pressure on our facilities.

Our vision for PAU is to double student enrolment in the next four years. PAU administration has a burden for the many prospective students who are not able to attend because of lack of space in the dormitories, classrooms and library.

The [PNG] Prime Minister, Sir Michael

Somare, and other leaders in government, have praised PAU for its vision and accomplishments. PAU administration appreciates the demonstration of such strong support by the government to the institution. These expressions of confidence in PAU are gratifying and echoed by many who visit the campus.

What's new at PAU?

God has continued to show his loving care to us as an institution, through the granting of a K10 million project in 2003 for the construction of a new School of Health Science building, new ladies and men's dormitories, and new staff and student accommodation. It is exciting to see new buildings take shape around the campus, and to know the joy and happiness it will bring to those who will be using them. These projects are expected to be completed in August, just in time for second semester classes.

Our rice project continues to attract government attention for the research conducted on rice production and techniques in PNG. The Department of National Planning and Agriculture recently gave some monetary assistance toward the ongoing development of the rice and mango projects.

PAU Council recently gave its approval for the offering of a Master of Arts program, and exploration into the offering of a doctoral program in educational leadership by Adventist International Institute for Academic Studies [Philippines] on our campus.

What challenges do you face as an institution?

Just some of the continuing challenges we face include a severe shortage of student accommodation, the continued decrease in the value of the kina, the need for addi-

tional faculty and staff housing, the need for the upgrade and maintenance of existing university infrastructure to facilitate expansion, the upgrading of staff members' qualifications in order to continue to provide quality education, and inadequate funding for necessary expansion.

One of the main challenges PAU faces is finance. PAU relies heavily on donations to ensure quality Christian tertiary education is available to residents of Papua New Guinea and other Pacific countries. The continual struggle is often wearying, but God offers us the strength and hope we need to carry on.

What needs does PAU have?

With the growth in the student population, there is also a corresponding growth in staff numbers. Our biggest need at the moment concerns the academic and administrative centre of our institution. Currently the administration and business offices are housed in the upper section of the library, restricting the expansion critical for both the offices and the library. Students take up every available seat and desk in the library at night as they study, meaning some students miss out if they are not there early to reserve their seat. The facilities and space for the offices are also becoming cramped, as we add more staff to cope with a growing student population.

The June 11 offering will be allocated to the relocation of the two set of offices into a separate administration building in order to allow for the expansion of the library. The new wing of the library will then need to be refurbished to become part of the existing library. The new administration building has been a dream for a long time, with plans already having been drawn up in faith that we will receive the money we need to be able to complete this expansion and building project.

PAU has also identified the need for a separate student services centre and recreation hall. Day students currently do not have a place where they can rest and relax during the day and between classes. Often they cannot return to town until early evening because of the lack of transport and limited finances. Indoor students often do not have a place where they can socialise and play games.

How can we help PAU?

Our dreams for a new administration building and a bigger library are not new. The needs were identified in 2003, and plans were drawn up for construction. However, due to lack of funds we did not see the building take shape on campus. Since 2003, the devaluation of the kina and rising prices have resulted in the cost of building materials doubling and tripling.

Funding sources have not been able to afford to increase donations to match the price rises, resulting in a reduced budget for 2005 and 2006. Funding has become critical, and is the number one challenge we face. We are therefore asking for your help on June 11 in order to help us complete these projects.

Do you have a personal comment?

Being on the front line in a place where the forces of good and evil often collide, we often face many problems, challenges and trials. However, God promises we will never be alone in our struggles. We take refuge and solace in His promise: "And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19, NIV).

As an administrator, a father, a husband and a product of our mission-field educational institutions, I thank all our church members for their prayers and generous support on our behalf. Your gifts and donations are of great assistance in the advancement of the Lord's work at PAU and in the island region. Thank you again for your support. **R**

Melissa Bidmead is executive administrative assistant at Pacific Adventist University, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

The library at Pacific Adventist University (below) and the new health sciences building taking shape (right).



Outside the gates

BY MELISSA BIDMEAD

HE STOOD THERE OUTSIDE THE gates, dirty and torn clothes hanging from his gaunt body. His skeletal frame stood tall and motionless, and his lifeless eyes stared blankly into the distance. I could easily make out most of his bones through the thin layer of clothes he used as a covering. Crowds of people walked by him, ignoring the fact that he was almost certainly near death. Passing by in our car, I could not help but stare and feel a sense of shock from what I had just seen. And the awful thing was that inside I felt like a Pharisee, passing him by while a true good Samaritan would help.

When my husband and I first came as "missionaries" to Pacific Adventist University (PAU) in Papua New Guinea, we were told many things and given much well-meaning advice. However, even

though we live on a beautiful campus that has most of the modern necessities of life, nothing could have prepared us for what we would have to face outside the gates.

I remember my first naive words to my husband when we arrived at PAU: "This place is just so beautiful and peaceful, just like I imagine heaven would be!"

It wasn't until about a month later I realised that outside the gates were corrupt businessmen and politicians, people living in absolute poverty, and a decidedly different culture from that I was used to back home in Australia. And PAU is not exempt from the financial issues facing the country. Only by God's mercy and grace can the university keep providing a Christian education to its students.

Before we left many people asked us why we wanted to come to Papua New Guinea as such a young, newly married couple. My

**Pacific Adventist University
Offering—June 11**

husband was employed within the church in a job he really enjoyed, and I had just found employment after graduating from university. Our decision had stemmed from our deep desire to help others in some way, and contribute to the education and spiritual development of other young people.

Now I am here, I have wondered why young people my age don't seem interested in serving as a missionary overseas, and why overall giving for mission projects and institutions seems to be declining. Looking back on my own childhood, I realise that even though we were read a "mission story" in Sabbath school each week, the stories were never as real to me as they are now. There were so many distractions available to me at home, so many other things to raise money for, that seemed at the time to be so much more important than what was happening in the mission field. It always seemed so distant and far from reality, not something I needed to worry myself about.

Even though I have been here only a short while, I can see the desperate reality: there are so many people in this country and many others who need to hear about the love of God. So many millions of people live in the spiral of poverty, and don't know how to help themselves. Unfortunately, they will never have that opportunity if our words do not translate into action.

"And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8, NIV). These words have taken on new meaning for us as we come to terms with the issues we are confronted with every day.

I was touched recently by a student who gave a testimony for our Week of Prayer. Her father had left when she was still in primary school, and as a result her uncle came to live in the same house with her family. At the young, innocent age of 11, her uncle began to sexually abuse her, eventually leading her to try committing suicide twice. After spending about a year on the PAU campus, she has started to pick up the pieces of her life. She is starting to earnestly read the Bible, and feels a peace she never felt before. The sad fact is that more than half our students are estimated to come from broken homes or have been abused in some way.

Why am I here? To help make a difference in the lives of our students, and to see them grow in their relationship with God. Yes, some days I feel frustrated, days when I feel so angry inside, and days when all I can do is cry. It is not always easy.

This is a time when your support is needed most. The training of young people in an institution such as PAU to carry the gospel work forward in this country is critical. Behind the friendly Pacific smiles, many students carry huge burdens no-one ever knows about, hidden hurts that gradually emerge as they encounter and experience God in a real way.

Just outside the gates are communities of people waiting to be healed and released from their hurts, and to experience the love and peace only God brings. I feel privileged to be able to contribute in some small way to ensuring that those outside the gates have an opportunity to hear about my wonderful God. **R**

Melissa Bidmead is executive administrative assistant at Pacific Adventist University, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.



Record Roo's Kids corner

Hi Kids,
Don't you hate it when there is nothing in the cupboard that you want to eat! Imagine how it would have been for Abram and his family when there was a famine. Have a read in Genesis 12:10-20 and find out what else happened... RR

Fill in the Blanks

Now there was a _____ in the land, and Abram went down to _____ to dwell there, for the famine was _____ in the land.
Genesis 12:10 NKJV

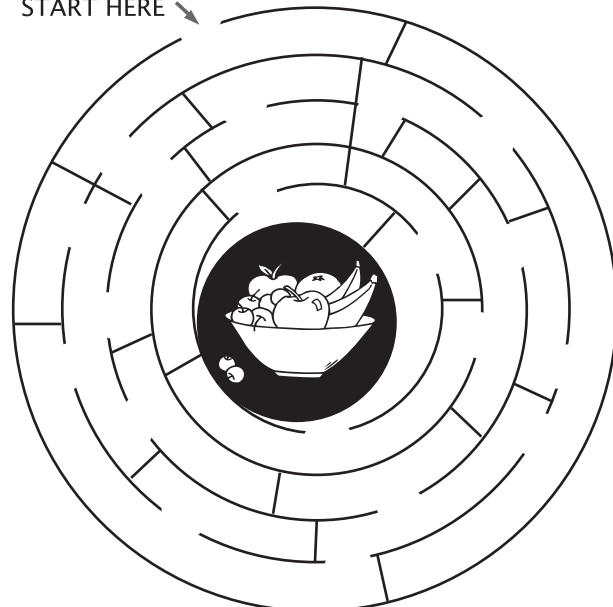
Find-a-Word

FAMINE BEAUTIFUL
EGYPT PLAGUE
WIFE DECEIVED
FEAR PHARAOH
SARAI SERVANTS
SISTER LIVESTOCK
LIE COMMAND
LEAVE



A-maZing...

See if you can get to the food in the centre.
START HERE →



Passing of a pope

JOHN RALSTON, SA

Milton Hook (Letters, May 14) is ignoring the fact that, in his warfare against Christ, Satan mixes some good with wrong in order to make his plans acceptable and successful. Catholic hierarchy lobbied government for funds for their schools, not the survival of the Adventist school system.

Pope John Paul II endeavoured to destroy Communism for the benefit of his church, not to open Eastern Europe to our evangelists. If there's been some benefit, let's thank God for His providence instead of the Catholic Church.

BRYAN BALL, NSW

Thank you for publishing the perceptive article by Dr William Johnsson, "The papacy in transition" (Feature, May 7). To the points of protest we share with other Protestants who cherish their Reformation heritage we might add the immortality of the soul. This pervasive doctrine undergirds much of what Rome teaches—the intercession of saints, prayer for the dead (including the recently deceased pope John Paul II), purgatory, the eternal burning of the unsaved in hell, and the rapidly expanding cult of the virgin Mary. One has only to visit a Catholic church in Europe or South America to see daily evidence of the grip of many of these beliefs in people's lives.

Yes, we are heirs of the Reformation that protested against such departures from bib-

lical truth, but for how long? I've been studying Scripture and history with eager high-school students. They were, when I began, almost totally ignorant of prophecy, the Reformation, and its historical figures such as Luther, Wycliffe and Tyndale.

If, as I suspect, they are representative of that age group in the church, then we're only a few years from a denominational identity crisis. If the Reformation *does* matter, then let us make sure that our people, especially our young people, know what it was all about while there's still time.

JOSEPH MATICIC, ALBANIA

As I watched the coverage of the death and funeral of John Paul II, I couldn't help but think of the fulfilment of the prophecies of Revelation 13. So I've read with interest the letters sparked by the editorial of April 16, "A prayer for Catholic friends."

Milton Hook misses the mark in his defence. He states that the Adventist Church is indebted to the Roman Catholic hierarchy because it lobbied the government not to close private schools in Australia. If God is guiding our movement, could He not have made a way? And as for us needing to be thankful to the late pope for bringing down Communism, opening doors for our evangelists, I'm sure the pope's interest was more to open them to his denomination.

Clearer role

TRACEY CHATMAN, WA

A deacon, biblically speaking, is a servant of both God and humankind. A deacon is ordained in order to receive a special blessing, as they've been set aside for the special purpose of proclaiming the gospel. However, today a deacon's main role is to collect offerings and care for church maintenance. I don't wish to denigrate these roles, but I do question the need for ordination in order to

If the Reformation *does* matter, then let us make sure that our young people know.

do so. We ordain deacons, but not personal ministries or Sabbath school leaders, yet those roles focus on furthering the gospel. All church leaders are deacons and consequently need the blessing of ordination.

Correction

In connection with a letter to the editor referring to plans to sell "a section of Bethesda Home and Hospital" ("Realty loss reality," Letters, May 21), we have been advised by the North New Zealand Conference that this suggestion is not correct. In a statement released to local conference ministers, head elders and church clerks by the North New Zealand Conference on May 5, Bethesda's Board of Management assured members that, whatever the outcome of current negotiations on management arrangements, "the Bethesda Rest Home and Hospital will continue to be owned by the North New Zealand Conference . . . and operated under the direction of the Bethesda Board of Management." While the letters page in RECORD carries the disclaimer that the views expressed are not those of the editors or denomination, RECORD regrets the misrepresentation of this situation. —*Editors*

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.

just a coincidence



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

Anniversary

Donaldson, Gordon and Audrey (nee Hawkins) celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on 10.4.05 with family and friends at the South Queensland Conference campground. All the original wedding party were in attendance, except Gordon's brother, Mick, who sadly passed away last year. Two guests from the original reception, John and Doris Thorpe, also attended. Gordon and Audrey have been very active members of the church in south-east Queensland over the years and currently attend Landsborough church. They believe the secret of their long marriage is that they have always loved each other and shared as much time together as possible.

will be sadly missed by family and friends. She touched many hearts in her lifetime.

Mike Collum

Bryan, Beryl Wilhemina (nee Stocken), born 18.5.1920 in Sydney, NSW; died 1.5.05 in Wyong Hospital. In 1945 she graduated from Sydney Adventist Hospital and had spent almost the entire 60 years since then in nursing. She is survived by her children, Colleen, wife of Adventist author Dr John Ashton (Dora Creek), David (Gosford) and Rodney (Balgowla Heights); her eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Beryl's confidence in the Lord and in His salvation was rock solid. She went to her rest with the firm conviction that the Lord will call her "in the morning."

Lester Hawkes

Sydney Stocken, Max Hatton

Ensbey, Marjorie Vera (Marge), born 7.6.1920 at Belmore, NSW; died 20.4.05 at Crowley Village Nursing Home, Ballina. She is survived by her nieces, Kerry Simmons (McLeans Ridges) and family; and Virginia Miller and family (Bega). Marge was a bright, elegant lady with many interests; also dux of Lakemba Girls High School. She served as hostess receptionist at Sydney Adventist Hospital, Lewisham Sanitarium Health Food Company and Royal Automobile Club.

Ernie Krause, Ian Johnston

Faolua, Mapesone, born 4.5.1948 in Salelesi, Samoa; died 26.12.04 in Brisbane, Qld, after a long illness. On 29.5.74 he married Margaret Wilson. He is survived by his wife (Underwood); his son and daughter-in-law, Matthew and Annie; his other children, Dmitri, Dana and Natasha; and his grandchildren, Karina, Corey, Cheyenne and Leilani. Some travelled to New Zealand as a teenager, where he met Margaret. In 1980 the family returned to Samoa, before moving to Australia in 1983. Some will be remembered for his beautiful smile, his courage, his dignity and his unselfish spirit. He will be sadly missed.

Mike Collum

Rampton, Paul Milton, JP, born 12.5.1957 at Wollongong, NSW; died 26.3.05 at Lake Tarawera, NZ. He is survived by his wife, Carol (nee Hartley); his children, Christopher and Amie (all of Palmerston North); his brothers, Tony (Wollongong), and Lorin (Lismore); and his sister, Michelle Pascoe (Forster). Paul was a loving and

devoted husband and father. He loved the outdoors and was involved in Pathfinders for many years. He was a quiet, consistent witness for his Lord and will be sadly missed by his family, friends and church family. He now rests awaiting his Lord's return on the resurrection day.

Anton van Wyk, Lindsey Wells

Rogers, Barry Roland (Buck), born 29.7.1942 at Bellingen, NSW; died 11.3.05 at Coffs Harbour Health Campus. He is survived by his mother and stepfather, Edith and William Richards (Bingara); his children and their spouses, Debbie and Graham Attenborough, Mandy and Matthew Butler, and Adam and Lucy Rogers (all of Sydney); his brother and sister-in-law, John and Anne Richards (Dimboola, Vic); and his sister and brother-in-law, Glenda and Russell Atcheson (Glenreagh, NSW). Greatly loved and sadly missed by all who knew him.

Eric Greenwell

Wells, Edward James (Jimmy), born 11.4.1939 at Monto, Qld; died 11.5.05 at Monto, where he had lived all his life. He was predeceased by his parents, his two sisters; and his brother. In spite of being born with an intellectual disability, Jimmy was known for his ready smile, his helpfulness and his ability as a mechanic. He had his own home and a shed to work in fixing things; he did that well. "Your Monto church family and friends miss you, Jimmy. See you in the morning."

Bruce Burling

Advertisements

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Medical missionary course. Accredited and Austudy approved. Scholarship available. Please apply to: Administrator, Medical Missionary Training Institute, 1 Fryers Road, Herveys Range, North Queensland, 4817. Phone: (07) 4778 0000; fax: (07) 4778 0077; email: <mmti@tpg.com.au>; web: <www.connectqld.org.au/mmty>.

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.

Adventist Students Association Convention—"Salted to Taste." You are invited to ASA's National Convention at Crosslands Convention Centre, Sydney, July 11–17. Speaker: Grenville Kent. Register at <www.myasa.org>.

Volunteers!

Fly'n'build—Nadi Community Centre. Carpenters, plumber, electrician, handy people. Come and be part of the team to erect the community centre for English-speaking church members. This will be an exciting and challenging project. Term: August 7–22, 2005.

Fly'n'build—Levuka, Fiji. Carpenters, blocklayers, handy people. Cyclone/landslide damaged steel church. Repairs needed to reconstruct half the steel-framed church. Be on the team to do the impossible! The church members have worked hard to fund-raise for these repairs. Term: August 25–September 8, 2005.

ESL Teachers—Kazakhstan. Interested in teaching English? Two teachers are needed in September for 12 months. Teaching experience is preferred, but not essential.

Assistant Houseparent for Girls—Lilydale Adventist Academy, Vic. Duties include: assist supervision of student duties in dorm and cafeteria; assist supervision of student study programs; assist in planning and participating in student social programs, both on and off campus; organise and conduct regular student worship programs; liaise with the school chaplain regarding involvement in campus ministries and chapel programs; maintain active involvement in LAA's campus ministries program.

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Urgently needed—Funafuti SDA Primary School (Grades 1–8) urgently needs: (1) books for the library; (2) brass band instruments for developing music in the school and establishing our SDA youth brass band. Contact: District Director, Tuvalu Attached Mission, PO Box 19, Vaiaiku, Funafuti Island, Tuvalu.

80th celebration. All past and present members of Papanui church or Christchurch Adventist School are welcome to join its 80th celebration from October 21 to 24, 2005. Celebrate the past. Register phone +64 3 354 4696; or email <neil@papanui.org>; visit <www.papanui.org>; write to Papanui SDA 80th reunion, 25 Shearer Avenue, Papanui 5, Christchurch, New Zealand.

Weddings

Facer—Denham. Nathan John Facer, son of Ian and Noeleen Facer (Christchurch, NZ), and Katy Louise Denham, daughter of Barry and Margaret Denham (Perth, WA), were married on 24.10.04 in Perth.

Neil Thompson, Ken Williams

Gudze—Long. Aaron David Gudze, son of Ian and Rosemary Gudze (Wollongong, NSW), and Jenna Peta Long, daughter of Peter and Annette Long (Mareeba, Qld), were married on 15.5.05 at Jamberoo Valley Lodge, Jamberoo, NSW.

Bob Possingham

Shmack—Waterson. Paul Schmack, son of Mary (Leeston, NZ) and the late Vincent Schmack, and Emma Waterson, daughter of Bob and Wendy Waterson (Orange, NSW), were married on 8.4.05 at St John of God Chapel, Halswell, Christchurch, NZ. *Raymond Schmack*

Obituaries

Barnett, Muriel (nee Anderson), born 26.9.1919 at Singleton, NSW; died 15.4.05 in Brisbane, Qld. She was predeceased by her husband, George, on 29.2.96. She is survived by her daughter, Janne (Brisbane). Muriel was the eldest of 11 children. All the surviving siblings, Laurel, Maisie, Dulcie and Brian, attended the graveside service. Muriel

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Finally

The careful balance between silence and words, withdrawal and involvement, distance and closeness, solitude and community forms a good basis for a wonderful shared life.