

RECORD

September 17, 2005

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local church



On August 31, delegates to the South Pacific Division session voted to discontinue division sessions, adopting alternative election and reporting procedures.



Reports of the South Pacific

Voted: The last SPD session

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

The 13th—and last—South Pacific Division (SPD) session came to an end with a focus on the church's history in this region and a challenge as to the history yet to be written. A day of worship and mission focus climaxed the church's business session for approximately 270 delegates and spouses, who were joined by some 2000 Victorian church members for the Sabbath of celebration on September 3 in central Melbourne.

Earlier in the week, session delegates voted to discontinue sessions. "This is a defining moment and action for the church in the South Pacific," said SPD president Pastor Laurie Evans after the action was

passed. "It corrects an anomaly that is 82 years old, bringing the SPD into harmony with the rest of the world field and General Conference [GC] policy."

This action means the SPD will operate under the authority of the GC constitution and GC and division policies. Elections and appointments will be made either during the time of the GC sessions or by an elected executive committee immediately following the GC session.

The new procedures will mean an increase in the number of representatives from the Pacific islands in the division's executive committee.

(Continued on page 4)

President calls for renewed focus on local churches



Pastor Laurie Evans, president of the South Pacific Division, urged the importance of local pastors and local churches in his opening address to the 13th South Pacific Division session in Melbourne on August 30.

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

This quinquennium must be the quinquennium of the local pastor and the local church," Pastor Laurie Evans, president of the South Pacific Division (SPD), urged in his opening address to SPD session delegates in Melbourne on August 30. "This must be more than a slogan. It must be intentional, strategic and seen as a top priority."

Pastor Evans made this his focus, while reviewing the progress of the church in the South Pacific during the past five years. He highlighted the restructuring and organisational progress of the church since 2000 but noted that "none of these initiatives have resulted in appreciable growth, nor

have they resulted in a revival or rejuvenated church in the South Pacific."

Citing research from the National Church Life Survey in Australia, Pastor Evans noted an ageing church and one that sees less than 70 per cent of members regularly attending and participating in church. He also noted the social and cultural pressures presenting significant challenges to church growth. But, according to Pastor Evans, "there are too many unhealthy churches that have not grown in years or are slowly dying with no plans to grow."

Pastor Evans admitted the church has paid lip-service to the importance of local churches "but talk and practice do not harmonise." To this end, he particularly challenged church administrators and their allocation of resources.

"In this division most conferences are using only 45 per cent of gross tithes in supporting field ministry," Pastor Evans reported. "The remaining 55 per cent supports other activities of the conference and the corporate structure. But if the local pastor and church is the primary focus, it would seem the proportion is the wrong way round.

"If we could apply 60 per cent of gross tithes directly to field ministry, this would be an additional amount of \$A6.5 million for this purpose in Australia and New Zealand. What a difference that would make to resourcing the growth of the church at the grassroots level."

Presenting a realistic picture of the state of the church in the South Pacific and the challenges that come with change, Pastor Evans called for visionary leadership. "Strong church leaders in the 21st century

must be people who have a passion for God and the Great Commission. The church today is in need of administrators and pastors who can think big and strategise for the impossible."

Pastor Evans was introduced to session delegates by Pastor Jan Paulsen, president of the General Conference, announcing "something you all already know"—that Pastor Evans and his fellow SPD administrators were re-elected as SPD president for the next five years at the General Conference session held in St Louis (USA) in July this year. Pastor Evans was first appointed to this role in 1998.—*Nathan Brown*

A report from the SPD session

The South Pacific Division (SPD) session held in Melbourne, August 30 to September 3, was the 13th business session of the regional church. Sessions have been held in each five-year period, drawing delegates from the two union conferences and two union missions in the division.

This special issue of RECORD was prepared by RECORD staff and the SPD Department of Communication and Public Relations. Photographs by Angela Brown and Jeanelle Isaacs.

For more information, reports and photographs, visit the South Pacific Division session web site: adventist.org.au/spdsession



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

Vol 110 No 36
Cover: Angela Brown

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www.record.net.au

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Phone: (03) 5966 9111 Fax: (03) 5966 9019
Email Letters: editor@signspublishing.com.au
Email Newsfront: record@signspublishing.com.au
Email Noticeboard: editorsec@signspublishing.com.au
Subscriptions: South Pacific Division mailed within Australia and to New Zealand, \$A43.80 \$NZ73.00. Other prices on application. Printed weekly.

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

Church grows, but secretary “not satisfied”

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

In the five years to the end of 2004, 71,325 people joined the Adventist Church in the South Pacific, an average of 39 people each day over the quinquennium. However, Pastor Barry Oliver, general secretary of the South Pacific Division (SPD), was pleased to report that the trend of diminishing growth during 1999, 2000 and 2001 has been reversed in recent years. The year of highest growth through the quinquennium was 2004—designated as the Year of Evangelism—in which 17,135 people joined the church.

“The Year of Evangelism was a very exciting event for us,” reports Pastor Oliver. “There has been a dramatic turnaround of growth rates in the church worldwide and in our division through the Year of Evangelism focus.

“Our church continues to grow,” says Pastor Oliver. “But we have also had some significant losses during the past 10 years.”

Offsetting the growth of those joining the church, 23,506 people left the church through “apostasy” in the five-year period, Pastor Oliver reported. This figure,

together with deaths of members recorded, gives a total SPD membership of 378,281 at the end of 2004.

Pastor Oliver’s report to the session—co-presented with associate secretary Peter Brewin—highlighted the strategic focus of the SPD and how the major events and initiatives of the past five years have contributed to implementing this strategy. However, Pastor Oliver compared the growth of the church in the SPD with that of other regions of the worldwide church. “It should be a cause for alarm

that the South Pacific Division does not compare particularly favourably with other areas of the world church when it comes to growth in membership,” he says.

Yet Pastor Oliver remains enthusiastic about the possibilities for the church in this region. “Our division is a very exciting division to belong to,” he commented in presenting his report to session delegates. “The few hundred of us sitting here represent 378,000 church members across the divi-



Pastor Barry Oliver (right), general secretary of the South Pacific Division (SPD), co-presented the secretary’s report to the SPD session with associate secretary Peter Brewin (left).

sion. While the report is filled facts and figures, we all acknowledge that it is the people of this church that make it what it is. It is a privilege to belong to this church and be part of the mosaic that makes up the church in this region.

“We are gratified,” he said, “but we are never satisfied. We thank God for what has been achieved—but there is still much to do.” —**Nathan Brown**

Adventist leaders meet with Christian community

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

Adventist Church leaders marked their visit to Melbourne by reaching out to the wider Christian community. South Pacific Division (SPD) administrators, the General Conference president and the presidents of the Australian Union Conference and the Victorian Conference met with invited representatives from other Christian denominations, sharing a meal with them prior to the commencement of the SPD session.

According to Pastor Ray Coombe, SPD director of inter-church relations, taking such opportunities “acknowledges that we are part of the wider Christian community.

“Too often in the past we have been somewhat exclusive, almost doing our business in a vacuum,” he says. “This was an attempt to build a bridge of understanding and friendship.”

Invited guests included representatives of the Anglican, Catholic, Baptist, Uniting, Lutheran churches, the Salvation Army, the Australian Evangelical Alliance and the National Council of Churches in Australia. The church leaders stayed for the opening of the session.

“We have been invited to their national conferences from time to time, so we thought we should return the invitation,” says Pastor Coombe. “We also thought it was important to introduce these national

leaders to our church president, Dr Paulsen.

“The various church representatives expressed appreciation for the invitation and interaction,” he reports. “They took the opportunity to learn more about our church and its organisational structure.”

The Australian Union Conference will be assuming the major role Pastor Coombe has performed for the church in Australia and will be taking a more active role in interacting with the broader Christian community in Australia. Pastor Barry Oliver paid tribute to Pastor Coombe and acknowledged the “invaluable role he has played in building bridges of friendship with Christians and other religions.”

—**Nathan Brown**

Treasurer reports on financial change

Voted: The last SPD session



Chief financial officer Rodney Brady (left) presented a report focused on changing legal, accounting and financial realities to South Pacific Division session delegates on August 31.

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

In his report to the South Pacific Division (SPD) session, SPD's chief financial officer Rodney Brady presented five years of change. "One of the major focuses for the quinquennium has been incorporation of various aspects of the church's operations," said Mr Brady.

There have also been changes to accounting policy to meet new accounting standards and in the church's reporting procedures. "At one stage there were as many as 24 separate sets of financial statement," Mr Brady reflected, "but these have been consolidated into just three sets of statements."

The church's funding has also been impacted by exchange-rate fluctuations. "Set appropriations from the General Conference are paid in United States dollars and have declined an average of \$A1 million per year over the quinquennium with a rising Australian dollar," he said.

According to Mr Brady, the major financial challenge for the division remains the adequate funding of the missions across the Pacific. He cited a significant decline in minister numbers in Papua New Guinea as an example of this impact. Mission offer-

ings continue to decline and there is a shortage of treasurers available to missions, he said.

The rising cost of workers from Australia and New Zealand working in the island regions is also having an impact. "The cost of expatriate workers has increased by about 40 per cent in the past five years," said Mr Brady. "We are not spending less on expatriates but we have fewer of them."

Despite these challenges, Mr Brady reported the broad foundation of the SPD's financial health. "Funding for the division is equivalent to \$A143 per member, of which only \$25 is contributed by the members," he said. "The other 80 per cent of income is derived from institutions and investments."

Yet tithe remains an important and vital source of income for the church. "Tithe is the single most important source of finance for the church and can be a litmus test for the health of the church," said Mr Brady.

"We can rejoice to see a healthy trend in tithe receipts. Every year of the quinquennium tithe has increased at a rate greater than inflation," he said. "We express thanks to every member." —*Nathan Brown*

(Continued from page 1)

The number of lay members elected onto the executive committee from union conferences will be increased from nine to 10, while those from union missions will be doubled to 12.

"This will greatly encourage the church membership in the union missions," says Pastor Thomas Davai, president of the Papua New Guinea Union Mission. "We have always been hoping for more representation because of the size of our missions, and now we will have many more voices in the executive committee."

As part of the session action, it is also planned to create an Island Administrators Council comprising union mission, local mission and institutional leaders from the Pacific island nations, together with SPD administration. A Pacific Advisory group will also be set up comprising those members of the division executive committee from the Pacific.

"I am confident and happy that the voice of the island fields will be heard in a practical and demonstrative way," says Pastor David Hay, acting president of the Trans-Pacific Union Mission. "The plans are well done and well thought out, and I believe more broad planning for the island fields will result."

Pastor Jan Paulsen, president of the General Conference (GC), reassured South Pacific delegates that the decision was a "good way to go."

"I commend the SPD for taking this action," he said. "The SPD needs to align itself with the constitution of the church family. None of the other 12 divisions in the worldwide church feel impinged upon, or that their freedom to develop, restructure and be themselves has been restricted by the GC constitution."

The discontinuation of SPD sessions means that the SPD will be able to maximise the functions of its GC session delegates and channel funds to growth and nurture.

"I'm excited that this decision was made. This is a milestone in our growing maturity," says Pastor Evans. —*Melody Tan*

SPD elections and appointments

Administration

Special assistant to the president—Peter B Brewin

Associate general secretary—Dr Bradley R Kemp

Associate Chief Financial Officer (Expatriate Support Services)—David R Potter

Associate Chief Financial Officer (Operations & Finance)—Kelvin J Peuser
Secretary ACA Ltd (Property Manager)—Allan R Butler

Corporate Services Secretary—Ronald L Herbert

Papua New Guinea Union Mission

President—Pastor Thomas Davai

General Secretary—Denis Tame

Chief Financial Officer—Solomon Agdon

Associate General Secretary—Pastor Blasius Managos

Associate Chief Financial Officers—Praveen Saggurthi, Rex Rosas, Riches Christian, Terence McHugh, Rillen Taitarae

Trans-Pacific Union Mission

President—Pastor Lawrence Tanabose

General Secretary—Pastor Waisea Vuniwa

Chief Financial Officer—Vic Bonetti

Assistant to the President—Joe Tale-maitoga

Associate Chief Financial Officers—Michael Jones, Shane Palipane

Departmental directors

Accepted at time of publication:

Adventist Health Ministries—Jonathan M Duffy

Adventist Children's Ministries—Julie A Weslake

Director of Communication—Bruna Tawake

Adventist Education—Dr Barry A Hill; Associate—Kenneth R Weslake

Adventist Family Ministries—Dr Bryan K Craig

Health Food—Kevin A Jackson

Human Resources—

Colin E Clark

Leadership and Professional Development—Dr

A Barry Gane

Adventist Mission—

Pastor Raymond L. Coombe

Personal Ministries/Sabbath School, Stewardship—Pastor Joseph Talipuan

Publishing Ministries—Pastor Terry G

Goltz; Associates—Pastor Kevin W

Geelan, Kenneth G Read

Adventist Volunteer Service—Dr Mel W

Lemke

Adventist Women's Ministries—Joy M

Butler

Adventist Youth—Pastor Gilbert R Cangy

Ministerial Association secretary—Pastor

Gary H Webster

Field Secretary—Dr Paul B Petersen

Public Affairs and Religious Liberty liaison—Pastor Raymond L. Coombe

Spirit of Prophecy coordinator—Dr Paul B

Petersen

Division Executive Committee (elected members)

10 lay members from union conferences:

Neil Schofield (AUC); Robyn Kimpton

(AUC); Ronald Bower (AUC); Carol-Joy

Patrick (AUC); Dr Rebecca Chan (AUC);

Graeme Fletcher (AUC); Mavae Fonua

(NZPUC); Nga Valoa (NZPUC); Stephen

Davies (NZPUC); Allison McDonald

(NZPUC, Youth).

12 lay members from union missions:

Simeon Nixon (TPUM); Tom Aumavae

(TPUM); Anna Kavaefiafi (TPUM); Dick

Haumora (TPUM); Seby John (PNGUM,

Youth); Karo Matainaho (PNGUM);

Monica Lari (PNGUM); Ivan Pomaleu

(PNGUM); Mewie Launa (PNGUM); Ron

Maipu (PNGUM); Andrew Miriki

(PNGUM); one to be appointed (referred to

executive committee).

Six non-administrative employees from

union conferences: Pastor Clive Tefaatau

(NZPUC); Pastor Anton Van Wyck



The 29-member session nominating committee pondered the leadership roles of union missions, SPD departments and institutions, and membership of the Division Executive Committee, which then met to make additional appointments.

(NZPUC); Ritchie Reid (AUC, Youth); Pastor Wil Grobler (AUC); Blair Jackson (SHF); Julie Behrens (SAH).

Eight non-administrative employees from union missions: Pastor Shiu Kumar (TPUM); Patlyn Sisiolo (TPUM); Siaufisi Kirimaua (TPUM); Kila Wari (PAU); Jones Taos (PNGUM); Danny Phillip (PNGUM, Youth); Jocelyn Kakbo (PNGUM); Peter Korave (PNGUM).

Four mission or conference administrators from union conferences: Pastor Marama Tuariihionoa (NZPUC); Stephen Whitson (AUC); Pastor John Lang (AUC); Pastor Glenn Townend (AUC).

Six mission administrators from union missions: Pastor Nos Teri (TPUM); Teddy Kingsley (TPUM); Pastor Uili Solofa (TPUM); Pastor Leo Jambby (PNGUM); Pastor Benjamin Hap (PNGUM); Pastor Kepsie Elodo (PNGUM).

Two young people recommended by the Youth Advisory: John Polum (PNGUM, Youth); Sherilee Howie (AUC, Youth).

Extra person (up to three) appointed by Division Executive Committee: Jenny Gibbons (AUC).

Institutional appointments

General Manager, Adventist Media Centre—Pastor Robert Bolst

Executive Director, ADRA—South Pacific/Chief Executive Officer, ADRA—Australia—Pastor David P Jack

Vice-Chancellor, Pacific Adventist University—Dr Nemani Tausere

General Manager, Signs Publishing Company—Glen A Reed

Editor, RECORD—Nathan Brown
Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Adventist Hospital—Dr Leon W Clark

Manager, Risk Management Service—Stephen G Andrews

Report: Leaders talk leadership

Delegates at the South Pacific Division (SPD) session learned about the activity highlights of the Ministerial Association secretary, the Field Secretary, the Human Resources and the Leadership and Pacific Resources departments during the first combined report of the session on August 31.

“Our aim was to present some of the synergies that exist between our areas in a combined fashion,” says Pastor Anthony Kent, SPD Ministerial Association secretary and coordinator of the report. “However, we also wanted to create a casual and interactive environment so that delegates felt comfortable to ask questions.”

The presentation involved a mixture of monologue, discussion, PowerPoint presentations, interviews, statistical information and a question-and-answer time.

According to Colin Clark, director Human Resources (HR) for the SPD, the need for cultural change in terms of employment practices remains a priority.

“It’s important the church develops better HR practices and shows in practical ways it values its employees,” he said.

Dr Paul Petersen, SPD field secretary, mentioned the production of *ClearView*, a series of prophecy study guides, as one of his “magic moments” of the past five years. “I have also enjoyed organising an Ellen White Summit, the first meeting of theology teachers and visiting the islands,” he said.

Dr Brad Kemp, director of leadership and Pacific resources, commented on his work to pursue conference status for mission entities. “We have pursued this goal actively,” he said. “A three-phase process of developing guidelines, building capacity and training personnel is in place, but the task has been more challenging than we first thought.”

Pastor Kent said he has enjoyed being



Ministerial Association secretary Pastor Anthony Kent swaps reports with HR director Colin Clark during the combined leadership report to the SPD session.

“the pastors’ pastor” and his involvement in the Institute of Public Evangelism. “Being involved in developing a new internship training package and seeing the Partners in Ministry program further developed have also been rewarding,” he said.—*Bruna Tawake*

Report: “Health is good for church”

It is normal for your heart rate to go up when you get excited,” Jonathan Duffy, director of Adventist Health, forewarned South Pacific Division (SPD) session delegates at the beginning of the combined health report. “We hope you get excited when you hear this report.”

Kevin Jackson, chief executive officer of the Sanitarium Health Food Company, reported a stronger emphasis on mission. “Our mission to inspire and resource our community to experience happy, healthy lives links directly to the church’s vision statement,” he said.

Mr Jackson reported Sanitarium has contributed more than \$A73 million to church projects over the past five years, “an increase of 30 per cent over the previous period.”

Mr Jackson also noted Sanitarium’s many community projects and initiatives. “The Weet-Bix Kids Tryathlon has grown to be the largest event of its kind in the world,” he said. “We have helped feed healthy breakfasts to some 100,000 needy

children through the Good Start Breakfast Club initiatives, and have responded to 40,000 inquiries about health and nutrition every year for the past five years.”

Dr Leon Clark, chief executive officer of Sydney Adventist Hospital, also concentrated on mission. “The hospital’s mission statement ‘Christianity in action’ ties mission to our daily work,” he said.

Dr Clark reported on health outreach initiatives such as the Operation Open Heart program, the Cancer Support Centre and Jacaranda Lodge. According to Dr Clark the hospital has grown over the past five years with increases in revenue and patient admissions. This period has also seen the hospital invest in several building and development projects, including the San Clinic, and new services, such as hospital in the home. Dr Clark’s vision is to strengthen “a culture of quality and service.”

Mr Duffy identified several issues for the next five years. Research indicates only 50 per cent of older and a quarter of younger

Adventists are vegetarian. “What is alarming is that 75 per cent of younger Adventists eat an unbalanced diet,” he said. “Furthermore, a little over half of Adventist young people say they are likely to drink alcohol in the future.”

Mr Duffy plans to implement a relational approach in addressing at-risk behaviours. “Education alone is not enough to change people’s behaviours,” he said. “The church needs to provide young people with adults who genuinely care for them.”

Mr Duffy also plans to address the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Papua New Guinea, the nutrition crisis in the Pacific and the need to strengthen the church’s clinic network.

He also challenged the church “to be more intentional” in involving people who attend health programs in follow-up spiritual programs. “In Sydney, 27 per cent of participants in the ‘Taking charge of your health’ series followed on to spiritual studies,” he reported.—*Bruna Tawake*

Report: Educators enthusiastic about enrolments and opportunities

The church's education leaders highlighted continuing growth and challenges of the education system across the South Pacific Division (SPD). The education focus included the SPD's department of education, Pacific Adventist University (PAU) and Avondale College.

Dr Barry Hill, SPD director of Adventist Education, reported 6000 additional students in Adventist schools in the past five years. But, he says, there is more to Adventist education than growing numbers. "We are very evangelistic in our outlook and objectives," Dr Hill told delegates. As an example, he reported almost 1000 Bible studies currently being given weekly in Adventist schools in Australia. "In 2004, we had at least 532 baptisms in our school system," he added.

But with success, there are challenges. "The growth of our schools require a new

way of thinking," reflected Dr Hill. "As we attract more students from non-Adventist families we live with a tension between mission and the preservation of faith."

Dr Nemani Tausere, vice-chancellor of PAU, continued this theme in his report from PAU. The challenges PAU faces, he says, are "a direct result of Pacific Adventist University's own success."

Dr Nemani sees that the Pacific community will continue look to PAU to assume a major role in meeting community needs. Soaring demand for student places are evidence of this. "Our enrolment rises every year," he reported. "This is a good problem that we have. We are able to take in only about 10 to 15 per cent of applicants each year."

To address this, PAU's 2020 Master Plan sees an energetic program to expand academic programs and campus resources.

"The road ahead is both challenging and exciting as PAU 'comes of age,'" concluded Dr Nemani.

The report from Avondale College focused on quality of education and the Seventh-day Adventist ethos. Boasting record enrolment and continued five-star reviews, college president Dr John Cox reported Avondale's rising profile in Australia's higher education sector. And he announced another significant step at the conclusion of his report. "Avondale will be submitting application for university status within the next few weeks," he reported.

Dr Hill concluded the education focus by asking delegates to stand if they had attended an Adventist school or institution at any stage of their education. About 95 per cent of delegates stood. "The results speak for themselves," said Dr Hill.

—Nathan Brown

Report: "We are a family-friendly church"

Leaders of the South Pacific Division's (SPD) Family, Children's, Youth and Women's Ministries highlighted major achievements during their report on September 1.

"Research shows people are five times more likely to accept Jesus as their Saviour before the age of 12," commented Julie Weslake, director of children's ministries. "Our challenge is to evangelise children while they are young."

Mrs Weslake reported on the development of the GraceLink curriculum. "The new curriculum builds faith and addresses children's learning needs," she said. "It helps children apply Bible knowledge to a heart experience, and share it with others."

Pastor Gilbert Cangy, director of Youth Ministries, told delegates about the Underground project. "We wanted to transition youth work from event-driven to a ministry-based adventure," he said. "The Underground ushered in a new day for youth ministry."

According to Pastor Cangy, intergenerational and cross-cultural ministry, issues of Adventist identity and the diversity of worship styles continue to be challenging.

"Adventist women in the South Pacific are alive for Christ," said Joy Butler, Women's Ministries director, reporting on her department's activities. "Our aim is to encourage and motivate women to commit their lives to God and realise their potential as they reach out with a message of hope."

Mrs Butler also reported on the six focus areas of her department: illiteracy, abuse and violence, poverty, health risks, workloads, mentoring and leadership training.

She commented on the lack of women leaders. "We need more women in leadership positions within the church," she said. "We also need women's ministries leaders in more local conferences."

Director of family ministries Dr Bryan Craig said families are changing in the way they are formed and in the way they func-



The report of the family-focused departments of the SPD followed a television talkback format that provided delegates with an opportunity to ask questions and make comments.

tion. His vision is to establish a support centre to offer counselling and other services to the church and local communities in every conference. He reported on his involvement in a range of seminars and workshops to foster better family and couple relationships "Beginnings, the pre-marital resource for pastors, is now available on CD," he said. "We have conducted Growing Together, a marriage-enrichment seminar, in more than 30 locations during the past five years."—Bruna Tawake

Report: Service departments seek delegate feedback

Note paper was the vital tool of the report by the Adventist Volunteer Service (AVS), the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) and the Sabbath School, Personal Ministries and Stewardship Departments at the South Pacific Division (SPD) session.

"It is important to us that delegates reflect and help us plan for the future," said Dr Mel Lemke, director of the AVS. "The church is run on volunteers and your feedback will be taken seriously and used during our strategic planning committee."

Delegates separated into groups of four and were asked to write down their thoughts on what they appreciated about the departments and the challenges they felt the departments faced. Solutions to the challenges, ideas to improve the departments' ministry and ways in which the departments can build communities of hope were also

collected from the delegates.

According to the AVS report, the SPD continues to be a world leader in volunteer placements made each year. STORM Co groups have also grown significantly during the last quinquennium and are now being launched in Pacific nations.

"The success of STORM Co is the result of the collaboration of the service areas," said Dr Lemke. "Working with the Stewardship Department has given us a biblical understanding of why we serve and provided us with a church-based support community."

Dr Erika Puni also valued the opportunity to work with other departments. "I have been privileged to have provided support to the field by conducting reaping campaigns in the four unions, which resulted in 490 baptisms," he said.

Concerns raised by the delegates about ADRA included the need to clarify its



SPD delegates participated in a brainstorming session with the leaders of service departments.

identity as a department of the church. ADRA also needed to improve its presence in the islands, but delegates showed appreciation for ADRA's emphasis on development and its quick response to disasters.

"We need to provide genuine service that addresses the immediate needs of the people and build relationships," said ADRA CEO Pastor David Jack. "Then will they look to us for guidance in the future."

The report ended with Dr Lemke, Dr Puni and Pastor Jack acknowledging the volunteers and supporters of the church.

—Melody Tan

Report: Communicators tell their stories

Video telling three stories of people who connected with the Adventist Church through the church's communication entities launched the reports from the South Pacific Division's (SPD) Department of Communication and Public Relations, Department of Publishing Ministries, Adventist Media and Signs Publishing Company.

And a fourth story was told to delegates by the people themselves. Sera Robson and Mary Shackley are to be baptised at the Northpoint church in suburban Melbourne on October 15. Their first contact with the Adventist Church was when literature evangelist Joe Paola knocked on their door. After their initial interest, they were contacted by Pastor Loren Pratt, who shared *The Search* video series with them. Ms Robson testified to the benefit this interaction has brought to her life. "I know now what it is like to know Jesus and what He has done for me," she told delegates. Beginning the more formal reports, retiring

Adventist Media manager Pastor Calvyn Townend recounted the highlights from the past five years, including 15 major production projects. "Over the past five years, we have repositioned Adventist Media as a ministry unit, not just a production centre," reported Pastor Townend.

Glen Reed, general manager of Signs Publishing Company, recounted the local history of the Adventist church's publishing work in the South Pacific, which began in Melbourne in 1886 before moving to nearby Warburton in 1906. He noted the widespread distribution of material produced by Signs in the form of books, magazines and general printing work, including about 6.2 million copies of *RECORD* produced in the past five years.

Director of Communication and Public Relations Bruna Tawake thanked those who have worked in the Communication Department in the past five years, particularly Bronwyn Mison, who led the department for four years. Mrs Tawake stressed

the challenges faced by this new department to establish a more positive image through the media. "At times the corporate church has had little to say that was relevant to others," she commented.

Mrs Tawake urged greater resources for researching opportunities for communication. "Jesus will always be relevant. The message of the Seventh-day Adventist Church will always be relevant," she said. "But we need to continually seek ways to communicate this in ways that will change people's lives."

Director of Publishing Ministries Pastor Terry Goltz reminded delegates this is being done by literature evangelists. "More than 3000 homes are visited by literature evangelists each day," he said.

Pastor Goltz reported sales of more than \$A14 million in the past five years, the majority of which are books produced by Signs Publishing Company. This figure represents an increase of 65 per cent on the previous quinquennium.—Nathan Brown

Images from the session



Philip Knight and Lynley Potts contributed to telling the story of the growth of the church in the South Pacific in the "Celebration of Hope."



Pastor Thomas Davai, president of the Papua New Guinea Union Mission, was re-elected at the session and presented the PNGUM report.



Members of the session nominating committee voted secretly by electronic ballot in making their recommendations.



A choir from the Solomon Islands featured in the report from the Trans-Pacific Union Mission.



On September 3, General Conference president Pastor Jan Paulsen preached to more than 2000 delegates and visitors in Melbourne.



"We have been planning for this event for 18 months and working on the unique menu for three months," says Joanne Dixon, Banquet and Operations Manager at session venue Carlton Crest Hotel, Melbourne. "This is the first time we have catered to such a large group of vegetarians. We loved the challenge."



Andrew Irvine, assistant manager of Signs Publishing Company, works the old press at the Signs display booth.



Fifteen flags from across the South Pacific reminded session delegates of the nations and people they represent and to whom they minister.

More photos and reports?
adventist.org.au/spdsession

New books launched at session

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

The South Pacific Division (SPD) session was an occasion for book launches. Two books—one published by Signs Publishing Company and the other by Women's Ministries—were launched on the second day of the session.

Ordinary People—Extraordinary God was developed as a joint project between Signs and the SPD Stewardship Department. The book is a collection of 55 stories of faith from church members in the South Pacific, demonstrating some practical aspect of stewardship.

"The stories aren't just about money," says Nathan Brown, the book's compiler and editor at Signs Publishing Company. "They are the personal stories of people who have chosen to live their lives in partnership with God."

"We need to communicate and promote the values rooted in the kingdom of Jesus Christ," said Dr Erika Puni, director of stewardship. "And in the South Pacific, this is best done through storytelling."

General Conference president Pastor Jan Paulsen and SPD president Pastor Laurie Evans were presented with copies of the book by way of launching the book.

"Stewardship is critical to the work of the church," said Pastor Paulsen. "We need to continually discover resources to become the church God wants it to be."



Signs editor Nathan Brown (right) presents copies of *Ordinary People—Extraordinary God* to presidents Jan Paulsen and Laurie Evans.

Copies of *Ordinary People—Extraordinary God* were provided free to the session delegates, thanks to a joint sponsorship by the Stewardship Department and Signs. The book will be available at Adventist Book Centres around the South Pacific.

Women of Hope, produced by Women's Ministries, was the other book launched during the session.

"The book is written by women throughout the South Pacific about their life experiences and how God has really blessed them, bringing them from times of great discouragement and fear, to a place of hope," said Joy Butler, director of Women's Ministries, whose photographs illustrate the book.

"It is very important to have something tangible to promote Women's Ministries," she said. "People don't often know what we do, and in this book we show that we are nurturers of each other, we help women realise their potential and equip them with tools to reach out."

Women of Hope is available through the Women's Ministries Department. Proceeds from the book will go to "scholarshipping our sisters," an initiative to promote literacy in women.—Melody Tan



Joy Butler, SPD director of Women's Ministries, launched *Women of Hope* at the SPD session.

New media tells stories of session

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

Two new communication mediums complemented traditional print coverage of the South Pacific Division session in Melbourne.

An interactive, online forum gave church members the opportunity to influence decision-making. About 70 members registered to use the forum, and they posted about the same number of responses, reports the church's electronic media assistant Jeanelle Isaacs. Church leaders served as moderators, posing discussion threads and answering questions. The hot topics included men's ministry and the church's impending employment crisis.

The forum closed at the end of session, but you can view responses at <adventist.org.au/spdsession>. The web site also features session reports and a photo gallery.

Session delegate Linzi Aitken and the SPD Communication Department's Brenton Stacey hosted a special edition of *Adventist News* live from session. The 30-minute television news-style program features interviews with church leaders, including Pastors Jan Paulsen and Laurie Evans, and looks at the day in the life of a delegate.

The church's Hope Channel broadcast the program on September 9, but a DVD is available. *Adventist News* subscribers will receive the special edition with *Mission Spotlight* as usual.—ANN South Pacific

If not a subscriber, call +61 2 9847 3290 or email <communication@adventist.org.au> to order the program by September 23. More @ adventist.org.au/spdsession



Hosts of *Adventist News* Linzi Aitken (centre) and Brenton Stacey (second from right) discuss scripts with producer Marcel Eisele (right) of Adventist Media.

President reflects on session issues

South Pacific Division president Pastor Laurie Evans described the 13th South Pacific Division (SPD) session as a “defining moment” for the church in this region. Talking with RECORD, he reflected on some of the big issues from the session and that the church will continue to face.

What is the significance of the decision that this will be the last SPD session?

The first benefit is to come in line with the rest of the world field. This division has been operating as an aberration to the worldwide church structure since we were established as a division in 1922. It’s important we be seen as part of the worldwide church.

One of the other benefits is that we will be able to divert a sizeable amount of time, human resources and finances into more mission-driven activities. For instance, we will corporately save about \$A550,000 by not running a division session. And we really don’t need to. No other division in the world runs a division session.

Will it mean that the division will become less important?

Because we have run our own session, we have taken an undue profile in the organisational structure. By making these changes, I think it will enhance the image of the unions and improve their standing. The division will be more of a coordinating voice, more of a policy-making body and more about resourcing.

Will the end of sessions mean the decline of the voice of church members?

In actual fact, the initiatives we’ve put in place to compensate for the division session are going to increase the voice of our members. For instance, because we’re not spending all this money on this particular event, we are going to increase representation on the Division Executive Committee. We’re going to bring in more people from the islands and we’ll have a larger representation from Australia and New Zealand. And that’s on a continuing basis. We will have more people go to the General Conference, which again means more people will have a voice in the worldwide

church. These initiatives will give church members and workers greater input into the operation of the church.

What is unique about the church’s mission in the South Pacific?

We are facing a number of challenges trying to keep a diverse church together. We have 83 per cent of church members in the islands, which means the Pacific work is supported by a small base. And that disparity is growing, so it’s a challenge to keep the two regions of our church together.

No other division has such a big mission field supported by such a small homeland base. But God has been good to us. We have the Sanitarium Health Food Company and other resources that enable us to do that.

The other factor is the diversity of the two environments. Australia and New Zealand are very secular, meaning the growth of our church here is difficult. In the islands they are still receptive to the gospel, although we need to understand that in many parts of the islands they’re probably only five or 10 years behind us and the day will come when they too will be impacted in this way.

Is there a challenge that we are too focused on Australia and New Zealand when the majority of our membership is in Papua New Guinea and the Pacific islands?

There is a growing shortage of people to come into administration who have had island experience. This is partly due to localisation [of leadership]—of itself that is good—but also because of financial reasons we have had to reduce our expatriate presence. The downside is we don’t have as many people to come into the division who have a background in the island culture and environment.

But we have many competent people in the island field and we need to make sure they’re given a voice at the division. During this quinquennium we are planning to bring in our island leaders and administrators once a year so we can work through issues particularly relevant to the islands. We’ve never done that. We’ve concentrated mainly on Australia and New Zealand. We will do this intentionally to foster these



Pastor Laurie Evans.

two areas, because the challenges in Australia and New Zealand are quite different from those in the islands. It’s something we have to think about to ensure we are covering both bases.

You have talked about the importance of the local church. If you were to visit any local church in the South Pacific Division “undercover,” what would you like to find there?

First, I’d like to see a warmth that just envelopes the entire worship service. In some worship services, the warmth of the whole environment just embraces you. But I’ve been to others where it’s so cold you almost have to put on a coat.

I’d like to see a spontaneity in the worship, so it is really an expression of the heart. I’d also like to see the worship is relevant, that it’s meeting people’s needs, not just entertaining people for an hour. We are relational, but we also have a specific message we must proclaim and we must keep our people reminded of what that message is, but it needs to be done in a relevant way.

What most satisfies you in your job?

I have a vision and a passion, which I am able to express in various ways, but I also see part of my role is helping other people’s visions become reality, so they can get the satisfaction of serving in a creative role.

I also get a lot of pleasure in seeing the church address issues. We’ve not always done that well but we do need to be able to comment on issues that affect the world in which we live. It is satisfying to me to see we are having a voice in some of these areas.

And I like seeing the initiatives that we put in place coming to fruition.

Delegates share session experience

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

Warrick Stokes, former treasurer of the South Pacific Division (SPD), is an eight-time veteran when it comes to division sessions. And in that many sessions, he has experienced several memorable moments.

Mr Stokes's first session was in 1970 at Avondale College, the year when sessions were changed from being a quadrennial to a quinquennial event. "I was 30 years old when I attended my first session," he says. "And I can recall many others of my age at that time."

His next session was held in Victoria, the first time the session was not conducted at Avondale College. This year, in the 13th SPD session, Mr Stokes witnessed the decision to discontinue sessions.

Mr Stokes expresses "some loss that we have come to the end of a series of sessions."

According to Mr Stokes, one of his most significant sessions was when it was held in Hamilton, New Zealand, in 1985. "That was when session was held outside Australia for this first time," he says. "It was memo-

orable, more so because I also had a part in organising it."

On the other hand, Bevan Tutuo—a delegate from the Western Solomon Islands Mission—had not attended a session of any kind before the SPD session. "It was really exciting to be here," he says. "I love the opportunity to get to know different people from different places."

Although this is his first time as a delegate, Mr Tutuo does not feel overawed by this large-scale event held in a big city. "The facilities used here compared to the ones we have back home is very different," he says. "But I feel comfortable to speak up and give my point of view."

Mr Tutuo finds session to be a great opportunity to present a young person's perspective and idea on church business. "There really should be more young delegates," he says. "Back in the Solomon Islands, the percentage of young people in the church is larger than the adult percentage. Young people should be the ones moving in because we're the ones taking over the leadership in the near future."

One of the memories of the session Mr Tutuo will take back with him is seeing how "the church came together in unity. The SPD is a big organisation, and the unions are not living by themselves. There is a whole organisation looking after them and I am proud to be part of this organisation." —*Melody Tan*



Warrick Stokes (left) reflects on his session experiences with Bevan Tutuo.

Record Roo's Kids corner

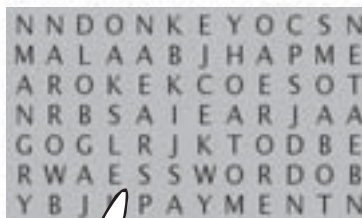
Hi Kids,
Do you always do as you are told? It's quite hard sometimes isn't it. God says that obedience is when we do things his way not ours. Read Numbers 22-24 and find out what happened to Baalam when he decided to do things his way. RR

Fill in the Blanks

"You obeyed ___ when I was with you. It is even more important that you ___ now while I am not with you."

Phillipians 2:12

Find-a-word...



- angry Baalam
- sword donkey
- beaten Balak
- Jordon payment
- Moab speaks
- Jericho narrow

Colour in...

Baalams' donkey

Dot-to-dot...

Join the dots to reveal what stopped Baalam's donkey.

More inclusive

PAUL RUBESSA, NSW

Over the past few weeks I have heard the church talking about partnering with young professionals—engaging young professionals to grow the church and finish our work. Great idea.

My concern is the message that such statements may send to those intelligent, energetic and vibrant people that didn't (or don't) go to tertiary institutions—people who can build a house, repair a car or cook up a storm. I reckon we need the talents, skills and ideas that these people have been given too.

We're on the right track; we just need to recognise a wider variety of talents and be more inclusive. It will take all of us working together to get the job done, so let's engage all young people—professional, trades and otherwise. That's a recipe for action!

Point of order

RUSS PRINGLE, VIC

"The *Big Brother* disgrace" (Editorial August 6)—lovely words, lousy theology. If I believed what you said, then I could have no assurance of salvation.

I was Sad-ventist for 38 years, then I discovered the gospel. I worked 38 years so that I would have a heart—a character—worthy of heaven. But God could never take my filthy person to heaven. Rather, we are complete in Him (Colossians 2:10, 28) and accepted (Ephesians 1:6).

I am not saved because I am sanctified; rather, I am sanctified because I am saved.

We need not be troubled as to what God thinks of us, because we know what God thinks of Christ, our substitute.

In short, justification makes me acceptable to Heaven; sanctification helps make God acceptable to those who have to live with me; and glorification will make me acceptable to all.

Scott responds: The statement "our heart's feelings for God" was intended to mean one's belief in Christ and includes acceptance of Him as personal Saviour, thus bringing justification and grace into play. "A good heart" was used in the sense of one being in Christ, making us saved by His righteousness, not our own. Space was insufficient for a complete exegesis.

Word. Of what present good is the kingdom of God to a poverty-stricken person who cannot feed their family? First feed them, then they will listen.

And let's not forget James's definition of religion: "To look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world" (James 1:27, NIV).

More say for youth

LINDSEY JACKSON, NSW

I applaud the sentiments expressed in "Gross misrepresentation" (Letters, August 13). I am 19 years old and recently attended

Christ's . . . healing and His social activism are as common in the Gospels as His sermons.

A broader view

MARK FRIEND, NT

While I agree with Leith Stanton (Letters, August 27) that our core mission is to take the gospel to the world, social justice and humanitarian effort are not separate issues. Christ's life was an undeniable union of speaking and acting, for example, His treatment of women, His healing and His social activism are as common in the Gospels as His sermons.

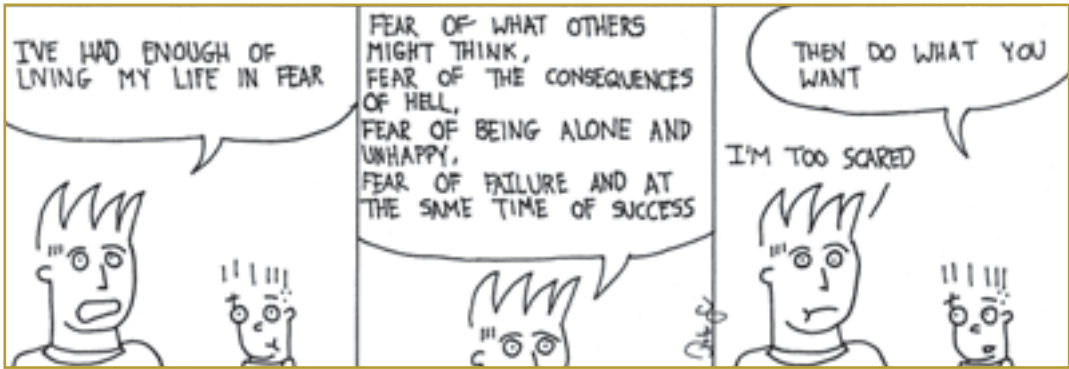
Why were deacons ordained for God's work in Acts? It was because the apostles were being distracted from their work; however, social justice and humanitarian aid were not neglected. It makes eminent sense that humanitarian aid and social justice go hand in hand with preaching the

my local conference session, where I was shocked to find that the youth were grossly under-represented, as was the case at the General Conference session. It disturbs me that youth either do not feel valued or interested enough in the church to attend these meetings that define its direction.

Although I support the effort of Pastor Paulsen in creating dialogue with youth through "Let's talk," I do wonder when the name and attitude will change to "Let's listen."

I challenge the leaders of our church at conference and union levels to actively seek ways to involve our youth in decision making and give them a sense of ownership in our church. The time has come to stop just saying that youth are important; there now needs to be action. The youth are not *the future* of the church; they *are* the church.

petros



Peter Yu

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.

Positions vacant

▲ **Country Director—ADRA—PNG** is seeking to appoint a Country Director to provide visionary and strategic leadership to the work of ADRA in Papua New Guinea. For further information please visit the POSITIONS VACANT section of the SPD web site at <adventist.org.au/employment>. **Applications in writing** (including your résumé, three work-related referees and the contact details of your church pastor) should be forwarded to: Human Resources, South Pacific Division, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga, NSW 2076; email <hr@adventist.org.au>. Applications close September 28, 2005.

▲ **Minister (Torres Strait)—The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministries of the Australian Union Conference**, in conjunction with the **Northern Australian Conference**, is seeking expressions of interest in a ministerial position in the Torres Strait, commencing January 2006. Seventh-day Adventist ministers and lay members may apply. The successful applicant will be a committed Seventh-day Adventist; interested in working with indigenous peoples and culturally sensitive and respectful. A knowledge of boats and mechanics would be an advantage. **Applications in writing** (including résumé) should be forwarded to Pastor Eric Davey, ATSIM Director, AUC, PO Box 4368, Ringwood, Vic 3134; phone (03) 9871 7505; 0412 417 414; email <edavey@adventist.org.au>; or Pastor Deane Jackson, President, NAC, PO Box 51, Aitkenvale, Qld 4814; phone (07) 4779 3988; 0427 071 707; email <djackson@adventist.org.au>.

▲ **Principal, Darwin Adventist Primary School—Northern Australian Conference** is seeking a committed, enthusiastic and qualified Principal to lead and market the school in 2006 and beyond. This is a small, sole-charge school. Why not respond to the challenge of growing a school in a beautiful tropical city. Great facilities! Terrific potential! For further information and application contact Mrs Ruth Jackson; phone (07) 4779 3988; or email <rjackson@adventist.org.au>. Applications close October 21, 2005.

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

Appreciation

Cooper, Thelma and family, Lynlee, Bill, Jan, Charles, Lenore, wish to thank all who gave their support and sympathy following the sad loss of Arthur, a kind and loving husband, father, grandfather, also great-grandfather. The cards, letters, flowers and calls have meant so much during this sad time. Arthur went to sleep on 26.12.04 believing in his Lord's return.

Rayner, John and Mayvis and family wish to thank the numerous friends who supported them with prayer, empathy, expressions of sympathy, floral tributes and practical support during the long illness and subsequent passing of daughter and sister, Leanne Keri Rayner, on 17.4.05. A burden shared makes it seem lighter. We have been comforted and uplifted by your love and care.

Wedding

Gibson—Page. David Edward Gibson and Chrystal Joy Marie Page were married on 14.8.05 in the Rosewood Adventist church, Rosewood, Qld.

Frank Williams

Obituaries

Broad, Robert, born 25.3.1934 in Auckland, NZ; died 18.5.05 after battling for four years against physical ailments. He is survived by his wife, Jean; and his children, Lynette Ellis, David, Janelle Hogan and Raewyn Chick; and his 14 grandchildren. Robert was a long-time

member of the Henderson church, West Auckland, NZ. We are looking forward to the reunion on that beautiful shore.

Terry Johnson

Deacon, Helen Victoria, born 6.2.1905 at Blackwary, Vic; died 11.6.05 at Coronella Retirement Village, Nunawading. She was predeceased by her husband, George; also her daughter, Sophie. She is survived by her granddaughter, Helen; and her great-grandsons, Shane and Matthew. Affectionately known as "Auntie Nell" by family and friends, Helen was a blessing and inspiration to many. She lived a long life of loving service to others and faithfulness to her Lord. We look forward to meeting Helen in the glow of eternal youth when our Life-giver returns.

Ross Miller

Galt, Jim, born 14.4.1913 in Chinchilla, Qld; died 28.7.05 in Brisbane. He is survived by his children, Robert, John, Janet and Judy; his grandchildren; and his great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his siblings and their spouses, George and Mavis, Beryl and Dave, Hazel and Alec, Athol and May, and Don and Rene; and their families. Jim dearly missed his wife, who passed away in November 2004. They are now both at rest awaiting the Resurrection. He was dearly loved by his family and will be sadly missed.

Adrian Ebens

Hebbard, William (Bill) John, born 15.3.1920 at Bowen, Qld; died 21.11.04 in Fairways RSL Nursing Home, Bundaberg. He was predeceased by his brother, Tom. He is survived by his wife, Joan; his children and their spouses, John and Maxine (all of Bundaberg), and Vince and Rhelmae (Marburg); his brother, Dick (Mackay); his five grandchildren; his six great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. Bill

was a proud man with qualities of humility, always having time, and knowing what he believed in. He worked tirelessly for his Lord, family, church and community.

Alwin Hilton

Howard, Eric Stanley, born 28.9.1914 at Goodwood, SA; died 2.7.05 in Adelaide. He was predeceased by his wife, May (nee Potter). He is survived by his son, Eric (NSW); daughters Lurlean Carter and Rosemary McBeath (both of SA); eight grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. The Howard family attended a mission program conducted by the late Pastors S M Uttley and K J Bullock, in the Adelaide Town Hall, in 1955, and were baptised on 25.9.55. Both Eric and May were long-time members of the Prospect church in SA.

Robert Porter

Parrett, William (Bill) Vernald Corner, born 4.11.1926 at Christchurch, NZ; died 28.6.05 at Christchurch, while helping his neighbour in the garden. On 4.7.56 he married Bette. He is survived by his wife; his children and their spouses, John and Sharyn, Anne-Marie and Ken, Ruth and Ken, David and Jennifer, Mark and Lois, and Danny and Catherine; and his 13 grandchildren. Bill lived to help others and is sadly missed by everyone who knew him. His beloved memory will forever remain until we see him when Jesus comes again.

James Toogood

Rabe, Leonard Neil, born 14.11.1914 in Collinsvale, Tas; died 2.2.05 in Chigwell. He married Doris Wessing, who predeceased him in 1976. He was also predeceased by his daughter, Beth. In 1980 he married Betty Emmerton. He is survived by his wife; his daughters, Shirley and Lola; his stepchildren, Tom, Christene, Annette, John and Peter; and his many grandchildren. Len was a man of the land and had a simple faith. He loved his church and the Bible truth it proclaimed about his best friend, Jesus. He is missed for his happy disposition and the wonderful smile.

David Edgren

Uncles, Phyllis Rose (nee James), born 16.10.1916 at Inglewood, NZ; died 10.6.05 at Palmerston North. In 1932 she married Henry, who predeceased her. She was also predeceased by her nine-month-old daughter, Dulcie, in 1934. She is survived by her children, Cyril, Stan, Ivan, Brian, Margaret, Winston and Kevin. Phyllis gave endless hours of her time to her church, family and the community. Her ready smile and kind words are missed by her Feilding church family.

Murray Strawbridge

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, \$A4; each additional word, \$A2.20. 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.

Allround Travel Centre—introducing our tours for 2006. ●Greece/Athens; ●Italy/Austria/Switzerland; ●Tahiti cruise; ●Thailand; ●Bali (aged 18-35). For further details contact Anita, phone (07) 5530 3555; fax (07) 5530 3846; email <alltrav@bigpond.net.au>.

Parke's centenary celebrations—November 19, 2005. Parke's church cordially invites past members, pastors and workers to our celebrations commencing with Sabbath school, 10.00 am. BYO for lunch in Kelly Reserve. For information: Joyce Roeder (02) 6862 1236; Raelene Hitchcock (02) 6864 1156.

Traineeships and apprenticeships. Interested in working for a Christian organisation? Globalone Group Training assists school leavers seeking traineeships and apprenticeships. Have your name entered in the Employment Database <www.globalonegt.com.au>. Inquiries: <info@globalonegt.com.au>; phone (02) 43936643.

Bickley centenary celebration—October 22, 2005. Bickley church invites past and present members to our centenary celebration (100 years to the day), commencing at 9.30 am for Sabbath school, 11.00 am divine service, light lunch, and afternoon program with review of memorabilia, heritage and history to honour pioneers such as Palmateers and notable workers who have sat in our pews. We have many ex-Carmel students on the honour list. Further information: Neil Maxwell (08) 9454 6881; or Yvonne Johnson (nee Garvin) (08) 9291 6508; email <yvonnej@ozzinet.net>.

Receive the Hope Channel and 3ABN NOW! Complete satellite kit for just \$265 + freight. Full instructions for DIY installation or installers available. Rural Electronics (02) 6361 3636; or <ruralele@bigpond.net.au>.

Data projectors, screens, DVDs, VCRs, PA systems etc. SDAs committed to lower prices for SDA churches, schools etc. Ask for Trish at Rural Electronics (02) 6361 3636; or <greenfields@netconnect.com.au>.

www.aucsda.com—Australian Union Conference web site. Do you have a ministry idea to share? Or are you needing assistance? Check out the new Ideas Exchange forum.

Finally

Faith is putting all your eggs in God's basket. Then counting your blessings before they hatch.—
Romona C Carrol