

# RECORD

February 11, 2006

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*The group of returning missionaries who attended this year's Re-entry Retreat at Crosslands Convention Centre, Sydney, in early January.*

## Re-entry for returning missionaries

**SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES**

Ten families were represented at this year's Re-Entry Retreat for returning missionaries held at the Crosslands Convention Centre in Sydney, beginning on January 3. It concluded on January 7 with a recommitment and dedication service, as all the attendees take up new roles and positions in Australia.

The volunteers were returning from a range of countries including Albania, the United States, Fiji and Papua New Guinea, but represented a combined total of 225 years of overseas mission service.

Cheryl Doss from the Institute of World Mission, with her husband, Gordon, was the key presenter, supported by Dr Brad Kemp, Pastor Graeme Humble and Pastor Ray

Coombe, director of Adventist Mission for the South Pacific Division (SPD).

The weekend also featured a physical-activity challenge and afternoon river cruise. "The returning missionaries also enjoyed the quiet bushland surroundings at the Crosslands centre, which allowed families time to unwind and process some of the challenges of returning home," reports Pastor Coombe. "Time was also spent in group discussion and understanding the transition that occurs as people move back home across cultures."

The SPD has conducted re-entry programs now for several years, which are a highlight for those returning from mission service overseas.—*Adele Nash*

# Church damaged by flames

WINDSOR, NEW SOUTH WALES

Fire severely damaged the Windsor church (NSW) in the early hours of January 18. According to preliminary reports, the fire broke out in the church building at around 5.30 am and took five teams of firefighters 90 minutes to extinguish.

"It was a very sad day," says church pastor James Fletcher. "It was hard to believe such a thing could happen."

For the past six months church members have been working on a new kitchen and toilet block, which were nearing completion. Thankfully these areas, along with children's Sabbath-school rooms and the church hall, were not damaged by the flames.

"We now face a much larger challenge," says Pastor Fletcher. "It will take most of the year to rebuild and repair the damage."

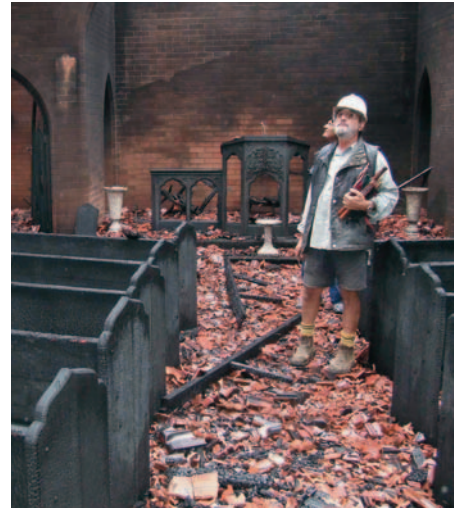
While the Gothic-styled building and its contents were insured, several irreplaceable items—including the original marriage register, an old piano and the hand-carved pulpit—will be lost forever.

The fire comes as the church prepares for its 50th anniversary. The cause of the fire is still under investigation but it is thought that arson or an electrical fault may be to blame.

Church members will continue to meet in the undamaged church hall and Pastor Fletcher describes their first Sabbath there as a somber "time of reflection."

"It proved to be a blessing as the members have given each other support," he says. "While the church building has been destroyed, the church family will be stronger and will work together to face the challenge of rebuilding."

Support has also come from the wider community with expressions of support



Joe Talidu, one of the deacons at Windsor church, in the ruins of the church building.

and sympathy, while a number of other church groups have offered the use of their facilities.

"We would like to say thank you for the support we've had," Pastor Fletcher says. "We know the Lord is still with us no matter what happens."—**Braden Blyde**

# Ordination a camp highlight in SNZ

CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND

The ordination of Asofitu Leatuavao was among the highlights of the South New Zealand Conference camp-meeting held last month in Christchurch. Pastor Leatuavao, who pastors the Samoan-Addington and

Christchurch South churches, was ordained on January 14.

A native of Wellington (NZ), Pastor Leatuavao was working on a production line in his home town when he decided to pursue his call to ministry. "I grew up in the church and always wanted to be a minister but that was lost for some years," he says. "A lot of things happened in my life and I strongly felt God's call again."

Pastor Leatuavao describes this experience as "coming back through many detours. Both my wife and I had good jobs and were living comfortably, but I felt dissatisfaction with my life and work and the urge to do more in the service of God."

Pastor Leatuavao began his theology education at Fulton College (Fiji) and upgraded to a degree in theology at Pacific Adventist

University (Papua New Guinea). His first ministry assignment was back at Fulton, where he taught for three years. He believes his teaching experience—especially working with students from a variety of cultures—has helped him appreciate the inclusiveness of God. "His Son would die for anyone," he says.

Pastor Leatuavao and his wife, Sarai, have three children: Lance, Natalia and Larissa.

The ordination service was led by Pastor Jerry Matthews, president of the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference (NZPUC), Pastor Kendall Cobbin, secretary of the Ministerial Association in the NZPUC, and Pastor Lindsay Sleight, president of the South New Zealand Conference.—**Nathan Brown**



Pastor Asofitu Leatuavao and his wife, Sarai.



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Editor Nathan Brown  
Senior assistant editor David Edgren  
Editorial assistant Adele Nash  
Editorial assistant Scott Wegener  
Copyeditor Graeme Brown  
Editorial secretary Meryl McDonald-Gough  
Layout Nathan Chee  
Senior consulting editor Barry Oliver

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





## Hymns hit mark

SHEILA WALTON, TAS

Hurrah for the letter “Hymns, psalms *and* songs” (Letters, January 21) for expressing so well the silently borne wishes of many older members of our churches. We feel secure standing on the time-tested foundation of our message and faith in Jesus expressed in hymns, and can sing our songs of praise from our hearts.

We don't need to copy other churches' ways of praising God—we have our own time-honoured songs of experience and praise that honour God and make a foundation of faith for our younger ones to build on.

## The right price

LEON AND DOROTHY POWRIE, PNG

We would like to correct a figure given in “PAU marks 21st with new buildings” (News, January 21). Those who submitted the figure for the opening of the School of Health Science (SOHS) PNG Incentive Fund (AusAID) Project either made a typing error or did not have the correct information. The amount of “K500,000,” stated for the construction of the SOHS building, is incorrect. A more accurate approximation to the actual cost can be obtained by adding another zero (K5,000,000).

The building includes seven lecture/tutorial areas including, a 185-seat auditorium, computer lab, microbiology classroom, and practical lab with facilities for nursing practice, diet and nutrition training, and physical and hydro therapies.

PAU now offers a four-year Bachelor of Nursing degree and training in two specialty areas—Bachelor of Health Science (Maternal and Child Health Nursing) and Bachelor of Health Science (Rural and Community Health). An additional specialty in Acute Care Nursing is planned for 2007.

## Mission a priority

BERT COZENS, NSW

The writer of “Better funding” (Letters, January 14) highlighted the need for more mission support. For instance, many mission buildings in the Pacific are deteriorating, while many church members in the homelands are concentrating on luxurious homes.


We pay at least five times as much for petrol as we did 25 years ago. Why not give five times as much for missions as we did then?

If our priorities are in the right place, most Adventists could give 5 per cent of their income for missions.

**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 3) for contact details.

### Record Roo's

Kids corner



Hi kids,  
Have you ever read the story of how Elisha helped a poor widow pay her bills? Read it in 2 Kings chapter 4 to see what happened. See you all next time,

RR

### Fill in the Blanks


Elisha asked the widowed woman to do something important. Find out what it was by filling in the blanks.

“Go, borrow \_\_\_\_\_ from everywhere, from all your \_\_\_\_\_ – empty vessels. Do not \_\_\_\_\_ just a few.” NKJV

### Draw and Colour in

Draw in as many more pots as you can.

Colour in the picture of the widowed woman filling her jars and pots with oil.



## Weddings

**Davies—Jenke.** Gareth Alan, son of Geoffrey and Janet Davies (Perth, WA), and Chantal Jacqueline Jenke, daughter of Wolfgang Jenke (Mt Isa, Qld) and Myriame White (Perth, WA), were married on 4.12.05 at Karri Valley Resort, Pemberton.

*Anthony MacPherson*

**Kefford—Turner.** Russell Kefford, son of Noel and Marjorie Kefford (Kingaroy, Qld), and Carolyn Turner, daughter of Roland and Olive Knott (Caloundra), were married on 1.12.05 in the beautiful setting of the Sheraton Mirage Resort, Gold Coast.

*Jorge Munoz*

**Landers—Arora.** Dr Steve Alexander Landers, son of Pastor Lawrence and Priscilla Landers (Albury, NSW), and Gunjan Arora, daughter of Jatinder and Vineta Arora (Adelaide, SA), were married on 27.11.05 in the Prospect Adventist church.

*Lawrence Landers*

## Obituaries

**Barden,** Alwyn James, born 21.9.1913 at Kempsey, NSW; died 15.12.05 at Gosford. In 1936 he married Vera Cain. He is survived by his wife; his children, Kevin, Robyn Collings, Allyn and Ian; their spouses; his nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Alwyn lived a long, full life and was greatly loved and cherished by all his family, and highly respected by many life-long friends. At the Palmdale Crematorium, Ourimbah, he was committed into the arms of a loving heavenly Father.

*Ron Evans, Andrew Kingston*

**Haley,** Kathleen Louise, born 13.1.1915 in Croyden, England; died 4.12.05 in Napier, NZ. Kath settled in New Zealand with her husband, Jim Elliot. After Jim's death Kath married Joe, who also predeceased her. Kath did not have any children, but will be missed by her church family and especially Mary Chambers, who took good care of her. She now rests in expectation of Jesus' coming.

*Frank Boniface*

**Lamont,** Dulcie Flossie, born 29.5.1920 at Westport, NZ; died 1.12.05 in Christchurch. She was a much loved mother to Ray, Anne, Joy and Barbara; and a grandmother. Dulcie was, for many years, a pillar of the Westport church, well known for her hospitality and loving kindness to all she met.

*Paul Rankin*

**Pullen,** Victor Denver (Vic), born 28.8.1922 at Hastings, NZ; died 30.11.05 at Napier. Vic was one of eight children born to Wilfred and Alice Pullen. He grew up as an SDA and enjoyed visiting and encouraging the elderly. He had a very happy marriage to Mage, who predeceased him. He had none of his own children. In the last years of his life Vic had found a very special friend in Betty Butson, who rendered great Christian care for him. He died knowing that he had "fought the good fight and kept the faith."

*Frank Boniface*

**McEwan,** Beryl Evelyn (nee Watson), born 23.11.1934 at Pomona, Qld; died 8.12.05 in Nambour Hospital. On 4.12.54 she married Lester. She is survived by her husband; her children, Glenice, Ivan, Gary, Leslie and Dianne; her many grandchildren; and great-grandchildren. As a dressmaker, she specialised in wedding and fancy dresses at which she was quite skilled. She had a keen interest in numerous collecting and craft hobbies. Appreciating the wonders of nature was her passion. She had a strong relationship with her Creator and Redeemer and looked forward to Jesus' soon coming. She is sadly missed by her family and fellow members of the Gympie church.

*Alvin Coltheart*

**Savage,** Ernest Alfred, born 7.12.1920 at Timaru, NZ; died 6.5.05 at Timaru. On 5.11.42 he married Edna, who predeceased him in April 1990. He was also predeceased by his son, Pastor Mervyn Savage, in 1999. He is survived by his sons, Alan (Christchurch), Brian (Young, NSW) and David (Sydney). "Christianity in action" is how many people described Ernie's life. As a deacon he faithfully cared for the church; transported the elderly to and from church; and was always at the door to welcome all who came to worship.

*Ray Codling*

**Seberry,** Caroline Hazel, born 10.12.1908 at Casterton, Vic; died 3.12.05 in Charles Harrison Nursing Home, Cooranbong, NSW. In 1930 she married William Seberry, who predeceased her in 1950. She was also predeceased by her daughter, Nancy, in 1996. She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Roy and Isabel; her son-in-law, Ken Knight; her seven grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. Hazel died full of faith and courage, leaving a fine record of selfless service to others. She was greatly loved and appreciated by her family and friends who wait in the hope of a joyful reunion when Jesus comes again.

*Jim Beamish*

## 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, \$A49.50; 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 3) for contact details.

**Rekindle friendships, and celebrate a piece of your past.** On March 4, 2006, East Prahran SDA church, 8 Wynnstay Road, East Prahran (Vic), will celebrate its 70th anniversary. A warm invitation is extended to all, especially to present and past members and their families. The Sabbath celebration will commence at 9.45 am and include special services followed by lunch. Please contact Therese and Mark Religa on (03) 9700 4575 or 0428 128 513.

## Position vacant

▲ **Shift Electrician, Maintenance Services—Sanitarium (Cooranbong, NSW)** is seeking a full-time Shift Electrician who has a strong commitment to the achievement of our production goals. The successful applicant will demonstrate an understanding and commitment to OH&S in the workplace; be highly computer literate; be highly competent with PLC's, preferably Allen Bradley and Omron; have proven fault-finding and problem-solving skills; hold a current Electrical Licence; and be able to work rotating shifts including weekends. Experience in food industry and in instrumentation would be advantageous. **Applications in writing (including résumé)** should be forwarded to Group Human Resources, Sanitarium, Locked Bag 7, Central Coast Mail Centre, NSW 2252; fax (02) 4349 6099; email <humanresources@sanitarium.com.au>.

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

**Endless Praise—**known as one of Australia's top Christian music ministries, is still taking auditions for musicians (bass and electric guitarist) and male vocalists between the ages of 18-25 to be part of the 2006 team. The group is also seeking a full-time bus driver between the ages of 25 to 35. You will need to contact Sandra at the EP office on (02) 8783 7000; or email on <ep@epraise.com.au> as soon as possible.

**Family reunion cruise to Alaska—September 17–24, 2006!** Seven days of memories that will last a lifetime! Enjoy Christian Edition, Faith First, Del Delker, Gale Jones-Murphy, Morning Song (Steve Darmody, Jennifer LaMountain, Rudy Micelli, Vonda Beerman, James Rainwater), and other artists. Mike and Gayle Tucker from Faith for Today will be our spiritual hosts. You can't miss this! Email <travel@classictravel.net>; web <www.internetcruising.com>; or write to Adventist Media Productions, 101 W Cochran Street, Simi Valley, CA 93065, USA. Your promotional code is FR.

Tours 2006—Allround Travel. **Greece and Turkey—May 8–June 1, 2006.** Archeological sites—Patmos—Gallipoli—quality hotels—escorted throughout. Visit Ephesus, Pergamum—post tour extension possible. **Rome/Paris/Switzerland/Waldensian Valleys—May 23–June 12, 2006.** Pompeii—Venice—Waldensian Valleys—Paris—escorted throughout. Great sight-seeing combined with church history. Travel with fellow Adventists on these wonderful tours. For more details contact Anita, Allround Travel Centre; phone (07) 5530 3555; fax (07) 5530 3846; email <alltrav@bigpond.net.au>.

**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>.

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**Birdwood SDA church** invites past members and friends to celebrate their 50th anniversary—February 25, 2006. Thanksgiving service commences 11.00 am. Bring a plate of savoury food to share. Dessert and drinks provided. BYO chair. Afternoon program 3.00 pm. Memorabilia contact Merv (08) 8568 5390.

**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>.

**Go Veg—**make meal time easier with the great vegetarian pies, schnitzels and lasagnes. 21 Berry Street, Granville, NSW; (02) 9897 0000. Wednesday–Friday, 10.30 am–4.00 pm. <www.goveg.com.au>.

**Final Events** DVDs and other Amazing Facts products are now available from their Australian distributor, The Story Factory. Contact Darren or Robyn Peakall on (08) 9574 6777; or <info@thestoryfactory.com.au>.

**Remembering 100 years of Adventists in Warburton—April 7–9, 2006.** If you have been part of the history of Adventists in Warburton, plan to be part of this weekend. Program includes historical celebrations, worship led by former RECORD editor, Pastor Jim Coffin, school reunion and fair, variety concert, Signs open day and more. Visit <www.WarburtonAdventists.com> for more details.

**Bencubbin church is disbanding.** There will be a BACK TO BENCUBBIN—March 4, 2006, at 10.30 am. Coach available from Perth. For further details, phone Jennie on (08) 9686 2030; email <jmbw.tarafarms@bigpond.com>.

## Finally

A pessimist is one who makes difficulties of his opportunities; an optimist is one who makes opportunities of his difficulties.  
—Reginald B Mansell