

RECORD

April 29, 2006

In this issue

GC president
meets president

Easter celebrated
in word and song

The heart of
Adventist identity



WA learns church planting



Former employees, students and church members gathered to celebrate 100 years of Adventists in Warburton—and to renew old friendships.

Adventists mark 100 years in Warburton

WARBURTON, VICTORIA

More than 1200 church members and visitors gathered in Warburton on the weekend of April 7-9 to remember 100 years of Adventists in Warburton.

“One of the most common comments I heard was ‘This is like the good old days,’” says Alvin Knight, head elder of the Warburton church. “Everybody wanted to talk with each other.

“All the background work came together so well,” he reports. “The programs were sensational. The worship program on Sabbath morning ran for almost two hours but no-one complained. It celebrated what the

Warburton church has been. Everybody was smiling. Thank you to everyone who contributed.”

The celebrations began with a Friday night focused on the history of Signs Publishing Company. Llywellen Jones, a former Signs employee and retired printing company proprietor, recounted the early days of the church’s publishing work. “The Signs heritage is one well worth remembering,” he said. “There is a great heritage that has come from the Echo, and a great deal of benefit has come from the forethought of the people who established the company.” *(Continued on page 7)*



Sometimes we do best by someone when we are not “nice” to them.

Bring back church discipline

SOME TERRIBLE THINGS HAVE BEEN done in the name of church discipline. So perhaps it's hardly surprisingly that in many churches the whole concept has largely been allowed to fall away. It is an easy answer to a complicated problem—but easiest is not always best.

The phenomenon probably also reflects a changing attitude to and relationship with church. Haddon Robinson describes it like this: “Too often now when people join a church, they do so as consumers. If they like the product, they stay. If they do not, they leave. They can no more imagine a church disciplining them than they could a store that sells goods disciplining them. It is not the place of the seller to discipline the consumer.”¹

Church was never meant to be a spiritual supermarket or shopping mall, a retailer whose primary focus is to meet our needs and make us feel good about ourselves and our lives, whatever they may be. Instead it should be an organic community of those sharing their experiences and faith, committed to urging and assisting each other to greater godliness and goodness.

As such, we need to engage in discussion as to what church discipline might mean in our cultural and church circumstances, how church discipline can best be done and how this can again become a positive component of church life and membership. There is much work to be done but we must bring back church discipline.

In writing to the Corinthian church, Paul set out two reasons for such a process. After describing how the church should meet together to discuss the issue and “cast this man out of the church,” Paul urges them firstly that this is primarily for the good of the man involved, “so that his sinful nature will be destroyed and he himself will be saved when the Lord returns” (1 Corinthians 5:5*).

This is hard: sometimes we do best by someone when we are not “nice” to them. It must be done carefully and prayerfully but because of our love for our fellow believer and because of our belief in the eternal consequences of the choices we make, sometimes we must—as a corporate community of faith—call a member back to obedience.

This will work best when we have healthy relationships within our church community and when we have a proper understanding of what church discipline means: “Church discipline, even the final stage of excluding persistent sinners from church membership, is really just using our last resort in pleading with an erring brother or sister to forsake sin and return to the loving arms of the Lord who longs to forgive him or her. Church discipline is finally simply watching over one another in love.”²

The other reason Paul urged the Corinthian church to act in this way was the good of the larger community of faith. “Don't you realise that if even one person is allowed to go on sinning, soon all will be affected?”

he writes. “Remove this wicked person from among you so that you can stay pure” (1 Corinthians 5:6, 7). Paul is saying that it is important to maintain godly behaviour for the sake of other members, the faith community as a whole and perhaps even for the wider community who observes, learns from and judges the faithfulness or faithlessness of the church.

But that is not the end of the story. In his next letter, Paul follows up these instructions with another vital element of church discipline. Perhaps even referring to the same person, he urges the church to include redemption as part of their dealings with a former member: “Now it is time to forgive him and comfort him. Otherwise he may become so discouraged that he won't be able to recover. Now show him that you still love him” (2 Corinthians 2:7, 8).

As people, we are still the same in so many ways as those in Paul's day. And as a church we should continue this important spiritual practice: “If another Christian is overcome by some sin, you who are godly should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path” (Galatians 6:1).

**Bible quotations are from the New Living Translation.*

1. Quoted by Ron Sider, *The Scandal of the Evangelical Conscience*.

2. Sider, *The Scandal of the Evangelical Conscience*, page 115.

Nathan Brown



Official Paper of the South Pacific Division Seventh-day Adventist Church
 ABN 59 093 117 689
 www.adventist.org.au

Vol 111 No 16
 Cover: Nathan Chee

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

www.record.net.au

Mail: Signs Publishing Company
 3485 Warburton Highway
 Warburton, Vic 3799, Australia
 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!

Easter celebrated with word and song

SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES

The Bible Society's annual "Celebration of word and song," which aired on the Seven Network in Australia and Shine TV in New Zealand over Easter, did so using the production facilities of the church's Adventist Media, under the direction of Andrew Hunt, and with the support of Signs Publishing Company and *Signs of the Times*.

"Celebration of word and song" is a dramatic and musical presentation of the Passion and events leading to it as viewed from the perspective of an ageing apostle Peter, played by artist and illustrator Graham Wade. New segments added to the program created a freshness for the presentation and included a depiction of Mary Magdalene wiping Jesus' feet with perfume, tears and her hair.

This year's "Celebration of word and song" also featured iconic Marina Prior, who is well known as a practising Christian, along with vocalists and a combined churches choir.

Some 3000 people attended the Sydney Town Hall event, where it was recorded live. Many accepted complimentary copies of the April *Signs of the Times*, which contained a profile of the event and its producer Martin Johnson of the Bible

Society, distributed by a team of *Signs* enthusiasts.

Many non-Adventists—non-subscribers receiving it free—expressed their delight at meeting the producers of the magazine.

One, Rosemaree Knight, a volunteer with Sports Chaplaincy Australia and the Quest international organisation of sports chaplains that endorsed the *Signs* for distribution at both the 2006 Commonwealth and 2000 Olympic Games, asked for a box of *Signs* for distribution at an upcoming sports chaplains convention, pleading for "anything with sports personalities on the cover."

Another, grateful for her free copy, told Lee Dunstan, *Signs* Ministry coordinator, that she had only ever received a single copy of *Signs of the Times*—from 2003—which she so greatly valued that she had read it many times.

Others in the mostly older Christian au-



The Sydney Town Hall was packed with record crowds for both the 2 pm and 4.30 pm performances of the Bible Society of New South Wales's "Celebration of word and song."

dience to accept one of the more than 1500 *Signs* given away included younger Buddhists and a hijab-wearing Muslim.

In addition to free-to-air television, the program was also broadcast on the Australian Christian Channel, Foxtel and Austar, with an audio only on Sydney's FM103.2.

Donations from this year's presentation were collected for a joint project between Bible Society—NSW and Samaritan's Purse in Cambodia.—Lee Dunstan/RECORD staff

More @

www.biblesocietynsw.com.au



◆ On March 5, Jacob's Well church, NSW, organised a BMX and skateboarding competition in Campbelltown at Skate Park, Leumeah, from 9 am to 9 pm for approximately 400 young people of the community. "The Jacob's Well youth took on the responsibility of running the event and were united in prayer for a couple of months, asking for God's

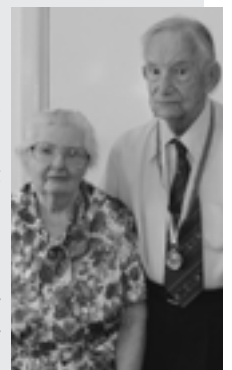
blessing on the day," says Shane Carrasco, who came up with the concept. "This skating competition is an important event for giving young people a sense of achievement," says David Haupt, special projects manager of ADRA Greater Sydney. "ADRA is working closely with churches like Jacob's Well to help build a sense of resiliency for young people in the Macquarie Fields region."—*Intrasyd*

◆ At the Western Australian Conference's ministers meetings on February 19-23, Pastor Glenn Townend, president, and Warrick

Long, secretary-treasurer, presented awards to the pastors representing the six regional meetings around the conference. "We appreciate the time and effort pastors and church members put into the organisation of these regionals and that is why we have given these awards," says Warrick Long. The following awards were presented: **Best Music**, City Hills; **Best Food**, Wheatbelt; **Best Evangelism Stories**, Northern City; **Best Afternoon Meeting**, Great Southern, Southern City; **Best Planned & Organised**, City Hills; **Best Youth & Children's Focus**, Wheatbelt; **Best**

Attendance, South west, Southern city.—*NewsWest*

◆ In March, 98-year-old Charles Pascoe was baptised in the Mont Albert church (Vic). Charles's wife, Allwyn, had prayed for this day for 67 years and daughter Pam says, "This was a day I never expected to see."



WA holds first church-planting school

PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Eight teams participated in Western Australia's first church-planting school held at Advent Park from March 28 to April 1. Participants learned the basics of church planting and gained practical and spiritual insights from the book of Acts. Of the eight teams, three are church member-led with paid pastoral coaching support and five are paid pastored with strong church member support.

"Five of the teams are connected to established churches, two are completely new initiatives and one church plant will grow out of an Adventist school," says Pastor Glenn Townend, president of the Western Australian Conference. "One of the groups is from the country, while the others are from Perth."

The church-planting school was coordinated by Pastor Townend, where church planting is one of the major conference initiatives to restore the Adventist movement. Teaching was provided by Pastor Peter Roennfeldt, from the Living Waters church plant in the Victorian Conference, and Wayne Krause, the director of the South Pacific Division's Centre of Church Planting. Other teachers included Pastor Roger Govender, director of personal ministries and Sabbath school director

for the Australian Union Conference; Johnny Wong, the leader of Gateway Adventist Centre, which is a new church plant reaching students and young professionals in Melbourne; and Pastor Phil Brown, the new church planting coordinator for Western Australia. All are experienced church planters.

The presenters were enthusiastic about their involvement in this initiative to reach new people in Western Australia with Jesus. "The Adventist Church started as a church-planting movement," said Pastor Krause. "It's great to see the Western Australian Conference catching our pioneers' vision using this effective form of evangelism."

Pastor Govender added, "I was personally revitalised by the school. Western Australia is leading the way in vision in this area."

Participants in the church-planting school were also inspired by what they learned of



(L-R) Sue Hobbs, Lucy Cuplovic, Pastor Peter Roennfeldt, and Justin and Suzanna Webb at the Western Australian Conference's first church-planting school.

the church-planting goals of the conference. Pastor Brown says, "It's great to see God moving in His people in WA and to be a part of it."

In the coming months and years Western Australia will see new churches planted in unentered suburbs and for specific people groups, such as university students and indigenous people.

"I hope every new initiative succeeds. But even if it doesn't, the people will grow in the experience and be focused on reaching those without Jesus in their lives," Pastor Townend says.—*Glenn Townend/Adele Nash*

◆ Manilla, NSW, held the **Paragliding and Hang-gliding International Championships** in March. Manilla church minister **Pastor Frank Cantrill** offered a blessing and prayer of safety over 150 gliders from around the world and the Adventist and the Salvation Army members provided morning tea. Next March the world Paragliding Championships are coming to town and **Manilla church will be helping to cater** for some 6000 people along with the other churches in the Manilla community.—*Northpoint*

◆ While literature evangelist **Harrieth Willie** was canvassing door to door at **Nama Camp, Vanuatu**, one woman came to her door but **declined to be shown any books**. Heading to the next house, she was this time invited in to give her demonstration to which the father from the previous house turned up and listened in too. After the demonstration the father from next door grabbed the *Tiny Tots Library* and ran back to his house to show his family. His children saw the books, **fell in love with them** and he came back—paying cash for them.—*ANZLE Pacific*



◆ Students from **Lilydale Adventist Academy** (Vic) attended the practice day of the **Australian Formula 1 Grand Prix** in Melbourne. Year 7 students attended the RACE Program (Real Academic Cars Experience)—an initiative of the Australian Grand Prix Corporation, which offered students the chance to experience first-hand the wonders of For-

mula 1 technology. Year 11 and 12 physics students and Year 12 systems and technology students also took part, **studying aerodynamics, motion and systems in the workplace**. In addition to these academic pursuits students were able to watch some of the action on the track, tour pit areas and obtain autographs of some racing-car drivers and celebrities.—*David Jones*

◆ A small device roughly the **size of an iPod** that can store up to 160 hours of audio content will soon be used to bring the gospel to remote

YOUR CHURCH DOING SOMETHING EXCITING, INNOVATIVE OR INSPIRING? EMAIL RECORD@SIGNSPUBLISHING.COM.AU

President meets president at White House

WASHINGTON, DC, USA

The president of the General Conference (GC) met with the president of the United States on April 4 for talks, which highlighted religious liberty and humanitarian concerns.

At the invitation of the president, the 45-minute Oval Office session included Pastors Jan Paulsen, GC president; Matthew Bediako, secretary of the GC; Don Schneider, who is both president of the North America Division and a vice-president of the GC; and James Standish, director of legislative affairs for the GC

In their conversation, President Bush was particularly interested in religious liberty issues. Pastor Paulsen, who also informed Bush of his recent visit to Russia, said Bush “disclosed how passionately he feels about religious liberty, freedom of conscience, freedom to worship, freedom to think, and against that background asked us some questions about how we found it to be in some countries of the world which do not have a good track record.”

The president was highly engaged and very interested in talking about HIV/AIDS, education and the reduction of pov-

erty worldwide, particularly in Africa, the church leaders said. The pastors shared the scope of the Adventist Church’s involvement in the fight against the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Pastor Paulsen said the president “wanted to know what we were doing in areas having to do with HIV/AIDS in Africa. We told him about that, and about the breadth of our initiative, although our resources are very limited.”

In greeting his visitors, President Bush mentioned that as governor of Texas he knew a Seventh-day Adventist church member on his staff who had explained some of the church’s beliefs, and that he was also familiar with Southwestern Adventist University, which is in Keene, Texas.

Speaking with Adventist News Network after the visit, Pastor Paulsen said he hopes for continued cooperation between the church and the US government. Pastor Paulsen said it is his hope “that both the president and those with whom he works and influences remember that the Adventist Church is a good partner in matters of religious liberty, in matters of combating HIV/AIDS, and in creating, frankly, a better future for all people.”—*Rajmund Dabrowski/Mark Kellner/ANN*

New church groups formed in Vanuatu

PORT VILA, VANUATU

As a result of Global Mission projects sponsored by the General Conference (GC), four new church groups were planted in Vanuatu last year. Vanuatu Mission secretary Pastor Douw Venter reports that at least 40 people are now preparing for baptism in four separate church plants in new areas that have not previously had an Adventist presence.

Two of these areas are in the isolated Banks Group of islands in the northern part of Vanuatu. Global Mission “pioneers”—dedicated church members who go to work in these places for a small stipend—have opened up Adventist work on Ureparapara Island and Mota Island despite opposition and difficulty.

James Nin, for example, encountered strong opposition from the local chief and other Christians on Ureparapara, but he persisted, and today there is a temporary shelter in which approximately 10 people meet each Sabbath.

“These projects represent a total financial commitment of 2 million vatu [SA\$25,500],” says Pastor Venter, “and we appreciate the contribution of more than SA\$21,000 made toward this by the Trans-Pacific Union, division and GC.”—*Ray Coombe*

people groups in Africa and elsewhere. The “GodPod” device, created by Christian technology firm MegaVoice, includes a solar panel with rechargeable batteries, a power jack for separate recharging, a speaker, an earphone jack and controls for playback. Both *Adventist World Radio* (AWR) and *It Is Written* will use the device in separate projects. Shawn Boonstra, speaker and director of *It Is Written*, says they will send 1500 of these devices to nomadic people dwelling in the *Kalahari Desert* of southern Africa. “Imagine hundreds of people who are suddenly

able to hear God speak to them in their own language.” Adventist World Radio is starting with 500 of the devices, at approximately \$US25 each, loaded with their own programs, which will be distributed in south Sudan and North Africa. People may listen to the recordings multiple times as they study the biblical concepts—particularly useful for people who are illiterate. When they are ready for new content, they can bring their devices to a central location, such as an AWR studio or Bible school, where staff will load a fresh set of programs.—*Mark Kellner*

◆ **Wellington, NZ**, was the host to the country’s third annual **National Interfaith Forum** in February. Prime Minister **Helen Clark** was among the 100 people of different faiths to attend from around New Zealand. In her address Mrs Clark pointed to controversies such as the **cartoons of the prophet Mohammed** and incidents of religious and ethnic intolerance in New Zealand that have led to debate about the relationships among faith and ethnic communities in our society. She said New Zealanders must reconcile the past and adjust to the diversity of the

present to build their nationhood. A resolution passed unanimously at the interfaith forum called for the **study of other religions** to become part of the **state school curriculum**. A national directory on interfaith activities, prepared by the Victoria University Religious Studies Department, was launched at the forum. The directory gives a comprehensive **listing of groups around New Zealand** involved in interfaith and ecumenical activities as well as their activities and events and an index of contact details.—*Touchstone*
More @ www.interfaith.org.nz

Sydney Adventist Hospital earns accreditation

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

The Sydney Adventist Hospital, affectionately known as the San, has been awarded with a prestigious four-year accreditation after the latest organisation-wide survey undertaken by the Australian Council of Health Care Standards.

The San is one of only four of 95 Australian hospitals of similar size to receive the "Extensive Achievement" (EA) rating for the important criteria that look at how care and service are delivered and the hospital's plans for the future—commonly perceived as the best indicators of performance.

Additionally, the San has received EA ratings for 23 of the total 43 criteria surveyed for the rigorous third edition of the survey, a result matched only by a very select group of hospitals in Australia.

Phil Currie spoke on behalf of the executive committee, saying, "Receiving a four-year accreditation is a tribute to the hard work, great teamwork, focus and commitment to improvement and service undertaken by all the San staff. Great staff, great vision and great work have brought about these results." —*Pacemaker*

New Signs book launched at Warburton centenary

WARBURTON, VICTORIA

Among the many visitors at the events to mark the centenary of Adventists in Warburton on the weekend of April 7-9 was Pastor Jim Coffin. Pastor Coffin was editor of Signs Publishing Company and RECORD from 1987 to 1992. And Signs took the opportunity to launch a new book by Pastor Coffin.

A Different Church for a Different World connects with Pastor Coffin's current role as director of the Global Mission Center for Secular/Postmodern Mission. The study centre is based at the local church at which Pastor Coffin now ministers in Markham Woods, Florida, USA.

"As well as being a good writer and insightful thinker, in this role, Jim is in a unique position to comment on the church as it relates to today's world and to reflect on how we can better reach out to our communities," says current Signs editor and chairman of the Signs book committee Nathan Brown. "It has been a privilege to work with Jim on this project and it was great he was able to be part of the centenary weekend and we were able to launch the book with him here."

The book was launched during the Saturday-evening concert at the Warburton centenary weekend. Pastor Coffin thanked Signs staff at a book dedication on April 10. "We have good memories of our time in Warburton," he told Signs staff, including many with whom he worked 15 years ago. "So I'm glad Signs has been able to do this book—and you have done a wonderful job."

A Different Church for a Different World is the ninth trade book published by Signs Publishing Company in the past two years and is available from Adventist Book Centres. —*RECORD staff*



Former Signs editor Pastor Jim Coffin.

◆ The Barna Group's latest study, in which 1003 adults in the United States were interviewed, the proportion of adults who can be classified as "born-again Christians" based upon their beliefs was the highest ever measured in the quarter century Barna has been tracking that measure. The new research found that **45 per cent of all adults** meet the criteria The Barna Group uses to classify people as "born again"—up from 31 per cent in 1983. Other demographic comparisons: women are 16 per cent more likely than men to be born again;

African-Americans are the ethnic group most likely to be born again (59 per cent); Hispanics the least likely (32 per cent). —*Crosswalk.com*

◆ The Parliamentary Prayer Network called for churches, prayer groups and individuals to join in **40 days of prayer against terrorism** from March 7 to Easter Sunday, April 16. Each state and territory hosted five days of prayer and finished with a nationwide celebration on Easter Sunday. Those who participated were **encouraged to fast** for one meal

and pray for one hour during their allocated timeslot. —*Parliamentary Prayer Network*
More @ www.ppn.org.au

◆ The American Bible Society are **rejecting a printing request** by the ministry XXXchurch.com, which aims to bring awareness, openness, accountability and recovery to the church, society and individuals on the issues of pornography, which wants to encourage the pornography industry to read the Bible via the **marketing slogan: "Jesus Loves Porn Stars."** Pastors

Mike Foster and Craig Gross of XXXchurch.com say the brand name would further their work and the church needs to use new ways of reaching its flock, including avenues that **may be shocking**. XXXchurch.com paid the American Bible Society to print 10,000 Bibles with the "Jesus Loves" slogan, but the printer won't do it, calling it "**misleading and inappropriate** for a New Testament." The American Bible Society said it doesn't oppose XXXchurch.com's ministry; there just needs to be "a sense of propriety." —*Crosswalk.com*

HAVE YOU SUBSCRIBED TO SIGNS @ WWW.SIGNSOFTHETIMES.ORG.AU

Adventists mark 100 years in Warburton

(Continued from page 1)

The movement of Adventists to Warburton in 1906 was initiated by the publishing company. Originally known as the Echo Publishing Company, the church's publishing work in the South Pacific began in the inner-Melbourne suburb of North Fitzroy in 1885. The early printing business was almost too successful and there were fears that their burgeoning commercial work would distract them from the core purpose of spreading the gospel through printing. Accordingly, after a search of surrounding regions, the decision was made to move the printing business to Warburton, about 75 kilometres east of Melbourne.

Establishing a new printing plant in the small township of Warburton brought with it many workers and their families, who soon formed the Warburton church in 1906, established a school and in following years developed a hospital and health-care centre, a Sanitarium Health Food factory and more recently an aged-care hostel. With such a concentration of institutions, Warburton grew to be a major centre for Adventism in the South Pacific.

After the closure of two of these major institutions in the past decade, many Adventist families have moved away and the influence of the church in the Warburton community has diminished. But the centenary weekend provided an opportunity for many of those who had moved away to return, revisiting places of worship, education and employment, and reuniting with friends and colleagues of years past.

Chief financial officer for the Victorian

Conference Steve Whitson congratulated the Warburton church on behalf of the wider church, and state member for Gembrook Tammy Lobato paid tribute to the role the Adventist Church has played in the Warburton and Yarra Valley community during the past century. On behalf of the Warburton church, Ms Lobato presented a community-service award to local identity Ted Chisholm, recognising his leadership of a group of volunteers who have worked to beautify the Warburton environment over more than 10 years.



School friends (left to right) Dale Rudge, Margaret Jennings and Verlie Waldrip relive memories at the centenary reunion of the Warburton Christian School.

The church also paid tribute to long-time member Keith Johanson for his contribution to the church and community. Mr Johanson's parents and grandparents were among the first group of Adventists to move to Warburton. Since that time, Mr Johanson has served as a church elder for more than 50 years, as well as working in most departments of the church and contributing to the development of the church school and aged-care facilities. He also served as a member and—for a period—president of the local shire.

After lunch for about 1000 people, the focus shifted to



Signs pressman Bai Sirilo (right) explains the printing process to a group of visitors to the Signs Publishing Company open day.

Warburton Christian School with a reunion of class groups. "The school was packed," reports principal Nathan Hill. "We had so many positive comments about being able to catch up with old classmates and looking at the old photos."

The reunion included a student from 1918 as well as four from the 1920s. Former student and associate director of education for the Australian Union Conference Phil Knight gave a history of the school and Ms Lobato unveiled a centenary plaque to mark the occasion.

On April 9, a community breakfast provided by Sanitarium highlighted the health food company's history in Warburton. The school held a centenary fair day and more than 350 people—including former employees, church members and residents of the Warburton community—took the opportunity to see Signs Publishing Company at work, with guided tours led by Signs office staff.

"Our open day went very well and we enjoyed being able to show visitors what we do," says Signs manager Glen Reed. "Everyone at Signs participated, either by working or leading tours, and demonstrated the good teamwork we have at Signs."

Mr Reed believes marking the centenary has been positive for Signs and Adventists in Warburton. "As we celebrate our heritage and recognise God's leading, it gives us confidence for the future and inspiration to continue this important aspect of God's work," he comments.—Nathan Brown/Adele Nash

More @ www.WarburtonAdventists.com



Long-time Warburton church member Keith Johanson (left) was honoured for his work in the church and community. He was presented with an award by church elder Alvin Knight.



Best-practice video ministry

BY JOHN GATE

THE ELECTRONIC VISUAL MEDIA today is probably the most pervasive form of mass communication. The pace of change in this media today accelerates at an alarming rate, making it almost impossible to keep up, and to do so is at great cost. Australia and New Zealand are at the front of the uptake of these new technologies.

The visual media, through cinema, television in its various forms and video (VHS or DVD), are so pervasive in our culture we take them for granted. They have a powerful influence in steering and shaping our culture. It is a non-threatening and easily accessible avenue of communication. Therefore, as a people entrusted with a message for the entire world, it's only natural that we harness this powerful medium to communicate the good news of Jesus and His soon coming.

Seven years ago at Adventist Media, we commenced a new strategy in our TV advertising. We began offering a free viewing of a video. The video we offered was *Search 6—Search for a New World*. We were amazed at the response. During the intervening six years we have had an average of 10,000 responses per year. Many new church members with us today first connected with the church through this television advertising.

Why should the *Search* TV advertising generate such a good response? We live in a terrifying world and—consciously or subconsciously—people have a hunger for security and safety, and it would appear that the message of this video, and of the *Search* series as a whole, gives answers to the questions people are asking, providing hope and assurance that there is a tomorrow we can look forward to with enthusiasm.



There is a spiritual awareness and openness in our Western society today too. When people have the first *Search* video delivered to them they know it is produced and offered by Seventh-day Adventists. Most of those who view the first *Search* video appreciate it, and experience shows about 70 per cent of those who take the first video will accept a second one, and up to 50 per cent of those who start viewing *Search* will continue to the end of the series.

Video ministry is the follow-up to the TV advertising with viewers who request or take a second video. Video ministry is not about delivering videos like a courier. That is how the first one is delivered. But follow-up visits are much more than that. Video ministry is a specialised ministry. It is well developed and has a very definite strategy, which brings great results when followed. It generates more genuine spir-

itual interests than any other outreach currently available.

Adventist Media appreciates the privilege of working with local churches, church members and pastors in media ministry. An expression of our appreciation is seen in the support we give to pastors and church members in their video ministry, by providing training seminars and resources.

Commencing with this edition of *RECORD*, we are starting a series of short articles on video ministry. The aim is to encourage and support video ministers, pastors and church members, so they will have a clearer understanding of what they are doing, what to expect and how to do it better.

We start with the big strategy, so that we have the assurance of working in a way that God has ordained.

We will cover many areas where questions are asked, and focus particularly on practical areas involved with the first visit and the follow-up visits. We will cover critical areas like building friendships, growing the interest, networking and how to lead interests to decisions for Jesus.

It's our prayer that pastors and members will find this series helpful and fruitful in making their video ministry effective to the glory of God by providing a way of leading people to Jesus and advancing His kingdom. **R**

This is the first in a series of articles explaining and exploring the how-to of video ministry and how it can work for your church and in your community.

John Gate is director of the Adventist Discovery Centre, based in Wahroonga, New South Wales.

Hospital calling

BY DIANA SMITH

IT WAS 3.25 ON A FREEZING WINTER MORNING when the phone rang persistently. The caller said she was from our local hospital, but “Please don’t worry” in the same breath. They had a lady in hospital for surgery at 8.30, who was extremely upset. They couldn’t pacify her, and finally asked her if there was anyone they could phone to come to see her—and she had asked for me. I had driven her there the previous afternoon to have a suspicious lump removed from her breast, and she had seemed quite relaxed then.

I suppose I should have felt complimented that my friend wanted to see me, but the thought of leaving my warm bed at that hour did not please me so much.

My husband grumbled, “What could you do for her? She’s in good hands. Go back to sleep.”

How I was tempted to do just that. But I couldn’t ignore someone in distress. So I showered and dressed for work so I would be able to go straight there from the hospital. Then I drove quickly there through the silent, dark streets.

The nurses greeted me so gratefully. “Thank you so much for coming. We are at a loss to know what to do, and she won’t be able to go for surgery unless we can calm her down.”

I found my friend sobbing uncontrollably. I put my arms around her and qui-

etly assured I knew she was frightened about the surgery and the possibilities it may reveal.

Still holding her, I prayed that all would be well, and asked the Lord to take control of the situation. As I prayed, her sobbing gradually became less and less, and I could feel her body relaxing as the power of the Holy Spirit became a reality.

After I had prayed, I sat by her bed and

**“I can’t believe it.
We tried everything
to stop her crying.
This is a miracle.”**

reminded her as I had done the previous day that only a very small percentage of breast lumps were malignant, and of how silly it was to worry about something that may not even eventuate. Then it was that she began to smile—just a little bit.

I turned to Psalm 46 and read it out as a personal message just for her, by placing her name here and there. Soon she was sitting up in bed, smilingly confidently, and it took only about 10 minutes. As we continued to talk, she was soon laughing.

The duty sister came in and was obviously surprised when she saw my friend.

“What magic do you have?” she asked. “I can’t believe it. We tried everything to stop her crying. This is a miracle.”

She rushed away to bring all the night staff in to see the transformation. To me it was a miracle, and I am grateful that I experienced what prayer and a psalm could achieve. How ashamed I was of my initial reluctance to go to the hospital at that early hour.

My friend and I talked and laughed together through the early morning hours into the sunrise of a new day. I told her I would stay until she went to theatre, even though I could be a little late for work. As I walked along with the trolley, we were still laughing and she was relaxed and confident in the ability of the doctors and nurses.

The theatre time had been brought forward, so I was able to give her a hug at the theatre door and then go straight to my car, arriving at work on time at 8.15, tired but filled with energy.

What a witness for the staff at that hospital to see the Holy Spirit in action. We should never cease to glorify Him for—and through—the opportunities we have to encourage one another. **R**

Diana Smith is a pseudonym.



The heart of Adventist identity

BY BRYAN BALL

This article is adapted from a paper presented to the South Pacific Division's Bible conference on Adventist identity held at Avondale College in February (see "Conference explores Adventist identity," News, February 18).

ONE OF THE MOST RESPECTED AND influential evangelical preachers and writers of our time, John Stott, a staunch defender of historic Christianity, reminds us that the essence of Christianity is Christ, and that without Him Christianity is but "a frame without a picture."¹

We wholeheartedly concur. To be authentic, Adventism must—in addition to its distinctive beliefs—endorse and practise the essentials of historic, biblical Christianity.

We can examine this simple yet essential affirmation from five perspectives, all of which define both basic Christianity and authentic Adventism.

The person of Jesus

The person of Jesus, that is to say who He was and who He became while on earth, is the cornerstone and foundation of Christianity and therefore of Adventism. The Bible says, "In the beginning was the Word . . . and the Word was God" (John 1:1*).

In his classic work on the Incarnation, *God Was in Christ*, D M Baillie defends the traditional understanding of that event against 20th century attempts to revive various Christological heresies of the early church period. He speaks of "the coming into history of the eternally pre-existent Son of God," and says, "We confess that while the life lived by Jesus was wholly human, that which was incarnate in Him was of the essence of God, the very Son of the Father, very God of very God."²

It was not coincidental that the first section proper of *Seventh-day Adventists Answer Questions on Doctrine*, published in response to problems perceived by leading evangelical Christians in Adventist theology, was

entitled, "Questions about Christ," or that it dealt with the Incarnation, the deity of Christ and His eternal pre-existence.³ This is where Christianity begins, and without that beginning it goes nowhere.

Few have expressed the beauty and the mystery of this divine-human union better than Ellen White. Her writings articulated for the church the essential truths of the Incarnation and the nature of Christ at a crucial point in our history. It is still difficult to find a clearer or more balanced expression of this most basic of Christian truths: "Was the human nature of the Son of Mary changed into the divine nature of the Son of God? No; the two natures were mysteriously blended in one person—the man Christ Jesus. In Him dwelt all the fullness of the Godhead bodily."⁴

In *The Man Who Is God*, Dr Edward Heppenstall noted the importance of these truths for the church at large, for the Adventist community in particular, and for lost humanity as a whole: "That God the Creator should Himself condescend to become a creature and imprison Himself within matter He created is an event that defeats logical analysis and rational explanation. But God in Jesus did become flesh, a complete human being. This is the greatest miracle of all time and eternity. It cannot be fully comprehended. It can only be received in grateful adoration. . . . There is no way to get rid of the Incarnation without getting rid of Christianity."⁵

Authentic Adventism stands firmly with historic Christendom in this foundational truth, and is defined by the person of Jesus, God incarnate, the One in whom humanity and divinity were mysteriously and forever joined.

The life and death of Jesus

The death of Jesus is unquestionably a defining characteristic of true Christianity. For centuries the cross has been the central symbol of the Christian faith. From the

very beginning, Jesus' death on Calvary has been crucial to the true faith and to all genuine interpretation of the biblical revelation concerning God's redemptive activity for humankind.

But Jesus was born, not only to die, but also to live, for lost humanity. God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself. If we fail to emphasise the life of Jesus as part of God's reconciling activity, we risk misunderstanding—even minimising—His great work of expiation and reconciliation. We recall three aspects of Christ's earthly years that are definitive for both basic Christianity and authentic Adventism.

1. His sinless life

A classic definition concerning Jesus from the early church has come ringing down through the ages: "Like us in all things except sin." This is, of course, but a restatement of Paul's assertion in 2 Corinthians 5:21: "God made him who had no sin to be sin for us."

There are again many statements from Ellen White that affirm the sinlessness of Jesus in words it is impossible to misunderstand. One will suffice. She wrote of Christ's taking human nature: "Christ did not in the least participate in its sin. . . . He was touched with the feeling of our infirmities, and was in all points tempted like as we are. And yet He 'knew no sin.' He was the Lamb 'without blemish and without spot.' . . . We should have no misgivings in regard to the perfect sinlessness of the human nature of Christ."⁶

This sinlessness is not peripheral. It is the crucial foundation of that righteousness that Jesus provided by living above sin in the flesh as a son of Adam, and that is Adventism's special contribution to the understanding of God's plan of salvation—righteousness by faith.

2. His death at Calvary

The ninth of the Adventist Statement of Fundamental Beliefs states, among other things, "The death of Christ is substitution-

ary and expiatory.”⁷ This accurately reflects the historic Christian interpretation and is in harmony with Paul’s declaration in Romans 5:8: “While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

On the cross, Christ took our place. His death was substitutionary. In his book *Christian Basics*, John Stott similarly affirms, “He bore in our place the penalty which our sins had deserved.”⁸ Christian literature and Christian hymns repeatedly reaffirm the biblical emphasis on the substitutionary nature of Jesus’ death on the cross. This conviction lies also at the heart of authentic Adventism.

3. His resurrection

The third crucial aspect of Christ’s earthly ministry is His resurrection. It is impossible to overestimate the significance of the resurrection of Jesus as a defining feature of true Christianity. It was the central theme of the early Christian proclamation, repeatedly brought to our attention in the preaching of the apostles in the book of Acts. Without it the cross would have been an empty victory. As Michael Green so aptly says, “The cross and the resurrection of Jesus belong together. . . . It is not the cross which saves. It is Jesus crucified and risen.”⁹

Let there be no doubt here. The Resurrection is the real sticking point between belief and unbelief. People can believe easily enough in a dead Jesus, particularly if He was only a wandering Jewish rabbi or a social revolutionary bent on disturbing the present order. But they find it difficult to believe in a risen, living Jesus.

If we are to be authentically Christian, we must defend and proclaim the resurrection of Christ with as much conviction and authority as we proclaim Daniel 2, the Sabbath, the Sanctuary, or any other aspect of truth we regard as important for our age to hear.

The sinless life and substitutionary death of Jesus culminating in His bodily resurrection are definitive of the original first century faith and of authentic 21st century Adventism.

The words of Jesus

It is not what others say about Jesus, but what He Himself says that is ultimately decisive in terms of Christian authenticity. His own words are clearly fundamental to any interpretation of Christian faith.

Consider the claims of Jesus. They are

truly breathtaking, considered either individually or collectively. The “I am” claims alone set Jesus apart from any other teacher or religious leader in the history of the human race: “*I am* the light of the world”; “*I am* the bread of life”; “*I am* the good shepherd”; “*I am* the vine”; “*I am* from above”; “*I am* the resurrection and the life”; and, of course, “*I am* the way, the truth, and the life.”

Then there are all His other claims, equally astounding: “I and my Father are one”; “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father”; “No one comes to the Father, except through me”; “He who comes to me will never hunger, never thirst”; “Come unto me . . . and I will give you rest”; “He who hears my word and believes . . . has everlasting life.” C S Lewis so rightly said in defending the biblical Jesus against the view that He was no more than a great moral teacher, “A man who was merely a man and said the things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. . . . Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman.”¹⁰

Then there are His teachings. Again, that which distinguishes Christ and Christianity from all other teachers and world religions, is the grandeur, the loftiness, the depth, the universal and eternal relevance of His moral and ethical teachings. We may take the Sermon on the Mount—once described as the “Magna Carta of the kingdom,” as representative: “Love your enemies”; “Do good to those who hate you”; “Judge not, that you be not judged”; “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth”; “Whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also”; “Whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them.” All this, together with all the other things Jesus taught including His kingdom teachings, are truly definitive of authentic Christianity, as they must also be of authentic Adventism.

The compassion of Jesus

From the beginning, Christianity has been marked by compassion and concern for others. Good works are the evidence of true faith and we should not allow fear of legalism or the charge of legalism to hide this truth or to prevent us from putting it into practice. Deeds of mercy and the tangible expression of compassion begin with the One of whom it is recorded, “When he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion.” That is what true Christian

compassion always does; it moves people to action.

Jesus was moved by compassion throughout His ministry. And the first miracle performed by the early disciples after Pentecost involved a disabled cripple. Christian literature is full of stories of those who have been moved to action in disinterested service for the poor, the needy and the disinherited. Good works on the ground are every bit as important as mass media presentations.

Francis Schaeffer spoke of the need to practise truth as well as to proclaim it. Schaeffer argued that if Christians only preach and proclaim what they believe, they have thereby actually undermined their credibility. He points out that the watching world has a right to judge whether Christians are authentic on the basis of what he describes as “observable love.”¹¹

There is a message here of fundamental importance for people with a long heritage of words, theological arguments and a list of fundamentals that continues to grow. A religion that majors only in words to the exclusion of actual involvement in meeting the needs of the disadvantaged is never authentic Christianity, regardless of how articulate its advocates may be. Ellen White described Jesus as “the unwearied servant of man’s necessity” and stated that the work of His disciples now—as always—is “to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and comfort the suffering and afflicted.”¹²

If Christians—Adventists included—do not spread the gospel by involvement with the people they are trying to reach, how can they be the salt of the earth? The question refuses to go away.

The presence of Jesus

Throughout the Christian centuries untold millions of believers have found comfort and strength in the promise of Jesus, “I am with you always.” But how can Jesus Himself be with us, when the Bible says He returned to heaven? And how can He be in us (Colossians 1:27) when we know He is seated at the right hand of God? Of course, we know the theoretical answer to this seeming paradox, as indeed all Christians have known it and defined it in terms of a Trinitarian theology recognising the Holy Spirit as the third person of the Godhead, and the One who makes the presence of Jesus a reality.¹³

The Holy Spirit has been a vital player in the outworking of Christian history at both the personal and the corporate levels. It is impossible to speak of true Christianity without giving Him a prominent place. *Christian Basics* proposes seven areas in which the Holy Spirit plays a crucial role in the corporate life of the church and in the life of the individual believer: conversion, assurance, holiness, understanding, fellowship, service and mission.¹⁴ At least four of these relate to the personal life of the believer, the challenge of being a Christian in the midst of a non-Christian culture.

There is one further function of the Spirit. It relates to a familiar phrase to Adventists: "message and mission." For many it has become the catchphrase that encapsulates our identity. It is a good phrase, putting succinctly and in relation to each other the two essential aspects of our existence and our task as a people. We do have a message and it is to be shared. We do have a mission and it drives us, as it should.

But the message is to be the whole Christian message, not just Adventism's prophetic or distinctive features. And the mission is to share that message. It can be accomplished only by the presence of Jesus Himself, through the presence of the Spirit at every level of activity in the church, not least at the individual and local church levels, where Christianity and Adventism are first seen and encountered by the increasingly secular unreached millions and by them are judged as authentic or not.

Possible?

So is authentic Adventism possible? It is, but only on biblical and solidly Christian grounds. It comes through an understanding of, and a commitment to, the fundamentals of biblical Christianity as demonstrated in the work and words of Jesus. Nothing less will do if we are to be serious about ourselves, our faith and our task. **R**


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

1. J R W Stott, *Christian Basics*, Baker Book House, 1991, page 16.
2. D M Baillie, *God Was in Christ*, Faber & Faber, 1949, pages 150-1.
3. Seventh-day Adventists Answer Questions on Doctrine, *Review and Herald Publishing Association*, 1957, pages 35-86.
4. Ellen White, *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, *Review and Herald Publishing Association*, Vol 5, 1956, page 1113. See also *The Youth's Instructor*, October 13, 1898; *Signs of the Times*, July 30, 1896; *Review and Herald*, June 15, 1905.
5. E Heppenstall, *The Man Who Is God*, *Review and Herald Publishing Association*, 1977, pages 20, 21.
6. *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, Vol 5, page 1131.
7. *Seventh-day Adventists Believe . . .*, *Ministerial Association, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists*, 1986, page 106.
8. Stott, *op cit*, page 69.
9. M Green, *The Empty Cross of Jesus*, Hodder & Stoughton, 1984, page 13.
10. C S Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, Fontana, 1958, page 52.
11. F A Schaeffer, "The Church at the End of the Twentieth Century," *The Complete Works of Francis A Schaeffer*, Crossway Books, 1982, Vol 4, page 33.
12. *The Ministry of Healing*, Pacific Press, 1942, pages 17, 106.
13. See John 14:16, 17 and John 16:5-15.
14. Stott, *op cit*, page 64.

Bryan Ball is a retired church administrator, who writes from Martinsville, New South Wales.

Record Roo's

kids corner



Hi kids,
King Solomon was a very wealthy king. He had lots of goods brought to him from far off places. Read a little about it in 2 Chronicles 1:16 and 17.


RR

Fill in the Blanks

"And Solomon had _____ imported from _____ and _____."
2 Chronicles 1:16

Colour In

This cargo ship is full of things for King Solomon. Colour in the picture then answer the question below.



Read

Solomon also exported goods to other countries. Read 2 Chronicles 1:17 to find out where he sent some of his horses and chariots.

Can you find other verses in the Bible that tell of Solomon and all his riches?

“Don’t fret too soon”

JIM GRAY, NSW

I wish to add a thought to the article “10 keys to passing on faith” (Feature, April 1): the church needs to expect and respect the prodigals.

They are the members who leave the church and God for so many reasons, gain experience in the world, and bring that experience with them when they return.

Recently, I have been reading about David defecting to the Philistines and see him as an example of one who was faithful to God while living in the enemy camp.

To families who do all they can to pass on their faith to their children, and struggle to understand why they seem to lose their faith, I say, “Don’t fret too soon.” I can testify that God never ever lets them go. On the contrary, He may have sent them out to get an education. I think Peter learned a valuable lesson when he denied Christ three times. It was that mistake that converted his heart.

My dad always says, “Love them all the more”—and I think that is the answer.

Supporting creation

JUNE COURT, NSW

I was delighted to read the robust defence of the biblical account of Creation and of the recommendation to read the works of creation scientists (“Just a theory?” Letters, April 1). Truly, God says through the prophet Hosea: “My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge” (Hosea 4:6, NIV).

Nothing the old serpent has come up with in the past 2000 years has done more to undermine faith in God and His Word than the theory of evolution, which has now invaded popular culture to such an extent that its lies and conjectures are confidently stated as incontrovertible fact in just about every TV program from natural history through gardening, travel and drama—to say nothing of the print media and the education system.

Praise God for the ever growing number of highly qualified scientists who are joining Creation Science International (formerly Answers in Genesis), devoting their lives full- or part-time to exposing the flaws,

deceptions and unconscionable leaps of faith in neo-Darwinism, while providing exciting scientific evidence for the biblical account. I believe that every church member should be verbally and financially supportive of such God-ordained organisations as this and its sister organisation, Creation Science Foundation, spreading the resour-

es they produce as widely as possible.

Our God-given brief is to continue to proclaim the reliability of God’s Word from Genesis to Revelation, where the first angel’s spine-tingling message is to fear God, give Him glory and worship Him as the great Creator of the universe (see Revelation 14:7). Thousands now in darkness need to hear the truth and join us in worshipping our great Creator.

The ecumenical trap

LYN VERMEULEN, WA

It was extremely worrying to read “Adventists observe WCC assembly” (News, March 25). Of special concern were the words spoken by Dr Bert Beach: “Few would wish to deny that ecumenism has had laudable aims and some positive influences. Its great goal is visible Christian unity. No Adventist can be opposed to the unity Christ Himself prayed for.”

The prayer Dr Beach obviously alludes to is that found in John 17:21: “That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me” (KJV). However, Dr Beach has overlooked the vital formula for such unity stated in verse 17—“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth”—and Jesus confirms this point in verse 19.

I’m sorry, but I am one of the few who do wish to deny that ecumenism has had—or ever will have—“laudable aims and some positive influences.” This little Seventh-day Adventist is indeed opposed to this satanic method being used to unite the world under the leadership of the papacy. “Trust ye not in lying words . . .” (Jeremiah 7:4).

Not so “missing”

VIOLET LEAR, VIC

I read with interest “The missing years” (Feature, March 25). The closing paragraph reads: “What a pity Ellen White was not impressed to delve into those missing

years and flesh out a role model for our youth. . . .”

Prompted by my interest in the article, I sought out my much-loved copy of *The Desire of Ages* and reread the chapter “As a child” (pages 68-76). How nice to refresh my mind as I pored over these pages detailing the early life of Jesus.

What more a role model do our young people need?

General motoring?

RAY MUDFORD, NSW

Regarding “What would Jesus drive?” (Editorial, February 25): While I agree that we are custodians of our planet and should handle all resources responsibly, doing the least harm we can with those we use, it is important in presenting such material to look at more than one aspect of an issue to maintain a necessary balance.

As a member of a country church with an elderly membership, suggestions such as walking or catching a bus are simply not practical. Members also need to bring books and resources with them to church. Please ensure that readers will understand whether all readers or only a section are being addressed when discussing particular implications, or whether different applications quite logically apply to different groups and circumstances.

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.

Appreciation

Andric, Ivica and Pavle, together with their sister, Marica Mladjen, wish to thank each person who supported them and came to remember the wonderful life of their mother, Marija Andric, at her farewell. We will never forget the kind words, beautiful cards and flowers and much needed visits we received from each of you. Your encouragement, while it could not lessen our pain, gave us reason to smile and reminded us of the blessing God gave us through our mother. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Johanson, Chad, Vernita and Maddison, along with Renee, Chucky, Betty and Nerida, would like to express their thanks for the continuing love and support received following the death of their precious little Katie Rose. Although Katie's time with us was too brief, the love she gave will enhance our lives forever.

Novelly, Ilene, and her four sons, Bruce, Evan, Myron and Hadyn, and their families, wish to convey their sincere appreciation for the expressions and acts of love, support and sympathy received following the sad loss of Pastor Vic. Many church members in both New Zealand and Australia will remember him for his laughter, love of life and family, and long loyalty to the service of Christ. This gospel warrior rests peacefully awaiting the sure and certain call of the Life-giver.

Weddings

Gilmore—Townend. Ross Warwick Gilmore, son of June Gilmore (Cooranbong, NSW), and Julie Mae Townend, daughter of Pastor Winston and Milbree Dowling (Silverwater), were married on 9.4.06 at The Lillian Fraser Gardens, Pennant Hills.
Kenn Duke

Lloyd-Murray—Schimpf. Phillip Lloyd-Murray, son of Lois (Perth, WA) and the late Michael Lloyd, and Marisa Monica Schimpf, daughter of Dominga and Ricardo Schimpf (Perth), were married on 26.1.06 at St Martin's Anglican church, Wandering.
Steve Goods

Smith—Denne. Matthew Smith, son of Wayne and Julie Smith (Bucklands Beach, Auckland, NZ), and Nerita Denne, daughter of Pastor John and Lyn Denne (Melbourne, Vic), were married on 19.3.06 at St Andrew's Church, Kohimarama, Auckland, and later at Sails Restaurant, Westhaven, NZ.
John Denne

Obituaries

Adams, Cecil Ross, born 9.10.1923 at Urala, NSW; died 16.3.06 in Coffs Harbour Hospital. On 1.3.92 he married June. He is survived by his wife (Coffs Harbour); his sisters, Doris Macarthy (Tamworth), Mavis Braithwaite (Brisbane, Qld) and Betty Peters (Shoalhaven, NSW); his brothers, George (Coffs Harbour) and Ken (Brisbane, Qld); and his stepson, Peter. June's son was to Ces the son he never had. All who knew Ces mentioned what a kind, gentle, caring gentleman he was.
*Gordon Smith
Ken Love, Graham Chesher*

Protect your Cash with ACF Investments

Great Rates

ACF Investments

(02) 9989 8355

Brooks, Bonnie Faith (nee Budarick), born 17.10.1924 at Murray Bridge, SA; died 4.3.06 in Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, Brisbane, Qld. On 9.10.46 she married Newton, who predeceased her in 1998. She is survived by her siblings, Nadine and Howard; her daughters and their spouses, Beverley and Trevor Green, Robyn and Neville Rappell; her son, Russell; her granddaughters, Bess, Odette and Marnie; and great-grandson Luke. She was a caring, compassionate person who loved her Lord dearly. Bonnie leaves us with many fond and happy memories.
Robyn Ryder

Firth, John Geoffrey, born 11.8.1946 at Sheffield, England; died 20.3.06 at Rotorua, NZ. He is survived by his wife, Lucy; and his sons, Jeffrey and David. John was a highly respected scientist at the Forestry Research Institute in Rotorua; a dedicated Adventist Christian; a lover of nature and of his Creator.
Allan Foote

Jones, Warren Rodger, born 27.9.1939 at Casino, NSW; died 16.3.06 at home in Ringwood, Vic. In 1982 he married Christine. He was predeceased by his brother, Bruce; also his son, Jean-Paul. He is survived by his wife; his children, Clare, Christopher, Nicholas and Sophie; his brother and sister-in-law, Llewellyn and Joy; and his sister-in-law, Beverley Jones. Warren was the youngest son of the late Pastor and Mrs Llewellyn Jones. He spent most of his working life in the printing industry; the last two years as manager of Signs Publishing Company, until illness forced his retirement. His faith did not waver during his lengthy and painful illness.
Darren Slade, Morrie Krieg

Macfar, Shirley Jean, born 20.3.1936; died 21.3.06 in Geelong Hospital, Vic. In 1961 she married Fred, who predeceased her in 1995. She is survived by her children, Lesley, Richard and Christopher; their spouses/partners; and grandchildren. Shirley was a wonderful wife and mother. She had a lifetime battle with asthma, but was never heard to complain. She will be greatly missed by all her family and her church friends at Geelong. "Until the morning, Shirl."
John O'Malley

Positions vacant

▲ *Student Recruiter/Adviser—Avondale College (Cooranbong, NSW)* is seeking a Student Recruiter/Adviser for a three-year period with the possibility of renewal by mutual agreement. The successful applicant will have the ability to relate well to young people; a passion for Avondale and Christian education; a tertiary education qualification, driver's licence; and experience in marketing, sales or another customer service role. For a full job description visit <www.avondale.edu.au/staff/vacancies>. **Applications addressing the selection criteria** (including a CV and the names and contact details of at least three referees) should be forwarded to Sonya Muhl, Avondale College, PO Box 19, Cooranbong NSW 2265; <sonya.muhl@avondale.edu.au>; no later than **Wednesday, May 10, 2006**. Phone (02) 4980 2284.

▲ *Aircraft Maintenance Engineer—Adventist Aviation Service (Goroka, PNG)*—is seeking an Aircraft Maintenance Engineer. For further information please visit the POSITIONS VACANT section of the SPD website at <spd.adventist.org.au/employment>. **Applications in writing** (including your CV, 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>; fax (02) 9489 0943. **Applications close May 11, 2006.**

▲ *Data Analyst and Reporting Officer—The Academic Office at Avondale (Cooranbong, NSW)* is seeking a Data Analyst and Reporting Officer with tertiary qualifications in information management, mathematics or computing. Appointee will be responsible for the technical and administrative tasks associated with production/analysis of ad hoc and official statistical data reports. For the selection criteria and a full job description visit our website at <www.avondale.edu.au>. **Further information** is available from the Academic Registrar, Paul de Ville <paul.devil@avondale.edu.au>; phone (02) 4980 2125. **Applications should address the selection criteria**, include a curriculum vitae, applicant's contact details, the names of three referees, and be sent to Sonya Muhl, Avondale College, PO Box 19, Cooranbong NSW 2265; <sonya.muhl@avondale.edu.au>; no later than **Wednesday, May 17, 2006.**

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

Poid, Margaret Rose (nee Mooney), affectionately known as "Aunty Marg," born 11.2.1919 at Mackay, Qld; died 29.3.06 at Mackay. On 21.6.44 she married Emmit Moore, who predeceased her. On 11.7.67 she married William Poid, who predeceased her in 1979. She is survived by her daughter, Celestine Moore (Mackay); her son, Richard Poid (Cairns, Qld); her sisters, Bella Sabbo and Joyce Sabbo (both of Mackay); and her brothers, Percy Mooney (Farleigh), Merv Mooney (Mackay), Roland Mooney (Habana), Cederic Mooney (Mackay) and Cecil Mooney (Bakers Creek).
David Lamb, Rick Ferret

Russell, Grace Charlotte (nee Hort), born 24.1.1917 in Perth, WA; died 26.3.06 in Freeman Nursing Home, Rossmoyne. In 1944 she married Alwyn Liddell, who predeceased her on 3.7.65. On 23.11.65 she married Charles Russell, who predeceased her on 24.4.98. She is survived by her siblings, Pat Hiscox (Perth), Jean Bakker (Warburton, Vic), Noel Stonham (Swan View, WA), Tom Hort (Denmark), Bert Hort (Perth), Betty Chapman (Australind), Eric Hort (Bindoon), Fred Hort (Perth) and Margaret Twogood (Newcastle, NSW). Grace was a very happy and loving Christian. She made her mark on many lives and is missed by all her family.
Phil Rhodes

Trood, Norman Harold, born 25.3.1926 in Sydney, NSW; died 20.2.06 in the Sydney Adventist Hospital, of pneumonia. In 1952 he married Yvonne Watts and established the family altar, continuing morning and evening worship until his death. He was predeceased by his sister, Beryl Stafford; and his brother, Pastor Robert Trood. He is survived by his wife; his children and their families, Carmen and Greg Ward (Albury), Clifford and Sue (Taree), Neridah

and Bob Panton (Taree); his eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren; his sisters, Natalie Lown (Kurri Kurri), Yvonne Waters (Cooranbong), Hazel and David Waters (Lismore); and his sister-in-law, Norma Robinson (Cooranbong). Norm loved and served his church at Wahroonga for 57 years. A quiet and dependable achiever, serving his Lord. He will be greatly missed. He now awaits the wonderful resurrection day.
Lloyd Grolimund

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, SA\$49.50; each additional word, SA\$2.20. 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.

Final Events DVD and other Amazing Facts products and Your Story Hour dramatised stories are available from the Australian distributor, The Story Factory. Contact Darren or Robyn Peakall, email <info@thestoryfactory.com.au>; or phone (08) 9574 6777.

Cooranbong, NSW—"Ellenborough" Park, a superb new private residential estate set among 45 acres of security-gated parkland. With its huge blocks, it's the perfect place to build your new dream home. For further info phone Johnson and Britten Real Estate on (02) 4973 6888.

*Our future ...
your opportunity*



Share your expertise with us!

Photograph by Peter Hagen

**Interested in working for the church?
Have your name entered in the
Employment Database.**

**Inquiries: recruitment@adventist.org.au
Phone: (02) 9847 3209**

THE HEALTH FOOD COMPANY
Sanitarium



www.adventist.org.au/employment

Northern Australian Conference special session. Notice is hereby given that the Northern Australian Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church will convene a special session at Riverside Convention Centre, Leopold Street, Aitkenvale, on June 30, 2006. The business session will commence at 1.30 pm with registration of delegates from 1.00 pm. Delegates will be appointed in harmony with the constitution of the conference. The business of the session will be to consider a masterplan for the further development/ or use of the entire campground property.
A K Wanke, Secretary-Treasurer

Attention: Filipino-Australian Seventh-day Adventists and friends. As agreed at the last meeting held in Brisbane, Qld, January 8, 2005, South Australia would be the host for the 2007 retreat, but due to circumstances beyond our control, the NSW Filipino group will be the official host for the fourth Filipino-Australian Adventist interstate retreat in 2007. For more information contact Leonora (nonon) Valiente Takac (08) 8341 1353 or 0401 761 121; <nonon_takac@yahoo.com.au>; or Lobell Maunes Zilm on (08) 8341 9695 or (08) 8241 1311 or 0421 344 004.

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>.

Christian Satellite—receive 9 Christian channels 24/7. Equipment and full installation from \$A390. DIY kits from \$A265 + cables and shipping. For more information or to order today visit our website <www.christiansatellite.com.au>; or phone (03) 9704 2266.


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.

Receive the Hope Channel and 3ABN NOW! Complete satellite kit for just \$A265 + freight. Full instructions for DIY installation or installers available. Rural Electronics (02) 6361 3636; or <ruralele@bigpond.net.au>.

Adventist Retirement Villages, Sydney, NSW. Accommodation for those 55+ years. **Hornsby**—fully self-contained 1 BR units, walking distance to Hornsby station in a tranquil area. **Wahroonga**—luxuriously appointed 2 or 3 BR fully self-contained units in a superb bush setting with 24-hour call facilities. Phone (02) 9487 0600; <www.adventistretirementvillages.org.au>.

Finally
Great minds discuss ideas,
average minds discuss
events, small minds
discuss people. Be great!

Avondale College
August 25-27



Celebrating 25 years of Homecoming


*Presenting the Murdoch Lecture . . .
Dr Charles Scriven, president of
Kettering College of Medical Arts (Ohio, USA)*

*Performing at the concert . . .
Waratah Brass, the Hunter's premier brass
band, and vocal ensemble The Promise of
Avondale College*

Stor 1	Stor 2	Stor 3
--------	--------	--------

Watch this spacey

Select stor then press enter
to learn how to help students
share in the Avondale experience



Avondale College Offering—June 10