

RECORD

July 22, 2006

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Adventist Students Association leaders with Dan Augsburger at the leadership training meetings in Deuba.



God pours out blessing on hospital

Adventist students get FIT in Fiji

SUVA, FIJI

The Adventist Students Association (ASA) in Fiji has been busy lately with a variety of projects, including a leadership training meeting held in April.

The Easter weekend saw 55 student leaders gathering at Deuba to hear guest presenter Dan Augsburger, from Berrien Springs, Michigan, USA, talk about spiritual leadership and how the students can make a difference at their various campuses.

ASA chaplain in Fiji Talatala, Tabua Tuima, said, "The weekend camp was successful, with Mr Augsburger's presentations providing an inspirational boost to

the leaders."

Fiji Institute of Technology (FIT) business administration student Laisa Samo said of the camp, "I was blessed by the inspiring talk on prayer, the fellowship and being able to share with other young people."

FIT ASA members also shared breakfast and lunch on May 14 as they worked to clean and rearrange the mission office in Suva. Mosese Radaniva, leader of the 45-member group, says, "We have always wanted to assist the church in this way. Time and talents are available and teaming up with the mission to do community work is our desire." —*Joe Talemautoga*



Are we having a “fast food” Sabbath instead of taking time to savour it?

Slow Sabbath

MELBOURNE IS PLAYING HOST TO its second “A taste of slow” conference next month. This conference is all about moving away from fast food and returning to traditional foods, food production and preparation methods, as well as searching for healthy alternatives, sustainable practices and generally getting back to basics.

The revival of “slow food” was first championed by Carlos Petrini in 1986 in a direct response to the opening of a McDonald’s on the Spanish Steps in Rome. This led to people from 15 countries meeting in Paris in 1989 with the aim of taking the “slow food” movement to the world.

“We are enslaved by speed and have succumbed to the same insidious virus: Fast Life,” their manifesto read. “May suitable doses of . . . slow, long-lasting enjoyment preserve us from the contagion of the multitude who mistake frenzy for efficiency.”

It’s probably a healthier and more satisfying way to eat, but it’s not just in food where life’s fast these days.

We don’t really get that much time to relax anymore—although I have the feeling that people have probably been saying that for centuries, referring to times in the past where their ancestors only had to worry about herding goats up and down hills while singing duets with bluebirds (nostalgia’s odd like that).

Generally we’re spending less time with our families and more time with our jobs.

And it’s not just work we have to concentrate on. We’re bombarded by stuff all the time as well.

Conservative estimates suggest we come into contact with more than 800 advertisements each day—that includes everything from TV to radio to newspapers and billboards. Most of the ads tell us we need to be someone different or at least have whatever celebrity X is currently flogging (which will involve working longer to make more money, of course).

We have to have broadband internet because dial-up is too slow. A few minutes are too long to wait for something—we need it now. We can’t get away from mobile phones either, although maybe it’s more like we don’t want to. They’re almost like a child—except children don’t fit in your pocket—demand our constant attention and we are too “soft-hearted” to leave them alone for a moment.

There are emails to respond to, calls to make, people to see and work to be done every day it seems.

So where in all of this is there time to be still and know God (see Psalm 46:10)? Of course we have the Sabbath, which was “made for man, not man for the Sabbath” (see Mark 2:27, NIV), but are we having a “fast food” Sabbath instead of taking time to savour it, spending time with God and others in communion?

Rush to church, hope the sermon doesn’t go for too long, rush back home, make some lunch and then wait around for the end of

the day so you can get back to those emails, phone calls and our other work and play—if we even take that much of a break.

The Sabbath is meant to be a joy, not a burden. But sometimes it can feel the other way around with the pressure we’re often under through the rest of the week. Even the Israelites had problems enjoying their day of rest. In a vision God gave to Amos—recorded in Amos 8:5—the Israelites were asking when the Sabbath would be over so they could get back to their businesses. Nehemiah 13 looks at the reforms made as Jerusalem was rebuilt. Nehemiah sees people working on the Sabbath, so he rules that the gates of the city be closed on Sabbath to ensure the people had a “slow Sabbath.”

The Sabbath is our one day in the week that’s been set aside, not by us just to have a day to put our feet up, but by God. He knows how much we need to take some time out each week—after all, He rested after the six days of Creation. This was His first time to spend with us, too, when Adam, Eve and God could talk and get to know each other.

We need slow Sabbaths away from the everyday busyness to come back to spending time with God and others. It gives us the ability to get over our spiritual indigestion and remember to taste and see that God—and the life He gives—really is good.

Adele Nash



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

Vol 111 No 28
 Cover: Joe Talemaitoga

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www.record.net.au

Mail: Signs Publishing Company
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 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!

Church teaches community connectedness

GOSFORD, NEW SOUTH WALES

Gosford church, with more than 200 members, has recently been searching for ways in which it can create a more connected community, with a particular focus on the connections being made with the children and young people of the church.

This desire to build community and resilience in its young people has been a concern for Pastor David Bertelsen and elders of the Gosford church for a number of years. Plans for creating connectedness have been high on their agenda for the past 18 months.

The leaders planned an early strategy by introducing the concept of resilience to the church as a whole and then challenging more members to make significantly greater commitments to the children's, teen and youth Sabbath schools.

Jonathan Duffy, Adventist health ministries director, is one of the elders at the church who has spearheaded the concept of resilience within Australia via his organisation of the "Circle of courage" ride across Australia. Mr Duffy was invited to introduce the concept of connected communities in a church sermon. Consequently, at nominating committee time, members showed a willingness to commit themselves

to the wellbeing of the church's children and young people.

Following this, a taskforce of seven church members was formed with the objective of being the think tank that would propose additional activities and strategies to current church activities to create community. The taskforce held its first meeting on April 4 and took advice from the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) director for the Greater Sydney Conference, John Tompson, to ensure the entire church was made a part of the program. Mr Tompson has experience with this, having led the Kellyville church in a similar venture in 2005.

From this meeting, focus groups were created to engage with the community-connectedness concepts and share their ideas. More than 30 strategies proposed by the three focus groups were discussed at a later meeting, taking care not to focus on merely social directions, but on spiritual as well.

These strategies aim to reduce the risks faced by young people in the community by encouraging families to provide sufficient care and support, and communities to have an active interest in young people by providing mentors to guide them.

This has involved older church members inviting young people to join them in

activities and sharing interests with them. One church member has taken young people on four-wheel-driving expeditions. The church has also used its hall to screen football matches, including the first State of Origin game.

Gary Christian, the national director for ADRA and a member of the Gosford church, says, "Studies since the early 1980s have shown that connected communities—pre-eminently church communities—and a connection to a mentoring 'significant other,' are some of the strongest elements in building resilience in young people.

"Where society fails to provide a young person with these most important developmental factors, it is most likely the young person will fall into dysfunctional behaviours that will put them severely at risk," he says. "These behaviours typically include truancy, drug use, early sexual initiation and consequent multiple sexual partners, teen pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, depression and suicide."

The church and the taskforce have thought up more "connectedness" activities planned for the coming year, and Mr Christian notes, "Whatever strategies are chosen from the existing comprehensive list, they must be readily achievable and rigorously acted upon."—*Adele Nash/Gary Christian*



◆ The **Lismore Pathfinders**, NSW, during a camp in May, were taken on a journey through the **last week of Jesus' life** on earth. Through drama the leaders and Master Guides portrayed the story of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, standing before Pilate and Herod, the Crucifixion, the Resurrection and the Ascension. This was followed by a candlelight

Communion service on Saturday night. Very early Sunday morning the Pathfinders were **awoken by a re-enactment of the Second Coming**.—*Northpoint*

◆ It is not every day that someone walks in off the street and wants to buy your school, but this is exactly what happened late last year to **Tauranga Adventist School**, NZ. Located in the heart of Bethlehem since 1974, the once rural location of the school is now surrounded by upmarket residential subdivisions and retail development. As **the school had outgrown** the 1.2 hec-

tare site, the school board decided to keep an open mind on possible sale and relocation of the school. Within weeks, a very **attractive unsolicited offer** was received for the purchase of the school. A few weeks later, a piece of land twice the size of the existing land was offered to the school—right next to the local Adventist church in the same suburb.—*Ross Bishop*

◆ The **Bairnsdale church**, Vic, members **used the pier** on the waterfront of Lake King at Eagle Point as a vantage point for a baptism recently. **Andy Ellis** was bap-



tised by **Pastor Marcus Mundall** in front of many passers-by, who stopped to see what was going on.—*Joffre Gilchrist*

◆ As an introduction to a Prophecy Seminar, **Hinkler church**, Qld, sponsored a "**Search for treasure**" program with **David Coltheart** in June—17 gave their names to continue with the Prophecy Seminar.—*Susann Tregenza*

DAYS AND OFFERINGS: ◆ JULY 29—SIGNS RALLY DAY ◆ AUGUST 26—ABUSE AWARENESS PREVENTION DAY

Hymnfest's harmonious highlights

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

Three Avondale College music ensembles and four lecturers featured as part of Hymnfest at the Avondale Memorial church on May 20.

Music Department chair Dr Robb Dennis conducted the Avondale Orchestra, Avondale Singers and The Promise, while music lecturer Sharon Tolhurst conducted a brass ensemble and the massed choir.

The orchestra opened Hymnfest with selections from Handel's *Water music suite* and later provided variety to the largely choral

program by performing four items as well as accompanying the singers, the Hymnfest Chorale (conducted by sessional lecturer Dr Don Roy) and the audience as they sang.

The singers presented four items as well as joining the chorale to create a massed choir, which has become one of the most significant characteristics of Hymnfest.

The Promise added further variety to the

program, performing five items.

Presenter Dr Lynden Rogers, dean of the Faculty of Science and Mathematics, encouraged the audience to join in singing selected hymns. The chorale performed others.

Some were old favourites, while others were new to most in the church, such as the Welsh hymn, "Oh what glory!" Dr Roy introduced this hymn by recounting his



Avondale College held its third Hymnfest on May 20.

meeting with the author in Wales shortly after Hymnfest last year. This served as an example of the ability of music, and Christian sentiment, to transcend cultures and borders,

drawing out the common threads between people.

Held for the past three years, Hymnfest has become a popular community event. It served this year as an event for those common threads to be highlighted, as young and old, college and community, joined to give praise to God through song and music.—*Clansi Roy*

Lautoka Adventist primary school celebrates 20 years

LAUTOKA, FIJI

The Lautoka Adventist Primary School has celebrated 20 years of education after opening its doors in 1986.

Two decades on, 206 students are currently enrolled, 56 of whom are non-Adventists. Three of the eight teachers who work at the school are volunteers. Head teacher Reapi Taeli Lomani says, "I love this church and am proud to be a product of the Adventist education system. Our former students are making a difference in the community."

Former students spoke about their appreciation of the school. Ulaiasi Rokotuinasigana, who attended Lautoka from 1993 to 1996 and currently works at the Elections Office, says the school prepared him for a stronger spiritual life and he enjoyed his time there.

However, the school is in need of repair and improvement to its facilities, and Mrs Lomani says, "Time and the weather have taken their toll on our school building and equipment. In 20 years, it has really aged. We urgently need repairs to the school's physical structure."—*Cross Roads*



◆ It was smiles all round as **Bray Park church**, NSW, handed over much needed **baby-wear items** to the Murwillumbah Hospital maternity unit. The items included baby nighties, bunny-rugs and cot bumpers, which were all recently **hand-sewn by the ladies** of the Bray Park church specifically for the hospital maternity unit. "We have needed items like this for some

time," remarked midwife **Cheryl Wend**. "Thank you so much for your hard work and thoughtfulness. These beautiful items will be a wonderful help."—*Northpoint*

◆ After a couple of weeks of hand-billing by many **Kellyville church**, NSW, members, **Pastor Grenville Kent** and **Philip Rodionoff**, Kellyville members who developed the concept of the "Da Vinci Decode" seminars, presented in multiple the **seminar sessions at Café Sul Ponte**, an open-style coffee shop in the heart of Castle Hill Towers, one of Australia's biggest shopping



centres. "Some people come in to listen to what we have to say; others just stand on the fringe of the coffee shop and listen to parts of the presentation." **A small group has already been formed** from the participants and further critical issues such as creation vs evolution will be explored.—*Robyn Crabtree/Ken Long*

More @ www.thedavincidecode.net

◆ **Illawarra Adventist School**, NSW, added a new meaning to the phrase "school camp." Students and teachers finished first term with a "get to know you" camp that involved **camping on the school grounds** in tents for two days. The camp included bike riding, a water slide and pyjama party. Teachers have been amazed at the warmer and more caring friendships that have developed between students since the camp.—*Intrasyd*



Will Weet-Bix be Australia's number one trademark?

BERKELEY VALE, NEW SOUTH WALES

Wheet-Bix has the opportunity to not only be Australia's number one breakfast cereal, but possibly Australia's favourite trademark, too.

To celebrate 100 years since the first federally registered trademark on July 2, 1906, the Australian Government and Intellectual Property (IP) Australia are encouraging all Australians to vote online to determine Australia's favourite trade mark.

A panel of eminent Australians have voted Weet-Bix as one of Australia's top 10 trademarks. Other trademarks voted in the top 10 include Qantas, the Wallabies, Arnott's, Penfolds, David Jones, Vegemite, R M Williams, Woolmark and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

Voting began on July 3 and continues through to August 3. To nominate their favourite trademark, people need to go to www.ipaustralia.gov.au/tmcentenary/voting.html and follow the prompts.

"I think just about every Australian kid has grown up on Weet-Bix," says George Gregan, captain of the Wallabies and Weet-Bix spokesman. "It's certainly embedded in

Weet-Bix

our culture and is instantly recognisable as a great Australian product."

IP Australia's Registrar of Trade Marks, Ruth Mackay, says trademarks are important to Australia economically and socially. "We connect with brands at a personal level and associate them with moments in our own lives," she says. "That's why we wanted to do something where all Australians have a chance to contribute to the celebrations."

The panel who have chosen Australia's top 10 trademarks include advertising guru Simon Reynolds, artist and entrepreneur Ken Done, footballer, businessman and philanthropist George Gregan, and businesswoman and fashion designer Carla Zampatti.—*Jaemes Tipple/RECORD staff/IP Australia*

More @ www.ipaustralia.gov.au/tmcentenary/voting.html

Adventists some of Australia's highest tithers

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

A study into the donation patterns of Australians has shown that churchgoers are twice as likely to give to charity than non-churchgoers, and that Seventh-day Adventists and Pentecostals tithed most of the churchgoers.

About 35 per cent of Christians surveyed tithed 10 per cent of their income. However, more than 60 per cent of Adventists who responded to the survey tithed regularly.

The study was conducted by the Christian Research Association. The association has just published its findings about giving money, based on a government report into philanthropy published in October, the National Church Life Survey and other research. Donations by individual Australians nearly doubled between 1997 and 2004, with individuals donating \$A7.7 billion to charity in 2004.

Dr Phillip Hughes, a researcher for the association, says, "Australians generally are more wealthy, they have an increased capacity to give. In churches, those who were nominal have tended to drop out, so you are left with the more committed group who give."—*The Age*

◆ A United States federal district court in Fayetteville, Arkansas, USA, has awarded **\$US311,166.75 in lost wages** and punitive damages to Seventh-day Adventist **Todd Sturgill**. After 19 years of driving for United Parcel Service (UPS), he joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 2004 and was able to make arrangements with his coworkers to **adjust his schedule and keep the Sabbath** until one day, despite repeated requests for assistance and accommodation, managers at the firm took no steps to enable Mr Sturgill to complete his work

before sundown, and he returned to the UPS centre with about 35 undelivered parcels, and then went home. He was fired the following Monday for what UPS called "**job abandonment**." The resulting hardships hit Sturgill, his wife, Judi, and their two children directly—having to "cash in" his retirement savings, and borrow money to make ends meet. "Through all of this **my faith has grown**," says Mr Sturgill. "If I had lost [in court] today, I still would have been thankful for what I'd done, standing up for what I believe."—*Mark Kellner/ANN*



◆ A **puppet show** and community talent evening was held recently at the **Haileybury Adventist church**, Ontario, Canada. Personal invitations were hand-delivered to friends among other advertising methods.—*Debra Mallais*

◆ On April 18, 1906, **San Fran-**

cisco was rocked by a devastating earthquake. On the 100-year anniversary, every home was shaken again—this time, by a book. *What's Next? Are you PREPARED?* A special edition of the last 11 chapters of *The Great Controversy* was **delivered to every residence—414,406 homes**. The infrastructure for follow-up includes a website that offers studies in numerous languages, as does the book's interest card of which more than **1600 have been returned with requests** for Bible studies, books, DVDs or prayer requests.—*Caron Oswald*

ADRA partners with UN to fight human trafficking

BANGKOK, THAILAND

On March 2, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)-Thailand representatives met with Khun Pannada Changmanee, United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking (UNIAP) National Project coordinator, and Khun Orawan Raweekoon, UNIAP information assistant, to discuss the "Keep girls safe" project, an anti-human trafficking initiative.

This historic meeting was held at the United Nations building in Bangkok with Greg Young, the ADRA-Thailand country director, opening the proceedings with a presentation of the work currently under implementation to combat the huge problem of human trafficking in Thailand. The presentation also emphasised ADRA-Thailand's strong partnership and links to other non-government organisations implementing similar programs.

Following the meeting and presentation, Khun Pannada Changmanee extended a warm welcome and formally invited ADRA into membership of the UNIAP network, requesting them to share vital and relevant information with UNIAP



(L-R) Orawan Raweekoon, Greg Young, Sunita Winitkoonchai, Pannada Changmanee and Titima Wanwilaiwan at the United Nations in Bangkok, Thailand.

and other stakeholders in the network. ADRA-Thailand is now a frequent contributor to the regular UNIAP e-newsletter, workshops and meetings relating to human trafficking.

With approximately 800,000 prostitutes under the age of 18, 200,000 of whom are aged 12 or younger, Thailand is one of the worst offenders in the sex trade and human trafficking.

The "Keep girls safe" project works to reduce the threat of exploitation of vulnerable girls and young women in northern Thailand.—*Sunita Winitkoonchai/ADRA*

Sabbath school curriculum to target young people

SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND, USA

The Cornerstone Connection curriculum is in for an update, which will see the 30-plus-year-old version replaced with a new design and lesson format aimed at helping young people connect with the Bible and its stories.

Scheduled for release in January of 2007, the quarterly series is designed to be an in-depth, Genesis-to-Revelation study of the Bible.

Kathleen Bealges, Sabbath school Bible-study guide editor for the General Conference, says that the current Cornerstone Connections "is losing most young people."

She adds, "The goal of the new quarterly curriculum is for both youth and their leaders to get back to the Bible and see the big story of God and people. The greatest challenge is deciding upon a curriculum that meets the needs of a global audience."

To ensure the lessons are appropriate and relevant, each story-oriented study will contain two to three possible topics teachers can choose to explore based on the needs of their Sabbath school classes.—*ANN/Elizabeth Lechleitner*

◆ A recent British study found that **evangelical Christians gave nine times more** to charity than the average householder. In addition, more Christians are involved in community work than the average for the rest of the community. Christian-run organisations, such as hospitals, schools, churches and charities, are **the biggest employers** in Australia.—*Tom Glynn*

◆ In celebration of the debut of the **China Bible Exhibit** in New York, Christians and church leaders recently joined for a daylong symposium with Chinese religious

officials to find out more about the Christian church in China. Although still a minority, the **Christian population in China has surged** to more than 16 million—not including millions who are not a part of the official church of China. Chinese officials had not easily accepted Christianity, carrying with them the perspective of "one more Christian, one less Chinese."—*Crosswalk.com*

◆ The Australian Bible Society is working on a **Bible translation for the deaf**. In 1991 the Australian government recognised Auslan

(Australian Sign Language) as an Australian community language and now at least 10,000 Australians use Auslan competently as their language of choice. A 4-DVD pack covering parts of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Deuteronomy, Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Acts will soon **be available in Auslan**.

More @ www.auslan.org.au
www.biblesociety.com.au

◆ A Dallas-based evangelistic ministry and the US Secret Service are locked in a legal dispute after **agents seized dozens of packs of tracts** resembling \$US1

million notes. On June 20, a US district judge denied the ministry's request for a preliminary injunction stating that the "million dollar" tracts did not violate US counterfeiting laws. The tracts came to the Secret Service's attention after a North Carolina resident tried to deposit one at a bank.—*Adelle Banks*

◆ In the past seven days, **44 per cent of men** nationwide compared with **50 per cent of women** have attended a church service—not including a special event such as a wedding or a funeral.

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

God pours out blessings as Florida Hospital keeps the Sabbath

ORLANDO, FLORIDA, USA

It was supposed to take 26 hours. They had planned and prayed that everything would go right. After all, they closed down part of the highway to make way for 1400 trucks carrying enough cement to cover a football oval 1.5 metres thick. They defied common sense and chose to start the cement pour on Saturday evening instead of Friday evening so they wouldn't disrupt the Sabbath.

Even if everything went perfectly—if there were no weather problems, no mechanical hiccups, no traffic snarls—the pour was scheduled to take 16 hours. Instead, one of the largest cement pours in central Florida history took only 10 hours. The cement pour laid the foundation for a new hospital tower for the Seventh-day Adventist-owned Florida Hospital, Orlando.

The cement trucks moved into action after a brief sunset prayer service on June 24. In ark-like fashion, they rolled two-by-two down Rollins Street between US Highway 17 and 92.

The cement pour was unique in several ways. Not only was it one of the largest concrete pours in central Florida's history and in Adventist hospital history, but according to hospital officials it was a testament to the "meaning and value of God's Sabbath."

There was some cause for worry when it rained the morning of the pour. With

5000 people praying all would go well, hope was renewed when the rain stopped. Oddly, once the foundation was laid the rain started again.

"If for some reason we had a breakdown we would have caused one of the worst traffic nightmares Orlando has ever seen," said Pastor Dick Duerksen, vice-president for mission development at the hospital.

"The problem is that concrete can stand for only a certain amount of time before it begins to settle and becomes completely useless," said Tim Burrill, the hospital's vice-president for construction. "So trucks must get to the site on a timely basis. Concrete pouring has to be done in one continuous process. Once it's started, you can't take a break."

Mr Burrill adds, "The construction company suggested that Florida Hospital begin the pour on Friday evening after the rush hour."

Because of the potential ramifications, an early start would seem to be a logical choice, but the hospital administration decided against it because it was the beginning of the Sabbath.

"We went on faith that we would be able to complete this pour by Monday morning," said Mr Burrill.

"This cement pour is proof of our commitment to Sabbath rest," said Pastor Duerksen. "It is proof of our commitment to being a spiritual lighthouse in the community."

When Mr Duerksen says that Florida Hospital is committed to being a "spiritual lighthouse," these are not just empty words. With seven campuses in the Orlando area, the hospital is intent on emphasising how important spirituality is to healing.

"The concrete pour has become a conversation point in Florida,"



Trucks carrying loads of cement arrive for the foundation-laying at Florida Hospital.

says Pastor Duerksen, which explains why chaplains and other staff were at or near the site of the concrete pour to talk with and answer questions from anyone who wanted to know more about Adventists.

Although the concrete pour provided an opportunity to share the church's beliefs, Pastor Duerksen would not equate it with a typical evangelistic campaign. "This is not a three-week evangelistic effort; this is a 365-days-a-year way of life," he clarified.

The new 15-storey building will reflect that year-round commitment to healing the body and the spirit. Hospital administration will make sure it doesn't become just another holding facility for the sick.

The plaque that was placed at the foundation said as much: "Our desire is for this to be a place where every interaction celebrates the presence of God and where every room is a sanctuary of healing."

Scheduled for completion in 2008, the new building will house 440 beds, an emergency room and a cardiac-care centre, said Mr Burrill. The building will also be situated facing a lake and "will provide an environment facilitating patient healing," he said.—ANN/Elizabeth Lechleitner



The new foundation at Florida Hospital.

A higher profile ADRA Appeal in 2006

BY GARY CHRISTIAN

THE ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND Relief Agency (ADRA) Appeal has always been a great way to help people in need. While you may never feel the grip of daily hunger, the intense fear of war or domestic violence, or the utter helplessness of being illiterate in a fast-moving world, you can help the millions of people who are.

The 2006 Appeal is being given a higher profile than ever before.

Television advertisement with cricketer Brett Lee

This year, ADRA supporter and Australian cricketer Brett Lee encourages television viewers and radio listeners to generously support ADRA's programs. Lee has a history of both financially supporting ADRA's at-risk youth programs and offering support as a motivational speaker to various young people within these ADRA programs. His encouragement of viewers to support the ADRA Appeal is spoken from a position of authenticity. Collectors should find a readier recognition of ADRA when at the doors as a result of the advertising.

The 30-second radio advertisement is, like the television advertisement, spoken entirely by Lee. The radio ad is readily available to all churches that wish to approach local radio stations. Stations will usually have advertising spots for charitable agencies, which they call Community Service Announcements (CSAs), and these should always be free.

Doorknock well received

As previously reported in RECORD, a recent government-funded survey "Giving Australia: Research on Philanthropy in Australia" asked Australians what kind of appeal approach receives their donation. Of those surveyed, 83 per cent said they

gave to door-knock appeals, with close to 50 per cent saying they gave all or most of the time.

The second most popular—giving to collections on the street or in a public place—had only 20 per cent of respondents indicating they gave all or most of the time. This bears out something that ADRA collectors have known for years—that people generally give when asked at their doorstep. This should give every encouragement to church people who may

not have collected for some years.

The 2006 brochure

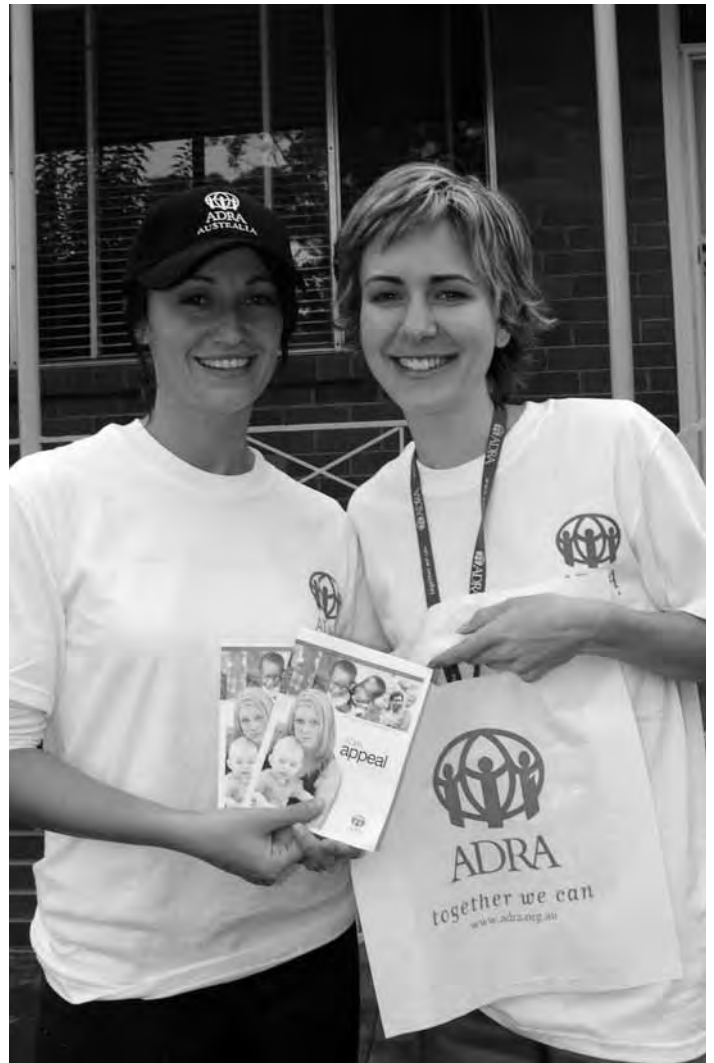
The cover of this year's brochure features an Australian mother and child, representing the extensive domestic violence work done by the four refuges ADRA supports via appeal funds. Because of legal impediments and privacy issues, ADRA cannot publish a photo of actual clients of its services. The cover, therefore, features unpaid models.

The cover also has international faces, representing ADRA's work overseas. In 2005, 60 per cent of money received from the appeal went to overseas programs, while the remaining 40 per cent funded

programs in Australia.

The "National Program" page inside the brochure gives examples of projects funded by ADRA in each Australian state. This gives opportunity for collectors to showcase local programs to donors.

The "International Program" page gives a summary of the major program areas operated by ADRA overseas. These include food security, water and sanitation, health (including HIV and AIDS programs), education, economic development and disaster relief. It is important to mention that no ADRA Appeal funds actually fund disaster relief in other countries, and only small amounts are spent on Australian disasters. ADRA's disaster funding derives



rather from the yearly Disaster and Famine Relief Offering, which is collected in June each year, and from public donations at the time of disaster.

Some donors will ask whether ADRA only supports Adventists overseas. The third page on the inside of the brochure gives a clear picture of the enormous reach of ADRA into 125 countries worldwide, but clearly delineates ADRA's mission to help people regardless of race, political or religious association.

100 per cent supports projects

Importantly, ADRA–Australia has maintained its policy of ensuring 100 per cent of donations to the ADRA Appeal go to support projects, with no deductions being made for administrative support or marketing costs. The South Pacific Division continues to cover these costs from other sources. This is a unique aspect of the appeal that gives collectors additional confidence to collect in ADRA's name.

Alternatives to the doorknock

ADRA recognises that not all are comfortable approaching people on their doorsteps, and thus encourages a variety of alternate fundraising methods. These include: concerts; garage sales; church flea markets; fun runs or bike-athons (one church raised \$15,000 this way); lamington drives; bucket collections at major sporting events (with appropriate equipment and permission); car washes; or collecting at the gates of agricultural shows

The \$100 challenge

If every church member in Australia and New Zealand were to raise \$100 for the ADRA Appeal, we would have \$6,000,000 rather than the \$1,200,000 we are averaging at present. ADRA is encouraging each church member to take the \$100 challenge, whether by being involved in the doorknock or in an alternative method of fundraising.

ADRA thanks you in anticipation for your generosity of spirit, and wishes you well with your ADRA Appeal fundraising this year. **R**

Gary Christian is national director of ADRA–Australia, based in Wahroonga, New South Wales.

Jesus the liberator

BY DUANE VACHON

SOMETIMES WE OVERLOOK THE FACT that Jesus was not “just” a Saviour, He was also a Liberator. He set people free. He challenged the status quo of the “church” in His day. And for those of us who are His followers the challenge is the same for us today as it was for Him 2000 years ago.

While all we can do is show people the way to the Saviour, there is much we can do to help “liberate” them. For starters we can welcome them into a church that is inclusive, a church that is intolerant of—indeed radically active against—all forms of injustice and marginalisation.

Compassionate service is not something to be tacked on to your schedule; it's the heart of Christian living! Jesus said, “For even I, the Son of Man, came here not to be served but to serve others, and to give my life as a ransom for many” (Matthew 20:28, NLT). He summed up life in these two words: *servi*ng and *givi*ng!

It's not enough to keep learning; we must practise what we claim to believe. Impression without expression leads to depression. Study without service leads to stagnation. The old comparison between the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea is still true. Galilee is full of life because it takes water in and also gives it out. But nothing lives in the Dead Sea because with no outflow its waters are stagnant.

Perhaps membership in the body of Christ—the people of God—should be determined by philanthropy, not orthodoxy. As Jesus said, “They will know that you are My disciples if you have love for one another, and for your enemies, for the poor, the prisoners, the disenfranchised of

the world.” And we stick with the church not because we need sacraments, liturgies or social opportunities, but because we love our fellow disciples of Jesus, as flawed as all of us are.

It's not enough to keep learning; we must practise what we claim to believe.

Given the global dimension of poverty, injustice and discrimination, we have a clear moral obligation to show concern for the poor and those who have been deprived of their political, social and cultural opportunities. The call to modern humanity, the call to each of us, is to become spiritual. To become spiritual we have to leave behind the Pharisee that lurks in each of us—because, as Jesus told us, we have to leave behind our whole self.

The last thing many of us need is another Bible study. We already know far more than we're putting into practice

The world tells us that love is God. The truth Jesus tells us is God is love and that His people are love—the gospel turns us around.

To say that love is God is romantic idealism. To say that God is love is either the last straw or the ultimate truth. And, if it's true, we ought to do something about it. **R**

Duane Vachon writes from Richlands, Queensland.

Local churches hold the future of Fiji Mission

BY NATHAN BROWN AND MONIQUE ROGERS

PASTOR TOM OSBORNE HAS BEEN president of the Fiji Mission for six years but his heart still lies in the ministry of connecting with people in the local church. Originally from the eastern part of Fiji, Pastor Osborne is now marking his 21st year in ministry. He began as a church pastor for six years before transferring to Papua New Guinea to become dean of students at Pacific Adventist University, near Port Moresby. He returned to Fiji, where he has since worked in the youth and family life departments of the Trans-Pacific Union Mission, and is currently mission president.

Fiji is a mission with a difference. With 25,143 members in almost 300 local churches, it's a growing mission, both in baptisms and in finance. Pastor Osborne attributes this growth to the mission's main focus: "Being able to get close to members and perhaps make them aware of the issues the church is facing regionally and the issues the church is facing globally."

This close connection is created through church visitation. Weddings, birthdays, funerals and fundraising programs provide an opportunity to connect and give encouragement to the members. "Just being with the church members gives them a lot of encouragement. It says the leadership of the church cares about them," he says.

While there has been recent growth in membership, this has come mainly in urban rather than rural areas. "I think the reason behind this is that in urban areas the people have no traditional or cultural ties," Pastor Osborne explains. "Whereas in rural areas there are strong cultural and traditional ties, and a person accepting Adventism has to consider a lot more things."

In order to address this imbalanced growth, the Fiji Mission has been focusing on approaches that are aimed at breaking

down the cultural barriers that surround these challenging areas without encroaching on important traditional ties. "I think this strategy will certainly break down barriers in terms of reaching them with whatever programs we intend to share with them. Respecting the culture and tradition and approaching them in a cultural and traditional way would be breaking down barriers."

The population of Fiji is also diverse in other ways, with about 38 per cent of the population being ethnic Indians. As the majority come from a totally non-Christian background, reaching this community is one of the challenging areas within the Fiji Mission.

"However, evangelistic campaigns, and in particular health programs, have made an impact in the Indian community," reports Pastor Osborne. "The Indian people are health conscious and a strong health program will always connect with this community."

Another measure being taken to enhance the connection with the Indian community is to train Indian ministers locally. The Fiji Mission has appointed a senior Indian minister, Pastor Narayan Gounder—a long-time lecturer at Fulton College—to oversee the mission's outreach to the Indian population.

Pastor Osborne explains how the mission has even sent some Indian ministers to India to learn the various approaches that have already been tried and proved. "Worldwide the division that looks after the Indian nation is one of the fastest growing and so we want to learn from that," he comments. "The work is very slow. We are constantly looking at ways and means to try to speed up the work among our Indian population."

Pastor Osborne believes some challenges



*Pastor Tom Osborne,
president of the Fiji Mission.*

will arise in the next few years, requiring attention from all the members of the Fiji Mission, particularly as the mission looks toward attaining conference status.

"The local church needs to recognise the responsibility it has in terms of the mission of the church," he says. "They need to manage their finances in a manner that will ensure the church functions smoothly."

Another important challenge is that local church members need to look outward, understanding the important role they have in witnessing for the church. "We encourage each individual and each local church to be intentionally involved in outreach as a way of life. Each church should have that as the core reason why it exists," he adds.

"We do not live in isolation but belong to a family of believers right around the world. The Lord has called us for a specific purpose to share and for each individual and local church to be intentional in the way we live and particularly the way we witness for the Lord prior to His coming." **R**

*Nathan Brown is editor of RECORD.
Monique Rogers is a student intern.*



What's this about privacy?

BY JOHN GATE

MASS COMMUNICATION AND INTRUSIVE TECHNOLOGY has heightened community sensitivity to the matter of personal privacy. In Australia and New Zealand, legislation protects the privacy of individuals and their personal details.

When personal details are shared with a person or organisation, they are to be used *only* for the purpose the details were given. In video ministry, the people who respond to our advertising give their names so we can deliver and collect the requested video—that's all. After we have delivered the video and then collected it, we need to destroy the record of the contact details.

With the best intentions, many churches have developed what we call "interest lists." These are the names of people with whom we have come in contact, whether it's through the Adventist Appeal, as neighbours or through some outreach program, and we develop a list that is then used to invite people to some other event. That procedure, under privacy legislation, is definitely illegal. If we intend to use people's names for any other purpose—such as inviting them to another program—we must seek their permission to use their name and contact details for such purposes.

When seeking information from people, it is common practice to make provision for people to tick a box, if they would like to receive further information or be contacted again in the future. Once people tick the box they have given permission for contact.

With video ministry, after the initial video has been delivered and picked up at the arranged time, if the person would like to see a second video, then that commences a new relationship between the courier and the person viewing. Our obligations under the television advertising arrangement have been fulfilled. We have delivered the video for a free viewing as advertised in our offer. To request another video and to have the courier return again with more videos is another relationship. The name and contact details can now be kept for video ministry.

However, we need to remember that confidentiality still applies to the person's name and contact details. We are not free to share those details with other people in the church, or to use those details to invite people to another program. However, on the basis of the friendship that develops, personal invitations can be given face-to-face. **R**

This is part of a series of articles exploring video ministry and how it can work in your community.

John Gate is director of the Adventist Discovery Centre.

Record Roo's

Kids corner



Hi Kids,
Kip the kiwi here.
This week we will be remembering the Creation story. Read about it in Genesis and enjoy colouring in the pictures.

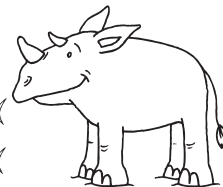
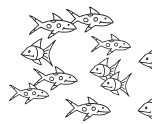
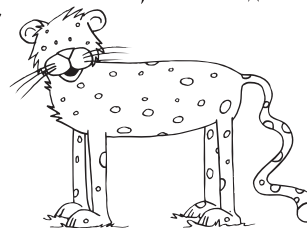
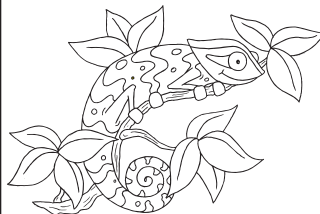
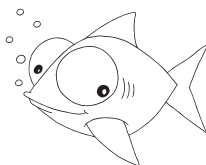
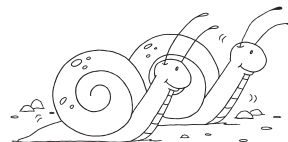
KK

Fill in the Blanks

"Then God said 'Let the _____ about with an abundance of living _____, and let _____ fly above the _____ across the face of the firmament of the _____.'": Genesis 1:20 NKJV

Circle and Colour In

Circle everything that God created on the 5th day then colour in all the pictures.



Sacred vs secular

GARTH BAINBRIDGE, NSW

In response to “The myth of the secular” (Editorial, June 24), where do we draw the line between the sacred and the secular? In our hearts and minds. It is possible for me to perform spiritual tasks, such as preaching or worshipping, in a secular manner, if I do them as acts of self-promotion. And, conversely, “secular” activities, such as bricklaying or computer programming, become spiritual when I do them for and with God.

Perhaps our understanding of the boundary lines between the sacred and the secular was not well served when we were taught to sing in kindy Sabbath school, “One, two, three, four, five, six for us; the seventh is for Jesus.” Let us claim all time and all territory for Christ and His kingdom!

Powerful food

SAMRAJ PUVIRAJ RATNASINGAM, PNG

I read “Go Sanitarium!” (Letters, June 24) and want to tell my story. I am living in Papua New Guinea after fleeing from the war-torn country Sri Lanka. When I came to Papua New Guinea I discovered Weet-Bix.

Weet-Bix is delicious and is a powerful food. I love Weet-Bix, but with my current unemployment situation I’m unable to buy it regularly because the price for the medium size is \$A9. But our kind God in heaven is helping me to buy Weet-Bix. It is a great privilege to financially help God’s end-time work.

Near enough

LYNDEN KENT, NSW

Ellen G White’s statement that Jesus took our fallen human nature onto His unfallen state is difficult for some (“‘Identity’ question,” Letters, June 17). Since Christ had the unfallen nature first, He must have been born unfallen. On the cross He bore our sinfulness as well as our sins. Hence (in John 3:14) He likened Himself to a serpent on a pole.

The idea of a post-Adamic Christ leans heavily on a mistranslation of Hebrews 2:14. He did not “likewise” share in human “flesh and blood.” The word so rendered occurs solely in Philippians 2:27 as an adjective. (Epaphroditus was the next nearest thing to dead.) Jesus took the next nearest thing to fallen humanity, that is unfallen.

Kind and gentle words are what people like to hear. I am thankful for *Signs*, for God’s original diet and for His blessings.

Growing in faith

JOHN RALSTON, SA

It is stated that the assurance of salvation is obtained by just believing in God’s grace and in Jesus (“Salvation now!” Letters, July 1). When facing death all we can do is to commit ourselves in the hands of a faithful Saviour and, as the thief on the cross did, trust in His promise: “I say to you right now, you will be with Me in Paradise.”

God’s plan of saving sinners involves other things also. Philippians 2:12, 13 (NIV) urges, “Work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.” And 2 Thessalonians 2:13 (NIV) states we are “saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth.” These texts ought not be ignored, as they add to our understanding of salvation.

Softened hearts

LES MCGARRY, SA

I work as a debt collector and am proud to have become a Seventh-day Adventist. It has helped me tremendously in my work.

I meet all types of people. When I knock on doors I often get the “unwelcome look.” I now speak to the person with kindness and understanding, as I imagine Jesus would, and their facial muscles and eyes relax. I then ask them if they would like a very interesting free magazine.

Some take the *Signs* and some don’t. I have a few regulars to whom I give *Signs*. When I travel out of town to do

field work, I deliver *Signs* to a nursing home. When unable to give *Signs*, I hand out vegetarian recipes.

On one occasion I knocked on a door and they answered in an angry tone. I explained who I was and they said, “Come back Thursday and collect.” I did as requested and then asked if they would like a recipe for vegetarian patties. Now the person who

spoke angrily to me is very friendly and smiles every time we meet.

Kind and gentle words are what people like to hear. I am thankful for *Signs*, for God’s original diet and for His blessings.

Post-Laodiceans

CEZARY NIEWIADOMSKI, ACT

We may comfort ourselves by asserting that “we as Adventists could still be in a Laodicean condition” while other Christian churches have “become ‘Babylon’” (“Keep the faith,” Letters, April 22). But we must not overlook the fact that Laodiceans are blind (Revelation 3:17), so they do not want to see what happens.

While some congregations are visited by people who are eager to experience the tangible presence of God, at the other end of the spectrum are churches who embrace Christmas and Easter and, alas, even become prime movers in celebrating those events (“Easter celebrated with word and song,” News, April 29). They argue that this is how we should please the Lord.

For those of us who anoint our eyes with eyesalve, it becomes obvious we are no longer lukewarm. We are becoming hot for either the true or a false system of worship. It is up to every individual to decide which leader we follow.

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.

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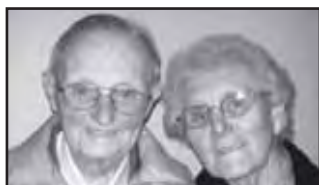


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Anniversaries

Lloyd, Murray and Lola (nee Fuller) were married on 25.5.46 at St Andrew's Church of England, Brighton, Vic. They celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary in Hobart, Tas, with friends and family from



NSW, and received messages and video cameos from around Australia. Memories were shared of 60 years of family joys (including four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren), of warm friendships, and of the many ways they have experienced the richness of God's blessings.

Pavokovic, Ivan and Barica commemorated their 50th wedding anniversary on 24.6.06 at the hall of The Summit SDA church with their fellow believers. Ivan also celebrated his 70th birthday on the same day. Capable and friendly cooks from the church gave the happy couple a surprise luncheon and a small token of their love. They also wished them God's richest blessing for their future journey together, both physically and spiritually.

Weddings

Baker—McDonnell. Arthur Baker (Grafton, NSW) and Loraine McDonnell (Glen Innes) were married on 25.6.06 in the Grafton Adventist church.

Gordon Smith

Crainean—Smith. Joseph John Crainean and Kathryn-Victoria Smith were married on 2.7.06 at the Eight Mile Plains Adventist church, Brisbane, Qld.

Jorge Munoz

Holston—Davis. David John Holston, son of John Holston (Blackbutt, Qld) and Neroli Munn (Cooanbong, NSW), and Kaylene Joy Davis, daughter of Malinda Green (Narromine) and the late Bob Davis, were married on 11.6.06 in the Morisset Hospital chapel.

John Kosmeier

Obituaries

Baron, Frank Allan, born 25.6.1921 in Sydney, NSW; died 5.6.06 in Southport, Qld. He was interred in the Nerang Cemetery 8.6.06. Betty Goldspink was his first wife. Later he married Phyllis Dawson. He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Clive and Fay; and his granddaughters, Josie and Cassandra. Frank was a third-generation Adventist and lived and died according to his principles.

Brian Cornell, Keith Miller

Clatworthy, Roy Clive, born 7.2.1924 at Glen Forrest, WA; died 30.5.06 at Midland. In 1953 he married Shirley. He was predeceased by his baby daughter, Mavis, who died in infancy in 1956. He is survived by his wife; his daughter, Winifred; his sons, Mark and David; and his three granddaughters (all of Perth). Roy was not a church member, but well known and highly regarded among the Adventist community where his wife is a member. He spent three years in the Australian armed forces.

Cyrus Adams

Grott, Francis (Frank), born 30.5.1921 at Kingaroy, Qld; died 27.5.06 at Ipswich. On 16.10.40 he married Violet, who predeceased him on 24.9.90. He was also predeceased by his daughter, Anita, on 6.9.76; and his son, Wayne, on 26.1.01. He is survived by his children and their spouses, Raymond (Maclean), Glenda and Ken Kruger (Oakey), Delma and Russell Cavanagh (Wolvi), Lynette and David Goltz (Ipswich) and Sandra Reberger (Kingston). Frank was baptised at Toowoomba Central church by Pastor Lyn Uttley. He loved fishing and camping—the outdoor life. The last few months of his life he lived with family in Ipswich.

Gordon Oaklands, Alec Gazsic

Nolan, Pastor Harold Ward, born 4.9.1908 at Broken Hill, NSW; died 30.5.06 in Elizabeth Lodge Hostel, Wahroonga. He was predeceased by his wife, Ora (nee Bussau) in August 2005. He is survived by his daughters, Elza Crawford (Ashtonfield) and Robyn Thomas (Orange); his grandchildren; and great-grandchild. His sister,

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Joan Fairfoul is 100 years of age and lives in Moobal. Retiring in 1975 after 34 years of church employment, Ward had many happy but busy years of retirement and volunteer service. He retained his passion for walking and woodturning. He was a warrior till the end, but now rests till the Master calls.

Aaron Jeffries

Painter, Elspeth (Elsie) Margaret (nee Fraser), born 23.3.1909 at Sand, Shetland Islands, UK; died 25.5.06 at Talbot Park Home, Timaru, NZ. She was predeceased by her husband, Harold; her siblings, Alfred, Tom and Rose. She is survived by her

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brother, John; and her daughter, Margaret Walsh. Elsie joined the Papanui factory staff of Sanitarium in the mid 1920s and served there and in the cafes in Wellington and Auckland. In 1943 she married Harold and they moved to Christchurch, where she managed the packing staff for Marmite and other food products until her retirement in 1973. She was a founding member of the Bishopdale church and its treasurer for many years.

Fraser Jackson, Kyle Richardson

Peck, Roy John, born 1.2.1917 at Hok, Canterbury, NZ; died peacefully 3.6.06 at Cameron Courts, Ashburton. He was predeceased by his wife, Lily. He is survived by his five children and their families. Roy was a faithful and caring member of the Ashburton church for many years and was well known in the district for his generous sharing from his abundant veggie garden.

Allan Matthies

Rea, Donald Moris, born 21.4.1948 at Taranaki, NZ; died 16.5.06 at home in Hamilton. He is survived by his wife, Catherine; his children and their spouses, Deirdre and Scott, Donna, Debbie and Jason, Lisa, Matthew and Penny; his stepchildren, Mitchell and Kieran; his mother, Violet; his siblings, Malcolm, Valerie, Keith, John, Miriam and Adrienne; their spouses; and his 10 grandchildren. Musician, sportsman and entrepreneur, Don will be remembered for "having a go" with energy and enthusiasm. He died knowing Jesus as his Lord and Saviour.

Jake Ormsby

Rieger, Anna, born 11.1.1915 in Schoenwald, Germany; died peacefully 2.5.06 in Wyong Hospital, NSW. She was predeceased by her husband, Joe. She is survived by her sons, Wilf and Joe, Jr; and their spouses, Janet and Angela; her grandchildren, Kathryn, John, Emma, Tom, Claire and Tess; and twin great-grandchildren, Jack and Katelyn. Anna is loved and missed by family and friends, and will be remembered for her warm-hearted generosity; for being a faithful church member and a keen ADRA collector. She sleeps in peace in her Saviour's loving care.

Daron Pratt

Toepfer, William (Bill), born 17.11.1919 at Wyong, NSW; died 5.6.06 in Wyong Hospital. On 21.4.43 he married Pearl Totenhofer. He is survived by his wife (Cooranbong); and his children, Kerry (Cooranbong) and Greg (Sydney). Bill was greatly respected in the church and wider community as shown by the large gathering at his funeral at the Avondale Cemetery on 8.6.06. He is sadly missed by family and friends who await the resurrection morning with new anticipation.

*Ross Goldstone
Horrie Watts, Dennis Alsop*

Violich, Raymond Campbell Patrick, born 17.3.1911 in Wellington, NZ; died 27.5.06 in Nurse Maude Memorial Hospital, Christchurch. He was the eldest of eight children and became a Seventh-day Adventist, together with his mother, in 1940. He served his country in the Pacific from 1941 to 1944

as a noncombatant in the medical corps during which time he was instrumental in establishing Sabbath leave for service personnel. In 1950 he married Ivy Hannam. He is survived by his wife (Palmerston North); his children and their spouses, Darryl and Evelyn (Dunedin) and Leanda and Colin (Christchurch); and his grandsons, Hugo and Kristen. He will be fondly remembered for his gentlemanly ways, constant friendliness, warmth and ever ready willingness to help others. He remained faithful to his God, family and church until his death.

Darryl Violich, Anton van Wyk

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Carmel centenary—2007 Homecoming weekend. Calling all former students, workers and friends of Carmel Adventist College. Our centenary will be held next year and the highlight of our year-long celebrations will be the Homecoming weekend to be held September 30 to October 2, 2007. This will commence with a vespers program on the Friday evening and include a special Sabbath service, evening program and Sunday tour of the college. Please plan now to attend. For further details contact Mrs Nerolie Hiscox on (08) 9293 5333; or email <nhiscox@adventist-ed.wa.edu.au>.

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▲ **Director of Advancement**—*Avondale College (Cooranbong, NSW)* is seeking a Director of Advancement to work in close association with the President. This person will be a senior administrator responsible for fundraising, relationships between Avondale and its external constituencies, relations with Avondale's support groups, and broad oversight of the work of the Marketing Manager and the Public Relations Officer.

▲ **Vice-President (Learning and Teaching)**—*Avondale College (Cooranbong, NSW)* is seeking a Vice-President to administer the higher education coursework programs, with responsibility for course development, quality assurance and accreditation processes; also carries policy and staffing responsibilities. See job description and selection criteria at <www.avondale.edu.au>. **Applications in writing** (including CV, a letter addressing the selection criteria, and names and contact details of three referees) should be forwarded to Sonya Muhl, Avondale College, PO Box 19, Cooranbong NSW 2265; phone (02) 4980 2284; or email <sonya.muhl@avondale.edu.au>, no later than **Wednesday, August 9, 2006**.

▲ **Staff Auditor**—*General Conference Auditing Service, South Pacific Division*. 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 of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Locked Bag 2014, Wahoonga NSW 2076; email <hr@adventist.org.au>; fax (02) 9489 0943. Applications close **July 28, 2006**.

▲ **Assistant Management Accountant/Cost Accountant**—*Sanitarium Health Food Company (Auckland, NZ)* is seeking a qualified Accountant who is looking to further their career within the management accounting discipline. The successful applicant will have an eye for detail, together with strong analytical and Excel skills. Responsibilities: Performance monitoring and detailed variance analysis, standard product costing and budgeting. **Applications in writing** (including CV) should be forwarded to: Cost Accounting Vacancy, Private Bag 92127, Auckland, NZ; fax (09) 625 4293; or email <caramia.pearson@sanitarium.co.nz>, no later than **July 31, 2006**.



Homecoming

Join us to celebrate 25 years*



* It just won't be the same without you

Murdoch Lecture returns!

Dr Charles Scriven, president of Kettering College of Medical Arts, will speak.

Sydney Male Choir in concert

The Homecoming concert will feature Australia's longest continually operating choir, the Sydney Male Choir, directed by Alan Thrift. Vocal ensemble The Promise will perform selections from *Les Misérables* as support.

New!

August 25-27, 2006

Avondale College Homecoming—August 25–27, 2006. Celebrating 25 years. Relax! Golf classic and the Back to Avondale festival close Homecoming on Sunday. It just won't be the same without you. <alumni@avondale.edu.au>.

Notice is hereby given of the *regular session of the Western Australian Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church*, to be held at the Carmel Adventist College Auditorium, the business of the session commencing at the conclusion of the closing Sabbath program on September 16, and concluding on September 17. The session will receive reports from the secretary and treasurer, as well as the various departments. Constitutional changes will also be discussed.

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9th annual ADRA sacred concert—Saturday, July 22, 2006. This year's concert promises to be superb and one that you will not want to miss! Gifted national performers will delight you with exquisite songs and fine music. There are two convenient locations: **Parramatta church**, Sabbath afternoon 3.00 pm. **Wahroonga church**, 7.30 pm (program will appear later on 3ABN and Hope). Seated by 7.20 pm. **No entry after 7.25 pm sharp!** Be early! Seats will fill quickly. Offering collected. Proceeds to ADRA.

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San graduates dinner—August 27, 2006. All past nursing students and Sydney Adventist Hospital graduates are invited to attend (with partner or friend). For details contact SAH Foundation, phone (02) 9487 9405; or email <foundation@sah.org.au>.

Finally

I never did anything worth doing by accident, nor did any of my inventions come by accident; they came by work.—*Thomas Edison*