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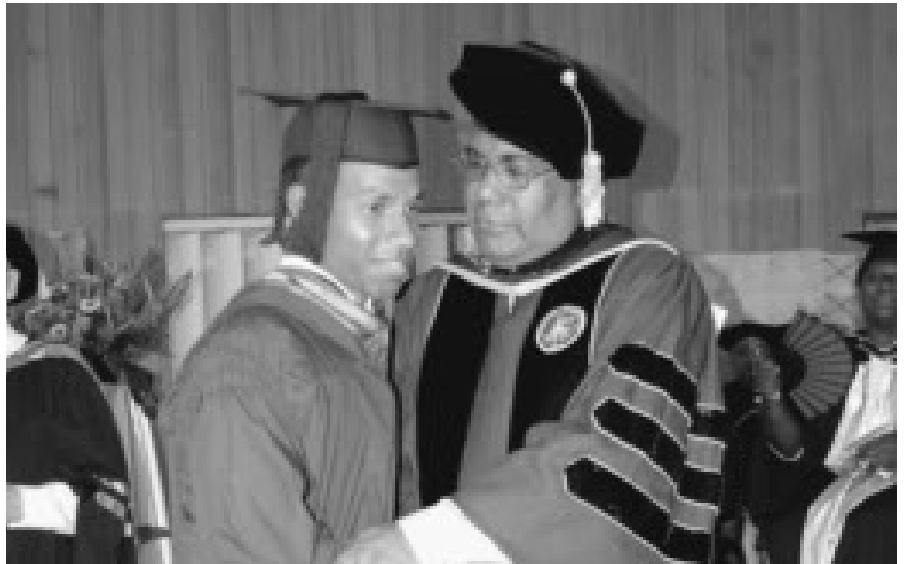
January 27, 2007

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Tribute paid to retired ATSIM leader

Hindson Awards 2006



Bob Teobasi (left), who graduated with a BA in Education, with Dr Nemani Tausere, outgoing vice-chancellor of PAU.



PNG youth raise AIDS awareness

PAU graduation farewells VC

PORT MORESBY, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

It was another milestone for the history of Pacific Adventist University (PAU) as 76 students graduated with degrees and diplomas in various fields ranging from Health Science, Science and Technology, Education and Theology on December 10, 2006.

The graduates were mainly from the Pacific region, but also included some from China and one Australian.

Dr Nemani Tausere, the outgoing vice-chancellor of PAU, who was the keynote speaker, started his address by stressing to guests, parents and friends that PAU, for the past 24 years, had produced quality

graduates who are serving in various sectors of their communities, the church and nations across the Pacific.

However, he added, "It is sad to note that after more than 20 years of existence as a private institution, providing skilled manpower for our nation PNG and other Pacific islands, PAU continues to struggle all alone and with no financial help or support from the government of this nation."

To the graduates, Dr Tausere presented his secret to success in a challenging world, saying, "Together with God—meaning God

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It's a regular sequence in movies,
books . . . and daydreams.

This is not a road trip

WE ALL KNOW THE SCENE. THE camera draws back to show the expanse that lies ahead. The road slides into the distance across an almost endless plain fading away perhaps toward some distant mountains, with just the ribbon of blacktop connecting our vantage point with that far horizon. There is a cry of freedom, signalling the soundtrack music to kick in, and the road trip is under way.

It's a regular sequence in movies, books . . . and daydreams. The images and metaphors speak of freedom, escape and some kind of disconnection. There is much to be admired in these images and stories. They are often associated with a sense of adventure and wonder. The journeys are often focused in one way or another on spiritual quests, of "finding ourselves" and attempting to discover some answers to the big questions of life.

But it isn't real life; this is not a road trip. For most of us, life has far less glamour and mileage. And, even if the road-trip kind of life was desirable, few of us have the luxuries of the open road, the fast car, the long hair blowing extravagantly in the wind and the carefully choreographed soundtrack.

The journey as a metaphor for life and faith has been much overused. And while we should live in ways that embrace and engage with change and growth, there is also much to be said for an underlying stability of life that does not vary with

wind or tide. Yet it seems something in ourselves and our culture prompts a kind of wanderlust. Somehow, we believe, the next new thing/place/purchase/relationship/belief/experience will give us happiness, completeness, freedom or whatever it is we dream of.

Recognising this human restlessness for novelty and new horizons, some Christian traditions—particularly some monastic communities—have asked new members "to take a 'vow of stability' rather than to wander constantly from place to place" (Albert Hsu, *The Suburban Christian*). They have recognised life is not about escape. The call is to a deeper experience of faith, community and life in general.

While the Bible does contain some stories of epic journeys (the Exodus, for example) and other road-trip adventures (perhaps the parable of the prodigal son could fit within this genre), the strongest images in much of the Bible and in the teachings of Jesus are more focused on growth. Stories of gardens, agriculture, trees and plants appear regularly. Even the results of righteous living are talked about in terms of fruit and other crops.

According to the Bible, the best kind of life grows strong and deep: "Blessed are those who trust in the Lord and have made the Lord their hope and confidence. They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought.

Their leaves stay green, and they go right on producing delicious fruit" (Jeremiah 17:7, 8;* see also Psalm 1:3).

This is not a road trip; but neither is it an attitude of mediocrity or resignation. We should resist the arguments and attitudes that allow authenticity only at the extremes. The challenge is to live amid the mundane everydayness of so much of our lives with the exuberance, passion and sense of adventure that is embodied in all those road-trip metaphors.

There may be road-trip moments in our lives but our focus should be on the call to walk with humble faithfulness in whatever our circumstances: "God has yet to bless anyone except where they actually are, and if we faithlessly discard situation after situation, moment after moment, as not being 'right,' we will simply have no place to receive His kingdom into our life. For those situations and moments *are* our life" (Dallas Willard, *The Divine Conspiracy*).

God calls us to a holy and growing constancy, a faith that is engaged with life around us while drawing deeply from the life He gives. As Jesus said, "I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit" (John 15:5).

*Bible quotations are from the New Living Translation.

Nathan Brown



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**know
experience
and share**
our hope in Jesus Christ!

ADRA approved for full accreditation with AusAID

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)—Australia announced at the beginning of December 2006 that it has been approved by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) to continue with full accreditation for a further five years.

Application for accreditation required that ADRA—Australia's development philosophy, practices, policies and procedures be assessed by an independent accreditation review team, following the submission of an 83-page agency profile.

As part of the assessment, the review team examined ADRA—Australia in multiple areas, including project management, marketing, fundraising, financial management, risk management, accountability, compliance to governing body codes, its strategic plan and organisational structure.

"ADRA—Australia is a professionally run development agency and is fully capable of self-assessing its areas of strength and challenge," reported the AusAID accreditation review team.

They also added, "As ADRA moves into a period of consolidation it could well become one of the sector's most progressive and professional organisations."

The review team also noted that elements of ADRA's work likely represent best practice in the sector.

"This is a significant vote of confidence in ADRA—Australia's ability and capacity, and is a process that ensures we remain accountable to continuing high standards in our development and organisational practice," says ADRA—Australia's Chief Executive Officer, David Jack.

He adds, "It affirms we're a strong organisation that is conducting its project management and fundraising activities in a credible and appropriate manner."

ADRA—Australia is required to renew accreditation every five years, allowing it to continue partnering with the Australian Government in a number of its projects in the Pacific, Asia and Africa.

Most recently, ADRA—Australia entered into a five-year \$A5.1 million cooperation agreement to work with rural, agricultural communities in Cambodia.

ADRA—Australia is also implementing a five-year \$A8.5 million cooperation

agreement, its largest AusAID-funded project, in Mozambique, Malawi and Zambia, addressing issues of food security within the context of HIV and AIDS.

Accreditation allows ADRA—Australia to apply for government funding for development projects overseas.

Cooperation agreements are generally fully funded by the government and implemented by ADRA—Australia, although the cooperation agreement in Africa also requires ADRA to raise funds.

The AusAID Non-Government Organisation Cooperation Program requires both AusAID and ADRA—Australia to contribute funding to a project, where AusAID provides 75 per cent and ADRA—Australia raises the remaining 25 per cent.

ADRA—Australia engages in sustainable development programs and disaster relief for people in Australia and abroad and is part of the ADRA network, which has a presence in 125 countries.

It is a signatory to the Australian Council for International Development Code of Conduct.—*Candice Jaques*

More @ www.adra.org.au



Susan Jackson

(left), who won the same right by beating all leaders participating in the same challenge. The rest of the Pathfinders **stayed behind for their fire-cooked meal**, including plain rice, Weet-Bix and coconut.

◆ To outlast the other 37 Nuna-wading Pathfinder Club members, Vic, during a recent **survivor camp** in Camp Howqua's bush, **Meredith Allen** (pictured, right) endured a six-hour marathon of physically and mentally "torturing" challenges. Her reward was a **helicopter trip to town** for a fast-food dinner with director **Rachel Wegener**

◆ On November 17, a group of Adventist musicians from Melbourne presented a **sacred concert in the Mount Gambier Prison, SA**. Musicians were soprano **Yola Mielczarek**, her son, **Matthew**, on saxophone, **Peter McGowan** on trumpet, **Gloria Grosser** and **Lauren Arthur** on keyboard. The program included Christmas car-

ols the prisoners could participate in with singing. The following day the group provided a musical program, with Lauren's younger sister, **Narelle**, joining as a vocalist at the Mount Gambier church for their regional day. People from **Millicent and Rendelsham visited** for the program. **Don and Aileen Sforcina** have been caring for these three churches, and have been presenting **health seminars in the prison**.—*Meryl McDonald-Gough*

◆ Primary students at **Mountain View Adventist College (MVAC)**, NSW, recently had **Willy Wonka**

visit them during their lunchbreak. The students mobbed Willy as he skipped around the playground **distributing an assortment of lollies** to the students. Students in Year 4 had the privilege of having Willy Wonka taste-test their "self-improved" cookies and then decide on the most creative array of food. Where previously only a sentence or two was the norm, most **students wrote two pages about the event**, learning correct paragraphing, resulting from their first-hand experience with meeting a character they have read about in class.—*Intrasyd*

SEE AND READ ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED AT THE PATHFINDER CAMPOREE @ WWW.12THGATE.ORG.AU

Eastward Missionary College celebrates graduation

ROLLANDS PLAINS, NEW SOUTH WALES

November 26, 2006, saw five people graduate from Eastward Missionary College in Rollands Plains, New South Wales.

Hayley Maunder, Wayne Smith, Daniel Christie, Charlene Su'a and William Moala participated in the four-month training program and evangelism work that culminated in a four-week outreach series, which made a strong impact on the local community. New contacts were made and 15 people chose to be baptised.

Pastor Bruce Price was the speaker at the graduation service and had some strong admonition for the graduates. He told them the gospel will never make people comfortable—the Holy Spirit convicts them to make changes in their lives. The students are called to be shepherds—“not sheepdogs that nip at the heels of those not living up to standards of the church,” but to be examples in conduct and speech.

“Don't settle for less, because we are dealing with eternal things of a very serious nature. Raise the standard,” was his



From left to right: Darlene Turpin (administrative assistant), Mark Roberts (academic dean), Wojtek Janiuk (volunteer), William Moala, Daniel Christie, Charlene Su'a, Pastor Danny Milenkov, Hayley Maunder, Rod Bailey (administrative director), Pastor E Bruce Price. Front: Wayne Smith.

counsel to the graduates.

Ms Maunder and Mr Smith will remain in the Port Macquarie area to assist Pastors Danny Milenkov and Joseph Maticic in the follow-up work relating to Bible studies the students had been giving, as well as with another evangelistic campaign.

Mr Moala and Ms Su'a will join Pastor Mark Finley's team in Melbourne for his 2007 series, and Mr Christie will return to Queensland to continue his ministry there.—**RECORD staff/ Brett Higgins**

More @ www.eastward.edu.au

PAU graduation farewells VC

(Continued from page 1)

abiding in you and you in God—only then can we find true success and joy in life, to victoriously overcome all storms of life, to experience a joyful life of service, and finally to enjoy life in the coming eternity.”

Coincidentally, most graduates began their studies the same year Dr Tausere became vice-chancellor of PAU four years ago. Dr Tausere is leaving for another post in the ministry and the graduates will serve their respective community, church and nation. In his concluding remarks to the graduates, Dr Tausere charged them with the commission: “With the formulae of God abiding in you and you in God, with deeply ingrained truth and experience of having that living connection with God, you can go out and change the world.”—**Edna Woori**



Daniela Schubert, who graduated with an MA in Theology, receives her degree from the president of the South Pacific Division, Pastor Laurie Evans.

◆ **TV advertising** of a free viewing of **The Search videos** will screen in the following regions: **Brisbane** on Channel 10, January 27 to February 4; rural southern **Queensland** on WIN TV, January 27 to February 4; and rural **Western Australia** on GWN, February 3-11.

◆ For the second year running **Heritage College's primary soccer team** recently won the annual Soccer Challenge at Lilydale Adventist Academy, Vic. Heritage and **Nunawading** emerged as the top teams after a round-robin program that also included

teams from **Edinburgh, Gilson and Warburton**. The final was a close encounter with Heritage eventually winning 1-0. Award winners were: Golden Boot Award, **Dominic Paul** of Heritage College (8 goals); Most Valuable Boy Player, **Jamic Button** of Warburton; Most Valuable Girl Player, **Shelley Dumiter** of Heritage.—**Intravic**

◆ Religious rivalry was laid aside when **Adventists joined hands with Catholics** last year to **bury prominent Catholic priest** turned politician, the late **Father Robert Lak** in Mount Hagen, PNG. The

deceased was one of the first two Papua New Guineans to be ordained to the priesthood by **Pope John Paul II** in the Vatican, Rome, in 1976. Seventh-day Adventist youth in the Hagen Central District of the Western Highlands Mission were invited to conduct the memorial service. Leading the procession was **Baisu Adventist Youth Band Pipes and Drums**. Adventist Youth and Pathfinders adorned in their respective colours marched with the casket through Mount Hagen. Moge Komonka leader **Andrew Dokta** joined other leaders in the province in requesting Advent-

ists to bury them when they die. However, **Pastor Pius Kitlae**, district director of the Hagen Central District, responded, “**Don't wait until you die for me to bury you.** Come to Christ now and be buried with Him in baptism first.” The Adventist church here has since been receiving frequent visitors at Sabbath school from Catholic and Pentecostal churches. Adventists were asked to conduct the funeral service because lately the church has gained recognition from the government for preaching and maintaining a **correct position on the state of the dead.**—**Koim**

DAYS AND OFFERINGS: ◆ FEBRUARY 10—SOUTH PACIFIC RECORD OFFERING

PNG church members get on their bikes for World AIDS Day

LAKE, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

To mark World AIDS Day on December 1, 2006, 25 bike riders rode from Goroka to Lae. They left Goroka on November 26, 2006, and travelled on the Okuk Highway for five days, stopping at villages along the way to conduct HIV/AIDS awareness training.

The riders from the Lae District were led by Buimo Road Adventist church youth members, who were raising funds for a new church building as well as carrying out activities to raise HIV/AIDS awareness.

Prior to the ride, all of the participants underwent basic HIV/AIDS training provided by the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) AIDS education program and the Adventist Health Department.

During the ride, more than 7000 people received brochures and posters about HIV/AIDS, as well as condoms, which can help to prevent the transfer of the virus during sexual contact.

Riders were able to talk to people in the communities along the way on a one-on-one basis as well as to large crowds of up

to 500 people about HIV/AIDS.

Each evening of the trip saw awareness programs conducted by Pastor Gad Koito, the Papua New Guinea Union Mission's health director, and Rita Maruha, ADRA AIDS education coordinator.

These programs included sharing basic HIV/AIDS knowledge and statistics. They also focused on God's plan for sexuality and ended with showing the locally produced AIDS DVD *Oh Papa God, wai na em olsem*.

Many people along the way thanked the young people for the information, and often said it was the first time someone had talked to them about HIV/AIDS.

Team leader Roy Kumbou expressed his sadness about the feedback from people revealing there are still many misconceptions about HIV/AIDS at a local level.



Support staff Cossey Yosi (right) and James Mero (far right) giving away HIV/AIDS information posters and having a chat with a highway truck driver and his crew on AIDS at a stop along the Okuk Highway.

"However, I am happy I have taken time to tell these people about AIDS and I know this may be the first and last time some of them may hear about this virus," says Mr Kumbou.

The Sanitarium Health Food Company sponsored the ride, providing cereals as well as shirts, caps and drinking containers for the bikers and their support staff on the journey.—**RECORD staff/Martina Darius**

◆ The European Commission (EC) EuropeAid has given preliminary approval for **ADRA-UK to fund a new development** project in the West African country of Burkina Faso. The total budget of **€1 million** will help reduce poverty and improve livelihoods in one of the poorest areas of this country and would be the largest single development grant assigned to ADRA-UK to date. The EC is contributing 75 per cent of the cost and ADRA-UK is seeking private donations to secure the remaining 25 per cent. The project is designed to reinforce the capaci-

ties of 12 villages in the province of Bazèga to effectively **manage and enhance their natural and water resources** in order to reduce poverty.—**Bert Smit**

◆ Nobody spoke an audible word at a **silent worship service at Newbold College**, UK, recently. No one sang a hymn or preached a sermon. There was no music and no collection of an offering. This was a first for Newbold and was available to students, staff and the wider community. "In Quiet Church we want to give people an opportunity just to be with God and really to

listen to what He might be saying to them," says the dean of students, Pastor Henrik Jorgensen.—**Helen Pearson/TED News**

◆ On August 27, the **Robbins church**, Illinois, USA, held its first annual **Male Involvement Day**—a free community event centred around a back-to-school theme. Activities included face painting and carnival-style games and inside the church three experienced barbers gave back-to-school haircuts.—**Zakia Bradley**

◆ An urgent call for blood donors

went out during the 1943 Montana camp-meeting and 17-year-old **Jim Kyle** responded. Now 80, Mr Kyle has donated more than **75 litres of blood**, and the Red Cross has recognised his contribution by awarding him 20 pins. When asked why he continues to give his blood, he says the Lord gave him the blood and health, and he wants to help where needed. His blood is type O, which means that anyone can use his blood. "The real universal donor is the Lord Himself," he says, "and the whole world needs His blood."—**Richard Dower**

Tribute to retired ATSIM director at Armidale gathering

ARMIDALE, NEW SOUTH WALES

On the first weekend of November every year, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders from as far away as Brisbane gathered at the Armidale church in the North New South Wales Conference for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministries (ATSIM) regional meeting.

Last year's regional meeting was used not only to praise God and meet together, but to also to give a farewell to Pastor Eric Davey, former ATSIM director for the Australian Union Conference, who retired at the end of 2006.

Dianne Roberts, an elder at Armidale church, said, "It's not a farewell, but a big thank you for your sacrifices."

People lined up to share their stories of how they had been influenced by Pastor Davey's ministry and kindness, thanking not only him, but his wife, Maxine, and their children, for their contribution and commitment to ATSIM.

Pastor Davey had worked with ATSIM for 21 years and has been involved in church ministry for more than 40 years.

A vespers program welcomed visitors,



Pastor Eric Davey with Dianne Roberts at the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander meeting at Armidale church.

with Pastor Kevin Brown reminding worshippers of "belongingness that comes from our beginnings."

The main speaker for the Sabbath program was John Murison, pastor of the Mount Druitt church in the Greater Sydney Conference. He spoke on the theme, "Jesus Christ, the seeker of the lost."

Musical items were presented by the Fatnowna family and Mirriwinni Gospel Singers.

The afternoon was filled with news about ATSIM activities and exciting stories and testimonies of how God is working in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population.—*North Point*

Adventist leader calls on UN for openness to religious groups

SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND, USA

General Conference representative to the United Nations (UN) Pastor Jonathan Gallagher called for more openness to religious groups at UN-sponsored meetings, particularly large conferences, at the November 2, 2006, forum planning a gathering at the UN.

"We need to make such gatherings more faith-friendly," he said, "so that we can engage the membership of these large religious communities around the world." He added that religious groups frequently did not seem to be attracted to the current agenda.

"Historically, the UN has run on rather secular lines, and while not wanting to turn it into a 'religion-fest,' we do need to be aware of the values and principles that religious people bring to the table," says Pastor Gallagher.

"We certainly do not want a religion-dominated UN with all that such a system would imply, but recognising the social contributions of religious believers is essential. People of faith have much to contribute to the wellbeing of this world."—*Adventist Review*

◆ **Tim Taylor's** job calls for finding ways to distribute **food stamps to the Amish** in Geauga County. He might as well be trying to sell them cars. The horse-and-buggy crowd philosophically **opposes the support program** overseen by Taylor's agency, the Geauga Department of Job and Family Services. Accepting public assistance is *verboden* within the Amish culture. It simply is not done. But Taylor is under orders to at least try to get them enrolled. Taylor and his counterpart in Holmes County call the mandate a waste of tax dollars, time and resources.—*John Horton*

◆ The education ministry of Quebec, Canada, has warned private, unlicensed evangelical schools in the province they **must teach Darwin's theory of evolution** or face closure. The directive came following a complaint from a school board in Quebec's south-western Outaouais region that children at a small evangelical school were not being taught the full provincial curriculum. Supporters of the school, which enrolls 20 students, counter that it **teaches a Christian "world view"** that is essential for their students, rather than a humanistic world view.—*Ron Csillag*

◆ Wesley Mission has recognised the many rural families suffering due to the Australian drought by offering a family holiday as a way of showing their appreciation to the rural sector. **Wesley Mission offered the holiday completely free** of charge to any **drought-affected rural family** who feels they are doing it tough and could do with a break. While relaxing was an option, activities for those more energetic could take part in horse riding, swimming, canoeing and a water slide.—*Wesley Mission*

◆ The first Bible commentary writ-

ten exclusively **by African theologians** has been launched in Kenya. Written by 70 contributors from 25 countries, the **Africa Bible Commentary** aims to explain the Bible from an African perspective. It contains local proverbs and folklore to help interpret the Scriptures and **addresses contemporary issues such as HIV/AIDS, female genital mutilation, refugees, ethnic conflict and witchcraft**. The theologians who prepared the Bible came from 10 major Christian denominations but excluded representation from the Roman Catholic Church.—*BBC NEWS*

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Avondale College awards recognise all-round excellence

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

Braden Oliver and Janita Bond were the big winners at the academic awards forum on Avondale College's Lake Macquarie campus on November 8, 2006.

Mr Oliver and Ms Bond each received the largest monetary award, the \$A2000 Avondale Foundation Award of Excellence.

Mr Oliver, a fourth-year student, also received awards of excellence in science (\$A600) and secondary education (\$A750). Foundation president Dr Norm Young, who presented the award, suggested because Mr Oliver had earned so much money, he should "invest it, in the foundation."

"I'm blown away," says Mr Oliver. "I was hoping for a science award, but the other two are completely unexpected." He is pleased the awards are for more than just academic excellence, saying it reflects well on the college's holistic approach to education.

Ms Bond, who is in the first year of her Bachelor of Teaching (secondary) degree,

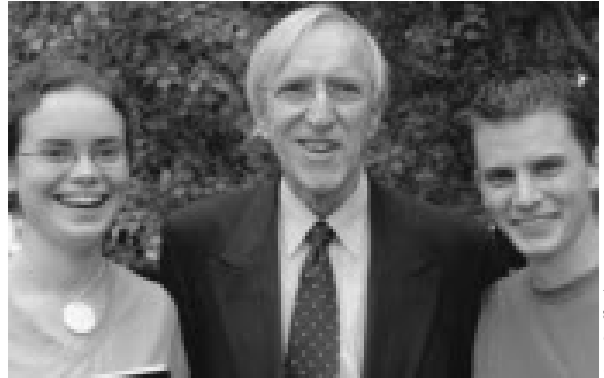
attended the first half of forum, but then told herself, "I'm not needed here." She was labelling bottles in the chemistry lab where she works as an assistant when foundation general manager Greg Meddick announced her name.

Ms Bond will volunteer at Helen Hall's Eden Valley Academy in Thailand this year.

She and friend Michelle Long personally approached Ms Hall about the positions—this means they are covering their own expenses. Ms Bond is also a member of a mission team to Cambodia. The award has helped cover all the costs of both trips.

Tammy Pannekoek won the first-ever Huguenot History Award of Excellence (\$A1000). She received it from the president of the Huguenot Society of Australia, Dr David Buchesne.

The award is sponsored by royalties



Ann Stafford

Janita Bond and Braden Oliver won the top award for students on Avondale College's Lake Macquarie campus. Dr Norm Young of the Avondale Foundation, which sponsors the award, stands with them.

from the sale of the book *The French Pilot*, written by Adventist Media Network chief executive officer Dr Allen Steele and published by Signs Publishing Company. Dr Steele, a direct descendant of Huguenot refugees André and Suzanne Lamoureux, tells their story in the book.

Edge Bible columnist Clansi Roy won the first-ever W A Townend Award for Biblical Christian Journalism (\$A500).—**Brenton Stacey**

Avondale College Foundation surprises at graduation

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

The Avondale Foundation, founded in 1978 as an initiative of businessman Lyn Knight, provided some surprises at the college's graduation ceremony on December 4, 2006.

The foundation used the graduation ceremony to present Dr John Cox, president of Avondale College, with a letter of guarantee for \$A305,000 for scholarships, staff research and work to begin on extensions to Andre and Watson residential halls in 2007.

At the foundation's annual general meeting in October 2006 (see "ACF funds growth," Features, December 16, 2006), Dr Cox asked for \$A55,000 for staff research, to which the foundation agreed. They also approved \$A150,000 for academic excel-

lence scholarships.

Dr Norm Young, president of the Avondale Foundation, said to Dr Cox during the presentation ceremony, "Having got \$A205,000, you, like Oliver Twist, audaciously asked for more. You asked for \$A0.5 million extra to be given over five years for extensions to Andre and Watson. Now, Dr Cox, you frequently come away with less than you asked for. You must have been surprised, then, when the foundation said yes. It gives me great pleasure to give you the letter of guarantee."

In response, Dr Cox said he was not surprised the foundation had provided the funding, as he has had many experiences in the past of the foundation's generosity to the college.

Dr Young said to the students, family and friends gathered for the graduation



Dr Norm Young (right) presents Dr John Cox with the letter of guarantee.

ceremony, "Have you ever wondered why the businessmen sitting with me on the foundation's executive freely give so much of their time and expertise? You, the students and graduands, are the reason they do it. They believe in you."—**RECORD staff/Norm Young**

Local church: Lilydale, Vic

BY DAVID EDGREN

HAVING JUST MOVED TO VICTORIA, IT was my family's joy to be accepted as members at Lilydale Seventh-day Adventist church on October 14 last year. It was an exciting experience for a number of reasons.

First, it is the church in which my wife and I were married, her home church from childhood. We were coming home.

Second, it has a reputation for active members, something I was excited about getting involved in. Previously, as a pastor, I have given numerous edicts that members were supposed to understand and implement. Now it is my turn to warm a pew, join a small group, sing in kindergarten, teach in teens, lead worship, mentor a minor—in other words, use my spiritual gifts for the betterment of the community from within that community.

And what a community it is! Lilydale is a growing and thriving church because they are committed to empowering members to lead—be they elderly, motherly or teens. At Lilydale, leadership is about handing the ball to the next person and then running alongside them.

I have watched with fascination as young people, led by parents and local youth pastoral workers (YPWs—more on that later),

run worship, STORM Co, Adventurers, kids clubs, Sabbath school, Pathfinders and more. Needless to say, the youth scene at Lilydale is bursting at the seams. So much so that in their nearly completed building project the largest area is the “teen hall”—an area that rivals the sanctuary for size. They have also added classrooms for the children's divisions and an extended foyer for socialising and easier transitions between services.

A second service was implemented in the mid-1990s to meet the growth and worship needs of the community. In 2007, just a decade later and with a membership of 455, Lilydale is commencing a third service that will run in the new teen hall. Pastor Darren Croft, Lilydale senior pastor, says, “It will be overseen by the elders. To take on the role of elder at Lilydale is to take on a role that requires serious commitment to ministry. Lilydale is blessed to have people with this level of commitment.”

This “coaching culture”—as Pastor Croft calls it—is nurtured through “the support of local funding and the expertise of Pastor Rob Steed, who has helped the church in the ongoing implementation of a coaching system to support those in leadership as well as to help develop new leaders. It includes everyone from the pastors and deaconesses, to youth cell-group leaders.” And this coaching culture appears to be the primary reason for the steady, mature growth at Lilydale.

The youth ministry story at Lilydale is an interesting one. After struggling to replace their youth pastor in 2004 they struck a goldmine. Long-time member Bert Gibbs explains: “It is said that ‘necessity is the mother of invention’ and this maxim truly applied to our church at Lilydale. The

elders' team along with Pastor Neil Watts came up with the innovative idea that we could train some of our own young people to lead out as ‘youth pastoral workers.’ The church board accepted the challenge realising more involvement would be needed from the pastor and selected leaders in monitoring and supporting the youth workers program. The apparent ‘crisis’ in fact became a turning point in the development of our church's youth ministry and has proved to be a great benefit in strengthening the youth ministry of our church.”

I've watched the four current YPWs teach, preach, lead and care for others. They are local ministers in the truest form. Perhaps the greatest result of the YPW program is the long-term effects. Pastor Croft says, “Three years into the program, our past YPWs have entered full-time ministry, become elders or taken on other significant church-related projects.”

One might wonder how a church goes about making the transition into a coaching culture where the members are the active ministry force. Mr Gibbs explains the transition: “During 2002, under the leadership of Pastor Watts, the elders of the church underwent a training program in establishing ‘small group’ ministries. The uniqueness of this program was the use of Sabbath school classes as the basis for the small groups. Pastor Rob Steed—one of our elders—was able to give the elders personal guidance in making this an effective ministry.”

Thus began a commitment to elder-led small groups, which transitioned into elders training leaders and new groups forming. Pastor Croft, who came to Lilydale in 2004, tells this story: “Our head elder, Lynton



Standing in the presence of God during a time of praise and worship.

Scale, began this class for what was a very small number of people. So small that for the first three weeks he brought music, food and drink and waited for those who had been invited to come but not one person came! Not being one to give up, Lynton persisted and it is not unusual today to attend the young-adult group and find 30 to 40 consistently attending.”

These elder-led small groups have become the core of church life at Lilydale. Pastor Croft explains: “Sabbath school classes operate as cell groups. With one exception each class has an elder who is the leader of the group. Each group is challenged to meet together for Bible study as well as to have a monthly social, specifically for the purpose of growing the group.”

The worship services provide a time of community for small groups to interact with the wider church family. The two services in the main sanctuary run at 9 am and 11.30 am, with Sabbath school in the middle at 10.15. This choice in time and worship style is convenient. Our children (we have three—ages five, seven and eight) enjoy the first service, which is family oriented, quiet and predictable. The music, children’s story and Sabbath school following are all great. I didn’t realise how much expendable energy kids have until I had to sit with them for a whole service! Having Sabbath school second is a real blessing.

The second service caters for those who prefer a more contemporary service. The youth are highly involved in providing the service each week, which not only gives

them training that ensures the church has future leaders, but entices their friends along to church to see what they are up to. It’s a great strategy and an enjoyable worship service.

The first service has been growing over the past couple of years, while the second service has plateaued, due largely to a lack of seating. Once again, Lilydale is bursting and ready for another service. Pastor Croft says, “Running a third service will allow for further growth as well as training opportunities for those who might be afraid to stand up in front of the larger worship group. The third service will be smaller, allowing for greater intimacy and informality.”

“Because of the close proximity to the Lilydale Adventist Academy and Edinburgh Primary School, the church has a close affinity to the school and its children,” says Mr Gibbs. “At the beginning of 2005, Pastor David Erickson was appointed chaplain to these schools as well as becoming an associate pastor to the Lilydale church. Pastor Erickson has complemented the team at Lilydale with his skills and is an important link between the church and the schools.”

It is clear that Lilydale church understands their target audience, and yet they do a good job at providing care and ministry opportunities for people of all ages. They have run through the full gamut of programs an Adventists church can run, including senior citizens club, vegetarian cooking demonstrations, stress-management seminars, quit-smoking courses, prophecy seminars, Net 98 and 99, fitness and aerobic exercises, financial management seminars, harvest festivals, holiday kid’s club, musical concerts, soup kitchens and more. It is this wide net that has served them so well in gathering people into the kingdom from all walks of life.

One last thought, which is far more important than usually noted, is the humility with which the leaders at Lilydale lead. In both responses I re-



The worship team prays during one of Lilydale’s second-service programs.

ceived from Mr Gibbs and Pastor Croft there was a plea to recognise that no one person, other than Christ Himself, is worthy of glory. Lilydale is a healthy, growing church because of Jesus and His presence in their midst.

Mr Gibbs said it this way: “Lilydale church, like many other Adventist churches, has had its challenges and should not look to its own merits to claim success. While we have been blessed over the years with many talented church members and ministerial staff, were it not for the continued presence and leadership of God in our church, we would not be where we are today. The church is not perfect and we need more than ever to be vigilant and uphold the principles that God has given us through the Scriptures and the counsels of the Spirit of Prophecy.”

Pastor Croft commented, “I am happy to share the many good things that are happening at Lilydale, but how do you write that no church is without its history and ongoing challenges—or is that a given? I don’t see what we do as a template for others to unthinkingly emulate—if indeed that was the case—but there are always principles from which we can learn.”

The small group-centred culture at Lilydale has created an authentic place with honesty and transparency in the leadership. It is this maturity in spiritual leadership that encourages me most as I attend and become more deeply involved at Lilydale. **R**

This is part of a series of articles profiling healthy local churches in the South Pacific Division.

David Edgins is associate editor of RECORD.



Lilydale’s leadership team: (front row) Camilla Christian, Byron Gilmore, Robyn Stanley, Kathy Ralph, Joy Hawke, Bert Gibbs, Nathan Hall, (back row) Derek Rippingale, Josh Steed, David Phillips, Daryl Murdoch, Pastor Darren Croft, Pastor David Erickson, Lynton Scale.

Hindson Awards 2006

BY NATHAN BROWN

BACK IN FEBRUARY LAST YEAR, OUR promotion for the annual RECORD Offering included a blank page with the caption “RECORD without you.” It wasn’t just our attempt at clever advertising; it was a reflection of the reality of putting together a magazine such as RECORD. ACROSS a year of RECORDS, we rely on so many people for the contributions they make to the magazine and without these contributions RECORD would be so much less of a magazine. Thank you to everyone who contributed in 2006.

Recognising the importance of our contributors and appreciating the quality of material submitting to us, RECORD has the practice of noting some of the best contributions from the previous year with our annual Hindson Awards. Not only do these awards honour current contributors, they also remember the pioneering church publishing work of Anna Hindson, editor of RECORD for a total of 34 years in the early part of the 20th century.

So, without further ado—and you can add your own drum roll, if you wish—the 2006 Hindson Award winners are:

Best devotional article

- Robert Granger, “The *rest* of your burdens,” March 18.

Bringing together a variety of realities of the world in which we live—suicide, stress, busy-ness, work pressures—Granger reflected on the powerful antidote Adventists have in the Sabbath. The article also touched on the warnings and promises of Jesus and concluded with the “astonishing invitation” of Matthew 11:28-30. Nicely written, this article demonstrated the vital connection between Bible teaching and real-world living.

Best feature article

- Simon Houstoun, “Does it have to be alright?” September 16.
- This article grabbed readers’ attention

with a story from the first-time writer’s professional experience as a paramedic, leading into a thoughtful reflection on the problems of suffering and how we can live and maintain faith in the face of that reality. This article generated some response—and not just for the repeated and contentious use of “alright,” a usage allowed by the *Macquarie Dictionary*.

Best practical feature

- David McClintock, “10 keys to passing on faith,” April 1.

Based on research, this article—as the title suggests—presented 10 practical factors affecting the transmission of faith to children in family, church and school settings. Connecting with the children’s ministries’ focus, this article provided solid, usable areas of emphasis for anyone who cares about growing spirituality in children for whom they care, with whom they work or with whom they come into contact.



Best news photo

- Ann Stafford, “Homecomers urged to leave legacy,” September 16.

When the editors looked over the past year of RECORDS in deciding on these awards, one photo stood out and was unanimously endorsed as the “photo of the year.” The photograph of Julie Stefani and Dr Arthur Patrick cutting the Avondale Homecoming 25th anniversary cake told



the story in one-one hundredth of a second, capturing the spirit of the occasion and drawing the reader into the story.

Best news article

- Roger Millist, “Adventist Aviation farewells ‘Charlie,’” July 15.

The push toward the purchase of a new plane for the Adventist Aviation Services (AAS) in Papua New Guinea has been a focus for the church in the South Pacific Division in the past year. But, while looking to the future, Pastor Millist took time to celebrate the 28 years of service given by an ageing Cessna 206, affectionately known as “Charlie.” This warm news story highlighted the longstanding mission of AAS.

Best letter

- Helena Chester, “Three angels for Islam,” June 24.

Tackling the topic of the interaction of major world religions that continues to dominate news headlines around the world, this letter calls Adventists to a unique response to these issues. Noting our common Abrahamic heritage, the three angels’ messages is urged as a common “banner” under which Muslims, Jews and Christians could work for greater peace and justice in the world. In just a few paragraphs, Chester offers a thoughtful and world-changing perspective—and calls us to live it. **R**

Nathan Brown is editor of RECORD.



My personal ministry

BY JOHN GATE

GOD COULD TAKE THE GOSPEL TO THE WORLD WITHOUT directly involving the church. But He has shared that privilege with us—the church. Further, just as physical health is enhanced by exercise, so our spiritual wellbeing is enhanced through the exercise of sharing Jesus with others.

As a church we have become familiar with one particular form of outreach, and that is corporate outreach programs. From time to time, there are organisationally initiated programs where we are all invited and encouraged to be participants. There's great synergy in doing things this way and some real benefits. But there are some challenges and drawbacks as well. Most church members who participate in these corporate events do so willingly and with a sense of loyalty, but too often there is a lack of personal ownership and deep commitment to the program. These programs usually have a starting date and a finishing date, and then the outreach is finished. This can hardly be called a personal ministry.

A personal ministry is one that the Holy Spirit leads us into, where we can use our gifts and our talents in sharing the good news with others. A personal ministry is something we have a passion for. It's a ministry that we have great ownership of, and we become knowledgeable in how to perform it. We skill ourselves and, through the Holy Spirit, we become empowered and supported by others who are like-minded. God richly rewards those who commit themselves to a personal ministry.

“Video ministry gives me an opportunity to meet the people and become acquainted with them.” —Colin Lewis, Blacktown, New South Wales.

What is your personal ministry? What has God called you to, to be your passion in outreach? There are many ways we can do this. Video ministry is only one way. But as a lifestyle and as a fruitful outreach ministry, you are invited to start your own personal video ministry and become a video minister.

To become knowledgeable in this ministry, request the resource CD. To become skilled, attend a training seminar and get beside someone who is a successful video minister and learn from them. Commit some time each week to your personal ministry of sharing Jesus through videos and friendship.

What is your personal ministry? Is it a program or is it a lifestyle? **R**


What is your personal ministry? Is it a program or is it a lifestyle? **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,
The tenth plague to come upon Egypt was the last straw for Pharaoh and his people. Read the story in the book of Exodus chapters 11 and 12.

RR

Fill in the Blanks

And the Lord said to Moses, “I will bring one more _____ on Pharaoh and on _____ .
Afterward he will _____ you _____ from here. When he lets you go, he will surely _____ you out of here altogether.”

Exodus 11:1 NKJV



Colour In

Colour in this picture of the Israelite boy and his pet.

Fundamental defined

G R STARK, QLD

“The appeal—and peril—of fundamentalism” (Feature, November 25) was biased as it only focused on the negative aspects of fundamentalism, such as “bigotry, fanaticism, rigidity, exclusiveness, intolerance, dogmatism.”

What about the positive side of fundamentalism? According to the dictionary, fundamentalism is a strong belief in the basic teachings of the Bible. If you believe in the divine inspiration of Scripture, Creation, the Sabbath, the incarnation of Jesus, atoning sacrifice of Jesus, justification by faith, Jesus’ second coming and other basic beliefs, then you are a fundamentalist.

The problem is Satan has perverted fundamentalism as he has perverted many Bible doctrines so fundamentalism has become a dirty word.

JANELLE RAJASINGHAM, QLD

The dictionary defines fundamentalism as “the belief that the words of the Bible were inspired by God and should be believed and followed literally.” Adventist views on inspiration, the millennium, heaven, hell, prophetic interpretation, the law of God and the Sabbath originated directly from the Bible and so are in fact by definition fundamentalist.

Do we as Adventists now hold the belief that the Bible is not inspired by God? (*“God on My Side,”* Letters, December 2).

On God’s side?

KAREN ROBERTS, VIC

I was astounded by the *“God on My Side”* letters (December 2). As a relatively new Adventist, baptised last year, I have spent many hours watching the “Millennium of Prophecy—Net 99” series and have never imagined Doug Batchelor a right-wing fundamentalist.

While I have not seen the movie *God on My Side*, it sounds like those other writers have not yet, either. Are we in any position to comment about why Batchelor and the Amazing Facts team were at the Texas convention? Perhaps God wanted them there for a reason. Maybe they were there on God’s prompting, as He foresaw the

benefits of Andrew Denton’s interview. I don’t know, but I know God does. And His plans are a lot more impressive than any of ours.

MELAYNA SMITH, VIC

If truth matters then I believe God is on that side. Do you think God was on the side of the martyrs down through the centuries to this day, who would rather die than deny His atoning sacrifice? If we believe God’s Word, then we are fundamentalists in the true sense of the word and also evangelical. We have God’s Word as our fundamental

belief platform and His commission, which compels us to be evangelical.

Doug Batchelor shows us how the two work together, instead of the watered-down version we are served up most Sabbaths in our churches today. He shows what Adventism stands for and will always stand for in a world of relativism and compromise. It is the judgment message given in love to a dying world. Batchelor and others like him give a voice to the millions of Seventh-day Adventists around the world who feel betrayed by those who allow the world to mandate our beliefs, so we can feel comfortable and accepted.

We need to be asking ourselves, whose side am I on?

Help for small church

LYNETTE TUNG, VIC

It was encouraging to read Andrew Opis’s report on the revitalisation of Mount Colah church by volunteers from Avondale College (*“Avondale students help grow church,”* News, October 14).

Many churches in country areas are suffering a similar fate to Mount Colah’s, with a diminishing and ageing attendance. I also attend a church with an attendance of 15 on a good day. As these churches shrink, so does their ability to impact the community. It would be wonderful if more volunteers could help reinvigorate these churches before they disappear.

Get back to . . . !

WAYNE DAVEY, QLD

With the little or non-use of Ellen White in our studies, the lack of preaching on the Second Coming and other prophecies, the use of snippets of movies during sermons, female elders and lack of pastoral care, why don’t we change the name of our church to “the first-day church of anything that goes”? Let’s go back to being people of the Book while preaching the message as required by God of His last-day remnant people!

The secular weight-loss industry has now usurped the role of the Adventist health message.

The chubby church

DAVID PENNINGTON, NSW

For many years I have watched with professional concern the increasing girth of the average Adventist (*“Study: Is church making you chubby?”* News, November 25). We are little different from the general populace in incidence of diabetes, hypertension and heart disease.

The causes are many, but our division health ministries director, Jonathan Duffy, gets to the root cause: “You were a good Adventist because you didn’t do this, now you are a mature Adventist because you are no longer tied to the old ‘works’ thing and you show it by doing what you didn’t used to do.” We witness this in many areas: the gluttony at church pot lucks, the replacement of outdoor activity with video and computer games, and the abandonment of vegetarianism and even of alcohol abstinence by many professed Adventists.

The secular weight-loss industry has now usurped the role of the Adventist health message. It seems the “right arm of the message” has become decidedly flabby.

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.

Volunteers!

Nurses, doctors, dentists, dental assistants, cooks, team leaders and health educators—Vanuatu. Pacific Yacht Ministries is now recruiting for 2007. Term: 2 weeks. Dates: July 6–20, August 3–17, September 7–21, October 5–19.

Seamstresses (2)—Cambodia for South-east Asia Union Mission—to teach sewing to women. Term: 3 weeks. Dates: Negotiable. Contact <Julie@onemission.org.au>. For more details: <www.onemission.org.au>.

Film, design and layout volunteer—Avondale College church (Cooranbong, NSW)—to design posters and PowerPoint presentations; layout and writing of newsletters; develop advertising concepts; video production and editing; maintain website. Term: Feb 19–Nov 30, 2007. Contact Hayley.

Email:

<volunteers@adventist.org.au>

For more positions, check the web on <www.adventistvolunteers.org>

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Appointments

Avondale College Appointments 2007:

●**Sheila Alfonso**, to teach Year 5 primary, Mountain View Adventist College, Greater Sydney Conference (GSC), Australian Union Conference (AUC). ●**Brett Barons**, to teach Physical Education and Outdoor Recreation, Lilydale Adventist Academy, AUC. ●**Andrew Baskin**, to teach English and History, Nunawading Christian College, secondary campus, Victorian Conference, AUC. ●**Teneille Dobson**, to teach Bible and IISIE, Macquarie College, North New South Wales Conference (NNSW), AUC. ●**Carina Goncalves**, to teach lower primary, Illawarra Adventist School, GSC, AUC. ●**Toni Gray**, to teach Art and Music, Sydney Adventist College, GSC, AUC. ●**Tania Howard**, pre-kindergarten, Wahroonga Adventist School, GSC, AUC. ●**Shari Howie**, to teach middle primary, South Auckland SDA Primary School, North New Zealand Conference (NNZ), New Zealand Pacific Union Conference (NZPUC). ●**Rebecca Jeynes**, to teach primary, South Auckland SDA Primary School, NNZ, NZPUC. ●**Vaughan Jones**, to teach Business and Commerce, Tweed Valley College, NNSW, AUC. ●**Limu Laolagi**, ministerial intern, South Australian Conference, AUC. ●**Mere Neale**, associate chaplain, Macquarie College, NNSW, AUC. ●**Sarah Jane McNeill**, secretary, Risk Management Service, South Pacific Division. ●**Jean-Marc Risuleo**, to teach primary, Christchurch Adventist School, South New Zealand Conference, NZPUC. ●**Matthew Rosendahl**, to teach middle primary, Landsdale Gardens Christian School, Western Australian Conference, AUC. ●**Tamara Sperring**, to teach middle primary, Cairns Adventist Primary School, Northern Aus-

tralian Conference, AUC. ●**Felicity Stone**, multi-grade teacher, Manning District Adventist School, NNSW, AUC. ●**Anthony van Duyn**, ministerial intern, NAC, AUC. ●**John Venegas**, to teach upper primary, Avondale School, AUC.

Retirements

●**Sergio Amprimo**, South Pacific Division (30 years). ●**John Banks**, General Conference (42 years). ●**Stella Bews**, North New Zealand Conference (18 years). ●**Kelvin Carr**, SPD Risk Management Service (42 years). ●**Lynelle Chester**, SPD Risk Management Service (40 years). ●**Paul Devine**, Greater Sydney Conference (36 years). ●**Graham Duncan**, SHF Cooranbong (25 years). ●**Helen Ellis** Signs Publishing Company (24 years). ●**Nola Hartley**, SHF Christchurch (42 years). ●**Lorraine Lockyer**, Sydney Adventist Hospital (19 years). ●**Marlene McGill**, Sydney Adventist Hospital (24 years). ●**Richard Smetheram**, South Queensland Conference (26 years). ●**Ian Whiston**, SPD Education (34 years). ●**Russell Woolley**, South New Zealand Schools (35 years).

Papua New Guinea Union Mission
Madang Manus Mission
●**Harold Aturoro**. ●**Jim Kumbou**.

New Britain New Ireland Mission
●**Walter Kangere**. ●**Mathias Matua**.

Eastern Highlands Simbu Mission
●**Abraham Awaso**. ●**Luke Raovani**. ●**Elijah Sandol**.

Western Highlands Mission
●**Pei Kend**.

Trans-Pacific Union Mission
Vanuatu Mission
●**Rinnie Bong**.

Fiji Mission
●**Turagakula Epelisoro**.

Eastern Solomon Islands Mission
●**Merlyn Sanga**.

Western Solomon Islands Mission
●**John Tutua**.

New Zealand Pacific Union Conference
French Polynesia Mission
●**Dominique Pothier**.

Weddings

Benard—Salmon. Cornelius (Colin) Henry Benard and Robertina Salmon, both residents of Earle Haven Retirement Village, Nerang, Qld, were married on 29.11.06 in the Earle Haven Chapel. *Ken Martin*

Jones—Noble. Tristan Jones, son of Craig and Cathy Jones (Townsville, Qld), and Samantha Noble, daughter of Bob and Maria Noble (Brisbane), were married on 26.11.06 at Indooroopilly Golf Club, Brisbane. *Bob Possingham*

Knight—Ridley. Jarrod Alvin Kenneth Stanley Knight, son of Alvin and Sonia Knight (Warburton, Vic), and Jacinta Kate

Ridley, daughter of Peter and Faye Ridley (Monbulk), were married on 26.11.06 at Lindley Estate, Montrose. *Wayne Boehm*

Liebelt—Leigh. Dean Philip Liebelt, son of Miri (Adelaide, SA) and the late Norman Liebelt, and Vanessa Kate Leigh, daughter of Christopher and Maree Leigh (Adelaide), were married on 18.11.06 at Port Pirie Adventist church. *Glynn Slade, Brian Leigh*

Stanley—Lumsden. Christopher Grant Stanley, son of Pastor Chester and Robyn Stanley (Melbourne, Vic), and Jody Jolene Lumsden, daughter of Jim and Iris Lumsden (Bakersfield, California, USA), were married on 1.10.06 at San Diego, California, USA. *Chester Stanley*

Travers—Thomson. Brad Travers, son of Keith and Louise Smith (Dunsborough, WA) and the late Bernard Travers, and Kristina Thomson, daughter of Neville and Lynette Thomson (Perth), were married on 2.12.06 at Belvoir Homestead, Upper Swan, Perth. *Andrew Skeggs*

Werrett—Skeers. Marcus Werrett, son of John and Yvonne Towill (Perth, WA) and the late Herbert Werrett, and Rochelle Skeers, daughter of Fred Skeers and Elaine North (both of Perth), were married on 15.10.06 at Glen Forrest Uniting church, Perth. *Andrew Skeggs*

Obituaries

Davis, Dr Beverley Alice, born 26.10.1936 to Rosina and Frank Davis of Palmerston, NZ; died 5.10.06 at Cooranbong, NSW. Bev studied at Longburn College, the Sydney "San," Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital (Melbourne, Vic), the NSW College of Nursing, Avondale College, Loma Linda University (California, USA), and the Chicago School of Professional Psychology. A thorough professional, Beverley worked in a wide variety of situations: Sydney Adventist Hospital, Warrnambool Hospital (Vic), Karachi Adventist Hospital (Pakistan), Kaiser Health (USA) and Avondale College (NSW). The last seven-and-a-half years of her working life were spent teaching in the Faculty of Theology at Avondale College, which she counted as the most rewarding of her career. In addition to students, nursing and theology colleagues, and friends, Beverley's passing is grieved by her sister's family, the Strawbridges (Palmerston North, NZ): Lorna, Bob, Graeme, Murray and Kaye; 11 grand-nieces and grand-nephews; and her step-siblings, Joy, Barry and Peggy. Her friends and colleagues in several countries look forward to the day of resurrection, restoration and reunion. *Ray Roemfeldt*

Elliot, Violet Mary, born 6.12.1914 at Dungog, NSW; died 25.9.06 in Maitland Nursing Home. She is survived by her son, Norm; her daughter, Valerie Robinson; and their families. She was a resident and church member of Dungog and Maitland. *Damien Rice*

Ellis, Ruth (nee Mitchell), born 1.7.1913 at Llanely, Vic; died 16.11.06 at the Yarra View Aged Care Hostel, Warburton. On 23.12.35 she married Bill, who predeceased her in 1974. She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Kelvin and Helen (Yarra Junction); her grandson and his wife, Darren and Kimberley; her grandson, Bradley; her great-grandson, Jared; and great-granddaughter, Sabrina. Ruth was an Avondale trained teacher and taught at the Warburton school until her marriage. She was one of the original residents of the Mountain View Hostel at Warburton, and deeply committed to the mission of the church over many years. *Eric Kingdon, Joy Kingdon*

Gilbert, Merle (nee Spruce), born 22.2.1918 in the Newcastle area, NSW; died 18.10.06 in Gosford Hospital after a brief illness. Through her joining the SDA Church at 17 years of age, many Spruce family members became Adventist Christians. She graduated from the Bible Workers Course in 1939, then worked for the Sanitarium Health Food Company before marrying Arthur. She was predeceased by her husband, Pastor Arthur Gilbert, in 1990. Merle and Arthur served together in ministry in PNG, and the Victorian, North NSW, South NSW, and South Australian Conferences. She is survived by her children and their spouses, Glenda and Gerd Neuschulz (Wodonga), Heather Gilbert (Newcastle), Lynette and Norman Carlsen (Cooranbong), David and Helen (Dural), and John and Mera (Kingslake, Vic); her eight grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. Merle was a loving and practical Christian who will be sadly missed by all who knew her. *Ray Roemfeldt, Clive Barritt*

Henderson, John Gardner, born 10.8.1920 at Mount Lawley, WA; died 26.11.06 in Fremantle Hospital, WA. On 12.8.44 he married Joyce Alford. He is survived by his wife; and his son, Peter (both of Perth). Happiness and satisfaction were his, and honesty the key to finding these commodities. Honesty and integrity defined his life. *Phil Rhodes, Pat Downey, Cyrus Adams*

Hon, Dr Edward Harry Gee, born 12.1.1917 in Shekki, China; died 6.11.06 at home in Bradbury, California, USA. He is survived by his children, Shirley, Robert (both of California), and Ted (Hawaii); his sisters, Merle, Ora Mee Lee, Hona, June Long, and Jill Wong (all of Sydney, NSW); and his six grandchildren. While a graduate of Loma Linda Medical School in America, he completed his obstetrics and gynaecology residency and fellowship at Yale University Medical Center. It was here that he became a pioneer in the field of electronic foetal heart-rate monitoring. In 1999 he received a Member of the Order of Australia in recognition of his outstanding achievements. Loved and respected by all who knew him, he will be sadly missed by both family and friends in Australia and the USA. *Barry Wright*

Kross, Eric Theodorus, born 3.4.1925 in Brisbane, Qld; died 15.11.06 in hospital in Brisbane. On 21.12.55 he married Diana Simmonds. He is survived by his wife; his



**Professional Training
for
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SABBATH FEBRUARY 3, 3:30pm - 7:30pm
Fox Valley 7th Day Adventist Community Church (Opal Room) Wahroonga

sons, Nicholas, Daniel, Jacob and Christian; his daughter, Peta; and his five grandchildren. He lived in Brisbane and Noosa for most of his life, where he worked with his brothers as Kross Bros Builders. He faithfully attended the Central SDA church for most of his life, and is now at rest waiting for the return of his Lord and King.

Nick Kross

Leeson, Irene Mary (Rene, nee Winter), born 5.7.1918 at South Grafton, NSW, the third of eight children; died 10.11.06 at Ferrus Village, Bangalow. She was predeceased by her first husband, Lenard Moulden, in 1967; also her second husband, Walter Leeson, in 1999. She is survived by her brothers, Pastor Clifford Winter (Bendigo, Vic), and Arthur Winter (Brunswick Heads); her sisters, Iris King (Canberra, ACT), Ruth Taylor and Dorothy Winter (both of Mullumbimby, NSW). Rene wrote poetry and short stories. She loved her church and was a very daring, loving, caring, giving person.

Ernie Krause

Lenz, Lynette (nee Musk), born 26.2.1945 at Mullumbimby, NSW; died 26.10.06 in the Wynnum Hospital, after suffering poor health for much of her adult life. She was the second of six children, Jan Gosling (dec), Desre Partlat, John and Barry Musk, and Judy Watts. She will be remembered for her courage, perseverance and creativity.

Malcolm Allen, Ernie Krause

Pullin, Gwendoline Winifred (nee Lansdown), born 21.4.1929 at Napier, NZ; died 3.8.06 in Middlemore Hospital, Auckland. She was predeceased by her husband, Ivan; her daughter, Nadine Ferris, in 1986;

also her brother, Lewis; and her sister, Lorna Barker. She is survived by her brother and sister-in-law, Pastor Jim and Judith Lansdown (Gold Coast, Qld). Gwen was a very much loved aunt and great aunt. She gave many years of faithful service to the Royal Oak (NZ) church. Her strong faith embraced the great hope of all who believe in Jesus and this gave her the calm assurance that she would see her Saviour soon.

Peter Howard

Schofield, Raymond Henry, born 13.5.1937 at Wahroonga, NSW; died 10.11.06 at Benora Point, having struggled with illness for some time. He is survived by his children, Deborah and Glen; his father, Henry; his sister, Beryl; and his son-in-law, Richard. He was also a wonderful grandpa to his grandson, Adam. Family and friends gathered in the Tumbulgum (NSW) SDA church on 23.11.06 to celebrate Ray's life of Christian commitment, love and care to all.

Keith Grolmund

Advertisements

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Positions vacant

▲ **Network Communications Administrator—Sanitarium Health Food Company (Berkeley Vale, NSW)** is seeking a self-motivated IT professional to join the IT team. Key responsibilities include corporate voice/video services and systems, and assisting with network administration. The successful applicant will possess IPTEL experience in a Cisco Unified Communications environment, CCNA accreditation, relevant tertiary qualifications, and a minimum 3–4 years network administration experience in a Cisco environment. **Applications in writing** (including résumé) should be forwarded to Group Human Resources, Sanitarium, Locked Bag 7, Central Coast Mail Centre NSW 2252; fax (02) 4349 6099; or email <humanresources@sanitarium.com.au>; no later than **January 31, 2007**. Website: <www.sanitarium.com.au/company/employment.html>.

▲ **Director of Nursing—Adventist Retirement Villages Sydney (NSW)** is seeking to appoint a Director of Nursing at its Wahroonga facility. This encompasses Elizabeth Lodge, Esther Somerville Nursing Home and Independent living villas and apartments. The successful applicant will reflect the mission and philosophy of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and Adventist Retirement Villages Sydney; be a registered nurse, List A in NSW; have at least five years postgraduate experience; aged-care experience and knowledge of relevant legislation. **Applications in writing** should be forwarded to Bob Butler, Manager, Adventist Retirement Villages Sydney, PO Box 231, Wahroonga NSW 2076; email <bbutler@adventist.org.au>; phone (02) 9487 0600, by **January 31, 2007**.

▲ **Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Nursing—Avondale College (Sydney campus)** is seeking a full-time Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Nursing, who will also be required to undertake teaching, research and consultancy in nursing. The successful applicant will be a registered nurse with a higher degree, preferably at doctoral level, and have a record of successful innovative teaching in higher education or clinical nursing. For selection criteria and job description please visit <www.avondale.edu.au>. For further information contact Dr Paul Race <paul.race@avondale.edu.au>; or phone (02) 9487 9630. **Applications, addressing the selection criteria** (including three referees), should be forwarded to Sonya Muhl <employment@avondale.edu.au>; or Human Resources, Avondale College, PO Box 19, Cooranbong NSW 2265; by **February 6, 2007**.

▲ **Maintenance Shift Fitters, Electrical and Mechanical—Sanitarium Health Food Company (Berkeley Vale, NSW)** is seeking several full-time, self-motivated and service-oriented Shift Maintenance Fitters. The successful applicants will have appropriate trade qualifications or relevant work experience; will be aware of and understand OHS&S, quality and food-safety issues; undertake further training; and work rostered shifts. **Applications in writing** (including résumé) should be forwarded to Group Human Resources, Sanitarium, Locked Bag 7, Central Coast Mail Centre NSW 2252; fax (02) 4349 6099; or email <humanresources@sanitarium.com.au>; website <www.sanitarium.com.au/company/employment.html>, by **January 31, 2007**.

▲ **Assistant Academic Registrar—Avondale College (Cooranbong, NSW)** is seeking an Assistant Academic Registrar, commencing March 2007. The successful applicant will assist in the implementation and management of a new student management system, the administration of academic administration processes associated with the life of a student; and assist in the supervision of Academic Office staff. **For selection criteria and job description** please visit <www.avondale.edu.au>. For further information contact Paul de Ville <paul.deville@avondale.edu.au>; phone (02) 4980 2125. **Applications, addressing the selection criteria** (including three referees) should be forwarded to Sonya Muhl <employment@avondale.edu.au>; or Human Resources, Avondale College, PO Box 19, Cooranbong NSW 2265; by **February 16, 2007**.

▲ **Director of Patient Flow Services—Sydney Adventist Hospital (Wahroonga, NSW)** is seeking a Director of Patient Flow Services and invites applications from registered nurses who have a minimum of five years clinical and proven management experience. This is a newly created role, and as a key member of the Nursing Management Team you will manage the process of optimal patient flow throughout the organisation. **Applications and inquiries** should be directed to Annette Baldwin, Nursing Executive Officer, Sydney Adventist Hospital, 185 Fox Valley Road, Wahroonga NSW 2076; phone (02) 9487 9431; email <Annetted@sah.org.au>; by **February 9, 2007**.

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

James Morrison and Emma Pask will be performing on the CCAS grounds in Erina, NSW, on March 24, 2007. Tickets can be purchased from the CCAS on (02) 4367 7239 or Avondale Music on (02) 4977 1398.

Canada group—May 14, 2007. 22 days. Includes land tour, Rocky Mountaineer and cruise to Alaska. Contact Ann at Timeout Tours, 1300 854 242; or email <contact@timeoutravel.com.au> for complete itinerary.

For sale—beautiful 2 BR mobile home on-site at very low price. Walking distance from SDA church and campground, Kallangur, Qld. Many other SDAs. Suit elderly single. Phone Ian (07) 3888 1343 (BH).

Vacancies: Health Centre Manager, gardener, cleaner, laundry, cook. Enrolments open for 2007. Medical Missionary Training Institute Inc. <mmti@tpg.com.au> <www.mmti.org.au>; (07) 4778 0000; 0404 715 102.

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Contact Greg or Fay
Ph (02) 9989 8355 Fax (02) 9989 8340 acfi@avondale.org.au
PO Box 502, Wahroonga NSW 2076

Endless Praise office secretary. A position is available for a qualified secretary aged between 25 to 35, from Mon–Fri, to look after the running and demands of our bookings office at Hoxton Park, Sydney, NSW. Computer knowledge and driver's licence required. Please contact Sandra on (02) 8783 7000; or email <ep@epraise.com.au>.

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

Gosford church 10th anniversary celebration day—February 24, 2007. All former members and ministers are warmly invited. Sabbath school 10.00 am; praise service 11.00 am, with fellowship lunch to follow.

The official opening of the new Swan Valley Seventh-day Adventist Church, Lot 10 Talbot Road, Stratton, WA (formerly Midland), will take place on Sabbath afternoon, February 24, 2007, at 2.30 pm. All welcome.

Carmel Centenary—2007 Homecoming weekend. Calling all former students, workers and friends of Carmel Adventist College. Our centenary will be held this year and the highlight of our year-long celebrations will be the Homecoming weekend to be held September 28–30, 2007. This will commence with a Vespers program on 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 the Centenary Committee on (08) 9293 5333; or email <centenary@adventist-ed.wa.edu.au>.

Endless Praise seeking auditions for 2007! EP is now searching for talented young singers and musicians for 2007. The full-time interdenominational faith music ministry group, based out of Sydney, is now holding auditions. If you are passionate about mixing music and ministry for one or more years on a full-time basis, this may be what you are looking for. Contact Sandra at the EP office on (02) 8783 7000; or email <ep@epraise.com.au>.

Data projectors, screens, DVDs VCRs, PA systems etc. Lower prices for SDA churches, schools etc. Australia only. Rural Electronics (02) 6361 3636; or <greenfields@netconnect.com.au>.

Electrician 4U—for all your electrical needs contact Bruce Petrie on 0418 333 175. Serving Melbourne Eastern, South-Eastern, Outer Eastern and Yarra Valley areas.

Tours 2007—Allround Travel Centre (Qld). Thailand and China, May 07. Ref-ormation Tour, May 2007. International travel to all parts of the world. Contact Anita/Debbie, email <alltrav@bigpond.net.au>. phone (07) 5530 3555.

Finally

The true test of character is not how much we know how to do, but how we behave when we don't know what to do.

Now and Then



George and Doreen Laxton – Icons

Before – In 1945 George graduated from Avondale College in theology and business. He went on to make an enormous contribution to the church for many decades – business manager of Sydney Adventist Hospital, ADRA, Religious Liberty, Schools Commission Funding, Public Affairs and Inter-church Relationships. Doreen was always by his side.

Now – Retired in their 80s. Still playing tennis and going on skiing holidays. A lifestyle to die for. Inseparable companions living a life (to the full) that every retiree should strive for.

Where – In the perfect villa – Adventist Retirement Villages, Wahroonga.

George: “Like many people, we built our large dream home. It quickly became too large to maintain. Beautiful home but exhausting. Bought a villa in a ‘luxury’ retirement village. For all the comforts it offered, it failed to recognise that residents aged. There was no progressive care.

“When ARV began building at Wahroonga, we put our names on the top of the list. Best investment in our retirement and old age that we could ever have made. No more lawn-mowing, heavy gardening, falling off ladders and building maintenance. And it is so reassuring to know that Elizabeth Lodge and Esther Somerville are right next door.”

Doreen: “We love the tranquillity of our new home. We are free to come and go as we like. We are not a burden on our family. If either should ever need nursing or hostel care, we will still be close together.”

Advice:

- Have no illusions about getting old, frail and dying. There are no exemption clauses.
- Plan for every phase of retirement and old age
- Do not become too attached to your home. It can become a liability.
- Do not leave moving into retirement accommodation until you are too old.
- Retirement living can be a ton of fun.
- For Adventists, there is no better place to be than our own retirement villages.

North New South Wales: Phone (02) 4977 1072

Queensland: Phone (07) 3820 5777

Sydney: Phone (02) 9487 0600

Victoria: Phone (03) 9259 2000



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Note: Not all varieties available at all stores. Offer available while stocks last. Normal retail sell price applies to single product purchase.

Available in the Health Food Section

For tasty recipe ideas visit our website at www.sanitarium.com.au