

RECORD

February 24, 2007

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united effort



The "Circle of courage" team as they prepare to leave Bluff on their 23-town tour of New Zealand.

"Circle of courage" begins in NZ

BLUFF, NEW ZEALAND

On the morning of February 11, eight cyclists embarked on the 2229-kilometre "Circle of courage" New Zealand cycle tour from "where the journey began" in Bluff.

They are currently halfway through a 23-town tour of New Zealand spanning four weeks, speaking about strategies to address issues of "at-risk" behaviour among young people in small, rural communities.

"The 'Circle of courage' model helps build resilience and self-esteem among our young people," says Jonathan Duffy, director of Adventist health for the South Pacific Division. "We're doing all we can

to equip these towns with the resources to help young people."

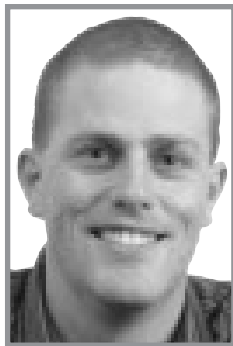
The "Circle of courage" is a model that focuses on four main areas—belonging, mastery, independence and generosity. Reading materials, information packs, radio spots and newspaper articles are some of the resources that are being made available to towns visited by the "Circle of courage" cyclists.

The "Circle of courage" New Zealand cycle tour has been organised by Adventist health in the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference (NZPUC).

(Continued on page 4)



Weet-Bix gets healthy choice nod



What I had read and what she had heard were two different things.

“God’s people. Amen.”

SOMEHOW WE GOT TO TALKING ABOUT famous and favourite opening lines to books. And as the conversation evolved, this was pared back to comparing the first three words of literary works. Eventually we got to the Bible and, despite her lack of religious background, she was proud to tell me she knew the first three words of the Bible, “In the beginning . . .”

But then she asked, “So, what are the last three words?”

As I retrieved a New International Version from a nearby bookshelf, I had to admit I didn’t know. I flicked to the last page and unwittingly read: “God’s people. Amen” (Revelation 22:21).

“What?” she almost exploded, hearing four words in place of the three I had read. It took me just a moment to figure out what she had heard.

“How can it say that?” she continued, her outrage belying her lack of belief.

After a few moments, I was able to placate her indignation with assurances that what I had read and what she had heard were two different things and that the Bible was not as misogynist as it appeared.

But as I did, I was wondering how often we—either intentionally or unintentionally, individually and corporately—send the message: “God’s people are men.” Whenever women are under-represented in our church’s decision-making processes, whenever they are denied opportunities and recognition in ministry roles and whenever the language we use as a church fails to include

both genders, that message is repeated.

And it is not that our church doesn’t have a tradition of women in leadership. In *The Silent Church*, Zdravko Plantak charts the decline of women’s involvement in leadership roles. The number of women in conference leadership positions reached a high point about 1915—notably the year of Ellen White’s death—then fell away to almost zero by 1950 with only slight recovery since that time. While we have never as a church had this issue settled—despite the prominent role of women among our church pioneers—it seems incongruous that we seem to be doing worse in more recent times than we may have done in the past.

Unfortunately, the perception of the role of Women’s Ministries has not always been helpful in this regard. While a specialised ministry by women for women as a safe place for addressing specific issues of women’s experiences and faith is important, the continued marginalisation of women into such a specialised ministry can be a frustrating distraction and, at best, a temporary stop-gap measure. If women had more voices and greater leadership opportunities in the wider church, there would be less need to create these artificial distinctions.

The difficulty is that this is largely a cultural issue and that the relevant biblical references are open to such divergent readings. Various—generally male—voices rely on a superficial reading of texts such as 1 Corinthians 14:34 and Ephesians 5:21-33 to argue women should be kept “in their

place.” But, urges writer Charlie Peacock, “the fact that these verses and others from 1 Timothy have caused women, in particular, so much pain is a sad commentary on our failure to be the people of God. The whole assembly of followers has suffered as well, and God and his Word have been maligned” (*New Way to Be Human*).

If we consider that Paul was urging Christians to conduct their public meetings and family relations in a manner appropriate to their culture, these texts might be best read as endorsing equality of opportunity, voice and standing for women in churches in societies where this is culturally appropriate—and even culturally demanded. This makes even more sense when we consider other statements from Paul calling for a more egalitarian social organisation within the kingdom of God in light of the unifying reality of salvation: “There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male or female. For you are all Christians—you are one in Christ Jesus” (Galatians 3:28, NLT).

As we write new chapters of the story of our church, we need to focus on the unifying and inclusive reality of “God’s people” and stop misreading, mishearing and misstating the “Amen.” The church as a whole, the experiences of many faithful women and our witness to the society in which we work will be stronger and healthier for it.

Nathan Brown



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

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Mail: Signs Publishing Company
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Our vision is to...
know
experience
and share
our hope in Jesus Christ!

TRY-athlon series up and running

BERKELEY VALE, NEW SOUTH WALES

The Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRY-athlon 2007 series commenced on February 4 at the beautiful Catani Gardens in Melbourne, attracting the largest participant numbers in the event's nine-year history, while the New Zealand TRY-athlon series commenced in Hamilton on February 11.

This year the Australian series travels across eight locations in Australia, visiting capital cities and prominent regional areas between February and April 2007, with exciting new events to be held in Geelong (February 25) and Newcastle (April 22) boosting predicted participation to 16,000.

The New Zealand series, celebrating its 15th year, continues in 2007 with a total of nine events across the country, where a total of 20,000 kids are expected to participate.

With six more events to come in Australia and New Zealand, group product manager—cereals Andrew Hewson says, "The season is just getting started and we encourage you to come out and witness this great and inspiring community event. You also still have the opportunity to enter your children as participants or assist as a volunteer on the day, which not only in itself is a selfless and valuable experience but also

rewards your input with a volunteers bag including event shirt and hat."

The events in both countries are supported by a list of elite sports professionals. The February 4 event in Melbourne was attended by official Melbourne ambassador and Olympic swimmer Matt Welsh, who spent much of the day meeting kids at the finish line with congratulations and a medallion.

In New Zealand, Olympic triathlete Hamish Carter is returning as the ambassador for the Weet-Bix TRY-athlon and is attending events.

Sanitarium TRY-athlons are challenging events that combine swimming, cycling and running, and encourage kids to give a healthy, active lifestyle a go. The event emphasises participation and allows all kids aged seven to 15 the chance to become a champion, with all participating TRY-athletes receiving a medallion and certificate.

The day encourages children from all backgrounds to try these exciting sports



Australian Olympic swimmer Matt Welsh with one of the hundreds of children who attended the TRY-athlon event in Melbourne on February 4.

and encompasses an every-child-is-a-winner attitude.

The remaining events in Australia are: Geelong, February 25; Sydney, March 11; Adelaide, April 1; Brisbane, April 15; Newcastle, April 22; and Perth, April 29.

The events to come in New Zealand are: Tauranga, February 25, with a new location at Memorial Park; Mosgiel, March 4; Nelson, March 11; Christchurch, March 18; Wellington, March 25; and North Shore, April 1.—**Jaemes Tipple**

More @ <<http://tryathlon.weetbix.co.nz>> or <<http://www.weetbix.com/tryathlon>>.

◆ "Size is no indicator of heart it would seem," says **Pastor Craig Gillis**, the newly appointed president of the South New Zealand Conference (SNZC). Despite SNZC being **one of the smallest conferences** in the South Pacific Division, it has once again managed to **outgive many of its much larger cousins** in the annual camp mission **offering** taken up for the **new plane for Papua New Guinea**—raising more than \$NZ10,000. "The church members of SNZC are passionate about mission, be it overseas or at home," says Pastor Gillis.

◆ Following up on a recent **evangelical campaign** in the **Ukraine**, retired schoolteacher **Elaine Lillystone** and her husband, **Rob**, returned to Kiev to conduct a series of meetings designed to teach the people to think for themselves when finding **answers from the Bible**. Mr Lillystone, a business adviser, shared what he had learned about business and business-people in the church. The couple plan to return to the Ukraine in August.—**Arthur Bath**

◆ In December, Wanganui church



Her Majesty **Queen Elizabeth II**.—**Gloria Greenfield**

◆ **Dandenong church members, Vic**, spent **24 hours in prayer** over Sabbath, February 3. Members signed up for the hours they would spend in the prayer room and then fulfilled their commitment in a time of **singing, discussion and prayer**. Prayer topics were the Mark Finley "Discoveries" series, rain for Australia, revival, outreach contacts, church leadership and members of the Dandenong community.—**David Edgren**

member **Dorothy (Dot) Robson** was invested as a **serving sister** of **St John** at the Auckland Cathedral of the Holy Trinity by the Governor-General of New Zealand, Anand Satyanand. Dorothy has served for **27 years**, first in sports and first aid, and is now the welfare officer of the **Wanganui Simpson Division**. The investiture was sanctioned by

“Circle of courage” begins in NZ

(Continued from page 1)

“This tour has been created for the young people because we recognise just how valuable they are,” says Paul Rankin, tour coordinator and director of Adventist health for the NZPUC. “With the ‘Circle of courage,’ anybody can make a difference in the lives of young people. It takes very little effort to adopt the model.”

A small group of tourists and well-wishers from the Invercargill Seventh-day Adventist church waved goodbye to the cyclists and their four support crew on the first day of the cycling tour.

According to Norah West, one of the cyclists, she experienced a great first day. “The roads have been incredibly flat. Being able to talk to everybody has made it a real

sociable event and the time has just gone so quickly,” she says.

What will take effort, however, is the cycling itself for the rest of the tour. The cyclists are covering about 100 kilometres a day during the tour that will finish at Cape Reinga on March 8.

They usually arrive at the town centres at about 3.30 pm almost every day, with a talk organised at 7.30 pm at various venues.

The eight cyclists, Mr Duffy, Mr Rankin, Doug McLeod, Neone Okesene, Jake Ormsby, Rebekah Rankin, Ms West and Steve Kennelly, are being supported by Allen and Juleen Foote, Rex and Elaine Jackson, and Anne Anderson.—*Melody Tan*

More @ www.circleofcourage.co.nz



The “Circle of courage” team setting off from Bluff, destination Gore.

Veteran church communicator wins award

SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND, USA

John Banks, a veteran Seventh-day Adventist Church communicator, who until recently was associate director for communication at the church’s world headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland, was presented with the 2007 Bridge Award.

General Conference communication director Rajmund Dabrowski presented Mr Banks with the award, which recognises “lifelong service to corporate communication, media relations of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and mentoring others in innovative Adventist media productions.”

The award was established in 2001 by the Communication Department of the world church in recognition of outstanding contributions to Adventist communication, locally and internationally, and in particular for visionary thinking, fostering professionalism and excellence in responsible journalism, and relevance of communication through broadcasting and public relations and media productions.

Mr Banks is the fifth Australian recipient of the award.—*ANN*



◆ A team of four from **Stanthorpe church**, Qld, visited **Karalundi Aboriginal Education Centre**, WA, in January to renovate the dormitory ablution blocks. **David Entermann, Howard Wilmot and Julie and Tony Marini** (pictured left to right) worked through the 40+°C days to tile floors and walls and install brand new accessories before students arrived back from the holidays.—*Sharon Grey*



◆ **So Good Bliss** is a new Sanitarium frozen dessert now available in the freezer section of supermarkets. It comes in six flavours—Creamy Vanilla, Heavenly Chocolate, Creamy Boysenberry Swirl, Creamy Caramel, Creamy Strawberry Swirl and Creamy Passionfruit Swirl. So Good Bliss is **97 per cent fat free** and dairy free—meaning it contains no cholesterol and is low in saturated fat—and is made from non-genetically modified soy. Sanitarium

has also produced a **So Good Bliss recipe book**—available in softcopy from the So Good website.

More @ www.sogood.sanitarium.com.au

◆ Eleven-year-old **Daniel Lazarte** of **Innisfail church**, Qld, is an accomplished golfer whose regular winning and Sabbath-keeping



has influenced the competition. Organisers of some of the tournaments were so impressed with Daniel’s ability to play golf that they have **changed the playing day from Saturday to Sunday** in main games so he could compete.—*Sheryl Curcuruto*

◆ **Andrew Kiprono Lang’at** of **Armidale church**, NSW, was recently awarded a **Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)** at the University of New England. His thesis focuses on psychoanalytic inquiry of teaching pedagogies in cross-cultural contexts.

KEEP TRACK OF THE CYCLING TOUR @ WWW.CIRCLEOFCOURAGE.CO.NZ

Retreat for returning missionaries

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

Six families were represented at this year's "Re-entry retreat" for returning missionaries. The retreat was held at Crosslands Convention Centre in New South Wales from January 2 to 6. The participants were returning from a range of countries including the United Kingdom, Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea.

An additional three families were unable to attend the retreat.

Pat Gustin, former director of the General Conference's Institute of World Mission, was the key presenter, supported by Pastor Ray Coombe, director of Adventist Mission for the South Pacific Division (SPD); Dr Lyell Heise, director of the SPD's Institute of Worship; Pastor David Robertson, director of Adventist Support for the Australian Union Conference; Ewan Brown and Drs Andra Dabson and John Wallace.

"The quiet bush surroundings of Crosslands is an ideal environment for couples and families to unwind and process some of the challenges of returning home,"



"Re-entry retreat" attendees.

says Pastor Coombe. "Time was spent in group discussion to assist understanding the transition that occurs as people move back across cultures.

"As always, an afternoon river cruise and the 'flying fox' activity were popular for those who were keen to enjoy some relaxation or a physical challenge."

Pastor Coombe adds, "The SPD has conducted re-entry programs now for several years, and it is one of the highlights for those returning from mission service overseas."

The program concluded on January 6 with a recommitment and dedication service. A number of the attendees have returned to take up private employment and some couples look forward to commencing retirement.—**Ray Coombe/RECORD staff**

Toowoomba runs cross-cultural, multi-national STORM Co

TOOWOOMBA, QUEENSLAND

Toowoomba Central church pastor Clifton Maberly was approached by a group of Korean nationals eager to visit Australia and conduct a STORM Co (service to others really matters) program over the Christmas holidays.

As a result, two Australians, an American, a Filipino and eight Koreans made their way from Toowoomba to Goondiwindi on Boxing Day, led by Dan Craig and the church youth pastor, Jon Schaffer.

An average of 80 children attended the kids' club run in the town and a further 60 attended at the border town of Bogabilla. Activities included learning first aid for a snakebite, jumprope activities, soccer, learning origami, craft and biscuit making.

The STORM Co team also visited a local nursing home and conducted the Sabbath service at the Goondiwindi church, with members enjoying an evening of games with their visitors. The Korean visitors also spent time on a 14,000-acre farm, where it takes six hours to travel from one side of the property to the other.—**Focus**



◆ **Andrews University's Aeronautics Department** has welcomed the arrival of **two new flight simulators**. Andrews is the first institution to receive this brand of simulator, which will help students practise during bad weather as well as reducing flying expenses such as fuel and insurance costs. The new equipment

lets students practise everything from take-offs and landings to emergency situations and private and commercial manoeuvres.—**Bonnie McLean**

◆ **Onuoha Clement**, a paediatric surgeon and an elder of the Yaba church, Lagos, Nigeria, was one of **six United Nations (UN) volunteers** to receive **Awards of Excellence** for "their commitment as **ambassadors of volunteerism for development**." Mr Clement was recognised specifically for his part in successfully organising a **Walk Against Child Hunger** in Trinidad

and Tobago in May 2006. The ceremony was held in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago on December 20.—**Adventist Review**

◆ **Anchor Point church plant in Oregon, USA** has used **watermelons** to reach out to individuals and other Christian churches. The church held a concert at the local fairgrounds, which the community was encouraged to attend. As extra incentive, free watermelons were donated by church member **Steve Walker**. This got Mr Walker thinking about what was needed to **build bridges between other**

churches in the area, so he sent bins of watermelons to several local congregations. "It won't hurt to build a bridge or two," Mr Walker says. "I want to live like Jesus is coming tomorrow, and I have to believe that some of these people are going to be in heaven with me."—**Claudia Flaiz**



Weet-Bix given nod as kids' healthier choice

BERKELEY VALE, NEW SOUTH WALES

Leading health foods manufacturer Sanitarium commend the January 22 report issued by *Choice* magazine highlighting the hidden nutritional content of some of the food most consumed by Australian children.

Choice magazine recommends Australia's favourite breakfast cereal Weet-Bix as a "much healthier cereal" compared to Nestle Milo cereal.

Recent findings revealed to get the same wholegrain goodness from just two Weet-Bix, you'd have to eat 12 slices of the best-selling high-fibre toast or four bowls of the leading energy cereal.

At 97 per cent wholegrain, low in fat and sugar and high in fibre, Weet-Bix provides long-lasting goodness and energy. Sanitarium dietitian Penny Selems says a diet high in wholegrains is essential for good health.

"Replacing refined grains with wholegrains can play a key role in controlling weight and tackling obesity. Foods containing all three levels of the grain help keep people feeling full longer, meaning they snack less."

Statistics show 25 per cent of Australian children are overweight or obese. However, the *Choice* report points to kids "eating too much of the wrong foods" as the primary reason for the alarming statistics, even though a study of schoolchildren in New South Wales has found they're now exercising more than they were 10 years ago.

Some of the offenders, according to the *Choice* report, include such childhood lunch-box staples as Nutella, Roll-Ups, Tiny Teddy Dippers and Nutri-Grain bars.

Weet-Bix, however, shines—with the magazine citing it as a "healthy cereal."

Parents concerned about providing their kids with healthy, nutritional breakfasts and lunches should try to incorporate at least two servings of wholegrains a day.

"An easy breakfast of wheat biscuits with milk and fruit, followed by a whole-grain sandwich for lunch will provide kids with a great nutritional base for long-lasting energy and concentration at school," says Ms Selems.—*Jaemes Tipple/Choice magazine/RECORD staff*

More @ <www.choice.com.au> or <www.sanitarium.com.au>

Alumnus gives school a boost

NEW PLYMOUTH, NEW ZEALAND

The computer room at the New Plymouth Adventist school now has a computer room, thanks to the efforts of a former student.

Carl McDowell not only installed 16 new computers, but helped strip wallpaper, paint the room and assemble desks. He also sourced hardware and was responsible for the budget.

Principal Ian Littlewood says the school had wanted a dedicated computer room for five years, adding, "The students can't wait to get in here." He believes Mr McDowell has saved the school thousands of dollars in labour. Mr McDowell spent more than 320 hours working on the project.

The school previously had four computers, all of which were more than 10 years old. The upgrade sees the students provided with 12 workstations and access to the internet and shared server for the first time. \$NZ24,000 was contributed to the project by the TSB Community Trust, Adventist Church and Parent Teacher Association.

Mr McDowell, 21, is in his third year of a Bachelor of Applied Information Systems degree at the Western Institute of Technology in Taranaki.—*Taranaki Daily News*

◆ A Roman Catholic man from Illinois, USA, is on a trek to **visit 365 churches in 365 days**. But **David Hiemann** is not your ordinary pilgrim. He left his job at a Catholic church in Chicago to embark upon a yearlong, high-tech pilgrimage that will take him to **365 churches in 35 countries across five continents**. After visiting the church, Mr Heimann uses the internet to **blog his experience**, providing links to **pictures** of the churches through **Google Earth**. "Sometimes we become so focused on our immediate experience of church that our only community is the one we go

to every weekend," he says. "As you look across the United States and across the world, of course [the church] is thriving with great diversity, and it's easy to show on a website."—*Religion News Service*

◆ A **Christian radio station in Hamilton, NZ**, is playing **recorded Bible readings all day every day**. Owned by **Radio Rhema**, who call the program "**The Word—Bible Radio 24/7**," it is believed to be the first conventional radio station in the world to broadcast nothing but scripture readings from three differ-

ent translations. "We are very excited about this," says **Rhema Broadcasting chief executive John Fabrin**. "It's an experiment really, and we don't expect huge audiences, but we hope to reach people who need to hear the Scriptures." Mr Fabrin says he would love to air local, professionally made readings but all the programs currently come from the US or UK.—*Assist News Service*

◆ The **National Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast** has recently celebrated its **21st birthday**. More

than **700 people** attended the service that was held in the Great Hall of Parliament House, Canberra, Australia, and was chaired by the president of the Parliamentary Christian Fellowship, **John Anderson**. Speaking at the welcome service **Peter Jensen**, the Anglican Archbishop of Sydney, said that although a physical drought is gripping Australia, there is also a far worse spiritual drought gripping the country. He urged his listeners to combat this shortage through support, involvement and fellowship in their local church.—*New Life*

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

Worship Institute launches second music book

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

The South Pacific Division's Institute of Worship has produced a second music book to encourage new pianists to join praise and worship bands.

Dr Lyell Heise, director of the Institute of Worship, and Valmai Hill's *Play Today 2* contains—like the first book—12 worship songs with arrangements for beginners and intermediates.

Each song in the book comes with a note about the song's origins, a Bible reference and a note to piano teachers about how to use each song in their lessons.

Dr Heise coordinated the production of the book as director of the Institute of Worship, which is based on Avondale College's Lake Macquarie campus. Mrs Hill, a piano teacher and former director

of music at Avondale College church, arranged each of the songs.

Sales of *Play Today 2*, which the institute launched in September, have already reached 500. One Adventist church in Queensland bought 12 copies, one for each pianist in the church.

Play Today sold about 1500 copies. According to Dr Heise, this was largely because it is difficult to find music books in the Christian market that include contemporary pieces for beginners or that combine beginner pieces with intermediate pieces.

"Lots of kids, teenagers and parents are overjoyed they can play songs they sing at school and church," says Dr Heise.

Play Today 3 is due to be released early next year.—**Olivia Tooley**

The Play Today books are available through Adventist Book Centres.

ADRA works to reduce global hunger

SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND, USA

In 2006, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) continued to fulfil its commitment to improve food security and fight hunger globally. During the past year, ADRA partnered with the United States Agency for International Development to distribute nearly 13,000 tonnes of food to vulnerable populations across the globe. More than 178,000 people received essential food items.

This distribution enables ADRA to continue its core food-security initiatives, including feeding programs for the critically ill, schoolchildren and orphans, food programs for women with young children and for those living with HIV/AIDS, and food-for-work programs.

In Madagascar, ADRA runs a program that feeds up to 500,000 children in 200 schools, hoping to provide not only food but an incentive for children to stay in school and get a better education.

ADRA's Life Initiative Project feeds an estimated 5000 children in Kenya. ADRA

also provides food for people affected by HIV/AIDS.

In Rwanda's eastern province, ADRA is making a difference in 70,000 households through projects that enhance agricultural production, increase produce marketability and improve the health and nutrition of women, children and other vulnerable groups. Many beneficiaries are survivors of the 1994 genocide.

With long-term initiatives in Central and South America, ADRA has helped farmers with working to maximise crop yields through creating healthy soil and farming practices. They also provide seeds, fertilisers and other agricultural products.

"Food security addresses a person's access to food or their ability to grow that food," said Rudy Monsalve, director for food security at ADRA-International. "It not only targets a person's ability to eat today, but tomorrow, the following day, and weeks, months in advance. ADRA works to provide its beneficiaries with the skills, abilities and confidence to feed themselves and their families."—**ADRA-International**

New Caledonia retreat success

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

Lynne Lorens of Penrith church in Sydney was the guest speaker for a recent women's retreat in New Caledonia, which ran from November 10 to 12. More than 300 women attended the Sabbath program, featuring a time for women to share testimonies that ran for three hours.

Mrs Lorens, originally from Mauritius, has been in Australia for 37 years and described her French as being "rusty," but added that the language returned to her quickly, saying, "God did it." She shared her life experiences and spoke about prayer with the women, encouraging them to overcome obstacles to prayer and to daily put on the armour of God.

One of the other major issues the women discussed at the retreat was abuse prevention, with those attending committing themselves to share this message.

There was a prayer room and sanctuary set up at the event and women spent time there praying. Joy Butler, director of women's ministries for the South Pacific Division, says, "The women are determined to copy this in other parts of the island group. There was a revival of godliness among the women and they went home refreshed and inspired.

"This small mission has been experiencing a revival in recent times with many people becoming Adventists. It has all happened because of strong prayer ministry and unity of heart and working together among the mission leaders and church people. The women have consistently had good retreats on this island for the past 10 years."—**RECORD staff/Joy Butler**



Some of the women who attended the retreat in New Caledonia.



Video ministry: Frequently asked questions

BY JOHN GATE

HERE ARE ANSWERS TO A number of frequently asked questions about video ministry.

Question 1. What if we get only a post office box number?

The Adventist Discovery Centre will try to give a telephone number, but use it only as a last resort. You may be able to get the residential or street address from the phone book or by ringing. Endeavour though, to make the personal contact. That's one of the strengths of video ministry. Use post

“Media ministry, utilising *Search* TV advertising, followed up with video ministry, friendship, Dinner with Geoff and prophecy seminars is currently our most productive evangelistic strategy.”—Pastor

Geoff Youlden, evangelist, Sydney, NSW.

only as a last resort, and remember to offer another video in the covering letter.

Question 2. What if the address is very isolated?

Most responses with isolated addresses are sent to the conference office from where the video is posted out. If you are given an isolated address, please let the Discovery Centre know, so any future videos to that area can be directed to your conference office.

Question 3. What is the best time to deliver the first video?

Late afternoon, before dark, from 3 to 7 pm seems best. Never after dark and never in groups.

Question 4. What if there's nobody home?

Don't leave the video on the first visit. Leave your visiting card with a note. Call back later at a different time. On future visits, do not leave notes or videos in a place where they are visible to the public, thus indicating the home is unoccupied and jeopardising security.

Question 5. What if they think it is a free video?

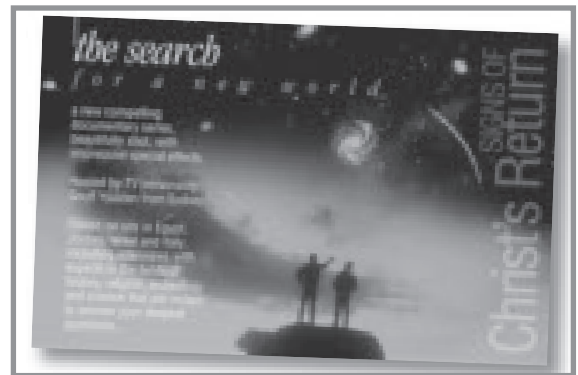
This sometimes happens. However, the ad clearly says a free viewing of a video. But don't argue. Explain the offer and *give* them the video. But this doesn't change the strategy—call again the following week at the same time to see how they have enjoyed it. Possibly collect the video, but offer them another one. The same video ministry strategy continues. Although some people don't hear the television commercial clearly, it seldom causes a real problem when followed up as explained above.

Question 6. What if they ask a question I cannot answer?

Welcome questions. Questions tell you a lot. Endeavour to answer the question by sharing another video. You don't have to be a know-all. If you're not sure of the answer, just tell people so, and find out the answer before the next visit, either from your own study or from your church pastor.

Question 7. What is my role in video ministry?

To follow the example of Jesus. First, deliver the video. After the second visit, connect with people, converse and listen to them, care and show compassion for their needs. In this



Tested and successful letterbox cards, offering a free viewing of the Search videos, are available from the Adventist Discovery Centre.

way, the friendship will grow and confidence will build. On the basis of your friendship, you can share other outreach resources with them, invite them to an event or programs, and ask them important questions regarding their response to the things they have seen on the videos.

Question 8. What if they don't have a VHS player?

It's true that changing technology means some homes still use VHS, but most people are moving to DVD. The only real answer is to provide the videos in both VHS and DVD format. But this is not always available. New productions from Adventist Media Network (AMN) are produced only in DVD format now.

Questions 9. Can we bulk copy DVD productions for outreach purposes?

The answer is no. AMN productions are copyrighted and owned by those who have sponsored their production. For video ministry, which is a follow-up to television advertising, AMN makes available to churches video resources at cost price by ordering and producing them in bulk. See your conference director of personal ministries for supplies. **R**

This is the last 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.



The big picture

BY JO GOWANS

HAVE YOU EVER STOPPED AND CONSIDERED what kind of person others think you are? I don't mean to bring about the paranoia possibly lurking in each of us, but really if you were honest, what would people describe you as? Encouraging? Loving? Caring? Christ-focused? Mission-focused?

If I were honest with myself, it would be a challenge to stack it all up against what God intends me to be.

Listen: "Get along among yourselves, each of you doing your part. . . . Gently encourage the stragglers, and reach out for the exhausted, pulling them to their feet. Be patient with each person, attentive to individual needs. And be careful that when you get on each other's nerves you don't snap at each other. Look for the best in each other, and always do your best to bring it out" (1 Thessalonians 5:13-15, *The Message*).

An employee of ours was reflecting on her time working with us. She is a Christian, but not a church member. When she first started with us she knew a little about what we believed as she had as a young person been taken to an Adventist church by a kindly neighbour. We decided that as employers we would lead the way through our day-to-day interactions. Slowly, but surely, the questions started, not only from Jess* but from other casual workers. We were thrilled—what an opportunity!

Then we had some Adventist churches

and groups come to our site as clients. The first group chatted happily with Jess and the team and were pleased with her work. Then on the last day the leader asked, "Which Adventist church do you attend?"

Jess let him know she wasn't an Adventist, but attended another church. The leader promptly turned on his heel and cut all conversation. Jess didn't get a thanks nor a smile from that leader after that. Why? Because she wasn't one of "us"!

Another time she was berated for an hour by a church member who wanted to argue that, even though she had enjoyed Jess's work for the weekend, Jess had no idea how to cook vegetarian food because "she isn't an Adventist."

I wish these were the only instances; however, there are plenty more examples of such segregation. How do you think Jess thinks of us and our church now, after three years of such individuals voicing their thoughts publicly or cutting her off without a further word?

Are we so adamant about being in the "right" church that the legacy we leave behind for others means they don't wish to seek Him because His people have been arrogant and rude?

I had never considered the big picture of my part in the church body prior to working in this kind of ministry. I had always prayed that I would make my heavenly Father proud. But could it be that my ver-

balised opinions have cut off another's walk with Him? Could it be that I, too, have excluded a person from my presence simply because they weren't a church member?

I don't come from an Adventist home environment, but came to the church thanks to some kindly nurses at the Warburton Health Care Centre who cared for my mentally ill mother.

How I wish those persons—those who encourage and include—would come to our staff members and witness in their kind way, rather than those who "freak out" and immediately exclude them or belittle them.

So, how do we stack up? Are we inclusive to those outside our fold? Are we looking for the "best in each other" and doing our best to "bring it out"? Do we consider the ministry of others and how we can help their cause?

I pray we may all be truly reflective of His image. As James 1:19 says, "Be quick to listen, slow to speak" (NIV). **R**

**Not her real name.*

Jo Gowans writes from Horsham, Victoria. Until the end of last year, Jo and her husband were managers of a church camping facility.

The power of a united effort

BY JOSEPH TALIPUAN

IT TAKES ME BACK SOME 10 YEARS AGO. I was heavily involved in the golden jubilee celebration in my home province of Enga, Papua New Guinea. It was a moving occasion.

As a young man, I saw those who walked the path before me, and heard stories of courage and sheer determination from them. I was overwhelmed with emotion. Real people with daring stories that made your mind spin—stories of heroism, miracles, dangers, near-death experiences and relentless determination.

People walked through mountainous terrain, crossed fast-flowing rivers, dared to venture through cannibal- and crocodile-infested areas. They were just ordinary people—both men and women—who in their youth dared to step out in simple faith and traverse a land that lay in darkness. They had no knowledge or skills, no formal training, no money and no wages. They received only a bar of soap and a packet of salt as their monthly wage.

Jesus was coming soon—and their kinsfolk needed to know. Consumed with the conviction of the imminent return of the

Lord, they left behind home, family, land, valuables, even tribal membership. They knew that by doing this they would never return home as their land may be taken by rival brothers or kinsman. Heaven was worth more than them all.

In those days, there was no cash economy. The traditional value system was built around the land. Without land, their future was hopeless. Taking a conscious step to leave their association with the land was like someone giving up his or her entire savings, including retirement benefits, for the sake of the gospel. It was literally a step of faith.

After almost 50 years of Adventist presence, they had grown old physically; many have since been laid to rest, still burning with the hope. But as they marched up to the stage to receive from us tokens of appreciation for their courage, you could still see their vibrant faith in the living God. Tears came down my cheeks; I do not know whether tears of joy or sorrow, but

nonetheless they came when I sat watching this grand sight of ordinary people—men and women—who possessed extraordinary drive and conviction that turned the highlands region of Papua New Guinea upside down with just a simple smile, a picture roll, and passion that no-one could dispute.

Not just history

Today, I wonder whether such a simple faith could again be reignited and relived. Yes, those pioneers were from an undeveloped, rural and primitive background, but so were Jesus' original disciples. It seems God fills an empty heart more easily than a full one, and could it be that these so-called primitives met that condition. This same passion and pioneering spirit drives the General Conference's Global Mission initiative: "Tell the world."





Taking the foul

BY CALVIN REDMAN

LOVE BASKETBALL—BUT THERE'S NOTHING MORE FRUSTRATING than a referee who seems biased. I came home fuming from the game last night. Every time we went near a player—*foul!*

On the other hand, we were shouldered, pushed, slapped, held and charged without that piercing sound of a whistle of justice; so much for non-contact sport.

We did finish with a win, but it was not the same. It was not a happy occasion; it was frustrating.

Believe it or not, this experience gave me an insight into God.

God loves us so much that He is willing to have the referee call foul even when there is no foul. He offers to take all our fouls so we don't get called for them.

What's more, He chooses to play the game! If it were me, I'd call for a new referee or eventually pick up my drink bottle in frustration and go home.

How He deals with the exasperation of taking it all on the chin is far beyond my human emotions and understanding, and yet He willingly became our sacrifice so we could have eternal life with Him.

Each time we foul, it's called on Him. Though He has done no wrong, it's a mark against His name. He willingly takes it for us so we can have a relationship and a future with Him. "In this way, God qualified him as a perfect High Priest, and he became the source of eternal salvation for all those who obey him" (Hebrews 5:9, NLT). **R**

Calvin Redman pastors in Mildura, Victoria.



Record Roo's Kids Corner

Hi kids,
Where do you get your Weet-bix from in the morning? The Israelites collected their breakfast off the ground! Read all about it in Exodus chapter 16.

RR

Fill in the Blanks

... Behold, I will rain _____ from _____ for you. And the people shall go out and _____ a certain quota every _____ ...

Exodus 16:4 NKJV

Spot two the Same

Which two pictures of the Israelite girl carrying her basket of manna are exactly the same?



Colour In Now colour in the pictures!

We believe it is crucial to represent our God in a godless age. But we also see a world that has a growing interest toward the concept of God. The prevalent religious wars and religiopolitical agendas are proof of that. Make no mistake; people young and old are craving spirituality that has substance. Just pick up any newspaper, or tune into your evening news and you find this hunger.

Many have claimed to defend God's name by sword and gun, ideologies and philosophy. Bloody wars have been fought; many schools of thought have been established as a result of those conflicts and no modern political system is able to contain them.

In an age like this, we can take the back seat, trying to sail on the new waves of whatever sociocultural trends develop. Or we can be proactive and intentional and be ahead before it happens. I believe we must be ahead. We must not be the tail but the head.

This sounds radical but it is more straightforward than it appears. Let's consider a profound statement Jesus made in His prayer: "This is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent" (John 17:3*). It is obvious that God must be known and revealed, but only in the context of "Jesus Christ, whom [He has] sent."

The crucial matter seems to be that this knowledge of God, revealed though Jesus, must be proclaimed to the world. The world needs to know God and Jesus, whom He has sent.

The need of the world

The world had been under a terror leader. He had been dictating the conscience of men and women by instilling fear by the threat of death into their lives. Unfortunately the human race has believed this lie and followed this impostor, believing that he has the power to destroy life and give life. But the truth is life comes from God the Creator, and He alone gives life. Acceptance of this life comes as one knows the true Creator and accepts the arrangement He made to deliver the human race.

Knowing God is eternal life and not knowing God is eternal damnation. The world must know this. Therefore Jesus

suggests a simple yet powerful strategy to proclaim the name of the Lord God. Jesus was also praying that "all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me" (John 17:21).

When God's people are united and have become one there is something in that unity that powerfully reveals Jesus as the world's Saviour. If prayer represents our greatest need and deepest longing, then consider this—Jesus longed for a united church. The power base for the church against the enemy is in God. That power is effective and influential when it operates among united God-fearers.

The simplest basis for unity is in the act of proclaiming Jesus as Saviour of the world.

Unity, how?

In this global community—where we are told truth and morality are relative—how can we speak and act in unity? On what basis are we going to be united?

Of course we come from diverse cultures and different backgrounds but the simplest basis for unity is in the act of proclaiming Jesus as the Saviour of the world. This act, done in unity, has the potential to reveal Jesus to the world. Jesus knew it would be possible, so He prayed for it.

There is another side to this request. Jesus prayed because there is an enemy who does not want unity in the church. Look at what the devil said about unity:

"We must cause distraction and division. We must destroy their anxiety for their own souls, and lead them to criticise, to judge, and to accuse and condemn one another, and to cherish selfishness and enmity. For these sins, God banished us from His presence; and all who follow our example will meet a similar fate" (*Testimonies to Ministers*, page 475).

Disunity is to the advantage of the enemy. It is not just one small issue. It cannot be attributed to physical happenings; it is rooted

in the great conflict. That Jesus in His last hours prayed for unity among His followers suggests we should be more concerned about it and look for ways to unite according to Christ's plan.

Our unity should not be based on common technical knowledge, historical data, correct worship programs, correct methodologies but simply on a common knowledge of how worse it was to be a sinner and, now, how blessed we are to experience God's forgiveness. We do this effectively based on our experience—sinners saved by the Saviour.

The power of oneness

Such unity is powerful and no power on earth beneath or the heavens above can easily deny it. Could it be that Jesus saw the potential embedded in this unity to advance the work of God that He in fact prayed for it? I believe so. The world will believe if and when they witness a united church, united believers, common conviction and a common commission that sets the stage for every other Christian deed.

The New Testament church grew because of such unity. It was not smooth sailing—diversity of cultures and backgrounds did cause some setbacks. But the power of conversion and the Lord's commission was always high on the agenda. It led in priority, and every setback became a stepping stone for the advancement of the gospel.

The privilege to relive that apostolic experience is ours today. Peter said the outpouring of the Holy Spirit then was not limited in time or space. "The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call" (Acts 2:39).

It was done for them and the same power is available now for us.

We must talk about it, pray for it, preach it and live it. **R**

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

Joseph Talipuan is director of personal ministries and Sabbath school for the South Pacific Division, based in Wahroonga, New South Wales.

Hope prevails

DAVID POTTER, NSW

I reject the assertion that hope “is not the most positive” of words (“Knowing hope,” Letters, February 3). On the contrary, *hope* is the most positive word, as any dictionary will show.

We hope for what is not fully realised. I hope to see my wife again whenever we’re apart. By faith, believers hope to see Jesus when He returns. But not all share this hope.

When the day comes, believers will look up and—in spite of their hope—cry, “Who shall be able to stand?” But grace rewards their hope and ignores their fear (see *The Great Controversy*, page 641).

In contrast, unbelievers will look up in perplexity and horror. Why? Because they did not develop hope when they had the chance. At this point, they suddenly recognise their true condition as being without hope.

If believers have a problem, it is not a tension between hope and Christian assurance. The two go hand-in-glove. However, it is a mistake to pretend our hopes have been fulfilled before the time.

The place for women

BILL JOHNSON, NSW

Thank you for the article “Women in ministry good for church” (News, February 3).

After the Resurrection it was a woman who received the double commission, from an angel and then from Jesus Himself. She was to tell the brethren the good news—the gospel. Could you imagine what Jesus Himself would today say to a woman who wanted to minister and preach the good news?

Unfortunately the brethren, who were safely hiding, did not believe. There is nothing new under the sun.

Old customs never die, but—thankfully—the one that says women have no place in the pulpit is fading away.

HAROLD GOTTING, NT

Reflecting upon “Who decides?” (Letters, February 3), the statement—“There are no *ordained* male pastors in the Bible

either”—is incorrect.

God chose only the “sons of Levi” to take charge of the temple administration and to be “shepherds” to the flocks of believers.

Exodus 28 and 29 give some detail about priests. Not only was a priest from the tribe of Levi, but he was also a descendant of Aaron, Israel’s first high priest. Priests had more responsibilities than Levites. As high priest, Aaron was in charge of all the priests and Levites.

The priests performed the daily sacrifices,

Old customs never die, but—thankfully—the one that says women have no place in the pulpit is fading away.

maintained the tabernacle and counselled the people on how to follow God. They were the people’s representatives before God and thus were required to live lives worthy of their office. Jesus is now our High Priest (see Hebrews 8).

In the Bible we have many instances of women serving God in other capacities, but I fail to find any evidence of women being appointed as temple/synagogue priestesses.

Jesus’ sword

BEN KLEINIG, NT

Those who hold the belief that it is wrong for Christians to serve in the military or be combatants (“Of war and the Word,” Letters, February 3) evidently are blessed to have come from generations of unoppressed people.

My sincere thanks go to the Diggers, Tommies, GIs and Marines, regardless of their religion or creed, who, shot-by-shot, played their part in the liberation of my grandmother from a Japanese camp, and my grandfather from German-occupied Holland.

I love life, and I wouldn’t exist if these men hadn’t gone, in many cases prayerfully, off to serve humanity, at extreme risk to themselves. Paul wrote about how the Christian should relate to the state (see Romans 13:3, 4). Obviously there are various kinds of states, and we’re created to be intelligent enough to discern when one is acting with total immorality.

Furthermore, if you hold the “gentle Jesus, meek and mild” view, you’d do well to remember that the Jesus of the New Testament is actually the same God of the Old Testament.

MICHAEL DOBESCH, QLD

It is true that we are to love our enemies and turn the other cheek. But look at the Old Testament: God sent His people to wipe out the ungodly nations! Was God with His people then? Did they ask if they

could go to war or did God say, “Go, and destroy utterly”? What about the words of Christ in Luke 22:35-38 when He said to buy a sword? What is a sword used for? The sword Jesus is talking about is a weapon, not a Bible.

Consider also Romans 13:4 regarding the responsibility of a righteous political ruler: “For he is God’s servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God’s servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer” (NIV).

So, yes, we have a duty to love our enemies but we also have a duty of justice even if it means going to war. Let’s not just look at the scripture that suits us; let’s look at it all.

Parents of students

KEN LOVE, QLD

So your child has grown up, left home and gone to university; too many students leave God while at university.

How about asking your pastor the contact details of the local pastor or chaplain, and ask them to keep an eye on your precious young person?

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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Obituaries

Ainsworth, Ellen May (nee Pritchard), born 20.5.1920 at Collie, WA; died 11.12.06 in Albany Regional Hospital. On 22.12.38 she married Jock. She is survived by her husband; her children and their spouses, Joan and Ken Marshall (Albany), Eric and Beryl, Judith and Eric Roberts (all of Kojonup), Lesley and Pastor Robert Kingdon (Bunbury), and Kaye and Brian Pitt (Albany); her seven grandchildren; her 24 great-grandchildren; her one great-great-grandchild; and five adopted great-grandchildren. Following Jesus' example, Nell was a caring wife and mother, a guiding influence, and the ultimate peacemaker. She lived for others and now awaits the call of her Saviour and Friend.

Robert Kingdon, Gary Roberts

Coles, Edith Annabelle (nee Campbell), born 19.8.1910 at Wondai, Qld; died 16.12.06 at Victoria Point. On 22.12.49 she married Doug, who predeceased her in June 1983. She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Graham and Jillian (Hallam, Vic). After graduating from Avondale College, Belle spent some years as a lady Bible worker, working in several evangelistic teams before her marriage. She held many different church offices; was a talented organist, and usually served as a church organist in the various churches she attended.

Selwyn Bartlett, Arthur Bath

Hill, Michael Joseph, born 15.8.1918 at Jalpaiguri, India; died 15.12.06 in Wyong Hospital, NSW. He was predeceased by his daughter, Shirley, in 1949. He is survived by his wife, Lucia (Cooranbong); his children, Florence (Cessnock), Oliver, Christopher (both of Cooranbong), Elizabeth and Carol (both of Newcastle); his 13 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. Michael worked 36 years for the Sanitarium Health Food Company, Cooranbong. He was a faithful, reliable and punctual employee, who served for some time as a foreman. He was a committed churchman, giving valuable service as a deacon. He loved Jesus, his family and church family, and he will be sadly missed.

Adrian Craig, Jim Beamish

Kunz, Gerda Gisela, born 3.3.1943 at Kassel, Germany; died 18.12.06 in Daylesford Hospital, Vic. She was predeceased by her seventh-month-old daughter, Rebekkah, in 1982. She is survived by her husband, Ernst (Daylesford); her sons, Frank (Perth, WA), John (Cooranbong, NSW) and Michael (Sydney); her mother; and two sisters (all in Germany). Gerda was buried in the Daylesford Cemetery after a service at the Ballarat church, Vic.

Brian Larty

LeNepveu, Janette Eunice (nee Milen), born 11.10.1941 in Perth, WA; died 20.12.06 in Perth. On 31.1.67 she married Alan. She is survived by her husband (Cannington); her daughters, Robbie (Sydney, NSW) and Camille LeNepveu (Perth, WA); and her sisters, Thea Dines and Marion Holdman (both of Perth). Resting in the hands of Jesus. Waiting to see Him at the Resurrection.

Jim Tonkin

Positions vacant

▲ **Proofreader or Trainee Proofreader**—Signs Publishing Company (Warburton, Vic) is seeking an experienced Proofreader or someone interested in working as a trainee in this aspect of producing magazines, books and general print materials. The successful applicant will have an excellent command of written English, attention to detail, the ability to concentrate and work unsupervised for extended periods, and a commitment to quality publishing. Appropriate training or experience may be helpful.

▲ **Editorial Assistant/Secretary**—Signs Publishing Company (Warburton, Vic) is seeking an Assistant for the editorial department, focusing on the weekly compilation of Noticeboard in RECORD with some other administrative duties, with potential for other editorial input and duties in line with interest and abilities. The successful applicant will have good written and oral communication skills; ability to process and manage information efficiently; attention to detail; and working knowledge of the Adventist Church. **Applications in writing** should be forwarded to the Editor, Signs Publishing Company, 3485 Warburton Highway, Warburton Vic 3799; or email <editor@signspublishing.com.au>, no later than **March 15, 2007**.

Martin, Dr Peter Walton, born 4.11.1932 in Wellington, NZ; died suddenly 21.11.06 at home in Kurrajong Heights, NSW. He is survived by his wife, Adrienne; his children, Greg, Amanda, Angela and Julianne (all of Sydney, NSW); and his 10 grandchildren. Peter was a kind and gentle man who was passionate about his work. He was also a great Bible scholar who loved his Lord and his family. He awaits that great reunion day when Jesus comes, and he will be sadly missed by all who loved him.

Ben Martin, Eric Winter

Nilon, Robert McDonald (Bob), born 11.12.1933 at Lismore, NSW; died 17.12.06 at his home in Coffs Harbour. He is survived by his wife, Joan (Coffs Harbour); his children and their spouses, Dianne and Rick Aitken, Robert and Barbara, David and Bronwyn, Alan and Jennifer, Trevor and Jayne, Kathryn and Malcolm McClure; and his 15 grandchildren. Bob was a multiskilled person who lived his life for others. He served in about every church office, using his abilities in service for his local church and in fly'n'builds; for neighbours and friends, never seeking accolades. He will be missed by both the church community and many others. Bob was a loyal and loving husband, father, grandfather, brother and son. His faith never wavered. He most surely fell asleep with the blessed assurance of the Resurrection.

Owen D'Costa, John Lang

Renford, Regina Frances, born 5.2.1928 at Griffith, NSW; died 10.12.06 in Forest Centre Nursing Home, Wagga Wagga. In 1948 she married Bill, who predeceased her in 1961. She was also predeceased by her daughter, Sharon, in 1978. She is survived by her children, Pauline Reeves (Wagga Wagga), Ann-Maree Renford (Canberra, ACT) and Gregory (Wagga Wagga); her five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Regina will be remembered as a kind, unselfish and caring person, whose life reflected her strong love for the Lord. She now rests peacefully, awaiting the call of the Life-giver.

Nicu Dumbrava

Savage, Ethel Joan, born 1925 at Northam, WA; died 16.12.06 in Para Hills Nursing Home, Adelaide, SA. On 26.11.53 she married Kevin, who predeceased her. She is survived by her children, Colleen Wil-

liams (Adelaide), and Kenneth (Perth, WA). Ethel was a faithful worker in the Sanitarium Health Food press at Cooranbong, NSW. Prior to moving to Adelaide, SA, she was a longstanding member of Avondale Memorial church, NSW.

Ross Goldstone

Wegener, Miriam (nee Standish), born 27.4.1932 at Angaston, SA; died 10.12.06 at Coronella Retirement Village, Nunawading, Vic. On 15.1.53 she married Max, who predeceased her in March 1983. She was also predeceased by her sons, Mark and Stuart, in a plane crash on 15.5.77. She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Roslyn and Garry Jackson (Lilydale), her sons and daughters-in-law, Andrew and Lorraine (The Basin) and Bryce and Janine (Alstonville, NSW); her five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Miriam gave lifelong witness of devotion to God and family; ever active in ministering to others. She died as she had lived, steadfast in the blessed hope. A celebration of Miriam's life was held at Nunawading church on 20.12.06.

*Dean Giles, Tony Campbell
Russell Standish, Walton Pitt, Darrell Croft*

Advertisements

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For sale—4 BR brick home with investment and missionary potential in Springfield, Qld. Ensuite, double garage, a/c, 6 x 4.6 metre shed, 3ABN radio transmitter on shed. (07) 3818 2932; or 0425 863 562.

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.

Appreciation

Adair, Joanne and family wish to sincerely thank all who prayed, visited, attended the celebration of Lawrens' eventful life, sent flowers or donations in lieu of grandson Stuart's Cambodian missionary work, phoned and sent cards. "See you in the morning, Mr Wonderful."

Chernside, John, Peter and Tanya, Craig and Kathie, Bryce and Joanne, and the grandchildren, would like to thank the church family for the cards, flowers, letters, phone calls and prayers, following the passing of Coralie, loved wife, mother and grandmother. Coralie now sleeps until Jesus comes.

Diane, NSW, would like to thank all the Adventist church members who prayed for her during her time of need and illness last year. "I know the power of prayer worked a miracle for me. I am now cancer-free, without any "mainstream" treatments or drugs. So, from the bottom of my heart and on behalf of my husband, we thank you."

Weddings

De Ville—Gray. André De Ville, son of Paul and Katrina De Ville (Avondale College, Cooranbong, NSW), and Toni Gray, daughter of John and Gail Gray (Tenterfield), were married on 7.1.07 in the Tenterfield Anglican church.

Chris Foote

Hunter—Norman. Matthew Spencer Campbell Hunter, son of Jeffrey and Zenette Hunter (Coromandel Valley, SA), and Laurene Jenny Norman, daughter of Philip and Jocelyn Norman (Wallsend, NSW), were married on 28.1.07 at College Park Adventist church, College Park, SA.

Graeme Loftus

Mieth—Hausmann. Wayne Anthony Mieth, son of Sonia (Mitchelton, Qld) and the late Konrad Mieth, and Debra Anne Hausmann, daughter of Vincent and Anne Hausmann (Redcliffe), were married on 21.1.07 at Caboolture Historical Village, Qld.

Mike Brownhill

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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 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>.

Small group to Africa—August 2007. Visiting game parks and hoping to see the Big Five up close, plus the Gorillas. Phone Ann at Timeout Tours, 1300 854 242; 0402 770 299; or email <contact@timeouttravel.com.au>.

Back to Penguin, Tas. Calling all ex-students and teachers of Penguin Adventist School (now North West Christian School). You are invited to our Reunion Day—July 7, 2007. Please register for our special event. Phone (03) 6437 2705; or email us at <nwcs@iinet.net.au>.

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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.

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. Servicing Melbourne Eastern, South-Eastern, Outer Eastern and Yarra Valley areas.

Goondiwindi Homecoming—June 30, 2007. All previous ministers and members of the Goondiwindi SDA church are invited. Please reply asap with address to receive your personal invitation. Ann McInnes, Yarrobindi, North Star NSW 2408; phone (07) 4676 3143; email <mmcinn@aat.net.au>.

Adventist Aviation Association (NNSW) AGM—Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held at the Coorabong Community Services Centre on March 17, 2007, commencing with a fellowship tea at 6 pm. All welcome to attend. For further information contact Pastor Sid Griffith 0416 201 348.

Finally

When you feel you must complain, smile. Do not care if things seem grey. Soon there will come a brighter day. You will find that it will pay to smile.

NO NEED TO PINCH YOURSELF—IT'S TRUE

Pastor Clarrie O'Neill and his wife, Lydia, were baptised on December 18, 1959, by Pastor George Burnside in Christchurch, New Zealand. Clarrie was invited to work for Sanitarium Health Food Company. In 1962 he became a literature evangelist. In 1968 he was called to Australia for literature evangelist leadership in the Greater Sydney Conference. They almost lost their lives during transit in the shipwreck of the *Wahine* in the notorious Cook Strait.



After leaving Sydney, Clarrie served the church in South Australia, Queensland, country New South Wales, Western Australia, Tasmania and the western Pacific. After 45 years of denominational service, Clarrie and Lydia have at last settled down at Caloundra Adventist Retirement Village.

Clarrie: "We first made inquiries concerning retirement back in 2001. It was one of the most significant decisions we have made in our later years. For my wife and me it was an opportunity to solve our retirement concerns. God was indeed presenting to us relief from repeatedly moving house in church employment. In 2003 we eventually moved into one of the most beautiful retirement settings one could ever wish for.

"Our medical needs are provided for in our nearby community as well as within the village in case of emergency. As Lydia and I are both serious heart patients, this brings so much peace of mind. The privacy we enjoy in a community setting is also a big plus. However, many social activities are arranged and provided for by an active and caring residents' social committee. The friendship and camaraderie in the village is most encouraging, as is the support offered by management and staff.

"Very often, during our frequent visits to conduct worship in the hostel, we witness the professional and loving care shown to each resident and we are assured that whatever happens in the future our aged-care needs will be adequately provided for in this church-operated facility.

"Both Lydia and I cannot recommend this village too highly, so why not come and see for yourself."



Adventist Retirement Villages are located in:

South Queensland Conference (07) 3218 7777:

Caloundra, Capricorn, Melody Park and Victoria Point

North New South Wales Conference (02) 4951 8088:

Alstonville and Coorabong

Greater Sydney Conference (02) 9487 0600:

Kings Langley and Wahroonga

Victorian Conference (03) 9259 2100:

Bendigo, Nunawading and Warburton

South Australian Conference (08) 8269 2177:

Morphett Vale

Western Australian Conference (08) 9389 7222:

Busselton, Nollamara and Rossmoyne