

RECORD

November 24, 2007

In this issue

Healthy living
reduces cancer risk

Signs Publishing to
stay in Warburton

*Conversations
with my church*



**\$A170,000
raised by
Adventist**



Financial concerns have led Avondale College to close their School of Aviation, which has been operating for 30 years.

Aviation at Avondale to end

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

Concerns over long-term financial sustainability will see the closure of the Avondale College School of Aviation after 30 years of operation.

The aviation program has made a significant contribution to the college, the regional community and Seventh-day Adventist mission work. The teaching program of the School of Aviation has been recognised as one of the best in New South Wales.

However, the School of Aviation has experienced a pattern of financial losses over many years. It is an expensive program to operate and the college's governing body has concluded that continuing losses can-

not be sustained.

The decision to close the School of Aviation during 2008 took into account not only financial considerations but also the current strategic significance of the aviation program to the college and church, as well as the human cost of closing the operation.

"It has not been an easy decision," says president Dr John Cox. "I am acutely aware of the human cost and I know the aviation staff members, who have given so much of themselves to the program, are experiencing bereavement at this time."

(Continued on page 4)



Worship is never more pleasing to God than when a lost child is embraced.

The X factor

WE CALL THEM VISITORS. BUT they are so much more. They wield great power. And thus comes our great responsibility.

I'm not talking about fellow Adventists attending our church for worship while away from home—they are extended family. I am talking about the X-men (or women). They come unannounced, sit in our sanctuary and quietly wield their power. They have full control over the future—their future—due to the power they hold. The power they exercise is the X factor.

The moment they drive into your church car park, the X factor activates. As they walk in the doors, through the foyer, into the sanctuary and find a seat—until they drive away, the X factor is in full swing.

The X factor is simply a question: *Will I return to this place?* And underneath the X factor, a number of subqueries: *Am I wanted here? Am I included? Is this place for me? Am I comfortable? Are these my kind of people? Do I belong here?*

As they are greeted in the car park or the foyer—or not; as they find a place to sit; as they are included—or not; as they watch the service unfold, the X factor replays itself over and over: *Will I return to this place?*

The X factor is greater in them than in us. They have nothing holding them to our church. We have developed a level of involvement, commitment or tradition that compels us to return each week. But these X-people have no such allegiance. This is their first visit and the X factor is theirs to

wield at full strength.

But we are able to influence the answers they seek. Their decision to return or stay away is within our reach. They haven't come to see the building, test the pews or admire the windows. They have come to see you and decide: *Will I return to this place? Am I wanted here?*

How can you influence the X factor? By asking yourself: *What is more important to me—maintaining my tradition or ministering to the visitor?* Answering this with words is easy. Putting it into action is another story. Worship is never more pleasing to God than when a lost child is embraced.

As regular attenders, do everything you can to make visitors welcome and comfortable. While your pew may miss you, it is possible for you to sit next to the visitor rather than leaving them alone. If they happen to be sitting in your seat, it is within your power to sit a little to the left or right without losing your salvation.

When the service starts, react as if it is your first time and you don't know what to expect. Follow the cues given by those leading out. Stand when asked to do so. Respond to questions. Listen with interest. Don't snore.

As worship leaders, give clear instructions. Explain what is happening. "We are going to pray now. Please kneel." "We are going to sing now. Please remain seated." Nothing is more disconcerting to new people than unannounced changes that cause them to stand out.

Somewhere in our hymn-singing history, someone decided standing for hymns meant standing when the music swelled at the end of the introduction. As the music swelled, so did the audience. Now, newer songs swell in random places and we look like popcorn in the pews. Saying "Feel free to stand or sit. Do what you feel like," will result in discord and if the visitor takes you seriously, they will probably leave. Try this: "Please stand." Pause while they stand. "Let us sing together." Now no-one feels like the odd one out.

As preachers, put yourself in the visitor's place. Be clear—keep it simple but interesting. Be animated—the pulpit will still be there when you get back. Don't refer to Bible stories as if they are previous knowledge—tell the story or leave it out. Stories have more power than any deductive point, so tell stories. Honour their expectations—finish on time.

Every Sabbath ask yourself: *What is more important—maintaining my tradition or ministering to the visitor?* While tradition is valuable, going against it can also be a good thing. The "X-men" broke tradition today—they are here. And they are asking, *Will I return to this place?*

You can help provide an answer to the X factor with open arms, a friendly smile and a gentle spirit. Only love fills the X factor. Freely you have received, freely give.

David Edgren



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Editor Nathan Brown
 Associate editor David Edgren
 Editorial assistant Adele Nash
 Editorial assistant Jarrod Stackelroth
 Copyeditor Talitha Simmons
 Editorial secretary Kristel Rae
 Layout Nathan Chee
 Senior consulting editor Barry Oliver

www.record.net.au

Mail: Signs Publishing Company
 3485 Warburton Highway
 Warburton, Vic 3799, Australia
 Phone: (03) 5965 6300 Fax: (03) 5966 9019
 Email Letters: editor@signspublishing.com.au
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Our vision is to...
know
experience
 and **share**
 our hope in Jesus Christ!

Healthy living reduces cancer risk, says study

SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND, USA

A report on the link between cancer and diet, physical activity and weight is providing more evidence that healthful living fights disease.

After a mega-study of 7000 previous studies, scientists have offered 10 recommendations for avoiding preventable cancer, including maintaining a healthy weight and limiting consumption of red meat and alcohol.

The report, released by the London-based World Cancer Research Fund (WCRF) on October 31, is the largest collection of data ever brought together on the subject, researchers said.

Other recommendations include adequate exercise, eating a diet rich in vegetables, fruits and grains, limiting consumption of salty, processed food and avoiding sugary drinks. The study also said “the evidence that alcohol is a cause of cancer is stronger now than ever before.”

Strong evidence shows red and processed meats are causes of bowel cancer, and no amount of processed meat can be confidently shown not to increase risk. Consumers are also being advised to avoid processed meats, such as bacon, ham, sa-

lami, corned beef and some sausages.

“This report is a real milestone in the fight against cancer, because its recommendations represent the most definitive advice on preventing cancer that has ever been available anywhere in the world,” project director, Martin Wiseman, said in a media release.

Leaders of the Seventh-day Adventist Church said the church’s emphasis on healthful living and celebration of life is now further backed by evidence.

“It validates what we, as Adventists, have been saying about our health message,” said Dr Allan Handsides, director of Health Ministries for the General Conference.

The Adventist Church’s health principles are rooted in the teachings of church co-founder Ellen White, who wrote about the subject more than 100 years ago.

Dr Handsides noted that reactions to the new report were mixed.

“The response, even to the massive amount of data, is similar to the response when the data on tobacco was first released,” Dr Handsides said, referring to reactions from food industry lobbyists and other critics.

“It takes integrity to take news and process it with a balanced and fair mind,” he said, urging church members to do

the same.

“The basis for our vegetarianism is the pursuit of health and not the pursuit of anybody else’s agenda but our own,” Dr Handsides said.

Trish Guy, manager of Adventist-owned Sanitarium Nutrition Service, welcomed the report and its recommendations, saying the report provides important directions for public health in Australia and helps consumers identify some simple steps they can take to promote cancer prevention.

“As a nation, we are experiencing increasing rates of chronic diseases, such as cancer, heart disease, diabetes, hypertension and obesity, and studies have shown Australians are not eating adequate amounts of fruits and vegetables,” Ms Guy said. “The WCRF report clearly outlines 10 straightforward guidelines consumers can follow to reduce their risk of cancer, and Sanitarium hopes the recommendations released today underpin the anticipated review of Australia’s healthy eating guidelines.”

The current WCRF report was the result of five years of research. The WCRF was established in 1982 to research and raise awareness of the link between lifestyle choices and preventable cancers. —**Ansell Oliver/ANN/Brooke Cummins**



◆ **St Andrews Seventh-day Adventist church**, Bundaberg, Qld, has celebrated the **75th anniversary** of its opening. Members of the local **Adventist, Presbyterian** and **Uniting** churches took part in the service, as well as the mayor and a retired Queensland parliamentarian, who was instrumental in having the church Heritage-listed. The Gothic-style church originally opened on

September 3, 1932, as a Presbyterian church and cost around 12,000 pounds to build. It houses a carillon tower with 11 bells, which are dedicated as a memorial to members of the St Andrews community who died during World War I. In 1997, the church became the Uniting Church until 2004, when it was purchased by the Adventist Church. The local Adventist church orchestra performed while the Springwood church choir presented “An epilogue of praise.” **Pastor Malcolm Potts**, general secretary of the South Queensland Conference, gave an address entitled

“Built upon the bones” and the tax deductible St Andrews Restoration Appeal was launched. —**Dianne Hilton**

◆ In August this year, **Auburn Adventist School** and **Sydney Adventist College, NSW**, officially combined to become one school with two different campuses. This development means Sydney Adventist College can now provide continuous education from **Prep to Year 12**. Both campuses are working on changes to further unite the school. The merge has come



about because of clear evidence that parents prefer their child to continue through from Kindy to Year 12 in the same school—with the same friends and environment. Sydney Adventist College can now provide this option, with Prep to Grade 6 continuing at Auburn and 7-12 remaining at Strathfield. —**Claudia Martin**

Aviation at Avondale to end

(Continued from page 1)

During the past 10 years, a number of plans have been developed to improve the financial performance of the School of Aviation. An advertising campaign this past summer contributed to a record enrolment of 20 students in the full-time program.

This reduced the loss. However, significant overheads such as rising insurance costs continue to make a substantial impact.

The college will ensure students enrolled in the vocational education courses offered by the School of Aviation will be able to complete their studies.

Chief pilot Garry Fraser acknowledges the challenges of operating the School of Aviation but says meeting them with “integrity and dignity” ranks as one of his proudest achievements.

“I am so pleased to be part of the passion and professionalism that is aviation at Avondale,” says Mr Fraser. “It has been a super team of people associating together to produce super outcomes.”

Avondale established the School of Aviation in 1977. “Our students used the skills they acquired to bring glad tidings to remote fields in the South Pacific,” says

Pastor Colin Winch, the first chief pilot. “The school really did serve a greater purpose.”

It continues to do so.

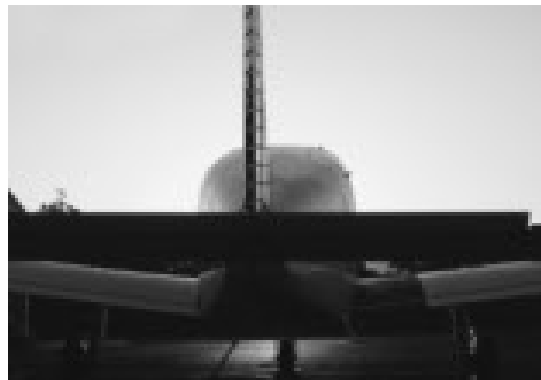
All four of the pilots working for Adventist Aviation Services in Papua New Guinea studied at Avondale. Two have also worked for the School of Aviation.

Sandrak Nawipa, a former science student at Cendrawasih University in Jayapura, Indonesia, and one of 44 boat people who came to Australia in 2006, wanted an aviation qualification from Avondale “because the college is the only tertiary institution offering aviation studies with a Christian focus.”

Mathew Bawden shares similar sentiments. “The course is well structured and the instructors highly qualified.”

The School of Aviation has earned the respect of those within the industry, with peak bodies, government regulators and even other tertiary institutions seeking advice when developing syllabuses. Pass rates in theory examinations are two to three times above national averages.

More than 100 former staff members and students are currently employed in



Although the School of Aviation will be flying into the sunset, current students will be allowed to complete their studies.

airline and other flying positions—including the first female Qantas captain.

Former students Belinda Thompson (2002) and Hayley Wilson (2004) both received the Sir Donald Anderson Trophy for being Australia’s best performing female pilots in professional air transport licensing exams. Current student Cameron Powell achieved a perfect score in his professional theory exam in September this year.

The School of Aviation moved from its original base at Cooranbong when the local airport closed on December 31, 2006. It has operated at Cessnock Airport since this date.—**Brenton Stacey/Andrew Opis**



◆ **Wahroonga Adventist School** held their highly successful bi-annual school concert on September 26-27. The theme of the play was “**Around the world in 80 minutes.**” Each class performed an item from a different country and each child had the opportunity to perform on stage. The play was written and directed by Year 6 teacher, **Fiona Russell.**

The creative production focused on two detectives and two pilots, who travelled around the world in search of the character “Wally.” Principal of the school, **Michelle Streatfield,** received a lot of positive feedback about both evenings. “Parents kept telling me how amazed they were at the talent our students have, and it was evident everyone was really enjoying themselves.” The students also had the opportunity to perform for residents of the Elizabeth Lodge Retirement Village as part of their service and Bible program.—**Claudia Martin**

◆ As the *Signs of the Times* campaign period ends, *Signs* Ministry coordinator **Lee Dunstan** reports thousands of subscriptions processed over the past three months, with as many as a thousand people eligible for the *Signs* promotional “Gifted Hands” **Ben Carson DVD offer.** Mr Dunstan reports that the DVDs are currently in production and will be mailed from early December, in time for Christmas. The offer, which involves adding an additional *Signs* subscription to an existing order, or ordering a minimum of two for new sub-

scribers, ends on December 6.

◆ A great deal of fun was had by all on October 27, when **Hawera church (Taranaki, NZ)** hosted an **amateur variety concert,** raising \$NZ506 for the **Adventist Development and Relief Agency.** **Walter Hermon** led a group from New Plymouth (pictured),



DAYS AND OFFERINGS: ◆ DECEMBER 8—MISSIONS EXTENSION OFFERING

Signs to stay in Warburton following AMN review

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

Following an extensive review of the print operation of Signs Publishing Company at Warburton during the past 18 months, to look at the most cost-effective means of providing printed literature for church members and the public, the Adventist Media Network (AMN) Committee has taken action to continue full operation at Warburton.

However, in the interest of accountabil-

ity, the committee has asked AMN senior staff to devise an effective strategic plan covering the next five years.

It is expected that this plan will enable the church to respond appropriately to the continuing challenges of the printing industry and the ever-changing landscape in the field.

Signs Publishing prints familiar publications such as RECORD, *Signs of the Times* and *The Edge* magazines, books for distribution by literature evangelists and other resources for the church.

"We want to ensure that the printing department of Adventist Media Network will continue to serve the church's mission in a cost effective manner," says Pastor Laurie Evans, President of the South Pacific Division. "We want to see strong integration of publishing, not only in printing but also on the internet, radio and television."

—Allen Steele



The Signs Publishing Company will remain in Warburton, following a review of media provided to and by the Adventist Church in the South Pacific Division.

MVAC celebrates cultural diversity

DOONSIDE, NEW SOUTH WALES

On October 28, Mountain View Adventist College (MVAC) held their annual "Nations Night," celebrating the diverse cultures represented among students in the school.

More than 300 people attended and the event was well supported by parents, who prepared and donated food to sell on the day. The students were proud to represent their cultural background in traditional wear, cultural dance, singing, drama and music.

MVAC is proud to be a multicultural school, with students from the Pacific Islands, Europe, Asia, South America, Africa and Australia. The evening was a great success and raised close to \$A3500. The money raised will be distributed to worthy causes within the college. Students are already planning the next "Nations Night." —Fiona Lelilio



The food stall at the "Nations Night."

and delighted the audience with musical harmony. Other items included instrumentals, poetry and music, often with an international flavour. The second half of the program featured a Cossack dance, performed by Paul Roberts. Snacks sold during interval boosted the final door takings. —Marilyn Pasione

◆ The Wynyard Showgrounds' hall, Tas, was transformed to host a "Fiesta" for children aged from 5–12. The school holiday program was held during the September school holidays and



ran for five days. During the program, the children were entertained by Eddy the puppet and were involved in Bible stories, games, crafts and singing. The children were taught about different aspects of our relationship with Jesus each day. Sanitarium Health Food Company supplied a wide range of cereals, spreads and milk for the "Big breakfast"

on Thursday morning. The total number of different children who attended for the week was 86, with around 50 attending each day. —Helen Borg

◆ Macarthur Adventist School is excited to commence their first Year 10 class in 2008. Staff and students alike are eager to grow the school until it reaches Year 12. This first Year 10 class is a milestone for the school as it grows and new facilities have been put in place for the expansion. The pre-kindergarten class is also continuing its highly successful program in 2008 as num-



bers continue to increase throughout the entire school. Principal Jill Pearce is energised about the new chapter in the life of the school. "It is really rewarding to be able to provide our current Year 9 students continuous education—and for other grades to come. We are working on some fantastic opportunities for our great group of students," she says. —Claudia Martin

Most remote satellite dish in Australia

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

A satellite dish to receive programs from the Seventh-day Adventist Church's official television channel, Hope TV, has been installed on an outlying Aboriginal outstation at Arnhem Land. It is believed to be the most remote Adventist satellite dish in Australia.

Gamurr-guyurra Outstation, currently inhabited by George Pascoe, is located 650 kilometres from Darwin on the border of East and West Arnhem Land. It is only accessible by dirt road, which is flooded for about six months a year.

Pastor Don Fehlberg, associate director for the Australian Union Conference's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministries, and Pastor Ben Kosmeier from the Darwin church, helped install the satellite dish.

"Last year we set up a satellite dish on George's house in Maningrida and he really enjoyed the messages," says Pastor Fehlberg. "When he moved to his outstation, he took down the dish and the receiver and requested that we set it up out there so, as he said, he could continue to hear God's word."

The dish that was installed at Mr Pascoe's house in the Aboriginal town of Maningrida, 150 kilometres west of



Don Fehlberg with George and Rosemary at their remote outstation.

Gamurr-guyurra Outstation, was donated by the Nowra Adventist church in New South Wales. Nowra church member Barbara Krome was a missionary in Maningrida who felt Mr Pascoe, a strong Christian leader in the community, would appreciate the messages from Hope TV.

Mr Pascoe and his wife, Rosemary, are planning to attend Mamarapha College, the church's Bible school for Aboriginies and Torres Strait Islanders, next year.

While in Arnhem Land, Pastor Fehlberg was also invited to preach to some people in Maningrida. After his first presentation on Saturday night, he was invited to repeat it the next night at two different locations. He preached to a total of some 60 people on the subject of the second coming of Jesus Christ that weekend.—*Melody Tan*

Church member raises \$A170,000

ERINA, NEW SOUTH WALES

Erina Seventh-day Adventist church member Joan Frew has raised more than \$A170,000 for people in need over the past 25 years.

Every month, Mrs Frew sells "everything" at her stall at William Street Mall in Gosford and donates all the money earned. She most recently donated \$A1500 for the purchase of a lifter to help a lady transport her husband, who suffers from Multiple Sclerosis.

Mrs Frew receives items to sell from church members and their friends. These have come from as far as Lithgow and Melbourne. Church members also help her run the store every month.

Although the Adventist Church does not tell Mrs Frew where to donate the money, she frequently hears of those in need through the church. Over the years, the money Mrs Frew earns has helped refugees in Australia pay for school fees, build a health clinic in Uganda and purchase wheelchairs for people in the Pacific islands.

"Unfortunately, it is harder to sell items these days because people can get cheap stuff elsewhere," she says. "But I get so much fun from selling things and want to help people in desperate need."—*Melody Tan*

◆ Priests in Ireland are worried that changes in **drink-driving laws** may push them over the alcohol limit. With a shortage of priests, some drive to several churches on Sundays to say Mass. **Father Brian D'Arcy** said wine prepared for services had to be consumed, as discarding it is blasphemous.—*The Age*

◆ **Russell Crowe** is planning to be **baptised** at the chapel on his Nana Glen property in northern NSW. "I'd like to do it this year," the 43-year-old actor told *Men's Journal* magazine. "My

mum and dad decided to let my brother and me make our own decisions about God when we got to the right age. I started thinking recently, 'If I believe it is important to baptise my kids, why not me?'" Crowe says the baptism will take place in the Byzantine chapel he built at his property near Coffs Harbour for his wedding to **Danielle Spencer** in 2003. The couple has two sons, three-year-old Charlie and one-year-old Tennyson. "Charlie was baptised there and when Tennyson gets baptised there, I will too. I do believe there are more

important things than what is in the mind of a man," he says. "There is something much bigger that drives us all. I'm willing to take that leap of faith."—*AP*

◆ **Willow Creek Community church**, one of the most influential megachurches in America over the last 30 years, has admitted that their **approach to ministry** was **wrong**. Willow Creek has promoted a vision of church that is big, programmatic and comprehensive—heavily influenced by the methods of secular business. Recently, Wil-

low Creek released its findings from a multiple-year qualitative study of its ministry. The results were published in a book, *Reveal: Where Are You?*, co-authored by **Greg Hawkins**, executive pastor of Willow Creek. The study shows spiritual growth does not happen by becoming dependent on elaborate church programs but through the age-old spiritual practices of prayer, Bible reading and relationships. And, ironically, these basic disciplines do not require multi-million dollar facilities and hundreds of staff to manage.—*Greg Hawkins*

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

40 years of flying and building

THORNLEIGH, NEW SOUTH WALES

Thornleigh Seventh-day Adventist church member John Morris is returning to Papua New Guinea (PNG) to reconstruct several buildings for a school he helped build 40 years ago.

In 1967, Mr Morris and 34 others constructed a school building, two student dormitories, two teacher houses, a kitchen and a generator shed on the PNG island of Ramaga. They were all members of Adventist churches around Sydney, who responded to a need they heard about through church.

"I was 26 then and before PNG, I had never been involved in construction," says Mr Morris. He has since helped build many other buildings, including returning 52 times to Fiji, responding to the needs of Fulton College.



Building the school 40 years ago.



Part of the school building as it is now.

This group became the first "Fly'n'Build" team of the Adventist Church—people who volunteer their time and raise their own funds in order to fly across and help construct buildings, such as schools and churches, in various parts of the Pacific islands.

There have been hundreds of "Fly'n'Build" teams around Australia, which have helped communities in countries like the Solomon Islands, Cook Islands, PNG and Fiji over the past 40 years.

The school compound in Ramaga, however, has a special place in Mr Morris' heart. He is currently raising funds so a team can return to fix up the rusted buildings. "The place is in reasonable order after 40 years, although it is quite run-down," he says. "The buildings will need work but they are still usable and are standing up remarkably well."—*Melody Tan*

For more information about volunteer work, contact Adventist Volunteers at +61 2 9847 3275.

PAU conducts library courses

PORT MORESBY, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Staff members of the Pacific Adventist University (PAU) library have linked with Dr Jillian Thiele, dean of the School of Arts and Humanities at the university, to conduct the annual library course.

This course was designed to train church members and other individuals to become library technicians in any small library. The 12-hour workshop commenced on August 19 and ran for four weeks.

Designed to be easily accessible for any

person, including PAU students, faculty, staff or community members to assist in a library, the training was held on Sundays so students, student spouses and other interested people from the community could attend.

This year, for the first time, the staff of PAU library assisted Dr Thiele. "This is a great opportunity to promote the university, its library and its enthusiastic and qualified staff," she says.

PAU library is being expanded this year and will receive 40 per cent of campmeeting mission offerings for this much-needed extension.

—*Ray Coombe*

Daily devotionals prove most popular on SPD website

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

The daily devotional, featured on the public website of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the South Pacific Division, has hit a record of 16,738 views in the past year.

Running since 2002, the motivational messages are receiving an average of 1300 views every month. The next most popular page is the "Adventist Beliefs" section, which is viewed on average 800 times every month. Web users have realised the benefit of daily inspirational readings, using them for children's stories or simply to express their love and care for one another. Many people have made it a daily routine.

"People are looking for inspirational material on the web. One lady sends it out as an emotional support to a network of over 60 non-Adventist friends who are carers," says Jeanelle Isaacs, electronic media officer of the Adventist Media Network.

The daily devotional is a free service that provides a Bible text, brief word of inspiration and food for thought. The messages are brief and apply the Christian message practically to everyday issues of life, such as family, and Christian experience, emotional and spiritual needs. The daily devotional has subscribers worldwide. —*Kristina Malarek*

If you would like to contribute to the daily devotional feature, email <webmaster@adventist.org.au> or call Jeanelle Isaacs +61 2 9847 2252.



Daily devotionals are the most viewed pages on <http://adventist.org.au>.

Conversations With My Church

REVIEW BY JULENE DUERKSEN-KAPAO

WHAT IF YOU NEVER SAW YOUR pastor in anything other than a suit and tie? Would you respect him more or wonder if he even wore them when he slept? James Coffin addresses real—and sometimes seemingly insignificant—issues of church and Christianity in kind, thoughtful, yet personally challenging ways.

Conversations With My Church is a collection of the essays written to Coffin's church, the Markham Woods Seventh-day Adventist church in Longwood, Florida (USA)—as well as to his church in the wider context. Written to “persuade, to inform, to inspire, to provoke or entertain,” these conversations overflow with insight.

We bear the name “Christian” or, more specifically, “Seventh-day Adventist” but what does that label say about us? God said, “It is good” but wouldn't the Bible be different if it were written by a woman?

From Bible writing to capital punishment, the place of women and punctuation, *Conversations With My Church*—coming as something of a sequel to *A Different Church for a Different World*—covers a plethora of topics in six categories: “Talking about the Bible,” “Talking about God,” “Talking about church,” “Talking about behaviour,” “Talking about society” and “Just talking.”

Coffin has much to say about life and encourages us to think about what we see, feel and experience in the world around us. Dissatisfied with seeing things from just one perspective, Coffin takes a new and refreshing look at many of the “old” and familiar aspects of Christianity.

For example, in his discussion of the Second Coming, Coffin reframes our way of thinking about being ready: “I suggest there are better questions than ‘Am I ready?’ Ask instead ‘Is Jesus my Friend? Is Jesus

my Saviour and Lord?’”

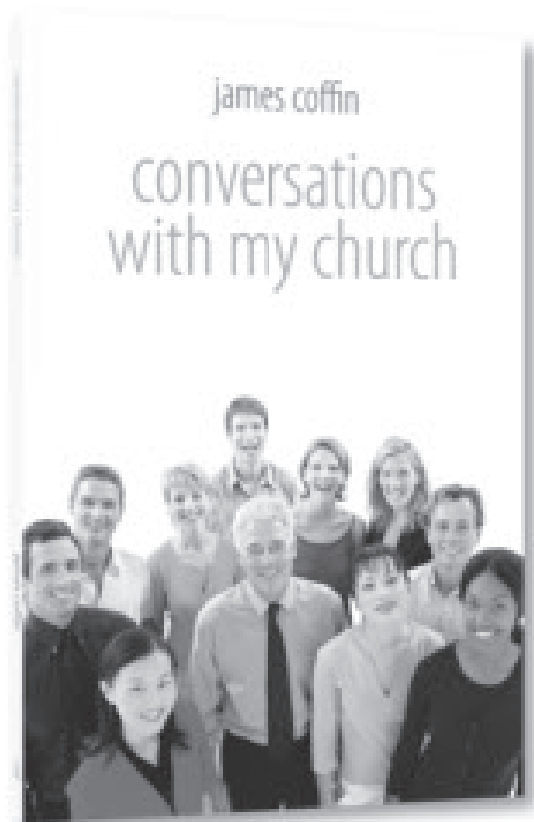
Blunt and honest, Coffin asks the real questions. I believe he gets it right as he addresses topics dear to many of our hearts. As Christians and Adventists, we can get caught up in the smaller things and lose focus on Who it is all about.

In the chapter “Fathers and frowns,” Coffin dabbles in the concept of conforming—whether rightly or wrongly. “All of us conform to things we don't personally believe in—but we conform because it is easier not to rock the boat of those who are important to us,” he reflects.

How true this is for so many of us. Instead of standing up for what we believe, we allow ourselves to be “smothered” by the beliefs of others—whether we share those beliefs or not. This can be scary when we are eager to receive the recognition and praise of others. Coffin warns we must be careful in understanding what we believe: “Scripture tells us we should be able to give reasons for what we believe.”

Coffin—a former editor of RECORD—does not shy away from reality and what many of us already know about the Adventist church. “Unfortunately, Seventh-day Adventists have had major trouble coming to grips with the concept of grace,” he explains, suggesting we are so busy focusing on behaviour we often miss the big picture of grace God has placed paramount in Scripture for us to experience.

For example, in discussing lessons from the Syrian, Naaman, washing to get rid of the leprosy, Coffin's theology is easy to grasp: “So what's the message for us today? Just this: Don't automatically assume the best answer is the most complicated one.”



I like it. It's simple and straightforward. And how often do we look for complicated answers to fit our complicated problems? Jesus has said “I am the way” and He is—that is not so complicated.

I applaud Coffin for speaking so openly and clearly about pertinent issues in our church. “It's rather scary to realise that as parents, as teachers, as a church, we can so program a youthful mind that there are certain things—be they truly right or wrong—that can never be done without pangs of conscience,” he writes. It is good to be reminded that our role—whoever we are—should never be to “program” anyone into our denomination or set of beliefs.

I relished the reading experience of *Conversations With My Church*. Coffin covers such a diversity of areas with such insight and depth, I found myself exclaiming, “Yes, I totally agree!” over and over again. **R**

Conversations With My Church, by James Coffin, Signs Publishing Company, 2007, paperback, 118 pages. Available from Adventist Book Centres, price \$A19.95; \$NZ24.50.

Julene Duerksen-Kapao is head of Bible at Longburn Adventist College, Palmerston North, New Zealand.

Your opportunity: Adopt a clinic

BY JONATHAN DUFFY

THE PACIFIC ISLAND NATIONS ARE faced with major health challenges today.

In many of these countries, infectious diseases present the greatest threat to life. Infant and neonatal mortality rates are very high. Diseases such as acute respiratory infections, malaria, hepatitis, diarrhoeal diseases, ulcers and tuberculosis are common health problems encountered on a daily basis.

Small injuries, such as cuts and scratches, can develop into painful ulcers, which can result in amputations. This can easily be treated with antibiotics and antiseptics.

Most diseases experienced in villages and communities are preventable.

Clinics form the base for healthcare services and village life in many countries throughout the South Pacific. The clinic oversees primary healthcare services, hygiene, maternal and child health care, immunisations, birthing and many more services to the villagers they serve. The clinic is also their only source of health information. In areas well served by a clinic, the villagers have better hygiene and lower rates of preventable diseases.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church operates 54 clinics throughout the South Pacific. These clinics range from bush huts to well-established buildings.

What they all have in common, however, is the poor state of their buildings. Most of our clinics are in a sad need of maintenance and repair. It is easy to say that the responsibility lies with the villagers serviced by the clinic—but the reality is more complex than that.

Many of our nurses live in remote areas and are required to work and live in sub-standard, often unsafe buildings. In addition to the sacrifice of isolation and poor living conditions, they work for only 60 per cent of the government wage—and are happy to do this because they see it as their

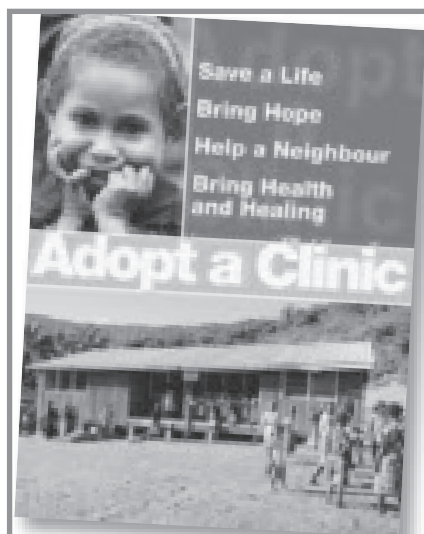
contribution to the medical missionary work of the church.

More than 70 per cent of the clinics cannot even check patients' blood pressure because they lack a stethoscope and sphygmomanometer. None of the clinics have a complete suture set or delivery set. These are not high-cost items but are essential to providing safe and professional health care.

Many of the clinic buildings do not have access to running water or any form of power. Buckets of water have to be brought in, and deliveries and procedures done at night are performed under the inadequate lighting of a torch or kerosene lantern. With greater efficiency brought about by improved facilities and equipment at the clinic, a greater emphasis can be placed upon prevention.

For many of the clinics, agreements are in place with the governments that meet their operating costs, such as wages and drug supplies. But assistance to restore the buildings and adequately equip the clinics is needed.

It is our dream that all our clinics become models of exemplary health care in the countries in which they operate. Too



many people suffer and die from treatable and preventable diseases.

Kukudu Clinic stands out as an example of how a clinic can and should operate. It is supported by Hillview Seventh-day Adventist church (NSW). Its buildings are well maintained. It is well equipped and offers an exceptional service to the community around it.

We would love to see every church in Australia and New Zealand adopt a clinic. We will match you to a clinic that is within your capacity to help. But the "Adopt a clinic" program is not just about raising funds for the clinic. It is also about supporting the clinic spiritually through prayer, through encouragement and keeping their morale high—letting them know they are not forgotten.

The "Adopt a clinic" program provides our church with an opportunity to make a significant contribution to improving health and welfare for those less fortunate than ourselves.

Did you know that the average life expectancy in the areas where we operate clinics in the Pacific is around 45 years? With adequately resourced and fully functioning clinics, we can make tremendous improvements in the lives of the people in the South Pacific. **R**

For information on how your church can adopt a clinic or to receive a prospectus and DVD of our clinics, contact Jenny Robson on +61 2 98473368 or email <jrobson@adventist.org.au>.

Jonathan Duffy is director of Adventist Health Ministries for the South Pacific Division, based in Wahroonga, New South Wales.

Why does such a God-fearing husband have such a husband-fearing wife?

BY DEANNA PITCHFORD

IN SEPTEMBER, THE AUSTRALIAN AND New Zealand public were shocked when a little girl was abandoned at a Melbourne railway station. Nicknamed “Pumpkin” by the police who found her, the three year old had been left behind by her father, Nai Yin Xue, before he caught a flight to Los Angeles.

Further investigations revealed that her mother, An An Liu, was missing. Three days later, her body was found in the boot of a car parked outside the family home in Auckland. Nai Yin Xue is being sought in connection with the death of his wife and the abandonment of his daughter.

Ironically, Nai Yin Xue had made a documentary earlier in the year about his oldest daughter, whom he had not seen for many years and with whom he allegedly wanted to be reconciled. In an emotional interview, filmed by a student in Auckland who admired him as a martial arts instructor, he expressed the hope that he would have “another chance” to be a father to his youngest daughter.

A few months later he walked away from that little girl, leaving her to the mercy of strangers, most probably having murdered her mother before fleeing to Australia.

Stories such as these bring the issues of

domestic violence to the attention of the public once again. While shocked by such incidents, many regard them as rare displays of human callousness and cruelty. Unfortunately, they are not.

Home and family

The words *home* and *family* bring to mind pictures of safety and comfort, love and peace. It should not be the setting for violence, be it of the emotionally manipulative or sexually abusive kind.

In creating the first family, God intended for them to live in harmony, mutually seeking to serve each other, all to the glory of God and the fulfilment of their destiny as complementary partners, reflecting the image of God.

But the entrance of sin shattered that reflection, leaving in its wake insecurity and a hunger for power. Possibly one of the most insidious and ubiquitous results of sin on our planet has been the degradation of the relationship between men and women.

Boy or girl?

One of the first questions we ask when we hear someone has had a baby is its gender. The critical importance that we attribute to a newborn’s gender reflects more than a curiosity; it reflects a funda-

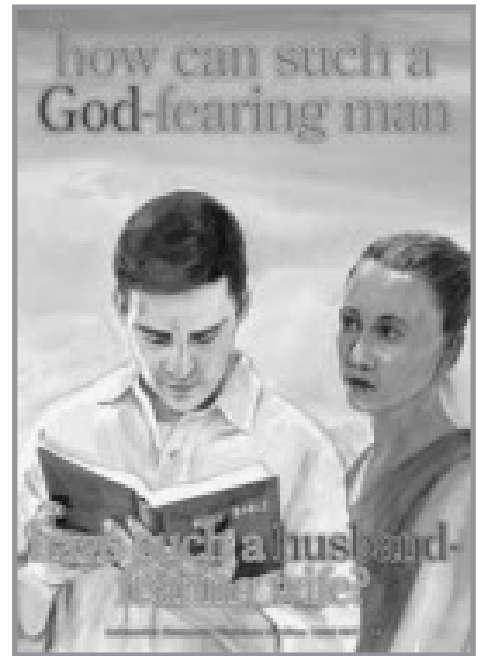
mental belief that the life of the newborn will differ in essential ways, depending on whether it is a girl or a boy.

The question of sex or gender differences has been of consuming interest to psychologists, social scientists and the public at large for many years. Think for example of books such as *He says, She says*, *Men are from Mars—Women are from Venus* and *Why Men don’t Listen and Women can’t read Maps*.

Interest in the subject continues to mushroom. Between 1967 and 1993, more than 35,000 articles on gender were published in social and behavioural science journals. Today, if you had to do a search on Google, you would find more than 46 million results for “gender differences.”

Men and women are different and the difference is not just skin deep. But since the beginning of recorded history, it has been assumed that “different” means “not equal” and that women are not only the weaker sex—both physically and mentally—they are also inferior to men.

This assumption is so ingrained in society that it is rarely questioned, by women or by men, and from this flows the mindset that leads to the dehumanisation of women and sets the scene for domestic violence.



A different life

So how will your life be different if you are female rather than male?

Well, for one thing, you may never be born, especially if you were conceived in China, India or the Republic of Korea. Worldwide, “apartheid of gender” is responsible for the deaths of millions of females. The selective abortion of female fetuses and infanticide of female infants has resulted in 100 males for every 92 females in India, and 100 males for every 28 females in rural China, with disparate sex ratios favouring males in many other countries in the world.

Cultures that consider a double X chromosome a deformity may, in fact, be committing gender genocide. According to estimates from UNICEF, “more than a million children die each year because they are female.”

The phenomena of sex-selective abortion, which targets female fetuses almost exclusively, and the neglect of young girls are closely linked to female infanticide. It reflects the low status accorded to women in many parts of the world and is arguably the most destructive manifestation of the anti-female bias that pervades many patriarchal societies.

How else might your life differ just because you are female? You might be more tired than your male counterparts! Statistics from the United Nations reveal that although women comprise roughly 50 per cent of the world’s population, women are responsible for doing two-thirds of the work.

Worldwide, whether they have a job outside of the home or not, women do most of the housework. A male partner who is a blue-collar worker may help with 20 per cent of the housework, while white-collar workers generally do only 5 per cent. This is not taking into account the fact that many women work outside of the home in addition to their responsibilities of caring for the home and family. In many cultures, women do most of the agricultural work as well. And, according to the United Nations, for all their trouble, women worldwide own just 10 per cent of the world’s money and 1 per cent of the world’s property.

Which brings us to another difference your gender may make at birth. Poverty is increasingly a female problem. About

70 per cent of the world’s poor are female. Even in the USA, more than 60 per cent of all adults living below the poverty line are white women. In Australia, the standard of living for women has been estimated to drop 73 per cent after separation or divorce.

Another harsh reality of being female is the increased likelihood of being illiterate. UNICEF estimates that, worldwide, 20 million more girls than boys are denied access to school, resulting in a much lower rate of literacy for girls. The fact that a girl is twice as likely to be uneducated as a boy contributes to the increasing poverty level among females. We know that illiteracy

It reflects a fundamental belief that the life of the newborn will differ in essential ways, depending on whether it is a girl or a boy.

is powerfully linked to low social status, poverty and poor health.

And poor health is another problem that you might face, being female. In many countries, women and girls are fed after the men and boys. The World Health Organisation estimates that 50 per cent of all poor women might be anaemic. Globally, the health of women has deteriorated.

In certain countries in the Middle East, women are not allowed to see a male doctor—yet there are no female doctors. In these countries, you might be denied medical care just because you are female. In African countries, the face of HIV/AIDS is increasingly that of a young female.

And finally, if you are female, your chances of being abused are much greater than if you are male. Family violence against men does exist but 95 per cent of domestic violence (DV) victims are female. It is estimated that 46 per cent of female homicide victims are killed by their partner or ex-partner. It has also been shown that in 60 per cent of homes where domestic violence occurs, child abuse is also prevalent.

In Australia, the most vulnerable women are those who live in isolated or remote

areas (DV is lower in major cities), Indigenous women and pregnant women. The 1996 *Women’s Safety Survey* by the Australian Bureau of Statistics found that pregnancy is a time when women may be vulnerable to abuse—20 per cent of the women surveyed who had experienced DV had first experienced it when pregnant.

So the realities are that, as a woman, your life is likely to be very different from a man’s life. Women and men around the world can expect to live qualitatively different lives—solely on the basis of whether they are male or female.

The church and domestic violence

You may wonder if these issues are relevant within the Christian community and, more specifically, within the Adventist Church. The sad truth is that there is no difference, statistically, between the church and the “world,” as far as domestic violence is concerned. In an informal online poll conducted by the magazine *Today’s Christian Woman*, it was found that 50 per cent of the 1808 respondents had experienced violence within their relationships.

Many Christian women feel compelled to remain in abusive relationships by the interpretation of Scripture that encourages women to “submit to their husbands” and “turn the other cheek.” Christian women need to know that violence, be it emotional, physical, financial or sexual, is a violation of the marriage covenant. Within the Adventist Church, it is not considered acceptable behaviour—under any circumstances. It must break God’s heart to see men and women, created in His image, treat each other in this way.

So what can we do to remove this scourge from our church? Read about domestic violence, learn about the cycles of violence, heed the warning signs in the relationships, and open your eyes and hearts to those who need your support. “Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy” (Proverbs 31:8, 9, NIV). **R**

Deanna Pitchford is a clinical psychologist, who writes from Brisbane, Queensland.

Untangling the web

BY JEANELLE ISAACS



IN SETTING UP THE SOUTH Pacific Web Network, we created a plan of how all the websites in the Division should work together and the goal for each site. Here is an explanation of the web framework:

The portal—www.adventistconnect.org

This web page will be the portal to all Adventist websites in the South Pacific Division (SPD). From here, visitors will be directed to relevant sites.

Websites for the general community

1. National sites: Each country in the South Pacific has a website with general information about Adventists, news and events relevant to the public, as well as a list of churches. For example, the website for Australia is www.adventist.org.au while the site for Solomon Islands is www.adventist.org.sb. For a national outreach effort, advertise the national site. This site, along with your local church site, is for your friends who aren't Adventist.

2. Project/outreach websites: These websites are for specific products or outreach efforts. Church entities, administration offices and churches may create such sites to help market a program or product. These sites should link to the relevant national and/or local site, so people can find out more about Adventists in their region.

Websites for the Adventist community

These sites are managed by the administration offices and cover departmental information, news and events for their area:

- 1. SPD site:** http://spd.adventistconnect.org.
- 2. Union and conference sites:** http://[acronym].adventist.org.[countrycode]—for example, http://auc.adventist.org.au or http://nnz.adventist.org.nz.

The netAdventist system simplifies the church structure so church members do not have to visit multiple sites to find out what is happening. News from the division, union and conference can be automatically updated on the local church sites simply by adding the "Area news" group into the web layout via the plugin list.

The local church website

The local church website is at the heart of the framework. Every church needs a web presence so people can gain insight into a local church, find directions, ask questions and listen to sermons in a non-confrontational environment.


Reaching out through the internet is a new type of outreach for our church. To have 950 websites online for the South Pacific is a great start but we need to continue developing the sites to create an active presence. **R**

If you haven't registered yet to gain access to your free netAdventist website, please email webmaster@adventistmedia.org.au or call +61 2 9847 2252. This is the last of RECORD's web series. To read previous columns, please go to http://web.adventistconnect.org.

Jeanelle Isaacs is electronic media officer for Adventist Media Network.

RECORD ROO'S

Kids corner



Hi kids,
The Bible tells us that Jesus performed many miracles during His ministry on Earth. Jesus healed the sick, restored sight to the blind, and even raised people from the dead!

RR

Introduction

One of Jesus' friends became sick. The sick man's sisters sent messages to Jesus wanting Him to come and heal their brother. So Jesus went to Judea.





Complete the Word




Who was Jesus going to see at Judea? Using the clues at the bottom of each column, spell out the words. When you have finished, the name that appears in the black boxes is your answer.

Try It!

Can you make a puzzle like this for your own name?

C							
							I
	X		N				
					N		
					E		

Read

You can read the whole story of Jesus' miracle at Judea in John chapter 11.

Peta Taylor

It's discrimination

NAME SUPPLIED

RECORD is to be commended for publishing the number of letters concerning the role of women in the Adventist Church, and for opening up a dialogue that should have been settled affirmatively for women more than 100 years ago. The fact that we are still having this debate shows we have failed, as a church, to grasp that any form of discrimination is intrinsically wrong and anti-Christian, and that it is particularly offensive to many men and women, particularly those under 35.

It is clear there are some who have little idea of the extent of gender bias in the church, and of how shameful and hurtful it is. Which begs the question: why would intelligent young men and women want to associate with a religious organisation that still openly espouses such an attitude to its women?

Christ's attitude of anti-discrimination is beyond doubt, so for the church to still be arguing about whether a woman is a full human being of equal dignity (for that is what the debate is really about—a theology of the human person) is extraordinarily demeaning to women and reveals an equally extraordinary lack of courage by church leaders and administrators over the past 100 years or so.

The fact is, women are being discriminated against and it needs to stop if the church is to have any right to call itself fully Christian. There is no room in the church for misogynists who cannot accept the ministry of women, either in the home or in the church, and this is particularly pertinent to church leadership.

STEVE CINZIO, QLD

I want to affirm the 20-something women in pastoral ministry in Australia and New Zealand. Be assured that your work is valued and the kingdom of God is being advanced because of your efforts to make Jesus known to those you minister to.

After all I have read in an attempt to understand the issue, it seems the only basis for denying the pastoral role and title to the female gender seems to be based on personal feelings, opinions and tradition that some of us have sanctified with the

passing of time.

In my study of the Bible and the writings of Ellen White, I have seen no evidence prohibiting women from working in ministry as pastors. The same is true when it comes to their ordination.

Our church's history reminds us that it was God's leading which prompted the church, as far back as the 1881 General Conference session, to resolve "That females possessing the necessary qualifications to fill that position, may, with perfect

[Ellen White] neither favoured, or disfavoured, the ordination of women. It seems that, for her, there was no issue.

propriety, be set apart by ordination to the work of the Christian ministry."

And we have forgotten that in the period 1878 to 1910, there were 31 women licensed by the Adventist church to preach in its pulpits.

Ellen White dignified the ministerial work of women by telling them that God would give them a power that exceeds that given to men (see *Evangelism*, page 464) and that women could reach a class not reached by men (see *Evangelism*, page 466).

It is interesting to note that, in all of Ellen White's writings, she neither favoured, or disfavoured, the ordination of women. It seems that, for her, there was no issue.

When we consider this history, perhaps we would do well to ask ourselves, personally, exactly what is driving our objection to applauding the growing number of women in our midst whom God has called to ministry.

More conversation

PAUL DOBROTA, EMAIL

I was deeply touched by the article "Ella Simmons, church leader" (Feature, September 22) and feel I have to add something to that conversation.

Dr Simmons says to women who are thinking of either going into ministry or leadership: "We should hear the call from God and allow ourselves to be prepared." What about to hear this message from God: "But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in

silence" (1 Timothy 2:12, KJV).

Dr Simmons says: "I am sure there's some resistance out there but I see our church changing." I agree. The church of Laodicea is polarised already—and is lukewarm to God's commandments. There is nothing new under the sun. "Satan chooses a woman where he is unsuccessful with a man," Ellen White wrote. The first time he used this method was in Eden. And the last church, Laodicea, is shaken because of a woman. Is this not an interesting coincidence?

A wrong message?

IRWIN LOW, QLD

In Leviticus 19:28, we are told not to put tattoo marks on our bodies. Why? Because—the text says—"I am the Lord" (NIV).

When new converts with no previous knowledge of Scripture accept Christ as their Saviour and are baptised, if they have tattoo marks on them, we ignore this because, as Acts 17:30 says, God does not hold people responsible for sin done in ignorance.

However, it is a different story with young people who have grown up in the church who, as 2 Timothy 3:15 says, "from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures which are able to make you wise for salvation in Christ Jesus" (NIV). While some would be horrified if you suggested that they put graffiti on the walls of a church, temple, synagogue or mosque, they are prepared to put graffiti—tattoos—on the walls—skin—of their body temple, as described in 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20.

Could it be that we have sent a wrong message to our young people by including face painting in some church-related activities?

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.

Positions vacant

▲ **IT manager—Trans-Pacific Union, (Fiji).** The Seventh-day Adventist Church (Pacific) Ltd is seeking to appoint a qualified and dedicated information technology manager for the Trans-Pacific Union head office in Suva, Fiji. For more information, please visit the South Pacific Division's Human Resources website at <<http://hr.adventistconnect.org>>. **Written applications**, including CV, referees and the contact details of your pastor, must be forwarded to: Human Resources, Seventh-day Adventist Church (Pacific) Ltd, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga NSW 2076, Australia; email <hr@adventist.org.au>; fax: (02) 9489 0943. Applications close **November 28, 2007**.

▲ **Assistant accountant—ACA Health Benefits Fund (Wahroonga, NSW)** is seeking a degree-qualified, promising and energetic assistant accountant to join their team. This position will report to the Finance and Operations team leader and requires someone with a "can-do" approach, who is able to take on a variety of projects and tasks associated with the health insurance business. For further information, please visit the South Pacific Division's Human Resources website at <<https://hr.adventistconnect.org>>. **Applications in writing** to Human Resources, Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Ltd, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga NSW 2076, Australia; email <hr@adventist.org.au>; or fax (02) 9489 0943. Applications close **December 14, 2007**.

▲ **Graphic Designer—Signs Publishing Company (Warburton, Vic)** is seeking a full-time graphic designer for our busy, modern prepress department. The successful applicant will be skilled in the Mac environment; proficient in electronic design and layout, and have experience in commercial electronic design. Commitment to quality and service, together with a respect for Christian values and ethics is essential. For further information, contact Ray Portbury on (03) 5965 6300 or <ray.portbury@signspublishing.com.au>. **Applications in writing** should be forwarded to Production Manager, Signs Publishing Company, 3485 Warburton Highway, Warburton VIC 3799. Applications close **November 26, 2007**.

▲ **Apprentice cook—Avondale Retirement Village (Cooranbong, NSW).** Two enthusiastic apprentices with a passion for cooking are sought for our new facility commencing January 2008. You will gain experience in large-scale food preparation, a small retail food outlet, kitchen teamwork and more. Please forward your resume, marked "Apprentice cook," to Avondale Retirement Village, PO Box 105 Cooranbong NSW 2265. Applications close **December 10, 2007**.

▲ **Youth Secretary—Western Australian Conference (WA).** A proficient, qualified individual is required for the position of secretary of the Western Australian Conference's Youth Department. The successful applicant will strive to perform at a high level of excellence and bring enthusiasm, energy and professionalism to their work. Their primary role will be to provide support to the youth directors and youth department during office hours. A job description is available upon request. Forward applications, along with church membership details, to Warrick Long, Secretary Treasurer, Western Australian Conference of the SDA church, PO Box 134, Gosnells WA 6990; email <wlong@adventist.org.au>; fax (08) 9398 5164; or phone (08) 9398 7222. Applications close **November 30, 2007**.

▲ **Registrar—Mamarapha College (WA),** the church's Indigenous post-secondary training institution, is seeking a registrar. The successful applicant will be—a practising, baptised SDA member; encouraging; honest; sensitive to Indigenous people; able to manage cultural pressures and confidentiality; a team player and willing to become part of the total Mamarapha program. The job requires computer literacy, training/experience in finances, academic and library records and processing, equipment and office management. For more details see <<http://mamarapha.adventist.org.au>>. **Applications in writing** to Director, Mamarapha College, School Rd, Karragullen, WA 6111 or phone (08) 9397 7233. Applications close **December 7, 2007**.

▲ **Associate Director of Education—Curriculum—Adventist Schools Australia (ASA) (Melbourne, Vic)** is looking for a suitably qualified person to provide the necessary direction and support to ensure that the Bible curriculum in Adventist schools reflects the values and beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The applicant will also provide management and support of the particular body of practices and teaching that sets Adventist schools apart from all others. For more information, contact Dr John Hammond, National Director, Adventist Schools Australia <schools@adventist.edu.au> or 03 9871 7518. Applications in writing close **December 5, 2007**.

▲ **Program Development Manager/Coordinator (Part-time)—Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Australia** seeks a manager or coordinator (dependent on experience or qualifications) to be responsible for the funding development of existing ADRA National Program centres and programs (18 hours per week). The successful applicant will have a relevant academic qualification, 3-5 years relevant experience, research and liaison skills, experience in writing funding applications and a passion for social justice. Strong project management and communication skills are essential and the ideal candidate will be up-to-date with the latest industry trends. For further information visit <www.adra.org.au/getinvolved/careers.htm> or contact Cindy Cox on (02) 9489 5488 or email <ccox@adra.org.au>. Applications close **December 3, 2007**.

▲ **Program Manager—Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Solomon Islands** seeks applicants for a program manager role, involving managing a highly motivated team to work effectively toward project objectives. The Community Strengthening and Reconciliation project covers areas such as peace building and reconciliation, community health, small business development, improved agricultural activities, literacy training and training youth activity facilitators. The position requires relevant academic qualifications and experience in managing community programs in the development context. Strong communication skills and an ability to work with a minimum of access to high-tech facilities is a necessity. For further information, please visit <www.adra.org.au/getinvolved/careers.htm> or email <mbrown@adra.org.sb>. Send CV and a letter of motivation, along with contact details for two references via email by **December 9, 2007**.

Weddings

Armstrong—Webb. Rodney William Armstrong and Lindy Anne Webb were married on 14.10.07 at Logan Reserve, Brisbane, Qld. *Bob Possingham*

Bullas—Johanson. Nigel Brett Bullas, son of Graham and Lorraine Bullas (Lilydale, Vic), and Lynelle Jane Johanson, daughter of Peter and Margaret Johanson (Lilydale, Vic), were married on 21.10.07 at the Sebel Heritage, Chirnside Park, Vic. *Wayne Boehm*

Lee—Clarke. Andrew Milton Lee, son of Pak and Wilma Lee (Mission College, Muak Lek, Thailand), and Linley Sheree Clarke, daughter of Peter and Cheryl Clarke (Brisbane, Qld), were married on 25.6.07 in the Hillview church, Morisset, NSW. *Bruce Manners*

Advertisements

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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>.

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

Lightning Ridge church rededication. All former pastors and members welcome. Vespers—Friday night, December 14, 2007, 7 pm. Sabbath service—December 15, 2007, 10 am. Sabbath lunch provided. RSVP by December 1, 2007. Phone (02) 6829 2866 or 0412 944 771.

Missionaries' Lunch—Avondale graduation. December 1. There will be a combined lunch immediately after the church service, for missionaries, exmissionaries, families and friends who attend the Avondale graduation. Please bring a plate of food, sufficient for your family and a friend. Drinks and goodies provided. This year will highlight the role of mission boats in spreading the Gospel in the Pacific. We encourage all to give a short talk on one special highlight of your mission experience involving a mission boat. Contact Ken Boehm on (02) 4365 3033; mobile 0408 072 313 or Warren Martin on (02) 9489 5907; email <warrenjmartin@hotmail.com>.

"Living with God"—a great daily devotional with wonderful stories by David and Gaya Currie. Send to friends as presents. Special Tasmanian pictures DVD with all

Obituaries

Rogers, Edward Roy, born 17.12.1924 at Subiaco, WA; died 10.9.07 at Medowie, NSW. In 1946, he married Marjorie Duncan, who predeceased him in 1971. Roy married Hazel Webb in December 1975 at Springvale, Vic. He is survived by his children and their spouses, Kevin and Delys (Albany, WA), Gary and Leni (Medowie, NSW), Trevor and Karen (Mt Hutton, NSW), and Terry and Marcelle (Mackay, Qld); and his stepdaughter, Val Sarandon (Hobart, Tas); his stepson and his wife, Ron and Rhonda Webb (Wishart, Qld); and his many grandchildren; step-grandchildren; and his great-grandchildren. Roy was much loved by his family and church family. He always put others ahead of himself and was extremely loyal to family, church and God. He was admired for his devotion to his wife, Hazel, who was very high care over the last few years but he refused to give her into someone else's care while he felt he could cope. *Gordon Smith*

Seid, Daisy Thelma (nee Wilson), born 5.2.1918 at Portarlington, Vic; died 21.9.07 in Sunnybank Private Hospital, Qld. She married Robert (Bob) Seid, who predeceased her in 1996. She is survived by Valerie and Max Thomson (Blackbutt, Qld); and Jim Scott (Barmera, SA). Daisy was a beautiful Christian who loved the Lord and her church. We will miss her poetry, laughter and encouragement while the children will miss her stories. She rests in Jesus. *Bob Possingham, Mark Pearce*

The South Pacific Web Network:

An easy to use web management system, even for the novice.

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Convention by the Sea
National Singles Convention

Close of Applications November 30
Book Now!

Collaroy, Sydney
January 4 - 9, 2008
02 9847 3306 or jbolst@adventist.org.au

Volunteers!

Volunteers—Avondale College Church. Ten month assignments, commencing early 2008. Be part of a great pastoral team and church on Avondale College campus. For more information, contact Bruce Manners on (02) 4980 2222.

Email:
<volunteers@adventist.org.au>
For more positions, check the web on
<www.adventistvolunteers.org>

+61 2 9847 3275



orders before Christmas. \$A19.95. ABC bookshops or Adventist Resource Centre.

GVD distributes in SE Qld "Go Veg" products. Enjoy our range of vegetarian food. Contact Leslie on 0433 792 866 or email <sales@gvd.com.au>. Our products can be delivered to your home/office or can be collected by appointment from Narangba (close to big camp). Check out our website <www.gvd.com.au> for monthly specials. GVD can also assist in fundraising events.

Eastward Missionary College Training programs Feb to May, 2008. **Evangelism.** Experience the joy of bringing a person to Christ! This proven training for all members and aspiring Bible workers will teach you practical, personal evangelism techniques, door-to-door outreach, how to give Bible studies and gain decisions for Christ. Work with an experienced evan-

gelistic team in a public campaign. **Health.** Learn how to use the health message to open doors for the Gospel. Includes the following subject areas: Principles of Health, Anatomy, Physiology, Hydrotherapy, Massage, Nutrition, Natural Remedies. Practical experience in the field leads to an evangelistic program run by experienced health evangelists. Teachers include Pastor Lee Tolhurst, Pastor Allan Lindsay, Mark Roberts, Rod Bailey. For details contact <info@eastward.edu.au> or (02) 6585 8085.

Graduation flowers. Order your baskets, boxes and posies now. Flowers for all occasions. Weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, funeral tributes. Australia and worldwide. Ring Cooranbong Florist all hours on (02) 4977 2547. 5 Alton Road, Cooranbong.

Personalised CDs are ideal keepsake gifts for children. They are appropriate for new arrivals, birthdays, Christmas, dedication, recognition of achievement or an expression of love. The child's name is heard in the tracks and a message is printed on the label. There are several albums suitable for a variety of occasions. Visit <www.kidsmusiccds.com.au>. Phone for a quantity discount.

Home at Cooranbong for sale—Meyers Crescent, 3 bdr + office, ensuite, wheelchair access, 4 minute walk to shops. \$A360,000. Contact 0414 265515 or 0409 466 893. Weekends (02) 6723 7376.

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Contact Greg or Fay
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PO Box 502, Wahroonga NSW 2076

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Education has a central role in reducing poverty and providing
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Alexander Downer Budget, 2007-2008

Yes, I would like to give the gift of education this Christmas.

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 \$40 per month Boarding Student
 \$30 per month Day Student receiving a mid day meal
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Address: Postcode:

Please post your Application and sponsorship money to:

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Wauchope, NSW 2446

Asian Aid Organisation Ltd
PO Box 7090
Palmerston North, New Zealand

Credit card payments or inquiries can be made by:

Mail: PO Box 333, Wauchope, NSW 2446
Email: contact@asianaid.org.au

Phone/Fax: 61 2 6586 4250
Web site: www.asianaid.org.au



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