

# RECORD

December 22, 2007

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leadership

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*Signs* reaches  
millions

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God has time  
for us



*Children dressed up for the official opening program of the children's camp, held in Kokoda, Papua New Guinea.*



## Graduates charged to serve

## Child preacher gets kids "wild for God"

KOKODA, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

**A** 10-year-old boy from the Eastern Highlands Province of Papua New Guinea was the guest speaker for a week-long Seventh-day Adventist children's camp in October.

Jordan Wesley preached twice daily for seven days, to more than 400 children and their families at the Kokoda Children's Camp, organized by the children's ministries department of the North East Papua and Milne Bay Administrative Office.

"Jordan would be playing games with the children like everybody else but is really dynamic when he gets up and preaches," says Litiana Qiosese, associate direc-

tor of children's ministries in the South Pacific. "It is amazing what God can do and the impact parents can make."

Some children and their families walked for three days over rugged mountain ranges to attend the camp. Many children brought their non-Adventist friends along, and the 500 children of the local primary school visited the camp twice during the week.

"The highlight of the camp was on Sabbath afternoon, when children as young as five shared how God was blessing them, and that they were going back to their

*(Continued on page 5)*



# Advent

I apologise.

LOOKING THROUGH OUR EDITORIAL library here at Signs recently, I was intrigued to discover a volume titled *Writing for Adventist Magazines*, published in the 1960s. It's a topic in which I have some interest, so I dusted off the book and invested the necessary reading time.

I learnt a few things, received new perspectives on a number of aspects of writing and publishing, and was entertained by some of the now quaint projections for the future of publishing and communications.

But I was particularly struck by the following definitions of writing: "Good writing builds a bridge to the reader, a bridge from the mind of the writer to the mind he hopes his message will enter. Good Christian writing builds a bridge from heart to heart. Good Adventist writing walks across the bridge and impels the reader to prepare immediately for the second coming of Jesus."

Prompted by this formulation, I looked back through the editorial pages of RECORD over the past few years. I was surprised to discover no editorials directly on the topic of the Second Coming. I apologise.

It isn't that the topic has been absent. It has been mentioned, assumed and part of other topics that have been written upon—and has also appeared elsewhere in our publications—but perhaps our editorial omission is an example of the taken-for-grantedness or even ambivalence surrounding Jesus' promises to return. And that even when we do think on it, we struggle to grasp the certainty and reality of this climactic event.

It seems we need to put the *Advent* back into Adventist. And what better time to begin than in the season of Advent? Before Christmas became our annual festival of shopping and sacrifices to the gods of consumerism, many Christian traditions celebrated Advent—from December 1—as the beginning of the new liturgical year.

It is an appropriate time to reflect on the reality of God breaking into the history of our world. When celebrated thoughtfully, the sense of anticipation builds through the Advent season toward Christmas and the "coming"—originally, Advent calendars were about much more than a chocolate a day throughout December—reflecting the expectation that has surrounded faith in God throughout history.

To be a follower of God is to expect God to act to fulfil His promises of salvation and re-creation. That was the experience of those few who recognised Jesus for who He was. They had a vibrant expectation, a living hope based on the many Old Testament prophecies of God's imminent intervention.

In Jesus, they recognised the reality of God's action, presence and salvation. For example, when Jesus was presented at the Temple as a baby, the old man Simeon was content that his greatest hope in life had been fulfilled. "For my eyes have seen your salvation," he said, "which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel" (Luke 2:30-32\*).

We need to practice seeing God's salva-

tion and living with that kind of expectation. Perhaps the most important lesson in faithfulness to learn from the Christmas story is to expect God. Traditionally, the Advent celebrations have also included expectation of God's future acts in history. The two events are inextricably linked.

By celebrating the reality of Jesus' first coming, we point forward to His return. It is difficult to embrace the Jesus of history without at least considering His many promises to come again. And the connection between the two events was emphasised by the angels who comforted Jesus' first disciples moments after His ascension: "This *same* Jesus . . . will come back" (Acts 1:11, emphasis added).

Ultimately, both these historic God acts—the incarnation and the Second Coming—are about Jesus. That's why the writer of Hebrews describes Jesus as "the pioneer and perfecter of faith" (Hebrews 12:2). He is the foundation and the hope, the beginning and the end. When we build our lives on Him and our relationship with Him, we can live with joyful expectation and a certain hope.

That's what the *advent* in Adventist is about. Like Simeon, one day our eyes will see and our salvation will be complete.

"Oh, come. Oh come, Emmanuel!"

*\*Bible quotations are from Today's New International Version.*

**Nathan Brown**



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Our vision is to...  
**know**  
*experience*  
 and **share**  
 our hope in Jesus Christ!

# Avondale graduates charged to serve

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

Graduation at Avondale College (November 30–December 2) has reminded students of their responsibility to use education not for self-interest but in service to the community.

Dr Peter Beamish, dean of education, encouraged graduands attending the consecration service on the Lake Macquarie campus to live life meaningfully. “Remember, it’s not about you, it’s about them,” he said.

Lecturer Katherine Cooper acknowledged, during the consecration service on the Sydney campus, the spirit of service demonstrated by the graduating nursing class—students served in Kenya, Mozambique, the Philippines and Romania this year. “This class exhibits mission in action in the commitment and care they have demonstrated to others in need,” she said.

The theme of both services reflected the graduation class motto, based on a text from the biblical parable of the sheep and goats. The text, “Because you did it for the least of them . . . you did it to me” (Matthew 25:40), appears on a plaque attached to the back of a decorative key ring the graduands received as a gift from the class.

President Dr John Cox spoke of the benefit of service during his graduation service speech. “[It] not only makes a difference

in the lives of the people the students serve but in the lives of the students themselves,” he said.

Speaker Desley Scott, the state member for Woodridge in Queensland, assured graduands, “Your stand for principle, for openly and honestly revealing your values of faith, and your authentic and genuine interest in others and their issues, will open up many doors of opportunity.”

“Expect adventure on this journey with God,” she said, “but always remember everything is possible with God and no-one is beyond His reach.”

Service also featured prominently in the charge given by the pro-chair of the Avondale College Council, Dr Barry Oliver. “As graduates of Avondale, you have the unique privilege of going from this place not merely to serve self-interest but to follow the example of Jesus, and serve the community with compassion and concern,” he said.

Carole Ferch-Johnson described the “close and intimate” nature of the love of Jesus during the valedictory services on Saturday. “[His] declaration of closeness to us is one thing; He is also looking for some reciprocity.” She noted the simplicity of Jesus’



Ann Stafford

*Graduands sing the hymn, “Take my life and let it be,” as their response to valedictory services speaker Carole Ferch-Johnson’s challenge to remain close to Jesus.*

valediction. “It is His last word. He gives it first place. He says, ‘Remain in me.’”

The presentation by Avondale Foundation of a letter of guarantee for \$A300,000 by foundation president, Dr Norman Young, highlighted its role in serving the college and the importance of scholarships.

Some 266 graduands—the most since 1985—were eligible to march during the service, held in the Chan Shun Auditorium on the Lake Macquarie campus. These included an equal record number of honours students (six), the first students with an Associate Degree in Theological Studies and the first with a Certificate IV in Transport and Distribution (aviation flight operations).

—**Brenton Stacey**



◆ The festive season has started with plenty of cheer and singing at **Mountain View Adventist College (MVAC), NSW**. The annual **Carols by Candlelight** was held on December 2. It was a community event with more than **200 people** attending, including a special guest performance from the **Blacktown Adventist church choir** and

some of the finest talent from MVAC staff and students, who kept the audience well entertained. —**Fiona Lelilio**

◆ “There will be extensive **Christmas programming on Hope Channel**,” says **Calvyn Townend**, Hope Channel coordinator for the Australian Union Conference. “Christmas Day is entirely Christmas material.” Two special Christmas programs produced in the South Pacific Division will be shown over the Christmas period: “**Arnie’s Shack**”—a two-part

Christmas series, Episode 1 at 6:30 am, December 25 and Episode 2 at 6:30 am, December 26. “**The People’s Messiah**” from Avondale College is being repeated seven times, including Friday, December 21, 4 pm and also at 2 am on December 26.

◆ On September 30, **Julian Krieg**, a member of the **Carmel College church, WA**, was awarded the **Rural Achiever of the Year** at the Perth Royal Agricultural Show. Mr Krieg, former director of Agricultural

Education for the WA Department of Agriculture and Training, is now employed as a community educator by **Wheatbelt Men’s Health Inc**, a community-based organisation committed to supporting families affected by the drought and other factors impacting people in rural WA. His work involves presenting interactive lectures on health, communication and suicide awareness. The success of his program has received widespread recognition and he has presented sessions in Tasmania and Victoria.—**Morrie Krieg**

# Signs reaches millions

WARBURTON, VICTORIA

**N**oel Duffy began letterboxing Discovery Centre tracts and *Signs of the Times* magazines on July 7, 1994. Since then, he has delivered more than 1.5 million pieces of Adventist literature to houses around Australia, and is fast approaching the 2 million mark.

"I do about 300 letterboxes per day," says Mr Duffy. "That's about 600 tracts in all, and I work five days each week. Not bad for an 81-year-old codger, is it!"

In November, he finished delivering 6000 tracts in the town of Gawler in South Australia, after a stint in Victoria's Gippsland region. So far, more than 30 families have responded to the Gippsland letterboxing.

Mr Duffy also recently delivered Discovery Centre material and *Signs* magazines to a senior citizens centre. "One woman told me she was so happy to receive it and planned to subscribe," he says. "I like to promote the magazine. It's not expensive—only a bit more than \$A20 per year. People can't wait to read it."

So far in his work, Mr Duffy says he has delivered material to almost every town in Queensland, South Australia, New South Wales and Victoria—generally with positive responses.

Pastor John Gate, director of the Discov-

ery Centre, says, "Noel's done hundreds of thousands of cards, and we've had a lot of applications and students as a result—although we don't know exactly how many have gone through to baptism. He's been a great supporter of the centre and we truly appreciate that."

"People are often looking for a church that believes all of the Bible," says Mr Duffy. "I'm having a wonderful time sharing the Adventist message with them through the material our church produces."

According to Mr Duffy, *Signs* is a great way to share Adventism with people. But once people have become interested in attending church, he says, churches need to be friendly, welcoming and open to new people. "If you see a stranger in your church, go welcome them. They might just be a prodigal son or daughter. We've got to love one another, Jesus says—that's the whole nitty-gritty of this."

The "Go *Signs*, Go Gospel" campaign—an initiative of Pastor Des Hills—is also showing no signs of slowing down, as the number of *Signs* magazines delivered to homes around Australia and New Zealand passed 500,000 this month.

Some of the *Signs* Mr Duffy gives away are from the "Go *Signs*, Go Gospel" program, which aims to place one piece of Adventist literature in the hands of



Cristian Copacaneanu

Noel Duffy.

every householder in Australia and New Zealand.

Lee Dunstan, managing editor of *Signs* magazine, says, "The November issue of the magazine features Jimmy Little and has been distributed in some 20 predominantly Aboriginal communities in South Australia, Western Australia, the Northern Territory, New South Wales and Queensland—including the outback town of Oodnadatta, just about as far outback as one can go."

At the current rate, however, it will take around another 44 years to complete the "Go *Signs*" project, and Mr Dunstan emphasises the need for more sponsors and funding to complete the project.—**Adele Nash**

**For more information on the "Go Signs, Go Gospel" project, contact Lee Dunstan via <lee.dunstan@signspublishing.com.au>.**



◆ The 7th annual Sydney Adventist Hospital "Run for life" fun run was held on October 21. A record 1160 runners and walkers participated in the events. It was unseasonably hot, with the courses covering the hospital grounds, the challenging hills and picturesque streets of Wahroonga. More than \$A10,000 was raised for

new equipment in the hospital's emergency department. For the men's 10-kilometre run, **Anthony Farrugia** led from start to finish in a time of 35:53. **Angela Williams** returned to defend her title in the 10-kilometre women's event, only 8 seconds off her record of last year, in a time of 38:52. This year's race included the first "Run for life" Open Schools Challenge, sponsored by local business Chadwick First National Real Estate. "The San's Run for Life 'Open School Challenge Cup' gives young people the chance to pursue and excel in physical

pursuits" said Chadwick Agency principal, **Scott Chadwick**. —**Liesa O'Connor**

◆ On October 27, 26 people were baptised into the **Lakemba Tongan church, Sydney, NSW**, by **Pastor Sitiveni Teaua**. Another four were also baptised on November 24, bringing the total to 30. The baptisms came as a result of an evangelistic series, presented by Pastor Teaua and retired pastor, **Peni Inoke**. The theme was "Journey with Jesus through His Word" and had

a regular attendance of 100 people. The church is looking at moving in 2008, because there is not enough room in the church for worship services. —**IntraSyd**

◆ After 50 years, the **Yeppoon church, Qld**, will be moving. The church recently decided they would build a new church close to the **Capricorn Adventist Retirement Village**. The last service in the old church will be held on January 5, after which the congregation will meet in the **Keppel Coast Christian Fellowship church**, until the new

HAVE A SAFE AND BLESSED HOLIDAY SEASON

# ADRA responds to floods in PNG's Oro Province

## POPONDETTA, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Following devastating floods in the Oro Province of Papua New Guinea (PNG), the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), in partnership with local authorities and other non-government organisations, is responding with a two-phase plan.

Dr Raul Schneider, country director for ADRA Papua New Guinea (PNG), says the first response phase is currently underway. It includes the provision of K21,000 (\$A8700) for the purchase of approximately 8000 kilograms of rice, for more than 3000 affected people in and around Popondetta.

Food is an immediate need in the region, as farmers from the villages are unable to provide any due to their gardens being destroyed.

ADRA PNG is also partnering with Anglicare, and the Disaster and Response Office in Morobe and Oro Province to conduct assessments.

A Seventh-day Adventist church on the outskirts of the town of Popondetta was washed away by the devastating floods.

The Bangoho Adventist church, built

about three years ago, was destroyed, together with more than 10 homes belonging to Seventh-day Adventists in this region north of Port Moresby.

Teachers and their family members from the Adventist primary school at Inonda were also evacuated.

More than 70 people were killed, with another 55 missing as a result of the seven consecutive days of rain brought by Cyclone Guba.

Main bridges were washed away; the airport was closed with flights cancelled; and the Oro Bay Wharf closed for an indefinite period. Popondetta was initially cut off from the other districts, making it difficult for relief supplies to be delivered.

"The township of Popondetta has become somewhat of an island, with all roads coming in and out of town severed," says Pastor Benny Soga, general secretary of the North East Papua Mission. "We have not heard much from the outlying areas or if any church members have been victims of this disaster. However, there are stories coming in that many lives were lost to the raging waters."

—Melody Tan

More @ [www.adra.org.au](http://www.adra.org.au)

# Child preacher gets kids "wild for God"

(Continued from page 1)

villages to tell others what they had learnt about Jesus," says Julie Weslake, director of children's ministries in the South Pacific.

The South Pacific Division's (SPD) children's ministries department helped run the day meetings on the theme of "Wild for God," with messages, memory verses, crafts and games about God's love, His plan for their lives and the need for children to tell others about God.

The Mayor of Kokoda and member of parliament for Sohe was among the guests of honour, who attended and gave speeches at the official opening program for the camp.—Melody Tan



Ten-year-old preacher, Jordan Wesley.

church is completed. Plans have been drawn for the new church, which will be situated near the eastern gate of the retirement village. The new church will provide facilities easily accessible for the elderly and the disabled. Work on the new church is planned to start in early 2008. The **Salvation Army**, who have been using the church for some time, expressed interest in the church and accepted the purchase price. One of the neighbours, not a church member, also offered to level the block for the church, free of charge.—Ruth Bosomworth

◆ **Palmerston North church, NZ**, recently (November 4-8) held **vegetarian meetings**, presented by **Jim Brackett** from the United States. The meetings were well attended, with **105 people** regularly attending. Forty-five per cent of attendees were community members, including health professionals and chefs. Mr Brackett described the "physics" behind the benefits of the vegetarian diet, discussing elements like vitamin B12, reversing diabetes and how to understand product labels. Each evening, guests were treated to a delicious vegetarian

meal, prepared by **Mrs Brackett**. The meetings were a success, with many people registering for follow-up meetings.—**Julene Kapao-Duerksen**

◆ **Christian leaders** have responded positively to a letter from **138 Muslim scholars**, which called for a "common word" between Muslims and Christians. **Douglas Morgan**, director of the Adventist Peace Fellowship, is among the signatories of the return letter, which recognises where Christians have made mistakes in the past. There are also areas of concern and dia-

logue in the present "**war on terror**." They write, "We receive the open letter as a Muslim hand of conviviality and cooperation extended to Christians worldwide. We extend our own Christian hand in return, so that together, with all other human beings, we may live in peace and justice as we seek to love God and our neighbours." **Petrus Bahadur**, director of Adventist-Muslim Relations for the South England Conference, believes Christians as a whole—and Adventists in particular—should take a lead in promoting this peace.—**BUC Newsletter**

# New pastor celebrated by his "flock"

## COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

Amid cheering, a newly ordained pastor was lifted on to the shoulders of his "parishioners" in a celebration of his new status. Pastor Shane Roberts was ordained at Avondale College church on November 9. He is the assistant director of Watson Hall, the men's boarding residence at Avondale College.

The residents of Watson Hall were an integral part of the ordination service, and had formed an 80-voice choir for the event.

"The way they gave so much to the program, the enthusiastic singing, expressions of support and the lifting up," says Pastor Roberts. "It was amazing."

Both the outgoing and incoming South Pacific Division presidents attended and were involved, with current president Pastor Laurie Evans making comments on behalf of the division and praying. Dr Barry Oliver led the ordination prayer and welcomed Pastor Roberts to the ranks of ordained ministers.

Dr Ray Roennfeldt, dean of the college's theology faculty, presented the homily and gave the ordination charge. He encouraged Pastor Roberts to continue to be a "cheerful Christian" and "continue to show evidence of [his] relationship with Jesus Christ."

Several friends and colleagues reviewed his ministry over the years.

Pastor Roberts began his ministerial career as assistant minister at Avondale Memorial church, while studying theology at Avondale from 1995 to 1998. He had earlier served in a variety of clerical and treasury roles for Sanitarium Health Food Company and the South Pacific Division, as well as the South Australia and North New South Wales Conferences.

He married Debbie Wilkins in 1988. They had met at the college. Calls to Lord Howe Island (1999), Parramatta (2000–2002), Toongabbie (2002) and Stanmore (2003) followed, before Pastor Roberts returned to Avondale in 2004. He has also served as chaplain at Sydney Adventist College (2000 and 2003) and Auburn Adventist Primary School (2001, 2002).

People impacted by Pastor Robert's ministry surrounded the couple and the ordination party for the ordination prayer. Ministers' spouses surrounded Mrs Roberts for a prayer of blessing, led by Gaylene Heise.

"I'm mindful of the fact that I'm very fortunate to have an ordination that took on the aspects that my ordination did," says



Dr Barry Oliver congratulates Pastor Shane and Debbie Roberts following Shane's ordination at 7.28.

Pastor Roberts. "They don't always contain that connectedness to ministry with those you are ministering to and allow them to express their support and appreciation for ministry."

"Shane is so genuine and he's built a relationship with the Watson Hall 'boys,'" says the hall's director, Pastor Mark McNeill. "They hold him in the highest regard and demonstrated that during the ordination."

"There are times in your ministry when you question your calling; Friday was not one of those times," says Pastor Roberts. "The affirmation overwhelmed me."

—Bruce Manners/Kristin Thiele/Catherine Moala

◆ **New York's Roman Catholic Church, US**, is trying a novel approach to alert children to the dangers of being **sexually assaulted** by a priest, with an abuse-themed **colouring book**. "Being Friends, Being Safe, Being Catholic," was distributed earlier this year to several hundred schools in the New York area, as part of the church's **Safe Environment Program**, a spokeswoman from the city's Archdiocese said. One image in the book features a guardian angel hovering over an altar boy, with a priest lurking in the background. "For safety's sake,

a child and an adult shouldn't be alone in a closed room together," the angel counsels. The scale of child abuse by priests remained hidden in the United States for years, until the Archbishop of Boston confessed to protecting a priest he knew had sexually abused young members of his church in 2002. Since the scandal broke, US Catholic authorities have paid out close to \$US3.2 billion in damages.—AFP

◆ **A Greek Orthodox nunnery** was turned into a **marijuana** plantation by two men pos-

ing as gardeners for the elderly nuns. Acting on a tip-off, officers raided the nunnery in the village of Filiro, near the northern port city of **Thessaloniki, Greece**, and found more than **30 large cannabis plants** in the enclosed garden. "Two unknown men told the two elderly nuns in the nunnery they would like to help them with the garden, then proceeded to plant the cannabis," a police official told *Reuters*. "The nuns did not know what they were and assumed they were large, decorative plants," he said. Police did not arrest the nuns

and have launched a hunt for the culprits.—*Reuters*

◆ Students at **St Philip's Christian College, Newcastle, NSW**, have collected **780 kilograms** of tinned food to be given to the needy of Newcastle by the Newcastle City Mission. The students aimed to top last year's total of **512 kilograms**. Over the past four years, students have collected well over a tonne of canned food and this was their biggest collection yet. The collection is in support of one of the College's core values of "serving others."

IS YOUR CHURCH DOING SOMETHING EXCITING, INNOVATIVE OR INSPIRING? EMAIL [RECORD@SIGNSPUBLISHING.COM.AU](mailto:RECORD@SIGNSPUBLISHING.COM.AU)

# New leadership appointed for TPUM

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

New leadership has been chosen for the Trans-Pacific Union Mission (TPUM), located in Fiji, by the South Pacific Division (SPD) Executive Committee.

Pastor Waisea Vuniwa has been appointed as the new president of the mission and Pastor Paul Cavanagh will be the new general secretary for the region. They will begin their term early next year.

Pastor Vuniwa is a Fijian by birth and is currently the general secretary for TPUM. He is also director for the region's Public Affairs and Religious Liberty program.

He has served the church for 25 years. During this time, he has served as a pastor, theology lecturer and in various administrative positions.

Pastor Vuniwa holds a Masters in Family Life Ministries and has extensive experience in the area. He has been involved in numerous workshops and has visited the most prestigious overseas

centres of excellence in this field.

Pastor Vuniwa will be taking over from Pastor Lawrence Tanabose, who will be serving as general secretary for the SPD next year.

Pastor Paul Cavanagh was appointed to the TPUM as ministerial Association and field secretary, Adventist Volunteers Coordinator and Institute of Intercultural Understanding director in 2002.

Born in New Zealand, Pastor Cavanagh has served the Adventist Church in the Pacific for more than 30 years. He has been deputy and acting principal at Kukudu High School, Solomon Islands, and lecturer at Fulton College, Fiji. He also taught at Pacific Adventist University (PAU), Papua New Guinea, for 16 years.

He has a Science degree from Otago University and a Theology degree from Avondale College, Australia. He also has a Masters from Andrews University, USA, in Missiology and a Masters in Public Health from Loma Linda University.

—Melody Tan

More @ <http://adventist.org.au>

## Church plant conducts "drive 'n' build" for Karalundi

KOONDOOLA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

In the October school holidays, 19 young people and youth leaders from the "All Nations Community Fellowship" (the Koondoola church plant) enjoyed an adventure-filled week at Karalundi Aboriginal Education Centre, driving more than 1700 kilometres on the journey to and from the school.

The school staff were very welcoming, as the enthusiastic young people helped out in the different areas of need each morning—in the mechanic shop and main office; cleaning houses, horse stables and the kitchen; concreting slabs for houses and nurse's



The Koondoola church group.

quarters; laying tiles; and painting.

Morning and evenings were special times, as the group worshipped together and got to know one another better.

Several young people commented that they would like to attend the school.

—John Horvath

## Mission DVD to be available in four languages

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

The *Adventist Mission* DVD, which has been supplied free of charge to every church in Australia and New Zealand for the past 18 months, will now be available in four language versions.

Commencing with first quarter of 2008, the mission resource, produced by the General Conference's Office of Adventist Mission, will feature all the video stories in Spanish, Portuguese and French, along with the English version, for those churches choosing to order the multi-language version.

"Most churches will still receive the English-only version," explains Pastor Ray Coombe, director of Adventist Mission in the South Pacific, "but for those who have multi-language needs, the new resource will be available from the conference Sabbath school department."

The fourth quarter of 2007 will see the conclusion of "Mission Spotlight," which has provided Sabbath schools with an audio-visual report of offering projects for more than 35 years.

The new *Adventist Mission* DVD is proving popular with churches, and provides a selection of mission stories of varying lengths from around the world.

The 13th Sabbath offering projects for the fourth quarter of this year are located in the Southern Asia Division, where two Secondary schools and 40 churches will benefit from 25 per cent of the offering collected on December 29. —RECORD staff/Ray Coombe



The Adventist Mission DVD.

# Visiting the lands of the Bible

BY STEPHEN DAVIES, JACINDA TURNBULL-HARMAN AND EMMA WESLAKE

*In October, a group of leaders from the Papatōetoe church (NZ) toured Egypt, Jordan and Israel to visit some of the stories and locations of the Bible. The following are reflections from three of the team.*

## Opportunity of a lifetime

As we walked through the Cairo airport, I realised this was for real and, from that moment, the trip was full-on. During the next 12 days, we visited amazing places, built between 1500 and 3500 years ago. The trip closely followed a timeline from the oldest to the more recent, as we worked our way from the stories of Abraham in Genesis through to Jesus in the Gospels.

The highlights of the trip for me occurred near the middle. On our second-last day in Egypt, we came to the Sinai Peninsula and our bus took us up into the mountains to St Catherine's monastery. The next morning at 2 am, after a very short sleep, we headed off for a three-hour hike up Mount Sinai. We needed the ridiculously early start because it is far too hot to climb during the day. It was pleasant walking in the early morning and added a sense of significance to the journey.

It also helped with the feeling of being alone with God on the mountain, which was not the reality with hundreds of other Christians looking for a similar experience. However, for some brief time, I walked alone, imagining how Moses may have felt living up on this mountain for 40 days and spending that time alone with God.

I thought about how Moses heard the voice of God in the mountain and how he asked God to reveal Himself to him. I thought about the relationship Moses had with God, and how God wants to have this same friendship with every person—we included—and talk together as friends. It

was a moving moment to think that the God of the universe, who spoke this world into existence, would come down on this mountain and converse with a human being as a friend. This same God continues to converse with unworthy humans, just like me, because He desires our friendship.

Standing atop the mountain, we watched the sun rise into a perfectly clear morning. It was still, it was majestic—a significant moment with God.

The second amazing moment for me was just a few days later on the Sea of Galilee—another place where the God of the universe had been. This time, He had come as a person and lived an ordinary, yet extraordinary life for 30-something years. This was the lake where so much of His ministry on earth took place. We stood on the hillside where Jesus spoke the Sermon on the Mount, and where He talked to thousands of people and fed them with loaves and fishes. We visited small villages like Cana and Capernaum, where Jesus performed miracles and healed so many people. We saw the area where Jesus could have sat with His disciples beneath a tree and talked to them about forever.

Most of all, it was the place where He taught them to be fishers of men. Instead of living a normal life catching fish, He invited them to a higher purpose: asking people into the kingdom of heaven. Yes, this place was where the disciples received their call to ministry—not just once but several times. And to think, this call was not only to those 12 men—Jesus was inviting every person into the same gospel ministry.

On the lake, I had another special moment with God. As we approached the shore, the beach on which Jesus already had the breakfast prepared (see John 21:9), I felt perhaps as Peter did—like diving into the lake, swimming for shore and running up the beach to fall at Jesus' feet. While



Stephen Davies on the shore of Lake Galilee.

the place itself may not be that special, the picture in mind certainly is.

That was one of the great benefits of visiting these places—to have a closer connection with the stories that we've read so often.—**Stephen Davies**

## Living history

Our time in Jordan was fast and furious, with much time spent on buses, driving through the windy wilderness roads. I can totally relate to the grumblings of the Israelites as they wandered around that barren desert, negotiating rocky mountains in the scorching sun. We could've done with the cloud God provided His people back in the days of Moses. We visited Mount Nebo, and looked across the haze toward the Promised Land, with the Dead Sea, the Jordan River and Jericho in the foreground, and the mountains and valleys of Israel in the background. What must Moses have felt when it was revealed he wouldn't enter the land?

Just before crossing the Jordan River into Israel, we visited the sites where John the Baptist ministered. I was surprised at how dried up the Jordan is now. I was expecting to see a raging river but it's more like a muddy trickle. Apparently, the Israelis are using water from the Sea of Galilee for irrigation and drinking water. It's basically dried up the Jordan, which connects Galilee to the Dead Sea.

Swimming in the Dead Sea was an amazing experience, which we almost missed as the sun was going down and we were running late for our next destination. But it was worth it—even if it was just for a few minutes.

During our stay in Israel, we visited many areas where Jesus carried out His



ministry. It was both incredible and disappointing at the same time. Gaudy churches that are reconstructions of reconstructions of reconstructions, built over “traditional” sites, swarming with tourists, guides and hawkers selling their wares. Many times I had to mentally shut out the noise and try to visualise what the place would’ve looked like 2000 years ago.

But I fell in love with Old Jerusalem. The city walls, destroyed and rebuilt many times, and the ancient cobbled streets. People going about their work: rich, poor, Muslim, Orthodox Jew or Christian, with cars, trolleys or whatever method of transportation they had. Narrow alleyways leading to more markets, fruit stalls or sweet stands. The sounds of haggling, laughing, singing, chanting and calls to prayer. Children running through the narrow streets. It was a city rich in culture, with surprises around every corner.

I remember standing on the roof of what was Caiaphas’s house, looking toward the Mount of Olives. To the right was the Potter’s field, just a stone’s throw away. There, to the left of the city walls, was Gethsemane, and over the hill was Bethany, where Jesus spent a lot of time.

During our tour of Caiaphas’s quarters, we climbed down into one of the holding cells. It is believed Jesus would’ve been held overnight in that very cell, after He was betrayed by Judas and awaited trial. We stood in that stone pit, clearly able to see where the shackles would’ve attached to the walls. It was a solemn experience, reminding us once again that Jesus suffered and died so we might live.

So, are things different for me now that I’ve visited some of the biblical sites? Yes and no. It was a great opportunity and I’m glad I was convinced to go, despite my trepidation. I learnt so many things—all of which are interesting, useful and will certainly change the way I understand the Bible. However, nothing has changed as far as my understanding of God. I don’t think one needs to undertake a pilgrimage to appreciate who God is or what He’s done.

That is the beauty of it. From God delivering His people from slavery in Egypt, to His provision for their every need during their 40 years of wandering in the wilderness, to His gift of the Promised Land, God has demonstrated His love and care for His people. Then centuries later, Jesus—God’s

only Son—was born on earth and lived the perfect life that we can’t live. He died the death we deserve and ultimately—by rising again—conquered death and established salvation for humanity, forever!

I may have walked where Jesus walked but He walked the road for me, before He even knew me. For me, that was the most humbling, life-changing journey of all.  
—*Jacinda Turnbull-Harman*

## God was here!

I am not a big traveller. I’ve always felt like I lived in the most beautiful place in the world and felt no great urge to explore new horizons—a fear of flying hasn’t helped my cause much either! But when the opportunity to travel through the Middle East came up, I knew if there was ever a place worth going through the horror of 28 hours of flying for, this was it!

Travelling through the Middle East was such an amazing experience. History aside, the landscape, the climate, the food, the culture and the people were just so different from anything I have ever encountered. But what made the trip extra special was the historical and biblical significance for me as a Christian. In these places—Egypt, Jordan and Israel—God revealed Himself to humanity. It was to the people of these lands that God chose to fulfil His divine purpose, revealing His plan of salvation to the world and the entire universe. It was here that the God of everything gave the Ten Commandments and the sanctuary. Even more significantly, it was here that Emmanuel—“God with us”—God’s son, Jesus, came to dwell among us. It was in this place that God incarnate lived and breathed as one of us.

The significance for all time, for the entire universe, of all that happened in these places, is incredible!

We began our trip in Egypt. It was fascinating visiting the Pyramids, the Valley of the Kings and the many temples, which, even in their dilapidated state, revealed the magnificence of Egypt. It wasn’t hard to imagine how prosperous and powerful the Egyptians must have been in the days of Joseph and Moses.

From Egypt, we went by bus down the hot and windy road to Mount Sinai. Here, the Israelites camped and God met them with thunder and lightning, fire and

smoke, and an earthquake. It was amazing to see the place where God gave the Law to Moses, and to climb the mountain where God came to speak to His people.

On the way to Amman—the capital of Jordan and the biblical city Rabbah—we stopped off at Hesban to visit the Tel, where Andrews University had done an archaeological dig. They have discovered large water cisterns, which they think were probably the Pools of Hesban that Solomon refers to when describing the beauty of his bride in Song of Solomon 7:4.

In Israel, we spent time visiting some of the significant biblical sites around the Sea of Galilee. We visited the site where Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount and Capernaum, where it is possible to see the remains of the Synagogue where Jesus often taught the people (see Mark 1:21).

We spent several delightful days in Jerusalem. Jerusalem is situated on several mountains, including Mount Zion (the city of David) and Mount Moriah (the site of the Temple). The Bible always refers to people going up to Jerusalem (see, for example, the psalms of ascent, Psalms 120–134). It was in Jerusalem that Jesus was dedicated. It was Jerusalem that caused Jesus to weep when He gazed upon the city that failed to recognise the Messiah. It was Jerusalem where God’s own Son was crucified by His chosen people. It was in Jerusalem that the Holy Spirit was poured out on the early church. It was such a blessing to explore the city that has so much history!

We’re home. But the places we saw—especially Jerusalem—keep popping into my thoughts. It’s amazing to think that the God of the universe would love sinful, rebellious humans so much that He would want to reach out to us, speak to us, dwell among us and even sacrifice His own Son so we could live—it’s beyond comprehension!

Seeing the places where God stepped into the history of humanity has touched my life. Knowing God hasn’t just confined His interaction with humanity to one point in history encourages me, too. I may have left the Bible lands but that doesn’t mean I have left the God of the Bible. It is exciting to realise God can dwell within each of us—wherever we are in the world, wherever we are in history—when we open our hearts to receive Him as our Saviour and the Leader of our lives.—*Emma Weslake*

# God has time for us

BY ROY ADAMS

EVERY CHRISTMAS, AS I AGAIN READ the story of the Saviour's birth, I try to glean at least one new thought from the familiar narrative. And one Christmas, the point jumped out at me that *God has time for us*.

Conceivably, Jesus could have come as a fully grown person—like Adam, for instance—and in a matter of days, or weeks at the most, done whatever needed doing for our salvation. But instead, God gave Him to us for a whole generation, so to speak—to live, to experience and to suffer with us. “The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us” (John 1:14, NIV).

And He began that sojourn among us in the most inauspicious place: a manger in a stable, for we had no room for Him. No room for Him, and no time either. “He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him” (John 1:11, NASB).

## Our hurried pace

It's still happening today. No, we'd never turn Him away—not in person, anyway. But we encounter Him in the person of the poor, the homeless, the naked and all who hurt. “He comes to us as One unknown without a name, as of old, by the lakeside, He came to those men who knew Him not” (Albert Schweitzer, *The Quest of the Historical Jesus*). And we still turn our faces from Him—not necessarily because we're bad people but because we're so very busy.

But even very busy people usually make time for persons with clout—those who have titles to their names. I once had an acquaintance whose first name was Dean, who lived near one of our church's large educational institutions. He used to tell amusing stories about how red tape cleared away and doors to important people opened to him after he'd mention his first and last names together over the phone.

But the wizardry of modern technology can frustrate even that approach. In many places, it's difficult to get a real person on

the other end of the telephone line. Programmed answering machines are the order of the day. And, even when one manages to get real people on the line, nonverbal signals of hurry and impatience surface quickly. There is a tone of voice that says, “Let's get on with it. I'm very busy.”

Yes, it's a dreadfully time-conscious, clout-conscious, impersonal world in which we live. And I often wonder what all this means for hurting people seeking urgent help, for lonely people, for people in distress or for people who have nothing.

## God has time

But we count with God. Whoever we are—rich or poor, weak or powerful—we rate with Him. He has time for us. When we dial heaven, there is never a busy signal, never an answering machine. Heaven's lines are always open and God is always home—always waiting for our call.

That's the message I took from the Christmas narrative that year. It's probably not all there but I found it in the story of the shepherds. Bypassing kings and emperors, the rich and famous of this world, the intellectual luminaries of Greece, Rome and China, God came to humble shepherds, nameless and unknown, as they kept watch in the open fields. Gabriel himself, who stands in the living presence of God, appeared to them (see *The Desire of Ages*, page 780). They were the only audience for the premier performance of the most glorious anthem ever heard by mortal ears: “Glory to God in the highest”—sung by a celestial choir that stands before the King of kings! Few choirs today would not consider it a sheer waste of time to prepare an anthem for an audience of such calibre. But heaven pulled out all the stops—just for shepherds!



## I was moved

Everyone else had left for the day and the phones were silent in the *Adventist Review* office. As I reflected in solitude on the enormous implications of this aspect of the Christmas story, I found my heart strangely moved. Perhaps it was the silence of the place. Perhaps subconsciously it had to do with something that might have happened to me that week. I do not know. But the story got to me. The story of the sheer love and appreciation of God for the little people of this world—the poor, the destitute and the marginalised. Shepherds! He had time for shepherds! **R**

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**Roy Adams is associate editor of Adventist Review, based in Silver Spring, Maryland, USA.**



# Balus bilong mipela—Balus bilong Bikpela

BY ROGER MILLIST

WHEREVER THE NEW ADVENTIST Aviation Service aircraft (P2-SDB) travels throughout Papua New Guinea (PNG), it is consistently greeted with pride and thankfulness, expressed in the exclamation, “*Balus bilong mipela i kam pinis*”—“Our aircraft has come.” It is not unusual to see church members and others move around and, almost reverently, touch or kiss the tail, the wingtips and the front of the aircraft, while proudly announcing to family and community members all around, “*Dispela em i balus bilong mipela. K10 bilong mipela i stap insait*”—“This is our mission aircraft. Our contribution of 10 kina made this possible.”

For hundreds of isolated villages in the highlands and islands of PNG, the mission aircraft is their only connection with the outside world and the wider church. For these isolated communities, the aircraft represents the church and God’s love for everyone, everywhere. Every time I hear the expression, “*Balus bilong mipela*,” I am reminded of the generous support and donations from church members and the general public around the world, to make this dream a reality for

us here in PNG. I am particularly touched when a leader of another denomination or a weather-beaten village leader with a mouthful of *buai* announces that they, too, contributed to the purchase of the aircraft, then express appreciation of the help they receive from having access to the air service provided by Adventist Aviation.

Sometimes mixed emotions greet the arrival of the aircraft. Recently, the new aircraft transported the relatives and the body of a former church member back to the island of Wuvulu for burial. Wuvulu—an Adventist island more than 150 kilometres north of Wewak—has no regular air or shipping service. Mission boats once provided this vital link but they have since been sold, so it is a rare event for anyone from the church to visit this beautiful but isolated group of islands. It is 25 years since an Adventist mission aircraft visited the island, so there was great excitement at seeing “*balus bilong mipela*”—“our mission aircraft”—land on Wuvulu. In the way the phrase is spoken, you almost hear an unuttered, “The church still remembers we exist. God hasn’t forgotten about us after all.” But in all the excitement, there was

the solemn realisation that one of their *wantoks*—family members—was being brought home for burial. The mood quickly changed from excitement and praise to one of wailing and mourning.

Mission pilots live with the realities of life and death constantly. In one flight, we might carry a newborn infant home to their village, along with basic necessities such as flour, salt, cooking oil and soap. Or maybe, a pastor and his equipment needs to go out to run evangelistic meetings, conduct a baptism or dedicate a new church. The next flight we could be carrying grieving relatives and a coffin, containing the body of a village leader, back to their home village for burial. Every flight we pray with the passengers, not only for protection and safety as we fly but also for their particular circumstances.

We are reminded regularly that our new aircraft is both *balus bilong mipela* and also *balus bilong Bikpela*—God’s aircraft.

Recently, I was flying building materials for new Global Mission churches to the remote highlands of the West Sepik Province and returning to Mount Hagen with church members, to attend the West-



ern Highlands Mission jubilee celebrations. I had enjoyed good weather and favourable flying conditions all day. This trip was no different until I came to within four kilometres of my destination airstrip at Telefomin, where I was met with a black wall of heavy rain.

With high mountains all around, it is perilous to proceed in such conditions, so I turned back to the north, where bright sunshine still greeted me. After holding for a few minutes, I tried again, hoping the rain might have eased. But I was met with the same black wall and again turned back to clear conditions over Eliptamin, less than 10 kilometres to the north. This time, I decided I would land, spend the night there and try again in the morning.

I had not visited Eliptamin since I was Western Highlands Mission president more than 17 years ago, so was unsure where I would stay. On landing, I was greeted with an unusually high level of excitement, as well as the usual chorus of “*Balus bilong mipela, balus bilong mipela i kam pinis.*”

I soon discovered that the majority of my load was in fact for the Eliptamin area—not for the Telefomin area, as I had been told in Mount Hagen. I also discovered that church members had been praying earnestly all day that the plane would land at Eliptamin, saving them the arduous—and unnecessary—task of carrying tons of roofing iron and cement bags over the rugged mountain track, with an almost sheer climb and descent of more than 1000 metres on both sides. When the exhausted carriers, who had been on the top of the mountain ridge and had seen me turn back and land at their village, arrived late that evening, they hugged me and praised God for hearing their prayers.

I had prayed that God would open the weather for me to fly safely to Telefomin and had questioned why my prayer had not been answered when I had so much flying to do that week. As I listened to the expressions of thanks and appreciation that night, I was powerfully reminded that this is God’s aircraft. He had His people donate for its purchase and He guides and directs its movements each day!

We at Adventist Aviation would like to express a big thank you to every person who contributed to the purchase of “our aircraft,” which is really “God’s aircraft.” May God bless each one of you as you continue to support our ministry daily by your prayers. **R**

*Roger Millist is chief executive officer of Adventist Aviation Service, based in Goroka, Papua New Guinea.*

## Record Roo's

kids corner



Hi kids,  
God has given everybody different talents. The Bible tells us that whatever it is that we are good at, we should do it to give glory to God!

RR

### Bible Text

In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you.

– Romans 12:6 New Living Translation

### Word Search

Can you find all the different talents in the word search below?

PROPHECY	MINISTRY	TEACHING
ENCOURAGING	GIVING	LEADING
MERCY	SERVING	HELPING
HEALING		

H	L	P	H	E	L	P	I	N	G	D	L	L	Y
S	J	E	Z	R	E	W	D	L	B	O	A	X	H
E	S	V	A	E	Q	A	P	K	Z	K	Y	W	E
R	N	U	W	D	G	I	V	I	N	G	W	W	A
V	P	P	Y	K	I	M	V	M	O	V	A	V	L
I	L	Z	S	M	I	N	I	S	T	R	Y	V	I
N	S	O	I	E	K	W	G	N	W	Q	Y	X	N
G	K	R	N	P	R	O	P	H	E	C	Y	C	G
E	N	C	O	U	R	A	G	I	N	G	B	A	Q
D	X	I	M	D	Z	T	E	A	C	H	I	N	G
M	U	K	W	A	L	Q	Q	Y	L	H	M	W	T
U	K	C	M	E	R	C	Y	L	V	O	A	S	M

### Look this Up!

God gives us many more talents than just the ones mentioned in the list above. Read Exodus 35:30-35 to see what special gifts some of the Israelites were given to use for God’s glory.

## Aviation frustration

LIZ BAMFORD, QLD

How sad I was to read about the end of an era of aviation at Avondale College. What is the use of pointing out the wonders of the aviation school and the great commitment of its students, only to tell us it is all over? The reputation Adventist aviation has around the world is all the more reason to “bite the bullet” and suffer some financial losses. The Adventist Church should learn to carry some losses, simply because this is a mission field that cannot be fulfilled any other way.

This program should never be tested according to whether it makes a loss or gain—the amazing stories in the article clearly prove to me the gains far outweigh the financial losses. Money cannot be taken with us when we die but it sure can be used to further a cause well worthy of its name, Avondale College School of Aviation.

Instead of looking at aviation as a financial loss, let's consider Adventist aviation as a future investment in other's lives and as an ambassador for our church. If you must consider the dollars and cents of the project, consider it as part of our advertising budget.

DAMON ROBERTS, PNG

I currently work for Adventist Aviation Services in Papua New Guinea, after previously working for Avondale College Flying School for five years. Having such a vested interest in the current aviation work of the church, it was with great disappointment that I read of the untimely and arbitrary decision to close the flying school (“Aviation at Avondale to end,” News, November 24).

One has to ask, in a period of unprecedented growth in the aviation industry—especially the flying training sector—why are “we” closing such a successful school, which has shown amazing recovery and growth, despite being transplanted from its previous home at Cooranbong airport?

The article cites disputable financial reports of poor profits and insurance costs in particular. Perhaps it would help considerably if the church allowed the organisation to operate in accordance with industry

best practice by removing the astounding requirement to maintain a liability cover, which is 12 times greater than what any other similar aviation organisation in Australia is required to provide!

Financial issues aside, the article also states that the “strategic significance of the aviation program to the college and the church” was taken into account when making the decision. Obviously, the outcome reflects that it was not considered important enough.

One has to wonder how well it was considered when affected parties—including the flying school itself and Adventist Avia-

## In a period of unprecedented growth in the aviation industry, why are “we” closing such a successful school?

tion Services in PNG—were not consulted before the decision was made.

Fortunately, those making the decision will probably miss out on seeing the human suffering, spiritual decline and crippling of the church that takes place countrywide in PNG when an aviation service cannot be provided.

Finally, there are other departments within Avondale College that are making bigger losses than the flying school and some departments never make profits—yet have not been closed. It does not seem fair that this unique and respected organisation should be singled out for such a fatal blow.

**RESPONSE: JOHN COX, PRESIDENT, AVONDALE COLLEGE**

Avondale College is saddened by the closure of the School of Aviation. Graduates of the school have made a significant contribution to the church, and its teaching program is one of the best. However, we must face the fact that it has made heavy losses over many years, and is still doing so, despite historically high enrolment levels.

The insurance issue is one factor contributing to these losses. Because of the risk of ascending liability, the General Conference Risk Management Service requires aviation programs operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church to pay insurance premiums at United States rates, which are much higher than those paid by other

Australian flying schools. The South Pacific Division and Avondale College have appealed this requirement on the grounds that Avondale College is an incorporated entity, but without success.

The operation of the school and the possibility of its closure have been discussed with the school over several years.

The College would welcome expressions of interest from any person or group prepared to take over the operation of the school to ensure its continuance. A private organisation would not have the heavy insurance liabilities currently being carried by the school.

## No “cringing”

GRAEME DUSTOW, NSW

Thank you so much for “The cringe” (Feature, December 1), affirming the constant character of our God of love. The publication coincided with the recent early death of my wife's sister, Suzanne Johnson—a beautiful Christian family member, known throughout our region for her continuous work in caring for the loved and unloved in our society.

Some visiting her in hospital, struggling with the reality of her pain and illness, looked for God's purpose in it. Some looked for the intervention of the loving and powerful God she represented in her life.

As the article suggests, “Sin has brought changes into our world. Bad things happen. People get hurt. Gentle rain falls on both the just and the unjust—and so does hail. I believe God weeps with us as He waits for the time when He can eradicate pain once and for all.”

Sue communicated this message and her unfailing trust in her God of love to all who visited her. Even so, come Lord Jesus.

**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

▲ **Book Department Support Officer—Signs Publishing Company (Warburton, Vic).** The successful applicant for this full-time position will possess strong Microsoft Office skills, together with database experience. They will be a team player in a busy, efficient and happy workplace environment. Customer service is paramount, as is commitment to the church and its values. Flexibility and enthusiasm is essential. For more information or position description, contact Book Department manager Liz Dunstan <elizabeth.dunstan@signspublishing.com.au> or phone (03) 5965 6300. Applications close **January 31, 2008.**

▲ **Caretaker/Manager—Ankara Youth Camp (South Australia)** is situated at Walker Flat, on the banks of the Murray River. House and car supplied. Available March 2008. Expressions of interest to Garry McIver <gmciver@adventist.org.au>.

▲ **Assistant Management Accountant—Sanitarium Health Food Company (Auckland, NZ)** is seeking applicants in the management accounting field for its Supply Chain Department. Responsibilities include performance monitoring and detailed variance analysis, standard product costing, and budgeting. Also an eye for detail, together with strong analytical and Excel skills are required. Experience with standard costing and/or SAP financial system within a manufacturing environment would be advantageous. **Applications in writing** (including CV) should be forwarded to: Assistant Management Account Vacancy, Private Bag 92127 Auckland, New Zealand; fax (09) 625 4293 or email <hramu@sanitarium.co.nz>.

▲ **Assistant Accountant—Avondale College (Cooranbong, NSW)** has an exciting new part-time position for an assistant accountant in Student Finance, commencing January 2008. Preference will be given to applicants who have completed or are completing a Bachelor of Business or similar degree.

▲ **Full-time Baker/Pastry Chef/Cook**—commencing ASAP in January 2008. The successful applicant will have demonstrated experience in a busy, professional, large-volume cooking environment, with sound knowledge of food hygiene. Applicants will have a trade certificate in commercial cookery, be able to work unassisted and produce products in an efficient and timely manner in accordance with industry standards. The ability to work in a team environment is essential. Any related professional qualification is highly desirable. For more information, contact Nick Hartigan on (02) 4980 2248 or 0404 036 187.

For a job description visit <www.avondale.edu.au>. Applications, including a CV with contact details of at least 3 referees, should be forwarded to the HR Officer <www.employment@avondale.edu.au> or HR, Avondale College, PO Box 19, Cooranbong NSW 2265, (02) 4980 2284. **Applications close** January 4, 2008.

hr.adventistconnect.org



## Weddings

**Dyson—Velevski.** Michael James Dyson, son of Edward (Wayne) and Margaret Dyson (Geelong, Vic), and Nicole Ann Velevski, daughter of Nicola and Barbara Velevski (Melbourne), were married on 11.11.07 in the OF Duke, Portarlington, in a beautiful garden setting.

John O'Malley

**Healy—Wilkins.** David John Healy, son of Michael and Patricia Healy (Penrith, Sydney, NSW), and Beth Lynn Wilkins, daughter of Rob and Gill Wilkins (Breadalbane, NSW), were married on 7.10.07 in the Bowral church, surrounded by family and friends.

Murray Thackham, Tony Moala

**Goldstone—Johnstone.** Marc David Goldstone and Dianne Kay Johnstone were married on 14.10.07 in Ipswich church, Qld, surrounded by family and friends from Sydney, NZ and Mackay.

Ted White

## Obituaries

**Cross,** Margaret Elizabeth, born 21.12.1923; died in the TriCare Aged

Care facility, Jindalee, Qld. She was predeceased by her husband, Noel, in 2005. She is survived by Nola Keefer (Qld); Pam and Paul Rodgers (Christchurch, NZ); Keroli, Darrel, Annette, Sheryl and Bob. A very practical homemaker, she loved her family, and was faithful to God and her church in spite of hardships.

Ross Baines

**Fehlburg,** Christine Coral (nee Kingston), born 24.5.1914; died 13.10.07 at Glenorchy, Tas. On 29.5.1940, she married Max. She is survived by her husband; and sons, Ronald and Christopher (all of Hobart). Christine revealed her love for the Lord in caring for her family and working behind the scenes within her church community. She now rests from her illness of recent years, waiting for the day her friend and Saviour calls her.

Lindsay Wells

**Spencer,** Flora (nee Aveling), born 28.2.1913 in Adelaide, SA; died 3.5.07 in Charles Harrison Nursing Home, Cooranbong, NSW. Flora grew up with her four brothers in Kongorong, SA. She married Reginald, and had seven children before he predeceased her in 1966. In 1967, Flora moved to Bonnells Bay, NSW, and several years later to a self-care unit in Avondale Retirement Vil-

## Writers seminars

March 23, 24—Perth, WA

March 26, 27—Avondale College, NSW

March 30—Brisbane, Qld

(Similar programs at each location.)

Sponsored by Signs Publishing Company and Avondale College.

To register your interest, contact Kristel at <editorsec@signspublishing.com.au> or phone (03) 5965 6300.

## Volunteers!

**Volunteer Youth Pastor—Kingscliff, NSW.** Youth pastor needed for 12 months, commencing Feb 2008 at Kingscliff Adventist Community church. Duties include coordination of youth, teen and young adult Sabbath schools, church visitations, Bible-study groups with teens and youth, and involvement in community and outreach programs.

**Builder and Plumber—One Mission.** Needed for a trip to the Solomon Islands in January, 2008. For more information, please call Hayley on (02) 9847 3275.

**Volunteer Pastor—Glen Huon, Tas.** To commence ASAP for 12 months. Duties include visitations and evangelism to the local community, with a focus on building membership. Please contact Hayley for further information.

Email:

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

+61 2 9847 3275



lage. As her health failed, she moved to Kressville Lodge and finally to Charles Harrison Memorial Home. She will be remembered as an energetic gardener, a great correspondent, a lover of nature, and a friend to young and old.

Daron Pratt, Bert Grosser

**Tooley,** Rose Marie (nee Hamilton), born 11.10.1937 at Timaru, NZ; died 28.8.07 at Hamilton. On 4.8.1959, she married Trevor in Timaru. She was predeceased by her son, Graeme, on 7.12.05. She is survived by her husband (Hamilton); her children and their spouses, Stuart and Alison (Palmerston North), Christine and Terry Tavai (Hamilton), and Wayne (Hamilton); her grandchildren; and her eight siblings. She has been a faithful worker for the Lord, tirelessly catering for North NZ big camps and

fundraising for the church, even when her health began to fail. She was a very capable leader, who placed the needs of others above her own. She was always ready to welcome you into her home. She rests, waiting for Jesus.

Neil Thompson

**Were,** Lynton, born 18.10.1941 at Hindmarsh, SA; died 26.10.07 in Ashford Hospital, Adelaide. He is survived by his wife, Heather; his son, Wellesley (Sydney, NSW); his daughter, Shelley, and her husband, Mark (Wynn Vale, SA); his grandchildren, Adam and Emily; his father, Wilfrid, and wife, Earlene; and his sister, Raelene. Lynton was loyal to God, his family and his church, notably his service to the Prospect church in many capacities over a number of years. During his long illness, he displayed great courage and fighting spirit. At rest in Jesus.

David McKibben

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