

RECORD

June 7, 2008

In this issue

Secrets available
for the blind

French Polynesian
church plant plan

Hospitality for
dummies



New church dedicated in Victoria



Raising the flag for Anzac Day at the North New South Wales Conference's Pathfinder camporee, which was attended by more than 600 people.

NNSW Pathfinders remember Anzac Day

GRAFTON, NEW SOUTH WALES

More than 600 Pathfinders and staff converged on a property in Buccarumbi, west of Grafton, during the Anzac Day long weekend to participate in the quadrennial North New South Wales Conference Pathfinder Camporee.

The Pathfinders attending the camporee braved wet weather to participate in Anzac Day activities, including a plane fly over and flag ceremony, followed by an Anzac service led by six members of the 41st Battalion Royal NSW Regiment. During the ceremony, an official cenotaph was built and dedicated to the memory of fallen troops.

Glenn Camps has been part of the Battalion for 11 years and his family bought the Buccarumbi property 18 months ago to run events for young people. According to Mr Camps, the cenotaph will remain as a permanent feature.

Australian Union Conference youth director Pastor Tony Knight was the guest speaker for the camporee, and he encouraged the young people attending to be inspired by the Bible hero Daniel. The Daniel theme continued, with dramatic presentations about Daniel's life, a re-enactment of the Babylonian siege of Jerusalem and Daniel-themed adventure activities.—*Sharlene Guest*



A meal is the most effective way to bring people together.

Come to the table

FROM FRUIT IN THE GARDEN TO A BANQUET table in heaven, we are a people defined and refined by the times we have shared food in community.

Abraham prepared a meal for three strangers, receiving the Lord's promise of a son (see Genesis 18). It was food that brought Joseph's family back to him and one meal in particular that softened his heart (see Genesis 42-45). The children of Israel commenced and commemorated their freedom through a Passover meal (see Exodus 12).

The woman of Shunem would have never had a son born and reborn, been warned of a coming famine or had her land returned by command of the king—if she had not, first, urged Elisha to stay for a meal (see 2 Kings 4-8). Esther gained the attention of the king and saved the lives of her people through a carefully planned meal (see Esther 5).

Jesus was anointed at a meal, farewelled His disciples with a meal, asked us to remember Him with a meal, identified His resurrected self at a meal and fed His disciples before His ascension. And, ultimately, our time in heaven will begin with a meal, shared by Jesus and the redeemed: "Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding feast of the Lamb" (Revelation 19:9*).

It couldn't all be coincidence, could it? Last year, I interviewed the leadership teams of four healthy churches (see RECORD's local church profiles in 2007). Each church had a unique story, various roles in their community and specific strengths. But all held one thing in com-

mon—all four churches eat together regularly, in various ways. Soup and buns every Sabbath, small-group picnics, youth dinners, Thursday breakfast at McDonalds, soup for the homeless—the list is long. The conclusion is irrefutable: food creates and strengthens community.

One of my favourite examples of the power of a shared meal is found in the ministry of Elisha. Through an amazing course of events, the prophet traps the Aramaean army. The king of Israel, excited at his good fortune, asks Elisha if he can kill the enemy. The prophet replies, "Do not kill them. Would you kill men you have captured with your own sword or bow? Set food and water before them so that they may eat and drink and then go back to their master" (2 Kings 6:22).

The king does as advised. And the reaction of Aram's king is intriguing: he stops attacking Israel. An unwritten law—when you feed my people, your people become my people—brought peace. Perhaps this is why it is so difficult to sit down to a meal with an enemy. Eating together brings peace.

Far too often we would rather destroy our enemies than repair the relationship. During the United States Civil War, Abraham Lincoln, who had invited some former confederates to a dinner party, was challenged by an angry woman: "Mr President, these are your enemies. You shouldn't invite them to dinner, you should destroy them."

Lincoln replied, "Don't I destroy my enemies when I make them my friends?"

Once when Jesus was at a dinner party, He said to His host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or relatives, or your rich neighbours. . . . invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed" (Luke 14:12-14).

Clearly Lincoln, Elisha and Jesus knew the same God. He is a God who, through His wisdom writer, said, "If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink" (Proverbs 25:21). At least, it will nudge your enemy's heart. At most, it will destroy your enemy by creating a new friend.

As a church pastor, I started three churches on the Natural Church Development program. When each church received their results, the minimum factor was "loving relationships." Too many of our churches are broken communities, filled with broken people. No-one wants to be the first person to raise a hand and say "I'm broken." But we all like to eat.

A meal is the most effective way to bring people together—physically, emotionally and spiritually. Families, friends, small groups and churches are all strengthened when they meet at the table of food and fellowship. It's the way God made us.

Let's eat!

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

David Edgren



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

Secrets available for blind, hearing impaired

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

A senior lecturer at Avondale College, communication staff at the college, Signs Publishing Company and the South Pacific Division's Christian Services for the Blind and Hearing Impaired (CSFBHI), are working together to share a message of health and happiness with a new audience.

Dr Darren Morton is so keen to spread the Christ-centred, vibrant, living message in his book, *Seven Secrets for Feeling Fantastic*, he read for seven hours in a recording studio on the college's Lake Macquarie campus.

"Recording the book was just another way to get the message out," says Dr Morton, who lectures in health and exercise science. "The book's now more accessible to another audience."

CSFBHI will include the recording, when completed—editing is continuing—in its library. The library gives the visually and aurally impaired the opportunity to "read" books they may not have access to otherwise. It contains more than 1000 talking books but with more than 400 members, the need for additional books and readers is pressing.

"I'm looking forward with eager anticipation to Darren's book," says CSFBHI manager Les Relihan. "It is unique because

many [authors] don't send us their scripted book."

Seven Secrets is not the only book on the market, or in the CSFBHI library, demonstrating the benefits of a Christian approach to healthy living—but it is different. "It's not just a 'how to' book," says Dr Morton.

"It actually provides information about the 'why.' I've drawn on my experience as a physiologist, as a person who studies how the human body is designed to function. I did this to illustrate not just what the secrets of feeling fantastic are but also, how and why they work. That's an important distinction. Understanding makes a big difference."

"This is the first of our Signs books to be made available in this format," says Signs Publishing Company editor, Nathan Brown. "*Seven Secrets* is a book that's worth sharing and making available as widely as possible, and this is one more way to do that. So we are pleased Darren has worked with Avondale to do this."



Dr Darren Morton during recordings of his book, *Seven Secrets for Feeling Fantastic*.

Despite the time commitment, Dr Morton would record more talking books if the opportunity came again. "I'd do it again because this will help give the book—and its message—a greater influence," he says.

And the message is simple: "The world can be a negative place and many people, Christians included, are not experiencing the joy of living God desires for

them. This book helps remedy this."

Mr Brown says Signs are working on a number of initiatives toward making Dr Morton's book and message more widely available. "This is a credible, locally produced resource for our church," he says. "And we encourage local churches to consider how they might be able to share this with their community."—*Kristin Thiele/RECORD staff*

Seven Secrets for Feeling Fantastic by Dr Darren Morton is available from Adventist Book Centres.

More @ www.SevenSecretsForFeelingFantastic.com



◆ North West Christian School primary students have accepted a challenge from the Tasmanian Premier, Paul Lennon, to start reading. The challenge is to read 20 books in 20 weeks from April 21 to September 30, 2008. There are prizes and rewards for schools and students throughout the challenge. Students can keep a record of their achievements

using a bookmark barometer. The premier has chosen a booklist and the challenge requires students to read at least 15 books out of 20 from the list. The books read during this challenge can also be counted toward the MS Readathon in June.—*Natalie Winchcombe*

◆ **Correction:** The book, *Celluloid Anzacs*, by Avondale College senior lecturer Dr Daniel Reynaud ("Media interest in celluloid ANZAC study," News, May 17) is the first study of how the Anzac legend has been portrayed in

Australian film and television over 80 years. The year of production of the 20-minute silent film, *The hero of the Dardanelles*, which Dr Reynaud helped partially reconstruct, is 1915.

◆ Students from Central Coast Adventist School, NSW, had the opportunity to lead worship at the Taree Regional meetings in April. The 50 students in attendance participated as worship leaders, sang in the choir and played in the band. The day was focused on Adventist education and featured schools from with-



in the North New South Wales Conference. Dr John Hammond (National Director—Adventist Schools Australia) delivered the sermon for the day. The message he presented was entitled "When We Were Young" and explored the changes that have occurred within the Adventist Church throughout the generations.—*Brenton Luchow*

New church dedicated in Victoria

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

On April 26, the Rowville–Lysterfield Adventist church was officially opened by Dr Denis Hankinson, president of the Victorian Conference. The event also celebrated the 20th anniversary of the formation of the church, originally known as the Rowville Adventist church.

The church previously held its worship services at the Carwatha Secondary College in Noble Park (1988–89), Rowville Uniting church (1989-95) and Heany Park Primary School (1995-2007).

The new church building, which had been used as a day care centre, was discovered by church member Barry Cheswick, who was instrumental in negotiating with real estate agents and planning consultants.

More than 100 members and guests filled the church for the dedication service, as well as former members and church pastors including Pastor Peter Rollo, the church's first pastor. The Member for Aston in the Australian parliament, Chris Pearce, MP, was one of the special guests. He told those attending that local churches, not commer-



Dr Denis Hankinson, MP Chris Pearce, Karin Orpin and Pastor Barry Whelan unveil the plaque to commemorate the church's opening.

cial institutions, should be the central focus and light of communities.

In Dr Hankinson's sermon, he spoke of Solomon's prayer of dedication for the temple in 1 Kings 8:55-61, which emphasises that the people, not the building, were dedicated to God, and he encouraged church members to dedicate themselves to helping others.

Dr Hankinson, along with Karin Orpin of the Knox City Council, Mr Pearce, Pastor Barry Whelan and Pastor Rollo, unveiled a plaque to commemorate the opening of the church.—**RECORD staff/Richard Morris**

Bold long-term church planting plan for French Polynesia

PAPEETE, FRENCH POLYNESIA

The French Polynesia Mission (FPM) has embarked on a long-term plan to plant churches in each of its more than 50 atolls and islands. The mission commenced its plan in March this year, with a Vacation Bible School for the inhabitants on Aratika Atoll. The program aims to introduce children to Bible stories and encourage them to share what they learned with their parents.

"The strategy is to have trained teams visit the various islands and atolls, running activities like Vacation Bible Schools, health programs and small groups," says Cliff Doom, chief financial officer of FPM. "By the second year of constant contact, a church plant will be started."

In the third year, a "pioneer"—either a local or someone from the other islands—will then stay on location to help build and maintain a church. According to Mr Doom, the program will go on for "as long as it takes to plant a church in every atoll and island." There are at least 450 people living on each atoll or island in French Polynesia.

—**Melody Tan**

More at www.adventist.org.au



◆ **Blue Hills College**, Goonellabah, NSW, is **expanding** and will offer classes for the senior years, 11 and 12, at the beginning of 2009. **Ralph Luchow** (above left), executive director of Adventist Education for the North New South Wales Conference, presented certificates of recognition and accreditation to Blue Hills College's principal,

David Hobson (right). Over the past three years, Blue Hills has implemented some structural changes and, from 2009, will offer a full educational experience from kindergarten to Year 12. Both its primary and secondary campuses are now in a single stream.—**Lydia Bolzico**

◆ **Taupo church, NZ**, has established **Pathfinder** and **Adventurers clubs** in its effort to become a **child-friendly church**. The children take part in the worship service, singing, taking



up the church offering, saying prayers, distributing communion bread and even preaching. The first church service taken entirely by children was in 2007, with plans to make it a quarterly feature. The adults write the scripts but the children do the rest. "Children are our greatest resources, so we need to train them up," says **Rochelle Rielly**,

founder of the Taupo Pathfinder Club. The children consistently bring their friends to church. About 19 children attend Sabbath school every week, and Taupo also conducts a kids club during school holidays, attended by some **60 children**.

—**Melody Tan**

◆ After **Pastor Gary Webster's** evangelism program at the University of Technology in Lae, Papua New Guinea (see News, May 3), **75 young people** were baptised on April 19 at the private swimming pool of the vice-

NZ church members “go and tell the world”

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

Seventh-day Adventist church members in New Zealand were trained and encouraged to get active with their ministry from February through to May. More than 130 people attended 10 modules of training for the “Institute of Church Ministries,” where they were encouraged to “go and tell the world.”

“It was designed to train, equip and empower church members for active day-to-day ministry, in an attempt to prepare them to share their message with the world,” says Pastor Emile Maxi, director of church development for the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference (NZPUC).

The “Institute of Church Ministries” em-



“Institute of Church Ministries” in Nelson.



“Institute of Church Ministries” in Auckland.

braced the NZPUC’s vision to “see a spirit-filled body of believers sharing Jesus in their community” through the training course. The course was designed to assist church members to be confident in their life with Christ and in sharing it with others.

There were three training venues throughout New Zealand—the Ponsonby church, the Bishopdale church and the Nelson church.

The pastors involved in the “Institute of Church Ministries” were encouraged to use the “Empowered Church” manual from Amazing Facts to motivate their churches to “go and tell the world.”

—Ursula Borgas

Students volunteer to teach scripture

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

Avondale College students are giving up an hour of their time each week to teach Bible classes at the Cooranbong Public School.

“Scripture in schools,” organised by several education and theology students, takes place on Tuesday afternoons. The program encourages students to sing, act, pray and share stories as part of the Bible lesson.

Education lecturer Lyndon Darko oversees the program, and recognises its educational and spiritual importance. “This could be the only time these students read any of the Bible,” he says. “You’ve got to take that opportunity.”

Theresa le Roux teaches at the school and helps organise the program. She speaks of its popularity, saying, “The students can’t get enough of it. Especially the singing—it’s really good to walk through the school and hear singing everywhere.”

The Avondale students teach the Bible to three groups at the school—those in Kindergarten and Year 1, Years 2 to 4 and Years 5 and 6—and they understand the importance of building relationships with the children they teach.—Linden Chuang

More @ www.avondale.edu.au



chancellor, Dr Misty Baloiloi.
—Priscilla Elwin

◆ **Southwestern Adventist University** marked the 40th anniversary of its first black students as both “a victory and a failure,” according to university president Eric Anderson. Speaking to a special assembly, he honoured five African-American students but also

asked, “What took us so long?” Two of the original group of black students spoke to currently enrolled students. Pastor **Bill Wright**, president of the Southwest Regional Conference and (by telephone) Pastor **Jack Morris**, executive secretary of the Central States Conference, described why they chose Southwestern and how they made friends, despite racial tensions. Students saw photographs of each of the five “pioneers:” **Judy Hayes**, **Mayverlla Bell**, **Kuwasha (Ellen) Jackson**, **Pastor Wright** and **Pastor Morris**. This group was also honoured at this year’s Alumni Home-

coming, as Mr Anderson presented a special citation to Pastor Wright, now a member of the university’s governing body, who represented the group. He received loud applause from the homecoming crowd.—David Phillips

◆ **Religious freedom** proponents are hoping **Mongolia’s** first symposium on religious liberty will increase awareness and lead to a large-scale religious liberty conference next year. The May 29 symposium, co-sponsored by Mongolia’s **Council of Religious Affairs**, under the nation’s presi-

dent and the **International Religious Liberty Association**, could pave the way for the country to play host to the 3rd Asian Congress on Religious Liberty. “The government seems very positive and appreciative,” said **Glenn Mitchell**, an IRLA representative from the Adventist Church in Northern Asia. “The president has been advised of this symposium and is giving it his support.” The Northern Asian nation is home to about 2.6 million people, 50 per cent of whom are Buddhist. About 40 per cent claim no religion.—Ansel Oliver/ANN

PAs the “glue” that holds church together

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

You are the glue that holds the corporate church together across Australia,” said Pastor Chester Stanley, president of the Australian Union Conference (AUC), in addressing the first-ever Australia-wide professional development workshop for personal assistants in the AUC.

Fifty personal assistants from every conference in Australia, as well as those from the AUC and one from the Trans-Pacific Union Mission, met at the AUC offices in Melbourne from April 6 to 8 for professional growth training.

Pastor Ken Vogel, general secretary of the AUC, says, “Whatever name you wish to use—secretary, personal assistant, executive assistant, receptionist—those who support the church administrators and departmental personnel in the front line of reception are the most valuable, yet rarely publicly acknowledged, part of the Adventist Church.”

Pastor Vogel adds, “The Adventist Church in Australia and beyond should be proud of the spiritual and professional commitment of those who carry support roles.”

Guest presenters for the workshops in-



The personal assistants who attended the AUC meetings.

cluded Belinda Peuser, an experienced and awarded assistant working with the management team of the Sanitarium Health Food Company’s development and innovation department, and Christine Wignaraja and Korey Dowling, both of the South Pacific Division’s human resources department.

“It was a privilege to meet so many quality Christians during the meetings,” says Aleta Cherry, an attendee from the South Queensland Conference. “I was encouraged and inspired by their commitment to the Lord and our church. I feel very pleased our church work across Australia is being assisted by so many wonderful women.”

—RECORD staff/Ken Vogel

Sharing is caring for Woollahra church

WOOLLAHRA, NEW SOUTH WALES

Christian Ladies Who Care” is not just your ordinary group of women—they are a group from Woollahra Adventist church, who come together twice a month with the aim of using various craft skills to benefit the community.

The group was established last year, under the direction and guidance of church member Vicki Frederick. “Christian Ladies Who Care” are currently working on transforming glass jars into decorated vases for use in hospitals. These include hospitals like the Prince of Wales, St Georges, Auburn, Canterbury and St Vincent’s Hospice.

“I wanted to do it because every time we visit someone in hospital with flowers, it takes a few hours to get a bottle to put the flowers in,” says Mrs Frederick, who is “very pleased” with the response to the glass jars project.

The group is planning to make card holders to be used in places such as hospitals and offices, and making jackets for elderly people to help keep them warm this winter. They also visit people within the community.—Cyravil Cadungog

More @ www.adventist.org.au

◆ Two men prayed for **divine intervention** when their **microlight aircraft** ran out of fuel mid-flight, receiving it when they landed safely next to a “**Jesus is Lord**” sign. New Zealand pilot **Owen Wilson** told his passenger, **Grant Stubbs**, a petrol station owner, to pray as they desperately tried to find a place to land. Attempting to land in the hilly Pelorus Sound, at the top of the South Island, Mr Wilson guided the microlight down for a landing. As the plane descended, they saw they were about to land next to a sign reading “Jesus

is Lord—The Bible.” “When we saw that we started laughing,” Mr Stubbs told the *Marlborough Express*. The men had landed at **Tira Ora Lodge**, run by a Christian couple, and were greeted by the property’s animals.—*news.com.au*

◆ Since it was first published in 1979, the **New International Version (NIV)** has become the world’s most **popular modern English Bible translation**. Now it can be downloaded onto your mobile phone. **Ecumen**, a company which offers Christian content for mobile

phones, has partnered with **Hodder & Stoughton**, the UK’s leading Christian trade publisher, to make the NIV Bible available in this new format. The Bible is available for download directly to a mobile phone for only \$A15.—*ASSIST News Service*

◆ Christians in Great Britain are being challenged to donate one million hours of kindness in practical ways to their neighbours. **Hope08**, the nationwide year of grassroots mission, has set the challenge to Christians to give a million hours of kindness to the

UK this May 26 holiday. Christians and churches of all denominations and traditions will work together, undertaking practical action that meets particular needs within the local community. “Hope Where You Live” will be followed up by “Hope Explored,” a season of outreach inviting the community to explore the Christian faith in September, and there will also be “A Gift of Hope” at Christmas. Some of the activities taking place include graffiti cleaning, litter removal and painting community murals.—*ASSIST News Service*

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

Adventists respond to earthquake in China

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

Pastor Barry Oliver, president of the South Pacific Division, has made a statement in response to the May 12 earthquake in the Chinese province of Sichuan, where more than 70,000 people are dead or missing.

Pastor Oliver says, “The past weeks have been tragic for the world. First we were shocked to hear of the cyclone in Burma/Myanmar, which is believed to have claimed more than 100,000 lives. Then on Monday, an earthquake in China has killed nearly 15,000, injured approximately 26,000, and has left more than 25,000 missing or buried under the rubble.

“I do not have all the answers as to why such things happen. What I do know is Christians are called to act with concern and compassion at such times, just as we believe Jesus would.

“My heart goes out to both the people of Burma/Myanmar and China—to those who have been killed, injured or continue to be missing. This is a particularly difficult time for the whole community, especially the loved ones of those who have been affected.

“The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is on the ground in China, responding to the needs of survivors. An initial emergency response is underway, targeting areas affected by the earthquake.”

Iraqi president affirms Christian presence

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

Iraqi President Jalal Talabani invited Seventh-day Adventist church representatives and other Christian leaders to a formal dinner at his residence in April, to affirm their unique role in Iraq's historical and cultural heritage.

Baghdad church pastor, Fawzi Benjamin, represented the Adventist Church for the April 26 event.

In his after-dinner address to leaders of various churches, President Talabani

ADRA volunteers are in Dou Jiang Yan, one of the more accessible areas in the affected region, to conduct an emergency assessment.

“Based on their initial findings, the team has determined the most urgent needs of survivors are water, food, blankets, shelter and first aid medical services,” says Pastor Oliver.

“The current situation on the ground continues to be tense and uncertain, due to ongoing aftershocks and heavy rains.

“This is a difficult time. I would urge everyone to pray for the people of Burma/Myanmar and China, and also assist by donating funds, which can be directed toward the relief effort in both Burma/Myanmar and China.”

Meanwhile, Adventist leaders in China are calling for prayer following the earthquake. Several Adventist Church members have died and several are buried, said Pastor David Ng, a ministries director for the Chinese Union Mission. “Please continue to pray for those families who have suffered and those who are helping,” Pastor Ng said.

According to Pastor Ng, eight Adventist churches were destroyed and the Adventist church in the city of Chengdu has gathered limited funds to purchase food, water and other necessities to distribute to those in need.—*Melody Tan/Ansel Oliver/ANN*

More @ www.adventist.org.au or

<http://news.adventist.org>

acknowledged that the Christians were among the founding inhabitants of Iraq. He asked them to embrace their country and their history. He encouraged them not to leave Iraq in spite of the difficult situation the country is experiencing.

The president concluded his speech by declaring, “Iraq is a large garden and the Christians are the flowers in this garden. If we lose them, we lose that beautiful colour and the sweet fragrance.”—*Basim Fargo/MEU News/ANN*

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

Adventist message heads to Wallis Island for the first time

WALLIS ISLAND

The doctrines of the Seventh-day Adventist Church are now being taught on Wallis Island, where there are currently no baptised Adventist church members.

Church development director of the New Caledonia Mission, Pastor Jean-Noel Adeline, and a team of six, have been sharing about Jesus and Seventh-day Adventist beliefs to the people of Wallis Island since December last year.

Wallis Island is a small island in the Pacific Ocean. Almost all of the 10,000 inhabitants on the island are Roman Catholics. Protestant religions are rarely practised. However, the Wallis Island government granted permission to the Adventist Church to conduct evangelistic meetings last year.

At its peak, there were 65 people attending the meetings, which were held five evenings a week. There are now 45 regular attendees to the meetings. According to Pastor Adeline, the group is “starving for the gospel.”

Apart from attending the meetings, the group do their own Bible studies from Adventist Discovery Centre's “Discover” Bible course, which has been translated into French. They also meet regularly for games and other activities.

Although Pastor Adeline originally planned to be on Wallis Island for three months, he will now stay for at least a year. “We plan to have our first baptisms in June and will continue to nurture them,” says Pastor Adeline. “My vision is to make disciples, to help them know Christ and his love, so they in turn are able to share that with others.

Pastor Adeline also plans to plant an Adventist Church on Wallis Island.

A prior outreach effort to Wallis Island was conducted in 1967 by the Samoa Mission but was unsuccessful, as people at the time were unreceptive to the Adventist message.—*Melody Tan*

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

The great (co)mission

BY JARROD STACKELROTH

FOR 2000 YEARS, THE GREAT COMMISSION has been carried through tropical jungles, over blazing deserts and across vast oceans. Yet there is still more work to be done, both at home and overseas. Pastor Homer Trecartin, planning director for the General Conference's Office of Adventist Mission, visited Australia recently and talked with RECORD about the importance of mission.

How big is the task of reaching the world with the gospel message?

In Australia, there are 28 churches or companies for every million people. However, the world average is only eight churches or companies per million. Massive areas in the Middle East have no Adventists. These countries are unreached. Yet even in developed countries, there are large populations of unreached people. There are 118 people groups around the world of more than 100,000 people each that don't have a single Christian among them.

What progress is Adventist Mission making with these numbers?

There are developments. When Global Mission formed 20 years ago, there were no members in Cambodia—now there are more than 6000. There were also none in Mongolia. Now there are more than 1000.

These are exciting examples but we have to remind ourselves that in those 20 years, the unreached population of Australia has grown by 4 million. Around the world, there are 2.1 billion more unreached people than there were 20 years ago. So while some of the figures are exciting, others are just staggering. There is a tension between wanting and needing to rejoice over what God has already done, and recognising the work is not yet done. We still have a lot of people to tell.

What sort of unreached people groups are there in the South Pacific Division?

Recent research in *Evangelical Missions Quarterly* shows that three-quarters of the

Buddhists, Muslims and Hindus living in Australia don't know a single Christian. There are almost 200,000 Vietnamese people who could be reached. In Papua New Guinea, there are 550 churches for every million people, making it the most entered country in the world. Compare that with 28 churches per million, like in Australia, and you have to ask, "Where is the mission field?"

There are a number of countries in the world where there is one Adventist to every nine or 10 people. But even in these countries, 90 per cent of the population still hasn't been reached.

Do we still need traditional missionaries?

Change is affecting our world—globalisation is affecting it and the issue is not whether various cultures and people groups will change but who will be the change agent? Will it be sailors looking for women? Merchants willing to exploit the people and make a fast buck? Or is it going to be somebody who comes in and may not do everything right but really loves the people, and wants to help make a difference in their life?

Missionaries do make mistakes but as a church, we have developed a strong training program for missionaries. It does a lot to help prepare missionaries for the place they are going. Some areas have no local Christians, so outsiders have to come in. And we are a world church. If the church only has local teachers, pastors and administrators, there is no world view—we become ingrown and develop strange characteristics. We need all viewpoints, habit patterns and cultures blended together to really reflect His image to the world.

What sort of skills do missionaries need and what is the focus for Adventist Mission's training schools?

The schools are helping to sensitise missionaries to different world views. Our missionaries go through a series of exercises and examples that have them thinking about how they would react in different situa-



Pastor Homer Trecartin.

tions. Something that offends somebody will close the door, so we have to sensitise them to watch what's happening around them, talk to people, listen and find a friend that can tell them what went wrong. We are not teaching them everything they need to know—we are trying to teach them how to learn what they need to know when they get there.

What is the role of the Global Mission study centres?

They study and experiment, focusing on ways of reaching people groups we have not done well reaching over the years. They look at what is biblically wrong in that culture and what is maybe not wrong, just different. In the past we have gone in and said, "You need to wear a suit and a tie, sit in a pew and sing an English hymn that has been translated into your language and doesn't really fit." This is not what it really means to worship God. We are trying to be more open to look at what is a biblical requirement. The biggest thing the study centres are finding is friendship opens doors.

How is Adventist Mission funded?

Global Missions receives \$US3.8 million a year for projects. The money comes from the annual sacrifice offering and from donations—mostly from North America. Fifteen years ago when they set up Global Mission, the church had just sold Loma Linda Foods in California and set up an

endowment fund. It pays everything to do with operating the office, so not one dollar of donations or offerings goes to administration.

What is the “Tell the world” program?

“Tell the world” was adopted at the last General Conference session. It is a focus, to say: we need to get our own members reading the Bible again; they need to be involved in community service; they need to get to know their neighbours; and they need to be involved in sharing the gospel with others. It also sets a goal of planting 20,000 churches over five years. I think we’ll be over that.

What should people do who are interested in being missionaries overseas?

They need to be praying God will direct them. They should start learning a language and go to our website. It has links that say “get involved, be a missionary.” We have a “tentmaker” program, where people live and work normally in another country, like Paul did (see Acts 18:3). But they are a Christian presence in that country. Who knows what the Lord will open up?

How can we be missionaries?

The important thing in any setting is to make friends with the people around you. If we don’t reach out to our neighbours, nobody will. If we get to know them, when they have the right setting in their life, there will be a chance to talk about spiritual things. Few people are going to come and ask us if we’re not their friend.

Start praying for the people around you. Pick out the houses around you and start praying for them. Find a way to learn your neighbour’s name. Have a birthday party where you can invite your neighbours to your place or talk over the fence for a few minutes. Find a hobby they have or go help them with their car when you see them struggling. As you are praying, I think God will open a way to touch the lives of your neighbours. It begins to mushroom from there. God will place you in the right place at the right time. **R**

For more information, visit <www.AdventistMission.org>.

Jarrod Stackelroth is an editorial assistant for RECORD.

Challenges of growth

BY PATRICE ALLET

NEW CALEDONIA HAS BEEN CONSIDERED a difficult field because of its presence in a strong French secular and materialistic society, in which atheism and agnosticism is epidemic. Our mission has also faced serious resistance from the tribal Melanesian setting where authorisation for evangelism has to go through a long bureaucratic process of tribal hierarchy.

But today, Noumea is a fast-growing city and we are witnessing an historic religious awakening. Meetings with Protestant pastors last year confirmed that not only is secular Noumea finally opening up to the gospel, other rural and tribal areas are also responding positively.

Some interesting breakthroughs can be noted, like openings with the Adventist Reform Movement—which led to the rebaptism of the wife and daughter of one of the main leaders—but further negotiations with other groups have been difficult. We celebrated the conversion of an evangelical pastor with 20 members from Wallis and Futuna Islands, who expressed the desire to work among their people. Pentecostal ministers coming to us for clarification on Sabbath keeping has been another significant breakthrough. One of them has provided powerful support to our evangelistic series in Mare.

But the shortage of means and the lack of trained church leaders, especially in rural areas, is making the job of follow-up quite difficult. Short term mission work from Noumea has demonstrated good potential for growth in the north, the east and the islands. We have a huge task before us. Requests for our message are coming from many regions, which we can’t satisfy. The long distances between the regions neces-

sitate more on-site trained staff for quality pastoral work. We urgently need at least two new pastors: one ordained minister for Noumea church and another for our young people on Mare Island.

The growth of New Caledonia Mission seems to be well underway, and we have more than 1000 names of people who have come to at least one meeting of our evangelistic series. We may have more than 200 people who have made a decision for the Lord but are still working out some lifestyle problems.

But there are still challenges to address for our growth to continue:

1. Intensive training of new members for leadership. This is urgently needed to keep the momentum of reaping going. Demands on the pastoral staff has affected the retention and nurture of some of our new members.

2. Building new churches in the south to meet the challenges of church planting in an area where government safety, noise, urban development and parking regulation gives limited possibilities for house groups to develop.

3. With the growth of our youth population committing their lives to the Lord, we urgently need a full-time youth specialist.

4. Campmeeting tents are needed to house evangelistic efforts in rural and tribal areas.

Thank you for your support of the Pacific Islands Advancement Offering. This will help us begin to overcome these challenges and make the most of the opportunities God is giving us in New Caledonia. **R**

Patrice Allet is president of the New Caledonia Mission.

**Pacific Islands Advancement
Offering—June 21**

That we may die with Him

BY CLARENCE B O'NEILL

"Then Thomas (called Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him'" (John 11:16, NIV).

THESE WORDS OF THOMAS SEEM SO pessimistic but they contain a wealth of truth. To die with Jesus is the prerequisite for a healthy and vigorous spiritual life—but our carnal natures die hard. We often try to suppress our tendencies to evil, not giving a thought to the necessity of a death experience.

The new-birth experience of baptism should be encouraged and nurtured in every new believer so the new believers among us in every church are conscious of the collective love and care of their new spiritual family.

All candidates for the family of God are instructed as to the symbolic meaning of baptism by immersion—of the death, burial and resurrection experience—but too often come out of the water with the grave clothes of this world still on.

Although unaware of it, Thomas had encouraged his brethren to accompany him to the greatest miracle ever to happen in the presence of humankind—the raising of Lazarus. How ignorant they were and how ignorant we are of the wonderful miracles God can perform. Our God waits to perform deeds of omnipotence, through humble, willing instruments of humanity, if we allow a heavenly purging of all that is selfish and die to the world.

And so our long-suffering Saviour leads those doubting, quarrelling men to a scene in Bethany, described in John 11, where first Martha, then Mary, gently rebuke the Lifegiver for not being there when He was needed.

"Show me where you have laid him," He says, as though not already aware of where His earthly friend had been laid to rest.

After the removal of the stone at the entrance, Jesus calls Lazarus out of the tomb of death. Lazarus obeys his Lord, as he did in life, and comes forth, bound, hands and feet, in the garb of death. Jesus tells those who were there to "loose him, and let him

go" (see John 11:44)—a valuable lesson for every born-again Christian.

The grave clothes of our carnal nature are to be removed as we begin our walk into newness of life. Too often, the grave clothes of our old habits and practices still remain. Too often, we sneak back into the tomb to partake in the practices of death, and our new birth experience is blighted by our past evil.

Thomas spoke more of a truth than he realised when he said, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him." We, too, are to take up our cross, and die to the world if we are to be the loving and lovable Christians He intends us to be.

A minister friend of mine told me that one evening he received an urgent call to an unknown address. He rushed out to the

Too often, we sneak back into the tomb to partake in the practices of death.

car and sped off into the night, not knowing what to expect.

When he arrived at the address, he found the house in darkness. He dutifully marched up the side entrance, only to be confronted by a large, vicious dog. He retreated to his car, tempted to return home until two words seemed to explode in his brain—*Go back!*

So he tried again. Making sure of stealth, he crept up the other side of the house and arrived at a dark back entrance. Upon knocking, the door burst open to a dimly lit hallway and a young, dishevelled man said, "Pastor, thank God you came."

The man began to tell him of a happy Christian home, with loving parents and church-school education but had been fatally attracted to the ways of the world through bad company.

The pastor listened carefully and sympathetically as Joe told his sad and sordid

story, then asked Joe if he still believed in prayer. The pastor suggested God's help was needed here. Joe agreed, so the pastor asked him to bring out and spread on the floor between them all the things in his life he thought shouldn't be there.

The minister was amazed at the varied collection of unsavoury and negative items Joe placed on the floor. He said, "Joe, are you sure you want to make such a surrender?" Joe said, "There's one more thing" and he went to his room and brought out a hand gun.

"When you knocked on my door, I was holding that thing to my head, about to end it all," he said.

What a meaningful time of prayer the pastor and Joe shared that night. That complete surrender was a new beginning for Joe.

Paul admonishes us to die daily (see 1 Corinthians 15:31). There is no room for self-sufficiency in the characters that will eventually fit us for heaven.

In a letter written in 1900, Ellen White says, "Everything good in men and women is the fruit of the working of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit teaches us to reveal righteousness in our lives. The greatest work that can be done in our world is to glorify God by living the character of Christ. God will make perfect, only those who will die to self, for those who are willing to do this can say, 'I live, yet not I but Christ liveth in me.'"

Complete freedom from all that is of the world can be ours if we will allow the disrobing of those old grave clothes of selfishness and death that still cling to us, and walk in newness of life—the life our precious Saviour paid for with His own blood at Calvary.

Yield to God, like Joe did on that night of surrender and deliverance. Come out of the old waste places into God's love and peace. **R**

Clarence B O'Neill is a retired pastor, who writes from Caloundra, Queensland.



Hospitality for dummies

BY ROCHELLE MELVILLE

IT ISN'T THAT I CAN'T COOK. ANYONE can cook—even my seven year old can cook toast—I just really don't enjoy it. My dilemma is I love having people over, and I especially love to sit around with good food and talk, yet I wish I had a genie that would pop out of my saucepan and cook up a storm.

I am not queen of the hospitality train—I mostly feel like I am trying to clamber onto the dining car as it leaves the platform—but I am lucky enough to be married to a man who will eat anything and everything I cook, even brussels sprouts. I have come a long way since our dating years, when he was a three-meal-a-day carnivore and I was trying to wean him onto vegetarian pastures. I learned mock fish tastes and looks nothing like fish to a carnivore. I learned that while he may have feigned interest in my tofu dishes, behind my back he was saying, “Tasteless, aromaless, flavourless—Uhhk!!!”

In my bid to be hospitable, I have served many disastrous meals. I have served half-cooked rice at 2 pm—served uncooked out of sheer desperation, as the pot I was cooking in was too wide for my tiny student-funded hotplates, and it had been on the stove 40 minutes and still wouldn't cook.

I have also served the same meal six times to the same guest, because it was my standard Sabbath entertaining dish. I found out later she loves cooking and does a fantastic job in the kitchen, so she definitely wasn't coming over for the food.

I have put a lasagne in the oven and, in a fit of culinary amnesia, went out shopping. I

Due to overwhelming evidence, I am forced to conclude that hospitality is not about food, it's about people.

only remembered my error as I turned into my street two hours later. I had mental images of fire trucks and smoke still billowing out my windows as my guests arrived half an hour later. The lasagne was very dry but, with no time to redo the meal, I served it with a smile and got my husband to provide witty conversation. I figured if they were looking at my smile and engaging in

scintillating conversation, they might not notice the charred edges.

So due to overwhelming evidence, I am forced to conclude that hospitality is not about food, it's about people. It is not *cordon bleu* cooking but meaningful conversation and an open heart.

Some time ago, my family and I visited a little church in Queensland. We met a quiet couple who stood out because they seemed to be the only young couple there. Our families latched onto each other immediately and got talking. One thing led to another and, to the shock and ill-concealed horror of the wife, the husband insisted on inviting us for lunch. I watched her squirm but she couldn't find it in herself to un-invite us.

As we followed them to their house, we waited discreetly in the car for a polite amount of time so they could get organised—she may have spent most of the time berating her husband. When we entered the door, the wife couldn't stop apologising for the “creative” interior decorating her toddlers had done. As I removed a puzzle piece from where I had sat, my husband said, “We haven't come to visit your house, we've come to visit you.” They served us obviously watered-down soup and ordi-

nary bread. But that afternoon is one I will never forget, because the hands that prepared the food and the mouth that spoke the invitation were 100 per cent pure selflessness, and we really enjoyed their company.

I have seen the most amazing spiritual growth occur when we open up our home for meals and make it a place where real conversations happen. My husband and I often say to our guests, "This is a safe place. This is a place where you can say whatever you like. This is a place where you can be yourself. This is a place where you can ask any question you like."

So from one hospitality dummy to any others out there: do it anyway! I believe hospitality is underestimated and under-utilised in ministry. I don't believe God lets us off the hook of creating community through having people into our home because we "cannot cook" or our house is "too small."

We have entertained in a dining room where the walls were permanently stained with watermarks and mould, which took us nearly four years to get the time and money to renovate. Yes, I was a bit embarrassed and self-conscious. But if people come into our

Why not team up with someone who has something you lack, such as time, location or confidence?

home and turn their nose up at the stray hair on our bathroom floor, our mismatched crockery or our old couch, they miss out on an opportunity to get to know my family, and the friendship and encouragement we can offer.

Just to clarify: I don't mean don't make an effort when you entertain. I simply mean don't let anything stop you. Don't let another week pass feeling lonely or disconnected, find someone to bless by inviting them into your home. Don't wait until the toddlers grow up or you can afford to buy everything gourmet.

Don't let the blessing of hospitality get away. Grab it with both hands and wrestle with why you can't possibly entertain. Make a list of reasons why you "can't." Pray for understanding and the ability to solve every "can't."

Make a step-by-step plan to begin entertaining within a week. Why not team up with someone who has something you lack, such as time, location or confidence?

Find an excuse to invite a couple of people to help you celebrate an event: birthday, house-warming, first day of summer or make up an event. Our family has been involved in an annual "chocolate night" for a few years now, where everything served is chocolate. Now who can resist an invitation to that?

Hospitality can be cutting-edge ministry if we are purposeful and prayerful. Be bold for Christ and be prepared for bold results. Let's stop apologising and just be ourselves, for God created us in His image and, therefore, we are the Chef's Special and He delights in us.

It isn't about us—it's about Him. **R**

Rochelle Melville is currently travelling around Australia but is based in Cooranbong, New South Wales.

Record Roo



Hi kids!
Do you like your name? What would you think if you had to change it? The Bible tells us in Genesis 17:5 that God changed Abram's name - when he was 99 years old!

Bible Text

"No longer shall your _____ be called _____, but your name shall be _____; for I have made you a _____ of many _____."
Genesis 17:5 NKJV

Match Up

In Bible times, names were very meaningful. The name Abraham meant "father of many." Can you match up the following names to their meanings?

Abraham	Yahweh is glory
Daniel	Star
David	God is my judge
Elijah	Beloved
Esther	Father of many
Isaac	Deliverer
Jochebed	Companion
Moses	Laughter
Ruth	My God is Yahweh

Word Search

Can you find the names from the list above in the puzzle?

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

Answers: Abraham - father of many, Daniel - God is my judge, David - beloved, Elijah - my God is Yahweh, Esther - star, Isaac - laughter, Jochebed - Yahweh is glory, Moses - deliverer, Ruth - companion

Plea for pledge

JOY BUTLER, DIRECTOR, ADVENTIST WOMEN'S MINISTRIES, SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION

In response to "Bring back the pledge" (Letters, May 10), I wish to add my voice to this plea. There are young and older people still signing "the pledge" to abstain from drugs, alcohol and tobacco in some Adventist churches, and we would do well to make this a priority in *all* our churches. Just do it.

But I also wish to state, in apparent opposition to this letter, we *can* help influence public opinion and government regulation in relation to the availability and advertising of alcohol. The Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU)—now called Drug Free Australia Lifestyles—continues to invite Christians to join with them to make a difference in Australia. These courageous and spirited women still speak to government authorities at all levels and help see changes happen.

For the historical background and guidelines for Adventists and alcohol, we can refer to many pages of information and websites, including the book *Temperance* (pages 222-226), where WCTU and the Adventist church were encouraged to work together. Many women in the Adventist church around the world still do this. If more women wish to be part of this mighty movement to protect their children, contact Adventist Women's Ministries or <drugfree@net2000.com.au>.

Church of ungrace?

NAME SUPPLIED

In response to Dr Oliver's question, "Grace . . . in the church?" (Feature, May 3): honestly, I respond tainted with pain, "No, I have not known the church to be a place of grace."

I believed our church to be a place of grace—until the day I needed grace extended toward me. Catapulted into the reality of the condition of the church, my rose-coloured glasses were flung off and I did not like the reality I saw. The "brethren" ensured no safe place for me wherever I turned. I was devastated that I was actually judged and condemned by my loving

church. I still bear the scars.

Now, sadly, I have no church family I can say I belong to. Many say this is my choice. I say "I was left with no choice."

A new phrase comes to mind: spiritual abuse. The lack of grace in the church has felt like a form of violence toward me. Does one ever fully recover from exposure to violence?

It has more to do with how much faith we have than how much money we have.

churches would be willing to embark on media outreach, as well as other building ventures aimed at growing stronger churches. A new "seed fund," along with congregational representation, could help "unleash the potential of the local church" to reach out to its community through radio and otherwise, thereby furthering the gospel commission.

TAMMIE SPERRING, QLD

It saddens me to hear Adventist leaders and churches discussing finances, or the lack thereof, when considering projects and other undertakings. Money should never be an issue in decision making. Is not the ultimate CEO of the church not only the Creator of the Universe but also Ruler and King? He has access to any and every resource we need. It should never be "can we afford it?" but "will this more effectively proclaim or grow His Kingdom?" and "is this what God would want us to do?" It has more to do with how much faith we have than how much money we have.

Anyone can build a church building. It is little more difficult than building a house. We should not be talking about building churches, we should be discussing how to grow churches. They are not sticks and stones; they are living, breathing, God-inspired dwellings. We can have a mature, Spirit-filled, God-centred church taking place under an old tin roof in the middle of the outback, while we have a pessimistic, soul-destroying church within the walls of the greatest, most expensive cathedral.

Every Adventist should be thinking more about bathing souls with the love of Christ, and less about the colour of the new blinds or carpet. We should care for our church buildings and keep them maintained. But it is more important to take care of the church people and keep our hearts maintained.

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.

Well said

BRIAN HALES, QLD

I was most impressed with the article "Hi" (Feature, May 3), which flushed out a serious problem and expressed it beautifully. I, too, recently became aware of this flaw in my worship and prayer life, and am presently endeavouring to remedy same. It isn't easy.

For those who would like some back up on this article, I recommend "The Deadly Peril of Formalism" in the book *Christ Our Righteousness* by A G Daniels, available from all Adventist Book Centres.

Local advocates

PHILIP SMITH, WA

"Acting locally" (Letters, May 10) was an insightful letter. I couldn't agree more. Local churches need empowering at the grassroots by creating a structure that cares for churches' collective and individual needs, right up the "chain of command."

In pursuing radio ministry for churches, I have found they are sometimes reluctant to engage with the local conference to solicit support for such a communications project for their communities. With a price tag of a few thousand dollars, a radio station venture is a financial challenge for many churches—particularly those in rural towns. Conference communications directors are often wearing other organisational "hats" and, regrettably, are not always able to actively help churches realise their media ambitions.

If churches had an officer advocating their congregational interests at the highest levels in our church organisation, more

Positions vacant

▲ **Internship positions**—*Adventist Media Network (Wahroonga, NSW)*, is offering two six-month internships in the area of video production and public relations. Applicants should demonstrate they identify with the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in using media to share messages of hope. The successful applicants will most likely be university students about to complete their courses, who would like to take six months leave to gain some professional experience in the workplace. Adventist Media will provide \$A700 per month living and travel allowance, and will provide a bursary to assist with university fees and expenses to the value of \$A6000. The internship period is negotiable but will typically run from July to December, 2008. For further information, write to David Gibbons at <davidgibbons@adventistmedia.org.au>. Applications close **June 20, 2008**.

▲ **Receptionist/Administrative Assistant Contract Position**—*Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Australia (Wahroonga, NSW)*, is seeking a receptionist/administrative professional to provide a welcoming environment for guests and staff, care for incoming and outgoing communications, and provide administrative support to the agency for 28 hours a week. This four-month contract position requires excellent telephone skills, strong organisational ability, initiative and the ability to provide quality customer service. For further information, please visit the position vacant section of the SPD website at <<http://hr.adventistconnect.org/>> or contact Cindy Cox on (02) 9489 5488. Applications in writing should be forwarded to Human Resources, ADRA Australia, PO Box 129, Wahroonga NSW 2076; or email <ccox@adra.org.au>. Applications close **June 17, 2008**.

For more employment options go to
hr.adventistconnect.org



Anniversary

Price, Bruce and Fay (nee Gallop) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on 20.4.08. It was exactly 50 years since Pastor Herb White married the couple in the Mt Lawley church, WA. The celebrations were held near their home in the Pelican Waters Crowne Plaza Resort, Caloundra, Qld, where they were joined by many friends and family. The entire families of their four children, David, Kymmarrie (Tempest), Craig and Dean were able to be with them for the happy occasion. They are enjoying an active retirement on Queensland's Sunshine Coast.

Weddings

Martin—*Sardes*. Jean Bruno Martin, son of Jean Christian and Marie Jozique Martin (Mauritius), and Nathalie Isabelle Griselda Sardes, daughter of Clifford and Nancy Sardes (Vic), were married on 20.4.08 in Dandenong.

Stenio Gungadoo

Prestage—*Wyss*. Mark Anthony Prestage, son of Trevor and Imelda Prestage (Mandurah, WA), and Heidi Mary Wyss, daughter of Peter and Diana Wyss (Essex, England), were married on 3.5.08 at the Mullaloo Surf Club, Mullaloo, WA.

Lynn Burton

Obituaries

Anderton, Eva (Eve) Louise (nee Dyer), born 29.4.1935 at Mount Hawthorn, WA; died 29.4.08 in the Kalamunda Hospital. On 13.6.1959, she married Gerry Anderton. She is survived by her husband (Swan View); and her children, Stephen, Donald, Phillip, James, Elizabeth, Jennifer, David and Peter (all of WA); her 20 grandchildren; and

her one great-grandchild. Eve was one of the nicest people you could ever hope to meet. She was a quiet, reserved, caring, gentle person with a beautiful smile. She will be sorely missed by Gerry and family. We look forward to meeting her again on the Resurrection morning.

*Lynn Burton, Ainslie Moloney
Ethel Savers*

Blades, Alice Gwendoline (Gwen) (nee Thomson), born 8.4.1926 at Coorabong, NSW; died 20.4.08 in Gosford Hospital, after having a stroke and never recovering. On 3.3.1949, she married James Stopford Blades. She is survived by her husband (Coorabong); her daughters, Julie, Debra and Fiona; her grandsons, Shannon and Thomas; and her great-grandson, Jaxon. Gwen was well known in the community, being part of an historic pioneering Adventist family in Coorabong. She loved music, and was generous, caring and hard working. She was buried in the Avondale Cemetery.

G Rappell, L Hawkes

Cramer, Monique Victoria, born 14.10.1988 in Melbourne, Vic; died 8.5.08 in Brisbane, Qld. She is survived by her father, Fred (Brisbane); and her sisters, Wendy (Sydney, NSW) and Odette Grossmith (Sydney). Monique was a vibrant, happy 19 year old who was tragically killed in an accident. She was actively involved in her netball and trailer-boat sailing clubs. She loved life and will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

R E Possingham

Hort, Joy (nee Webb), born 19.3.1939 at Jarrahdale, WA; died 17.4.08 in the Kalamunda Hospital. On 16.6.1958, she married Eric Hort. She was predeceased by her son, Bruce, in 2002. She is survived by her husband (Swan View); her children, Will, Donald, Murray and Andrew (all of Perth); and her 15

Volunteers!

Builder—*Fiji*. Builders are needed for a fly'n'build trip to Fiji, from December 3 to 23, 2008. For more information, please call Hayley on (02) 9847 3275.

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

+61 2 9847 3275



grandchildren. Joy was a genuinely loving and caring person, who had a deep appreciation and love for God. Even in the face of adversity during the final days of her life, she never complained but rather praised God for His goodness. She believed with all her heart that Christ would grant her everlasting life at His soon return.

Lynn Burton

Howse, Ronald Walter, born 8.11.1917 in Tahiti, where his parents were missionaries; died 11.5.08 at Coorabong, NSW. His wife, Joy, predeceased him four years ago. He is survived by his three children, Desiree and Ross Osmond (Auckland, NZ), Tony and Margie (Sunshine, NSW), and Geoffrey Howse (Morisset); his three grandchildren; and his five great-grandchildren. He spent most of his working life in the press with the Sanitarium Health Food Factory at Coorabong. He was a loving family man and church member who will be sadly missed. He looked forward to the return of Jesus with joyful anticipation.

Claude D Judd, Rex Cobbin

Mallet, Eliud (Lilo), born 16.8.1926 on Mauritius; died 14.2.08 in the Trewint Nursing Home, Noble Park, Vic. He is survived by his wife, Elsie; his three children, Dorine, Sam and Connie; and his only grandson, Nathan. He migrated to Australia in 1968, and was a Sabbath-school teacher, lay preacher and head elder at the Dandenong church. The funeral service was held in the Dandenong church on 18.2.08, after which he was cremated in the Springvale Botanical Cemetery. We look forward to the great Resurrection morning.

Stenio Gungadoo

O'Brien, James, born 30.9.1927 in the Liverpool Hospital, England, UK; died 3.4.08 in the Redcliffe Hospital, Brisbane, Qld. On 13.3.1955, he married Inge. He was predeceased by his son, John-Erik, in 1995. He is survived by his wife; his daughters, Anne-Marie and Esther; and his four grandchildren, Melanie, Michael, Dane and Jay. He served in the UK Army Parachute Regiment and completed his studies at Newbold College. He was a member of Sand-

gate church. Thank you, James, for the many lives you touched. You will be sadly missed. We long for the day when Jesus returns.

Humberto Rivera

Peters, Noeline Rhonda Loretta, born 16.2.1936 at Woolongong, NSW; died 21.6.07 at Tenterfield. In 1957, she married Alan Speers at Parramatta. On 31.5.1998, she married Frank Peters. She is survived by her children, Wayne Speers (Port Macquarie), Shireen Georgopoulos (Mackay, Qld), Brendan Speers (Perth, WA) and Naomi Turnbull (USA).

Keith Jackson

Thompson, Alice Elizabeth, born 1.1.1907; died 27.3.08. In 1934, she married Clem Sargent. In 1964, she married Bill Thompson. She was predeceased by her only daughter, Noeline, on 21.6.07. She is survived by her son-in-law, Frank Peters.

Keith Jackson

Walters, Thelma Mary, born 3.11.1931 at Oberon, NSW; died 7.5.08 in Canberra, ACT. On 6.10.1949, she married Carl. She is survived by her children, Barry (Casino, NSW), Narelle and Jacqueline (Queanbeyan); her six grandchildren; and her seven great-grandchildren. Thelma was a genuine Christian who lived her faith. For 26 years, she worked in the National Library in Canberra and was a volunteer in many charities and organisations. Now she sleeps, waiting to hear her Saviour's voice when He returns.

Neil Lawson, Ray Hinton

Winkler, Kathleen (Kit), born 9.8.1927; died 18.4.08 at Wauchope, NSW. She was predeceased by her husband, Bill. She is survived by her son, Kerry. She loved the Lord and was a much-loved member of the Wauchope church. Her greatest prayers were on behalf of her much-loved only son. She passed away knowing she would meet her Saviour soon.


Danny Milenkov

Wright, Doris Mabel, born 11.8.1918 at Te Puke, NZ; died 3.5.08 in the Victoria Point Adventist Nursing Home, Qld. She and her husband, Stan, were baptised by Pastor Burnside in Auckland in the early 1950s, and attended Remuera church for many years. She was predeceased by her husband in 1989. She is survived by her children, George (Ruakaka, NZ), Mary Fedorow (Warwick, Qld), and Julie Thomson (Ellerslie, NZ). After the death of her husband, Doris moved to South Auckland until 1998, when she moved to the Victoria Point Nursing Home. Doris loved life and her Lord. She will be greatly missed by family and friends, who are looking forward to the great reunion day in heaven.


Warren Fedorow

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