

RECORD

February 21, 2009

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"Children first" around the world

More than "bystanders"



Winners are grinners—one of the thousands of children who were part of Sydney's Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRY-athlon shows off his medal and certificate of participation.



Tui Ridge hosts fourth NZYC

Sydney kids enjoy record TRY-athlon

SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES

A record number of Sydney children have taken home gold medals after completing the Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRY-athlon, held at Sydney Olympic Park on February 1.

The event was the first of the 2009 Australian series and saw almost 2800 children, aged between seven and 15, swim, ride and run their way around the course. This set a new entrant record for the event, now in its 11th year.

TRY-athlon ambassador and former World Ironman champion Guy Leech says the event was a perfect opportunity to introduce children to physical activity without the

pressure of competition. "It was a fantastic day—the kids really enjoyed themselves and it's great to see young children outdoors, being active with their friends," he says.

The MBF Foundation works in partnership with Sanitarium on the TRY-athlon, and foundation steering committee chair Dr Christine Bennett says getting children into the habit of exercise and activity is important to help combat issues—like obesity and diabetes—later in life.

She adds, "With unhealthy habits and lifestyle choices linked to more than half of all health problems, the Weet-Bix TRY-athlon

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I am thankful for the upbringing I received.

Children today

STILL REMEMBER THE DAY SHE WAS born—my gorgeous baby sister. I was attending my first Pathfinder camp, which was an exciting event in itself. I do not remember much of the camp, only that there were cabins by some water. Even more exciting however, was when Dad picked me up and drove me to the Women's and Children's Hospital in Adelaide (SA) to see her.

I have never been so afraid of anything in my life. I was a large, clumsy boy. This tiny bundle of life seemed so fragile, so precious—the most precious thing I had ever held. I had the irrational fear I would drop her and she would break into pieces.

This year, my sister started high school. She is growing up. She is a talented musician and seems wise beyond her years. This week is her birthday and she becomes a teenager. But, late last year, I was blessed to attend her second birth—her baptism. She made her decision and her faith is deep—like a precious jewel to her.

I remember growing up in church and making my decision early in life. I loved the Bible stories Mum told me. I loved going to Sabbath school, and winning prizes for knowing the answers to the Bible quiz and saying my memory verse correctly. I am thankful for the upbringing I received.

I commend those members of our church who work relentlessly—I do not say tirelessly because I know they do tire—to create a place of belonging in the church and longing for the kingdom in our children.

Yet many children in the church are not as fortunate as I was.

This year is the 30th anniversary of the International Year of the Child. Children are an important, yet too often forgotten, part of our church. During Jesus' ministry, He held them in high esteem. The boy with the loaves and fish, the many children He healed and the little children brought to Him for blessing were never turned away. Jesus said at the time, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these" (Matthew 19:14*).

As a child and young adult, without the pressures of work, relationships and growing up to be independent, my faith was strong. The misconception is that a child-like faith is a simple faith. But children grasp complexities, and can know more Bible stories and verses than adults sometimes do. This is why it is so important to educate our children while they are young. As Solomon says, "Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it" (Proverbs 22:6). The presence of my brother, sister and me in heaven will be largely due to our parents, and other people at church taking an interest in us and sharing God's love with us.

In an article by Heather Haworth, director of family ministries for the British Union Conference, she points to some shocking statistics in her area of ministry. Out of 100 children born into church-attending families, only 48 will give their

lives to Jesus and continue attending. She also points to a calculation by Tom Ashlock, an associate director in the General Conference's Sabbath school department in the 1960s. At the time, there were only 1.55 million Adventists. He worked out, using the number of Adventist families in 1848 and the average family size of each generation, the number of Adventists—with no outward evangelism, just retention of children—would have been about 128 million. Fifty years later, we are just reaching 16 million church members worldwide.

Children's author and storyteller Pastor David Edgren puts it this way: "The foundation of human experience is developed in childhood. Our adult practice of faith and family are directly built upon what we had modelled to us as children. Adults who value the future of the church and community value children above all else, and are intentional about creating experiences and modelling practices that will help the children around them mature healthily."

It is time to challenge our churches and conferences to put greater resources into children's ministries. It is an investment that is well worth it. As someone has said, "We worry about what a child will become tomorrow, yet we forget that he [or she] is someone today."

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

Jarrod Stackelroth



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

Evangelism and field workers focus for CPC

PORT MORESBY, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Pastor Tony Kemo, the first president of the newly-formed Central Papua Conference (CPC), says that field workers and local church evangelism will be the conference's main focus over the next five years.

"Our aims include improving the working conditions of our workers living in the towns and cities, and lifting the standard of the local churches, giving them support to have buildings to worship in and enjoy the blessings of God," says Pastor Kemo. "We also want to focus on local church-based training, and encourage churches to take hold of their spiritual gifts and enhance the mission of the church."

Pastor Kemo added that evangelism—"telling the Central Papua people the good news"—remains the conference's first priority.

The CPC is the first Pacific island mission to be recognised as a conference in the Adventist Church organisational structure. As a conference, church leadership has greater autonomy and responsibility for self-management.

The conference held its inaugural constituency meeting in Port Moresby on August 6, 2008, where it elected officers, including

Pastor Kemo, to be leaders of the conference ("Central Papua holds first session," News, September 13, 2008).

As a conference, Pastor Kemo says the executive committee is now able to make certain decisions autonomously and has more power to administer within the region. "But we will always liaise with the union administrators and the South Pacific Division," he says.

The gained autonomy means the CPC is now making decisions to both support local churches in their evangelism plans and improve the working conditions of their workers.

According to Pastor Kemo, the conference faces a few major challenges, including the need for accommodation for its teachers and ministers, not having enough workers to support the spiritual growth of the church, and taking the gospel message to remote areas.

"Our biggest challenge is that we have one pastor to four or five churches. We need more workers," he says. "There are a lot of people in the Central Papua area who have not received the Adventist message. There are people living in outlying areas that cannot be reached by road, so we need air transport, too."

A meeting of church members and workers will be held in March, with the aim of



Pastor Tony Kemo, president of the Central Papua Conference.

getting "laity and ministers to work together to achieve the goals, aims and objectives for our conference."

Pastor Kemo believes this will encourage church members to take ownership of the conference's plans, and build relationships with ministry teams in order to work together and achieve the goals set by the CPC administration. "It's going to be exciting to have ownership go back to the membership at large," says Pastor Kemo.

There are 27,000 church members worshipping in more than 200 churches and home churches in CPC, pastored by just 38 pastors.

—Melody Tan

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



◆ Sydney Adventist College (SAC) staff, NSW, began the new school year on a positive note when they joined together to celebrate each person's unique journey, the influence it has had on their lives and how God can use them to impact the lives of their students. After sharing breakfast together, staff engaged in team-building activities and an interactive worship service. It was a time of affirming, forgiving,

celebrating and bonding. Small group activities allowed individuals to share a part of their spiritual journey and celebrate the power of God in their lives. Principal Murray Chapman shared his vision for SAC and his commitment to his staff and the students of the school. The principal and chaplain, Richie Reid, presented each staff member with a personal Bible to keep on their desk or beside their bed. Inscribed was the text from Isaiah, "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God stands forever." Following a barbecue lunch, the day concluded on a spiritual high

when Mr Reid led staff in a visit to both campuses, and prayed a prayer of dedication and blessing on each section of Sydney Adventist College.—Linda Stuart

◆ Three Adventist chaplains were commissioned in the Youthcare State Chaplains ceremony in WA late last year. Brad Flynn, Janelle Hockley and Danny Bell were told they were the first Adventist chaplains to enter the system, among the many denominations represented. Around 25 chaplains were commissioned



in the ceremony. There are around 250 chaplains in WA state schools now but Youthcare estimates that 300 will be placed. Youthcare are the body responsible to the Australian Government for placing chaplains in all state schools. The participants report they had many interesting conversations with chaplains from other faiths.—Danny Bell

“Children First” around the world for 2009

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

As part of a campaign to promote the needs of children in churches during the International Year of the Child, an Australian musician has been commissioned to write two songs to be distributed to Adventist churches worldwide.

First proclaimed by the United Nations in 1979, the International Year of the Child was intended to draw attention to problems that affected children throughout the world, including malnutrition and lack of access to education.

In 2009, the International Year of the Child is not only commemorating its 30th anniversary but also celebrates children in the church. The Adventist Church has launched the “Children First” campaign to ensure church members around the world make the needs of children a priority.

“If we put effort into ensuring that our youngest receive quality nurture, they will grow to have a strong faith and be able to nurture others,” says Julie Weslake, director of children’s ministries for the South Pacific Division. “Research confirms that childhood is crucial to the development of attitudes, habits and beliefs.”

Kimberly Houlston, director of Abide Family Ministries, the team behind the children’s TV series *Arnie’s Shack*, was commis-



The needs of children, like these at the Taupo church children’s Sabbath school, will be the focus in churches this year.

sioned by the Children’s Ministries department of the General Conference to write the songs to promote the event.

The two songs written are titled “Children first,” a song for adults, and “We need to go,” a song for children.

“We want to encourage adults to support and connect with children in their churches and community, then help them build a relationship with Jesus. It’s the foundations that determine their values, habits and emotional security for the rest of their lives,” says Mrs Weslake.

Adventist churches in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific islands will be holding children’s expos throughout the year to celebrate “children first.”

—Melody Tan

More @ <http://spd.adventistconnect.org/children>

Sydney kids enjoy record TRY-athlon

(Continued from page 1)

series is a fun way to help kids learn the benefits of exercise and keeping active—lessons they can take with them throughout life.”

Sydney resident Elizabeth Taylor’s son, Peter, was one of the children to participate in the TRY-athlon event. She praised Sanitarium for creating such a positive community event and says, “So many kids seemed to be having so much fun on the day.”

“Pete said to me, ‘I like the fact it’s called TRY-athlon, Mummy, because it means everyone can have a go.’ Peter has since said he wants to have his whole class join him for next year’s TRY-athlon. I think this event has been a watershed event for our family—we all walked a little taller at the end of the day!”

Around 13,000 children in Australia alone are expected to participate in the Weet-Bix Kids TRY-athlon this year. TRY-athlons are also being held in New Zealand, where a number of triathletes and Olympians will be attending events throughout the series.—*Jess Ward*

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



◆ A successful evangelistic campaign in the Kingdom of Tonga has seen 16 people baptised. Guest speaker **Viliami Moala** from Sydney arrived in Tonga to follow up the meetings that **Pastor Daniel Pryzybylko** and his team “Thy Kingdom Come” conducted last year. Mr Moala conducted a three-weekend series called “**Life After Life**.” During the time he was

there, he visited and gave Bible studies in homes. Out of this hard labour, 16 candidates decided to accept Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. Beulah Adventist College brass band played as **Pastor Manu Latu** and **Pastor Toa Fonua**, now retired, baptised the candidates. Mr Moala is planning to study at Avondale College this year.—*Manu Latu*

◆ There will be some happy possums around **Alstonville, NSW**, thanks to the efforts of those involved with the **Alstonville Village Shed**. **Brian Sparke**,

coordinator of the men’s shed in the grounds of the **Alstonville Adventist Aged Care** facility, said the shed allows residents of the aged care home an opportunity to get together with other men and use the woodworking equipment onsite. Mr Sparke said about **15 men** get together on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9 am and noon. Being together for friendship and getting involved in the activity were the main aims of the shed. The shed was opened last year as an initiative of Alstonville Adventist Aged Care, Alstonville Uniting

Church’s men’s group and U3A. The men’s first main project was to build possum boxes, which were recently donated to the **Northern Rivers Wildlife Carers**. Carer **Giles White** said the boxes would be used by volunteers who are looking after brushtail possums. There are plans to start a leatherwork group and a group to do some small-scale potting of plants early this year.—*Ballina Shire Advocate*

◆ The **Adventist Disaster and Relief Agency (ADRA)** in **Malawi** received a **2008 Enter-**

Karalundi starts year with team-building and blessings

MEEKATHARRA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Karalundi Aboriginal Education Centre (KAEC) made a positive start to the school year with a comprehensive team-building and cross-cultural orientation program for its staff. Around 30 teaching and non-teaching staff from various cultural backgrounds attended the week-long orientation program, held from January 19 to 24 at the KAEC campus.

The program explored the history of Karalundi and emphasised the valuable experience of working with Indigenous students, shared by KAEC principal Anne Tonkin and KAEC chaplain Dieter Stahl. KAEC chief executive officer David Cowled spoke to the group about policies and regulations relating to living and working in Karalundi, while Pastor Don Felhberg, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministries associate director for the western districts, shared a pictorial update of the Adventist Church's ministry to the Indigenous people of Australia.

Other topics covered included future development plans, staff-student relations and handling conflict. A "Staff survival manual," compiled by Pastor Keith God-



Karalundi Aboriginal Education Centre staff participating in team-building exercises.

frey, detailing the diversity of Aboriginal culture and how to create a meaningful career at KAEC was made available to all staff members.

A key feature of the program was the Karalundi Outdoor Personal Enrichment program conducted by Mark Collard, one of Australia's most experienced leaders of adventure-based activities. Mr Collard presented a number of challenges to the staff to encourage team development, including a high-ropes course.

The week concluded with anointing or praying over each classroom, workshop, dormitory and all other KAEC facilities, dedicating each building and staff member to the service of God for the new school year.—*Romela A Sangalan*

Adventist awarded MBE for Pitcairn work

PITCAIRN ISLAND

In 2008, Betty Christian was awarded an MBE for services rendered to Pitcairn Island. Mrs Christian worked in communication from 1963 to 2007 for the island, as well as working as Island Secretary for the final 10 years of that time.

The award was presented to her by the British High Commissioner for New Zealand, George Ferguson, in a ceremony in New Zealand on October 20, 2008. Around 40 family members and friends attended.

"The award was a surprise to me and I feel very honoured and humbled to be nominated for such an award," says Mrs Christian. "There has been tremendous advancement in communication in those 44 years. From Morse code only to amateur radio in the 1950s . . . to internet and international telephone in 2007."—*Adele Nash*



Betty Christian with three of her grandchildren and husband, Tom, who was awarded an MBE in 1983.

tainer of the Year Award for work in educational radio programs, presented by the **Malawi Broadcasting Corporation**. The award for "**Radio Play of the Year**" recognised ADRA's radio programming, which addresses **HIV/AIDS prevention**, and **family and personal health**. The ADRA radio program, titled "**Tikuferanji**"—meaning "Why are we dying?" in the national language—appears on Television Malawi and airs on state-run MBC Radio. The show provides HIV/AIDS education in an effort to prevent the spread of

disease by advocating responsibility and safe sexual behaviour. The HIV/AIDS-related issues discussed in ADRA radio programming include the importance of blood testing, condom use, faithfulness, empowerment and human rights. The programs present stories and prevention tips in the form of plays that reflect the day-to-day lives of many Malawians.—*ANN*

◆ The Seventh-day Adventist Church in **Romania** organised 10 days of **Bible-related events** last month, hosted by **20 cities** and

featuring displays of rare Bibles, and presentations on the role of the Bible throughout history and in everyday life. The events were part of the General Conference's "**Follow the Bible**" initiative, which will run until August, 2010. "The main message of the event[s] is that the daily reading of the Bible brings moral healing, gives spiritual power and improve[s] the quality of life," said **Viorel Dima**, "Follow the Bible" coordinator for Romania. The initiative features an oversized Bible written in 66 different languages travelling around the

globe to promote Bible study. The Adventist Church in Romania has been actively working since 2007 to foster Bible study in the country through a national advertising campaign and reading clubs called **Sola Scriptura**. Some locations offered visitors free mobile phone downloads of the Bible, including a yearly reading plan. The Romanian events ran from January 21 to 31, concluding with the presentation of the travelling Bible and a dedication ceremony for those who committed to daily Bible study.—*ANN*

Youth group visits Ruprup Island

RUPRUP ISLAND, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

A singing group from Apotiko Adventist church in Lae, Papua New Guinea (PNG), had their end-of-year witnessing trip to Ruprup Island interrupted by the king tide that destroyed many coastal villages in PNG in mid-December.

Several people on the island lost their homes and Samson Wagi, a member of the group from Apotiko church, says the waves also destroyed the building of one of the two Adventist churches on the island, which had been located on the beachfront.



A church elder points to damage done to one of the churches on Ruprup Island.



Some members of the youth group from Apotiko Adventist church on their way to Ruprup Island.

“Huge logs were rammed by the waves into the thatched-roof building,” he says.

Ruprup Island is one of a chain of volcanic islands that run from Madang Province to East Sepik Province. The singing group from Apotiko church sang and handed out literature in most of the roadside markets on the highway between Lae and Madang as they travelled to the island.

Once there, the group conducted nightly meetings and helped the local people during the day. Church members on the island, which is a part of the Sepik Mission, told the group they hadn’t received many visits from church leaders and don’t have a pastor. The church elders lead the church through the church board.

—*Matupit Darius*

Adventist hymnal translated for Tongans

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

The Seventh-day Adventist hymnbook has been translated into the Tongan language, complete with music notations.

Retired Adventist educator Glynn Litster was not only involved in raising the funds to print the hymnbook and obtaining the copyrights for the hymns, he also engraved most of the music in the hymnbook, working hard to match the syllables with the notes

Mr Litster has also been involved in producing translated hymnbooks for Samoa, Fiji and the local community near the Pacific Adventist University in Papua New Guinea (PNG) over the past 50 years. Mr Litster also spent more than 20 years working on a hymnal for Kiribati.

“I saw a need in the Pacific islands for the hymnbooks and the Lord put it in my heart to solve it,” says Mr Litster. “God’s blessed me with the talents to be able to do something to help people sing the hymns.”

Mr Litster is currently raising funds to print a Pidgin hymnbook for PNG.

—*Melody Tan*

More @ <http://adventistconnect.org>

◆ In what was widely regarded as a “political correctness gone wrong” decision, **Caroline Petrie**, the nurse from Weston-super-Mare, UK, who was suspended without pay for asking a patient whether she would like to be prayed for, has been reinstated by **North Somerset Primary Care Trust**. The dramatic turn around comes days after extensive media coverage and news reports which revealed that Mrs Petrie, a born-again Christian and mother of two, was suspended after her employers discovered she had asked a patient whether

she would like to be prayed for. —*ASSIST News Service*

◆ The **Atheist Foundation of Australia (AFA)** has lodged complaints of religious discrimination in **Melbourne, Vic**, and **Hobart, Tas**, after being refused permission to put atheist advertising on buses. The AFA raised \$A16,000 from donations to put signs on buses around the country saying “**Atheism—celebrate reason.**” This followed a London campaign, backed by anti-religion campaigner **Richard Dawkins**, with signs

on buses reading, “There’s probably no God. Now stop worrying and enjoy your life.” But **APN Outdoor**, which handles bus advertising in all metropolitan cities except Hobart and Darwin, declined the advertising and refused to give any reason. APN’s general manager of marketing, **Paul McBeth**, said public buses were owned by state governments, who stipulated in agreements with APN that any advertisement that might offend the community was not permitted on public buses. —*Barney Zwartz*

◆ **HaShem Artworks**, a small company in **Texas, US**, has re-created, as an art form, an authentic and faithful-to-scripture set of the **two stone tablets** referred to in the Bible. “There is no other known place in the entire world where that Name, along with the entire text of the **Ten Commandments**, is engraved in the ancient Phoenician Paleo-Hebrew alphabet in rough granite of similar colouration as that of **Mt Sinai**—except upon these stone tablets,” says **A E Tracy Potts**, the artist who re-created the two stone tablets. —*PRWeb*

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

Tui Ridge hosts fourth NZYC

ROTORUA, NEW ZEALAND

The fourth annual New Zealand Youth Convention (NZYC) was held at Tui Ridge from January 20 to 25. The event was attended by close to 90 young people throughout the week, with more than 150 attending the week-end programs.

The NZYC theme was “Here am I,” which reflected the answers given by Samuel, Isaiah and Abraham when called by God. The event was sponsored by the New Zealand Christian Foundation and the North New Zealand Conference youth department.

Guest speakers for NZYC were Nathan Renner, senior pastor of the Troy Adventist church, Michigan, US, and the associate director of ARISE; Jeffrey Rosario, a member of the “Radiant Living” youth ministry; Cristian Copaceanu, a pastor in the Victorian Conference; and Pastor Ed Gallagher, newly-appointed Spiritual Growth director for the North New Zealand Conference.

They spoke about how to engage the secular mind with the gospel, understanding the Three Angel’s Message, harnessing the power of prayer, having a relationship that honours God and oneself, and how to use the media and new technologies to share the gospel.

Pastor Gallagher says, “Often us older ones pray that the younger generation will experience revival. After attending the morning prayer meetings, I think it’s the



NZYC attendees.

youth who need to be praying for us older ones!”

Attendees participated in a variety of activities, including daily training workshops, Bible studies and networking to share ideas for ministry and outreach concepts with each other. They also distributed Sanitarium food parcels to the Rotorua community, painted two sheds at the Kea Street Special Needs School and spent time doorknocking in the town of Matamata, where a new church group will soon begin meeting.

The food parcel distribution was reported on by a local newspaper, as was the work conducted at the school. More than 50 people requested Bible studies and follow-up visits as a result of the doorknocking in Matamata.

NZYC was organised by Ben Martin, Sarita Butler, Ben Reynolds, Hannah Butler, Jodi Reid, and Daniel and Elesha Newton. Mr Martin says, “It was half the amount of planning and twice the amount of praying that made NZYC 2009 the success it was.”—*Adele Nash*

RECORD website receives virtual makeover

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

As of February 5, the RECORD website, <www.record.net.au>, has undergone a change, with additional content being added to the site. This will include podcasts, videos, blogs and more, as well as the regular RECORD news and features.

“This will still be the site for the print version of RECORD,” says Melody Tan, online content manager for the site. “We hope to eventually have bonus features and news articles that may not normally fit into

the magazine, and church members are welcome to send in submissions.”

Ms Tan encourages church members to sign up to the mailing list, which will keep them up to date with a weekly recap of the site’s content. “With updates being emailed to their inbox every week, it’s a great and easy way to stay current with what’s new on the site and stay informed about what’s happening in the Adventist church, both in the South Pacific Division and around the world,” she says.

—*AMN staff*

More @ www.record.net.au

Sanitarium developer becomes adjunct associate professor

BERKELEY VALE, NEW SOUTH WALES

Dr John Ashton, strategic research manager at Sanitarium Development and Innovation, has been appointed adjunct associate professor in the School of Biomedical and Health Sciences at Victoria University in recognition of his contribution to biomedical and nutrition research.

Since his association with the university in 2001, Dr Ashton has supervised seven research students and co-authored 22 research papers, including the first studies on the health benefits for women of the vegetable “maca”; the first study showing the high availability of calcium in Sanitarium’s So Good beverage; and the first study identifying enzymes that enhanced the phytonutrients in soy. This latter study has become one of the most cited research papers on food microbiology.

Dr Ashton has also supervised research students at Deakin, Wollongong, Sydney and Newcastle Universities and has published more than 100 articles, ranging from environmental factors contributing to skin cancer to the social impacts of alcohol consumption during his research career.

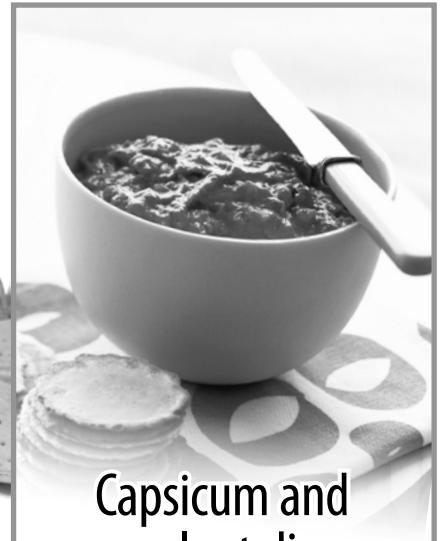
He has also published 12 books, including the first popular book on the health benefits of chocolate called *A Chocolate a Day*, which has now been published in eight languages. His recent books include *The Big Argument—Does God Exist?*, *Uncorked: The Hidden Hazards of Alcohol*, and a book showing how Egyptian history confirms the Bible timeline, co-authored with David Down, called *Unwrapping the Pharaohs*.

—*Sharyn Brady*



Dr John Ashton, who has recently been appointed as an adjunct associate professor at Victoria University.

The fat truth about nuts



Capsicum and walnut dip

- 2 red capsicums
- 2 teaspoons oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, crushed
- ¼ teaspoon dried chilli flakes (optional)
- ½ cup walnuts
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 teaspoons balsamic vinegar
- ¾ teaspoon salt

1. Place whole capsicums in a hot oven—200°C—and roast until well charred. Remove from oven and place in a paper bag to cool. Remove skin and seeds.
2. Heat oil in a frypan and sauté onion and garlic until soft. Add chilli.
3. Place walnuts in a food processor and process until fine. Add onion mixture and remaining ingredients. Process until smooth.
4. Serve dip with rice crackers.

Per Serve: 480 Kilojoules (120 calories). Protein 2g. Total Fat 11g. Saturated Fat 1g. Carbohydrate 2g. Total Sugars 2g. Sodium 290mg. Potassium 100mg. Calcium 8mg. Iron 0.3mg. Fibre 1g.

THE HEALTH FOOD COMPANY

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nutrition
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Zsuzsanna Kilián

LAATEST RESEARCH SHOWS THAT EATING more nuts can actually help us to lose—and maintain—a healthy weight. More than half of all adults in Australia and New Zealand are overweight and, as we edge closer to becoming the fattest nations in the world, many of us are thinking about how to take—and keep—the kilograms off.

There are a lot of myths about the role of nuts in weight gain but after reviewing the evidence, here's what we've found:

Myth: Nuts are fatty and make you gain weight.

Fact: Nuts, as a healthy part of a diet, don't cause weight gain. In fact, as part of an energy-controlled diet, nuts can actually help reduce weight.

Myth: Nuts aren't good for kids.

Fact: Nuts are an important source of nutrients for children. If there is no history of allergy, nuts can be included from around 12 months as a spread (for example, peanut butter). As children get older (around five years) they can enjoy the benefits of eating whole nuts.

Myth: Nuts are full of cholesterol.

Fact: Nuts are good for your heart health and contain no cholesterol. A wide body of research shows eating nuts two to five times per week significantly reduces the risk of heart disease. The National Heart Foundation recommends regularly including nuts in your diet to manage cholesterol.

Nuts are one of nature's superfoods.

They're a great source of protein, healthy fats, vitamins and minerals. Here are some of our tips on nuts and the best ways to enjoy them:

Handful a day: Try to eat a small handful of nuts each day. Pack them into a small container or have a mixture of nuts in a jar to snack on during the day.

Nuts in meals: Nuts add a crunchy texture and great flavour to almost any meal. You can sprinkle pine nuts into pasta dishes or frittatas, or add cashew nuts to stir-fries and walnuts or almonds to salads.

Buy unsalted: Choose unsalted nuts whenever possible—they're much better for you.

Buy in bulk: If you're watching your dollars, try buying nuts in a mixed pack. That way, you get a variety of nuts for much less. And if you can, buy in bulk and store them in an airtight container in the fridge or freezer.

Include walnuts: Walnuts are an excellent source of healthy omega-3 fats. They'll help keep your heart healthy and they're tasty, too! **R**

For more information on nuts and health, or to receive a copy of our new Healthy Eating for Your Heart brochure, call 1800 HEALTH (1800 432 584) in Australia or 0800 100 257 in New Zealand. You can also speak with one of our qualified nutritionists.

**Sanitarium Nutrition Service,
Berkeley Vale, New South Wales.**



Unnumbered

BY DIANA TANNER

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT AS MANY AS 2 million people stood in front of Capitol Building in Washington, DC, on January 20, to watch the first black man, Barack Obama, be sworn in as the 44th President of the United States of America.

TV images, beaming the event across the globe, showed an endless sea of people arranged in orderly fashion. They had gathered hours before to gain the best vantage points for this historic occasion.

As I watched this impressive earthly scene, my mind was drawn to the description in Revelation of the redeemed from all ages, gathered together on the Sea of Glass (see Revelation 7:9-17). I could barely comprehend a sea of 2 million people, let alone the unnumbered throng standing before God's throne.

It is possible for me to conceptualise 30,000 to 70,000 people crammed into a sports stadium. With some imagination, I can just manage 500,000 watching a spectacular fireworks display. The 2 million gathered in Washington had a touch of fantasy about them, even as I viewed their undefinable forms through the lens of a television camera.

We put a number on the world's current population, with future predictions

just adding more zeros. But this number never moves beyond the printed medium in our visualisation. People of such a magnitude that they can't be numbered defies any reasonable effort to be meaningfully considered.

It was impossible for all those people gathered on that chilly January day in Washington to have firsthand vision of the ceremony they were there to see. For them,

**He is visible
because His greatness
overwhelms
our smallness.**

just to be a part of the crowd would have to satisfy the notion of "being there." But not so on the Sea of Glass. The crowd that gathers there will, with their own eyes, view from seemingly front-row position the glorious events on that momentous day.

How will this happen? I don't know. I dwell within the physical limitations of my small world. To try and grasp the vastness of universal themes stretches my imagination in an exercise of mental callisthenics.

What does all of this mean to me? When

I stand with a crowd the size of the population of the earth, I become faceless and shapeless to those watching from vantage points afar. But not to God. It doesn't matter how many people have lived or ever will live, God knows each one personally, intimately and completely. He knows the number of hairs on my head (see Matthew 10:30), and the hairs on the head of every other individual. The immensity that defines God in no way diminishes my importance in His sight.

He died for me: that thought alone gives me strength and courage to keep going. That thought brings meaning to what would otherwise be a meaningless existence. That thought gives hope in the midst of helplessness and hopelessness. And God, the immeasurable One, will, on that wonderful day at the beginning of our eternity, be visible to everyone who is gathered in front of Him. He is visible because His greatness overwhelms our smallness. The throng on the Sea may be innumerable but I, and every other person, will interact with God one on one, just as we have been doing all along. **R**

Diana Tanner writes from North Perth, Western Australia.

More than “bystanders”

BY A ALLAN MARTIN

I FIRST LEARNED THE TERM, “THE BY-stander effect,” in my undergraduate social psychology class. Wikipedia defines it as “a psychological phenomenon in which someone is less likely to intervene in an emergency situation when other people are present and able to help than when he or she is alone.” The article references horrific incidences in which dozens of bystanders “stood by” and did nothing as homicides occurred before their eyes.

I am still appalled by the bystander effect but in another way. I found myself perplexed by how it may be impacting the church, allowing us to “stand by” and do nothing as a whole generation disappears from our ranks.

Disengaging, disenfranchised and disappearing

In light of his landmark study of Adventist adolescents, Roger Dudley of the Institute of Church Ministry at Andrews University noted, “It seems reasonable to believe that at least 40 to 50 per cent of Seventh-day Adventist teenagers in North America are essentially leaving the church by their middle 20s. This figure may well be higher.”¹

“This is a haemorrhage of epic propor-

“The statistics stated by Roger Dudley for North American Division Young Adult Attrition (40–50 per cent) and by Barna for American Young Adult Attrition (61 per cent) are very comparable to attrition rates here. My observations in various SPD congregations would put it very close to the 50–60 per cent loss rate.”—*Dr Barry Gane, principal researcher for the Valuegenesis survey conducted in the South Pacific Division (SPD) in 1997, and director of Leadership and Professional Development, SPD.*

tions,” warned Dudley and suggested that “the decline in membership of many mainline Protestant churches has been shown to be largely traceable to the shortage of young adults in the congregations.”² Demographer George Barna noted that across Christianity, “the most potent data regarding disengagement is that a majority of 20-somethings—61 per cent of today’s young adults—had been churched at one time during their teen years but they are now spiritually disengaged (ie, not actively attending church, reading the Bible or praying).”³

This disengagement threatens the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The president of the North American Division, Don Schneider, said, “We must [also] concentrate on the young adults of our Church . . . young people need to become more fully integrated into the Church. . . . Is there some way of allowing young people to worship in a way that is meaningful while making it safe for them to do so? Young adults must be heard at leadership levels, and their feelings must be given validity.”⁴

The departure of young adults from the local faith community has not gone unnoticed by the General Conference president, Jan Paulsen, who has entered into broadcasted conversations with this younger generation over the past several years. Dr Paulsen noted: “[Young adults] have perspectives, they have hopes, they have dreams, and they have visions for the church which need to be considered seriously. If we don’t, they will feel disenfranchised, as many of them already do.”⁵ This trend would not be as perplexing if we had promptly identified it and addressed it with all the immediacy it deserves. But the fact is, we haven’t.

Over a decade ago in research on Generation X, I found comparable statistics of young adults disappearing from local faith life.⁶ Dudley’s research reflects more

than three decades of scrutiny regarding the departure of new generations from the church. His book, *Why Teenagers Leave Religion*, was published back in 1978.

Beyond the statistical analysis, most of us know young people who have parted ways with our church. Many could exchange stories of peers or grown children and grandchildren who no longer participate in Adventism. We’ve known that young adults have been leaving our church for some time now and have been nothing but bystanders. Hence, the terrible “bystander effect.”

Why they leave

The first question is, Why do they leave? Dudley found that young adult perceptions of the quality of relationship with religious authority figures played a significant role in their departure.⁷ Leadership across Adventism concurred, stating that the reasons most frequently cited by persons who leave local church fellowship are found “in the realm of relationships, the absence of a sense of belonging, and the lack of meaningful engagement in the local congregation and its mission.”⁸

As part of the “Let’s Talk” broadcasts hosted by Dr Paulsen, 25-year-old Kadene

“Dudley’s findings may parallel the attrition rates one would find in the more ‘Westernised’ parts of the South Pacific, namely Australia and New Zealand. The 1997 Valuegenesis data found that 28 per cent of young adults did not see themselves in the church by age 40, other than that our data is limited. However, I am really interested and passionate about finding solutions. Should we wait for more data, we would have lost too many more in the meantime.”—*Pastor Gilbert Cangy, director of Adventist Youth Ministries, SPD.*



said, “I think the best thing that church leaders can do for the youth of our church is get acquainted with them. Too often, church leaders sit on their high horses and judge our youth without having the slightest idea of what they are going through.”⁹

Paulsen added, “We [church leaders] need to hear and understand what they [young adults] are saying, for it comes across clearly and strongly from those who are under 30 in our church. The point they are making is this: being included, being trusted, being considered responsible, for elders to be prepared to take some risk with inexperience, are sentiments and attitudes which senior leadership must be willing to show, or we are gone! We are gone simply because we have no ownership responsibility in the life of this church.”¹⁰

Why are young adults leaving? Although the responses may be as diverse and personal as each young adult, clearly the lack of mutually-valued relationships that engender trust and shared support have left both parties, young adults and Seventh-day Adventism, at risk of going under.

Pointing out heroes

So what is the solution? The Wikipedia article on “the bystander effect” made a fascinating recommendation. “To counter the bystander effect when you are the victim, a studied recommendation is to pick a specific person in the crowd to appeal to for help, rather than appealing to the larger group generally. If you are the only person reacting to an emergency, point directly to a specific bystander and give them a specific task, such as, ‘You. Call the police.’ These steps place all responsibility on a specific person instead of allowing it to diffuse.”

To burst through the bystander effect, I am pointing *to you* as a potential hero in the lives of young adults:

Parents

During the important transitional years of young adulthood, you play a vital role, not only in the life of your own child but also among their sphere of friends. Make your home and your presence one that engenders hospitality, safety and wisdom.

Connie Vandeman Jeffery shared a simple formula of food, friendship and follow-up that made her home a safe harbour for young adults.¹¹ If you are an adult without grown children in your home or don’t have

children of your own, make the simple effort of building an authentic relationship with a 20-something. It’s as simple as a lunch invitation, for starters.

Pastors

If the statistics are correct, your influence and impact on the climate of your church is desperately needed. Setting the culture of young adult inclusion is heavily dependent on your vision and leadership.

Bill Bossert described how his dying church recognised their fate and took heroic steps to turn the tide. With careful self-analysis, practical research and courageous yet inclusive change steps,¹² the Shepherd’s House reversed the attrition tide, resulting in a 60 per cent increase of young adults in their church.¹³ Change does not come without challenges and discomfort but in order to break through the bystander effect, pastors need to be heroic to inspire their congregations to be likewise.

Professors/teachers

There is a profound influence that educators have in the lives of young adults. Beyond academic or professional prowess, you are called upon to invest in young adult spiritual development as well.

While teaching at Spicer Memorial College, Falvo Fowler found that his simple initiative to start a Sabbath school with his students made a profound impact on what was once a “nominal” Adventist experience in the lives of many students.¹⁴

Jimmy Phillips noted the “invisible majority”¹⁵ of students are in schools outside of our Adventist system and, I suspect, many Adventists are among their faculty and staff. Thousands of Adventist young adults will

“Although empirical research on young adult attrition has yet to be done, based on our surveys of the field and my analysis of our context, I would concur with Roger Dudley’s findings and see many parallels in Australian youth culture. The biggest winning factors remain intimate connections with friends and significant others in the church, and a sense of involvement and purpose offered by the church.”—*Pastor Tony Knight, director of Adventist Youth Ministries, Australian Union Conference.*

benefit from your efforts to collaborate with local churches and your respective college to establish student groups, faith fellowships and discipleship communities.¹⁶ Your advisement and mentoring are keys to battling the bystander effect, so rampant on these campuses and in the churches adjacent to these colleges and universities.

Leaders

Vision-casting leaders offer momentum toward constructive change. You are pivotal heroes with the ability to rally the crowd to action.

Mike Cauley, president of the Florida Conference, challenged his constituency, “Do we care enough to learn the language of [young adults]? . . . We have a society of [young adults] who are hungry for the gospel, and we aren’t cutting it. . . . But I’m going to be asking them [the conference executive committee] to begin to plant churches to reach kids under 25. I’m going to be asking them to help us figure out how to become churches in the biblical, New Testament sense. . . . Somehow we have got to bring those kids, not to a place of entertainment, but to be fully committed disciples. . . . We need to give them the church.”¹⁷

Not only your endorsement but also your conspicuous actions as a leader will serve as a catalyst to transform young adult attrition statistics into retention trends.

Peers

There are stellar young adults who have not only remained in the church but are faith activists. You are among the most influential and powerful—not only in taking heroic action with your drifting peers but, also, in rejuvenating Adventism and fostering a movement to draw new generations.

“Many of the Adventist pioneers first began their work when they were teenagers. Pioneers such as Ellen Harmon White, John Loughborough, J N Andrews, Uriah Smith, and John Harvey Kellogg were teenagers and young adults when they began making an impact in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. They were young, vibrant, and on fire for God!”¹⁸ Other denominations were also started by youthful leaders.

We need a movement of that calibre right now. These heroes from our Adventist heritage took valiant steps to save a drowning world. Today, young Adventists are just as

essential in the embrace and encouragement of their peers. Peers, as well as parents, pastors, professors, teachers and church administrators must build restorative relationships with young adults.

Bystanders no longer

If the principles of social psychology hold true, you may have come to the end of this article and are now saying to yourself, *That's a fine article. I'm glad the issue of young adults leaving the church is being addressed. It's good that someone is doing something about it.*

This sentiment is the tragic reality of "the bystander effect." It's a phenomenon that has already seen generations of young Adventists fall away, while potential heroes have been spectators. We must no longer be bystanders.

So I am pointing you out. If you've read to this point, I am pointing at you: take a step today to begin an authentic relationship with a young adult. Become a mentor. Have lunch with them. Listen carefully. Open your home. Offer your heart. There are as many options as there are young adults. Start with one action and one young adult today.

We're horrified when we hear stories of "the bystander effect" when someone is being murdered. Yet, what are we doing when we stand by and do nothing when young people, perhaps right in front of our eyes, are leaving us and, as is so often the case, leaving the Lord who died for them? **R**

1. Roger L Dudley, *Why Our Teenagers Leave the Church: Personal Stories From a 10-Year Study*, *Review and Herald*, 2000, page 35.
 2. *ibid*, page 22.
 3. George Barna, "Most Twentysomethings Put Christianity on the Shelf Following Spiritually Active Teen Years," *The Barna Report*, September 11, 2006.
 4. North American Division, "2005 Year-end Meeting #3," November 1, 2005.
 5. Jan Paulsen, "Paulsen Sermon: Service—An Attitude," in *Special Report: Annual Council 2006*, <<http://www.adventistreview.org/article.php?id=774>>.
 6. Allan Martin, "The ABCs of Ministry to Generations X, Y, and Z," *Journal of Adventist Youth Ministry*, 5(1&2) (Winter-Spring, 1995), pages 37-46.
 7. Dudley, *Why Our Teenagers Leave the Church*.
 8. General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Executive Committee, "Conserving Membership Gains—An Appeal," April 10, 2007.
 9. Let's Talk, "Have Your Say," <<http://letstalk.adventist.org>>.
 10. Paulsen, "Paulsen Sermon: Service—An Attitude."
 11. Connie Vandeman Jeffery, "My Starbucks Kids," *Adventist Review*, January 16, 2003.
 12. Bill Bossert outlined the steps his congregation took at <<http://adventistreview.org/article.php?id=1300>>.
 13. Bill Bossert, "The Wausau Church Story," *Adventist Review*, August 9, 2007.
 14. Falvo Fowler, "Real," *Adventist Review*, July 18, 2002.
 15. Jimmy Philips, "The Invisible Majority," *Adventist Review*, September 20, 2007.
 16. Ron Pickell, North American Division Adventist Christian Fellowship Coordinator, offers some insights as to what college students are looking for in a church," <<http://www.adventistreview.org/article.php?id=1372>>.
 17. Mike Cauley, "2007 Florida Camp Meeting Sermon," June 2, 2007.
 18. Lynette Frantzen, "Young Adventist Pioneers," *Adventist Review*, May 27, 2004
- Adapted from an article first published in *Ministry*, July 2008.

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Record Roo

Hi kids!

No matter how hard Pharaoh forced the Israelites to work, they still got stronger and had more and more children. Pharaoh had to come up with another plan to keep them under control. This new plan was much, much worse than the first one...



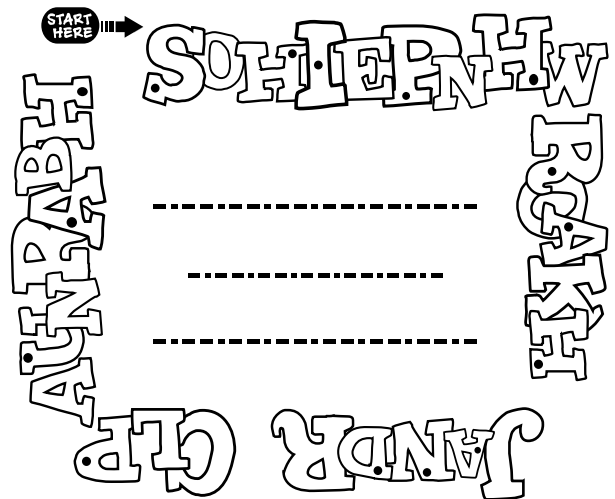
Bible Text

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew _____ ... 'When you help the Hebrew _____ in _____ and observe them on the _____ stool, if it is a _____, _____ him; but if it is a _____, let her _____.'

Exodus 1:15, 16 NIV

Word Puzzle

Fortunately, the midwives were more afraid of God than they were of Pharaoh and didn't obey the command from the king. What were the midwives' names? Working clockwise, colour in the letters that have a black dot on them to find out. Write the answers on the lines in the centre.



Draw

Draw a baby on the rug.



ACFI concerns

DAVID LAWSON, QLD

I am a member of the Avondale College Foundation Investments (ACFI) Creditors Committee and am writing out of concern that the plight of the 900 depositors in ACFI might not be fully understood (“ACFI executes Deed of Company Arrangement,” News, December 20).

Many of these depositors are dedicated, retired church workers and church members who have given much of their time and means to advancing the Lord’s work. They deposited funds with ACFI believing they were helping Avondale College, while at the same time receiving interest that would contribute to their own financial security. They trusted ACFI when regular RECORD advertisements said, “Protect your cash with ACF Investments.” They believed the statement on page 19 of the ACFI booklet sent to them, which stated “deposits are guaranteed.”

But suddenly in October, all funds were frozen and the company was placed into the hands of administrators. Interest payments ceased on October 28, cutting off what is for many their main source of supplementary income. PPB Administrators expect to pay back between 72 and 87 cents to the dollar, in instalments, over five years—without any interest during those five years. Many depositors are hurting.

In RECORD (“ACFI placed in voluntary administration,” News, November 29), depositors were encouraged to “remember the good the investments had brought about”—assisting students, assisting staff members with research and forwarding the mission of Avondale College. It is widely understood that Avondale College has received benefits of some \$A6,000,000 in grants from Avondale Foundation and ACFI over the years. But depositors are alarmed that the combined losses of their ACFI deposits may be somewhat greater than that amount.

While South Pacific Division leaders must distance the Church from the independent Avondale College Foundation and ACFI, they are to be commended for repaying a \$A6.8 million loan for church-related projects and providing a \$A4 million “liquidity facility” to enable depositors to receive their first distribution of 19.96

cents in the dollar. But it needs to be made clear that the \$A4 million is not a gift. It is a loan to be repaid with interest on June 30 this year, as a first call on funds received by the administrators.

NORMAN H YOUNG, NSW

As president of the Avondale Foundation, I would like to assure the writer of “What about the students?” (Letters, January 24) that the officers of Avondale Foundation deeply regret their inability to continue to support the students on Foundation scholarships. The global financial crisis impacted

on the financial viability of ACF Investments to such an extent that placing ACF Investments into voluntary administration was the only responsible course available. This in turn froze ACF Investments funds, including all of the Foundation assets, and made continuing support impossible. The pain this caused the volunteer board of ACF Investments and the executive of the Foundation was, of course, acute. It is a relief to see that Avondale College itself is continuing to give some financial support to these students.

Evolution questions

JOHN ASHTON, NSW

I would like to add my support to “Sharing Creation” (Letters, January 31) in regard to using Darwin’s anniversary year as an opportunity to raise awareness that the theory of evolution has not been scientifically verified. There is still no known scientific mechanism to explain how non-living molecules became the first living cell (*abiogenesis*) and, on the basis of our current knowledge of biochemistry, *abiogenesis* is absolutely impossible.

Second, there is still no known mechanism for how meaningful genetic information can arise, nor has this process ever been observed and reported in scientific literature. All known examples of evolution have involved either the loss or transfer of pre-existing genetic information. In other

words, there is not a single piece of scientific evidence to support the evolutionary claim that all life slowly developed from simple cells.

Further, the evolutionist claim that life on earth is very old is also being challenged by a number of recent radiometric dating results, which give old ages to young rocks. For example, radiometric analyses of the 1949, 1954 and 1975 lava flows at Mt Ngauruhoe, New Zealand, by scientists at the Australian National University in 2000 gave calculated average ages, ranging from 133 million years to 3908 million years.

There is still no known scientific mechanism to explain how non-living molecules became the first living cell.

Divergent views

STEVE SLEIGHT, NSW

We should be careful about making Genesis say what the author may not have intended. Not every traditional viewpoint is inevitable and people differ for honest reasons. Invoking the 28 Fundamentals to put a stop to such wondering is simply not on (“Believe or leave?” Letters, January 31).

Is it not more beneficial to allow full investigation, maintaining respect for divergent views and those who hold them rather than denying them leadership because they do not reflect our views? Hasn’t this led to some very inhumane treatment among us in times past? The fact that people may differ from us is an invitation to understand their journey and for self-growth.

In sharing biblical Creation, one should show a seasoned respect and conversant knowledge of Darwinian principles along with the challenges involved. To neglect this is to betray one’s scientific illiteracy and personal integrity. Yes, you do have to grapple with difficult foreign ideas, because most people take this seriously! Welcome to grassroots ministry!

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.

Weddings

Carson—Hartmann. James Carson, son of Paul Carson (Masterton, NZ) and Anne Marie Morton (Brisbane, Qld), and Beryl Chris Hartmann, daughter of Anton and Cris Hartmann (Blackburn, Vic), were married 25.1.09 in Bram Leigh receptions, Croydon. The couple are recent graduates of Avondale College, NSW, and will make their home in Katmandu, Nepal, where Beryl has an internship with ADRA.
Tony Campbell

Lewis—Spatola. Jamaal Lewis, son of Chris and Betty Lewis (Greenbank, Brisbane, Qld), and Laura Spatola, daughter of Sam and Angela Spatola (Browns Plains, Brisbane), were married 9.11.08 at Avica, Gold Coast. Jamaal arrived by helicopter while Laura rode in a gilded coach, once used by Queen Elizabeth II on a state visit to Brisbane.
Ron Lewis, Andre van Rensburg

Lupi—Southen. Scott Lupi, son of Kerry and Susan Lupi (Kerikeri, NZ), and Leanne Southen, daughter of Royce and Ellen Southen (Katikati), were married 29.12.08 in Tauranga church.
Pat Downey

Orchard—Booyesen. Keith Orchard and Wendy Booyesen were married 21.12.08 in Maida Vale church, Perth, WA.
Peter Fowler

Rea—Heather. Zac Rea, son of John and Fiona Rea (Auckland, NZ), and Kate Heather, daughter of Peter and Sheryl Heather (Auckland), were married 25.1.09 at the Ascension Estate, Matakana.
Ian McKean

Obituaries

Bell, Ronald Roy, born 12.3.1919; died 30.12.08 in St Vincent's Hospital, Toowoomba, Qld. He is survived by his wife, Bonnie; and his children, Barbara, Annette, Linda and Donald. Before moving to Toowoomba in 1968, Ron was a share farmer in the Narrabri district of New South Wales. Ron served our country with distinction during World War II, which was acknowledged by the RSL at his memorial service. Ron and his wife have been deeply appreciated as loyal and faithful members of Toowoomba Central church, and as supportive members of the surrounding communities. He will be sadly missed and now awaits the joy of eternal youth on the Resurrection morning.
Douw Venter, Clive Butcher

Boxsell/Baker, Sherle-Lee, born 22.8.1962 at Innisfail, Qld. She died tragically 14.1.09. On 11.8.01, Sherle-Lee married Bradley John Baker, after the death of her first husband. Both agreed they then entered into the happiest years of their lives. She died as she tried to save her only son, Daniel, while swimming at Butler's Falls, Dubbo, NSW. Sherle-Lee drowned but not before she saved her son's life. Shirley is survived by her husband; her mother,

Pearl Beckett; and her grateful son.
Roger Ward

Budarick, Howard Wilson, born 21.12.1932 at Murray Bridge, SA; died 10.11.08 in Canberra, ACT. On 20.3.1956, he married Josina (Josie) Johanna Versluis in Marylands (now Trinity Gardens) church, SA. He is survived by his wife (Canberra, ACT); his sister, Nadine (Melbourne, Vic); his children and their spouses, Darryl and Vanessa (Canberra, ACT), Steven (Canberra), Jennifer and Mark (Little Burra, NSW); and his eight grandchildren. A quiet, humble man, he operated a successful small electronics repair shop in Canberra until his retirement. Always fair and honest, he was a member of Rotary, who presented him with a lifetime achievement award, and a member of the Caravan club. He also participated in two fly'n'build programs in PNG. Having lived life well, he now rests, awaiting the coming of his Lord.
Neil Lawson

Erege, Robson (Robbie) Andrew, born 19.1.1927 at Kaitiaki, North NZ; died suddenly 25.7.07 in Auckland Hospital.

Erege, Maraea Tuhikura, born 24.3.1927; died 9.2.08 at home in Rawhiti Bay of Islands, NNZ. She is described as a "mother of Israel" by the many she touched through just talking and making people feel comfortable, no matter the walk of life they came from. Robbie was the first volunteer to receive the Award for Outstanding Service from the South Pacific Division at the Greater Sydney Conference session on 22.11.1997. Both Robbie and Maraea received the award for leading 35 fly'n'build teams, and their humanitarian work for people around the world.
Eric White, Frank Toa

Gamble, Lily Blodwin (nee Ballingal), born 7.4.1922 at Collie, WA; died 16.1.09 in Riverview Home, Collie. On 24.10.1947, she married Robert Gamble. She was predeceased by her husband (1990); and her children, John (1950) and Elizabeth (1951). She is survived by her siblings, Mick Ballingal (Harvey) and Joy Genev (Collie); her children, Judith Ingram (Collie), Wendy Pool (Busselton), Rosemary Wisewould (Fitzgerald), Robert (Bunbury), Jim (Bunbury), Susan Schinzig (Moodiarup), Philip (Brunswick), and Barbara Callaghan (Mandurah); her 28 grandchildren; her 27 great-grandchildren; and her great-great-grandchild. Lil was a hardworking person, who was ever protective of her family. In 1987, she was baptised and joined God's church, ever retaining her love of God's Word.
Robert Kingdon

Golightly, Ethel Louise, born 16.02.1914; died 23.01.09 at Bairnsdale, Vic. She was predeceased by her daughter, Betty, and is survived by her other children, Ronald, Trevor and Pauline. Ethel was buried at the Bumberrah Cemetery in a beautiful bush setting, where her mother was also buried many years before. Beverly Rye (retired Adventist educator), her niece, related in Ethel's life sketch, what a dedicated and well-loved teacher Ethel was. She served in many Seventh-day Adventist schools throughout Australia and was appreciated and much loved by her many students. In

recent times, Ethel relocated to be close to Trevor, her son in Scone, NSW, but due to ill health she transferred back to Bruthen (then Lakes Entrance) near Bairnsdale, where she succumbed to complications due to a fall. Ethel fought the good fight and was blessed with many years of life. She will be sorely missed by family and church alike. In the morning, Ethel.
John O'Malley, Ian Gilroy

Grace, Mareta, born 20.7.1918 at Stratford, Vic; died 1.12.08 in Sydney, NSW. Three years after graduation from Avondale College, she married Neville Grace, both of them being employees of Sanitarium. One son, Terry, was born to them; and both Terry and Neville predeceased her. Mareta was a leader of welfare ministry in local churches and was eventually appointed as the Welfare director for the Greater Sydney Conference—the first woman to hold the position in that conference. She reached another milestone when she became the first woman to serve on the South Pacific Division executive committee. After retirement, Mareta continued living out her passion for needy causes, serving as president of the Women's Auxiliary for Kings Langley Retirement Home and as a Pink Lady volunteer at Sydney Adventist Hospital. She touched many lives by her graciousness, generosity and humour. She loved her Lord and followed His example in serving others.
Lloyd Grolimund, Garth Bainbridge, John Kosmeier

Hollman, Kathleen, born 29.9.1931 in Hungary; died 4.1.09 in Dubbo Base Hospital of a coronary artery occlusion. She was married in Bourke in 1953 to Charles Hollman and is survived only by her son, Paris.
Ray Jackson

Lee, Melva Joyce (nee Ford) born 18.8.29; died 18.11.08 of cancer. She is survived by her husband, Pastor John Lee; her children, Deslie, Russel and Lorraine; her grandchildren, Jodie, Matthew, Joseph, Rebecca, Jessica, Tristan and Joshua; and her great-grandchildren, Sadie and Aaron. John and Melva served as missionaries in PNG, Tonga and Solomon Islands, as well as Australia. Melva was much loved. Her gentle disposition and constant happy smile lifted the spirits of all associated with her. She gave, with her husband, 10 years of service to the Kingdom of Tonga. The Tongan community at Cooranbong joined a large gathering of family and friends at her gravesite to sing as Melva was laid to rest in the Lord, in full confidence of the Resurrection.
Gordon A Lee, Leister Hawkes, Len Barnard, Elwyn Raethel

Parker, Lindsay James, born 29.5.1918 at Seppeltsfield, SA; died peacefully 16.1.09 at home at Echunga. On 2.2.1949, he married Yvonne Metcalfe. He was predeceased by his daughter, Elaine, on 22.9.1950. He is survived by his wife (Echunga); his children and their spouses, Steven and Yvrona (Nairne), Susan and John Williams (Balgurra, WA), and Carolyn and Lindsay Roesler (Echunga, SA); his grandchildren; and his great-grandchildren. A loving and caring gentleman who was dearly loved by his family and all who knew him, Lindsay

Volunteers!

English teacher—Mizpah Adventist High School, Tonga, requires a teacher for Forms 1 to 5 (equivalent of Year 7 to 11). Please contact Siosala Vaihola <svaihola@adventist.org.to>.

Yacht owners—Pacific Yacht Ministries, is seeking sailing vessels and owner captains for its 2009 season in Vanuatu. Vessels should be a minimum of 32 feet in length if monohulls, and should be registered and equipped for international passage. Evidence of hull and rigging surveys within the past two years should be available. Captains should have blue water experience, and preferably offshore skipper qualifications, and should be available between June and November 2009 for a period of at least one month.

Work will include health team and patient transportation, as well as transportation of equipment and supplies, and will involve having several people living onboard for extended periods of time.

Email:

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

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loved his Lord and served as an elder and deacon in the Southern Memorial and Stirling churches. He loved his garden. He served his country in WWII and was a POW in the Changi Prison Japanese Prison Camp on Singapore Island for three and a half years. While many died on Burma railway, he survived. Awaiting the Resurrection. The funeral was held at Brighton church on 22.1.09.
Lee Bowditch-Walsh

Przychodźki, Pastor Tadeusz, born 11.1.1927 at Maniewice, Poland; died 9.12.08 at Newcastle, NSW, after heart surgery. He is survived by his wife, Mirosława; his daughter, Janiana, his two grandsons, Jeffrey and Joshua (Newcastle); his daughter, Ruth (Batemans Bay); his brother, Bolslaw (Melbourne, Vic); and sisters, Helena and Danuta (Gold Coast, Qld). Pastor Tad's early life was lived through the horrors of WWII, helping his mother and siblings survive after his father was killed. Later, he attended Bible Seminary, after a promise to serve God for saving his life. He worked for 22 years as a pastor in Poland, holding numerous positions in the conference under difficult Communist rule. In 1974, Pastor Tad and his family moved to Australia, and he ministered in Sydney and Newcastle until his retirement. He has finished the race, he now rests until the Life-giver returns.
John Krysta, Kevin Amo



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vived by Glen, Gaye, Kyle, Kirsty and Rhianne (all of Brisbane), and Michael (England). Val's parents were Pastor Hilton and Alma Kent, who served as missionaries. Val's whole life was committed to serving others, especially children. During her teaching career, she received two citations in recognition of her dedicated ministry. A loving mother, and beloved and loyal friend, now awaiting the time when she will reunite with her family in the arms of the Lord.

R Possingham

Ward, Carmela Maria, died 15.12.08 at Ban Ban Springs, Qld. She is survived by her husband, James. Beloved sister, great Nana and Grandnana, dearly loved daughter and church member, Carmela will be sadly missed by those in the hospital and community she worked with. The Lord is waiting for the day He calls you.

Bruce Burling, Alan Aikenhead

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Medical practitioners needed for the Logan Adventist Health Association Health Centre. Full-time and part-time practitioners needed. Contact 0428 486 455.

Longburn Adventist College Inaugural Homecoming Easter 2009 (10-12 April). This homecoming will focus on the era from 1908 to 1959—all alumni (from any years) and family are welcome. NZ (06) 354 1059 LAC Reception, lac100@lac.school.nz.

40th Anniversary Lakeside (formerly Brightwaters) church. Members, former members, former pastors and friends of Lakeside church, NSW, are invited to celebrate with us. Please mark July 11, 2009, in your diary. Guest speaker: Pastor Graeme Christian. Inquiries: Pastor Clive Nash (02) 4977 2858 or email clivenash@adventist.org.au.

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Finally

There are better things ahead than any we leave behind.—C S Lewis

Roby, Erwin Donald, born 21.8.1917 in Sydney, NSW; died 10.1.09 at Tweed Heads. On 2.12.1939, he married Eliza Pearson, who has since predeceased him. He is survived by his children, Beth Ann and Ian Buchanan (Canberra, ACT), Brent and Patricia (Nanango, Qld), and Denise and Stephen Anderson (Terranora, NSW). Erwin had a strong and sincere faith in his heavenly Father and was deeply committed to his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Adrian Raethel

Roll, Margaret (Meg) Ellen (nee Gough), born 22.11.1914 at Bundaberg, Qld; died 30.12.08 at Bundaberg. Meg married Christian Maurice Roll, who predeceased her in 2003. She is survived by her three children and their spouses, Marjorie and Maurice Woods (Gympie), Maurice and Judy Roll (Cooranbong, NSW), and Shirley and Russell Morgan (Bundaberg, Qld); her 11 grandchildren; her 33 great-grandchildren; and her two great-great-grandchildren. She is also survived by two sisters, Rose Woolridge and Mary Bryer. Meg was a keen gardener and a very good cook. She put on a wonderful spread when Pastors Bill Otto and Bill Sleight came and gave the family Bible studies. Meg, with the rest of the family, was baptised by Pastor Jim Cherry in 1955. Meg worked in the Bundaberg church as deaconess and treasurer. She took a real interest in her grandchildren and they all loved her. She will be greatly missed.

Rodney Woods, Ernie Wojnar

Slade, William Edwin (Ted), born 20.7.1922 at Box Hill, Vic; died 20.12.08 in Cooranbong Nursing Home, NSW. On 15.11.1948, he married Patricia Lehner. He was predeceased by his twin daughters, who died at thirteen months in 1954. He is survived by his wife; and his sons, Paul (Erina), John (Bowral), and Phillip (Gold Coast). Ted is known to many through the family drilling business he founded. Ted and Pat have been members of the Kanwal church for more than 45 years. On the 15.11.08, Ted and Pat celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary, at his bedside in Cooranbong Nursing Home with his family. Ted has seven living grandchildren (Nathan deceased) and two great-grandchildren.

*Russel Stanley, David Hay
Len Barnard, Lynden Sedrick*

Smith, Ralph Cecil Henry, born 22.11.1916 at Collinsvale, Tas; died 30.6.08. On 7.9.1942, he married Geneva Ruth Lavinia Hadfield. He is predeceased by his daughter, Maralynn; his brother, Noel, and sister, Joan. He is survived by his children, Adrian, Josephine and Susan. He worked at the Warburton Sanitarium from 1942-1947, before working in publishing work in Melbourne, Adelaide, SA, and Hobart, Tas, from 1948-1957. He was also a church pastor until he retired in 1968, due to ill health.

Daron Pratt, Claude Judd

Southon, Valerie Helen (nee Kent), born 26.12.1940 at Nuzvid, India; died 13.1.09 in Greenslopes Hospital, Qld. She is sur-

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