

RECORD

February 28, 2009

In this issue

ADRA Australia
now part of AUC

Seven Secrets audio
book released

Finding Christ in a
Muslim country



Phil Hyland, Jeff Courtney and Tom Smith (left to right) load Sanitarium products for delivery to the Whittlesea relief centre for bushfire survivors in Victoria.

Church responds to bushfire tragedy

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

The president of the Australian Union Conference (AUC) has expressed deep sadness and grief over the tragic bushfires in Victoria. The death toll from the fires is estimated to be in excess of 200 people, and more than 1000 houses have been destroyed by the fires that burned out of control around the state earlier this month.

"I was stunned by the viciousness, speed and scope of the fires, and join all Australians in mourning the terrible loss of life," said Pastor Chester Stanley in a statement released to the media.

Pastor Stanley called on church members

around Australia to pray for those who have experienced the horror and loss of family, homes and possessions. Speaking in the days following the tragedy, he urged Adventists to also pray for the firefighters, State Emergency Service personnel, police, army and others who are stressed by the enormity and shock of the tragedy, and pray for favourable weather to bring an end to the fires.

Some Adventists have lost property but Pastor Stanley says it is still too early to ascertain whether any church members have been killed or injured.

(Continued on page 3)



Makeover for Cook Islands HQ



Any “answers” are too neat;
any questions are too raw.

It is well?

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2009, 7:30 am—staff worship, Signs Publishing Company, Warburton, Victoria:

It has been described as the worst disaster in Victoria’s history. Saturday was the hottest day ever recorded in the Melbourne region, following years of drought and weeks of heatwave conditions. Driven by gale-force hot winds, wildfires tore through the surrounding mountains, obliterating whole communities, leaving more than 100 people—and still counting—dead, more in hospitals and thousands homeless.

A billow of smoke had blacked out our sun on Saturday afternoon, showering us with ash, leaves and bark, and filling our homes, clothes and valley with the biting smell of smoke. We felt the same winds and shuddered at the thought of what it might do to stoke a fire. But our fears were not large enough.

A weather change comes and the winds begin to ease. But a late evening sprinkle of rain is more mocking than useful and the few raindrops fall as mud.

With major devastation less than an hour’s drive in a couple of directions, we have our nervous moments, listening intently to emergency radio broadcasts late into the night. And we almost feel kind of guilty about being so close but so unaffected.

The next morning, the wind has died away, allowing our valley to fill with smoke and an almost eerie quiet. The smell and

the emerging stories of loss fill our day. It is one thing to speak of people’s dreams being turned to ash; it is another thing to hear of the people themselves being incinerated. We feel helpless in the face of the enormity of what has happened and continues to happen. Little wonder people are giving—food, clothes, accommodation, household items, time, money, blood—so generously; it is the only way to feel like regaining a measure of control, the only way to respond to numbing tragedy.

And so we arrived early on Monday morning in our cars stained with the sky’s ashen tears, crossed the car park littered with the charred leaves and other debris dropped from the billowing pall that had shadowed the weekend, now under a sky that was almost clear.

Not just another Monday morning. A couple of our staff are still away as volunteer members of the country fire brigade.

By accident of rostering, I am the worship speaker and whatever I say feels like the inappropriate mumbling it probably is. Fumbling to find hope, even amid life stained with death. Any “answers” are too neat; any questions are too raw.

In accord with the worship practice, I had selected a hymn to be sung. It had seemed like it might fit—at least, the rolling “sorrows like sea-billows”—but the chorus’s assertion that “it is well with my soul” just doesn’t flow. Yes, I can say it. I can probably even believe it. But I don’t feel it. Not here, not now.

I stumble through a closing prayer and shuffle out of the worship room behind the rest of the staff, escaping to the solitude of my upstairs office. I sit and look out to the mountains above me. Today their usual beauty seems menacing, with just a few wisps of smoke clinging to the distant treetops.

It just doesn’t seem the day for “It is well with my soul.” And I would venture to suggest that “those who mourn” feel neither “blessed” nor “comforted” (see Matthew 5:4). Other promises seem to tear at the wounds. When walking “through the dark valley of death” (Psalm 23:4, NLT) is so obviously filled with terror and tragedy, how can we glibly say, “I will not be afraid”?

Despite the office phones not working for the morning, the day assumes a measure of everydayness, punctuated by sombre conversations about the weekend’s tragedies and checking on further fire reports.

Later in the day, I watch the spectacular smoky sunset at the end of the valley. But even the red-gilt edges on the clouds look like another fire turning the clouds to ash and another day to blackness—yet another smoking ruin. As well as the tragedies that have been, there are still fires and fears.

Tonight, “It is well” is definitely a statement of faith, rather than feeling. And the hope-filled, God-present conclusion is no less real—but will need to be written another day.

Nathan Brown



Official Paper of the South Pacific Division Seventh-day Adventist Church
ABN 59 093 117 689
www.adventistconnect.org

Vol 114 No 07
Cover: Tom Smith/
Sanitarium

Editor Nathan Brown
Editorial assistant Adele Nash
Editorial assistant Jarrod Stackelroth
Copyeditor Talitha Simmons
Editorial secretary Kristel Rae
Layout Kym Jackson
Senior consulting editor Barry Oliver

www.record.net.au

Mail: Signs Publishing Company
3485 Warburton Highway
Warburton, Vic 3799, Australia
Phone: (03) 5965 6300 Fax: (03) 5966 9019
Email Letters: editor@signspublishing.com.au
Email Newsfront: record@signspublishing.com.au
Email Noticeboard: editorsec@signspublishing.com.au
Subscriptions: South Pacific Division mailed within Australia and to New Zealand, \$A43.80 \$NZ73.00.
Other prices on application. Printed weekly.

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

Church responds to bushfire tragedy

(Continued from page 1)

No Adventist churches, schools or retirement villages have been damaged or destroyed. Pastor Stanley said the church was on the ground quickly to lend support.

"I'd also like to encourage every Adventist to join other Australians by providing cash donations as being the quickest and most effective means of providing support," he says.

The Victorian Conference donated an initial \$A25,000 from its funds and a special offering was collected in all churches in Victoria on February 14 to be used for immediate assistance of church families.

Pastor Wayne Stanley, general secretary of the Victorian Conference, says, "This offering is an initiative of the Victorian Conference. The money will go directly—and as quickly as possible—to those Adventist family and friends impacted by the fires."

"I am sure there is not a single person in Victoria who does not feel impacted by the current situation and the devastation caused by the bushfires," he adds. "At a time like this, we feel helpless and confused as we stand beside friends, neighbours and fellow church members who have been impacted by this disaster.

"At this stage, we are uncertain of the

total extent of the damage to the friends, families and neighbours of our church family. We are aware of a number of families who have lost their homes. We are also aware of a number of friends of the Adventist Church who have lost their lives in the fires. Our hearts and prayers go out to these people and their families."

"Please keep our community in your thoughts and prayers as many continue to battle the flames and sift through the rubble," he says. "May God be with our firefighters: we thank them for their bravery and pray that God will protect them. Our hearts go out to those who are victims of this tragedy: may God be with them as they rebuild their broken homes, families, hopes and dreams."

The Sanitarium Health Food Company has delivered Weet-Bix, So Good and Up&Go products to emergency centres operated by the Salvation Army and Red Cross in Whittlesea, Yea and other fire-affected areas.

The principal of Ironbark Christian School, Raelene Devlin, has reported the school is safe. The school, located in Yarrambat, was under no threat at the time of writing but is in an area in which fires have been active. The school has developed an emergency response and evacuation plan. All students, members of the staff and their



Students from Edinburgh Primary School (Lilydale, Vic) help load donated household items for delivery to bushfire survivors.

families are safe, although there was some loss of property for families of the school. Sadly, two former students were killed in the fires.

All 60 Adventist schools around Australia are also taking up gold coin collections from students to assist with the bushfire relief.

Counselling services and emergency accommodation are also being provided to people affected by the fires. Pastor Richard Araya-Bishop, pastor of the Warburton church, is organising and coordinating counselling on request for anyone in the region.—AMN staff

More @ www.record.net.au



◆ The highlight of the **Wallsend Pathfinder Club (NSW) Investiture** ceremony was perhaps the "Directors Most Improved Achiever Award," presented to an 11-year-old intellectually challenged boy. Before joining Pathfinders, **Stephen Brock** had never slept out of his own bed, cooked for himself or put up a tent. During the year, he

was most diligent in abseiling, although the leaders could see some of the pain on his face. He attended all of the activities, including the conference expedition at Mt Yengo, the bike day at Glenrock Lagoon, the Myall Lakes fun camp and **Clean Up Australia Day** at Wallsend. On some of the hikes, they had to do some pushing but he struggled until he succeeded. It was also a farewell Investiture for leader **Chris Hawkin**, who is moving to Albury for 12 months. The speaker for the day was **Pastor Jeff Parker**, director

of youth ministries for the North New South Wales Conference.

—Ray Boyce

◆ The **Whyalla church, SA**, recently initiated a **walking program** with the goal of encouraging its members to take **10,000 steps per day**. This is equivalent to the recommended **30 minutes of activity** on most days of the week, in order to promote health and reduce the risk of disease. **Joy Penman**, the church's health director, distributed pedometers to members and encour-



aged them to participate in the walking program. The participants determined the number of steps they initially made in a typical week and, if necessary, gradually increased their average daily steps in the following weeks. Emphasis was given to welcoming all opportunities to walk a few more steps into life.—**Whyalla News**

ADRA Australia responds to Victorian bushfires

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

In response to the tragic and devastating bushfires in Victoria, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Australia has committed \$A150,000 to fund a response in partnership with the government-nominated lead agency, the Australian Red Cross.

This continues ADRA Australia's longstanding formal partnership with Australian Red Cross federally, and in four states and territories.

ADRA's response is provided from its Disaster Preparedness and Response Fund. If supporters wish to help replenish this fund, donations can be made to ADRA's Disaster Preparedness and Response Fund online or by calling 1800 242 372 in Australia.

However, ADRA Australia is unable to accept any material goods or volunteers in this response.

"This is a horrific disaster, and our hearts and prayers go out to all those affected," said ADRA Australia's director of emergency management, Chris Olafson. "Healing from this will take some time, as people realise what they've just



ADRA Australia has committed \$A150,000 to fund a response to the bushfires that have devastated many towns in Victoria.

survived and what they need to do to rebuild their lives. So, as the teams on the ground work with each community to determine what the needs are, the response and recovery effort will continue to rollout over the coming weeks, months and even years."

ADRA Australia will continue to provide updates on its website, <www.adra.org.au>. Individuals wishing to make donations can also do so via the ADRA Australia website.

—*Candice Jaques*

More @ www.adra.org.au

Makeover for Cook Islands HQ

RAROTONGA, COOK ISLANDS

The Cook Islands Mission (CIM) administrative headquarters in Rarotonga has had a makeover. The recently renovated and extended offices include a large space, which can be used by other community groups.

In January, Dr Barry Oliver, president of the South Pacific Division, and Pastor Jerry Matthews, president of the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference, opened and rededicated the renovated and extended building.

"The facilities are so well presented and representative of our church that even the Prime Minister of the Cook Islands will be envious," Pastor Matthews said.

Other denominations have already started to book the facility, which includes a kitchen to cater for community functions.

The administrative mission building also includes a communications room for preparing audio and video messages for the new rollout of the Hope Channel to the free-to-air TV network.

The Adventist Christian Bookshop now has a permanent display of books and DVDs, with Sanitarium foods also for sale.—*David Gibbons*



◆ In a first for **Carmel Adventist College (WA)**, there is now a Year 7 class operating on campus. Taught by **Heather Taylor**, students are able to follow a modified program in a **purpose-designed classroom**. Traditionally, students in WA complete Year 7 as part of primary school. Students now cover the Year 7 curriculum but have the advantage of being able to access

resources normally associated with secondary education. According to **Steve Walker**, director of Studies, "Our Year 7 students are able to get a taste of the secondary experience by choosing subject options taken by different teachers. This gives them an idea of what a full secondary education entails." Increasing numbers of private schools in WA are adding Year 7 to their secondary offer to bring the educational experience of students into line with the rest of the country. The proposed **National Curriculum** also makes this a prudent move. Year 7 students have their own

separate lockers and bag racks in their classroom but have access to the rest of the school, and join the other secondary students for recess, lunchtime and weekly assembly. There is already a waiting list for 2010 and the college is moving toward a two-stream intake for next year.—*Gavin Williams*

◆ **Karalundi Aboriginal Education Centre students** paid tribute to **Avy Curley**, one of the school's founding members, during the funeral service held at the **Meekatharra Shire Hall (WA)** on February 6. Mrs Curley's family



and relatives, along with Karalundi staff and students, sang Mrs Curley's favourite hymn, "Face to Face," at the funeral. **Pastors Eric Davey, Don Fehlberg, Ken Vogel** and Karalundi chaplain **Dieter Stahl** officiated at the funeral service. Mrs Curley, is also known in the **Murchison Aboriginal History Timeline** for her role in the 1940s protest against the 6 pm curfew in

DAYS AND OFFERINGS: ◆ MARCH 7—ADVENT WORLD RADIO ◆ MARCH 28—ADVENTIST YOUTH OFFERING

Seven Secrets released as audio book

WARBURTON, VICTORIA

Seven Secrets for Feeling Fantastic by Dr Darren Morton is now available as an audio book on disc—with a copy of the book—at Adventist Book Centres. It is the first audio book to be produced from one of the books published by Signs Publishing Company.

Dr Morton, senior lecturer in physical education and health at Avondale College, recorded the book last year for the South Pacific Division's Christian Services for the Blind and Hearing Impaired ("Secrets available for blind, hearing impaired," News, June 7, 2008).

"The idea of recording *Seven Secrets* as an audio book really excited me," Dr Morton says. "In today's society, the audio medium is a really popular method for digesting information, so I was keen to have my book available in that format.

"I'm honoured to be the first cab off the ranks and it would be great to see more of the Signs publications available in an audio format."

Although the audio book only runs a little longer than two hours, it took around 10 hours to record. Dr Morton says, "It was actually more tiring than I thought it would be. Kristin Thiele, the audio technician, was very patient with me when I made mistakes and we had to back up."

Dr Morton hopes the audio book will help influence the

lives of others in positive ways, as the book has done. "*Seven Secrets* is really my attempt to revitalise our Adventist health message because it has so much going for it," he says.

"The audio book has a slightly different orientation to the book. The book was written specifically for a Christian audience, whereas the

audio version has been slightly modified to appeal to the non-Christian community. The fundamentals are the same and the



Dr Darren Morton.

Christian themes remain but I wanted to record it in such a way that Christians could offer it to their non-churchgoing friends without reserve."

"This began as an initiative of Darren and Avondale College as a contribution to Christian Services for the Blind but they have been willing to work with us to share this much more widely, which is exciting, and we thank them for it,"

says Nathan Brown, editor of Signs Publishing Company. "So it is now available as a package with the book itself and we hope more people will take the opportunity to connect with the great material in the book, as well as having another way of sharing it with their friends.

"Darren is a gifted communicator and passionate about people's wellbeing—and I think that came through in recording *Seven Secrets* in this way."

Dr Morton has also filmed a TV series for Hope Channel based on the material in the book, which will be airing in the coming months.—Adele Nash

More @ www.SevenSecretsForFeelingFantastic.com



The *Seven Secrets* audio book is available from Adventist Book Centres.

Mt Magnet when she, with a baby in her arms, led a march through the streets against the law prohibiting Aborigines from going out after 6 pm. She was presented the **Order of Australia Medal** by the Queen in 1980. **Steve Piez**, former Karalundi administrator, authored the book, *What are you doing for us?*, a history of Karalundi, titled in honour of Mrs Curley's question that prompted the founding of the school.—Romela Sangalan

◆ As part of its contribution toward assisting those affected

by the recent flooding, **Adventist Development and Relief Agency Fiji** has distributed almost **2000 packs of food** items to those identified as needing assistance in the **Nadroga, Nadi and Ba districts**. Director **Save Cavalevu** says this was a small gesture to alleviate the suffering and discomfort of those families devastated by the flood.—The Fiji Times Online

◆ **TV advertising** for a free viewing of the **Search videos** will screen in the southern regional area of Western Australia on Gold-
en West Network, March 7 to 15.

◆ The Seventh-day Adventist Church is launching a **new television show**, featuring panelists tackling subjects such as the role of women in the church, the influence of media on Christianity, and the relevance of marriage in today's society. The series, titled "**Intersection: Your Faith, Your World**," will begin airing February 6 on the church's international satellite network, **Hope TV**. The programs will be available for download at intersection.adventist.org. The show is a series of about **100 episodes**, which will run

Friday nights for two years, with re-runs available at other times of the week. "The programs aim to explore issues we all face in society and as Adventist Christians in our faith community," says **Pastor Rajmund Dabrowski**, executive producer and communication director for the General Conference. The program is meant to serve as a starting point for discussions in small groups, Bible studies and Sabbath school classes. The panels will consist of Adventist commentators, academics and professionals.—ANN

ADRA Australia now part of AUC

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Australia now sits under the corporate umbrella of the Australian Union Conference (AUC), following changes to ADRA Australia's constitution at its annual general meeting in November, 2008. Prior to this, ADRA Australia came under the administration of the South Pacific Division (SPD).

This change reflects the growth of the ADRA network in the South Pacific and the need for ADRA Australia to be more closely aligned with the strategic direction of the AUC.

"Twenty-five years ago, when an ADRA presence was first established in the Pacific to care for work across the region, the SPD administered it from one office in Sydney," said ADRA Australia's former board chair, Peter Brewin.

"But ADRA has really grown and we now have offices in several Pacific countries to look after the work in each area," he said. "This growth has enabled the original ADRA office, now ADRA Australia, to focus its work on solely representing the Australian people and government. It was incorporated in 2004, meeting Australian government regulations, and also raises

funds from the Australian public and government. Since it now functions only in the Australian context, it is more appropriate for it to be administered by the Australian Union Conference, instead of the South Pacific Division," Mr Brewin said.

This administrative move to the AUC has not altered ADRA Australia's project work or any of its daily operations. ADRA Australia will continue to support projects overseas and in Australia.

"Being administered by the AUC hasn't changed our purpose," said ADRA Australia's chief executive officer, Jonathan Duffy. "Our day-to-day work continues as usual, providing support to communities in need in the Pacific, Asia and Africa, as well as here in Australia."

The location of ADRA Australia's office will also remain unchanged, with the office remaining in Sydney, although the AUC is located in Melbourne.

ADRA Australia's administrative move to the AUC has, however, required a change in the agency's ex officio board positions and a change to how company members are appointed. ADRA Australia's board of directors will now include Pastor Chester Stanley, AUC president, as board chair; Pastor Ken Vogel, AUC company secretary; and Kingsley Wood, AUC chief financial officer, as board

members. Company members will be appointed by the executive committee of the AUC, rather than the executive committee of the SPD.

In response to the growth of ADRA in the South Pacific, the SPD is establishing an ADRA South Pacific Regional Office to support country offices in the region. ADRA South Pacific will not operate or fund projects but will provide country offices, such as ADRA Australia, with support in governance, training, capacity building, licensing and support to meet accreditation criteria. ADRA South Pacific, to be managed by Greg Young, will not be incorporated nor will it have deductible gift recipient status, which means it will not be able to provide tax-deductibility. ADRA supporters wanting tax-deductibility on donations should continue to donate through the ADRA office in their country.

ADRA Australia is one of six ADRA offices in the South Pacific region. ADRA also has offices in New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Fiji. Each ADRA office implements projects within its own country, with ADRA Australia and ADRA New Zealand also supporting projects in developing countries.—*Candice Jaques*

More @ www.adra.org.au

◆ Underprivileged school children in Albania are learning the official Albanian language, polishing up their reading and writing skills at an educational centre geared specifically toward the **nomadic Roma (gypsy) tribe**. The centre, established by the **Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)**, aims to help Roma children from the nearby squatter community successfully transition into the public school system. "This was a major achievement for ADRA, since this is the first school in Albania designed specifically for

Roma," said **Lamar Phillips**, country director for ADRA Albania. The ongoing social exclusion of Roma communities across Albania is creating significant gaps and deficiencies in education for thousands of children.—*Nadia McGill/ANN*

◆ **The Vatican** has released a statement stating that **Charles Darwin** was on the right track when he claimed that humans descended from apes. A leading official declared Darwin's theory of evolution was compatible with Christian faith, and could even

be traced to **St Augustine** and **St Thomas Aquinas**. The Vatican also dealt the final blow to speculation that **Pope Benedict XVI** might be prepared to endorse the theory of Intelligent Design, whose advocates credit a "higher power" for the complexities of life.—*The Times*

◆ Geneva's **International Museum of the Reformation** this year celebrates the **500th anniversary of John Calvin's birth** with "A Day in the Life of John Calvin"—a temporary exhibition, which features contextualised **3-D sim-**

ulations of the reformer's life. Featuring Calvin in his familiar surroundings and activities will help foster a better understanding of his life and actions, in the manner of a documentary film. Several 16th century engravings, objects and books will also be featured in the exhibition. The museum's world-class exhibit falls during 2009, the **Year of Faith Tourism**, designated by the World Religious Travel Association (WRTA) as a year set aside for the promotion of, and participation in, travel by people of faith.—*ASSIST news service*

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

Two ordained in NZPUC

MANUKAU, NEW ZEALAND

Two pastors were recently ordained in the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference (NZPUC).

Pastor Russell Puna was ordained on January 29 on the island of Aitutaki, Cook Islands. His wife, Louisa, and son, Russell Jnr, were by his side to celebrate the event.

Pastor Puna graduated from Fulton College in 2002 with a diploma in Theology, then graduated from Pacific Adventist University in 2003 with a BA in Theology. Pastor Puna worked as an intern with Pastor Teina Taivairanga in Arorangi and Titikaveka for two years, and has worked in the Cook Islands, ministering to the three churches on Aitutaki, for the past three years.

He is now working as the youth director for the Cook Islands Mission (CIM).

The Avarua Adventist church on Rarotonga hosted the January 31 ordination of Pastor Taiti Toroma. Pastor Toroma's wife, Rufina, and their children stood by his side during the service.

Since completing his internship on Rarotonga, Pastor Toroma has been ministering to the outer Cook Islands and replaced Pastor Puna on Aitutaki this year.

Pastor Toroma graduated from Fulton College in 1999, and has since worked for churches in the CIM. He worked



Pastor Russell Puna and his wife, Louisa (centre), with church officials at his ordination.

as an intern at the Arorangi Adventist church under the guidance of the late Pastor Uma Katu. He later returned to minister to the islands of Manihiki and Rakahanga for three years, before being called to look after work on the islands of Atiu, Mauke and Mangaia. The past two years of his ministry have been spent on Mauke island.

Pastor Toroma and his wife have six children and two grandchildren.

Dr Barry Oliver, president of the South Pacific Division; Pastor Jerry Matthews, president of the NZPUC; Peter Lynch, secretary-treasurer for the NZPUC; and Pastor Eliu Eliu, president of CIM, officiated at the two ordination services.

Dr Oliver delivered the sermon for both services. He challenged each pastor to be a spiritual leader in the Adventist Church. "The church has the right to expect its pastors to be deeply spiritual and live in a close relationship with God," he said. He also emphasised that ministry is a shared function, saying, "All disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ are called to the ministry of reconciliation, as we're told in 2 Corinthians 5: 17, 18. The privilege and responsibility of the pastor is to equip the people of God for their ministry functions and to share in the joy of service."

He prayed for God's special blessing on the wives and families of each of the pastors.—**Jerry Matthews/Eliu Eliu/Adele Nash**



Pastor Taiti Toroma and his wife, Rufina (centre), with church officials following his ordination.

First camp-meeting in three years for Tasmania

DEVONPORT, TASMANIA

The Tasmanian Conference has met for a conference camp-meeting for the first time after three years.

The 10-day camp-meeting was held from January 16 to 25 at the Pine Springs Campground in East Devonport for the first time since being closed due to occupational health and safety issues.

Over the past three years, church leadership and members worked to upgrade the area to make it more

suitable for camping, as well as user-friendly for disabled people. During this period, church members met over weekends for "mini-camps" and "retreats."

According to Pastor Wayne Boehm, president of the Tasmanian Conference, regional camp-meetings are vital in creating a "sense of unity . . . and fellowship that [church members] in smaller churches don't get throughout the year."

The theme of the camp was "Fuel the flame," designed to "promote the spiritual disciplines that bring us into connection with God, Who ignites the flame to be His faithful workmen." Guest speakers for the camp-meeting included Pastor Ben Maxson and Alden Ho.—**Kaleb McKay/Melody Tan**

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



Leading discussion at the Tasmanian camp-meeting.



Young people from around Tasmania at the camp-meeting.

Finding Christ in a Muslim country

BY SHELLEY NOLAN FREESLAND

OUR WORLD CONTINUES TO struggle for freedom of religion. In the past year, two Adventist World Radio (AWR) producers nearly lost their lives because they were discovered making programs that are heard in Muslim areas. Many listeners to “The Voice of Hope” broadcasts suffer in various ways because of their decision to heed God’s call.

But the gospel continues to be heard by people in these difficult areas because of the reach of AWR. Following is a series of email messages we received from one listener. It illustrates not only the harsh reality faced by those who wish to follow Jesus but also the inspiring testimony of a changed life.

First message:

Thank you so much. I really love AWR and its programs. To introduce myself, my name is Amin. I am a boy of 19 years old and I am from [a Muslim country]. Please, will you help me to learn more about Christianity and Jesus Christ? I’m eager to know about this religion and this radio.

Second message—one month later:

How delightful it was to receive your first letter. A great joy filled my heart. But I have some questions.

1. How does Christianity view the other religions?
2. Can a non-Christian become Christian?
3. If yes, what conditions fulfil this conversion?
4. How do I know I am “saved”?
5. What will happen to me if I don’t “receive Christ”?
6. Is it true that all I have to do is “believe”?
7. How do I pray?
8. Can you explain Matthew 10:34-36 and Corinthians 6:3?

May I have a Bible (both of them: Old and New Testament)? I do hope I am not putting you to too much trouble. Thank you again for your precious letter and helpful programs. Please, pray for me.



Third message—two months later:

I’m very happy to say I have received Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and Saviour. My life has just begun.

As a teenager, I wanted to be happy. I wanted meaning in life. I was asking myself, “Who am I? Where am I going?” But when I started to know Jesus Christ, my life has changed.

I know Satan hates me now more than ever but I also know that Jesus is alive to help me live a new life that is pleasing to God. Now I’m a new Christian. Every day, I read the Bible (using the internet). I read some stories and miracles of the Lord. I’m learning more truths. The Word of God makes my heart come alive again and my prayers bring light to me.

The message of Jesus Christ is my only hope. I have sincerely trusted in His Word and I am following Him. Really, He was right when He said, “I’m the light of the world. I’m the way, the truth

and the life.”

I wish I could find someone to share the Word of God with, and Jesus’ salvation and prayers, because I don’t want to be alone with Satan, especially as I have just begun my new life.

Next message—two months later:

Every day, they abuse me and say, “Let the Christians feed you if they can,” and start laughing. My father tore up my Christian books and said, “If I see one book like those between your hands, I will bury you alive.”

I know that Jesus Christ said, “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven.”

But what should I do if my family kicks me out? Where to go? What to do? Don’t tell me to pray or to read the Bible. I do that every day. I can’t receive any letters now



AWR’s ministry is unique in several ways:

- Programs are created in 75 languages by native speakers from each country.
- Several thousand hours of programs are broadcast each day, covering the majority of the world.
- Programs can be heard on AM, FM and shortwave radio, as well as internet podcasts and satellite transmissions.
- Radio can reach more people, for less money, than nearly any other form of outreach.
- Broadcasts bypass political and geographic barriers, bringing the message of hope to people who are otherwise inaccessible.

AWR offering—next week, March 7



because my father will get them instead of me and burn them.

God bless you.

Last message—a few days later:

I don't care what's happening to me. I love Jesus Christ. I'm ready to die for Him. When my father tore up my Christian books, I used to read the Bible on my computer but now I'm not allowed to use it. I'm obliged to borrow some money from my friends to go to the cyber cafe.

Yesterday, two policemen came to our house and asked to meet me. One of them said, "I think you were playing, right? You'd better stop this Christianity game and be a man. But if you don't stop this game, we'll bury you alive. We'll consider you a terrorist. I think you know the result. In this case, prison will welcome you forever."

I'm sure I'll be taken to prison soon. Either this week or the next one. I'm just writing to let you know, not to ask for help. I know no-one can help me, even Christians but only the Lord.

I don't know what will happen to me. Maybe this email will be the last one.

This was the last message we received from Amin. We pray that he is safe and faithful.

By giving generously to the AWR Annual Offering, you will make it possible for millions of people around the world to hear about God and His love for the first time. **R**

To learn more about Adventist World Radio, please visit <www.awr.org>.

Shelley Nolan Freesland is communication director for Adventist World Radio.

Matthew: More than a storyteller

BY CLIVE NASH

MOST OF US LIKE STORIES AND Matthew was a great storyteller. Think, for example, of his account of Jesus' birth and the wise men; Satan tempting Jesus; calming the storm; the four miracles in Matthew 9—a haemorrhaging woman, the ruler's daughter resurrected, two blind men healed, and a mute demon-possessed man restored; the events of Chapter 14—the tragic beheading of John the Baptist, feeding the 5000, then Jesus walking on water, inspiring Peter to try it as well. There are many other stories but not least is the account of the final events in the earthly life of Jesus. All of these make the Gospel of Matthew memorable reading.

When we look a little closer, we see that Matthew was not just a good narrator but a craftsman, too. A few things stand out.

First, he seems to have been writing to Jews to convince them that Jesus was the Messiah. He has more Old Testament quotations than Mark, Luke or John. The Jews loved the Old Testament, especially the five books of Moses known as "the Torah."

Second, we notice that Matthew builds his gospel around five great talks of Jesus. We probably know the first of these best. It is Chapters 5 to 7 and we call it "The Sermon on the Mount." The other four "sermons" are Chapters 10, 13, 18, and 24 to 25. At the end of each of these talks, Matthew writes, "When Jesus had finished saying these things" (see, for example, Matthew 7:28). This gives us a clue as to how he is putting it all together.

It seems Matthew was saying, in effect, to his Jewish readers, "Here is a new five-section Torah to flesh out the old; here is a new Moses—one greater than Moses and it is Jesus, the long-promised Messiah."

Third, Matthew's Gospel seems to be written for everyone: we are his audience; the whole world is his target. It is Matthew, remember, who writes, "Go therefore and



make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19*).

And it is interesting that this Jew—known in Mark's and Luke's Gospels as Levi—should distance himself from Judaism and the synagogue by saying, "And [Jesus] went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel" (4:23). He does not write "our synagogues" but "their," as if to say, "OK, I am a Jew but I am not like those Jews who refused to accept Jesus as the Messiah. They have stayed in their synagogues with their old ideas. I am now a Christian."

The next time you read Matthew, enjoy its Jewishness but also say, "He wrote this for me." Especially claim the promise of the closing words, "And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). **R**

**All Bible quotations are from the English Standard Version.*

Clive Nash pastors Lakeside church, Lake Macquarie, New South Wales.

Of music, grace and “being moved”

BY KANDUST THORP

HOPE CHANNEL RECENTLY COMPLETED production of 222 programs during Project Hope Australia, a number of which are now showing on Hope Channel. Among these were 11 new episodes for the ongoing series, *My Story, My Song*, recorded in Queensland. In one episode for this series, we interviewed Australian musician Geoff Bullock, author of many well-known praise and worship songs including “The Power of Your Love.” The following are excerpts from that interview.

As I’ve travelled around the world, I have heard your music sung in Brazil in the Portuguese language, in Germany in German, and, of course, in South Africa, the Philippines, and all over. So to me, it’s such a blessing to see someone like you—you’ve just done your best right here in Australia but God has taken what you’ve done all around the world.

It’s a funny feeling. I feel like a father who has children . . . children who have left home and they’ve become successful, so for me, I’m just Geoff Bullock, a normal Aussie bloke. It’s the songs that have become well-known and the work has been how God has used the songs.

I’d love to talk to you about your process of songwriting.

Songwriting is a funny thing for me because sometimes it’s hard work. I want the lyrics to be right, I don’t want them to be full of clichés. I want them to communicate something and say something in a phrase that may take a paragraph to understand. I’m trying to get those images across.



Australian musician Geoff Bullock performed for the filming of *My Story, My Song* for Hope TV at Noosa (Qld) late last year.

So you work really hard first on those words, and then you set them to music?

I can—but other times it all just arrives.

So have you ever been preparing for church and you just needed one more song?

“The Power of Your Love” was written on a Saturday night. We went to a friend’s place for dinner. There was a piano in the house, so I simply sat down and the first line was literally what I was feeling: “Lord, I come to You.” By dinner, I’d written the first verse, and I went home and thought I needed a second verse. The second verse was quite freaky because I just sat there and wrote it out—just wrote it out! It would have taken 30 or 40 seconds. The next morning, I go to church and we did it for worship.

And “The Power of Your Love” has been one of your signature songs.

I think it would be my signature song. It’s the song I think most people know, even if

they don’t know who I am. It has certainly travelled around the world.

I would like to explore your walk with Christ. So how has your spiritual journey been?

It’s been up and down. There have been some wonderful high notes. There have been some sad moments. I suffer from deep and dark depression at times. And at other times, my life sort of zips along in an almost uncontrolled manner, and that’s called “bipolar disorder.” It’s been a struggle. Those are dark times. And there are times when you’re almost hoping for hope. You believe there is hope there but you’re just hoping there will be a day when the cloud lifts.

So obviously, in those times, creatively, there’s been a torrent of material and when I come out of it, and when God leads me out or calls me out or—a better way of saying it—“walks with me out” because He’s there with me in the darkness. In those times, I

reflect back and really am amazed at the miracle of how my life has risen.

So you actually do a lot of writing in the times you are experiencing depression?

Yes, a tremendous amount of writing but more so in poetry. I've had my experience in these and my prayers for hope. So a lot of writing. I found that my songs began to flow as I started to come out, as I have expressed the rising of a dawn, the rising of hope, the rising of realising that the season has changed.

It is remarkable that God takes people where they are and walks with them.

I love that!

Absolutely. Sometimes, I think we live a Christianity that's guilt tinged: we judge ourselves harshly, we judge ourselves by what we do rather than what God has done. And so sometimes, we may look at depression in our lives and not understand it's just a sickness. God has not left us—there is hope. As He walks with us, giving us keys and tools, there is a way through.

And it's OK to get help for depression.

Yes, absolutely. Obviously, I seek counsellors and medication—and, of course, that is OK.

You wrote a book that was published in 1998 called *Hands of Grace*. I thought it was so powerful that you say you didn't fall from grace but that . . . ?

I fell into grace. Grace is there because we're flawed. There is nothing we can do that can make God love us more. And there is nothing we can do that makes God love us less. In fact, not only do we "fall into grace" but we are always "in" grace because in essence, it's grace that takes that flaw in us and makes us kids of the kingdom.

So why are you rewriting the lyrics to some of your songs?

Because I think I've missed a miracle. I wrote in the "Power of Your Love," "Lord, I come to You," and so much about Christianity, about prayers, our praise and worship is about us going to God: "Lord, I come to You; Lord, I'm coming to ask you to do something," and that's not the miracle.

The miracle is "Lord, You come to me"—the central message of the Christmas story is God coming out of the eternity of time and space, and shrinking Himself down to join the human race. God comes unannounced to us to show us grace and love.

So we worked a third verse of the "Power of Your Love" into: "Lord, You come to me." And instead of saying "Lord, hold me close," again turning around to "You hold me close" and "You let Your love surround me."

Do your songs mean more to you now?

Absolutely. I suppose now I've reworked some of them and rewritten them as if I were writing them now, they say some-

"Be moved by the plight of humanity. Be moved by those who don't have a voice. . . . Be moved by issues that we should as God-fearing, God-loving and God-who-loves-us people."

thing to me of my journey. In the midst of darkness; in the midst of high times and low times; in the midst of fears and anxiety; He comes to me, He holds me close and He loves me! And I see the songs still working in my life.

I read an article published in an Australian journal some years ago entitled "Beyond Self-centred Worship," where you wrote "We've made worship self-centred instead of God-centred. It's as if we're worshipping worship instead of God."

We're seeing a cultural revolution based on music and worship songs, and we are seeing that churches have been built on the standard, quality and proficiency of their music and singers.

What worries me about this is that people are now going to church because the music is good and, if the music isn't good, they'll change churches and go somewhere else.

What has happened to the church? Have we forgotten why we're there?

I think it's sad that when we use the word "worship," people now immediately think of music. Worship is our response to the life of Jesus Christ: how He touched broken people and came into people's lives. So worship is a lifestyle; worship is a choice.

So worship is far more than just music.

I would go as far as saying worship isn't music. I would say worship is the meeting of us and Christ. Worship is this relationship God is having with us, this God—we've been saying—Who comes to us.

What would you say to aspiring young songwriters today?

Be moved by the plight of humanity. Be moved by those who don't have a voice. Be moved by the many people who don't know where the next meal is coming from. Be moved by issues that we should as God-fearing, God-loving and God-who-loves-us people.

But also, watch your lyrics. Be a good craftsperson. Be somebody who could craft a good line and a good melody. And be inspired not by the music and not by the melody but by Who Jesus is.

What's your greatest wish for the future, personally?

I think I would like to strive less and be more assured of what I've been saying; that this is Christ's work in me. I'd also like to be stretched so I don't dismiss the breadth and the depth and the height that is Christ, so I don't, in my thinking, contain it to what I want to know—and write songs that mirror that. **R**

My Story, My Song is a Hope Channel production, which profiles the stories and music of talented Christian musicians from around the world. The program takes in a range of musical genres from classical to indie, and from violin to steel pans. The thread tying these diverse musicians together is their love for Christ and the inspiring testimonies they share of the way He has blessed them through music.

For more, visit <www.MyStoryMySong.org>.

Kandus Thorp is Hope Channel's associate director for international development, executive producer for Project Hope, and producer and host for My Story, My Song.

Visiting Coonabarabran

BY PEEMPAHN HENLEY

WE HAD A BIG WEEK. I HAD A FINAL EXAM AND, THE following day, we hiked through the Warrumbungles. So we were so glad Sabbath was approaching. When we drove to Coonabarabran on the way to Warrumbungle National Park, we both spotted the ADRA Op Shop, and dropped in to say hello and get directions to the church.



We met Matt and Lisa Revelly (pictured with their family) in the shop. Matt volunteers there two days a week and Lisa, one day a week. Matt is a deacon and Lisa is doing numerous jobs, including bulletin coordinator and treasurer. They live in a smaller nearby town and, by the smiles on their faces, we could tell they enjoy serving the Lord!

At Sabbath school, our young son, Joshua, felt at home with two girls. He played with them like he used to with his friends at Fox Valley church.

Once a month, the members have a potluck lunch together, followed by everyone visiting the local nursing home. There, a group plays music to the residents.

Over lunch, we met Roy Poyser, who shared the history of the church with us. Roy is a bee farmer, who has been living in Coonabarabran for 50 years. At the beginning of the church in the town, there were only two Adventist families. One family donated a piece of land to the church and they started a church school.

After five years, the school couldn't operate anymore so the building was moved into town and used as a church. The building was renovated in 1974, and dedicated in 1975. The church hall, though, came from the old campground in Eraring. The building was sawn in five pieces, and Roy, with the help of Ian Watson, put them back together.

Thank you to Ian's wife, Barbara, who shared with us about the church history, too. She knows my husband Jared's parents, so we again found some family friends.

Coonabarabran church has recently formed a mothers group to reach out to the community. They meet at 11 am on Thursdays. So far, they have three mothers and pray more will join the group. It would be nice to have more young families coming to church.

It was so lovely to share the Sabbath and Sabbath lunch with the church members at Coonabarabran. When we were far away from family—and "homeless"—we found a home right here in this church. **R**

Peempahn Henley is from Sydney but is currently travelling around Australia with her family.

Record Roo



Hi kids!
Pharaoh's soldiers killed many of the Hebrews' baby boys. But the Bible tells us that one mother managed to save her baby by hiding him in a very interesting way!

Bible Text

Now a man of the house of _____ married a Levite _____, and she became _____ and gave birth to a _____. When she saw that he was a fine child, she _____ him for three months. But when she could _____ him no longer, she got a papyrus _____ for him and coated it with _____ and _____. Exodus 2:1-3 NIV

Word Search

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



LEVITE, HEBREWS, EGYPTIANS,
MOTHER, SISTER, BABY,
MOSES, BASKET, PAPYRUS,
TAR, PITCH, NILE, REEDS,
HIDE, EGYPT, PHARAOH,
DAUGHTER, FIND, SLAVE,
CRYING, NURSE

Growing in the light

ERICK VAN SCHOONHOVEN, VIC

I was concerned when I read “New light?” (Letters, January 31). It appears the writer thinks “new light”—or new understanding—destroys the pillars of faith but nothing could be further from the truth. On the contrary, it enhances the perception of a doctrine, making it more beautiful and valuable.

In the introduction to the exposition of the Fundamental Beliefs of the Adventist Church, *Seventh-day Adventists Believe*, the authors state, “We have not written this book to serve as a creed—a statement of beliefs set in doctrinal concrete. Adventists have but one creed: the Bible and the Bible only.” This statement quite clearly allows for further discoveries.

Jesus Himself told His disciples, “I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear” (John 16:12, NIV). Then He added that the Holy Spirit would “guide you into all truth” (verse 13).

No doubt, this would take place when the Holy Spirit considered the people ready for more and new light. In other words, if there was no new light, we would have to conclude that the Holy Spirit failed in His responsibility. Jesus’ statement guarantees that new truths would come. The doctrinal pillars will remain but a better understanding of them is guaranteed as time goes on.

In Ellen White’s time, there were some who thought new light would destroy the pillars. She wrote, “There is no excuse for anyone taking the position that all our expositions of Scripture are without error. Because certain doctrines have been held as truth for many years by our people is not proof our ideas are infallible” (*Counsels to Writers and Editors*, page 35). Indeed, there are a number of examples of beliefs held by early Adventist pioneers that have changed and grown over time, because of greater understanding and “new light.”

Keep it pure

ROSITA FROST, VIC

I agree with “Believe or leave?” (Letters, January 31), where ministers in our church are preaching against a six-day Creation.

The Bible has outlived any book in history and this is a miracle, knowing how it has been attacked and burned. Some other churches teach evolution as if it is the only option. But the theories of evolution led to the slaughter of indigenous people, Hitler’s cruelty during World War II and so much more. Error leads to fanaticism and cruelty. Let’s keep our wonderful teachings pure.

Music and art are the creations of our God, and He calls many to do it for His glory. While the entertainment industry has countless talented people who are far from having a relationship with God despite having received their talent from Him, are we in a position to decide who makes a living from their craft and who does not?

Many illegal downloaders will justify

Do we surround ourselves in grey to save a few bucks and demand less of ourselves?

Plant or grow?

JEAN TASKER, NSW

I read “Church funds new church plants” (News, January 24) with interest and some concern. Instead of “planting” a second church in areas where churches already exist, would it not be more productive to assist and maintain already existing small churches, where there are under-utilised church facilities?

In at least some of these small churches, there are prospects for growth, if only the personnel were allocated to assist the few faithful members in their efforts to witness for our Lord.

Yes, it’s good to plant new churches but please don’t neglect those that already exist.

Thou shalt not burn

CHRIS BROOKS, NSW

As an Adventist of a few years now and a career musician of about 10 years, I am astounded at the number of Adventists I’ve spoken to who believe in the validity and importance of the Ten Commandments, yet freely admit to illegally downloading music, movies and other intellectual property.

I have family members and friends who have collections of burnt CDs, DVDs of the latest movies and iPods full of MP3s downloaded with peer-to-peer software. All of this denies the creators and copyright holders the right to an income from their creations.

their choices by pointing out flaws in the entertainment business, greed of the record label moguls and the riches of those at the top of the pile to support their argument. At best, these justifications are self-serving excuses to steal from the up-and-coming songwriters, musicians and performers who aren’t earning large incomes. At their worst, they represent a conscious view that “someone else can pay for it.”

Do we as a church teach that issues like this are black and white? Or do we surround ourselves in grey to save a few bucks and demand less of ourselves?

More loving

DAVID DOWNS, VIC

My wife and I have been attending an Adventist church since 2001, and were greatly blessed and encouraged with our decision to become part of God’s family in joining the church last April. Our life-changing decision has given us zeal and eagerness for the things of our Lord.

However, we feel a sadness as we read long-running sagas of brothers and sisters biting at each other in the “Letters” page of RECORD. Could we please show more love to each other and write articles of encouragement, avoiding so many of these negatives?

Note: Views in Letters do not necessarily represent those of the editors or the denomination. Letters should be less than 250 words, and writers must include their name, address and phone number. All letters are edited to meet space and literary requirements, but the author’s original meaning will not be changed. Not all letters received are published. See masthead (page 2) for contact details.

Positions vacant

▲ **Project Manager—Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Solomon Islands** seeks applications from qualified development professionals for a Project Manager role. The successful applicant will manage the Solomon Islands NGO Partnership Agreement (SINPA) project for ADRA Solomon Islands. The role is to manage a highly motivated team to work efficiently and creatively toward project objectives, where they will be responsible for the management, technical direction and skill development of the team. In addition, they will have the responsibility of building open relationships with SINPA partners, as a basis for increasing learning and improving SINPA outcomes. The position requires a commitment to ADRA and the Seventh-day Adventist Church, relevant academic qualifications and experience in managing community programs in the development context. Strong communication skills and an ability to work with a minimum of access to high-tech facilities is a necessity. For further information, please visit the “careers at ADRA” website at <www.adra.org.au/getinvolved/careers.htm> or contact David Cram at <drcram@adra.org.au>. Applications, including a letter addressing the key selection criteria and CV should be sent to the Country Director, David Cram. Applications close **March 6, 2009**.

▲ **Receptionist/Administrative professional—Victorian Conference Youth Ministries (Vicyouth)** is seeking a full-time receptionist/administrative professional to provide a welcoming environment for supporters and staff, care for incoming and outgoing communication, and provide administrative support to the Youth Department. This position requires excellent telephone skills, strong organisational ability, efficiency, initiative and the ability to provide quality customer service skills. Applicants should be competent in MS Word, MS Excel, MS Access and be able to work under pressure. Having experience in office management, event management, familiarity with Adobe Photoshop, and experience in Pathfinders and Youth Ministry would be a decided advantage. For a copy of the job description or to apply, contact Moe Ioane on 0423 793 466 or (03) 9264 7741, email <mocioane@adventist.org.au>, fax (03) 9264 7743 or post to: Director of Vicyouth, PO Box 215 Nunawading, Vic 3131. Applications close **March 31, 2009**.

For more employment options go to
hr.adventistconnect.org



Anniversaries

Falcke, Len and Edith (nee Freeman), were married 21.12.1948 in Moonce Ponds church, Vic, where Edith began attending as an 8 year old. Celebrations



for their 60th wedding anniversary commenced early due to moving in October 2008 from Waikerie, SA, to Kressville at Avondale Retirement Village, where family and Cooranbong friends gathered at their unit to help celebrate God's goodness. Many can testify that there was always a meal and a bed when needed in the Falcke home. Their three daughters, Joy Butlin, Wilma and Louise Voss; eight grandchildren; and their great-grandson, wish them continued health, happiness and much love.

Frame, Robert and Peggie (nee Watson), celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on 8.11.08. They were married in the “old” Wahroonga church by Pastor L C Naden. Bob and Peggie served the church for 50 years, retiring in 1986. Bob carried administrative responsibilities in the SPD and at the General Conference. They later relocated to the Adventist Media Centre in California, where Bob served as president and Peggie as Bible instructor in the VOP Bible School for nine years. As they look back down the seven dec-

ades of their marriage, Bob and Peggie thank God for His tender care, love and multiple blessings He spread across their



pathway. They continue to lean upon the Everlasting arms, anticipating Christ's soon return. Their son, Peter, and family live in Sydney and their daughter resides with them in North Carolina, USA.

Rusterholz, Henry and Hanni, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with family and friends on 23.3.08 in Casino, NSW. Most of their children and spouses were present, and a number of grandchildren, too.

Weddings

Ashton—Hill. Garry John Ashton, son of John and Margaret Ashton (Sydney, NSW), and Sheree Lynne Hill, daughter of Cyril and Pam Hill (Cooranbong), were married on 26.10.08 on Catherine Hill Bay Beach.

David Erickson

Faafai—Oaklands. Ezekiel Roy Faafai, son of Merewai and Elekana Faafai (Chermside, Qld), and Lindell Cherie Oaklands, daughter of Pastor Gordon and Christine Oaklands (Ipswich), were married 1.2.09 at Somerset Dam, Adventist Youth Camp.

Bob Possingham

GREY NOMADS CAMP

Enjoy a Big Camp spiritual experience geared specifically for the Grey Nomads. Special music is planned. Pr Steve Cassimy guest speaker from the Greater New York Conference will lead in the evening devotional meetings.

Place: NNSW Campgrounds, Stuarts Point. **Date:** 22 – 31 May 2009.

The ABC shop will be open and will also carry Sanitarium products plus basic food items.

Additional cabin accommodation is available at nearby public campgrounds:

Stuarts Point – (02) 6569 0616

Grassy Head – (02) 6569 0742

Scotts Head – 1800 821 545

Application forms can be emailed or posted. Contact Debbie Head on (02) 4951 8088 or email debbiehead@adventist.org.au

Martin—Wilson. Ben Roy Martin, son of Geoff and Jeanette Martin (Burlleigh Waters, Qld), and Kylie Michelle Wilson, daughter of Paul Wilson (Cobram, Vic) and Kerrie Davies (Qatar), were married on 6.12.08 in the Alpine Chapel, Mt Buller, Vic.

Mark Baines, Morrie Krieg

Willis—Bairstow. Kenneth Lincoln Willis, son of David and Yonnie Willis (Narembeen, WA), and Tasha Nicole Bairstow, daughter of Matthew and Loretta Bairstow (Albany), were married on 29.9.08 at Middleton Beach.

Wes Tolhurst

Obituaries

Ferry, Colin Kelvin, born 4.4.1935 at Mildura, Vic; died 19.1.09 at home, surrounded by his family. Mick, as he was known by his friends, was laid to rest in the Mildura Lawn Cemetery. On 19.7.1958, he married Joyce Chandler at the Mildura Methodist church. He is survived by his wife; his children, Kristine, Narelle, Naomi, Kelvin and Venice; and his sons-in-law, Craig Urand, Geoff Lambert, Daniel Forbes-Wilson, Peter Lang; and daughter-in-law, Kelly; and his 12 grandchildren (all of Mildura). Mick was an accomplished guitarist and along with other local singers, occupied time singing every Sunday for a number of years on Radio 3MA Mildura. At his graveside service, mourners reminisced as a CD was played of Mick singing a duet “When I get to glory.” The funeral service celebrated Mick's life and shared the scriptural promises of the second coming of Jesus and the Resurrection.

Frank Tassone

Hunter, Wilfred Douglas, died 24.12.08 in the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane, Qld. He is survived by his wife, Joan; his sons, Graham, Peter, Lloyd and Paul, and their wives; and his nine granddaughters. Remembered as a devoted husband, and a doting and involved grandfather, he is sadly missed by his family and friends. Wilfred was buried at the Hemmant Lawn Cemetery.

Ted White

Volunteers!

English teacher—Mizpah Adventist High School, Tonga, requires a teacher for Forms 1 to 5 (equivalent of Years 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>.

+61 2 9847 3275



Phillips-Lewis, Alice Edith (nee Patrick), born 16.3.1927 at Cooranbong, NSW; died 11.12.08 in the Wyong Hospital. She is survived by her children, Arthur, Julie (Mrs Alan Cooper), Carolyn and Barry; her eight grandchildren; and her four great-grandchildren. Alice cherished memories of her student years at the Australasian Missionary College (1944–6) and the Sydney Sanitarium and Hospital (1947–50), from which she graduated as a nurse. Alice will long be remembered as a devoted mother, a dedicated member of churches such as Geelong and Dora Creek, and an unselfish neighbour and friend who shared the produce of her garden, her passion for poetry and, above all, her love for God. She now awaits the Life-giver's call in the Avondale Cemetery.

Max Hatton, Arthur Patrick

Surridge, Hilda Joyce, born 22.3.1921 at Coburg, Vic; died 2.9.08 in Brisbane, Qld. Joyce was predeceased by her first and second husbands, Allan Blank and Les Ballard. She is survived by her husband, Ern Surridge; and her children, Peter Blank, John and Elizabeth Blank, Tony and Roxanne Blank, Rob Ballard, Ken and Barbara Ballard, and Marilyn and Ray Dickson. She had a large number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren who brought her much joy. Her faith was strong and she was confident that her God had always walked with her. We look forward to



Come to Korea!

"Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation."

Mission Opportunity in Korea
Jesus is calling you to come to Korea as a missionary to teach Bible and English! You will love it!

Requirements:

- English as a first language
- Bachelor's degree
- Baptised member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

Benefits:

- Starting monthly stipend equivalent to US\$1,700, plus overtime
- Round-trip airfare with a one-year contract
- GC AVS Sickness and Accident Insurance plus local Korean health insurance
- At least 14 government holidays per year
- Bi-monthly term break of 3-14 days
- Free housing, utilities and many more fringe benefits




Call for more information or visit our www.koreasda.org

Korea Phone: 82-2-2215-7496 (call collect)
 E-mail: comesda@yahoo.com

USA Phone: 1-866-567-3257 (KOREALS)
 E-mail: wowsda@yahoo.com

a happy reunion on that Resurrection morning.
Wes Tolhurst

Thompson, Ernie Thomas August, born 4.7.1935 at Koonya, Tas; died 16.1.09 at Nambour, Qld. Ernie was baptised in 1964 by Pastor R Abbott. On 30.10.1994, he married Muriel Argent at Moe, Vic. He is survived by his wife (Glenview, Qld); his children and their spouses, Anette Rees (Hoppers Crossing, Vic), Linda (Tas), Leanne Burns (Murwillumbah, NSW), Naomi Bishop (Taree), Ruth Bewit (Sydney), Alan (Palmwoods, Qld), Pauline Wharton (Kentbury, UK), Heather Devine (Kelmescott, WA) and Kevin (Canning Vale); his siblings, Helen Evans (Dickey Beach, Qld), Peggy Campbell (Sorrell, Tas); his 18 grandchildren; and his 11 great-grandchildren. Ernie worked as a dairy farmer, literature evangelist, gardener and carpenter, and assisted pastors Colthart and Price in missions. He served the church as a deacon and Sabbath school teacher. Ernie was full of life, loved his wife and huge family, and loved Jesus most of all. He looked forward to the Second Coming with all his heart and desired all his family to be ready for that great day
*John Rabbas,
 Clarrie O'Neil, Neil Tyler*

Waters, Winifred Madge (nee Watson), born 2.12.1910 at Elizabeth Farm, Paramatta, NSW; died 15.12.08 in Hornsby Hospital. Wyn was dedicated to teaching. She is survived by John and Alison Waters (NSW).
Robert Craig

Wolf, Shirley Annie (nee Duncombe), born 10.9.1926 at Swansea, Tas; died

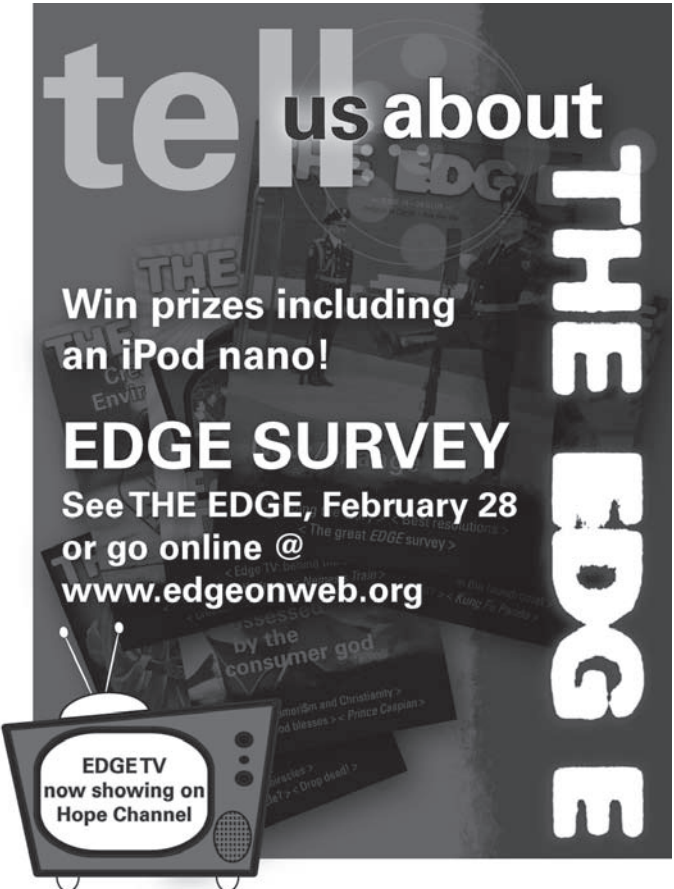
24.1.09 in the nursing home at the Adventist Retirement Village, Qld. She is survived by her five children, Lois, Roslyn, John, Bronwyn and Malcolm; her grandchildren; her great-grandchildren; and her sister, Catherine. She now sleeps in the certain hope of the Resurrection morning.
Graham Allen

Advertisements

Note: Neither the editor, Signs Publishing Company, nor the Seventh-day Adventist Church is responsible for the quality of goods or services advertised. Publication does not indicate endorsement of a product or service. Advertisements approved by the editor will be inserted at the following rates: first 30 words or less, \$A66; each additional word, \$A2.75. For your advertisement to appear, payment must be enclosed. Classified advertisements in RECORD are available to Seventh-day Adventist members, churches and institutions only. See masthead (page 2) for contact details.

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>.

Receive the Hope Channel and 3ABN. Complete satellite kit \$265 + freight; prime signal areas in Australia only. Full instructions for



tell us about THE EDGE

Win prizes including an iPod nano!

EDGE SURVEY

See THE EDGE, February 28 or go online @ www.edgeonweb.org

EDGETV now showing on Hope Channel

DIY installation. Installers available. Rural Electronics (02) 6361 3636; or <ruralele@bigpond.net.au>.

Data projectors, screens, DVDs, VCRs, PA systems etc. Lower prices for SDA churches, schools etc. Australia only. Rural Electronics (02) 6361 3636; or <greenfieldsenterprises@bigpond.com>.

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>.

Patritti Sparkling Juices and flagons of grape juices. All varieties available. Ideal for weddings, functions, special occasions and everyday drinking. Fundraising opportunities available. Contact Dry Dock Cellars on (02) 6258 7757 or <drydock@vtown.com.au>.

Electrician 4U—for all your electrical needs, contact Bruce Petrie on 0418 333 175. Servicing Melbourne Eastern, South Eastern, Outer Eastern and Yarra Valley areas.

Cooranbong house for sale. 4 bdrm built-in robes, lounge, family room, study/den, carport. \$A345,000 negotiable. 0421 087 478.

Giant booksale. New stock. 5000 quality used books. 70 % = \$A3. Teachers, preachers, church librarians, readers. Nunawading church, Central Road, Sunday March 15, 11 am-3 pm. Mark your calendar. Church building fund.

Wantirna SDA Orchestra. We are looking for musicians (string and brass players) willing to share their musical gifts to set up an ongoing orchestra at Wantirna church. Please contact Bill Neyra on 0404 856 626 or email <billneyra@optusnet.com.au> to express your interest.

Tour program—Allround Travel. September 2009 group tour, Greece and Turkey: Athens/Patmos/Historic sights of Turkey/expert tour leadership/Singapore Airlines. **Oberammergau—Passion play July 2010:** combined with 10-night tour Germany, Austria, Italy. Early bookings required to secure Passion play tickets. **General Conference, June 2010,** Atlanta. For further details, contact Anita (07) 5530 3555, email <all-trav@bigpond.net.au>.

Finally

To love deeply in one direction makes us more loving in all others.

—Anne-Sophie Swetchine



AWR Annual Offering

MARCH 7, 2009

Travelling where
missionaries cannot go.
No walls. No borders.
No limits.

AN AWR LISTENER IN THE MIDDLE EAST WRITES:

"Your station has been
a first window for me
to be introduced to
Christianity in the right
way. Please send me an
Arabic Bible so that I
can understand more."



**ADVENTIST
WORLD RADIO**

awr.org

With your help, many more eager listeners
will be able to turn on their radios and hear
of God's love for the first time.