

# RECORD

April 25, 2009

## In this issue

New studio highlights IIW weekend

Young women “the focus” for SPD

Desley Scott works for her community



*Reports of mission from across the Pacific have been highlights of past SPD sessions and will be a feature of the first “Festival of Mission” in September.*

## “Historic” Festival to focus on mission

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

Leaders of the South Pacific Division’s Festival of Mission have spoken of their enthusiasm and expectations as preparations continue for this landmark event. Some 1300 church members from across the South Pacific are expected to participate in this five-day program.

“Never in the history of the South Pacific Division has a division-wide event like this been organised,” says Pastor Barry Oliver, president of the SPD. “The concept of a Festival of Mission arose out of the desire to have a significant division-wide event at intervals of approximately five years. With the SPD no longer holding division sessions,

there has been a growing conviction that a program such as this is a special opportunity for church members from across the division to come together.”

According to Pastor Oliver, it is natural for such a gathering of church members and leaders to focus on mission. “Mission is the life blood of the Adventist Church,” he says. “It has been so since the early days and will continue into the future. It is therefore imperative that we gather together to celebrate what God has done, and be inspired together as we create plans and strategies to work together with the Spirit of God into the future.” *(Continued on page 3)*



## AUC looks to future of schools



“Church is not . . .” many of the things we might be tempted to assume.

# Church is not a building

**W**E HAVE USED THE “CHURCH is not a building” line so many times that—not only have we forgotten that, at least in some ways, a church so obviously is a building—we rarely pause to think what other temptations we could similarly rebut by adapting this simple statement. So let me suggest some other worthwhile applications of this expression:

Church is not a magazine, regardless of how much you appreciate RECORD. Church is not a website—or even a whole network of websites—even if accessible 24 hours a day from anywhere in the world. Church is not a TV channel, despite the temptation to just switch on and be “churched.”

Church is neither a corporation nor club, no matter how well run it might be or how well it cares for its members. Church is not an accumulation of traditions or habits, even if they are meaningful or dearly held. Church is not a set of beliefs or collection of mere information, no matter how important, startling or urgent they might seem.

In short, “church is not . . .” many of the things we might be tempted to assume as they swirl around us in the various cultures of Adventism and church-ness.

Commenting on “Technology and the Gospel”—and the shortcuts we are tempted to take to share “church”—in *Christianity Today*, Christian author Brian McLaren urges that people today “don’t need you to spoonfeed them information in lectures

like they used to; they can Google it way faster. They need you to do other things . . . to help them sift through the information, integrate it, incarnate it, reflect on it, model it. In view of technology, the question remains: What is it that the gathered church can do that nobody else can do?”

It’s a vital question in a world awash with information, lifestyle choices, worthy causes and entertainment options. So here are a few suggestions:

**Church is a community.** Yes, there are other positive, healthy communities around us of which we can be a part but church is a special and specific kind of community. It is a community based on a shared connection with Jesus, and that somehow works together to collectively be an expression or incarnation of God in our world. As Paul put it, “Now all of you together are Christ’s body, and each one of you is a separate and necessary part of it” (1 Corinthians 12:27, NLT).

**Church is also a community with an acute awareness of the presence of God.** Jesus said, “For where two or three gather together because they are mine, I am there among them” (Matthew 18:20, NLT). This is a powerful dynamic of the church as it gathers to worship or to work. But we should not use this to mean a limit to this presence, instead taking this specialised cue to look for the presence of God in all our lives and in the world around us.

**Church is a place of accountability in the practice of our faith.** While we struggle

with how we can best do it in a practical sense, we cannot ignore the Bible’s urgings that we have a responsibility to help and encourage each other in living our faith. “You must warn each other every day, as long as it is called ‘today,’ so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God” (Hebrews 3:13, NLT).

**And church is an enactment of the reality and purposes of God.** Too often with our individualistic ways of thinking about salvation, we miss the many plurals in the Bible’s descriptions of what God has done for us and what He calls us to be. Consider the following verse, with an emphasis on church community: “For *we* are God’s masterpiece. He has created *us* anew in Christ Jesus, so that *we* can do the good things he planned for *us* long ago” (Ephesians 2:10, NLT). We—together—are collectively called to enact the kingdom of God, here and now. This is church.

In *The Gospel in a Pluralistic Society*, Lesslie Newbigin asks the question the other way around: “How is it possible that the gospel should be credible, that people should come to believe that the power which has the last word in human affairs is represented by a man hanging on a cross? I am suggesting that the only answer—the only hermeneutic of the gospel—is a congregation of men and women who believe it and live by it.”

Nathan Brown



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

Vol 114 No 15  
 Cover: Angela Brown

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!

# Adventist Education makes plans for future

RINGWOOD, VICTORIA

The Australian Union Conference (AUC) recently hosted the Adventist Schools Australia (ASA) National Education Consultation Meetings, which were the first meetings of their kind to be held in 10 years.

Held from March 18 to 19, 75 people attended the meetings, including conference presidents, education directors, principals, general secretaries, treasurers and a number of teachers from within the AUC and South Pacific Division (SPD), as well as SPD leaders and departmental directors.

Pastor Chester Stanley, president of the AUC, welcomed attendees on the Wednesday morning. The welcome was followed by worship and background information before a video presentation was delivered by Dr Barry Oliver, president of the SPD.

Dr Oliver described education as a core mission of the Adventist church, and acknowledged the effectiveness of the church's school system in nurturing students spiritually and academically. He also noted that Adventist schools consistently achieve results above average in Australia.

Dr Oliver also focused on the growth

of chaplaincy and school-based churches in his presentation. These have produced "remarkable" baptism results, he said.

The rest of the day focused on plenary session presentations, which covered subjects such as what Adventist schools teach, why they teach it and who is being served by Adventist education.

The focus of the meetings on the Thursday was on forums and discussions, with various breakout groups exploring issues relating to Adventist education within Australia. The concluding session focused on discussions about what is wanted for the future and how to make it happen.

Recommendations from the meetings will go back to the AUC board of directors for approval, according to Dr John Hammond, director of Adventist Education for the AUC. "With it will be an action plan to address the recommendations within a realistic time frame," he says. "Plans and recommendations are only meaningful within the context of strong learning and spiritual awakening in the lives of our children."

With the main focus of the meetings on the future, Dr Hammond says, "How do you take a snapshot into the future? Adventist education in Australia has grown greatly during the past 10 years. With 50 schools and more than 11,000 students, it

has become a significant force within the faith-based education community."

The delegates made a long-term recommendation to move schools toward a truly national system, rather than a series of conference systems. It is hoped this will create a more efficient system and enhance its presence with Federal and State governments in Australia.

Adventist education faces a number of challenges in Australia. Due to the shortage of specialist teachers in the nation, a number of "very fine" non-Adventist teachers have been employed. Recommendations from the meetings suggest the full-time Adventist teaching force be brought back to 100 per cent by 2020.

The global financial crisis is also playing a part in future plans for education. One recommendation is to facilitate a collaborative approach to financial management with ASA and conference school companies. Fee structures and policies will also be reviewed.

The chaplaincy program in Australia will also be enhanced to make it a core service for the schools, encouraging connections between students, teachers and families. Dr Hammond says it is apparent the Holy Spirit is working to unite the pastoral and teaching ministries.—*RECORD staff/John Hammond*



◆ **Cairns Adventist School, Qld**, parents and students combined forces on April 2 for a "Socialise @ School Day." Parents and other family members were invited to come and join with children during classes from 10:30 am. Each classroom was open and parents had the opportunity to see for themselves what the children have been doing this term.

Many parents commented on the use of technology, including laptops and interactive whiteboards in the classes. The classroom that attracted the most attention was the **Prep/1 room**, where students showed off their artistic and technological skills, even teaching some parents a thing or two. After this, everyone went outside for a special lunch with an **Oriental theme**. The money raised from the day went to **Home and School funds**, which will be reinvested into resources for the school.—*Clinton Bond*

◆ **TV advertising** for a free viewing of the *Search* videos will screen in the **Cairns, Townsville and Mackay regions (Qld)** on Channel 7, May 2 to 10, and in **Darwin** on Darwin 7, May 2 to 10.

◆ On March 21, 26 members of **Yarra Valley church, Vic**, enjoyed a social and fundraiser evening to raise money for medical equipment for Mongolia. The night was part of an ongoing fundraising effort, including **\$A400** from the sale of **Irene Simmons' dahl**, a special offering taken up during the Sabbath



worship service (\$A400) and donations from various churches. The fundraising totalled more than **\$A16,000**—enough to buy more than 70 glucose monitors and a year's supply of glucose strips. Yarra Valley's **Pastor Harold Waldrip** will buy the equipment in Mongolia and assist in its initial training and use.—*Talitha Simmons/May Southern*

# “Historic” Festival to focus on mission

(Continued from page 1)

One of the visiting speakers for the Festival of Mission is Pastor Jose Rojas, director of Volunteer Ministries for the North American Division. He shares the enthusiasm for talking about, sharing and doing the mission of the church.

“When I hear the word ‘mission,’ I first think of my family, because it begins there,” says Pastor Rojas. “Then I think of my front door because when I open my front door, it begins there. Too many people think of mission as something someone else does, more than likely in another country. But never in the Scriptures do you find this to be the case. Mission is you and me filled with the Holy Spirit, sharing the Christ we have experienced with other people. This is the passion that we call mission.

“So this event is geared toward provoking people to do this ministry. Enough talk: it is time to act.”

And Pastor Rojas is a man of action. In the past four years, he has been involved in evangelistic campaigns that have seen more than 30,000 people baptised. But he is quick to point out this has not been his doing but rather that of many people who have chosen to make mission part of their everyday lives.



“The Holy Spirit is moving on the hearts of individuals who are not content to call someone else a missionary,” he explains. “They see themselves in a personal journey with Christ, in which the truths of the gospel become real to the point that they share them with others—using their own gifts and within the sphere of influence that they have, they’re sharing Christ.

“And then they have a reaping series for one week, and invite me or one of thousands of other preachers to come in for their reaping series. And thousands are being baptised at a time—not because

it’s easy to baptise in that country but because people are responding to the gospel through the discipling they are receiving from other people.”

According to Pastor Oliver, the SPD’s Festival of Mission will be focused on this aspect of mission, as well as hearing reports of mission happening around the South Pacific and contributing to plans for the future of the mission of the church in the region.

“As well as providing opportunities for worship and Bible study, this will be an opportunity to listen to each other and learn from each other as we seek the most appropriate ways to reach out to our communities,” he says.

Also among the featured presenters for the Festival of Mission are Dr Hyveth Williams, one of the first women to be a senior pastor of a large Adventist congregation, and Dr Lyell Heise, director of the SPD’s Institute of Worship, who will lead the times of worship at this event.

The Festival of Mission is planned for September 8 to 13 at the Watson Park Convention Centre to the north of Brisbane (Qld). Registration closes on May 31 and church members interested in participating should contact their local conference or mission office.—**Nathan Brown**

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



◆ A group of students from **Nunawading Christian College (NCC)** and **Lilydale Adventist Academy (LAA)**, Vic, attended this year’s **Australian Grand Prix**, held at Albert Park in Melbourne. For NCC students, the visit was a reward day as part of the **Year 9 Challenge program**, designed to foster social and academic engagement during the year.

For LAA students, the visit to the grand prix is an integral component of the **Peer Support Program**, with Year 11 leaders taking groups throughout the day. As well as enjoying the action on the track, students were able to visit the many displays and product stands. Students were also privileged to meet some famous people. One student was lucky



enough to get **World Champion Lewis Hamilton’s autograph**, while others managed to get a picture with Australian movie star **Eric Bana** and singer **Leo Sayer**. —**David Jones**

◆ The **Western Australian Conference** recently completed their first “face to face” weekend of the **2009 Community Health Education Presenter (CHEP) training**. By the end of this year, they hope to have 16 new CHEPs spread throughout **Perth, Northam, Narrogin, Albany, Merredin and Mandurah**. The CHEP certificate



is the equivalent of a **fourth year TAFE certificate** in this subject. However, the students put in the time and effort over a 10 month period, not for any personal gain but with the sole aim of using this as an “entering wedge” to reach people for the kingdom. Some of the churches involved have sponsored their chosen members to complete this course. —**NewsWest**

**DAYS AND OFFERINGS:** ◆ MAY 9—HEALTH OFFERING ◆ MAY 2-9—ADVENTIST HEALTH WEEK

# Studio opening highlights IIW weekend

WINDSOR, NEW SOUTH WALES

More than 200 people from Australia and New Zealand travelled to Windsor on the weekend of March 27 to 29 for the first official gathering of *It Is Written* (IIW) partners in the South Pacific. Many came to meet IIW's international TV presenter, Pastor Shawn Boonstra. Others came to hear stories of mission and to learn how the gospel is progressing to reach all people in every country.

But the opening and commissioning of a new TV studio in Richmond, NSW, caught the most attention. A Sabbath afternoon excursion took the 200 partners to the newest IIW production facility.

The studio was built on land donated by Adventist church members, with labour, materials and equipment donated by other supporters, or partners of the TV ministry.

Because IIW Oceania is an official ministry within the Adventist Media Network, the new Richmond studios become the third affiliate studio in the South Pacific, joining those in Western Australia and Papua New Guinea.

Pastor Boonstra, who is based in the United States, opened the new studio, together with Pastor Gary Kent, presenter for IIW Oceania.

IIW is the only religious program on Australia's Channel 7, and is the most-viewed weekly religious program on Aus-



Pastors Shawn Boonstra (left) and Gary Kent on the set of the new *It Is Written* studio in Richmond, NSW.

tralian TV, according to the recent industry surveys. Viewers also watch IIW on Foxtel in Australia and TV2 in New Zealand, as well as Hope Channel.

Since the TV ministry began in 1956, there have only been three presenters, all loved and respected by their audiences. George Vandeman was on air for 35 years. He was followed by Mark Finley, who anchored the show between 1991 and 2004. Pastor Boonstra, who became a Seventh-day Adventist Christian only 16 years ago, has been the current presenter for five years.

While the TV ministry, which has won some 2 million converts to Jesus worldwide, is a recognised ministry of the Adventist Church, it relies on donor support.

—David Gibbons

## More about IIW's ministry:

- IIW can currently be seen in 140 countries in 11 different languages.
- IIW Oceania's host, Pastor Gary Kent, has worked with disadvantaged people groups, providing water and "Godpods" in the Kalahari, health and education to the Pygmies of Congo, and Bibles in Antarctica.
- Solar-powered "Godpods" contain a full audio Bible, *Steps to Christ*, children's stories and Bible studies in the local language of the people. Plans are underway to make Pidgin "Godpods" available to the 50 per cent of Papua New Guineans who are illiterate.
- IIW Oceania is working with eight full-time Bible workers in Australia. More than 13 other young people are completing a certificate course at the IIW School of Evangelism at Lane Cove, NSW.

◆ "In Christ we are many members, yet one body" was the theme when the Armadale church, WA, hosted the local World Day of Prayer on March 6. More than 60 guests, representing six denominations from the Armadale area, attended. Women's ministries leader Sherrilyne Wallrodt said she hopes the event helped break down some barriers and build bridges. She was delighted to hear comments like "what a friendly church." The children from the Brookdale Adventist School delighted guests with two items and

the Armadale church members provided morning tea. Money raised during this event totalled \$A300.30 for the Bible Society.—*Tanya Hort*

◆ **North West Christian School (Tas) students and staff** contributed to the **Victorian Bushfire Appeal** by holding a pancake day. They raised \$A420. The Grade 9/10 **Home Economics class** cooked the pancakes for 90 students who were also joined by six construction workers from nearby **Pengana Estate**. The money has been sent to **Iron-**



**bark Adventist School**, to assist the community in their recovery from the fire.—*Natalie Winchcombe*

◆ This year's **Coca Cola Light Games in Fiji** will be held during the week after last year's

event was held on a Friday and Saturday. Wainimakutu Junior Secondary School head of physical education **Nimilote Kurudua** explained: "Last year we performed very well . . . however, as many of the students are Seventh-day Adventists, they were unable to attend because of the games being staged on Saturday." The games are a tool for cultural integration and never distinguish between colour, creed or religion, so this year the organisers have looked to not disqualify students because of their faith.—*Fiji Daily Post*

# Bible “boot camp” empowers members

ROLLANDS PLAINS, NEW SOUTH WALES

As part of their commitment to training church members to be more effective in evangelism, Eastward Missionary College recently successfully completed their first “Bible Boot Camp.”

Conducted over three weeks, this program was an intensive presentation of the 28 Fundamental Beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Students were introduced to these topics as a means for marking their Bibles, so they can conduct Bible studies using only their marked Bibles. Each study has been taught so an appeal for decision can be made from the study as an effective way of presenting the gospel.

James Higgins, currently the Bible worker for Wauchope church, organised the “boot camp” program and training. Working with Pastor Danny Milenkov, Pastor Joseph Maticic, Matt Hinze and Rod Bailey, the topics were systematically presented and studied with the students.

An added bonus was the presentation



*Some of the group who recently completed Eastward College's first “Bible Boot Camp,” aimed at empowering church members to be more effective in sharing their faith.*

on the “Spirit of Prophecy” with Dr Allan Lindsay, in conjunction with the ongoing Health and Bible Worker Certificates being undertaken at Eastward Missionary College.

“All have been greatly blessed by how effective this type of Bible study approach is going to be,” reports Eastward’s Sharon Higgins. “As part of the learning process on conducting Bible studies, students practised giving Bible studies to each other to ensure even greater success when sharing the gospel with friends and neighbours.”

—RECORD staff/Sharon Higgins

# Young women “the focus” for SPD

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

Young women will be the main focus for Adventist Women’s Ministries in the South Pacific Division (SPD) over the next year after a planning committee met in Wahroonga.

Women’s Ministries leaders from the various conferences and missions in the SPD met over two days, March 25 and 26, to plan strategies and activities throughout the region for the next five years.

“We will make a special effort to reach out to our younger women and help all women find identity and self-esteem in Jesus Christ,” says Erna Johnson, director of Adventist Women’s Ministries in the SPD. “We will encourage women to serve women as we passionately reach out to others in seeking justice in the church and community.”

—Melody Tan



*Women's Ministries leaders are making young women the focus of their ministry this year.*

◆ More than **four in 10 Australians** who don't consider themselves “born again” nevertheless believe **Jesus** rose from the dead, while one in 10 does not believe He existed. These are two of the surprising results from an **independent survey of 2500 Australians**, according to church historian **John Dickson**, co-director of the **Centre for Public Christianity** in Sydney, NSW. The survey showed that 42 per cent of Australians believe Jesus had divine powers and 54 per cent believe He rose from the dead. But even among those who do not identify as born again, 45 per

cent believe in the Resurrection. “We are staggered. We thought the survey would show the profound scepticism of Australians,” Dr Dickson said. “Instead, it shows there is a base-level assumption among the Australian public that accepts the Jesus story, even if it has no relevance to their lives.” Other findings include 57 per cent knew Easter was connected with the death of Jesus, while 87 per cent of Australians knew it concerned the Resurrection.—**Barney Zwartz**

◆ A **German evangelist** has learnt that you can't crucify

dolls and get away with it. **Pastor Markus Bomhard** has been setting up the dolls in biblical scenes and posting photographs on the web to illustrate the Good Book but has been told to stop by the toys' displeased maker.—**The Age**

◆ A man stripped down to nothing but a strategically-placed sock at a **Tel Aviv supermarket** in protest of its decision to sell bread over **Passover** in violation of **Jewish religious laws**, *Ynet News* reports. Police led away

**Arieh Yerushalmi, 28**, after he shed his clothing in the store—one year after he staged a similar protest at another supermarket. Mr Yerushalmi wanted to protest against the store's decision to continue selling bread and other leavened products during the Passover week. Jewish law forbids the use of such products during the holiday. Leaders of the ultra-orthodox community, meanwhile, have written to dozens of stores and restaurants in Jerusalem, urging them to reverse a decision to sell leavened food during Passover.—**AFP**

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

# Attempts to legislate Sunday rest day concern Adventists

BERNE, SWITZERLAND

Attempts to legislate Sunday as an official rest day within the European Union have caused concern among Seventh-day Adventists and other faith groups. Pastor Karel Nowak, communication and religious liberty director for the Euro–Africa Division, based in Berne, Switzerland, reported on some recent developments for the British Union Conference newsletter earlier this month.

According to Pastor Nowak, legal initiatives in Europe that seek to gradually enforce Sunday as a rest day have been attempted for the past few years. “The proposals are usually voiced by different associations but these associations are openly backed by the Roman Catholic Church, as well as various Protestant churches,” says Pastor Nowak. “Their immediate goals usually include closing shops and restricting other business activities on Sundays.”

Amendments were proposed to change European Directive 2003/88/EC during 2008. This directive deals with work time regulations and Pastor Nowak says, “The initiative was mainly carried by the Commission of Bishops’ Conferences of the European Community (COMECE) and the Conference of European Churches.” Article 5 of the European Directive 2003/88/EC states workers are entitled to a minimum uninterrupted rest period of 24 hours, plus 11 hours’ daily rest, per week.

The proposal regarding changing the directive included adding an additional clause stating the minimum rest period referred to in the directive would, in principle, include Sunday.

Previous moves of a similar nature have been annulled in the past by the European Court of Justice, which, according to Pastor Nowak, is why the new proposal included a paragraph claiming the likelihood of sickness in companies that required staff to work Sundays was greater than in those that do not. Factors such as the reconciliation of work and family life, and

the ability to pursue spiritual needs were also included.

On February 11 this year, the secretariat of COMECE also issued a press release welcoming a new attempt of several members of the European Parliament to ask the House to approve a written declaration asking for “protection of a work-free Sunday as an essential pillar of the European social model and as part of the European cultural heritage.”

Pastor Nowak says, “To date, all initiatives to legislate a Sunday law through the European Union have failed. This doesn’t mean proponents of this legislation have given up on the idea. On the contrary, we’re witnessing an increasing number of Sunday rest articles appearing in different publications with the purpose of altering public opinion.”

He cites the January 25, 2009, issue of the Belgian Catholic weekly *Dimanche* as an example. An article was published in this issue addressing shops opening on Sundays. “In the same way, the COMECE’s December 17, 2008, news release called for further mobilisation and the uniting of voices to promote Sunday rest,” says Pastor Nowak.

Several European countries have laws that prohibit shops from opening on Sundays and restrict activities that “disturb the peace.” Pastor Nowak says, “The growing number of exceptions, pressure from large supermarkets who want to remain open on Sundays, and the rather permissive and indifferent attitude of a large portion of Europeans explains the position of the European Parliament.

“Although Adventists recognise and support many of the arguments forwarded by the proponents of legally-instituted Sunday rest—family, health, ecology, economic advantages and values—we regret these initiatives do not take into consideration consequences such legislation would have on minority groups who observe days other than Sunday as their day of religious rest.”—*BUC News/Karel Nowak*

More @ <http://adventistnews.org.uk>

# Adventists in SPD get their chance to “Follow the Bible”

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

A large Bible on a global journey has been travelling around the South Pacific Division (SPD) since March 9, spending three weeks in Papua New Guinea before being sent to Australia and New Zealand. The Bible, which is written in 66 languages, will arrive in Fiji tomorrow.

“Follow the Bible” is an initiative of the General Conference (GC) and aims to stimulate a deeper interest in reading the Bible. The Bible is on a two-year journey around the world, after starting in Manila, The Philippines, late last year. It will conclude its journey in Atlanta, Georgia, US, in 2010 for the GC Session.

The Bible was in Sydney for the Easter weekend after travelling down the eastern coast of Australia from the Gold Coast, Queensland. Reedy Creek Adventist church hosted the Bible for the first weekend of April. Pastor Larry Laredo said the Bible was something people from all Christian denominations could enjoy and feel involved with.

Year 7 students from Gold Coast Christian College had a chance to look at the Bible on April 1 and were impressed by the size of the book, which measures 45 centimetres by 30 centimetres and is 1500 pages long.

From Sydney, “Follow the Bible” went on to Christchurch, Wellington, Palmerston North and Auckland in New Zealand.

—*AMN staff/Katrina Jones*

More @ <[www.followthebible.net](http://www.followthebible.net)> or <<http://record.net.au/follow-the-bible>>



Students from St Joseph’s Central School examine the large Bible.

# Desley Scott works for her community

BY NATHAN BROWN

**I**N THE QUEENSLAND STATE ELECTION ON March 21, Desley Scott was elected to a fourth term in the Queensland parliament as the Labor Party's member for Woodridge, a seat on the southern outskirts of Brisbane. Mrs Scott is a member of the Springwood Adventist church and recently took some time to answer questions for RECORD and "InFocus."\*

**In what was already one of the safest seats in the Queensland parliament, you went against the trend away from the government across the state and have increased your primary vote. What do you put that down to?**

Probably many things. Woodridge is an area that started out with a lot of public housing, and very few services. But over the years, we've grown up; we're now part of a rather large city but there's high unemployment.

It's a very multicultural area—we now have a lot of refugees from places like Africa and Burma. I guess our government has put a lot of effort into services here; we've had around \$A23 million dollars in community renewal funding. That has been very flexible, so it's gone into a lot of really top-rate programs.

I've also got wonderful staff, so we service our community well. It's a small electorate, so I can get from one side to the other in 15 minutes or so. I've got a lot of

good services here and I work really hard.

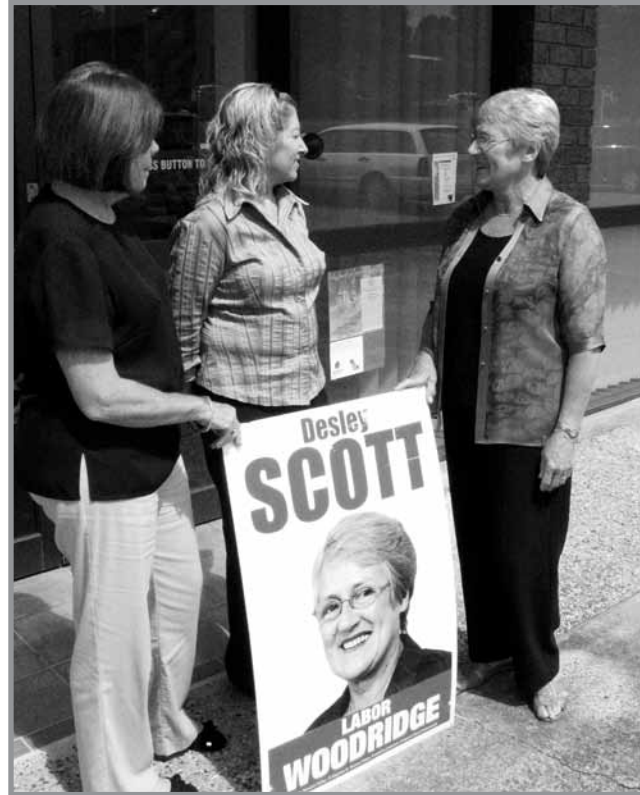
**When you were first invited to stand for election more than eight years ago, you commented that "I wasn't sure how that fitted with my faith." How would you now explain the relationship between your faith and the role you play?**

I think it now fits wonderfully with my faith. Being a safe Labor heartland, there are a myriad of issues here and I'm like a social worker in many ways. If you look around the electorate, there are a huge number of organisations servicing areas in the community. So I'm just out there [working with the community] and enjoying it. If you can come to work every day and do the things you love doing, it's fantastic. So I'm really comfortable in my role.

I've got a bit of a bent toward social-justice type things, and we're actually working with people to change their lives.

**You previously described yourself as "just a mum who goes to the church down the road." Has anything changed in that way in the past eight years?**

Well, I'm now a grandma. But I guess I've also grown in understanding how to pull strings and get things done. You learn on the job and there are a lot of people I lean on to give us assistance.



*Desley Scott (right) with her electorate office staff in Woodridge, Qld.*

And Woodridge is a really worthwhile area—one that gets panned in the media as being high crime, with a lot of people out of work and all sorts of things—but in fact, it's a delightful community. People with really good values have raised their families here and the whole essence of working in a community like this fits very well with my Christian commitment.

**As a now-senior member of the Queensland parliament and state government, what role do you play in the bigger picture of Queensland politics?**

I knock on lots of ministers' doors and trouble them to bits about things I want for the community. I serve on the Travel Safe committee, which looks at all aspects of road safety. I hold that as one of my very important roles.

Caucus committees are where you actually work with a minister. I choose committees that are part of where I want to be in my community here, so housing communities, that sort of thing—I'm probably on about eight ministers' committees. It's a lot of committees to divide your time be-



tween when parliament is sitting because you're going to briefings all the time, but it keeps you in the loop.

**But you remain a committed back-bencher?**

After the last election, I was asked if I would like to be a parliamentary secretary or the chair of a committee. I said, "No, I've got too much work to do here."

If you're a parliamentary secretary, you're away from your electorate three days a week and could be anywhere in Queensland. I would never have had the impact I've had here if I was out of the area that much.

**Have their been any situations where you felt pressured to vote against your conscience?**

In issues that might be sensitive in this way, all political parties will allow a "conscience vote." Nobody is ever pressured to vote one way or another, and no-one is looked down on by another member of parliament in any way because of how they voted. There has not been any pressure of that nature.

**What achievement are you proudest of in the past eight years?**

I guess when you ask people about achievements, they probably look at the last one particularly and I am proud of that one. I remember a few years ago, I was very frustrated at the hundreds of millions of dollars going into child safety. It troubles me that we've got many young mothers here with few parenting skills.

Anyway, I was doing a bit of lobbying around this issue and I was told there would be an announcement of some millions of dollars for the state for early intervention programs. So I worked with some of our early childhood people and some of our primary school principals were involved. We'd get together and discuss just how we might put something together.

So down at our Kingston East Neighbourhood Centre, we now have a coordinator for a program for volunteer mentors. We're plugging these volunteers together with young mums. I've got great hopes for this program.

**What have you yet to achieve? What would you like to do in this next term?**

I've got a big list! Some of them are building infrastructure. We've got a really

successful Police Citizens Youth Club here but a very old building. It's absolutely full, with so many youngsters there they need a new building. We've located where it's to be, and we're doing some heavy lobbying and have the council on side for that.

I also really want to establish a neighbourhood justice centre here. There's only one in Australia at the moment. They deal with anything from noise and neighbourhood complaints right up to drug issues. It has a lot of community involvement and I think it would be a really good facility to have here.

It actually case manages people, so when you've got a family—and we have lots of them with very complex needs—all sorts of government workers can wrap services around them. Everyone around that table can take responsibility for what they can do for a family, and lift them to a better place so they're not cycling in and out of needing welfare help. So I'd like to see that.

**While only a few people have the opportunity to represent and serve their community in the way you are doing in this role, how do you believe Christians or churches can serve their communities more effectively?**

When I first became an Adventist back in the early 60s, we very much had a high wall around us in the church. We've come a long way but I still think we need more of our Adventist members to get out among our existing community groups.

I have a huge number of community groups in my area and I do have some Adventists involved there. I've got a great ADRA centre opposite our railway station and they're doing wonderful counselling work, as well as employment skills.

But I guess it's the "salt" thing, isn't it? Being out there so people get to know our church members as being great community members. There's still a long way to go in how we're perceived in our community.

**Tell us about some of your experiences as an Adventist and a politician.**

I guess a lot of people here know I'm a Seventh-day Adventist, so I don't get many invitations to do things on Sabbath. But sometimes, if it's appropriate and in the afternoon, I will go to something. But when I do, I'll say to them, "I'm going to church first, then I'll pop in later and just see how your event is going." So I openly

tell people I'm a Seventh-day Adventist and that's my church day—and they respect that.

One good experience I had recently was as guest speaker for the statewide prison chaplaincy forum, because I've got a great interest in establishing a faith-based unit within our prisons. Being able to speak to a group of prison chaplains from all over the state from a Christian perspective, I had quite a number of them come up and say how good it was to know there are people of faith in our parliamentary system.

We also have a Christian fellowship breakfast once a week when parliament is sitting, so involvement like that allows you to move outside of your little patch and have a wider influence.

**Do you see that what you've done, you've contributed something to Adventism's understanding of itself and its potential for involvement in the community?**

I remember when I was first elected, I had quite a few people come up and say, "We think it's great that you've been elected but pity that it's in that party." I guess Adventists are more likely to be conservative voters.

But I think there are probably a lot of people who appreciate the fact that an Adventist has stepped up to the mark and is operating within the parliamentary situation, because it's good to have a voice there.

Underneath, people all want the best for their children—they all want you know the basic human needs. But sometimes when people are different, they don't dialogue. It's a matter of getting to know someone.

I don't look upon my political opponents as "having horns." They're all decent people who are in their jobs to improve services for their own areas and for the state.

It's a matter of pulling down barriers you might have to someone who's got a different ideology to you, and feeling acceptance toward them and just getting to know people. I think people within the church—and people without—need to start to look at others as not so far removed: as people they can actually have a relationship with. **R**

*\*For more from Desley Scott, watch "InFocus" on Hope Channel and online at <www.record.net.au> from May 1.*

**Nathan Brown is editor of RECORD.**

## Church governance:

## Reporting to “sessions”

BY RODNEY BRADY

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT GOD'S CHURCH BE governed at a high standard. Our regular church constituency meetings—often known as “sessions”—serve to emphasise the accountability of church administration and the executive committee, as well as providing opportunities to engage delegates from local churches in major future strategic decisions.

Although these meetings may seem confusing at first glance, each meeting is actually highly planned and carefully conducted to ensure each delegate is equipped to assist in making informed decisions about the direction of the church as a whole.

The purpose of this article is to outline the reports given to delegates and provide a

greater understanding to all church members about what goes on at these “sessions.”

The reports given to delegates prior to the meeting are vital to the success of the meeting, as they assist with informed decision making. Delegates should read reports in advance and, where appropriate, request additional information.

In Australia, some constituencies may also have an incorporated entity, such as a schools company in the conference. Typically, this will be in the form of a company responsible for a “Trust,” for the benefit of the organisation for which the constituency meeting is being convened.

Incorporation has been carefully designed in the South Pacific Division to

preserve the constituency-based nature of governance. In Australia, our companies are “limited by guarantee.” This means they have no shareholders and no owners—just members; and each company exists for a specific purpose. The prerequisite qualification to be a member of a company is to be a member of the executive committee. The constituency meeting appoints an executive committee, thus determining who controls the company.

The company's financial accounts contain information required for statutory compliance, and the financial information is usually a disclosure of Trust liabilities. The Trust has its own financial statements, which are similar to unincorporated financial statements.

Constituency meetings are for the unincorporated church, and are not to be confused with a company's Annual General Meeting (AGM). Condensed financial reports of the Trust are supplied so delegates can see how effectively the members and directors of the company have been managing the Trust. But because these meetings are not AGMs, these reports are not voted on. They can, however, be the basis on which delegates make decisions regarding the appointment of officers and the executive committee.

These constituency meetings are important times of accountability, transparency and decision making. We can be proud to belong to a church that has these regular meetings and ensures this information is readily available to its members, giving delegates the opportunity to participate in making decisions to move our church forward. **R**

*This is the third in a series of articles considering aspects of church governance, processes and leadership.*

**Rodney Brady is chief financial officer of the South Pacific Division, based in Wahroonga, New South Wales.**

## Types of reports at a conference “session”:

- **Departmental reports** are usually given in writing on past activities and future directions. If time permits, an opportunity for questions and input is given to delegates.
- The **General Secretary's report** includes statistical reports on members, baptisms, churches, companies and employees. It is usually presented to delegates at the start of the meeting, and typically generates a lot of questions and suggestions from delegates with regards to growth and nurture within the church. The report is then voted on, as well as any specific recommendations from the delegates.
- **Financial reports** are prepared and audited annually for each area of activity—such as the conference, schools and aged care. When the period under review covers many years, the total pages of all the financial statements could exceed 1000 pages. For practical reasons, the chief financial officer (CFO) prepares condensed financial statements so delegates can easily know the financial position of a given area. (If requested, the CFO will usually allow delegates to read the full statements and audit reports prior to or during the meeting.)

The following statements are provided to all delegates: “Balance Sheet”; “Income Statement”; “Statement of Working Capital and Liquidity”; and “Statement of accounting policies.” The CFO is also required to give delegates a forecast of major plans and commitments, along with the likely financial impact. There will be an opportunity for questions from delegates, then the reports, along with any recommendations, are voted on.

- **Audit Reports.** Most financial statements are audited annually by the General Conference Auditing Service (GCAS). Company accounts are audited by an external auditor. At the request of delegates, arrangements can be made to have the auditor present. GCAS issues delegates with an audit report on the accuracy of the condensed financial statements. The CFO is required to inform delegates of the results of the annual audits, based on the company's full financial statements.

# Where did we go wrong?

BY A PARENT

**W**ITHOUT HAVING DONE A scientific survey, it would be safe to say that the vast majority of parents with teenage children have asked themselves the question: "Where did we go wrong?" Most, if not all, of the same parents have knelt besides their beds and cried and wept before God, sometimes for hours at a time, asking and pleading for help, wondering what to do with their teenager who seems to be at times defiant, rebellious and bent on participating in risky behaviour.

What have parents done to deserve this? Why is it arguably the most difficult job in the world? Dealing with pregnancy, the birthing process, demanding babies and sleep deprivation is one thing; dealing with teenagers is quite another.

The biblical picture of the dragon attacking the woman—the church—in Revelation 12 could easily be applied to parenting teenagers. After the woman flees into the desert to escape the attacks of the dragon, it pursues the woman and pours out from its mouth a river of water to sweep her away with a flood. Parents of teenagers have to deal with a flood of issues and make a multitude of decisions, some of which can have lasting consequences in dealing with their teenage children.

Issues include our teenager's friends and peers; their relationship to school, study and grades; use of the internet and what they are being exposed to; their choice of music; their involvement in the life of the home and doing their duties; use of the family car and who pays for what; income, allowances and perhaps a part-time job; their social life, who they go out with, how long they stay

out and when they are expected home; their appearance, dress and associated decorations; communication with our teenagers and conflict resolution; their relationship with God and involvement in the life of the church; and the list could go on.

At what age will you allow your teenager to have a mixed sleeper in your home? What do you do when he or she wants to get one or more body piercings or tattoos? When is an acceptable time for them to be home on a Saturday night? What do you do when they want to go out on a Friday night and you know it isn't to a Bible study? How do you react when your teenager doesn't want to go to church anymore and you can't make them? How do you react when you find alcohol or other nasties in your teenager's bedroom? What is your response if you discover that your teenager is sexually active? What do you do when all attempts to communicate end up in a shouting match? This is just a sample of the questions that every parent of a teenager is required to deal with.

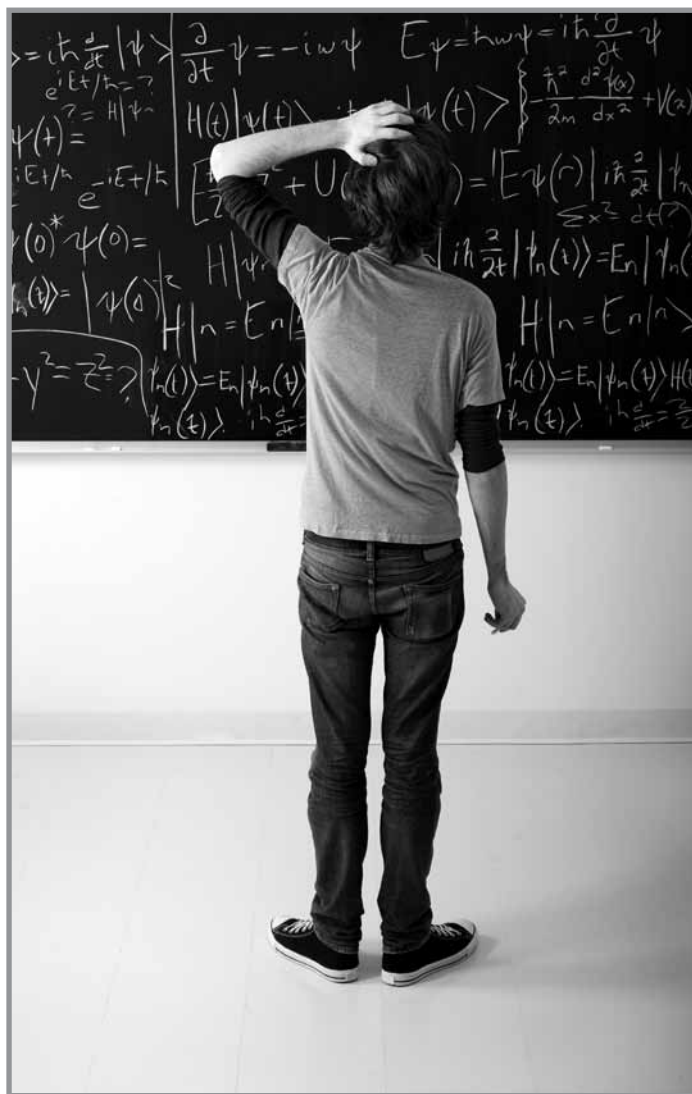
Parenting has always been a difficult challenge: just ask Isaac, Eli, David and a number of other biblical characters. But the level of challenge has increased in our time because children and teenagers are now exposed to adult concepts, ideas and material

at a much younger age because of technology, while they may not be emotionally or mentally mature enough to deal with them.

The bad news is that by the time our children are teenagers, it's nearly too late. It is difficult to catch up on what we haven't done up to that point. If we haven't been loving our children unconditionally, if we haven't been spending quality time with them, if we haven't set boundaries and rules, by the time they are teenagers, it's almost impossible to catch up.

So step one is: start your parenting before your first child is born. Talk with your spouse about how you will go about it. Go to some seminars and get some good Christian parenting books to read.

But the news is not all bad for parents with teenagers. Consider the following points:



1. **Remember.** Remember what you did as a teenager and how you related to your parents. Remember that you did some things that bitterly disappointed them and there are still some things you did they don't know about. Your teenagers will be just the same.

2. **Love them.** Continue to love your teens regardless of how they behave. You may not like some of the things they do but continue to love them and don't forget to tell them. Remember, God doesn't always like some of the things we do but He never stops loving us.

3. **Respect.** Respect their things, their space and their decisions.

**Although Jesus never had children, He could have been a perfect parent—but He lost one of His disciples because every individual has the God-given power of free choice, including our teenagers.**

Again, you will not agree with many of them but teenagers are in transition from childhood to adulthood, which is difficult for all concerned. We have to let them go and make their own decisions. We just hope and pray they don't get too hurt or injured along the way.

4. **Open home.** Apart from exceptional circumstances, always have the "back door unlocked" so they know they can come home. Teenagers need a safe place to go to. Don't yell at them at 3 am—let them sleep for awhile.

The discussion can come later. And tell your teenagers you are prepared to pick them up any time, any place, regardless of their condition. It's called tough love.

5. **Hang on**—to the promise in Proverbs 22:6. The wise man said, "Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray" (NRSV).

6. **Pray.** Pray for your teenagers every day, then pray some more. Pray for grace, pray for love, pray for forgiveness and understanding, and pray for wisdom, tact and calmness.

Although Jesus was never married, He had the qualities and characteristics of a perfect spouse. Although He never had children, He could have been a perfect parent—but He lost one of His disciples because every individual has the God-given power of free choice, including our teenagers. Despite our best efforts and intentions, it could also happen to us. It doesn't necessarily mean we are a bad parent.

This is a call to arms: a call for parents of teens to unite, to lean on each other, share with each other and encourage each other as we battle the flood with which the dragon wants to swamp our precious teenagers. Ours is a tough job—one of the hardest there is. But God knows and He sees every tear and broken heart. Lean on Him for all you are worth. **R**

*Anonymously written by a parent of teenagers who wants to protect their identity, as they are dearly loved.*

# Record Roo



Hi kids!  
The time for the Israelites to leave Egypt and be freed from slavery had finally come! They quickly got ready, according to Moses' instructions.

## True or False?

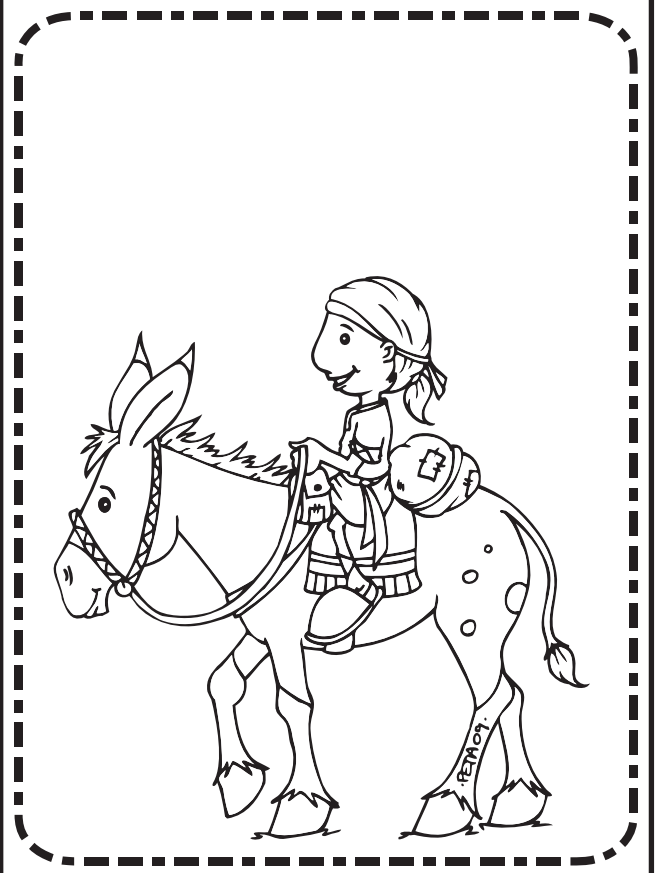
Read Exodus 12:31-40 then try the quiz!

1. Pharaoh asked Moses and Aaron to bless him before they left Egypt. T/F
2. The Egyptians didn't want the Israelites to leave. T/F
3. The Israelites took silver, gold and clothing from the Egyptians. T/F
4. The Israelites first journeyed from Succoth to Rameses. T/F
5. There were about five hundred thousand people, including women and children, who left Egypt. T/F

Answers: 1. True 2. False 3. True 4. False 5. False

## Colour In and Draw

Colour in the picture of this Israelite girl riding her donkey out of Egypt. Draw Egypt and the pyramids in the background.



## Doing, not theology

DARYL CHENG, VIC

“Distinctiveness lost?” (Letters, April 4) suggests the recent Australian Youth Conference (AYC) teaches theology that is not “representative of the core of Adventist understanding.” But AYC is not a theology forum; instead, it is a youth initiative and event that inspires, trains and resources young people for service. Thus, all aspects of AYC are geared toward these objectives.

As a delegate attending the conference, I heard inspiring testimonies from various parts of Australia about witnessing for Christ, participated in practical evangelism, and networked with young people to brainstorm and share ideas. Workshops provided valuable tools and resources on how to effectively utilise practical evangelism—not a time for debate and teaching on doctrinal issues.

My highlight was hearing the testimony of a 14-year-old girl, who paired with a seasoned, retired evangelist four times her age to invite non-Christian members of the public to an evangelistic seminar. The passion, radiance, excitement and joy in her voice as she shared her experience on that hot Sabbath afternoon encouraged and inspired young and old alike.

Those representative of the core of Adventist understanding are already vocal. The 830 young people with the same “devotion, passion and self-sacrificing spirit for their church and its mission” (“For the sake of our youth,” Editorial, March 21) are determined to be “the army of youth” equipped to go to war for God. AYC is challenging Adventist young people to be a distinctive people who preach the everlasting gospel to the world.

JAMES HOPE, WA

In response to “Distinctiveness lost?” I was a youth delegate to AYC and disagree with the claims made. In fact, AYC was a huge blessing to me and to those of my youth group who attended, and has been a major part of me coming closer to Christ. I have attended all four conferences. AYC promoted the core beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church at all of them. Delegates were encouraged to spread the good news of Jesus to those around them through small groups, via internet, with friendships,

through public evangelism and more.

That said, I would like to encourage the anonymous author of said letter to clarify what is the “core of Adventist understanding,” so the youth of the church will know what they are supposed to believe. I also urge him or her to read Revelation 2 and 3 again. Christ calls us numerous times to be “overcomers” through Him and promises that if we do, we will inherit the Kingdom of God.

## Delegates were encouraged to spread the good news of Jesus to those around them.

### Where’s the Bible?

OWEN THOMSON, QLD

I was very interested in “Adventist Health reaffirms stance on alcohol” (News, April 4). The medical evidence of this article was impressive but then, so is the medical evidence for the dangers of smoking. I was convicted that I should not drink alcohol 25 years ago when I read that a drunkard will not enter the kingdom of God (see 1 Corinthians 6:10) and I have never been tempted to drink again. Going from being an alcoholic to being a sober son of God was a miracle.

So what is wrong with our Bible position on alcohol? Why can’t we simply put our trust in the Word of God and use this as our reason for not drinking, rather than in a medical reason for not using it? This information is of no use unless the conviction of the Holy Spirit attends it!

While this and other articles confirm our stance, they are not the base for my not using alcohol or tobacco, tea, coffee, meat and other harmful products. We need to remember our biblical stand first and show other evidence such as this later. But thanks for the informative article.

### “Acts” and “state”

MAX HATTON, NSW

Of course wilful acts must be included in any definition of sin (“Act” or ‘state’?” Letters, March 7)—but not wilful acts exclusively. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we must resist the temptation to deliberately sin. However, this does not mean we are not

sinful in ourselves. Whatever falls short of the requirements of the law—whether in “act, disposition or state”—is sin.

I recommend a study of the long article “Sin,” found in Volume 12 of the Commentary: *Handbook of Seventh-day Adventist Theology*. On page 246, we read: “The biblical concept of sin further portrays its complexity by describing it as a state. Sin not only pervades the whole person but it takes abode in the human heart (Romans 7:20). . . .

The takeover is so complete, the depravity is so total, that ‘nothing good dwells’ within a sinner (verse 18). Thus Paul shows that sin is not simply an act, a moral failure, or even an abnormal force. Sin is a demonic power that invades the human heart and reigns there.”

The law requires much more than an absence of wilful sinful acts. Ellen White offers further clarification in many places: “Lack of love and faith are the great sins of which God’s people are now guilty” (*Testimonies to the Church*, Vol 3, page 475). Are these wilful acts?

Because of what we are—our sinful state—we sin unwittingly (see Leviticus 4; 5:14-19). Ellen White says, “In His sufferings and death Jesus has made atonement for all sins of ignorance” (*SDA Commentary*, Vol 5, page 1145). Clearly, all that we do wrong is not wilfully done. Some things are “sins of ignorance.”

It was Martin Luther who rightly said, “If you want to engage profitably in the study of theology and Holy Scripture and do not want to run head-on into a Scripture closed and sealed, then learn, above all things, to understand sin aright.” If we do not understand sin aright, we can find ourselves going down other unscriptural paths. We don’t want that and we surely don’t want to mislead others.

**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

▲ **Head of News and Editorial—Adventist Media Network (Wahroonga, NSW)** is seeking a full-time Head of News and Editorial, who will be based at Wahroonga, heading up a team to produce the print, web and broadcast editions of RECORD (the official news and editorial media of the South Pacific Division (SPD)). The position involves working with dedicated professionals to communicate key messages that will inform, educate and nurture church members across the SPD. The successful applicant will ideally have experience in: writing effective and strong messages in print, web or broadcast, creating interesting, encouraging, challenging and faith-building articles, managing teams of people to ensure deadlines are met, delivering public presentations, developing creative communication strategies for print/web/broadcast, building relationships with contributing writers and AMN staff, facilitating the processes involved to produce content, and the delivery of print, web and broadcast editions. The successful applicant needs to have studied, and be committed to, Adventist theology. For further information, contact Calvin Dever on (02) 9847 2222 or email <kalvin@adventistmedia.org.au>. **Applications in writing:** Calvin Dever, Operations Manager, Adventist Media Network, PO Box 1115 Wahroonga NSW 2076. Applications close **April 30, 2009**.

▲ **Senior Systems Analyst—Risk Management Service (RMS) (Wahroonga, NSW)**. The RMS of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is seeking a dedicated individual to administer, support (including training), develop and grow their risk management database systems. The successful candidate should be a current resident or entitled to residency in Australia. For more information, please visit the South Pacific Division's Human Resources website at <<http://hr.adventistconnect.org/>>. All written applications, including your CV, 3 work-related referees and the contact details of your church pastor, must be forwarded to: Human Resources, Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Ltd, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga NSW 2076 Australia; email: <[hr@adventist.org.au](mailto:hr@adventist.org.au)>; Fax: (02) 9489 0943. Applications close **April 30, 2009**.

▲ **Youth Leader and Pastoral Assistant—Bishopdale Church (Christchurch, New Zealand)**. Bishopdale church is seeking a person to work with its youth, and to assist the pastor with Bible studies, visitations and, if so desired, sermons. Bishopdale is committed to building on its current youth ministry and the successful applicant would be well supported by the church as a whole. This is a full-time paid ministry, which would best suit an enthusiastic, active, organised person who is committed to God and able to relate well to, and mentor, young people. Christchurch is a city of 400,000 people with two universities and is the administrative centre for the entire South Island of New Zealand. The position is available now but applicants who need to defer commencement due to study or other commitments are also encouraged to apply. Please direct any inquiries to John Edilson at <[john.edilson@xtra.co.nz](mailto:john.edilson@xtra.co.nz)>.

For more employment options go to  
[hr.adventistconnect.org](http://hr.adventistconnect.org)



## Weddings

**Boyd—Edwards.** David Brice Boyd (Narangba, Qld), and Jean Edwards (Kingston), were married on 22.3.09 in Springfield church.

*Andre van Rensburg, Clarence O'Neill*

**Findlater—MalaxEtxebarria.** Kry-an Findlater, son of Chris and Anne Findlater (Brisbane, Qld), and Mercedes MalaxEtxebarria, daughter of Marcos and Robyn MalaxEtxebarria (Muddapilly), were married on 18.3.09 at Birkwood, Muddapilly.

*Sandor Gazsik*

**Lurch—Fatu.** Tavita Matia Lurch, son of Leitu and Nonumalo Lurch (Auckland, NZ), and Triscilla Fatu, daughter of Tusiane and Lipena Fatu (Auckland), were married on 15.3.09 in New Lynn Samoan church.

*Sau Tuionoula Kraay*

**Nixon—McGarry.** Tony Nixon (formerly from Mt Isa and Mackay, Qld) and Lesley McGarry (Perth, WA) were married on 1.3.09 at the North Beach church. Family and friends travelled from Queensland.

*Gys Seegers*

**Powell—Ientile.** Sean Lee Powell, son of Bruce and Cheiw Powell (Wahroonga, NSW), and Lyndal Sarah Ientile, daughter of Phillip and Karen Ientile (Windsor), were married on 13.3.09 in an outdoor wedding ceremony on the golf course at Riverside Oaks, Cattai.

*Pablo Lillo, Clifton Glasgow*

**Vickery—Mollee.** Robert John Vickery, son of John Henry Vickery (deceased) and Rita Vickery (Brisbane, Qld), and Leba Mollee, daughter of Temo and Selai Anisa (Nayau, Fiji), were married on 29.3.09 in Mt Gravatt church, Brisbane, Qld.

*Mark Pearce, R Possingham*

## Obituaries

**Baynes,** Constance (Connie) Doreen (nee Royals), born 28.10.1921 at Queens-town, SA; died 23.2.09 at Mt Barker. On 2.12.1942, she married Leonard Stanley Baynes. She is survived by her husband (Littlehampton); her daughter, Lorraine (Mt Gambier); her daughter and son-in-law, Wendy and Terry Brown (Echunga); her 11 grandchildren; and her eight great-grandchildren. A kind, considerate and resilient woman who was totally devoted to her family, Connie is now at rest in the

care of her Lord. A patient, gentle, loving person, she loved cooking and baking new things for people to try. She also loved gardening. She worked in the SHF shop and as a lift operator in Harris Scarfe. She was very close in life and faith to her elder sister, Glad. Connie loved her Lord and awaits His return.

*Lee Bouditch-Walsh*

**Cantwell,** Graeme Reginald, born 25.4.1927 at Blenheim, NZ; died 12.3.09 at Tauranga. He married Margaret. He is survived by his wife (Greerton); and his children, Malcolm (Gippsland, Vic), David (Te Puke, NZ), Cathy (Melbourne, Vic) and Irene (Wagga Wagga, NSW). Graeme was a man who loved much, his wife, family and God. Graeme's motto was love for God and others. He was involved in a couple of significant fly 'n' builds—the building of the airstrip at Batuna and the school chapel at Kiribati. Resting until the Resurrection. Even so, "Come, Lord Jesus."

*Pat Downey*

**Creighton,** Raymond Keith, born 27.8.1929 at Maclean, NSW; died 7.3.09 in Brisbane, Qld. On 8.2.1951, he married Carmelle Lorraine Rose. He was predeceased by his daughters, Donna (1956) and Francine (1961). He is survived by his wife (Salisbury); his children, Rosemary Creighton-Rice (Rocklea), Ted (Shailer Park), David (Lismore, NSW) and Sharmaine Delaney (Salisbury, Qld); his brother, Jim; and sisters, Phyllis and Janice. Ray loved his Lord and loved serving Him in many facets of church life, be it preaching as head elder, working on building committees or at church working bees. Ray very much loved his family, home and garden. Aside from his career as a nurse, Ray loved working with his hands. There was very little he could not turn his hand to. Ray is much missed by his family and friends.

*R Possingham, Ted White, Neil Tyler*

**Fish,** Lance Edward born 23.8.1946 at Avoca, Vic; died 5.3.09 at home in Maryborough after a two-year battle with cancer. He was baptised in 1961 by Pastor W Cole. On 14.1.1972, he married Carol Warland. He is survived by his wife; his children and their families, Lynnette and Philip Hampton (Bathurst, NSW); Scott (Maryborough, Vic); Christopher and Jacqui (Bendigo); David and Greg (Maryborough) and five grandchildren. Lance attended Maryborough and Bathurst churches for many years, during which he was a deacon, treasurer and elder. He also worked for Telstra for nearly 40 years. Lance was a man who worked hard at whatever he put his hand to and helped others all his life. He now awaits the call of the Life-giver, when there will be no more pain, sickness or sorrow.

*Benjamin Townson*

**Flynn (Hanson),** Margaret, born 13.5.1910 in England; died 23.3.09 at Home Hill, Qld. She was predeceased by her husband, Charles Hanson (1969) and her son, Roy (1979). She is survived by her son, Alan (Home Hill) and her two daughters, Glenis (Townsville) and Merle (Home

## Volunteers!

**Rumah Ukan Fly'n'Build—Sarawak Mission, Malaysia.** Fly'n'Build volunteers are needed to help build a new church in Sarawak (Borneo). Skilled and unskilled but energetic people are needed July 10–23, 2009. Tasks include bricklaying, rendering, concreting, fitting doors and windows, and painting. An evening devotional series will focus on nurturing these new Adventists. For more information, contact Calvyn Townend at <[ctownend@exemail.com.au](mailto:ctownend@exemail.com.au)>.

**Fly'n'Build—Atoifi Hospital, Solomon Islands.** Urgent need to replace roof on Atoifi Hospital (August, 2009). Looking for 15–20 volunteers. For more information, write to Brian Larwood, PO Box 2169, Midland WA 6056. Email <[team@project-atofifi.org](mailto:team@project-atofifi.org)>.

**Volunteer Team Leader or Small Team—Solomon Islands,** to oversee the construction of the Form 7 Building, Kukudu Adventist College in the Western Province of the Solomon Islands. Foundation dug and building materials already supplied. Just needs constructing with locals willing to assist. For more information, contact Lyn at <[volunteers@adventist.org.au](mailto:volunteers@adventist.org.au)>.

Email:

<[volunteers@adventist.org.au](mailto:volunteers@adventist.org.au)>.  
For more positions, check the web on  
<[www.adventistvolunteers.org](http://www.adventistvolunteers.org)>.

+61 2 9847 3275



Hill); her eight grandchildren and her 18 great-grandchildren. She later married Gerald Flynn in 1974, who passed away in 1980. Her family donated the land on which the Home Hill church was built. She loved her Lord and is sleeping, awaiting the call of Jesus on the Resurrection day.

*Richard Felkel*

**Freeman,** Erica May (nee Hollingsworth), born 4.2.1935 at Northam, WA; died 1.2.09 in Regents Garden Retirement Village, Joondalup. On 22.3.1975, she married Walter Freeman. She is survived by her husband (Marangaroo); and her children, Sherry Longman (Leda), Shane Longman (Kallaroo) and Dale Longman (Greenwood). Erica was the selfless and loving mother of Sherry, Shane and Dale, and the devoted wife of Walter. We'll miss you, 'til Jesus comes.

*Clem van Ballegooyen*

**Kum Yuen,** Rovada (Vada), born 31.10.1940 in Wellington, NZ, second child of Pastor Ron and Alvine Heggie; died 18.3.09 in Mareeba Hospital, Qld. On 6.1.1970, she married Darryl Kum Yuen, and later adopted a 3-month-old

baby boy, Landon. She is survived by her husband; her son and daughter-in-law, Landon and Wendy; her brother, Ian; her sister, Joy; and many friends. Vada taught in several SDA schools in Rockhampton, (Qld) Wagga Wagga, (NSW), and Warburton and Croydon (Vic). Vada and Darryl became legal guardians to three teenagers when their father died. She was a loving, caring person who will be sadly missed by all who knew her. She was laid to rest in the Mareeba cemetery, to await the call of the Life-giver.

*Tom Turner, Dana Howard*

**Low, Simon Vakamoce (Sam)**, born 19.11.1938 in Fiji; died 4.2.09 in St Joseph's Hospital, Auburn, Sydney, NSW. He was predeceased by his wife, Elaine Estea Low. He is survived by his children, George Tupou Low and family; Malesini Low and family, Lili Hoyt and family; and Willy Ana Weleilakeba and family (all of Sydney).

*Bruce Shield*

**Miller, Pastor Henry George Peter**, born 11.2.1921 at Glebe, NSW; died 14.3.09 at Victoria Point, Qld. On 10.12.1942, he married Roma Claire Holman. He is survived by his wife (Victoria Point); his children, Leon (Bonnells Bay, NSW), Darryl (Clontarf, Qld), Adrian (Adelaide, SA) and Nerida Koolik (Redcliffe, Qld); and his siblings, Mick (Parkes, NSW), Joyce Roeder (Parkes), Max (Lismore) and Nola (Lismore). Henry was a man who truly loved his Lord. He met his wife to be at Avondale College, where he went to study business after an apprenticeship as a cabinet-maker. He felt a strong call to ministry but WWII intervened. While at Spotswood church, Vic, he was called by the Victorian Conference and eventually became pastor of Spotswood. A motorbike accident interrupted his work and after recovery, Henry was appointed to the Australasian Union Conference, working in the treasury. There, he worked in ESDA Sales and Service, where he served as manager for 15 years. He then re-entered the ministry, working in Victoria, NZ and Brisbane. During his years in the ministry, he was involved in building new churches at Palmerston North and Pine Rivers, and a new primary school at Shepparton. Henry could talk openly, even to strangers, about his love for Jesus. He loved his family and will be missed by all of them, as well as his many friends.

*Ronald Taylor, Ormand Speck  
Neil Tyler*

**Oliver, Mackenzie Rose.** Little Mackenzie was born sleeping on the morning of the 13.3.09. She was the beautiful daughter of Hayley and Randall Oliver, and a sister to Hudson. She was the granddaughter of Julie and Barry Oliver, and Lynley and Malcolm Potts; and the great-granddaughter of Norma Oliver, Joan Potts and Cyril Brown. With the love and support of family and many friends, she was laid to rest in the Mt Gravatt cemetery to wait for the call of Jesus, and the joy of being in the arms of Hayley and Randall. At that time, "He will wipe every tear from our eyes. There will be no more death, or mourning, or crying or pain, for the old order of things will have passed away" (Revelation 21:4). "Those who hope in the

Lord will renew their strength, they will soar on wings like eagles, they will run and not grow weary, they will walk, and not be faint" (Isaiah 40:31).

*Jorge Munoz*

**Schimpf, Dominga (nee Barrientos)**, born 20.12.1940 in Argentina; died 19.2.09 in Perth, WA. On 28.6.1963, she married Ricardo Schimpf in Argentina. She is survived by her husband (Gosnells, WA); her children and their spouses, Patricia and Brad Harvey, Jorge and Enisa, Hector, Marisa and Phillip Lloyd-Murray, John and Carolina, Fred and Charmaine, and Paul and Dean (all of Perth); and her 28 grandchildren. Dominga trusted God and her faith enriched her life. She lived a humble life of self-sacrifice and would pray about everything, especially her family. She had a talent for loving others and her life reflected God's grace. She now rests, waiting for the coming of Jesus Christ and the Resurrection.

*Steven Goods, Edgar Reyes*

**Toepfer, Harry Arthur**, born 20.10.1928 at Morisset, NSW; died 28.2.09 in Kempsey Hospital. On 5.2.1953, he married Mavis in Port Moresby, PNG. He is survived by his wife (Kundabung, NSW); his children and their spouses, Roger and Shirley (Qld), Inez and Murray Thackham (Wollongong, NSW) and Alan and Beth (Kempsey); his sister and her husband, Margaret and Colin Searle (Coffs Harbour); his sister, Joy Lloyd (Cooranbong); his brother and sister-in-law, Cecil and Elaine (Cooranbong); his sisters-in-law, Pearl and Jean Toepfer (Cooranbong); and his grandchildren, Melinda, Lisa, Ruth, John, Alex and Ben.


*Joseph Maticic, Lindsay Laws,  
Murray Thackham, Murray Chapman*

**Warden, Elizabeth May**, born 27.12.1914 in Sydney, NSW; died 16.3.09 in Cardiff Nursing Home. Her husband predeceased her in 1981. She is survived by her four children and their partners, Randolph and Yvonne (Gold Coast, Qld), Glennys and Edmund (Morpeh, NSW), Richard and Diane (Toowoomba, Qld), Aileen and Ron (Tin Can Bay); her 11 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. May will be remembered as a gracious Christian woman, and a wonderful pianist and organist who used her talents well in God's service. Her faith in Jesus never wavered. We confidently say "Good night, May. See you in the morning."

*Jim Beamish, Ed Parker*

**Young, Gladys Gwenoline (nee Nichols)**, born 24.6.1938 in Sydney, NSW; died 18.3.09 in Noosa Hospital, Qld. On 29.12.1956, she married Brian Young in Sydney, NSW. She was baptised 1.11.1980 in Mackay, Qld. She is predeceased by her husband (1998); and her son, Glenn (1981). She is survived by her sons and their wives, Mark and Cindy (Mackay) and Brett and Fleur (Nambour); her four grandchildren; her brothers, Brian and Bobby Nichols (NSW); and her sister, Josephine Mears (NSW). Gladys was a tireless lay worker for her Lord, organising and running health programs, cooking demonstrations and personal witnessing.


*David Lamb, John Martin,  
Col Tyler*



# Homecoming

## August 28-30, 2009

**HONOUR YEARS**  
1939, 1949, 1959, 1969, 1979, 1984, 1989 and 1999



*It just won't be the same without you*

**REGISTER**  
Phone the Enquiry and Enrolment Centre on  
1800 991 392 (free call within Australia) or  
+61 2 4980 2377 (international) or  
visit [www.avondale.edu.au](http://www.avondale.edu.au)

**CITATIONS**  
Honour classmates with the presentation of citations and the  
Outstanding Alumni Award

**REMINISCEWORSHIPRELAX**

## 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.

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

**Tours and Travel 2010—Allround Travel Centre.** GC Atlanta, June 2010 (Accommodation and Air); Passion Play—Oberammergau, Austrian Alps and Italy, July 2010; Greece and Turkey, June 2010—A tour of ancient civilisations. Travel with fellow Adventists, fully escorted, affordable prices. Contact Anita on (07) 5530 3555 or email <[alltrav@bigpond.net.au](mailto:alltrav@bigpond.net.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.

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

**Air conditioning**—For all your air conditioning needs call XANDEL P/L. We design, install and replace air conditioning systems. We organise air conditioning service and maintenance, domestic and commercial. Call (02) 9748 4217.

**Melrose Park (formerly Southern Memorial) church, SA**, will be celebrating their 50th anniversary on July 25, 2009. Former pastors, members and friends are invited to celebrate with us. Program starts at 10 am, followed by a combined lunch and afternoon of nostalgia. Any memorabilia would be appreciated. Send to 123 Edward Street, Melrose Park, SA, 5039. Email <[gazzam@adam.com.au](mailto:gazzam@adam.com.au)> or contact Audrey (08) 8388 3804, 0412 824 687.

## Finally

A man is not old  
until regrets take the  
place of dreams.—

**John Barrymore**

# ADVENTIST HEALTH

- Health Emphasis Week, May 2–9
- Annual Health Offering, May 9



*Examples of the current Adventist Health strategic projects that will advance because of your financial support:*