

# RECORD

September 26, 2009

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*Russell Gibbs (left) recalls an interesting story with fellow 1969 classmates at the 2009 Avondale College Homecoming.*



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COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

A massed choir's performance of a song dedicated to a recently deceased classmate added poignancy to the Sabbath worship service at Avondale College's Homecoming, held from August 28 to 30.

Conducted by long-serving former head of music Alan Thrift, members of the Homecoming honour years joined to sing Eugene Butler's arrangement of "O still, small voice of calm" in memory of Gail Valentine (nee Cover). A member of the class of 1969, Mrs Valentine had been planning to attend Homecoming before her death from cancer in March this year. Earlier in the service, the choir performed an introit

in the foyer of Avondale College church before walking down the centre aisle during the processional.

The Avondale College Alumni Association surprised the recipient of its highest award by keeping his name secret until the official presentation during the service. Members of the association's committee voted in February to present the "Outstanding Alumni of the Year" award to Dr William Johnsson.

The award recognises Dr Johnsson's service to the Adventist Church as an educator, publisher and intermediary.

*(Continued on page 5)*



Often there are no immediate answers  
and our faith is challenged.

# The will to seek His will

**Y**OU HAVE PROBABLY HEARD IT ALL before. Comments like “Don’t worry. When God shuts one door, He opens another,” “He’s got it all planned out” and “You’ll be fine, just pray about it.” If I had a dollar for every time I heard that from the lips of a well-meaning church member, I wouldn’t have to worry—at least not financially, because I wouldn’t need to work again!

But what they say is true. God does have it worked out. There are still no easy answers; the voices still chorus and you still feel lost. I know—I’ve been there. I’m still asking. In a world where we can do almost anything we set our mind to, how do we decide what to do with ourselves, especially when seeking the elusive jewel that is “God’s will”?

At high school—especially in my senior years—I struggled with this question every night. What should I do with my life? How can I make a difference? Where does God want me?

One common response sounds particularly good: “‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future’” (Jeremiah 29:11, NIV). So I believed. I had faith. But no answers came.

The question I have found myself asking is why. Why the waiting? Why the confusion? If God is so powerful, why doesn’t He just communicate directly and give us answers?

I don’t know the answers. I am still searching for them but I was recently encouraged by the story of Peter.

We all know how Peter failed—how he denied Jesus, cut off the servant’s ear, and was boastful and impetuous, yet God used him to help kick-start the church. Peter was called to follow Jesus, to lay down his nets and fish for men.

In Matthew 14, we hear of Peter doing something that no other person has done since. He and the other disciples set out across the lake, while Jesus takes some time alone on the hillside. Then Jesus approaches the boat, walking on the water, and the disciples recoil in fear, believing Him to be a ghost.

Peter says “If it’s really You, command me to come to You on the water.”

Jesus replies, “Come.”

So Peter sets out. For a moment, he is actually walking on water. The other disciples must have looked on in amazement. But Peter began to sink. Jesus had to pull him out, then reprimanded him for his lack of faith. Those in the boat worshipped Jesus and proclaimed Him the Son of God.

Peter was willing to answer God’s call, even though it seemed impossible. In the middle of the storm, he still got out of the boat and sank. He would have felt hopeless, helpless and overwhelmed as the waves crashed against him. And, because Peter sank, the worship of all those in the boat was for Jesus.

Life is hard. The storms rage around us.

Jobs are lost, bills go unpaid, relationships break down and God’s will seems impossible to do or even to know. I’m sure Peter never forgot his experience of walking on water. It was probably one of his favourite stories to tell. And sometimes we have to get out of the boat, too.

We may walk or we may sink. Often there are no immediate answers and our faith is challenged. But God is there. We must cling to His hand so we don’t sink. It is the only certainty in an uncertain world.

Yet even after Peter’s amazing experience, he still denied Jesus. We are tested and we can be strengthened through the search, the journey to discover God’s will—even if it is not clear at the time.

As I look back on my experience, I can see how God has led me: to Avondale College, to the role I hold now, to the fact that at the moment I am a writer and you are reading what I have to say.

Storms rage but life goes on. Broken hearts mend, things are replaced, bones heal, jobs are found, soul mates connect, and God’s will is done—“on earth as it is in heaven” (see Matthew 6:10)—even if not yet completely.

And though we sink, we are strengthened. We are humbled and learn to feel for others. So the next time someone comes to you rocked by a storm and searching for God’s will, do as Jesus did and hold out your hand.

*Jarrod Stackelroth*

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

# Children's expo instructs, engages leaders

COLLARROY, NEW SOUTH WALES

The Greater Sydney, North New South Wales (NNSW) and South New South Wales Conferences successfully conducted their first ever combined children's ministries expo in August.

Almost 200 children's ministries leaders, representing 30 churches from New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and Papua New Guinea attended the event to learn about "Discipling children for life."

The expo was held at The Collaroy Centre on Sydney's Northern Beaches from August 7 to 9.

"Our aim for the expo was to instruct, empower and resource all who are engaged in ministry to children," says Pastor Pablo Lillo, then-Children's Ministries director for the Greater Sydney Conference.



Almost 200 children's ministries leaders attended the expo.

"I believe God's presence was evident in the way He remoulded our hearts in preparation for continued work with His children."

"This is the first time that the three NSW conferences have come together for an event of this magnitude," says Pastor Daron Pratt, director of Children's Ministries for the NNSW Conference.

Pastor Don MacLafferty, director of the Kids in Discipleship program from Collegedale, Tennessee, US, was the event's keynote speaker. Participants chose from 32 workshops to attend, including topics such as "How to lead children to Jesus," "Creative family worship" and "Running a successful playgroup." A children's worship service was also conducted during the expo to demonstrate how leaders could run their own.

"I learnt that mentoring children is about intentionally spending time with them and setting an example for their Christian journey," says Lolita Jack from Kellyville Adventist church. "It's about including them in our church services by using their giftedness and skills. This reminded me that I need to spiritually mentor my children and find time for myself."

According to Pastor Lillo, previous conference-organised children's min-



Participants could choose from 32 workshops on various aspects of children's ministries.

istries events were typically afternoon events, making this combined expo a unique and successful experience.

"We [the three conferences] started planning a year ago to work together to help each other with resources," says Pastor Lillo.

He says there are plans to run similar expos once every four years.

"I always feel inspired to see so many volunteers committed to the spiritual development of children. The weekend brought us closer as a team, under the discipleship of Pastor Don," says Julie Weslake, director of Children's Ministries for the South Pacific Division. "We feel God's call to ensure the present generation of children are empowered to be disciples of Jesus now."

—Melody Tan



◆ The Victorian Advent Brass Band recently won the "C" grade prize in the Victorian State Championship Contest at Ballarat. Competing against five other bands, Advent Brass won the August 23 competition at the Wendouree Performing Arts Centre on overall aggregate. The band—under the baton of musical director Reynold Gil-

son—won the test piece "Resurgam," a sacred arrangement, the hymn, "In Perfect Peace," and shared first place in the march "The President," while gaining second place in the entertainment number. The adjudicator complimented the band on their professional performance and high standard, saying they could be ready to move up to "B" grade.—Ray Boehm

◆ Longburn Adventist College (LAC), NZ, produced their first musical in 30 years at the Globe theatre in Palmerston North from

August 25–27. Titled "Runaway," the production involved 60 students, staff and community members, and was a hit with the school and wider public. The cast performed over three evenings, with an additional matinee show hosting 200 local primary students from both Christian and public schools. This production is an original interpretation of the "prodigal son" story and highlights the special character of the school. The script was developed early in 2009 by Lindsay Morton, a teacher at LAC, with auditions and rehearsals start-



ing in March this year. None of the students with lead roles had performed before but all will be remembered by the audience for their professional involvement and outstanding talent. The cast of "Runaway" will be performing on September 26 at Papatoetoe Adventist Community church in Auckland.—Carl Hergenhan

## Queensland Government grants CHIP

TOOWOOMBA, QUEENSLAND

The Queensland Government and other agencies have contributed more than \$A45,000 to Adventist churches in Toowoomba and Laidley to run Coronary Health Improvement Projects (CHIP) in local communities.

CHIP, founded by Dr Hans Diehl, teaches participants how to reduce coronary artery disease risk through improving health habits and appropriate lifestyle changes.

Government agencies funding CHIP include the West Moreton Division of General Practitioners, Queensland Health, the University of Queensland and the Department of Sport and Recreation.

Church members in Toowoomba and Laidley have already conducted three projects to 87 participants since June. Each project runs for two hours a day, four days a week for four weeks, with support materials available on DVD. The projects were directed by Gavin Dagg from Laidley church.

A fourth project with more than 30 participants commenced on August 14 at Toowoomba TAFE, a premises that was loaned to the Adventist Church free to use for CHIP programs. Directors for the Toowoomba program are Stan Starkey, Scott and Kathy Stevenson, and Mark Haslam, as well as volunteers from local Adventist churches.



Melinda Archer and Diane Butcher running the cooking demonstrations for the CHIP program at Toowoomba TAFE.

“God has led and continues to lead in this process,” says Mr Haslam, a member of Toowoomba Central church.

The success of the project has also encouraged Mr Haslam to apply for a national research grant to run CHIPS.

“What I really need now is for anyone who has run CHIP in Australia to forward their data from the program to me,” says Mr Haslam. “We are going to put the data together for discussion in a paper that will help with a national research grant application.”—Melody Tan

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

Church members who have conducted CHIPS in Australia can forward their data to Professor Esther Chang at <[e.chang@uws.edu.au](mailto:e.chang@uws.edu.au)>. Professor Chang is the president of the Lifestyle Medicine Institute of Australia, which is affiliated with CHIP.

## Townsville church member finds new market for literature

TOWNSVILLE, QUEENSLAND

A 70-year-old member of Townsville Adventist church has sold more than \$A3000 worth of Christian books and DVDs over the past eight months. He has also given away more than 500 Christian DVDs, videos, books and Bibles. Raymond Brooks started out as a literature evangelist but health concerns soon prevented him from selling books door to door. After a short stint selling books at the Townsville markets, Mr Brooks approached the four major shopping centres in Townsville and has been selling Christian literature there since January.

“The purpose is to distribute our literature, DVDs and videos to as many people as we can,” says Mr Brooks. “It’s revitalised my life. I was getting a bit stale at 70, thinking I couldn’t do anything.”—Melody Tan

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Raymond Brooks.



◆ More than 100 students at Carmel Adventist College, WA, are currently engaged in regular Bible studies. School chaplains Pastor Andrew Skeggs, Willie Mauga and Roy van Moorsel are studying with the students. All year levels at the school are catered for and topics range from the existence of God, His plan for our lives

and making smart life choices. These classes are held in conjunction with the regular Bible classes that are compulsory for all children attending the college. Feedback from students indicates that important questions are being answered. Some students are making a commitment to the Lord, with several planning to be baptised at the end of the year. The majority of young people attending Carmel are from non-Adventist—and, at times, non-Christian—backgrounds. —Gavin Williams

◆ TV advertising for a free viewings of *Who Is Jesus?* will screen in Sydney, NSW, on Channel 7 from October 3 to 11.

◆ Year 11 students at Avondale School, NSW, recently visited two Jewish synagogues and the Holocaust Museum in Sydney as part of their “Studies in Religion” subject. At the Central Synagogue, located at Bondi Junction, Rabbi Benjamin presented the students with information on the significant practices and symbolism associated with Judaism. Roscoe Street Synagogue is a much



smaller but newly-refurbished synagogue. Here, Rabbi Lewin spoke about the core teachings of Judaism and Sandy Hollis spoke on the subject of Shabbat observance. At the Holocaust Museum, the students heard a personal story of survival, which was both confronting and interesting. The museum was a good resource for the students with

DAYS AND OFFERINGS: ◆ OCTOBER 10—APPEAL EXPENSE OFFERING

# In memory: alumni honour classmate

(Continued from page 1)

His experience includes: teaching over 17 years at Spicer College in India, writing more than 20 books, editing *Adventist Review*, the Seventh-day Adventist Church's flagship journal, for more than 20 years, and serving in retirement as special assistant to the president for the interfaith relations department of the General Conference.

During his acceptance speech, Dr Johnson described his decision to study at Avondale as one of the most important of his life, because it gave him a greater vision of the world's needs. "This is a small college," he said, "but an important one."

Eight other alumni, one from each honour year, joined Dr Johnson as award recipients. Receiving citations from their classmates were: retired minister Leslie Coombe (1939); a former director of the Southern Asian Division's Health and Temperance Department, Ronald Baird (1949); a former director of the General Conference's Health Food Department, Eugene Grosser (1959); teacher Helen Schulz (1969); teacher Coralie Fraser (1979); businessman Rodney Long (1984); church planter Loren Pratt (1989); and Avondale lecturer Jason Morton (1999).

Graham Mitchell, a retired accountant and former head of the Commercial Department at Avondale, presented the

annual Alumni Lecture on August 28, posing the question, "Business education at a theological college?" Influenced partly by Adventist Church pioneer Ellen White's support for the "adequate control over church finance," Mr Mitchell criticised the church for showing more interest in cost allocation than in understanding cost behaviour. "We allocate costs . . . as far down the chain as possible, so that we come

up with financial statements where the sum of parts equals the whole. It looks good but we are fooling ourselves with arithmetic."

The alumni association dedicated the lecture to George Laxton, who served the church in various business and educational roles for more than 50 years.

During the annual general meeting following the lecture, members of the association voted Pastor Des Hills as their new president. Outgoing president Jenny Laredo Hilder will serve as vice-president.

The president of Avondale College, Dr Ray Roennfeldt, used a Danoz Direct Swivel Sweeper to illustrate his sermon, which he titled, "And there's more," during the wor-



Dr William Johnson.

ship service on August 29. "There's more to life than any of us would want to experience," he said. "But God, though His Son, Jesus, promises to work for us, not against us."

Former Avondale lecturer Dr Don Hansen spoke at vespers on Friday evening. "When we return for Homecoming, are we really coming home?" he asked, comparing his home with the Avondale he remembered from his

student years—not like home at all, he said. Then, this question: What are we actually celebrating at Homecoming? Until the true Homecoming, which Dr Hansen described as "our rightful inheritance," Homecoming at Avondale will only ever be a great reunion, he said.

An equal record number of 38 competitors entered the golf classic at the Toronto Country Club on Sunday morning. Jared Kalloway and Jonathan Roennfeldt won the Ambrose format tournament with a three under par 69. Steev Davis and Adrian Timmermans won on handicap.—**Brenton Stacey**

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contemporary multimedia exhibits that were relevant to their High School Certificate course.  
—**Susan Rogers**

◆ Retired minister **Pastor Arthur Bath** recently received a **\$A5149 cheque** from residents of **Victoria Point Retirement Village, Qld**, for the purchase of **Russian and Ukranian language Bibles** for an upcoming evangelistic series he is leading in **Kiev, Ukraine**. He originally hoped to collect \$A500 for 500 Russian and 100 Ukrainian Bibles. But **Barbara O'Hara** heard about this need and pur-



chased plastic containers, which she decorated with paper hearts, a ribbon and a "dollars for Bibles" label, and distributed them on Sabbath morning, promising to collect them in six weeks. Pastor Bath also received **\$A2000** toward the series from the Village church. His team of 13 are conducting the series this month.  
—**Ron Taylor**

◆ Technology has enabled **Talai and Mafutaga Mohr** to conduct **long-range Bible studies**, resulting in a wedding and two baptisms at **Griffith church, NSW**, so far. A fourth-year Avondale College theology student, Mr Mohr and his wife have been conducting Bible studies in Griffith via speaker phone from their home in Lake Macquarie. The Mohrs met **Talosaga Tuufuli and Loimata Tia** on a trip to Griffith. After listening to their problems, Mr and Mrs Mohr said they could not necessarily help them but God could and conducted four

Bible studies with them in person over the weekend. From January to June, the couple had 28 studies over the phone. Through the course of the studies, they decided to get married and join the Adventist Church, which they did in July. At the wedding, the Mohrs met another family who were also having problems and are now studying with them over the phone. Every Sunday evening, Mr Mohr presents a live devotional segment for the **Griffith Samoan community on FM 95.1**, once again, over the phone.  
—**George Drinkall**

# ATSIM establishes pastor in Coober Pedy

## COOBER PEDY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministries (ATSIM), the South Australian Conference and Global Mission have worked together to establish a full-time pastor in Coober Pedy. Alan Tuionetoa, who is working in the town as an intern pastor, will be mentored by former ATSIM director Pastor Eric Davey.

Steve Piez, director of ATSIM for the Australian Union Conference, says, "There's been no major Adventist presence in Coober Pedy and this is totally new work—we're breaking ground both here and in Oodnadatta, where we plan further outreach."

Aboriginal people from the area approached ATSIM at the end of 2008 to request an Adventist church be established there. This led to discussions with conference administrators and ATSIM obtaining funding from Global Mission to pay for a pastor. The three entities involved in the project set aside money at the beginning of this year.

Mr Piez says, "Coober Pedy is a hub for Aboriginal people from the surrounding communities, so it's a very significant centre for us."

Pastor Don Fehlberg, associate director of ATSIM, agrees. "There are about 40 different nationalities in Coober Pedy. We felt it

needed someone there to make things happen, rather than just visiting now and then."

The first church meeting was held on August 15 at the local Lion's Club. The service was attended by 13 adults and four children, and Pastor Davey says, "People were very excited that it's happened. We discussed what church was about in the meeting and people came up with great ideas for what they wanted their church to be like, listing words using an acrostic based on the word 'church.'"

Mr Tuionetoa is working with "core people" in the area who have known Pastor Fehlberg and Pastor Davey for years. "They're introducing me to other people in the area," says Mr Tuionetoa.

This includes Barney Lennon, an Indigenous Australian who was baptised in the mid-1970s. Mr Piez says, "Barney's influenced a number of people who've said they'd like us there. He's just one guy living out there on his own but he's worked hard to build connections."

Mr Tuionetoa is conducting broader outreach within the local Indigenous community and says, "My wife and I just go and talk with them. I'm hoping to start a cooking class, as we've got a woman at the church who used to run a bakery and whose husband is a baptised Adventist. We also hope to run children's programs



*Alan Tuionetoa in his underground dugout home in Coober Pedy.*

for the local kids.

"There's a good possibility things will grow here—we just need to pray a lot and work hard. It's exciting."

When the church is a little more established in Coober Pedy, Mr Tuionetoa plans to work on reaching out to communities around the area, including Oodnadatta. "There are a few people there who have been to Mamarapha College and need Bible studies," he says. "I'll be working with them on that."

Keith Minunga, a graduate of Mamarapha College, has been working in the Oodnadatta area and will support Mr Tuionetoa in his work there. Mr Minunga will also provide translations for traditional languages.—*Adele Nash*

◆ Three students from **Southern Adventist University (SAU), US**, are in **Lesotho**—a landlocked nation in the middle of South Africa—to spend a year documenting the lives of **medical missionaries**. The new reality series is sponsored by Hope Channel and will run for 13 episodes. "I'd like to bring to the screen the things God is doing in Lesotho and put a face on the reality of medical missionary work through the families we're filming," said **Derek Taylor**, a junior film production major at SAU and current

video student missionary. During their assignment, students will shadow medical personnel working in **Maluti Adventist Hospital** in Lesotho. Mr Taylor and two fellow students, **Carolyn Taylor** and **Xavier Hazen**, left for Lesotho in July. Ms Taylor is a biology major whose tasks include creating storylines for the episodes and appearing on camera. Mr Hazen, a graphic design major, said he plans to help with production and design. The crew plan to wrap up the series by the middle of next year.—*ANN*

◆ Christian leaders need to reprioritise and direct efforts toward the **1.2 billion people** in the "**4/14 Window**," insists the mission strategist who coined the more widely known term "**10/40 Window**" two decades ago to refer to those regions of the eastern hemisphere located between 10 and 40 degrees north of the equator. The 4/14 Window, explained **Dr Luis Bush**, international facilitator of **Transform World Connections**, does not refer to a geographic frame like the 10/40 Window—the geographical area with the largest population of non-Christians

in the world. Rather, it describes a demographic frame—children and young people between the ages of 4 and 14. Statistics show high percentages of teens and young adults aged 15 to 24 are departing from the Christian values they were raised with, he said. During these years, the perspectives of children are profoundly shaped—either positively or negatively. Mission strategies developed for the 4/14 Window would be implemented by parents, pastors and other role models who play key roles in shaping a child's world view.—*Christian Post*

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# New titles good for reputation and research

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

Three Avondale College staff members have earned new academic titles in recognition of their contribution to research and the college's quest for university status.

Drs Kevin de Berg, Rob McIver and Daniel Reynaud are now associate professors after a six-member panel, which included two academics at an associate and a professor level at Australian universities, approved their applications.

"It's a great honour," says Dr de Berg, who lectures in chemistry in the Faculty of Science and Mathematics. He received his title for his consistent contribution to scholarly literature in all major science education journals. "We're going to have a lot more responsibility when it comes to our research but I think we're pretty happy about that."

The change in title from senior lecturer means the three become research leaders at Avondale—their availability for heading research centres and teams, mentoring staff members and supervising post-graduate students should give them an advantage in applying for grants. They also receive more pay.

Dr McIver, the dean of the Faculty of Theology, speaks highly of the educational and financial help he has received. "Avondale takes a gamble on me by allowing me time to complete my research projects and I'm thankful for that."

Dr McIver's projects include researching tithing in the Adventist Church, the preservation of memories of Jesus and the transformation of theology students. He has also published in high-rating journals and books, developed links with collaborators at Australian Catholic University, and received a competitive, externally-funded research grant of up to \$A500,000 through the Australian Learning and Teaching Council.



Avondale's first associate professors: Drs Rob McIver, Kevin de Berg and Daniel Reynaud.

Dr Reynaud's publication of a range of books and other items, including three articles in the highest-rated journals, his long association with the National Archives of Australia and recognition as an innovative lecturer earned him his title. He notes while the title is "professional recognition of my educational status," it is also "another little brick in the building of a university institution."

"I've had a lot of support from Avondale," says Dr Reynaud, an expert in Anzacs and religion—he is currently writing a biography of Salvation Army chaplain William McKenzie—and a scriptwriter who lectures in history in the Faculty of Arts. "It has helped me balance my workload so I can research and then fund that research."

The conferring of the titles is part of Avondale's profile in addressing the criteria of the new national protocols for higher education providers. It will also improve the status of Avondale because "associate professor" is a title that has national significance. "The criteria for making an original contribution to research at Avondale at this level is commensurate to the level of associate professors at any other university," says vice-president (administration and research) Dr Vivienne Watts.

She says she is proud of the three doctors "not only because they are good researchers but also because they engaged in research at a time when they didn't have to."—**Brenton Stacey/Kirsten Bolinger**

More @ [www.avondale.edu.au](http://www.avondale.edu.au)

# Outreach programs in Tambul result in 129 baptisms

MOUNT HAGEN, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

On August 8, 66 people were baptised into the Adventist Church in the Tambul district of Papua New Guinea (PNG), following a week-long series of evangelistic meetings. This brought the number of people baptised in the district to 129 in a period of two months.

District director Pastor Pius Kitla, Pastor Benny Pass and Pastor Bensen Tau officiated at the baptism ceremony, along with others.

The evangelistic meetings were run by the Tambul Nebilyer Federation, and saw a number of Christian groups gather to present reports and share testimonies of their encounters with God. Pastor Solomon Punta from Mount Hagen was the guest speaker at the evening meetings.

At the meeting, local MP and PNG's parliamentary secretary for treasury and finance Benjamin Poponawa also donated 4000 kina to the women of his electorate.

Ponenge Oki, a councillor of the Yano Kambulupira clan, says compared to other denominations, the Adventist Church is growing rapidly in his area. Prior to the baptism of 66 people, 63 people had been baptised. He also said his community has been feared by other tribes in the Tambul area due to its problems with drugs and tribal fights. "Now all this is history as the hardcore young men have turned their lives to the Lord," says Mr Oki.

Federation officers Wendy Koldop, Mary Koi and Aaron Laka said the meetings were a success, and thanked all those who attended and "experienced one more step forward with Jesus."—**Wako Napasu**



Some of the 66 baptismal candidates.



# Are you really dumb? Or is it just your IQ?

BY JOHN HAMMOND

**I**F YOU HAVE READ THIS FAR, YOU HAVE more than likely had an IQ test. Intelligence Quotient tests were developed about 100 years ago in an effort to conveniently quantify the ability of people. The test introduced one of the greatest disservices possible to countless students who have been categorised according to several very narrow fields of ability.

But I have just made a somewhat bold assertion that needs explaining. The testing and measurement of human intelligence began with the English polymath Sir Francis Galton, who happened to be a cousin of Charles Darwin. Galton was trying to prove the intellectual superiority of the rich over the poor to support the “survival of the fittest” theory.

In 1904, Frenchman Alfred Binet was commissioned to find the difference between “smart,” “normal” and “inferior” children. Binet calculated that if 70 per cent of eight year olds could pass a particular test, success in the test represented

an eight-year-old level of intelligence. Therefore, the expression of intelligence quotient—or IQ—entered educational vocabulary. IQ is the ratio of “mental age” to chronological age, with 100 being average. So, an eight year old who passes the 10 year old’s test would be measured with an IQ of  $10/8 \times 100$ , or 125.

Now, let’s be fair to Binet and those of his time who devised these tests. Binet himself warned that this test was an indicator, rather than an accurate measure and that the types of ability being measured were very narrow. And this is where we went wrong. Educators throughout the world began to use IQ tests as a convenient way to categorise students.

In the United Kingdom, students sat the infamous “11+” test at the end of primary school to determine what type of school they would be obligated to attend. In Australia, IQ tests largely determined the class level you would attend. You might be shocked to know the full extent to which

we have been categorised by our IQ results right through the 20th century.

The tests simply looked at mathematical, logical and linguistic skills without any cultural considerations. Not only were children considered “dumb” or “bright” accordingly but they were treated by their teachers as such. And when a teacher thinks a child is “dumb,” the child has a habit of living up to that expectation.

Many of us instinctively recall the sheer frustration, injustice and unjustifiable discrimination that resulted. It is difficult to estimate the number of people who have carried this stigma and resentment through life as a result.

Many parents have seen their children lose their natural love of learning because they were deemed to be somehow inferior. Have you ever noticed how reluctant institutions are to reveal your child’s IQ? This is because the average person tends to place far too much emphasis on the magical IQ number.



For 70 years, we blindly fell for all of this. It wasn't until 1983 that the American psychologist Howard Gardner, realising that intelligence was far more organic than popularly believed, introduced the concept of multiple intelligences. He observed that there were many more intelligences to be considered, famously noting that the capacity to think intelligently is very different from knowing lots of information.

This was a great advance because it was suddenly possible to measure at least seven intelligence groupings—and he later added an eighth:

- Linguistic intelligence (facility with words and languages);
- Logical/mathematical intelligence (logic, abstractions, reasoning and numbers);
- Spatial intelligence (visualisation and spatial judgement);
- Bodily/kinaesthetic intelligence (body coordination smart);
- Musical intelligence (naturally musical, rhythm and hearing);
- Interpersonal intelligence (interaction with others);
- Intrapersonal intelligence (the ability to be self-reflective); and
- Naturalist intelligence (sensitivity to nature).

My first reaction when I read Gardner's list was to exclaim, "Wow, I must be more intelligent than my teachers realised." Anyone looking at Gardner's list will realise that their own intelligences are described much better than before.

But there is another intelligence that remains controversial—that of spiritual intelligence. Gardner actually started to explore the concept but backed away because it was deemed too controversial. The concept of spiritual intelligence in the mind of educational theorists is entangled by everything from the differing dimensions of religions to New-Age theories, and has had difficulty being accepted within education.

But it should not present a problem to Adventists. Just read these beautiful lines as they relate to developing intelligence: "We are brought in touch with the unseen, mighty Intelligence that is working in and through all. The mind of man is brought into communion with the mind of God, the finite with the Infinite. The effect of such communion on body and mind and soul is beyond estimate" (Ellen White, *Education*, page 14).

Jesus also had something to say in this regard: "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you" (Matthew 6:33 NKJV).

I'd like to establish something important at this point: Every person reading this has an absolutely unique intelligence consisting of many facets. And God wants us to have a spiritual consciousness that is the path to a spiritual connection, enhancing all other intelligences.

I have taught many minds over many years and have often observed an amazing phenomenon that cannot be explained by secular educational theory. When human intellect comes into contact with the Divine, amazing intellectual growth occurs.

When living and teaching in the Pacific

## Every person reading this has an absolutely unique intelligence consisting of many facets.

islands, I frequently saw the intellectual changes in students from extremely disadvantaged backgrounds. You really have to witness it to believe it. Once they focus on biblical truth and meet God, their intellectual capacity in other areas just opens up.

I have also seen it happen in our Adventist schools in Australia and New Zealand. When a student makes a commitment to follow God, their life blossoms beyond belief. They grow in grace in so many ways—and intellectual growth is just part of it.

In his book, *My Early Life*, Winston Churchill acidly recalled his schoolboy belief that examinations were designed to find out what he did not know, rather than what he did. Many of us still hold similar sentiments about our own learning experiences.

By contrast, God simply tells us that an experience with Him equates to growth. God does not threaten us with an examination. Instead, He challenges us to test Him: "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will

is—His good, pleasing and perfect will" (Romans 12:2 NIV).

Of course, we will always have people who have been particularly gifted and people who need special help in coping with life. But the average child enters school happy and hopeful, unaware that the world is waiting to crush them into a mould.

God never designed children to sit at a school desk for 12,000 hours over a 12-year period. This is a product of the industrial era of modern capitalism. Children have an innocence that Jesus recognised and loved. He enjoyed their company and explained it by simply saying, "I wish everyone were like little children" (see Matthew 19:13). In fact, Jesus reserves some of His strongest words of condemnation for adults who fail in their responsibilities to children.

Are you getting the message? God expects much of us in nurturing little ones to grow into His image and to be a reflection of Him. Jesus was the Master Teacher. If you reflect back on your own memorable learning experiences, it will undoubtedly centre around a good teacher.

Why didn't we believe God in the first place? I suspect that only in eternity will we fully grasp the elaborate but easy way we have so often been led down paths of apparent sophistication. As a society, we tend to be in awe of the theoretical gurus and thought police who so often follow a godless humanistic track.

God greatly desires us to have discriminating intellects to be able to act against right and wrong. Of course, we sometimes wake up to ourselves, like the prodigal son, and return to our heavenly Father. But it's a pity about the damage done along the way.

So what point am I trying to make in all of this? First, just realise how gifted you really are and how much value God places on a sanctified intellect. Second, if you are a parent, pause and reflect on the great responsibility you have. Not every child has the advantage of a being educated in an Adventist school. However, from the perspective of eternity, the stakes are very high. **R**

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*John Hammond is director of Adventist Schools for the Australian Union Conference, based in Ringwood, Victoria.*

# GODencounters

REVIEW BY CHRISTOPHER BARTLEY

ARE YOU LONGING TO FILL THAT God-shaped place in your heart for the first time? Or wanting to replenish the divine yet dried-up passion that's etched in your very being? You might be looking for a "GODencounter."

*GODencounters: Pursuing a 24/7 experience of Jesus* is more than a quick fix for the thirsty soul. It doesn't lead one to bottled water but to the Living Water. The spiritual journey that one begins when reading *GODencounters* is often challenging. Yet the destination of encountering a refreshing measure of God's power, grace, forgiveness, sovereignty and God Himself is rewarding.

The purpose and objectives are straightforward, and readers know what to expect by the end of the book. Yet there are twists, turns and healthy obstacles formed by the relevant scriptural passages, and challenging questions that cause one to pause and critically reflect on one's life. The journey brings rejoicing, confession and repentance. And, in this way, *GODencounters* invites the reader to simply bask in the presence of God.

As such, *GODencounters* takes time to read. If one were to skim this book, they would do a disservice to the potential spiritual growth and transformation that can begin as the reader comes to terms with their past, sense of guilt and the forgiveness found in a loving God.

What makes this book engaging is not its interesting layout and design, or even the fact that God's name consistently appears in capital letters, seeming to infer the magnificence, royalty, goodness and all-encompassing greatness of just the purposeful mention of His name. It's none of that. This book is profound because of the abundance

of personal stories of encounters with God. The unique narratives from a variety of contributors communicate to the reader that "GODencounters" are attainable. They have been experienced by ordinary people, who haven't split any oceans, caught a glimpse of the third heavens or called down fire from the sky.

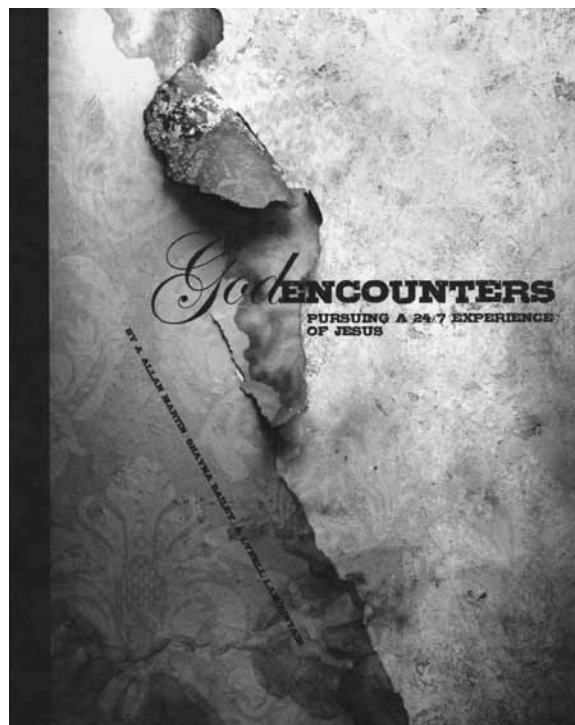
The "Encounter the Word" and "Encounter" sections after each piece of the larger chapters take the personal testimonies and admonitions that each writer has authored and link them back to the all-powerful, all-knowing Author of Scripture. These features explore the writer's story from a biblical perspective, inviting the reader to probe the scriptural foundation to their experiences. The journaling area allows the reader to write a story of their own, as they take ownership of their spiritual journey, rather than merely reading others' stories.

Thus, there are three authors in this book: the writers who have already put pen to paper; the God who inspired the Scriptures; and the reader who has a chance to begin a new chapter of their spiritual journey with God.

Almost all of the chapters are deliberate in their approach to encountering God through gospel experiences, gracefully expressing compassion, prayer and life's challenges.

To encounter worship as a new experience that happens throughout every day of the week is challenging, especially when there are multiple authors with different angles, expressing what it means to worship God 24/7.

For the reader already starting on this



spiritual path, who has already tasted the love, grace and compassion of a loving Saviour, this chapter may be refreshing. However, the reader who is just discovering their spiritual journey, still figuring out what shoes to wear and how big a step to take, may find the journey challenging. The lack of a step-by-step plan can lead to a kind of frustration.

A concise summary at the end of each chapter would aid both the experienced and growing Christian to get a wholistic view of what and how it means to worship God, invite Him into their lives, care for others, pray for wisdom and strength, feel refreshed and transformed, and celebrate the start of a new journey.

But I highly recommend *GODencounters*, with the belief that if the reader engages in the personal narratives of other "GODfollowers," embraces the Bible texts that have been shared and carefully reflects on the questions asked, his or her God-shaped thirst will be refreshed by a personal encounter with the living God. **R**

*GODencounters: Pursuing a 24/7 experience of Jesus* by A Allan Martin, Shayna Bailey and Lynell LaMountain, Pacific Press Publishing Association, 2009, paperback, 192 pages. Available from Adventist Book Centres, price \$A28.95, \$NZ37.95.

**Christopher Bartley is a Masters student at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan, US.**

# Into the loneliness

BY FIONA MCCLURE

**H**AVE YOU FELT LIKE YOUR SENSES WERE ALL GONE, LIKE there is a space between your ears that's all silent with no response to any stimulus? That kind of feeling can come with the loneliness and craziness of being without another loving human being. And it isn't that we humans are all that loving.

What do we know about love that God hasn't taught us? God steps into our loneliness. He fills us with His presence. Whatever state of health we are in—physically, emotionally or mentally—God is with us and His love will comfort us. His story—the “redemption story” of God becoming human and living, dying, rising and then ascending to heaven where He makes intercession for us—is the only hope we have.

But how does God fill us with His presence? How do we see, hear, smell, taste and feel Jesus?

The avenues to the people we are and will become are cared for by God when we invite Him to be part of our lives.

Have you been looking for hope in loneliness? God has looked for you in your loneliness. There is much comfort in love and as we learn to love as God has loved us, we will know His presence is with us.

God is here. Jesus promised He would never leave us or forsake us (see Matthew 28:20) and although Jesus is in heaven, the third Person of the Trinity is here. We can't see God for now but we can see all He has made. It comes down to how we choose to see.

There are times when things, events and situations don't make sense. Thoughts can be confusing. But I can choose Jesus to rescue me—and He will never get tired of saving me. Jesus is not leaving. We are sometimes told that “he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it” (1 Corinthians 10:13\*). This doesn't mean I will never fall into temptation. But there is another way out of the confusion. That way out is called peace (see John 14:27).

My mind belongs to God and therefore, my complete being is His. As Philippians 4:6, 7 says, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Wherever you are as you read this, keep praying—and pray for me, as well—so we can be connected to the One who gave us life and hope, to the One who loves us. God will be the one who forever keeps the connection secure. **R**

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

Fiona McClure writes from Cooranbong, New South Wales.

## Record Roo



Hi kids!

It was time for Joshua to lead the people into the Promised Land. God told Joshua that He would give the people every piece of land they set foot on. God knew that Joshua would need encouragement and gave him this advice...

### Bible Text

Be \_\_\_\_\_ and very \_\_\_\_\_. Be careful to obey all the \_\_\_\_\_ my servant Moses gave to you; do not \_\_\_\_\_ from it, to the \_\_\_\_\_ or to the \_\_\_\_\_, that you may be \_\_\_\_\_ wherever you go. Joshua 1:7, NIV.

### Spot the Difference



Can you spot 8 differences between these two pictures of Joshua's soldiers?



Answers: 1. arrow missing from quiver, 2. spear tip smaller, 3. black wristband on 2nd soldier, 4. stones beside 2nd soldier missing, 5. stone in front of 1st soldier, 6. black hemline on 1st soldier's robe, 7. spot missing on 2nd soldier's hem, 8. one stone between soldiers bigger.

Peta Taylor

## Howevers and buts?

RON ROACH, SA

“Integration, breadth” and “Jesus in RECORD?” (Letters, August 22) both come from the same direction in the grace–law trade-off, which is the “-ism” in Adventism. One says: “We need to hear all the provisions of grace . . . however . . .” The other says: “The cross should never be far from our view . . . but . . .” Surely Adventism’s contribution to Christian belief isn’t built on “howevers” and “buts.”

We cannot experience the fullness of the “righteousness of God” without also experiencing the fullness of His law. And without a deeper conception of the law than we now possess, we will not be empowered to preach that gospel of God’s grace, which is set to herald the return of our Lord in glory (see Matthew 24:14).

But such deeper appreciation of the law doesn’t come by preaching the law—it comes by preaching the goodness of God as revealed in His gracious attitude toward us. As the Reformers understood, such preaching harmonises the *actual* and *declarative* aspects of justification. Justified *actually* by grace, through faith, which finds its inevitable expression in a responsive attitude of obedience and love, the sinner is *declared* righteous before God.

In the battle with legalism, Paul expounds “justification by faith without the deeds of the law” (see Romans 3:28) and James, contending against antinomianism, declares “by works a man is justified, and not by faith only” (see James 2:24). Since both wrote under the inspiration of the same Spirit, to introduce “howevers” and “buts” is to introduce antagonism where, in reality, there exists only perfect harmony.

## The writing mission

YVONNE CHAPMAN, NSW

My husband recently had the editorial page of August 29 (“Just writers?”) neatly folded open. I had a quick peek and the title caught my attention. I could not get past the first few paragraphs without responding.

Writing is a big responsibility. As Ellen White wrote, “the publication sent forth from our printing houses are to prepare a people to meet God” (*Testimonies for the*

*Church*, Vol 7, page 139). Write, speak of God and make disciples of Christ out of every nation, kingdom, tribe, tongue and people. Not only that but give words of encouragement to one another every step of the way. That’s exactly what the writing of the late Roger Morneau did for me and my family.

were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus” (Galatians 3:27, 28, NIV).

We cannot use examples such as Jezebel and other pagan priestesses. They are definitely not Christian, so should not be com-

## Whoever left that RECORD on the tram, thank you and bless you.

### On a tram

NAME SUPPLIED

It’s funny how God taps you on the shoulder and where you find RECORD—in my case, at the back of a tram. This weekend, my partner and I are going to church for the first time in more than two years. My intent was never to come back after a bad personal experience that ended with us leaving a church that had previously been so kind to us in our hour of need. We have not been back, our relationship has been on the brink many times since and we lost all our friends.

But God never forgets and He made sure a RECORD was left for me to see, a page promoting a book called *Facing Frenemy Fire* in particular. I still carry bitterness over what happened but I feel it’s time to mend my bridges with God.

I plan to rebuild my relationship with God and my partner—and my little girl needs to learn Who God is. There are many things in my life in disarray but I know there’s nothing God can’t mend. I know He cares. So whoever left that RECORD on the tram, thank you and bless you.

### “Responses” response

VIRGINIA CHAPMAN, WA

The “Two responses” letters (August 22) explained why there is a difference between ordination and commissioning. I disagree with the exclusion of women from ordination and have found biblical evidence to back up my beliefs. I urge those who believe women were created for different roles than men in the church to make a more in-depth study of the Bible and, specifically, Galatians 3, including the classic statement, “For all of you who

pared to those who are. As to the statement that women might gain and use power if they became ministers, is this not what a minister is called for—to encourage and teach others through God’s power? If commissioning is simply a ploy to make women feel valued, no true Christian church should take part in it. Women should not feel valued; they should *be* valued, as should all people—men or women. There should be no discrimination in a church that claims to be led by God. We should do our best to follow the Bible alone and not anything that may, at times, clash with what the Bible says.

## Thank you, doctors

KATRINA HIGGINS, QLD

My non-Adventist uncle recently spent time in the care of Sydney Adventist Hospital. While visiting Sydney, I went to see him there. He said he then wanted me to know something. He named two doctors who looked after him. “If it comes to a choice between money and patient care,” he explained, “those two doctors will make the right choice every time. In no other hospital would I have received this care.”

I felt sudden immense appreciation to those two doctors—and all the staff of our hospitals—who rise above the daily obstacles and don’t become discouraged or lose sight of the vision to care as Christ cared. Your witness can reach areas others cannot. Thank you.

**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

▲ **Account Manager (Foodservice/Route)**—*Sanitarium Health Food (Queensland)*, is seeking a highly-motivated person to join our Away From Home (AFH) team. The successful applicant will deliver exceptional customer service, implement revenue growth strategies for specific markets and customers, deliver sales targets and product sales, prepare business reviews and presentations, and prepare and track business plans and promotions. The position requires an individual with a minimum of five years of sales experience; strong negotiation skills; the ability to work at a fast pace while maintaining attention to detail and work independently or in a team; strong computer and multi-tasking skills; and the ability to show initiative in presenting and implementing creative new ideas. Apply online at <[www.sanitarium.com.au/company/employment.html](http://www.sanitarium.com.au/company/employment.html)> or send resume to Group Human Resources, Sanitarium Health Food Company, Locked Bag 7, Central Coast Mail Centre NSW 2252. Applications close **September 30, 2009**.

▲ **Head of Maths Department**—*Lilydale Adventist Academy (Vic)* invites applications from experienced teachers for the position of head of maths department. The appointment will commence in January 2010. The successful applicant will need to have a rapport with young people, be experienced in teaching mathematics at all levels, be prepared to apply innovative teaching methods and have the ability to coordinate the maths department. For further information, please contact Ben Thomas, Principal, Lilydale Adventist Academy, <[principal@laa.edu.au](mailto:principal@laa.edu.au)> or phone (03) 9728 2211 or 0433 115 965. Applications close **September 30, 2009**.

▲ **Digital Media Manager**—*Adventist Media Network (AMN) (Wahroonga, Sydney, NSW)*. The successful applicant will be responsible for guiding and developing the use of digital media at AMN. They will ideally have an interest, skills and experience in: creating solutions maximising online, VOD, mobile and other digital media applications; netAdventist, the content management system used to deliver church websites in the South Pacific Division; web development languages such as Ruby on Rails, ASP.net, HTML, CSS and java script; and experience in the Moodle (Learning Management System) environment. Commitment to quality and service, together with a desire to be involved in ministry using digital media, is essential. For further information, contact Kalvin Dever on (02) 9847 2222 or email <[kalvin@adventistmedia.org.au](mailto:kalvin@adventistmedia.org.au)>. Applications in writing should be forwarded to Kalvin Dever, Corporate Services Director, AMN, PO Box 1115 Wahroonga NSW 2076. Applications close **October 19, 2009**.

▲ **Sales Representative**—*Sanitarium Health Food Company (Rockhampton, Qld)*. Sanitarium is seeking a highly-motivated person to join our Northern Region sales team. The position requires someone with a high level of responsibility and ownership, a focus on customer service, the ability to introduce and drive products in assigned sales areas, and manage and implement shelf management at store level. The successful applicant will have sound negotiation and interpersonal skills, the ability to work quickly and in detail, the ability to work individually and in a team, as well as computer literacy skills and a current drivers licence. Apply online at <[www.sanitarium.com.au/company/employment.html](http://www.sanitarium.com.au/company/employment.html)> or send resume to Group Human Resources, Sanitarium Health Food Company, Locked Bag 7, Central Coast Mail Centre NSW 2252. Applications close **October 2, 2009**.

For more employment options go to  
[adventistemployment.org.au](http://adventistemployment.org.au)



## Weddings

**Dyson—Westerside.** Eon Micheal Dyson, son of Owen and Helen Dyson (Mirrabooka, WA), and Sarah Raine Westerside, daughter of Natalie Watts (Morley) and Luke Westerside (Perth), were married 23.8.09 in Woodloes Homestead Chapel, Cannington.

Lynn Burton

**Eddy—Piez.** Christopher John Eddy, son of Robert and Joy Eddy (Alexandra, Vic), and Katherine Elise Piez, daughter of Wayne and Glenda Piez (Melbourne), were married 12.7.09 in German Lutheran Trinity church, Melbourne.

Kylie Ward, Peter Roennfeldt

**Gale—Rundle.** Luke Allan Gale, son of Jeffrey Gale (Adelaide, SA) and Kerri Bawden (Melbourne, Vic), and Crystal May Rundle, daughter of Andrew Rundle and Sky Smith (Adelaide, SA), were married 30.8.09 in Para Vista church,

followed by a reception in the Elizabeth Civic Centre.

Lee Bowditch-Walsh

**Pizarro—Abril.** Samuel Alejandro Miqueles Pizarro, son of Luis Samuel and Gladys Carmen Miqueles Hendriquez (Chile), and Maria Cristina Mantilla Abril, daughter of Luis Alberto and Graciella Mantilla Rodriguez (Colombia), were married 30.8.09 in Hughesdale church, Melbourne, Vic.

David Pearce

## Obituaries

**Cane,** Mark Andrew, born 9.9.1956 at Holbrook, NSW; died 8.7.09 at Albury. He is survived by his father, Les (Albury); his brothers, Gary (Nowra) and Richard (Moranbah, Qld); and their spouses. Mark lived a life committed to helping others. He served as a Red Cross volunteer for 15 years, serving intellectually-handicapped adults. When he was called upon to serve,

## Volunteers!

**Volunteer teachers—Tonga.** Volunteer teachers required for Tonga for 12 months in 2010. Mizpah school needs an English teacher for forms 5 and 6. Beulah College needs English and Maths/Science teachers. Beulah Primary School needs a Primary schoolteacher. For more information, please contact Siosaia Vaihola <[svaihola@adventist.org.to](mailto:svaihola@adventist.org.to)>.

**Volunteer Manager—Medical Boat Ministries (Solomon Islands).** To supervise the operations and maintenance of medical clinic boats, buildings and finances in the Solomons. Husband and wife team preferable. House, transport and stipend provided (volunteer to provide own fuel). Term 12 months (can be less if required). Commencement January 1, 2009. Captain's licence for large vessels an advantage but not essential. Contact Trevor Oliver on 0419 773 336.

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



he never hesitated. Fondly remembered as the "big fella" by all his fellow workers. Done to the least of these, you did it to me.

Lawrence Lander

**Colquhoun,** Lillian Elsie, born 1.9.1909; died 23.7.09 at Cooranbong, NSW. She is survived by her two sons, William and Ian; her five grandchildren; and her nine great-grandchildren. For many years, Lillian was an active member of the Concord church in Sydney, holding various offices including Dorcas Welfare leader. She will long be remembered by the many she helped. She loved her family, her church and her God, and died with the "blessed hope" in her heart.

Claude D Judd

**Curry,** Georgine Ellen, born 23.12.1955 in Brisbane, Qld; died suddenly 20.7.09 in Brisbane. She is survived by her children, Natasha Jarret and Shane Bath (both of Brisbane); her sisters, Alisa Forsyth (Toowoomba) and Sylvia Hennig (Maryborough); and her niece, Tamara Cur-nuck (Nambour). Georgine devoted her life to the loving care of her two disabled children, five stepchildren and stepgrandchildren. She was accepting of everyone—a loyal and supportive friend to all.

R Possingham

**Dempster,** William George, born 10.3.1916 in Melbourne, Vic; died 23.8.09 in Melbourne. On 14.6.1941, he married Ethel Kathleen Manzie, who predeceased him 8.3.1979. On 5.4.1981, he married Norma Ruth Tierney. He is survived by his wife (Bruthen); his daughters and their husbands, Cheryl and James Crynes (Steels

Creek), and Tracey and Douglas Steele (Donvale); his stepchildren and their spouses, Gayle and Kenneth McHarg (Mirboo), Garry Tierney (Moyston), and Deborah and Paul Grimaud (Hillside); his five grandchildren; his three step-grandchildren; and his great-grandson. Bill was a veteran of Kokoda, and a loved and respected member of the Bairnsdale church.

Tony Campbell

**Fraser,** Jill Annette (nee Charleson), born 9.8.1942 at Clunes, Vic; died 14.8.09 in Hopewell Hospice, Arundel, Qld, after a three-and-a-half year battle with motor neuron disease. On 1.2.1966, she married Pastor Ray Fraser. She is survived by her husband (Burleigh Heads); her daughter, Rochelle Fraser (Burleigh Heads); and her son, Andrew (Mudgeeraba). Jill was a gem amongst ministers' wives. Her grace and example were an inspiration to many. She was very committed to her husband, Ray, and to her two wonderful children, Rochelle and Andrew, and their families. She loved and cared for them with all her heart. She loved Jesus and now awaits His call on that Resurrection morning.

Neil Tyler

**Hennig,** Emily Ellen (nee Lunt) of Port Elliot, SA, born 4.5.1925; died 28.7.09. She is survived by her husband of 55 years, Blair; her children, Garry, Kay, Dayle, Sandra and Raymond; and her nine grandchildren. A dedicated Adventist, she worked in the Avondale Weet-Bix factory in the 40s. Suddenly taken after 26 years of being paralysed by a stroke, Emily had faith in the Lord and his promises, which helped her during difficult times. This is the same faith that eases the pain her family now endure. She was fortunate to be loved and understood by so many.

**Magnusson,** Eric Alfred, born 9.8.1933 at Townsville, Qld; died suddenly 9.7.09 at Koolewong, NSW. He married Leonainie Tolhurst in 1956. She predeceased him 17.12.01. He married Jane Lawson in 2005. Eric was one of the first three students of the Australasian Missionary College (now Avondale College) to study for a Bachelor of Science degree through London University, beginning in 1950. He completed a PhD in Sydney and then another in London. Despite several offers from Australian universities, Eric accepted an invitation to teach at Avondale College. He became part of and then headed the newly-formed Science Department. From 1971 to 1980, he was principal of Avondale College during a critical time—the college needed and successfully sought accreditation for its tertiary education from the Higher Education Board of New South Wales. Eric proved to be a visionary who understood the intricacies and language of the academic world. He combined this with time-honoured ideals of Adventist higher education and the academic realities needed. He was a sought-after speaker and, with his science background, was in high demand to talk about science and faith issues. After Avondale, he returned to full-time science, first at the Australian National University Research School of Chemistry in Canberra and later at the Defence Forces Academy. He retired

as associate professor but continued as a Visiting Fellow. During the Chamberlain case, he developed an interest in how juries understand forensic evidence and researched, presented, published and supervised post-graduate students in this area. He was honoured in the Peoplescape display on the lawns of Parliament House for his contribution to society. Eric was a gracious man of faith who understood the issues that scientific investigation brings to faith. He will be sadly missed by many, but especially by his sons, Trevor, Roger and Tony, Trevor's wife, Risa, and their children, Andrea and Sean.

*Desmond Ford, Trevor Lloyd, Bruce Manners, Norman Young*

**Needs**, Maysie Linda (nee Delandgraff), born 20.10.1917 at Bridgetown, WA; died 21.5.09 in Moonya Nursing Home, Manjimup. On 13.8.1940, she married Raymond Frank Needs, who predeceased her in August 1990. She is survived by her sons, Kevin and Peter (Manjimup). A large number of family, friends and carers witnessed the laying to rest of a good friend, who cared and prayed so much.

*Tim O'Keefe*

**Potter**, Arthur John (Artie), born 10.9.1922 at Maryborough, Vic; died 24.8.09 at Mildura. On 15.9.1946, he married Joan Gathercole. He was predeceased by his daughter, Rosetta, on 18.10.1992. He is survived by his wife (Irymple); and his children, John (ACT), Annette (Sydney, NSW), Kayleen (Mildura, Vic) and Brenda (Mildura). He is sadly missed. Sleeping peacefully until Jesus comes.

*Darren Slade*

**Rehe**, Basil Edward III (Tex), born 21.11.1953 at Rochester, Vic; died 3.5.09 on Merton Highway in a motor vehicle accident. His wife, Robyn, died in the same accident. He was predeceased by his sister, Suzanne. He was baptised in Albury church. He is survived by his mother, Joyce; his sisters, Lyn and Angie (Melbourne); his brother, John (Albury); and his children, Rachael, Daniel, Jaclyn (Melbourne), Eddie and Abbie (Wodonga). A business man and a Christian witness, his life was a sermon, as most of the 900 people present would testify.

*Lawrence Landers, Kevin Flanagan*

**Russell**, John Balvaird (Jack), born 4.3.1924 at Ipswich, Qld; died 13.7.09 in Bundaberg Base Hospital. He was predeceased, by his daughter, Karen in 1983. He is survived by his wife, Gwen; his children, Janine and Robert Low, Jennifer and Mark Tischler, John and Linda, Lynne and Phil Goldspring, Murray and Stephanie; and his eight grandchildren. Jack worked to pay his way through Avondale College. He sang in the Avondale choir. After marrying in 1954, he taught in primary, special and hospital schools. Retiring in 1985, Jack and Gwen settled in Childers, where he helped form a church group. Remembered with much love, he awaits the Lord's return in the Childers Lawn Cemetery.

*Frank Williams*

**Shepherd**, Noel Francis, born 22.9.1946 at Emerald, Qld; died tragically 9.8.09 near

Miles. He was predeceased by his brother, Trevor. He is survived by his wife, Larisa; his children, Katrina, Nicole, Sarah and Meagan; and Jocelyn, mother of their children; his siblings, Marilyn and Wayne, and their families. Besides his family, Noel's great loves were God, trucks and Holden cars. Trucking from an early age, Noel was well known and highly respected in the transport industry. Though heading for different locations throughout Australia every day, Noel's ultimate destination was the new world to come. Never short of a word or two, Noel's friendly demeanour ensured him a large circle of friends wherever he went. Eagerly awaiting the soon return of our Lord, Noel's latest entry in his logbook now shows "Rockhampton, rest period, away from vehicle."

*Andy Krause*

**Simpson**, David Bruce, born 31.5.1938 at Kaitaia, New Zealand; died 9.8.09 in Manilla Hospital, NSW. David is remembered by his wife, Judith; and his children, Janet, Jonathan, Reuben and Lois; his brothers, Don, Ian and Roger; his sisters, Anne and Heather; and stepdaughter, Rebecca. June, his first wife, also attended the funeral, which was held in the Anglican Church in the Simpson's home town of Attunga. Several attested to the upstanding Christian life that David lived. He was respected by his work colleagues and townspeople. Pastor Peter Cousins conducted a service on August 13 that reflected David's life of hope and industry. He was laid to rest in the cemetery, close to the church in a quiet and peaceful setting. While many miss his supporting presence, they look forward to seeing him on the Resurrection morning.

*Peter Cousins*

**Sutcliffe**, Ethel Mary, born 19.3.1910 at Nanango, Qld; died 23.7.09 at Yeppoon. She was predeceased by her husband, Howard, who passed away 18.7.08. Ethel is survived by her sons, Lyall, Geoffrey, Barry and Herbert, and their families. Ethel and Howard married 22.10.1931, and joined the Adventist Church through the influence of the Voice of Prophecy Radio broadcasts and then by Pastor Bert Grosser in 1957. Ethel and Howard shared a lively passion for music, which they also passed on to their sons. Ethel grew up with a strong belief in God, and found fulfilment in her faith and fellowship in the Adventist Church. She loved reading her Bible every night, which she did until she died. She now sleeps in Jesus, awaiting the Resurrection.

*Jim Beyers, Col Friend*

**Weir**, Walter, born 11.12.1934 at Auckland, NZ; died 1.9.09 in Epworth Hospital, Box Hill, Vic, after a long illness borne with courage and dignity. Walter is survived by his wife, Kathleen; his son, Richard; his daughter and son-in-law, Elizabeth and Brett Maynard, and their three children, Marcus, Damon and Aleasha. Wally loved his family and greatly relished his role as grandad. He looked forward to the coming of Jesus and will safely sleep until that great day. Words of comfort at the graveside were delivered by Pastor Rod Anderson and in Nuna-

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wading Seventh-day Adventist church by Pastor Trevor Rowe.

*Trevor Rowe, Rod Anderson*

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\* 2 Corinthians 8:1-5

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means, talents/opportunities, health, the environment, hope or other aspects of the Christian life. Make sure the relationship to the concept of stewardship is clear. Write your testimony in no more than 750 words—the shorter, the better. Make sure your testimony is a story and let the narrative speak for itself. Keep any moral to a minimum. Suggest a relevant Bible text to be placed at the end of your story. Include your contact details and a short biographical note. Send your story to the editor, Signs Publishing Company (see masthead for details), <nathan.brown@signspublishing.com.au>.

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—Yiddish proverb

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