

FEBRUARY 20 2010

# Record™

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## Adventists help in Haiti

**KARALUNDI CELEBRATES  
ITS PAST**

**DISCONNECTED: WHY  
20-40S STOP ATTENDING**



## The blessing of diversity

Pablo Lillo

The editorial team is honoured to bring you the second edition of the new-look RECORD. I hope you're enjoying the new segments and style, I look forward to your involvement—your church stories, articles, letters and photos of your events.

I enjoyed the last two weeks of January visiting North and South New Zealand as well as South New South Wales. I was blessed to spend time at the annual camps mixing with my brothers and sisters—interviewing new Adventist Christians and catching up with church leaders. In my travels I realised that each conference is unique.

It takes all kinds of churches to reach all kinds of people. I praise God we're not all the same. I love variety, so does God. If every conference and church were like the others, we'd only reach one small segment of the world. Our diversity in evangelism, leadership and lay involvement in the South Pacific is a strength that God has blessed us with, not a weakness. God uses different approaches and people to reach different groups of His children. That was evident as I spent time interviewing people for RECORD's new segments.

I spoke with Tom Melic, a 74-year-old Adventist from Forbes, South New South Wales Conference (My Church, p 20). He has a love for the unchurched and through his efforts has 21 people involved in Bible studies. Our feature article Disconnected (p 15) considers the difficult question of why 25-40 year olds disconnect from the church, and what we can do about it. The author, Mark Baines, is learning to be a disciple of Jesus and believes God wants to use us to help connect our friends and workmates to Him. May God bless and guide you as you continue building His kingdom.

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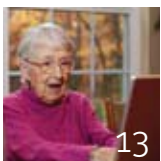
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## Karalundi celebrates its past

Romela Sanggalan—Meekatharra, Western Australia

Karalundi Aboriginal Education Centre (KAEC) honoured those who have played a significant role in its history during a Recognition Weekend on December 11–12, 2009. There were presentations, awards and a viewing of old photos as former administrators, staff and students attended the celebration. The weekend also served as a reunion of all students and staff dating back to the mission days in the 1950s, through to the 1980s when the boarding school was reopened, up to the present. The event highlighted how KAEC has been able to serve the church and community for more than 50 years, due to its strong spiritual background, says current administrator, David Cowled.

"That is the backbone of Karalundi, the things that students learn here they take back to their community and families ... maybe not so much in what they say but in the way that they may behave as a result of what Karalundi has taught them," he says. New principal, Dr Paul Buschenhofen, was officially introduced to the centre's Executive Committee during the weekend. He has been deputy principal since August 2009 and replaces Anne Tonkin who has been the principal for three years. Mrs Tonkin says KAEC is considered as "God's Place" by people in both local and distant communities.

"Because students arrive at Karalundi from very diverse backgrounds, their needs are often very challenging for us . . . but nevertheless we teach them about the character of Jesus which opens up to them another range of choices for their lives," says Mrs Tonkin.



A group of Karalundi Aboriginal Education Centre's first students from 1986.



## Associate editor a sign of the times

Jarrod Stackelroth—Wahroonga, New South Wales

*Signs of the Times* magazine has a new associate editor. Melody Tan joins the *Signs* team as the magazine celebrates its 125th year of continuous publication in Australia and New Zealand. The magazine is now produced from the Wahroonga campus of the Adventist Media Network (AMN) but will still be printed in Warburton.

Miss Tan began working for the South Pacific Division communication department in 2005 as a PR assistant and moved to AMN when it was formed in 2006. She dealt with external media relations and wrote for RECORD. Her first involvement in *Signs* came in the May 2002 issue when she shared the story of her journey from disbelief to Christianity.

"My main passion is to share Christ in modern, relevant ways. My hope is that I can adapt *Signs* as a tool to reach my generation," says Miss Tan. Looking to expand the *Signs*

ministry, she will oversee enhancing the website and also expand its social networking capabilities, with a Facebook page and Twitter account. "We are trying to create a community of readers," she says. Miss Tan has written for other Christian magazines including *Alive* and *Christian Women*.

"This year, we will work together to make your *Signs* even more attractive, developing themes from issue to issue, and moulding content to them in fresh, relevant ways," says editor, Lee Dunstan.



Signs ministry team, Lee Dunstan and Melody Tan.

## Church turns 80 years Young

Pat Willett—Young, New South Wales

It was a high day for the church members of Young church on November 28, 2009, when former pastors and members joined together to celebrate 80 years of service to the town and surrounding area.

Church pastor Brian Savage (right) welcomed all the special guests, including the Mayor of Young, Stuart Freudenstein (seated right), and his wife Lynne. The Mayor congratulated the members for their faithful Christian witness in the community. South New South Wales Conference president, Pastor Bob Manners (seated centre), took the service and challenged all present to be true to their spiritual heritage by faithfully continuing the work that the pioneers began and to accomplish the gospel commission that Jesus has given the church.

Members Pat Willett and Gwen Parkinson both shared segments of church and Sabbath school history and past member Merle Cuzons (nee Bruce) took the Sabbath school lesson. A lunch was also conducted after the service.



Former Young minister Peter Harper (left) with other dignitaries.

## Seminars for politicians in Papua New Guinea

RECORD staff/Thomas Davai—Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

A seminar for political leaders and professionals was conducted by the Adventist church in Papua New Guinea at the National Research Institute, Port Moresby, on November 27-29, 2009. Of the 109 members of the National Parliament, 15 are Adventists including four senior cabinet ministers.

Papua New Guinea Union Mission (PNGUM) president, Pastor Thomas Davai, says as part of the church's responsibility to nurture its members, it has a duty to conduct seminars on health issues, spiritual encouragement and governance.

Pastor Davai, the Public Affairs and Religious Liberty director for PNGUM, organises the seminar every year with funding from the Churches Partnership Program through ADRA PNG.

Education Minister James Marape says, "These programs are beneficial, especially in the areas of governance, stress management and faithfulness to God and our fellowmen." Guest speakers included James Standish, the General Conference's liaison to the United Nations, Pastor Kevin Price, South Pacific Division Health Director, and Pastor Matupit Darius, PNGUM Communication Director.



The church hopes to run similar programs in the future.



Avondale School's (NNSW) primary students handed over the food they had collected for the Salvation Army Christmas Food Drive during the final chapel for the year. —Susan Rogers



Joseph Taunani, Livihoods Project Officer for ADRA Solomons, helps former drug addicts and prostitutes find a more meaningful life by growing lettuces and cabbages for sale in the markets. The projects are so successful the drug traffickers complain they have lost their business. —Gilmore Tanabose



Far North Queensland Pathfinders put on a fundraiser tea, where church members had to order their food and utensils by code. Not everyone got the code right did they Mr Heggie (who had to eat soup with a straw)? By the way, they raised \$A1500. —Topnews



Classes are back for 500 students at Mountain View Adventist College (western Sydney, NSW). Year 7 girls Halide (left) and Melissa (right) are glad to see each other again after the summer holidays. Or would they rather still be holidaying? There are 55 Adventist schools in Australia and 15 in New Zealand. —Michael Heath



Students and staff from Prescott Primary Northern (South Australia) collected food for the needy—enough to fill a Toyota ute and two cars! Bill Adams (ADRA Elizabeth coordinator) and Shane Blake (Principal) said the food was distributed to the needy in time for Christmas. —Dave Hamilton



Western Australian Barry Chapman, who is currently ADRA Solomons Director, points out the worst hit areas from the January 4 tsunami and earthquake which devastated the region. —Gilmore Tanabose



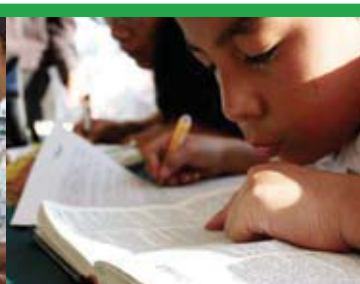
Members and friends of Murwillumbah Seventh-day Adventist Church (North NSW) have celebrated the 20th anniversary of the church's debt free dedication. David North (left) says the church should have cost \$A2 million, but it was built for \$A600,000 thanks to donations and support from volunteers. —Adrian Bailey and Northpoint



Livingston Church (WA) members put on their first 'Road to Bethlehem' event and 4291 visitors turned up for the Christmas experience. Some members of the community came out several nights to witness the story of Jesus' birth. —Lynn Hulls



Lay preacher Ben Makanda, who works with the Morobe Provincial Government (PNG), congratulates seven people who were baptised after he spent his year-end break running open-air meetings. Nearly 200 non-Adventists attended each night. Twenty more people have also decided to be baptised.



Adventist children in Mexico City copy the Bible, during the visit of the 7.5kg, 46cm x 30cm Bible which is travelling around the world. Each of the 66 books of the Bible is in a different language. It will now travel through Africa until May, arriving in Atlanta (USA) in time for the church's General Conference Session in June. You can follow the Bible online at <<http://www.followthebiblesda.com>>.



Children in the Lilydale Children's choir (Vic) performed a musical drama on the story of Moses. Written by Pastor Dave Edgren and produced by his wife Jenny, "God's Promised Land" was recorded on video as a children's ministry resource. Dave Edgren is the new Children's Ministry Director for the Victorian Conference. You can watch the full production at <<http://www.youtube.com/davedgren>>. —Lynette Rowland

## Adventist leaders pledge support for Haiti

*Adventist News Network-Haiti*

Seventh-day Adventist leaders in Haiti report that 522 church members were killed during the 7.0-magnitude earthquake that struck Port-au-Prince on January 12. More than 55 churches were destroyed, 60 churches partially damaged and some 27,000 church members left homeless in the capital city of Port-au-Prince.

Among the dead were 14 who were in choir practice when the roof and walls of Adventist Temple No.1, near the Presidential Palace, collapsed on them. Other choir members were able to escape. The thousands left homeless are taking shelter on the grounds of the 50 habitable churches and centres in the 30 districts of the Central Haiti Conference. Several schools were destroyed and damaged. An Adventist book store was also destroyed. Leaders reported that among the dead were 450 young people.

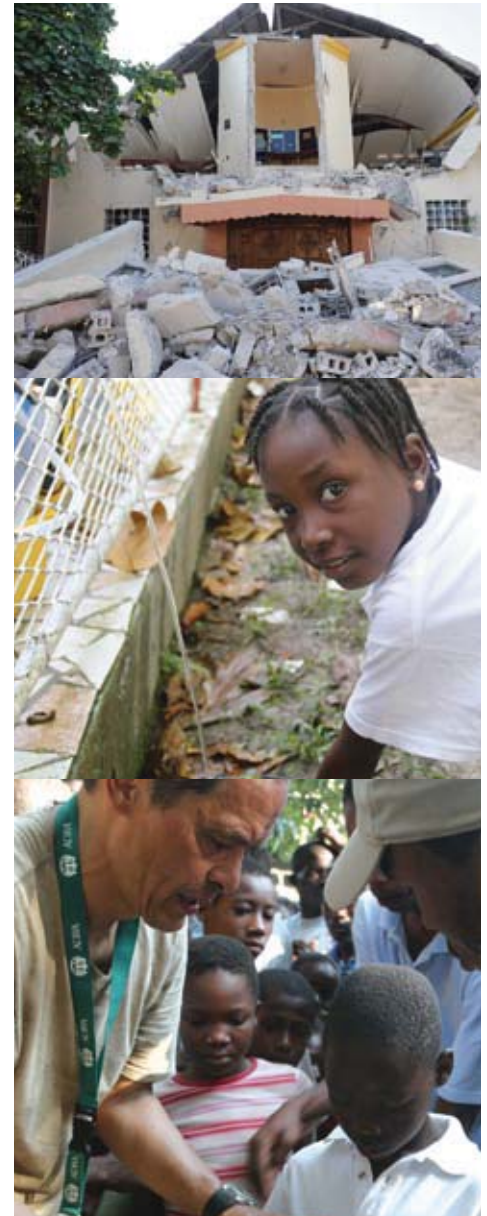
The official report came as local leaders met with officers of the Inter-American Division. It took leaders one week to account for their ministers, church employees, members and buildings in the aftermath of the quake, which left leaders virtually without communication for a few days. During the two-hour meeting with church leaders, there were growing concerns with the extensive damage the Adventist University received to its buildings and the management of the 20,000 people taking refuge there.

In a statement aired on Hope Channel, General Conference President Jan Paulsen has urged Haitians not to lose courage.

"Your brothers and sisters around the world, they think about you, they pray for you, they want to be involved and want you to know that they are your family," Pastor Paulsen said during the televised statement. His words came hours after a magnitude 6.1 aftershock struck Haiti, renewing anxiety among survivors. He urged Adventists to encourage their children to participate in aiding the Haitian community.

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) distributed nearly 13,000 rations of high-energy nutritional biscuits donated by the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in several sites in Port-au-Prince. ADRA International and ADRA Inter-America, along with ADRA Haiti, began coordinating relief efforts through their assessment team just hours after the earthquake struck. The North American Division promised \$US500,000 in tithe and the General Conference \$US200,000 to be used to aid the Adventist church in Haiti. Churches across North America collected a special offering of over \$US1 million on January 16 to benefit the efforts of ADRA.

The Adventist Hospital, which is within minutes of the university, did not receive major damage to its building. However, out of fear of aftershocks, medical teams resumed some operations outdoors. In spite of that, medical activities have continued non-stop, says medical director Dr Lesly Archer.



## South NSW campmeeting gets snow

*RECORD staff—Jindabyne, New South Wales*

South New South Wales Conference's campmeeting was meant to be a summer camp. Held at the Adventist Alpine Village, some events that were planned, including waterskiing on Lake Jindabyne, had to be rescheduled due to unseasonal snow on the mountain. According to the *Sydney Morning Herald*, the campers arrived in 40 degree heat but the temperature dropped to 4 degrees below zero as snow began to fall.

Few of the 300 campers—members of Seventh-day Adventist churches in southern NSW, ranging in age from four weeks to the late 70s—came prepared for such extreme swings in the weather. Some were staying in chalets, others under canvas.



Church campers surprised by the snow at Jindabyne.



Thousands of Coptic Christians held protests in Melbourne and Sydney in response to violence in their native Egypt. On the Orthodox Christmas Eve (January 6) a Nag Hamadi church was sprayed with automatic gunfire, killing seven. Copts claim this attack is part of a concerted persecution campaign.



The remote Amazon tribes of the Yavari Valley have been largely cut off from outside contact for 25 years. But after repeated outbreaks of malaria and hepatitis, tribal leaders are asking church organisations for help, saying the Brazilian government has abandoned them. —*Assist News Service*



More than 460 people are dead after Muslims and Christians in Nigeria attacked one another with guns, knives and homemade weapons and torched mosques, churches, homes and businesses. Human Rights Watch estimates 13,500 Nigerians have been killed in religious violence over the past decade. —*Reuters*



Jordanian authorities have complained to the UN after Canada refused to hand over the Dead Sea Scrolls, which were on loan from Israel and on display in Ontario. Jordan says the ancient manuscripts were stolen during Israel's occupation of East Jerusalem during the Six-Day War of 1967. —*Ecumenical News*



Words scratched on an ancient fragment of pottery are believed to be the oldest Hebrew writing ever discovered. Archaeologists have dated the writing to King David's era. The writing is not biblical but similar in content. It encourages worship of the Lord and social justice. —*Israel National News*



"There is a way of dressing casual that looks really good, and there is a way that looks positively daggy and scruffy," says Anglican Bishop Robert Forsyth. He wants ministers to make more effort in the way they dress, suggesting that some look worse than their church members. —*sydneyanglicans.net*



Atheists in Melbourne protested at an Australia Day "pray for rain" gathering. They were motivated by comments allegedly made by Catch the Fire Ministry's pastor, Daniel Nalliah, that last year's devastating Black Saturday bushfires were God's punishment for Victoria's abortion laws. —*Melbourne Atheist Examiner*



After hearing a sermon, Petra Barrientos and her husband were "on fire" about memorising Scripture "and out came the index cards and pens and we began to wonder whether there was a better and less archaic way." The result? An iPhone application called Bible Memory. —*Mobilize Faith, LLC*



## Sanctuary Sanitarium



The Sanctuary Health and Wellbeing Village aims to passionately serve people in our local community through truly wholistic health and wellbeing services in a face-to-face, authentically caring environment that supports them in their experience of happy, healthy living. Sanctuary, located in Pyrmont, Sydney will be an amazing place that demonstrates Sanitarium's philosophy of genuinely caring for the health, hope and happiness of every person.

We are offering the opportunity for people to join our team of professionals that are committed to wholistic health based on an interprofessional practice and an integrated client management environment. We will create a unique culture and experience for our clients and the Sanctuary team members will significantly contribute to this. Positions available include General Practitioners, Psychologists, Naturopaths, Massage Therapists, Exercise Physiologists, Dietitians, Physiotherapists, Nurses, and Receptionists.

As a committed professional your key strengths will include delivering results and contributing to the clients' experience through the understanding of others, deciding and initiating action, learning and researching, analysing, presenting and communicating information. You will have a keen desire to work as part of a multidisciplinary team, be proactive and contribute to business growth; you will also have a strong understanding and alignment with the mission and core values of Sanitarium.

If this aligns with your personal vision for people and their health, apply by emailing your application to [humanresources@sanitarium.com.au](mailto:humanresources@sanitarium.com.au) or for confidential enquiries please contact:

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# Sanitarium's Sanctuary prepares to open

When Sanctuary Health and Wellbeing Village opens in July, it will mark a new phase in Sanitarium's approach to health and wellbeing. Located in Pymont, Sydney, the Health and Wellbeing Village will focus on the needs of the "whole person"—body, mind, heart and spirit—and will offer the highest standard in truly effective, quality services aimed at assisting clients on their health journey. With the client as their central focus, Sanctuary's interdisciplinary team will integrate a range of services, programs and activities to achieve a balance between conventional medicine and complementary therapies.

"Sanctuary is a new opportunity for us to realise Sanitarium's mission of passionately serving people within our local community," says Brenda Rea, Group Manager—Sanctuary. "By providing truly wholistic health and wellbeing services in a face-to-face environment, we are able to support people in experiencing happy, healthy living.

"Sanctuary will be an amazing place that demonstrates Sanitarium's philosophy of genuine care for the health, hope and happiness of every person. As we embark on this exciting journey, we need a great team. We're currently

hiring, and are looking to connect with people who are interested in working with us to bring our philosophy to life."

The Sanctuary team will represent a range of health and wellness professions, including general practitioners, nurses, health and wellbeing coach, naturopath, dietitian, exercise physiologist, counsellor, psychologist, physiotherapist and massage therapists. In addition, a host, medical receptionists and an accountant are also needed.

"Although the appropriate skills and qualifications are essential for these roles, they are only part of the bigger picture," says Mrs Rea. "We are looking for people who are genuinely passionate and people-focused, who will fit with the culture of Sanctuary and its focus on positively empowering others in their health journey."

*If you have the skills and enthusiasm for one of these positions and would like to be involved, please email Brenda Rea at <Brenda.Rea@sanitarium.com.au> or view the Sanctuary recruitment website <www.sanctuary.sanitarium.com.au>.*



# Reaching and Touching Hearts Through Television



## IT IS WRITTEN AIRTIMES\*

CHANNEL	TIMES
Channel 7	Sunday 3:30am
TV2	Sunday 5:30am Monday 4:30am
Australian Christian Channel	Monday 12pm Tuesday 7:00pm (repeat) Friday 5am (repeat)
Hope	Friday 7:30pm Saturday 5:30pm (repeat) Sunday 8:30pm (repeat) (Hope times AEST)
qctv QCTV	Monday 12pm
EM TV Em TV	Sunday 6:30am

\* Correct as at January 2010. Please check your local TV guides to confirm the times shown above. Latest air times are available at [www.itiswrittenoceania.tv/airtimes](http://www.itiswrittenoceania.tv/airtimes)

Please note the change of time on the Australian Christian Channel for Tuesday, it is now screening at 7:00pm.



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## OPINION

Pastor James Toogood

### Have music “wars” killed worship?

What if there was no “contemporary” or “conservative” worship? What if worship wasn’t about singing, rhythm, rhyme or praise? When worship battles rage do we forget what worship is?

From Genesis to Revelation in Hebrew and Greek, worship describes a physical act of submission to a greater power. You at least bent the knee and often kissed the dust! Today we don’t do this. We believe that all men and women are equal, and rightly so. Worship is not about music. Daniel Chapter 3 tells of three young men who refused to worship. They did not sin by listening to Babylonian temple music. They did not flee at the first beat of the cymbal. What they did do was stand when others bowed down in a physical act of worship to the statue of gold.

If you are so depressed you cannot think or so sick you cannot sing you can still worship. When Job was sick no “Hillsongs” played as he worshipped. The “Just as I am” gospel choir didn’t accompany Abraham as he took Isaac up the mount to worship. Jesus didn’t sing the *Hallelujah Chorus* in the Garden of Gethsemane, but nevertheless He worshipped.

If you can’t hold a note, if you can’t keep in time,

If life gets you down, and you’re not feeling fine,

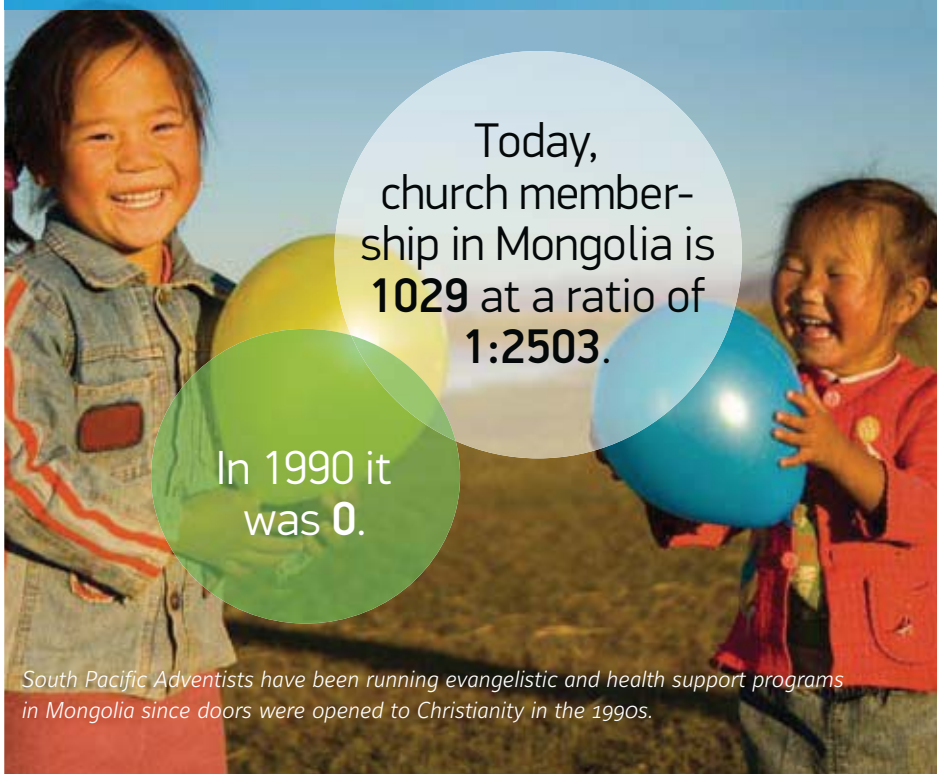
You can still worship.

Search a concordance or use your Bible software this Sabbath afternoon. You will discover that music is for praise. Worship is to bend your physical knee before a mighty potentate.

How should we worship God? In our modern way it’s good to acknowledge the inherent equality of humankind. Even the Queen of England only attracts a cute curtsy or cursory bow. The King of Kings and the Master of all is worthy—not just of our praise, but also of our worship.

Comment on Opinion at [www.record.net.au/comment](http://www.record.net.au/comment)

## NOW & THEN



Today,  
church member-  
ship in Mongolia is  
**1029** at a ratio of  
**1:2503.**

In 1990 it  
was 0.

South Pacific Adventists have been running evangelistic and health support programs in Mongolia since doors were opened to Christianity in the 1990s.



## Just add water

Do you often feel irritable or have regular headaches? We often blame the demands of a busy life. However, it may be that we simply need to drink more water.

Water is essential for life, without it we would survive only a few days. Water is responsible for transporting nutrients in our bodies, temperature regulation and the removal of waste from our bladders. Our body is made up of 60-70 per cent water; in children this can be as high as 80 per cent. Daily we lose water through urine, stool, sweat, tears and as water vapour when we breathe. We replenish this from the fluids we drink and foods we eat. A small amount of water is also produced as a by-product of metabolism.

Dehydration occurs when the amount of water leaving the body is greater than the amount being consumed. To maintain hydration we need to drink eight glasses a day; however this can vary according to individual requirements. The initial signs of dehydration begin when we have lost about 2 per cent of total body fluid. These include, but are not limited to thirst, fatigue, irritability and headaches. Serious illness can develop if fluid loss continues up to 5 per

cent of total body fluid and if the body reaches 10 per cent total body fluid loss, emergency medical help is needed. Fluid loss of 10 per cent and above can be fatal! Don't rely on feeling thirsty to remind you to drink, as by this time we are usually already dehydrated. Ensure you drink sufficient quantities to maintain pale coloured urine throughout the day.

### Who is at most risk of dehydration?

**Kids**—due to their small body weight and high water content they are more susceptible to dehydration. They often cannot vocalise that they are thirsty and are more susceptible to illnesses which can result in dehydration. Try iceblocks and jelly to increase fluid intakes in unwell children. Often a drink bottle on their desk in class and in the car will help remind them to drink.

**The elderly**—their sensitivity to thirst becomes less acute, they are slower to respond to changes in environmental temperature and tend to eat and drink less. They may also be on medication, have hormone changes or an illness that may cause dehydration. Make drinking convenient. Have a sipper bottle on hand or add a slice of lemon or lime to flavour water.

**Those with an illness such as fever, vomiting and diarrhoea**—water and electrolytes such as sodium and potassium are essential to maintain fluid levels. If you or your family are suffering from gastric illness it is advisable to discuss fluid and electrolyte replenishment with your doctor.

**Athletes and those working in a hot humid environment**—increased sweating requires increased fluid intake. Consider using a sports drink when training for intervals longer than one hour, to replenish both fluid and electrolyte levels.

**People with uncontrolled diabetes or those on medications** that have a diuretic effect.

### The benefits of maintaining hydration

- Boosts mental and physical performance
- Balances mood
- Prevents dehydration-induced headaches
- Decreases risk of developing kidney stones
- Softens stools to help prevent dehydration
- Helps prevent urinary tract infections
- Increases milk production in breastfeeding mums.



## RECIPE

### Berry Soda

- 150g frozen raspberries
- 1 ½ tbs icing sugar
- Ice cubes
- 1 bottle soda water (300ml per glass)
- Mint leaves (optional)
- ½ lemon, juice only
- 200ml cranberry juice

1. Puree raspberries, lemon juice, icing sugar and cranberry juice.
2. Divide amongst glasses. Add ice cubes and top with soda water.

3. Stir to combine.

4. Garnish with mint leaves or lemon slices. Serve chilled.

Preparation time: 4 minutes

Cooking time: Nil

Serves 4.

Per serve: Kilojoules 140kJ, Calories 35Cal, Protein 5g, Fat 0g, Carbohydrate 7g, Sodium 4mg, Potassium 210mg, Calcium 39mg, Iron 1.0mg, Fibre 2g.



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LETTERS

**DRUMS IN CHURCH?**

Phil Ward, QLD

Could I suggest that it is selfish to try to keep musical instruments like drums out of the church?

The right brain listens to beat, and the left brain listens to melody. So when left-brain people try to ban music with beat they are depriving right-brain people of their music.

It's not only selfish, it's not Scriptural. Psalm 81:2 says, "Start the music. Beat the drum. Play the melodious lyre and harp." So Scripture shows that the church should have musical instruments providing both beat and melody.

I am a right-brain person. I dislike organ music as it appeals only to the left brain. It has not been easy to come to church every Sabbath for many years to face music I dislike.

Despite this, I have stayed in the church. But most other right-brainers have been pushed out. The result is that in Australia where half the adult population is right brain, only about 20 per cent of adult Adventists are right-brainers.

So what is the consequence of pushing the right-brainers out of the church? Left-brainers consolidate the church. Right-brainers make the church grow. So our left-brain music hinders church growth.

If you want the church to grow, give right-brainers their share of the music. If you do, it will take only a few years to recapture the church growth of 100 years ago.

**SELF-DOUBT**

Name withheld, NSW

Thank you RECORD for publishing Sisi Kong's story, "More than skin deep" (Feature, January 30).

I can't imagine how many girls and young women—both neighbours and church members—must be struggling with similar issues. The devil was at his most devastating when he came up with this one—to twist a woman's natural desire for attractiveness into a snare of self-doubt and desperation.

The media constantly bombards us with depictions and storylines that reinforce this unhealthy view of beauty and relationships.

But we men have to shoulder our share of the blame for thinking about, looking at and talking about women in a way that objectifies them. How can our sisters, female friends, girlfriends and spouses fail to be influenced as they observe us?

I believe that we need to speak out more clearly against the sexual objectification of women—both as individuals in our everyday conversations and in public as a church.

**RECORD THE GLUE**

Russell Schulz, NSW

The RECORD is the glue that holds the diaspora of Adventists from around the South Pacific together

Shared experiences, shared celebration and shared joy give value to shared ideas and shared concerns.

That such a valued medium should be reduced to a less-than-weekly publication schedule is to bow to bean counters and their budgets—budgets that undervalue the role of the printed media in our church.

*Adventist World* fulfils a different role, and does not contribute to church life in any semblance of similarity. I register my disappointment at this decision, and suggest

other readers join me in asking for a RECORD every Sabbath.

**RESPONSE: DAVID GIBBONS, ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER**

Despite the annual offering only covering ten per cent of the cost of RECORD, the church continues to fund RECORD at the same level as it always has done. There are no cut backs. Rather, some of the funding gives you a larger RECORD, and the print run for each edition will also be increased so that, for the first time, English speaking Adventists in the South Pacific islands can also receive RECORD. You will also continue to receive *Adventist World* every month. The one week 'gap' each month may be used by local conferences to share their high quality magazines and newsletters with you.

**POWERFUL GIFT**

Laurel Ferguson, NSW

Casey Wolverton used a quaint story in his article "The importance of pardon" (Feature, January 30) to illustrate a powerful gift from God and a great need in our lives—the importance of forgiveness.

If we all lived, ever conscious of God's grace, we would offer that same grace to those we live with, work with, church and worship with.

Maybe if we lived by this principle we would not wound each other as much—if we became the victim, we would rise from the self-pity and offer grace to the one who wounded us.

Let's practice pardon toward ourselves and others and live like Jesus, offering love, acceptance and forgiveness. Our homes, workplaces and churches would be happier environments.

*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 Page 3 for contact details.*



# You have a Friend request . . . from God

by Ken Long

Have you ever received a friend request? That's right—an electronic request from someone to be your friend. If you haven't, then welcome to the world of Facebook.

Facebook is by some measures the most popular social network web site with 175 million active users worldwide. Many Kellyville (NSW) members have succumbed to the challenge of inviting, locating and communicating with friends through Facebook. Now, one of the key challenges of Facebook is to invite friends to be included in your list of friends and to build a bigger friend list than your friends. Facebook even has tools to enable you to identify people you might know such as old school or work friends. Once you identify a friend who is not a Facebook friend you send off an electronic invitation.


So imagine I identify one of my old school friends and send them a "Friend Request." The invitation my old friend receives reads "You have a friend request" and they have the choice to "Confirm" me as a friend or "Ignore" me. If my old school friend clicks "Confirm" then I'm notified that he's now on my official list of Facebook friends.

But if he hits "Ignore" I hear nothing. I don't get notified

that my request has been denied. All I hear is silence. What I feel is rejection. But then I think maybe he just missed my request. Maybe he just overlooked it so I wait a discreet period of time and send off another request. Same non-existent response. The same silence. The same intense feeling of rejection. So I give up—obviously he doesn't want to be my Facebook friend.

**God has issued a permanent and persistent "Friend Request" with your name on it.**

God has issued a permanent and persistent "Friend Request" with your name on it. You have the choice, "Confirm" or "Ignore". If you "Confirm" on a daily basis then it's an amazing adventure in faith with God. If "Ignore" is your way of dealing with God, then that's not the end of it. You can be sure that God will send you another "Friend Request". And another and another.

"Here I am! I stand at the door and send Facebook friend requests. If anyone clicks "Confirm" and opens the door, I will come in and be his eternal and sustaining Facebook friend" (see Revelation 3:20). 

---

*Ken Long attends Kellyville church and at the time of writing this article had 276 Facebook friends.*

by Mark Baines

A close-up photograph of two hands holding the frayed ends of two Ethernet cables, one on the left and one on the right, with a gap between them, symbolizing disconnection. The cables have multiple colored wires (blue, green, yellow, brown) exposed. The background is a plain, light color.

# Dis- connected:

**Spiritual growth**=Yes

**Church**=**Maybe?**

For many Australians, church isn't on their 'to-do' list. The same trend rings true for many of my generation who have grown up in the church yet are now staying away on Sabbath morning. Why? What can we learn from those who've left? Is it still important for them to be growing spiritually? These are some of the questions that motivated the creation of a survey with a target audience who fitted the following criteria:

1. Live in Australia (or an Australian living overseas)
2. Are between 25 and 40 years of age
3. Have at some stage in their life attended a Seventh-day Adventist church
4. Are currently irregularly attending, aren't involved or don't attend a church.

The survey was posted online and the invitation to participate shared via email and Facebook between May and July 2009, resulting in 260 responses. Though created particularly for those who've chosen to disconnect from church, 27 per cent of respondents revealed they attend church every week. Whilst this may indicate a lack of church involvement, the plus side is we have a chance to learn from those who stay connected.

The responses in this report are according to how often they attend church. Whilst church attendance is not a great indicator of spiritual growth or maturity, it allows us to gain insights into people's spiritual journey according to their level of commitment in this area.

### Group 1: Those who attend every week—69 responses (27 per cent)

The majority of survey participants who attend church every week said they did so because they enjoy the experience (67 per cent) but 14 per cent felt they should be there.

Others added that they attend "to grow and help others grow spiritually," because they are involved and "it's something I need, to ground me." With busyness and the struggle to prioritise stated as the biggest barriers to spiritual growth, this group still regularly studies the Bible (28 per cent daily, 41 per cent weekly) and prays (78 per cent daily). One-fifth of the group share faith with friends and colleagues daily and two-fifths do so every week. However, service was a missing activity with 51 per cent either rarely or hardly ever serving those in need.

When asked what the church could do to help them grow more, 38 per cent agreed that a small group Bible study with people their age and stage of life would work. Over half were also keen to be involved in service locally and abroad, though it is difficult to know whether these people were already serving. When asked what they would change about the church, they want it to become more accepting, friendly and focused on people's spiritual journey.

**Action** Who in your church is 25-40 yrs old? Why not invest some time listening to their stories. How can you help them find a small group or service project?

### Group 2: Those who attend once a fortnight—41 responses (16 per cent)

The main reasons this group gave for attending church fortnightly are that they either enjoyed the experience, felt they should be there, were too tired to attend every week or wanted to bring their children to Sabbath School. Daily prayer (68 per cent) and personal Bible study was practised more regularly in this group than those who attend occasionally or not at all.

Interestingly, 29 per cent of this group said that they "worshipped with and encouraged other believers" once a week. This data supports the tendency for some of this generation to be more committed to a weekly small group than attending church. Busyness and the challenge to make spiritual practices a priority were also barriers in these people's lives. Over half of this group rarely or hardly ever serve those in need, but almost as many were interested in serving locally or abroad.

This group may represent some who are attempting to reconnect or stay connected to church. It also may represent some who are slowly disconnecting, with 20 per cent describing their church experience as "stalled" and another 20 per cent "dissatisfied." They wish the church would be more accepting and focused on the spiritual journey of people, and showed interest in social activities (27 per cent) and a small group Bible study with people their age and stage of life (27 per cent).

**Action** What is your approach to those who don't come to church every week? How can you help them practise good spiritual habits? Who could you connect them with who would be a source of encouragement to them?

### Group 3: Those who attend occasionally—67 responses (26 per cent)

This group of respondents attend either once a month or a few times a year. There were a range of varied reasons for this but none were prominent. Describing their current experience of church, 31 per cent said it was stalled, 28 per cent said they liked going occasionally, and 24 per cent said they were dissatisfied and wished things would change.

Prayer is a daily activity for many from this group (42 per cent) and about one-fifth engage in Bible study and sharing faith with friends monthly. A third hardly ever participate in

#### The majority of responses (68%) came from Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne

- 53% female and 47% male
- 47% married; 44% never married; 9% divorced, remarried or separated
- 93% said that it was important for them to be growing spiritually
- 80% said that they were personally responsible for their spiritual growth

service, Bible study, reading Christian books or sharing faith. The biggest barrier to spiritual growth given was making it a priority. Like the previous two groups, this group wants the church to become more accepting, friendly and welcoming. Many showed interest in being included in social activities (32 per cent), serving locally (21 per cent) and overseas (20 per cent), and a home Bible study group (16 per cent).

**Action** Who haven't you seen at church or your small group lately? Why not give them a call? Are there social groups or service projects you could invite them to?

#### Group 4: Those who have stopped attending—83 responses (32 per cent)

This group of participants (59 per cent single, 33 per cent married) have either stopped attending or rarely attend. The main reasons were because of bad experiences in the past (31 per cent), irrelevance to their lives (20 per cent) and disagreement with Adventist doctrines (15 per cent). Interestingly, when asked to describe their current experience of church, only half of this group said that church was no longer part of their life. Others described it as 'stalled' (23 per cent), some enjoy the experience when they go (some now attend church on Sunday) and a handful want to be involved but don't know how. Seventy-five per cent chose to write about their experience with the church in the survey, describing the reasons they no longer attend and in some cases, why they no longer believe in God.

When asked what they would change about the church and what would bring them back to church, the top two responses were more acceptance and relevance. The individual responses reveal that not everyone who no longer attends is bitter, but many have experienced more rules and criticism than grace and acceptance. One respondent says "I was a very involved person, up-the-front and behind-the-scenes, and not one person has asked me why I no longer attend." Something that we may not have realised, is that it is important for those in this group to be growing spiritually (83 per cent). Thirty-five per cent still pray daily and 19 per cent serve those in need monthly. However 66 per cent hardly ever study the Bible and about half hardly ever read Christian books or share faith with their friends. Yet a number of this "disconnected" group (22 per cent) requested at the end of the survey to be part of service opportunities in their local community, social activities with people of their

stage of life (22 per cent) and a service project overseas (16 per cent). At least 12 people requested to be part of a small group Bible study.

**Action** Who do you know who has stopped attending church or given up on God? Have you kept in touch and prayed for them? Could you invite them to be part of one of the four activities mentioned above?

#### Conclusions

- Even though 25-40 year-olds are disconnecting from church—or have stopped attending—they still want to grow closer to God and serve others.
- Whilst some won't return to church, some said they would return if church was accepting and relevant to their lives.
- Sincerely asking questions about people's journey's helps us discover spiritual needs and how to meet them.
- Some have unrealistic expectations of church, have not taken ownership of their problems and choose to be bitter about the church.
- Both we and our churches need to be more accepting and relevant—and keep in touch with those who're leaving.
- The more you go to church, the more likely you are to pray and study the Bible, but it won't necessarily mean that you'll serve others.
- We need to try new ways of connecting with those who don't attend regularly via social activities, small groups and service locally and abroad.

Perhaps the question is no longer "Why are they leaving the church?" but "Am I showing acceptance and helping people grow in their daily walk with God?" A battle is raging for the lives of these young people and we have the choice to either watch them leave or get involved and make a difference. It's time for us to reconnect with those who've disconnected, to join the Shepherd as He searches for His lost sheep. It's time to focus on discipleship instead of only attendance. As the late James Cress said, we can keep them if we care. ➤

*For a more comprehensive report and extended responses from survey participants, head to <http://bainesy.wordpress.com/surveyreport>*

*Mark Baines works as a relief teacher and is passionate about seeing his generation connect with church. He writes from Queensland, Australia.*

## OPINION POLL

### Are young people responsible for their own spiritual development?

YES  NO

Please visit <[record.net.au](http://record.net.au)> to answer this poll or email <[news@record.net.au](mailto:news@record.net.au)>. You can find the latest poll online or email suggested questions.



## WRIGHT HEALTH

Dr James Wright



### Why do so few bother to wash their hands?

Millions never bother about hand washing, which is the biggest single preventive to the spread of disease and infection including the swine flu and the common cold. Maybe because it is too simple and costs nothing. Please always wash your hands after visiting the loo, before touching or eating food, and if you cough or sneeze into cupped hands. Soap and water is best. But a simple rinse is better than

nothing. Today, medicated wipes are fine, and Kleenex has a special brand. Fortunately the skin exudes mild germ killing oil over the skin surface which gives enormous protection

### Many sun protection lotions contain a SPF factor, but this varies with brands. Often it is 15 or 30, occasionally 50 and I saw a 90 the other day. Are the higher figures more protective?

Today, SPF 30 is considered adequate for the Australian sun. The greatest protection is in the early lower figures. SPF 15 was originally widely used, SPF 30 is much better, but 50 or 90 only marginally better. Stick with 30 products, my skin specialist says.

See more at [www.docwright.com.au](http://www.docwright.com.au)



## WHY I BECAME AN ADVENTIST

I was baptised on December 26, in the Oak Flats church, South New South Wales Conference. As a toddler I had attended the Adventist church with Mum, but in my teenage years felt no connection to the church and rarely went. I grew up in a home with different belief systems. Mum had always been a committed Adventist and Dad a Muslim. At an early age my Dad instilled in me the belief that I was worthless and unworthy of a loving, caring relationship. So, throughout my teenage years I always felt unloved, like I didn't really matter. My dislike towards my Dad increased as the years went by.



After I turned 20, I returned to church searching for answers. As I learned about the love of Jesus I found it hard to accept, as my earthly father had instilled in me a sense of worthlessness. It wasn't until a church friend loaned me a DVD sermon on God's love, forgiveness and grace that I started to see God for who He is. So I laid my burdens at Jesus' feet. The church I was attending received a new minister and it wasn't long before I was having Bible studies. This cemented my desire to give my life over to Jesus. Before my baptism I asked Mum to discuss the possibility with Dad—he was against it as it went against his beliefs. I haven't shared the news of my baptism with him—he'll never understand—but I have forgiven him.

On the day of my baptism I couldn't contain my excitement. I was nervous and our small church was overflowing with visitors, friends and family. I now want to serve God in any way I can. I'm working on a Masters in Education and would love to one day use my giftedness and serve in an Adventist School.

—Zeynep Demirdag

If you have become an Adventist in the last 12 months, please send your photo and your story to [news@record.net.au](mailto:news@record.net.au).

## OPENING HIS WORD

Graeme Loftus



### The Holy Spirit

Some contemporary denominational groups place a high emphasis on the Holy Spirit. Is it really important for us to be "filled with" the Holy Spirit?

### What does the Bible say about the importance of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament?

Read Genesis 1:2; 6:3; Isaiah 63:10-11,14; Jeremiah 31:31-32; Ezekiel 36:26-27; Joel 2:28-32

### What did Jesus say about the Holy Spirit?

Read John 14:15-21; 16:5-15; Matthew 12:22-37; Acts 1:4-5

Notice that Jesus never calls the Holy Spirit an impersonal force, or merely an abstract sense of God's presence. The Holy Spirit is always ascribed as "He;" a literal person on the same level as Jesus, sent from God Himself.

Every quality and action the Bible says of God the Father and Jesus (the Son of God), is also said of the Holy Spirit. That is why most Christians down through the ages have always understood the Holy Spirit to be just as much God as the Father and the Son.

If this is the nature of the Holy Spirit, we certainly can't afford to neglect or dismiss His importance and relevance in our lives.

### What does the New Testament say of the Holy Spirit and His work?

Read Ephesians 1:13-14

In summary, the Holy Spirit:

- is available to every Christian down through the ages of history (Acts 2:39)
- became the distinguishing mark between Christians and non Christians after Jesus died, rose and returned to heaven (Acts 15:1-35)
- bestows 'fruit' internally in people's lives (Galatians 5:1-26)
- produces spiritual gifts externally in people's lives (1 Corinthians 12)



# Have you seen the NEWS?



[infocus.org.au](http://infocus.org.au)  
for channels, times  
& schedules

Weekly Adventist &  
Christian News &  
Current Affairs

As seen on   
Produced by

  
ADVENTIST  
MEDIA NETWORK





## RECORD REWIND

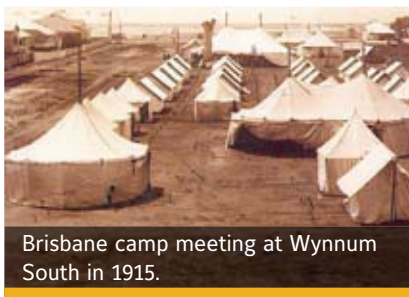
Dr Arnold Reye

### EG White visits first Brisbane camp

She didn't want to go. It was 1898 and Ellen White had neither the time nor the energy to travel to Brisbane to attend a camp meeting. Through a dream, however, God reminded her that the colonials of Queensland needed the gospel. Ellen White agreed to God's command. As her train travelled through northern New South Wales, Ellen White looked out the window where her gaze was drawn to two clouds. As she looked, the clouds seemed to merge and then withdraw only to merge again. Ellen White perceived these twin clouds as representing God's guardianship and assurance. The burden lifted—all would prove well in Brisbane.

A camp site had been found in Woolloongabba. Twenty-five tents were pitched along with a main pavilion. A vigorous advertising campaign caught the attention of the people of Brisbane. While 118 Adventists supported this first camp, it was the people of Brisbane who swelled the audience.

Ellen White, Arthur G Daniells, and Stephen N Haskell were the principal speakers. At some meetings the main tent's capacity of 1000 was stretched



Brisbane camp meeting at Wynnum South in 1915.

to the limit. In particular, the locals were captivated by Ellen White's talks on temperance and health.

They were intrigued by the lifestyle evident in the tent homes. By popular demand the program—organised to run from October 13–21—was extended for a week. This camp meeting, favourably reported in the local press, resulted in the formation of two Advent-

ist churches: North Brisbane and South Brisbane. One year later those two churches, along with churches in Rockhampton and Toowoomba, with a combined membership of 211, voted to form the Queensland Conference.

*Dr Arnold Reye is chairman of the South Queensland Conference Heritage Committee.*

## MYSTERY HISTORY

### Do you know?

- The location of the photo
- The date the photo was taken
- The people or church in this photo



Send to [heritage@avondale.edu.au](mailto:heritage@avondale.edu.au).

# Record Roo



Hi kids!

One of the most famous women in the Old Testament is Ruth. Ruth was a Moabite, but her mother-in-law, Naomi, was a believer in the true God. Ruth wanted to know the true God too...

## Bible Text

But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to \_\_\_\_\_ you or to turn \_\_\_\_\_ from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay will stay. Your \_\_\_\_\_ will be my people and your \_\_\_\_\_ my \_\_\_\_\_."

Ruth 1:16 NIV

## Read

Both Naomi and Ruth's husbands had died. The two women left Moab and went to Bethlehem. The Lord had a special plan for Ruth and Naomi. Read the whole story in the book of Ruth.

## Colour In



# Asian Aid Organisation

## How much is \$7 today ?

Sponsoring a child for as little as \$7 per week, would mean they had better nutrition, a school to go to and a future to look forward to.

Giving up so little can mean so very much to a child in poverty.

The gift of education changes lives. Talk to the Lord about what He wants you to do - He can multiply all our gifts.



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Manukau City

Manukau 2241

New Zealand



# SNAP SHOT

With Barry Oliver



I am penning this snapshot as I look out of my window across the beautiful tropical ocean surrounding the island of Tongatapu, the main island of the Kingdom of Tonga. It looks so peaceful. Yet just a few months ago some of the northern islands of Tonga and the islands of Samoa and American Samoa were devastated by that same ocean. How quickly things can change.

My thoughts go out to the people of Haiti. Their world changed in the space of a minute on January 12. Their world will never be the same again.

Listening to the radio yesterday it was reported that 170,000 people who had lost their lives in the disaster had been buried thus far. Of course



our Church family has been impacted, Seventh-day Adventist Church leaders in Haiti have reported that at least 522 church members were killed by the

7.0-magnitude earthquake. More than 55 churches were destroyed, 60 churches partially damaged and some 27,000 church members left homeless in the capital city of Port-au-Prince.

I think of those who suffered the devastation last year with the Victorian bushfires, the Solomon Islands Tsunami, wars and famines and heartache and loss. . . .and with you my heart says again, "How long?"

But I can hear it saying something else as well. "How much do I care?"

The Church must never be defined in the first place by a set of doctrines. While they are important, that which sets the Seventh-day Adventist Church apart must be the quality of our love and care.

# R MY CHURCH

## TAREE, North New South Wales Conference Caroline Weekes

I have been attending Taree church, in the North New South Wales Conference, since 1981. Our pastor is David Kosmeir—I appreciate his ministry and ability to connect with our church family. We have a regular prayer meeting each week where 20 turn up to pray for the sick in our church and community, for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon Taree, our local Adventist school and for the ability to love those in our community and share the love of Jesus with them. I enjoy my church because it's friendly, Christ centred with an outward focus and because I'm challenged regularly from the excellent sermons each week.



## PARKES, South New South Wales Conference Tom Melic

I have been living in Forbes for four years after moving from Sydney. The closest church is in Parkes. It usually takes me 35 minutes to drive to church. Parkes church has an average attendance of between 12 and 20 people each week. The congregation consists of older adults, I'm 74 years of age. I am passionate about the gospel message and hold two study groups a week. On Wednesdays, 17 people attend, on Thursday the group is more intimate with four. I have doorknocked and invited locals from the community and Mission Australia has referred others who struggle with drugs, financial issues and marriage breakup. I struggle with finding Bible study material so we've been studying the gospels. If you have Bible study material that you could send me please contact the editor of the RECORD.



# R MY MINISTRY IDEA

Ever been to one of those churches where there's a flurry of mobile phone activity when the pastor mentions a Bible text? Software sales consultant Stephen Chan attends one every week. He's particularly noticed the profusion of big-screen "smart-phones" that make your five-year old Nokia look like an abacus.

"Why not use the technology to your advantage?" he asks.

During his sermon at Kellyville, Sydney, Steven invited the congregation to access the YouVersion application via their smartphones and respond to an online poll he'd set up: The Forgiveness Test.

While Steven spoke, the results of the poll were accessed and displayed in real time on the big screen. It turns out 57 per cent of those surveyed said they would agree to help someone who had wronged them, albeit grudgingly.

"It was instant feedback," says Stephen, "There are people out in the congregation who have issues just like I was experiencing... It showed me I was on track."



## POSITIONS VACANT

■ **Building Supervisor—Seventh-day Adventist Church (Pacific Ltd (Sabato, Fiji))** is seeking an experienced and qualified building supervisor to plan, organise, direct and coordinate the building plans for the relocation of Fulton College to the new land in Sabato, Fiji. For more information, please visit the South Pacific Division's Human Resources website <www.adventistemployment.org.au>. All written applications, including your CV, three work related referees and contact details of your church pastor, must be forwarded to Human Resources, Seventh-day Adventist Church (Pacific) Ltd, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga, NSW 2076 Australia, email <hr@adventist.org.au>, or fax (02) 9489 0943. Applications close **February 25, 2010.**

■ **Distribution Support Officer—Signs Publishing Company, Warburton, Vic,** seeks an office assistant for immediate start. This position involves processing orders from ABCs and LEs, providing excellent customer service, assisting with stock management, liaising with customs/freight agents and maintaining a standing order system. The successful applicant will possess excellent data entry skills, knowledge of bookkeeping, moderate to high level Microsoft Office skills, good communication skills, high attention to detail, and a demonstrated commitment to the ethos of the Adventist church, all supported by referees. Applications in writing to Distribution Manager, Signs Publishing Company, PO Box 201, Warburton, Vic 3799 or email <rachel.wegener@signspublishing.com.au>. Signs reserves the right to fill the position prior to the closing date. More information, contact Rachel Wegener, phone (03) 5965 6300. Applications close **March 1, 2010.**

■ **School Principal/Manager—Currawah Adventist College (North NSW)** invites applications from experienced high school teachers and administrators for the position of principal/manager for the new Aboriginal boarding high school near Brewarrina, NSW. The intention is to provide a unique education primarily for Aboriginal young people in a values-oriented, skills-based, Seventh-day Adventist boarding environment. The curriculum for the education program will be based on the New South Wales Board of Studies courses for Grades 7–10 (stages 4 and 5) with an emphasis on literacy, numeracy, social development and employability skills. Integrated into this program will be a range of culturally-enriching activities and themes drawn from the Indigenous community of western New South Wales. The development of resilience as a vital part of an effective life and the practical values inherent in an integrated boarding/agricultural/educational program will be important points of focus. For further information, please contact Ralph Luchow on (02) 4951 8088 or at <ralphluchow@adventist.or.au>. Applications close **March 26, 2010.**

■ **OHS and RTW Coordinator—Greater Sydney Conference (Epping, NSW)** is seeking to appoint a full-time OHS and RTW coordinator working across church, schools and aged care industries. The successful applicant will be responsible for ensuring health and safety as an integral part of our operational activities within the organisation. Provides advice and support to management, staff and assists with coordination, implementation and management of workplace OHSMS, risks and injuries. Have the ability to apply current OHS methodology, best practice and driving safety initiatives. Criteria required, practising Seventh-day Adventist; relevant OHS qualifications; knowledge of OHS and Workers Compensation legislations, Australian Standards and Code of Practice and other relevant matters. A detailed position description is available upon request. Applications can be submitted to Pastor Michael Worker email <michaelworker@adventist.org.au>. Applications close **March 8, 2010.**



## APPRECIATION

**Heise, Fred.** Kathleen (Ena), David, Bruce, Jenny MacKenzie and Lance,

and extended family, wish to express their heartfelt thanks to all for your prayers, the many beautiful flowers and your kind words in

## VOLUNTEERS!

■ **Project Atoifi 2010.** We are very excited to announce the return of Project Atoifi for 2010 based at Atoifi in the Solomon Islands. It will be even bigger and better this year. We need at least 40 volunteers. We are looking for volunteer camera crews each with HD cameras, team leaders, builders, musicians, singers, storytellers, first-aid instructors, all round handymen and anyone who has a sense of adventure and would like to be part of a life-changing and very rewarding experience. This project will see new churches built and a new primary school. Project will run 29.6.10 to 3.8.10. All enquiries contact Brian Larwood <team@project-atoifi.org>.

■ **Assistant Boarding Deans—Longburn Adventist College (Palmerston North, New Zealand)** require the services of two volunteers for 2010 as Assistant Boarding Deans. Accommodation, meals and a stipend provided. Ideally these vacancies would suit a tertiary student planning on a GAP year and it must be someone who can demonstrate they are able to work with young people. This is an exciting opportunity for someone contemplating youth work.

Email:  
<volunteers@adventist.org.au>  
For more positions visit  
<www.adventistvolunteers.org>



cards, phone calls and in person on the passing of our beloved husband, father and grandfather.

## WEDDINGS

■ **Brown—Kim.** Kevin Brown (Cooranbong, NSW) and Susan Kim (Sydney) were married mid December, 2009, in a picturesque setting in the Wahroonga Gardens.  
*Roger Nixon*

■ **Chua—Chuang.** Roy Chua (Perth, WA), son of Mdm. Poh Siew Leng (Kuching), and Eunice Chuang (Perth, WA), daughter of Dr Geoffrey and Esther Chuang (Kuching), were married 20.12.09 at Ferntree Gully church.  
*Weefong Choo*

■ **Craig—Earles.** Andrew Robert Craig, son of Gary and Kay Craig (Moorland, NSW), and Summer—Brooke Earles, daughter of Gary (deceased) and Jenny Clare (Kundabung), were married 6.12.09 at Gary and Kay Craig's property at Moorland.  
*Danny Milenkov*

■ **Edwards—Muhl.** John Timothy Edwards, son of John and Najat Edwards (Hurstville, NSW), and Tanya Muhl, daughter of Monty and Sonya Muhl (Erina), were married 13.12.09 in Gosford church.  
*Brad Kemp*

■ **Hogarth—Lowrie.** Andrew Gordon Hogarth, son of Laurence and Marie Hogarth (Bendigo, Vic), and Rochelle Leigh—Ann Lowrie, daughter of Ashleigh and Cheryl Lowrie (Brisbane, Qld), were married 3.1.2010 at Springwood church, Qld.  
*Stephen Kane*

■ **Lecciones—Shannon.** Lemuel Rey Lecciones and Laura Anne Shannon, daughter of Dale and Del Shannon (Torrey, WA), were married 22.12.09 in Bickley church.  
*Gary Webster*

■ **Malone—Gredig.** Luke Nathan Malone, son of Stephen and Valerie Malone (Cooran, Qld), and Melissa Jayne Gredig, daughter of Pastor Wayne and Marilyn Gredig (Thornlands), were married 1.11.09 in the beautiful outdoors at Redland Bay.  
*Wayne L Gredig*

■ **Robinson—Durrant.** Mark Ashley Robinson, son of Brian and Bev Robinson (Lake Macquarie, NSW), and Lashaye Elise Durrant, daughter of Calvin (Perth, WA) and Sharon Durrant (Lake Macquarie, NSW), were married 22.11.09 at Eraring.  
*Ian Howie*

■ **Savea—Levi.** Saumaleula Savea, son of Saumaleula Savea and Faimanifo Uili (Brisbane, Qld), and Rosheen Levi, daughter of Pastor Levi Aofaiga and Lolou Eti (Ipswich), were married 27.9.09 at Springwood church.  
*Ken L Lawson*

■ **Sparks—Silva.** Brian Joseph Sparks, son of Eric and Joyce Sparks (Stanthorpe, Qld), and Luddy (Oding) Silva, daughter

of Ramon Silva (deceased) and Vivencia Cristino (Philippines), were married 20.12.09 in the Morisset Hospital Chapel, Morisset (NSW).

*Peter Cousins*

**Stanton–Townend.** Robert Paul Stanton, son of Brent and Karyn Stanton (Lesmurdie, WA), and De-Anna Maree Townend, daughter of Brett and Rae Townend (Murwillumbah, NSW), were married 20.12.09 at the Murwillumbah church by the bride's father, Brett. Friends and family came from far and wide to join the celebrations which continued at the reception at Peppers, Kingscliff. The couple have set up home in Cooranbong where De-Anna will finish her studies.

*Brett Townend*

**Todd–Hartogh.** Mervyn Todd, son of Norman and Clarice Todd (both deceased), and Tapuiea Hartogh, daughter of Faletui and Sapo'e Faraimo (both deceased), were married 14.12.09 in Caloundra church, Qld.

*Harry Todd, Toe Faraimo  
R Possingham*

**Zreczycki–Seaman.** Andrew Zreczycki, son of Piotr and Danuta Zreczycki (Mitcham, Vic), and Beata (Betty) Seaman, daughter of Marian and Ryszarda Skowronski, were married 16.12.09 at The Hotel Windsor, Melbourne.

*Ian H Royce*

## OBITUARIES

**Balchin,** Jean (nee Barling) born 10.3.1919 in Warrnambool, Vic; died 23.11.09 peacefully in St John of God Hospital, Warrnambool. She was predeceased by her husband, Stanley, in 1989. She is survived by her stepson Ken and stepdaughter Daphne and her families. Jean loved the Lord and worshipped and served in the Warrnambool church all her life. She was known as "Auntie Jean". She was a gentle, caring person, loved and respected by all who knew her. She will be sadly missed by her family and friends.

*Nikola Trajkov*

**Bramwell,** Samuel, born 29.5.1924 in Eyam, Derbyshire, England; died 3.12.09 in Canberra, ACT from a terminal illness. He is survived by his wife, Gwen; his children and their spouses, Heather and Rodney Mann, Lynne and Ian

Martin (all of Canberra), Ian and Lisebeth (Brisbane, Qld), David and Chris (Cobargo, NSW) and Debbie and Graham Head (Bon-nells Bay); eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Sam served the church in a number of different ways using his skill as a carpenter as well as being leader of the Canberra Pathfinder Club for eight years. Many would testify to the influence he had on their lives.

*Neil Lawson*

**Chuang,** Chian Lin, born 25.8.1947 in Malaysia; died 13.12.09 at Croydon, Vic. On 3.9.1978, he married Carla Mei Hoa Oei. He is survived by his wife; and his sons, Colin, Calvin and Linden. Lin will be missed as a beloved member and long-time elder and senior elder of Melbourne Asian church.

*James Wong, Isaac Foo  
John Chan*

**Church,** Edith Glenys, born 10.7.1935 at Dannevirke, NZ; died 20.11.09 at Gisborne, NZ. She was predeceased by her husband Alf in 2008. She is survived by her three children and their families, Christopher White, Bernard and Anna White and Kate and Peter Smeele. Glenys embraced Present Truth in her late 40s, and never let it go, working for several years as a part-time LE in different parts of New Zealand. Her diligence, patient endurance and humility were, and remain, inspirational. Now at rest, after several years of incapacitation, she awaits the call of Jesus whom she loved so much.

*Ron Lewis*

**Davidson,** Harold Kennedy, born 11.9.1920 in Belfast, Ireland; died 7.12.09 in Avondale Retirement Village, NSW. On 2.6.1948 he married Midge (nee) Goozee, in Chiswick church, England. He is survived by his wife; his children and their spouses, Trevor and Wendy (Gateshead, UK), Margaret and Stuart Barons (Vic), Marilyn and Les Smith (Tamworth, NSW), Eileen Clarkson (Bonnells Bay), Les and Lesley (Kariong), Sheila and Leroy James (London, UK), Timothy and Leanne (Bowraville, NSW), Susan and Keith Bovis (Ettalong); his 22 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren, with four more on the way. Harold served in the Royal Air Force in places like India, Burma and Sri Lanka. He worked as a nurse at Watford Adventist San, and also

Granose Foods, UK. In 1971, he came to Australia and worked at Sydney Adventist Hospital, NSW. He loved and enjoyed his family and his Lord. He will be sadly missed by family and friends.

*Owen D'Costa*

**Davies,** Norman Redmayne, born 5.11.14 in Auckland, NZ; died 27.8.09 at home in Papatoetoe. He was predeceased by his first wife, Daphne, in 1993. Norm is survived by his wife, Noeline; son and daughter-in-law David and Joanne; his grandchildren and their spouses, Stephen and Leanne, Annette and Paul, Adrian and Stephanie, Christopher, Alexandra; and 11 great-grandchildren. Norm was a gentle and wise leader who demonstrated Jesus in all he did. Norm loved his God and lived his faith. He loved nothing more than to be surrounded by family. Peacefully sleeping until Jesus' return.

*Stephen Davies, Ian Howie*

**Dicks,** Constance, born 12.7.1939; died 21.12.09 in RPA Hospital, NSW. She was the beloved wife of Robert Dicks. She is survived by her children, Peter and Paul Packham and Mary-Ann Bonney; her brothers, Eddie and Barry Sanchez. The funeral was conducted at Dubbo church on 24.12.09.

*Roger Ward*

**Eitel,** Stephen, born 19.5.1919 at Richmond, SA; died 1.7.09 in Flinders Medical Centre, Adelaide. On 16.4.1952 he married Norma Joyce Poole, who predeceased him. He is survived by Peter and John Eitel (both of Adelaide). Steve was baptised in 1950 and is a World War II veteran. He was a faithful church member, who was passionate about evangelism, and had a good sense of humour.

*Nigel Ackland*

**Elliot,** Grahame Edwin, born 13.7.1948; died 21.8.09. The funeral service was held at Rosewood SDA church. Family and friends gathered at Stone Quarry Cemetery, Rosewood, where he was laid to rest to await Christ's call to eternal life.

*Joseph Youssef Khabbaz*

**Hayward,** Athol Isaac, born 11.8.1916 at Whangarei, NZ; died 18.12.09 in Sydney, NSW, aged 93. Athol served his church as a deacon, and as a volunteer builder. He helped build a number of churches

in New Zealand as well as other projects for Aore Adventist Hospital in Vanuatu. He is survived by Audrey, his wife of 67 years; along with his children, Aureen (Sydney), Elton (SA), Merrill (Qld); and her children Bianca and Yuri, Peter and Lieda and their children Taylor, Ella and Kye, and Athol's sisters, Effra, Trevena and Beryl. Athol loved his Saviour and died in the hope of the Resurrection.

*Frank Tassone, Alex Currie*

**Hesse,** Myrtle Elizabeth, born 6.9.1916 at Colyville, Qld; died 9.9.09 in Kedron Nursing Home, Brisbane. In 1942, she married Joseph Hesse and also joined the Adventist church in Harrisville. She is survived by her brother, Stan Dau (Harrisville); her son, Clifford; and her sister (Brisbane).

*Ken L Lawson*

**Kiiveri,** Wayne (Vaino), born 7.6.1921 in Finland; died 5.12.09 at Sherwin Lodge, WA. In 1946, he married Sirkka Vaananen. He is survived by his wife; his eldest daughter, Arja (Glenforrest, WA), Kristie Kiiveri-Hannan (Spearwood) and Harri. Wayne was a self taught musician as well as being fluent in three languages. He was a dedicated father and husband to his family. He loved and served God faithfully, and now rests waiting for Jesus to call his name.

*Keith Godfrey*

**Lawrence,** Walter Donovan, born 19.10.1929 at Coffs Harbour, NSW; died 8.12.09 at Toronto. On 30.12.1950, he married Betty Howarth. They were baptised on 1.11.1952 but soon after Betty died suddenly. On 30.7.1959, Don married Annette Williams. He is survived by his wife; his children and their spouses, Paul and Marie, Steve and Jeannie, Tim and Tanya and Anne-Maree and Peter Franks (all of Cooranbong); and his 12 grandchildren. He served his church in many areas and was greatly appreciated by youth and Pathfinders. His quiet, consistent Christian life touched the lives of many others.

*Allan Lindsay, Uriah St Juste*

**Patava,** Joyce Graham (nee Dunbar), born 2.3.1918 at Rockhampton, Qld; died 2.12.09. In 1945, she married Jack who predeceased her. Joy was the third child of seven and remembered

how living was tough in her early years. But those difficult times prepared her for a life of hard work and willingness to care for the needs of others. She had a beautiful, ready smile and was loved and respected by all who knew her.

*Orm Speck*

**Peries**, Luba Grace Francesca, born 26.9.1925 in Sri Lanka; died 23.11.09 in Swan Valley Hospital, WA. The loving wife of Anton for 65 years, Luba had six children, Melvin (UK), Arlene (Perth), Anestly and Anastasia (Vic), Trevine (Sri Lanka). Her body was cremated at Karakatta Cemetery awaiting The Blessed Hope. This hope in her heart she left to her 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Luba was a strong believer in God's Word and always read Colossians 3:4, "When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in glory."

*Tharren Hutchinson*

**Ratabacaca**, Epeli Koroi, born 16.4.1924 in Fiji; died 12.11.09 at Chester Hill, NSW. He is survived by his wife, Hazel (Sydney, NSW); and his children Lisa, Aseli, Jessie, Josephine (all of Fiji), Ilinieta, and Lielzel (both from Sydney, NSW).

*Bruce Shield, Epeli Soro Turagakula*

**Redmond**, Malcolm Stanley, born 23.10.1934 at Woombye, Qld; died at Victoria Point Qld. In March 1959, he married Edith Elizabeth Reid. He is survived by his children, Stan, Chris, Kendal, Leesa; and eight grandchildren. Malcolm was a plumber by trade and used his skills at Caboolture church. He was loved by his friends and family and much appreciated by his friends and will be greatly missed.

*Orm Speck, Neil Tyler*

**Robinson**, Rodney Ian, born 12.2.1937 in Brisbane, Qld; died 7.11.09 in Caloundra Private Hospital. In 1958, he married Hilary Shields in Central Brisbane church. Rod was predeceased by his daughter, Debra Leanne, on 18.12.1984. He is survived by his wife; his son and daughter-in-law, Pastor Kevin and Janine (Normanhurst); his much-loved grandchildren; his siblings and their spouses. Rod was diagnosed with mesothelioma in March 2008 and bravely battled

the following 20 months. Rod held deep gratitude for the many who sustained him and Hilary by maintaining visits, prayer support and an abundance of practical support during that time. Rod now rests, peacefully awaiting his Saviour's call on the soon-coming Resurrection morning.

*Kevin Robinson*

**Searle**, Pearl Ellen (nee Helmore), born 20.12.1910 at Bundaberg, Qld; died 12.11.09 in Victoria Point Retirement Village. On 27.3.1933, she married Jim. She was predeceased by her husband; and daughter, Pam. She is survived by her children and their spouses, Sally Miller (Bundaberg), Nancy Quayle (Bribie Island) and Jim Searle (Capalaba). Pearl's introduction to Adventism came in the late 1940s when a colporteur visited the family farm. Because of her support of many local charities and clubs, she was an outstanding "ingatherer". No-one could say no and risk losing her sponge cakes for their fundraising stalls. Pearl now sleeps and awaits the call of Jesus.

*R Possingham, N Peatey W Turner*

**Stevens**, John Edwards, born 9.11.1917 at Longbenton, England; died peacefully 30.11.09 in Avondale Adventist Aged Care Facility, Cooranbong, NSW. John is survived by his wife, Gwen (Kurri Kurri); daughter Robyn; and his sons, Howard and Raymond; his grandchildren and great grandchild. John will be greatly missed yet the family have solace that he now rests in peace.

*Mark Venz*

**Till**, Grace Madge Eleanor (nee Zahmel, born 6.9.1924 at Mackay, Qld; died 6.6.09 at Mackay. On 8.7.1942 she married James (Jim) Victor Till, who predeceased her in August, 1997. She is survived by Ivy Gillam (North Mackay, Qld) and Erwin Till. She worked on a family

farm, Red Cross (long service medal for 15 years service), heavily involved in ADRA, and was a deaconess. She loved music, sewing and gardening.

*Andrew Jasper*

**Timmins**, Marvelle Dale (nee Hubber), born 9.5.1928; died 1.12.09 through illness. She is survived by her husband, Trevor; children Larry, Grant and Judy; and her grandchildren. Her love for the Lord was evident through her life, and in the Palmerston North church, NZ. She displayed great courage and faith through her sickness, and will always be remembered for her smile. One day soon God will call her to take her rightful place in His kingdom made new. Until that day, she will be sincerely missed by family, friends and her church.

*William Arama*

**To**, Nam (Peter), born in Bac Lieu; died 30.11.09 at Springvale, Vic. On 25.12.74, he married Keo Trang. In June 1978, he was baptised in Saigon. He is survived by his wife; and his children, Henry, Anna, Gary and Darby (all Melbourne, Vic). Peter was a beloved father and husband. May he rest in peace till we meet again.

*Isaac Foo*

**Watson**, Gloria Christine, born 3.7.1955; died 6.11.09 at home, Scarborough, Qld, with her family by her side. Her first marriage was to Ken Frew on 8.5.1977. She then married Graham Watson on 26.3.1995. She is survived by her parents Ray and June Jamet (Forster, NSW); her husband; and her daughters and their families, Michael and Angela Dennis, and Nicole Frew (all of Brisbane, Qld). Gloria was a loving mother, and adored "Marnie". She was diagnosed with cancer late 2006 and faced this challenge with strength, courage and unwavering faith. She will always be remembered for her positive attitude and for her passion for living life to the fullest.

*Bob Possingham, Mladen Krklec Lorenzo Berry*

**Were**, Cyril Raymond, born 21.6.1914 at Prospect, SA; died 17.10.09 at Cooranbong, NSW. On 19.5.1938 he married his first wife Vera who predeceased him in 1964. He married his second wife, Veryl Dawn Mitchell, on 29.8.1967. He is survived by Rae Leomme (East Doncaster, Vic) and Carlyle (Canberra, ACT). Cyril served his country during World War II after attending Avondale College. He joined the South Qld conference as a singing evangelist and Bible worker. He worked as preceptor and teacher at Carmel College, WA. Cyril loved his Lord and awaits the call of the Master, on that great Resurrection morning.

*John Lang, Peter Beamish*

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walk with the Lord.

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