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DECIDE DIRECTION** page 9

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JESUS ON THE BUS** page 5



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South Pacific Division
Seventh-day Adventist Church

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Cover credit: David Gibbons

"Matt Byrne from WA speaks at the
Australian Union Conference Session"

Our vision is to be a church that...
knows
experiences
and shares
our hope in Jesus Christ!

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The Church goes mobile

Pablo Lillo

We browse the web at restaurants, make calls from the grocery store, answer emails in the car and order takeaway from our iPhones. We are a mobile society. As the Church strives to communicate more effectively and engage people where they are—spiritually and geographically—we have to reach them on the go. I see mobile technology as the single greatest tool to impact this world using technology.

What does mobile technology mean to the Church? The future is undeniably mobile. By 2015, five billion people will be connected via a mobile device. Every populated area on earth is already affected by the growth of mobile usage. A typical youth between the ages of 13 and 17 sends and receives an average of 1000 text messages each month. It was estimated there are more than 21 million users of the internet in the South Pacific.

Our team has been working hard at keeping church members up-to-date with the latest news. In doing so, we've been developing new software that will give iPad/iPhone users the ability to read RECORD at the touch of a button. We are excited about the possibility of being the first church magazine to go totally digital. The new app—an application indicated by an icon on the touch screen—allows you to receive news everyday and interactively browse RECORD, and watch InFocus News.

Holding a fresh, crisp magazine in your hands is one of the joys of reading but, for those who like to get their in-depth news digitally, RECORD will soon be available on Apple's iTunes application (app) store and downloadable at no cost. This will give iPad/iPhone users a sense of immediacy with news. It means church members anywhere in the Pacific will have the latest news daily and receive RECORD before it's available in the local church. Watch for details in RECORD soon.

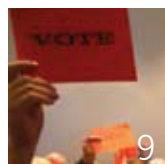
In this edition, we report on a new ministry initiative for men in Western Australia (News, page 7) and Bonita Joyner Shields asks "Why men hate church" (page 16).

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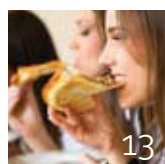
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Adventists commemorate 150th anniversary

David Gibbons—Wahroonga, NSW

Seventh-day Adventists around the world have looked at October 1 as an opportunity to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the adoption of the name “Seventh-day Adventist.”

Although the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists was not organized until 1863, the name Seventh-day Adventist was formally voted on October 1, 1860. The name was used by the fledgling church’s publishing house as well as for its local congregations.

Today, the church has more than 16 million adult members, and is the 12th largest religious body in the world. It is estimated that more than 25 million people attend a Seventh-day Adventist church each Sabbath. The church operates universities, schools, hospitals, medical clinics, publishing houses and media centres with a missionary

presence in more than 200 countries.

Dr Barry Oliver, South Pacific Division president says, “Incorporating two of major doctrinal beliefs in our denomination’s name, ‘Seventh-day Adventist’ identifies who we are as a world church family.”

Dr Oliver wants every Seventh-day Adventist church member to commemorate the historic anniversary by seeking how they can more effectively carry out the mission of the church.



Ellen White speaking at a General Conference session in Battle Creek.

Church supports earthquake devastated city

Craig Gillis/Pablo Lillo—Christchurch, NZ

Adventist Church leaders have been urged not only to address the immediate impact of the 7.1 magnitude Christchurch earthquake—which



Two pallets of Sanitarium goods were delivered to the distribution point.

left 100,000 homes damaged—but to strengthen and support the community.

ADRA New Zealand, in partnership with the South New Zealand Conference, is encouraging church members and volunteers to community-focused action.

“We’re asking church members to look to their own neighbourhoods and communities to help those in need,” said South New Zealand conference president, Pastor Craig Gillis.

ADRA NZ has identified welfare as the top priority. Problems include a

shortage of mid and long-term accommodation for displaced families. The Pascoe Park campground, owned by the South New Zealand Conference, can offer rooms and powered caravan sites to homeless residents. “The Seventh-day Adventist Church in South New Zealand is on stand-by to help as requested with food and emergency accommodation,” Pastor Gillis said.

ADRA has committed \$NZ10,000 towards the recovery effort and is taking donations from around the world to add to this amount.

Adventist books to be placed in schools

Joe Talemaitoga—Suva, Fiji

Telecom (Fiji) and the Ministry of Education have teamed up with the Church’s publishing department to place Adventist books in 19 schools in the Eastern Division of Fiji.

The project will eventually cover schools in the Western and Northern divisions as well.

The Government’s Ministry of Education is the “driver” in this project. Telecom (Fiji) is the “provider” of funds. Home Health Education Service (HHES) is the Adventist arm that is supplying the stock.

HHES director Penioni Vula is excited by the initiative. He and his team of literature evangelists are taking Adventist publications into villages, cane fields, suburban Fiji and even into the very seat of government power. They testify of God’s leading and power.

“The books bought by Telecom will specifically address issues covering health, social science and moral

values that students and staff of government and private schools face every day,” Mr Vula said.

Budget limitations have restricted HHES’s reach into schools in Kadavu, Lau and Lomaiviti.

“God in His wisdom and timing just turned that problem on its head and brought in one of Fiji’s major corporations to place our books and message where He wants it to go,” he said.

Mr Vula said the project would be launched in the next couple of weeks.



Litia Tuilovoni looks at the large task of sorting books for Telecom.



National Tree Day

Students from Riverside Community School picked up their trowels to help their community for National Tree Day, on July 30. Students from Years 5 to 7 buddied with students from Years 1 and 2 to push the mulch away, dig down and plant the seedlings. —*Karyn Stanton (News West)*



Literature Evangelist in a wheelchair

Elizabeth Tofilau has served faithfully as a Literature Evangelist since 1989. She was Publishing leader for the Samoa mission, until she suffered a stroke but it couldn't stop her. Now confined to a wheelchair, she is still keeping in touch with a number of her customers by phone. Elizabeth has had a number of baptisms in the last couple of years and two of her customers came to church recently. —*Kevin Geelan*



Islanders build own airstrip

Merelava, an island in the Banks Islands of northern Vanuatu, celebrated as the first test flight was conducted on the island's first ever airstrip—built purely with humanpower. American pilot and Gaua-based Seventh-day Adventist Missionary doctor, known as "Dr Mark", landed successfully on the 160-metre airstrip, using the doctor's two-seater Maule aircraft. —*Colson Wari*



Rescue chopper drops in

Students at Longburn Adventist College (NZ) were surprised when the Westpac Rescue Helicopter landed on the playing field. Pilot Mike Hall was on a training flight and took the opportunity to land at LAC where his son, Zane, is a Year 12 student. Students had the opportunity to have a close look and talk to the pilot and his co-pilot. —*Bruce Sharp*



Swansong? Signs makes its mark

Five Kellyville church (Sydney) AFL football fans gave away almost 1000 copies of *Signs of the Times* to Sydney Swans fans attending the elimination final and last home game for Swans coach and 2008 Father of the Year, Paul Roos. The Kellyville team raised almost \$A500 for the cost of the magazines. (If you have a special event coming up, the past 12 months of *Signs* are available to give away. See Noticeboard) —*Lee Dunstan*



ADRA Youth ambassador

Greater Sydney Conference appointed Jeanelle Isaacs as its first Youth Ambassador for ADRA at its iGeneration fundraising concert at Sydney Adventist College on August 28. This 12 month honorary appointment will provide opportunities for her to build a team and implement some of her own creative ideas for ADRA. —*Intrasyd*



Cupcakes for kittens

Mountain View Adventist College (NSW) junior school students raised \$A500 towards the RSPCA Cupcake Day Fundraiser on August 16. Students and parents freely donated a wide variety of delicious cupcakes that were sold during college lunchtime and recess to help support the 155,000 animals that the RSPCA cares for every year. —*Michael Heath*



Sing a joyful song

Valmai Hill recently launched a compilation of children's worship songs at Avondale Primary Chapel. *Songs for Kids by Kids* is a worship resource for families, schools and churches. The songbook contains twelve original songs written by children, many of them from Avondale School. —*Susan Rogers*



Archaeology strengthens Bible

Confirming a modern-day view of Bible history, a Seventh-day Adventist archaeologist has unearthed pivotal ruins and artifacts from the 3,000-year-old Iron Age at a temple site in Ataruz (Ataroth), Jordan. Dr Lawrence Geraty pioneered the cooperation among several Adventist institutions, including Atlantic Union College, Andrews University, and La Sierra, and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Among the findings are a statue of a bull-faced god and nearly 300 vessels —*ANN*

Missionary receives honorary doctorate

Joy Butler—Michigan, United States

Helen Margaret Hall, a woman who has helped change the lives of thousands of young refugees on the border of Thailand and Burma, is now Doctor Helen Hall.

Dr Hall received her doctorate on August 1, at Andrews Adventist University, in Michigan, US. The honorary doctorate was for her work and ministry for 27 years in a remote part of the world.

Over 40 ex-students and friends from the refugee camp, now living in the US, attended the special service and spoke about Dr Hall's magnificent contribution to their lives, at a special president's luncheon held in her honour.

In 2005, Dr Hall received the Order of Australia Medal at Government House, Melbourne, Australia, and she was also honoured with the Woman of the Year award at the Association of Adventist Women convention at St Louis, US.

Dr Hall travelled from England to Nepal in 1982 and saw firsthand some of the needs of the war-torn countries and desperate people of South East Asia.

She returned to Asia and offered a year of voluntary work, taking time out from her teaching in Victoria, Australia. The year extended to 27 years and she continues to lead and teach at her Eden Valley Academy on the border. Dr Hall has 960 students enrolled for the new school year.

Every year students prepare for their external exams and many continue onto higher education in Thailand or beyond.

Every year there are baptisms and Dr Hall has seen more than 1500 of her students come to know Jesus and go on to work or ministry beyond their refugee camp.

Thousands of people live in refugee camps along the border in a narrow stretch of land designated for them. They are always in danger of attack and disaster. Dr Hall has chosen to live with and for them.

She has moved her school eight times because of unrest and fighting. The current school is made of bamboo and leaf. Tin lasts longer than leaf but makes a loud noise when the heavy rains fall and disturbs the teaching.

Donated computers are old when they arrive, teachers come and go, children get sick and die, staff leave for resettlement in the US, waters flood the school and wash away supplies, rogue elephants kill people, bullets fly overhead—but Dr Hall has always stayed on and doesn't plan to leave.



Dr Helen Hall.

A chance to meet Jesus on the bus

Adventist Review/NZ Christian Foundation/Kent Kingston

An estimated 3.25 million Auckland bus commuters will be offered their choice of a free book on a coupon printed in colour on the back of their bus ticket.

The New Zealand Christian Foundation (NZCF) has partnered with the public bus service to promote the free offer. "People love to read when travelling on buses and trains," said Joanne Davies, cofounder of NZCF.

"The first thing most people read is what is in their hand. The bus ticket is given to the commuter when they board. They often read it and respond right away. As most people now have iPads or other internet-connected handheld devices, they are easily able to redeem their free offer while travelling on the bus to their destination. The free book is sent to their address to be read in the next day or so—often on the bus."

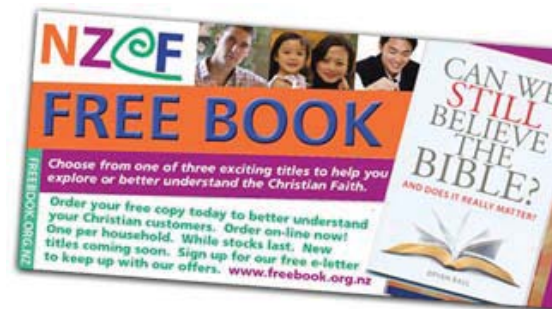
An easy-to-remember web address was purchased for the campaign and links into NZCF's website where commuters can order their free book.

The titles—all printed by Adventist publishing houses—include *Can We Still Believe the Bible?*, *The Incredible Power*

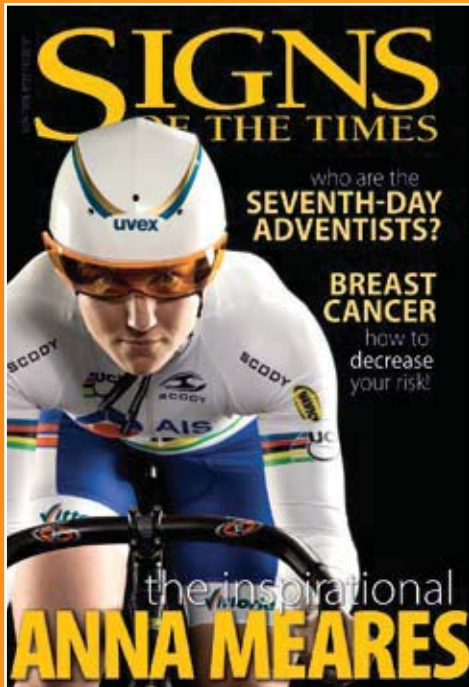
of Prayer, and *Miracle From the Streets*.

The tickets began to be used in August. Ms Davies said the response had been positive so far, with 150 requests coming in for the free books. She said the new tickets were not being used on all the buses as yet and anticipated that demand would rise as the ticket rolls are gradually replaced.

The NZCF is New Zealand's only official supporting ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It's registered with the New Zealand government as a charity, with tax-deductible status, and supports projects in the areas of education, health, humanitarian service and pastoral care. NZCF's primary goal is to reach people with no religious affiliation who are open to exploring spiritual concepts in an anonymous, no-pressure environment.



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R
NEWS

Inequality inspires international career

Braden Blyde—Wahroonga, NSW

A concern about the lack of understanding for the world's poor and marginalised inspired Harwood Lockton to pursue a career in aid work.

Now, after more than a decade's involvement, he has stepped down as ADRA Australia's international program director.

"Since teaching geography in the '70s, I've had a concern that those in rich world countries don't understand what life is like on the other side of the tracks," Mr Lockton said. "I've been fortunate to contribute to both education and action on this issue."

Before taking up the position with ADRA Australia in 2006, Mr Lockton was instrumental in establishing the International Development Studies (IDS) course at Avondale College. Here he served as an IDS and geography lecturer before becoming associate vice-president (academic) at the institution.

"I've seen a lot of changes at ADRA since becoming involved as a board member a decade ago," he said. "We've strengthened our ties with the industry regulator and cemented positive partnerships with national and international aid agencies. For a lower-midsized agency ADRA has built a strong reputation amongst the aid community."

ADRA Australia chief executive officer Jonathan Duffy said they had been blessed to have him as part of the team. "We wish him all the best as he enters into retirement, his passion will continue to be an inspiration," he said.

Although retiring, Mr Lockton will still be a voice for those in poverty around the world, presenting on behalf of ADRA, advocating for development and poverty issues, and presenting guest lectures at a number of universities.

ADRA Australia's new international program director will be Australian-born Chris Jensen, currently country director for ADRA Mongolia. Prior to his work in Mongolia, Mr Jensen has worked with ADRA Australia and ADRA PNG.

Mr Lockton holds Masters Degrees in Geography and Development Studies, in addition to a Bachelor of Science and teaching certificate. He is an active member of the Institute of Australian Geographers and continues to sit on the Australian Council for International Development's Code of Conduct Committee.



Harwood Lockton.



New ministry focus for men

Pablo Lillo—Sydney, New South Wales

The Western Australian (WA) Conference board of directors has voted to initiate a new ministry for men.

The role of the WA Adventist Men's Ministry Committee will be to act as a resource and support churches and groups who wish to reach men and change the current status to one of growth and health.

Pastor Peter Fowler, who has a keen interest in men's ministry, is confident of its success. "The initiative has the potential to become a new missional movement, which will change the male demographic of the Church," he said.

The vision for the ministry is, "for Adventist men to be leaders in their family and community, demonstrating purpose, courage and integrity by living the spiritual values of Jesus Christ," said committee secretary Danny Bell.

The concept started three years ago when a group of men sat under a tree at the WA camp to discuss how they might stem the decline of men in their churches. They felt the Church was haemorrhaging from the ever-increasing numbers of males disappearing from the local church.

A quick analysis of some congregations in WA quickly confirmed that 15

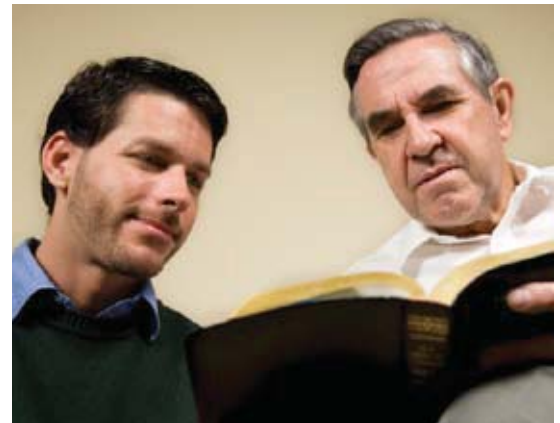
to 35 year-old-men were scarce or missing altogether.

In December 2009, the first official Men's Advisory Committee was started in WA. "We were really excited when Church administrators returned our proposal with approval to go ahead and consult with churches for implementation of our plans," Mr Bell said.

Athol Prior is one of the committee members who works with men who feel disenfranchised within traditional church settings. "It has been very encouraging to see local members catch the vision and start considering how they can make their church more men friendly," he said.

The mission of the WA Adventist Men's Ministry Committee is: To grow a diverse Adventist men's network throughout WA, and foster the accountability of church communities in ministering to men by:

1. Challenging men to use mateship and integrity in actively making a difference in the lives of others;
2. Discipling, mentoring and empowering men to re-claim their true masculine soul and biblical identity as strong and valiant men;
3. Creating awareness, educat-



ing and supporting the community in meeting the needs of men by balancing their spiritual, emotional and physical health;

4. Encouraging men to actively serve their society in practical and life-changing ways, being advocates of justice, protecting the weak, the powerless and vulnerable;

5. Seeking to connect all men to the Kingdom of God regardless of age, social status or cultural attachment; and

6. Encouraging the importance of men's relationships with their churches, communities, women and families.

The committee hopes that other conferences, unions and divisions will support the ministry model as it filters upwards.

Sanitarium opens whole health centre

Jarrod Stackelroth/Sanitarium—Sydney, NSW

Sanitarium Health and Wellbeing Company has announced a multi-million dollar commitment to health with plans to open health and wellbeing centres around Australia.

The first centre was officially opened in Pymont, NSW, in September. Sanctuary at Pymont offers general practitioners, dietitians, naturopaths, counsellors, psychologists, cooking classes, massage, skin health, and movement and exercise coaching all under the one roof.

In addition to its team of health professionals, the centre gives people the opportunity to attend seminars from world-renowned experts sharing their knowledge on healthy living.

Sanitarium CEO Kevin Jackson (pictured left) said the exciting new direction had been inspired by the company's rich heritage in health and wellbeing, and its mission to make a genuine difference to people's health.

"Within 10 years, the plan is to have a Sanctuary Health and Wellbeing Village in each major urban area around the country, and possibly in New Zealand," Mr Jackson said.

Sanitarium Health and Wellbeing Services general manager Cathy McDonald (pictured centre) said Sanctuary answered people's desire for health services that treat them as a

whole person. "The National Health and Medical Research Council's National Listening Tour uncovered a dissatisfaction with the current health services and a desire among the community for one-stop shops offering a balance of conventional and allied health services focused on wellness," she said.

Having a presence in Australia's rapidly growing wellbeing market has been researched and developed for five years.

More information at <www.record.net.au>.



Sanitarium team with Division officers, Dr Barry Oliver and CFO Rodney Brady.



Facing consequences

Three Adventist families in Botswana will continue to homeschool in defiance of a court order requiring them to send their children to public school. Despite assessments by child protection authorities that the children are well cared for and educated, the judge ruled school attendance is in the children's best interests. —*Christian Newswire*



Bells silent

It used to be said, that the only time some people set foot inside a church is when attending a wedding or funeral. But a recent survey by Australia's marriage celebrants association, found that only one in four weddings now happen in a church, with the majority occurring in non-religious settings. —*Geelong Advertiser*



Centenary celebrations

If "Mother" Teresa of Kolkata was alive today, she would be 100 this year. Her many admirers around the world have used the centenary to remember her life and work. The "Mother Express" will travel across India, carrying a mobile exhibition honouring Teresa's commitment to the poorest of the poor. —*Ecumenical News International*



Answer at hand

Would you give away your wedding ring to save a life? How about 10 lives? A thousand? In the developing world, more than 1.1 billion people are without clean drinking water, leading to diarrhoea, malnutrition and sometimes death. You may have the power to help right at your fingertips. —*www.withthisring.org*



Healthy trend

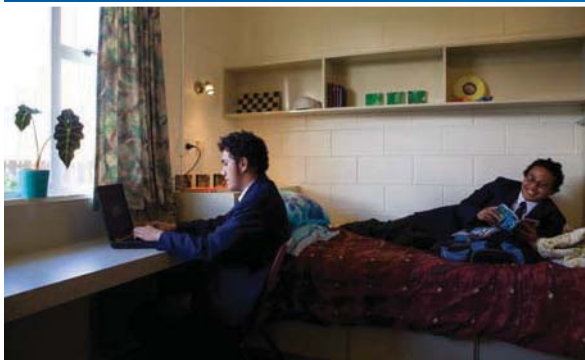
The rate of HIV infections in Papua New Guinea has plateaued, and may even be declining, say health experts. About half of all hospitals and health services in PNG are run by churches and Christian organisations play a major role in fighting the HIV/AIDS epidemic; coordinating awareness campaigns and blood testing. —*Making Health Global*



Bite the hand

Three foreign Christian aid workers assisting flood victims in Pakistan's Swat Valley are dead after being kidnapped by the Pakistani Taliban. Details of the deaths have been slow to emerge as authorities try to prevent panic among other aid workers. It's believed the workers were US citizens. —*Compass Direct News*

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Delegates decide direction

by RECORD staff

SEPTEMBER WAS THE MONTH FOR CONSTITUENCY meetings, as a number of church administration bodies met for reports and elections. The meetings provided a time to look at strategic direction for the next few years.

South Pacific Division

The first of these bodies to meet was the South Pacific Division, where 114 of the church's new executive committee members from across the South Pacific came together to complete the work of appointments from the General Conference session in June.

A new initiative announced at the meetings means seven departments will be grouped into two clusters: 1) the new Church and Community Ministries Cluster includes ADRA, Adventist Health and Global Mission with three full-time directors and associates; 2) the new Church and Life Ministries cluster with five full-time directors and associates, includes Family Ministries, Women's Ministries, Children's Ministries and Youth Ministries.

Three other departments will continue to operate as before: Education, Publishing and Field Secretary (theology).

New positions appointed at the session included Dr Malcolm Coulson (Adventist Education), Dr David Tasker (Field Secretary and Ministerial liaison), Dr Branimir Schubert (Leadership and Professional Development), Danijela Schubert (Assistant to the President) and Pastor Joseph Talipuan (Papua New Guinea Union Mission (PNGUM) president).

General secretary Lawrence Tanabose told committee members that while there are 420,844 baptised members across the South Pacific, on any given Sabbath, there are probably more than a million people attending church. However, in some places like Papua New Guinea, where there is dramatic growth, a large number of people are leaving the church as well. From a high of 5000 in 2006, there are still 3000 people per year who stop attending. Delegates stated that nurture and proper places for worship will help.

Chief financial officer (CFO) Rodney Brady reported that following many years of tithe increase, the increase has slowed in the past 12 months. Nevertheless, the total tithe being received every year is heading towards \$A100 million. On average, Australian and New Zealand members contribute about \$A1000 of tithe per baptised member each year.

Australian Union Conference

At the Australian Union Conference (AUC) meetings, Pastor Chester Stanley was re-elected by the 174 delegates. Earlier, Pastor Stanley opened the constituency meetings in Melbourne. In the opening ceremony the delegates participated in a phone hook-up with 18 Adventists who are passionate about mission in their area.

Pastor Stanley told the meeting we have much to rejoice about with God's leading. "But we cannot be comfortable with what we have done," he said. Pastor Stanley has been Union president since the inauguration of the Australian Union Conference in 2000. The vote endorsing Pastor Stanley's leadership was 152 in favour with only 8 against. General secretary Pastor Ken Vogel and CFO Kingsley Wood were also re-elected.

New Zealand Pacific Union Conference

Leaders and delegates representing the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference (NZPUC) re-elected Pastor Jerry Matthews as president for another five year term. The session was held at Tui Ridge on the North Island of New Zealand. Secretary treasurer Graeme Drinkall was also returned after serving in the role since January 2010—he replaced Peter Lynch who was called to the Victorian Conference. Leaders from French Polynesia, New Caledonia and Cook Islands Missions were also elected.

The business end of the session proved to be challenging as three departmental directors and a mission president weren't returned to office. Delegates also agreed on the re-structure of departmental roles to accommodate the needs of the constituents of the Union. The youth department was reduced to one director from two. Whereas youth and family ministries was shared, delegates decided to have family ministries as a stand-alone department. "The breakdown of families both in the Pacific and in New Zealand has necessitated the change," Pastor Matthews said.

Pastor Kendall Cobbin received affirmation as he presented his final report as ministerial association secretary. He is said to be the only departmental director in the NZPUC to have visited all the missions and conferences.

Pastor Jean-Noel Adeline and Dr Paul Siope will collectively oversee the cluster of ministries comprising Trust Services, Sabbath School, Personal Ministries, Stewardship and Ministerial Association.



OPENING HIS WORD

David McKibben

The gift of prophecy

God is the great Communicator; His desire to get in touch with His creation is part of the very essence of who He is. When Adam and Eve disobeyed God's instructions in the Garden of Eden, the privilege of face-to-face contact could not continue, but God did not give up His longing for meaningful fellowship with mankind. One way in which He spoke to people was through prophets (Hebrews 1:1).

According to the Bible, what is a prophet?

- A prophet is someone who speaks on God's behalf. **Read** Exodus 7:1, 2
- A prophet is an individual who receives a revelation from God. **Read** Numbers 12:6 and Amos 3:7
- A prophet is a person who serves as a channel through which the Holy Spirit works. **Read** 2 Peter 1:20, 21

Essentially, a prophet is someone who has received or receives a communication from God and passes on that message to others, often those who profess to be God's followers. Some of these messages were recorded for the benefit of future generations, such as the prophetic books of the Old Testament, but not all the words given to prophets were preserved in Scripture (note 1 Chronicles 29:29,30). The gift of prophecy appears in all three major lists of spiritual gifts. **Read** 1 Corinthians 12:27-31; Romans 12:4-8; Ephesians 4:11-13

According to Ephesians 4:13, what is the purpose of prophecy in line with the other spiritual gifts?

- To equip God's people for service.
- To produce unity and increasing knowledge of Jesus within the church.
- To develop mature believers who reflect Jesus in their lives.

Prophecy has played a vital role in God's dealings with mankind in the past, and it continues to occupy an important position in the Christian church. Indeed, the apostle Paul regarded prophecy as one of the most significant spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 14:5).

Pastor David McKibben is ministerial secretary for the South Australian Conference.



HEALTH WISE

Dr James Wright

Q: Is there a simple remedy for sore eyes. I spend hours every day at a keyboard and screen?

A: Eyes blink less often when working a keyboard and staring at a screen. So the eye surface rapidly dries causing discomfort. Consciously blink more often, when a thin film of your own tears rehydrates the eye surface bringing relief. Alternately, splash tap-water into the face and eyes. Or instil "Liquid tears" (chemist). Use the little bubble which will last a whole day. Avoid air conditioners which suck moisture from the air, and this aggravates. Do not sit facing heaters.

Q: Is it too late or worthwhile having the swine flu vaccination?

A: Possibly the most rapidly produced new flu vaccine after the swine flu hit the world, use of H1N1 vaccine has now virtually bombed. Fortunately, swine flu never developed into a major deadly pandemic which many feared. It was a very mild form. Vast numbers were infected, few developed symptoms, and only a minority died, usually from pneumonia as a complication. But it is available free of charge, and offers protection. Make sure you receive the annual Fluvax which covers many other related flu viruses.

MY STORY

I met Rachel O'Dea while in Christchurch, New Zealand, reporting on the 7.1 magnitude earthquake that hit at 4:30am on September 4.

Rachel tells of her house shaking violently and the earth rumbling like a freight train hurtling towards her. Rachel says she lay in bed in the dark—clinging to her husband for dear life. "I wasn't sure what was before us, whether we were going to live or die," she says. "I thought it was the end of the world. As I lay screaming, crying and experiencing a mixture of emotions, I cried out to God to save us as the earth threatened to swallow us alive."

Through the destruction and fear, Rachel never stopped believing in God's love, His grace and care for her family. "I'm aware we're living in the last days of earth, as the Bible speaks of earthquakes and destruction."

Rachel is a relatively new Adventist who came across the gospel message in a bin full of second-hand books. She had visited a Salvation Army second-hand clothing store in Christchurch, and found a *Revelation Speaks Prophecy Seminar Manual* by Pastor Mark Finley. After reading the manual, Rachel was convicted of the Sabbath and started searching for a Sabbath-keeping church.

"I went straight to the *Yellow Pages* and the internet. I finally came across the Seventh-day Adventist Church—a Sabbath-keeping Church."

After attending *Amazing Discovery* lectures and then Bible studies by Pastor James Toogood, Rachel gave her life to God and was baptised.

Even though the earthquake has left Rachel and her family shaken, her faith in God is still strong. "I haven't left home for weeks, as I'm afraid of the aftershocks," she says. "I leave my life in God's hands. My teenage son is not sleeping in his own bed. In the evening we can't go to sleep until he has fallen asleep in our bed. But I know God is looking after us. Yes, I live in fear, but I have the assurance of Salvation."—Pablo Lillo





Free at last

by Jarrod Stackelroth

RECENTLY WENT TO TASMANIA FOR THE FIRST TIME. A land of contrasts, we saw sun, rain and snow. We walked through the temperate rainforests on the Gordon River and gazed upon the man-ravaged landscape of Queenstown in the wet, rugged vastness of the wild West coast. It was there I heard some of the tortured history of the island and gained some insights into the human condition.

On a cruise from Strahan into the Macquarie Harbour, we were taken to Sarah Island. According to our tour guide, it was one of the harshest convict camps in Australia's history. The government sent the worst criminals there—those who escaped or reoffended in captivity.

Life was brutal. Floggings were frequent. It was also surrounded by thick, inhospitable rainforest and you had to cross the mountains to get to anywhere civilised. The best way to escape was by boat but there was nowhere to go. One of the most infamous escapees was a convict by the name of Alexander Pearce, who escaped twice and, in the inhospitable wilderness, resorted to cannibalism of his fellows. He eventually got the rope (see Galatians 5:15).

Men in the camp were known to kill others and then repent before hanging, to escape through death. They longed for freedom. Exiled, flogged and abused for their past, they were forever trapped by their crimes.

In 1833, Sarah Island camp was finally shut down. Before the last 10 convicts and their guards could leave they had to finish building the ship they were working on. When they had finished and before the ship had even left the harbour, the prisoners mutinied and cast off their guards, setting them down on dry land and giving them food to eat. Then they set sail in the open seas. Australia was no place for an escaped convict, so they continued until they arrived in Chile. They travelled more than 11,000 kilometres, through some of the roughest oceans on the planet.

What possesses us as human beings to strive so hard for freedom? We hate being constrained—and yet we are slaves to our work, slaves to our schedule, to technology, to

fashion, family, tradition, study, culture, even church. All of these things can combine to weigh us down. We are slaves to the things that define us and a common theme in Paul's writings is that we are slaves to sin. Timothy Keller in his book *The Reason for God* (2008) says, "sin is not simply doing bad things, it is putting good things in the place of God". The reality of this is that things that we focus on can end up enslaving us. Unlike the convicts, we are in a voluntary state of slavery. Worshipping God—putting Him first—returns us to our intended state. Galatians 5:1 says, "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free." Notice that it is for freedom's sake that He has done it. Nothing else in this life that we strive after can give us that freedom.

The convicts made pleasant lives for themselves in Chile, until a cruising British naval vessel stopped in for supplies. The men were recognised and dragged back for trial. Instead of being hung for mutiny and piracy, they argued the ship had never been named and never left the harbour. A technicality but they escaped the hangman's noose. They had, however, returned to captivity.

There is no technicality that can set us free. We have to make a choice. Who or what will we serve? The verse continues, "Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery (Galatians 5:1)."

It is our choice to keep ourselves from behaviours that bring us back under the yoke of sin. Our focus should be on God (First Commandment) and we will stay reclaimed. Then we must share with others the freedom we take for granted. That is what Jesus would have us do (and did). "You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. The entire law is summed up in a single command: 'Love your neighbour as yourself'." (Galatians 5:13–14) Living and serving with genuine love proves we have something different, something others might want. His is the only way we can be free indeed. R

Jarrod Stackelroth is assistant editor of RECORD.

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OPINION

Litiana Turner

Remember and obey

Reading my Bible recently I came across a subheading in Deuteronomy 8, "A call to remember and obey". What a difficult charge to follow. Let me be quite frank, for most of us it's really hard to follow instructions. Is it because we're "Children of Israelitish"?

Before you Google the word—I want you to know I made it up—at least I thought I had. Google tells me the word "Israelitish" means belonging to the tribes of Israel. Yet, when I wrote this word down in my prayer journal, I actually meant we exhibit the same attitudes as the children of Israel towards God. A know-it-all mindset, combined with a healthy dose of doubt, some forgetfulness and a round of good old-fashioned pride. Sometimes, this is what I see in myself—"children of Israelitishness".

Have you ever wondered how they could have been so ungrateful towards Yahweh? Think about it; they were slaves for 400 years, they were freed by an Almighty God, they faced an insurmountable ocean—so God parted the Red Sea.

They were hungry so God rained down manna from heaven. God home delivered the quail, their shoes didn't have to be repaired for 40 years and their clothes didn't wear out. But that's not all. God also invented the original GPS—God Positioning System.

Whenever He wanted them to move, wherever He wanted them to go, a cloud by day or a pillar of fire by night—God led them. The question I need to ask is—why did Moses feel it necessary to tell them to remember and obey?

We're all forgetful. Your place of birth, gender, socio-economic background or standing in church doesn't disqualify you from failing to remember. When you forget to tell your children what God has done for you, your children will not know Him or call on Him in time of need.

Reading my Bible recently I came across a subheading in Deuteronomy 8, "A call to remember and obey". Is it so difficult for us to do? Now, where are our children?

Litiana Turner is author of Kids' Space and serves as associate youth and children's ministries director for the South Pacific Division.

OPINION POLL

Is regular church attendance important to your salvation?

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| Essential | 37% |
| Very important | 16% |
| Somewhat important | 15% |
| Not important | 32% |

Next Poll

Do men today neglect their spiritual responsibilities at home and church?

Yes No

Please visit <record.net.au> to answer this poll.



Food rules: a guide to mindful eating

“Eat food, not too much, mostly plants”—that’s the philosophy of internationally acclaimed author and journalist Michael Pollan. Pollan always has something interesting to say when it comes to food and healthy living, and he has shared some of his views in his latest book *Food Rules*. His new book seeks to answer the questions “what should we eat, and how should we be eating it?” Especially interesting are the adages from mothers, grandmothers, nutritionists and anthropologists. Here are some of those insights: What we should eat:

Eat food: Pollan’s first rule. By this he means we should try and eat foods that are unprocessed and as close to their natural state as possible. “Don’t eat anything that your great-grandmother wouldn’t recognise as food.”

Eat mostly plants: In order to live happily and healthily, a message throughout Pollan’s book is to eat mostly plant foods and (if you eat meat) to treat meat as a flavouring or a special occasion food. He recommends basing most of what we eat on plant foods, especially green leafy vegetables because they reduce the risk of chronic disease and can help us live longer. He says eating foods that stand on one leg (mushrooms, broccoli, spinach, etc) is better than eating what stands on two (chicken) or four legs (cows, pigs).

How to eat: How we eat is just as important as the foods

we choose to put on our plate and in our mouths.

Enjoy the meal: Pollan recommends spending as much time eating the meal as it takes to prepare, because it honours the care taken to cook the food and helps us savour each bite, making us less likely to overeat.

Cook: Cooking for yourself is the only way to be sure of what is in your food and how it’s being processed. Also, if you cook at home, you’re less likely to rely on takeaway meals and more likely to eat healthy meals.

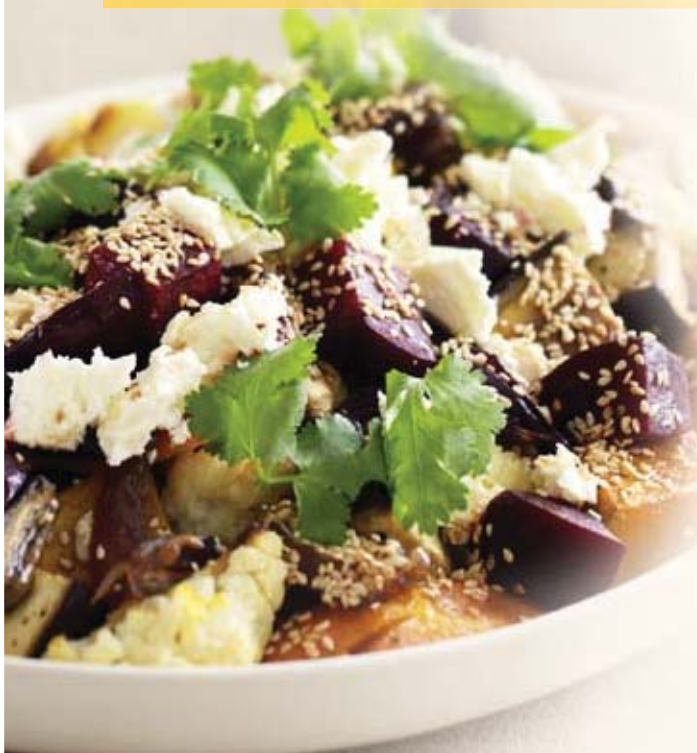
Not all of us may be able to eat the way Pollan describes all of the time—sometimes convenience is a necessity. His rules for eating are not strict and steadfast—they’re simple, guiding principles teaching people to eat healthily, dine happily and live well.

If you would like to take on some of Michael Pollan’s suggestions, we have some great recipes in our FREE cookbook, *Food for Health and Happiness*. If you would like to speak with one of our dietitians about how to focus on plant foods for better health, call 1800 673 392 (Australia) or 0800 100 257 (New Zealand). Alternatively, email us with a nutrition question at <nutrition@sanitarium.com.au> (Australia) or <nutrition@sanitarium.co.nz> (New Zealand). We’d love to hear from you! And don’t forget to order your FREE copy of *Food for Health and Happiness* cookbook—it has plenty of delicious and nutritious recipes. Order online or by calling during business hours.



RECIPE

Baked vegetables with dates and fetta—gluten free



- 2 whole beetroot
- 1 eggplant, chopped into 2 cm pieces
- 6 fresh dates, stoned and quartered
- 100g reduced fat feta cheese
- 2 tablespoons toasted sesame seeds
- 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar or glaze
- 4 carrots, sliced 1 cm thick on diagonal
- 1 kg pumpkin, skinned and cut into 4cm pieces
- 2 red onions, cut into wedges
- ½ cauliflower, broken into florets
- ¼ teaspoon ground black pepper
- ¼ cup coriander leaves

Preheat oven to 200°C.

1. Wrap beetroot in foil and bake for 45 minutes.
2. Put the onions, carrots, eggplant, cauliflower and pumpkin in a large wide shallow baking dish. Add oil, season and toss so the oil lightly coats the vegetables. Bake for 35 minutes or until vegetables are tender.
3. Remove from the oven, peel beetroot and cut into chunks. Place the vegetables in a large serving bowl. Drizzle with balsamic glaze and toss lightly. Place dates and fetta on top, sprinkle with sesame seeds and coriander.

Serves 6.

Preparation time: 15 minutes. Cooking time: 80 minutes.

PER SERVE: 1000kJ; Protein 12g; Total Fat 12g; Saturated Fat 3g; Carbohydrate 25g; Total Sugars 20g; Sodium 235mg; Potassium 1130mg; Calcium 155mg; Iron 2.5mg; Fibre 8g.



HIS-tory
changes her
story



by Rebecca Summers

DON'T REMEMBER IF I WAS AN INQUISITIVE CHILD. I don't know what made me want to choose the path that I followed.

All I know is I loved history, and I couldn't imagine doing something if it didn't involve the past. When I finished school I decided to study the Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Sydney, taking Classical Archaeology and Greek and Roman Literature as my majors. I graduated with Honours in Classical Archaeology, and after pondering what to do next, I enrolled in the Master of Museum Studies degree.

The Museum—what a great way to experience history. I learned many things while studying for these two degrees; some principles that were applied to these fields of study I found became fundamental to my view of things in general. Mostly the idea that nothing can be considered true or fact if there was not the evidence to back it up. When dealing with events and ideas of the past, a theory could become nothing more than that—a theory—unless there was good, solid evidence to support its existence.

Christianity and God fell into this category. It was based on a book that no-one could prove was true and those who followed were being misled by blind faith. I never really had a negative view of Christianity—I just didn't think it was relevant to my life.

Everything changed when I met my boyfriend. He was a Christian, but that didn't bother me. I always had the "as long as you don't bother me with it, I don't mind what you do" attitude. I soon found out he didn't. He wanted to share his beliefs with the world, including me. I agreed to go to church with him to see what it was about—to look into it—to see if there was any firm proof of the belief in God or the Bible.

To my surprise there was an abundance. Was the Bible to be considered a historical document, just the same as the ones I had studied at university? No it wasn't. The evidence alone for the reliability for the Bible was staggering. No other ancient book in the world can be found so complete and coherent. Slowly but surely I was convinced this was no ordinary book.

As I began to look into the Bible, I was amazed by the prophecies of Daniel—there was everything I had studied, everything that I knew as fact presented in the Bible hundreds of years before they happened. As I looked more and

more into the archaeology of different parts and events in the Bible—my eyes were opened. By now I was assured of the Bible's reliability and I was now in what I thought was a difficult position. I had to consider how all of this would affect my life. Did I believe the historical events in the Bible were true and accurate? Yes I did. Did I believe Jesus Christ was a real living person as portrayed in the Bible? Yes I did.

By this time I was going to church, but I wasn't enjoying it. I didn't feel the joy or peace that other Christians felt and I knew something was missing. Why was I doing this? To find the truth was my logical response. But I didn't know what to do with this new found truth. I had to take a few steps back to see what I really wanted. As I began to

reflect on my journey and look into my heart, church started to become a positive experience. I was a Christian but I was not misled; my faith was based on firm evidence and I was now willing to stand up for it.

I decided to be baptised after witnessing some other baptisms I had been invited to. Throughout my journey I knew I would have to make that choice. It took me two and-a-half years to come to that moment,

but I knew that I was doing the right thing and that it was the right time. Whether I had recognised it at the time or not, God had led me to that exact moment. He had used my love of history to connect with me and had placed me in that exact time and place to help me make my stand for Him.

Just this week I was on the bus on my way home. My mind began to wander and before I realised I was pondering questions of the eternal nature of God and wondering how something can be without beginning or end. I looked up at the clouds and saw what looked like two large arms outstretched with open hands ready to receive a smaller figure reaching out to it. Though it was overcast, the sun just shone through in the space between the two. I smiled and felt at peace. Yes, there is a God. We don't need to understand everything about Him. All that matters is that He is there and He is always ready to answer those who reach out to Him. Whether it is through archaeology, the earth or the clouds in the sky, evidence for God is there for those who want to find it.



Rebecca Summers attends Parramatta church, NSW, where she was recently baptised.

Was the Bible to be considered a historical document, just the same as the ones I had studied at university? No it wasn't.



Why men hate church

by Bonita Joyner Shields

WHEN MY PASTOR AND GOOD FRIEND, DAVE, gave me a book to read several months ago, he told me I probably wouldn't like it. He was right.

I must say that the author makes some very good points, which I try to keep in mind as in my local church I minister as an elder of spiritual formation. And I agree with his conclusion. However, I don't agree with how he got there.

David Murrow's book, *Why Men Hate Going to Church*, postulates about how churches must do more to attract men. Although church leadership is dominated by males, he believes that the church has done little to attract men to the larger church body—at least real men. "Most men who like today's church style are passive."¹

He goes on to describe the reasons why he believes men are turned off by church. One reason is that he believes a person must be able to speak, read and pray out loud in church, and "the average man is not going to be as good at that as most women."² A second reason is that he believes the methodology, such as having a classroom experience for Bible study and the whole "learning process", attracts more women than men. And another reason is that we use feminine metaphors for the Christian walk. "In the last 50 years, the dominant metaphor used to describe the Christian life has been 'a personal relationship with Jesus Christ'. Jesus' command was not to 'have a personal relationship with me', but to 'follow me'. Men can handle that."³


So, according to Murrow, men don't like church because they can't read well, speak well, pray well, learn well or love well. If I was a man, I think I would be offended by that picture of my gender.

I'm sure there are men who do not do these things well, as there are women. But to think that all men want their church decorated with trophy bucks, camping equipment and can endure only a 10-minute sermon seems a little

short-sighted to me. Sure, if we want to attract only that segment of the male population, it's a good plan. But to say that that's why men in general aren't coming to church seems quite shallow to me.

I think there's an element missing from this equation, and it has to do with the great controversy. "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms" (Ephesians 6:12).

I believe, as many of you do, that Satan is working extra hard in these last days to take as many people with him as he can. We can see this in how he targets children through abuse and exploitation, wounding many physically, emotionally and spiritually for life. We see it in how the family is being hit and torn apart. And I believe we see it in how men—husbands and fathers—are being led to believe that church is irrelevant to their lives.

I agree with the author that we must keep asking the question, "What can we do to attract more men?" All types. We can do more; we know that women outnumber men in church attendance. But we must also be cognisant of the deeper issue going on. I do not believe that "men hate church" because the church is too feminine, pastors are sissies, and men's learning capabilities and attention spans are smaller than women's. Men have an awesome spiritual responsibility to God and their families—and to themselves. And Satan will do all in his power to make them shirk that responsibility—even by making them believe the community called church that can help them grow spiritually is only for women and passive men. 

¹"Too Few Good Men," an interview with David Murrow, *Leadership*, Winter 2006, p. 17.

²Ibid.

³Ibid.

Bonita Joyner Shields, a former assistant editor of the *Adventist Review*, is the editor of *Cornerstone Connections*.

LETTERS

HEAL BROKEN HEART

Vilma Golstajn, NSW

I am sorry to read Wally Curtis (Letters, August 28) had such a sad experience with his church brothers and sisters in Western Australia. Please Wally, look at Jesus—He also was deserted when in need by His dear friends. Perhaps this experience can be turned to good. This could become your very own mission project in helping families in need. How will you do it? How will you manage? Only God can answer these questions. He will direct your paths. I also pray that God will send friends that you can rely on in time of need and to help you heal your broken heart.

BATTED NOT AN EYELID

Greig Lipman, QLD

Dear editor, your story on Mr Fox (Editorial, August 28) and the obituary to Pastor Pietz (Noticeboard) prompted me to share the following:

Pastor Pietz, like your Mr Fox, turned us to Jesus. In 1975 he would come every week to our home to study with us. We would sit there and roll our cigarettes and blow smoke all over him. And then we began to feel a bit inhibited about it so we would roll them before he came so we wouldn't distract him. I think of the headaches he must have experienced because I experience them now when I am within cooee of smoke, but he batted not an eyelid, said not a word. He just accepted us. We experienced the love and acceptance of God through him and I remember feeling an enormous warmth towards Pastor Pietz because he accepted us. There was forgiveness in his eyes.

NOT GOOD ENOUGH

Name withheld, New Zealand

Thank you Pastor Gallaher for reminding me of my own journey in "Not holy enough" (Feature, August 28).

I too have been angry and critical of my pastors. I have never been happy with their approach to ministry and preaching. Every time I walked out the church to shake hands at the door, I would make negative comments on the theme of the day and the way it was presented. I've been critical because the sermons haven't been about our 28 fundamentals and the solid truth we hold as a Church.

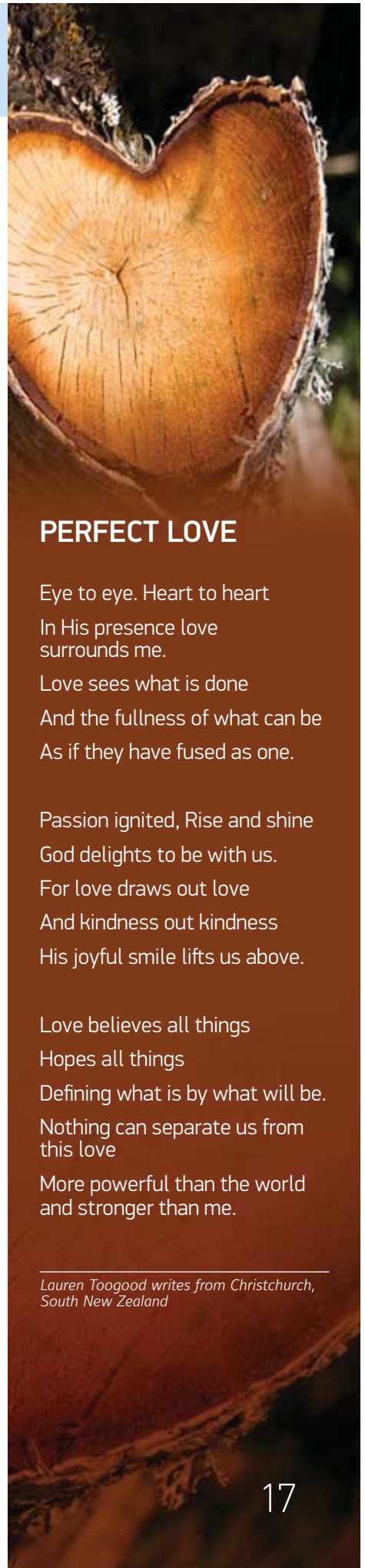
After reading the article, I realised my anger was due to my own insecurity. I had always questioned my own salvation. I was never good enough. So I became a strict vegetarian and obsessive Sabbath keeper. I constantly criticised non-vegetarians and those who didn't dress accordingly for church.

As a consequence my pastor was not good enough. His sermons were not good enough. His wife and children were in my radar.

I have asked my pastor to visit me weekly to open the Scriptures so I can have a greater understanding of God's love and care towards me. I love reading Romans 8:28-39, where it says that nothing can separate us from the love of God. My greatest fear.

For too long I have been critical of my church, it's time to make amends. I need to apologise to the many I have offended and hurt. The pastor I have criticised for so long, forgave me immediately. Praise the Lord for godly leaders.

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 2 for contact details.



PERFECT LOVE

Eye to eye. Heart to heart

In His presence love surrounds me.

Love sees what is done

And the fullness of what can be
As if they have fused as one.

Passion ignited, Rise and shine

God delights to be with us.

For love draws out love

And kindness out kindness

His joyful smile lifts us above.

Love believes all things

Hopes all things

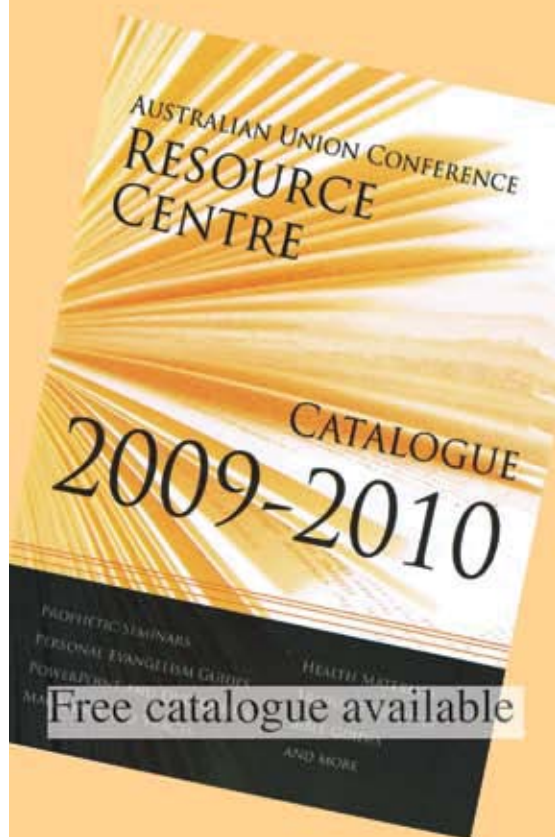
Defining what is by what will be.

Nothing can separate us from
this love

More powerful than the world
and stronger than me.

Lauren Toogood writes from Christchurch, South New Zealand

Resources for sharing the gospel message



BIBLE SEMINARS - BIBLE
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289 Maroondah Highway,
Ringwood Victoria 3134
Phone: (03) 9871 7592
Email: resources@adventist.org.au



RECORD REWIND

Lester Devine

Ellen White's dentist

One of New Zealand's earliest Adventists, Margaret Caro, lived in Napier where her husband practised medicine. While never an Adventist, Dr J Selig Caro was cordial to the members of the young congregation his dentist wife, Dr Margaret Caro, had joined. As a physician, Dr Selig was highly regarded and is remembered as the first to introduce anti-toxin to New Zealand.

A woman of great faith and courage, Margaret Caro provided hospitality for Ellen White on several occasions—and once travelled 10 hours by train to Wellington to extract all eight of Ellen's remaining teeth—without anaesthetic because the patient was allergic to the medication! The experience was also hard on Dr Caro who was exhausted afterwards, so leaving her resting in a chair, Mrs White got up and provided her with refreshments. Without any teeth, Mrs White then focused on writing and after two months Dr Caro fitted her with dentures.



Dr Margaret Caro.

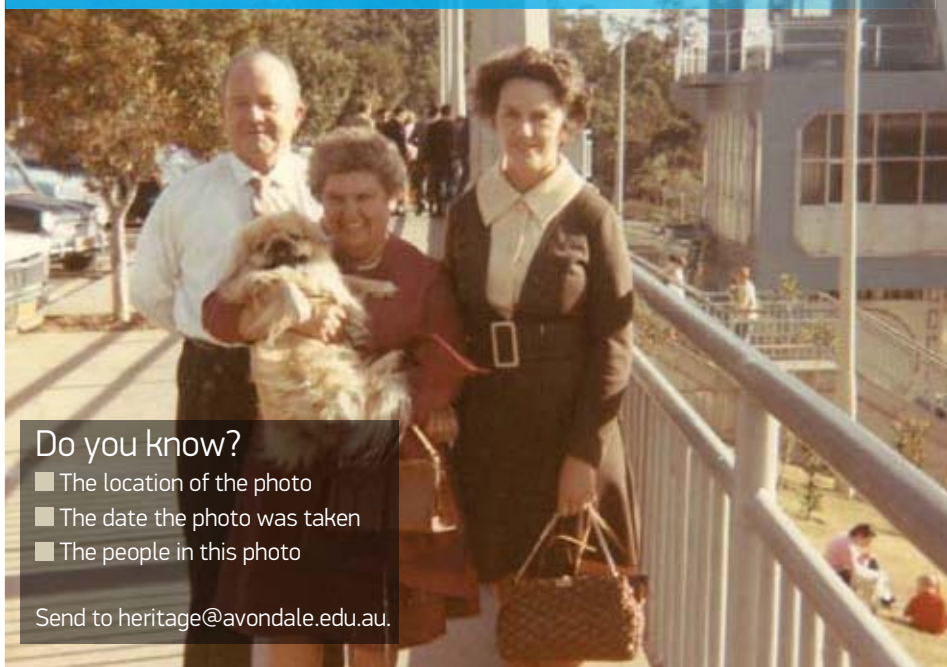
After Dr Selig died, his wife gave up her 25 year career as a dentist, went to Avondale College for a year and studied under W. W. Prescott who was the principal there. She became a Bible worker before going to her rest in her 90th year on June 30, 1938—outliving her husband by some 32 years.

Her sons, Edgar, a physician, and Eric, a dentist, were both strongly involved in health reform issues. Edgar was one of the early doctors at the then new Sydney Sanitarium, while Eric practiced dentistry in Napier until he lost everything in the 1931 earthquake which destroyed the city. He then relocated to Wellington and set up a new practice there with his mother spending her final years in Wellington as a consequence.

My mother, as a child, remembered Dr Caro in her later years attending church in Napier each week—and being greatly impressed as a 10-year-old when she complimented her on her new hat and coat just before church; Dr Caro noticing what she was wearing—on Sabbath no less!

Dr Lester Devine is director emeritus of the Ellen G White Seventh-day Adventist Research Centre.

MYSTERY HISTORY



Do you know?

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

Send to heritage@avondale.edu.au.

Kids' Space

Ia Orana⁺ KIDS



In Acts 18 we read a story about **A** _____ and his wife _____. They lived in Italy in a city called _____. They moved to _____ where they opened their home to _____ who was there to preach the gospel. The three of them were _____ makers and they lived together for one and a half years. _____ and _____ served _____ by sharing their home with him.



Help Paul find his way to Aquila and Priscilla



Bible Text

"Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality."

Romans 12:13

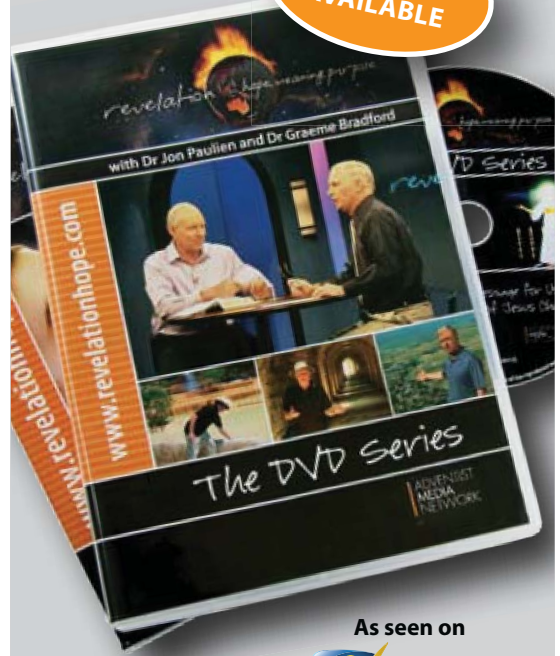
Gracelink Message

I serve God when I invite others into my home.

**Hello in Tahitian*



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SNAP SHOT

with Dr Barry Oliver



Why our church is special (Part 4)

Our vision in the South Pacific Division is to be a Church that knows experiences and shares our **hope** in Jesus Christ. **Hope** is the currency of the Church. We sing, "We have this hope that dwells within our hearts"; we speak of the "blessed **hope**"; we treasure a passage like Romans 5:1,2: "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ through whom also we have access into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in **hope** of the glory of God." Our Church is special because within its community of faith there is **hope**.

That **hope** does not arise in the first place from anything we have or bring. It is grounded in Christ Jesus. Without Him and His life, death, resurrection and heavenly ministry, all on our behalf, there is no **hope**. There is no **hope** in the assumption that we came into existence through the coincidental meeting of random atoms and molecules over aeons of time. There is no **hope** in the accumulation of wealth and prestige which can disappear at the whim of a stockmarket or a newspaper headline. There is **hope** only in the certainty of salvation by grace through faith in Christ Jesus. We are a community of **hope**.

Where would we be without **hope**? What would today be like? What would be our view of tomorrow? I thank God for the **hope** that is in our hearts. I thank God for each of you. This is our family of **hope**: our Church.

Dr Barry Oliver is president of the South Pacific Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.



WHY I BECAME AN ADVENTIST

From missiles to Bibles

Alex Grinev

As an 18-year-old soldier in the USSR Army, my main responsibility was to look after a missile pointed at New Zealand, as they were on Russia's target list. I worked very hard for the Russian communist government and it paid off. When Gorbachev came into power, I became a communist.

I was interested in history, religion and literature so I read widely. I visited different churches, wanting to get a historical and cultural point of view—a very dangerous exercise during communism.

I was at the peak of my curiosity in religion when my wife and I bought tickets to an evangelistic campaign by Pastor Mark Finlay. I was interested to hear what a Western evangelist could offer a 28-year-old high ranking officer committed to communism.

During the campaign we were given our own Bible. It slowly became the source of truth for my wife and I. It was during the meetings that I encountered the love of Jesus—Pastor Finley brought Him to life. I was baptised during the campaign in a Moscow swimming pool. On the day of my baptism I immediately stopped smoking and my life changed for the better.

In 1996, my wife and I decided we needed a fresh start for our family so we chose to move to Christchurch—the country I was ready to bomb.

My Church

We joined the Bishopdale church and felt welcomed. But I felt restless. I sensed God calling me to work with the Russian community in Christchurch. They haven't been easy to work with, as they are mostly educated atheists who are skeptical about religion.

So we were able to start a Russian speaking group that meets at Bishopdale church. Our progress has been slow. We meet regularly in people's homes for small group Bible study. We eat together, talk, laugh and share our lives with each other. My wife and other ladies have started running women's events for Russian women living in Christchurch.

God has been great—we've had baptisms and have 20 people attending church regularly. When we run special events up to 50 visitors attend. I'm grateful to Pastor James Toogood and the Bishopdale church for allowing us to worship in Russian—yet be part of the one church.



NOW & THEN



Ref: Joshua Project



POSITIONS VACANT

■ **Hope Channel Broadcast Coordinator—Adventist Media Network (Wahroonga, NSW)** is seeking a full-time broadcast coordinator based at the Wahroonga office in NSW, working with the Hope Channel ministry. Some travel will be required but this is not expected to be extensive. This is an important position and requires a person with a broad range of skills. The successful applicant will ideally have skills and experience in: audio and video workflows and processes; broadcast infrastructure, particularly as that relates to the South Pacific Islands; training users of audio and video technology in new systems; project management and the delivery of complex projects in a wide variety of circumstances. The successful applicant will hold suitable qualifications or have equivalent experience in similar roles. Commitment to quality and service, together with a respect for Christian values and ethics, are essential. For further information contact Calvin Dever on (02) 9847 2222 or email <kalvin@adventistmedia.org.au>. Applications in writing should be forwarded to: Calvin Dever, Corporate Services Director, Adventist Media Network, PO Box 1115, Wahroonga, NSW 2076. Applications close **October 25, 2010**.

■ **Hope Channel Public Relations and Administrative Assistant—Adventist Media Network (Wahroonga, NSW)** is seeking a full-time public relations and administrative assistant based at the Wahroonga office in NSW, working with the Hope Channel ministry. This is an important position and requires a person with a broad range of skills. The successful applicant will ideally have skills and experience in providing friendly, professional customer service to web and telephone enquiries; developing a support base for Hope Channel through a variety of public relations activities and events; preparation and coordination of Hope Channel marketing materials; writing stories for publication on the Hope Channel website and in other Hope Channel newsletters. The successful applicant will hold suitable qualifications or have equivalent experience in similar roles. Commitment to quality and service, together with a respect for Christian values and ethics, are essential. For further information contact: Calvin Dever on (02) 9847 2222 or email <kalvin@adventistmedia.org.au>. Applications in writing should be forwarded to Calvin Dever, Corporate Services Director, Adventist Media Network, PO Box 1115, Wahroonga, NSW 2076. Applications close **October 15, 2010**.

■ **Principal—Riverside Adventist Christian School (Townsville, Qld)**. This is a leadership/teaching position in a growing school. The school is located beside the Ross River in Townsville and has several new facilities including a refurbished administration area. Essential criteria: applicants should be practising Seventh-day Adventists who are committed to the ministry of Adventist education. Enquiries and expressions of interest and resumes should be forwarded to Rob Randall, education director, at <robertrandall@adventist.org.au>.

■ **House Parents—Currawah Adventist Aboriginal College**. The position of boarding residence house parents to both girls and boys located at Currawah Adventist Aboriginal College will be available from January 2011. The role will include taking alternate care of girls and boys in a boarding residence setting, plus supervision of students at meal times, after school and weekend hours. Preference given to couples who are able to provide culturally sensitive management and activity skills. For further information and criteria contact Pastor Murray Chapman, ATSIM director, North NSW Conference Seventh-day Adventist Church, PO Box 7, Wallsend, NSW 2287 or email <murraychapman@adventist.org.au>. Applications close **November 1, 2010**.

For more employment options, go to
<adventistemployment.org.au>



POSITIONS VACANT

■ **Stock Controller/Data Entry Clerk—Signs Publishing Company (Warburton, Vic)**. A person is required to fulfil the role of stock controller/data entry clerk for the Pacific Islands. This job would involve keeping track of and ordering stock for ABCs in Samoa, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Tahiti, New Caledonia and Fiji. This is a part-time position of approximately 24 hours per week. Skills required: excellent data entry skills; knowledge of Microsoft Office; and excellent communication skills. This job is based in the Publishing Department of the South Pacific Division at Signs Publishing Company in Warburton. Please post or email your CV to John Brereton, PO Box 201, Warburton, Vic., 3799 or email <johnbrereton@adventist.org.au>.

WEDDINGS

Mitchell-Rosenberg. Benjamin James Mitchell, son of Philip and Julie Mitchell (Adelaide, SA), and Tamara Lyn Rosenberg, daughter of Lyndon Rosenberg (Melton, Vic) and Lynelle Packer (Middleton, SA), were married 11.4.10 at Morphett Vale church.

Nigel Ackland

Parker-Hamilton. Matthew Parker, son of Jeff and Robyn Parker (Newcastle, NSW), and Rebekah Hamilton, daughter of Doug and Glenda Hamilton (Grafton), were married 27.6.10 beside beautiful Lake Macquarie at Rathmines. Matthew and Rebekah met at a Bible camp run by North NSW Youth Ministries.

Jeff Parker

Simpson-Lee. Brendan Karl Simpson, son of Kerry and Kim Simpson, and Kacey Anne Lee, daughter of Grahame and Jennifer Lee, were married 27.2.10 at Park Beach, Coffs Harbour, NSW. May God bless this new family.

Sally Hall-Watson

OBITUARIES

Alsop, Clifford Laurence, born 23.6.1920 at Beechworth, Vic; died 31.5.10 at Box Hill. On 4.2.1947, he married Pearl Deacon. He is survived by his wife; his sons and their wives, Bruce and Pam (Ferny Creek), Trevor and Tina (Emerald), Russell and Shirley (Wandin); his grandchildren and partners, Jacquie and Taz, Lisa and Graeme, Tim, Sara and Greg, Jordan and Janelle; his great-grandchildren, Reef, Areia, Solana, Talia and Bailey. Cliff was very clever mechanically and loved his Fords.

Ross Miller, Morrie Krieg

Brooking, Peter Keith, born 15.3.1989 at Lower Hutt, NZ; died 3.6.10 at home, Lower Hutt.

He is survived by his parents John and Julie; and siblings, Lauren, Stephen and Brendon. Despite his daily struggles with life, Peter exhibited flashes of brilliance and giftedness. Peter's puns will bring a smile for years to come as will his thoughtful photos of the natural world. A son, grandson, nephew, brother and friend at peace. "Just sleeping ... sleep now."

Jake Ormsby, Roger Lang, Mel Sergeant, Laurie Lane, Ken Curtis

Cook, Carmen Jacqueline (nee Kong), born 25.9.1925 in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago; died 15.7.10 in Nowlanvil Nursing Home, Ipswich, Qld. On 1.6.1944, she married Pastor William Percy Cook, who predeceased her in 2002. She is survived by Clem (UK), Ben (Lismore, NSW) and Warner (Ipswich, Qld). A Christian woman who always cared about others, Carmen lived a lifetime of giving and caring.

Francis Pule, Alec Gazsik Bob Possingham

Eastwood, Raymonde Paulette, born 1.10.1918 in New Caledonia; died 12.6.10 in Norfolk Island Hospital. Paulette is survived by her beloved extended family, Barry and Ina Boniface, Diane, Wayne, Denise and Maree; and five grandchildren. Paulette moved to Norfolk Island in 1950 where she married Cecil Eastwood, who predeceased her in 2000. She was a delightful French lady who blessed us all with her bright personality and caring nature. She is sadly missed by her own and church family. Paulette trusted firmly in Jesus and we look forward to seeing her again when our Saviour returns.

Mike Browning

Ellis, Ronald Henry, born 17.7.1923 at Preston, Vic; died 23.4.10 at Wodonga. On 20.12.1950, he married Nell Mounsey, who predeceased him in 2008. He is survived by his

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brother, Albert and his family (Templestowe); his children and their families, Ronald and Annette (Williamstown), Ruth and John Rawson (Albury, NSW); his grandchildren, Louisa, Nathan, Gemma and David; and many nieces and nephews. Ron was a man of faith and lived a generous and thoughtful life of integrity. He was involved at Preston church and visited residents at Royal Park Hospital and Corinella Retirement Home. He was also a skilled and respected tent designer and maker.

Morrie Krieg

Harvey, Cyril, born 19.8.1931 in Christchurch, NZ; died 18.6.10 at home in Christchurch. Much loved husband of Sylvia, treasured father and father-in-law of Susan, Lynda, Alison and Kelly, Gary and Karen, and Brenda and Wayne; beloved granddad (Grundy) of Tasha, Sarah, Christine, Lyndy, Daniel, Ben, Reece, Nicole, Miriam, Craig, Kylan and Christopher; and great-granddad of Elysha, Brayden, Thorne and Caleb. "We won't forget the daily epic bike rides. Rest in Peace."

James Toogood

Lloyd, Leslie Thomas, born 1.9.1928 in Perth, WA; died 25.1.10 at Cooranbong, NSW. On 31.10.1949, he married Joy Toepfer in Cooranbong. He is survived by his wife; their children and spouses, Mark and Tine Lloyd, David and Jenni Lloyd-Ward; and four grandchildren. Les was committed to his family and his church. He loved the land, his garden and his animals but

most of all he loved his God.

*Roger Nixon, Trevor Lloyd
Allan Saunders*

McDougall-Malycha, Tarnie Lee, born 4.9.1979 at Mildura, Vic; died 20.6.10 at Mildura. She was engaged to Tony Malycha. She is survived by her children, Jackson and Maia; her parents, Graeme and Christine; and her in-laws, Darcy and Joy. She was a loving, caring daughter, mum and spouse who was loved and respected by all who knew her. Too young to depart, but looking forward to the Resurrection.

Darren Slade

Millsom, Claire Eileen, born 11.7.1915 at Curramulka, SA; died 16.7.10 in Melbourne, Vic. On 10.1.1937, she married Pastor Reg Millsom, who predeceased her on 25.11.1994. Her daughter, Ruth, died in 1989. She is survived by her son, Doctor Reg Millsom and her daughter, Fay Whelan; her seven grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

Rex Cobbin, Cecil Ogg

Simons, June Dorothy, born 16.2.1926 at Murwillumbah, NSW; died 18.4.10 at Caloundra, Qld. In 1946 she married Noel Simons who predeceased her. She is survived by Christopher and Roslyn (Melbourne, Vic), David (Moruya, NSW), Glenda and Wayne Moore (Wolfdene, Qld), Andrew and Lydia (Mt Mee) and Vikki and Brett Peal (Monash, ACT). June was baptised in Brisbane by Pastor G. Burnside. She loved her Lord and Saviour, her vast family and church. Her greatest joy was helping others in their time of need. She spent time as a Lifeline counsellor, and she loved classical music, crosswords and puzzles.

Graham McMahon, John Rabbas

Smith, Hazel Mary, born 2.1.1924 at Gin Gin, Qld; died 22.6.10 at Domain Aged Care, Coffs Harbour, NSW. On 10.9.1946, she married Lloyd Smith, who predeceased her. She is survived by her sons Ken and Warren, daughter Charmaine and her husband Warren; her grandchildren, Karen, Paul, Sam, Trent, Louese, Sonja, Karl, Luke, Jessica and Case; and two great-grandchildren Ezra and Silas. Hazel was a proud mother and grandmother. Her last prayer request to hold her latest grandson was granted and appreciated with immense joy.

F. Miroslav Stilinovic

Summerscales, Albert (Bene) Frank, born 27.3.1919 at Box Hill, Vic; died 24.6.10 in Norfolk Island Hospital. Bene is survived by his brothers, William and Peter and sister, Margaret; his children Karen, Rodney, Garry and Gael; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Bene was a much-loved man with a gentle, warm nature that endeared him to all who knew him.

Mike Browning

Trace, Richard Bamsey, born 25.9.1937; died 26.4.10, at Morayfield, Qld. He is survived by his wife, Delphine; daughters, Susan and Melissa; and son, Craig. Richard will be remembered for his quiet way and his years of service to the Park Ridge and Caboolture churches where he served as a deacon.

Russ Willcocks

ADVERTISEMENTS

Giant Booksale. 6000 quality used religious books. 70% = \$3. SS teachers, preachers, church librarians, readers. Nunawading Church, Central Rd. October 17, 11am–3pm. Mark your calendar. Church building fund.

Launceston Pathfinders 50th anniversary. An invitation is given to all former Pathfinders and leaders of the Launceston club to join us to celebrate our 50th continuous year of Pathfinders on Sabbath, November 20, 2010, at Launceston church. For further information contact Doug McKay (03) 6334 1427.

Orange church 60th anniversary, October 23, 2010. Photos/memorabilia required. Copies preferred. Send to PO Box 1906, Orange 2800. Speaker: Pr Bob Manners. Join us as we celebrate. Contact Trish Moffitt on (02) 6361 3636 or <greenfieldsenterprises@bigpond.com>.

Glenhuntly reunion. Did you attend Glenhuntly, from 1950 through 1970? Relive experiences with old friends—November 27,

2010. Contribute memorabilia eg photos, or importantly indicate your attendance for catering, to Margaret Howie <mlhowie@me.com> or 0414 475 754.

Missionaries' lunch—Avondale graduation. Sabbath, December 4, there will be a combined lunch immediately after the church service, for missionaries and ex-missionaries, families and friends who attend the Avondale graduation. Please bring a plate of food, sufficient for your family and a friend. This year we would like you to tell us about a significant national whose invaluable assistance was vital to your ability to carry out your mission work. Stories prior to PNG independence preferred. Contact Ken Boehm (02) 4365 3033/ 0408 072 313 or Warren Martin (02) 9489 5907 or <warrenjmartin@hotmail.com>.

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

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Next Record October 16

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