

JUNE 4 2011

Record

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Media mission saves lives

Sydney, New South Wales

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Australia has found a unique way to help remote Nepalese communities.

ADRA recently organised a group of media and communication students from Avondale College to visit Nepal. The students' skills were used to help the local ADRA office produce material that will promote its work around the world and potentially form part of its local community development programs.

The group also purchased video production equipment for ADRA Nepal, which will enable health education training to reach villages that may have otherwise been too difficult or costly to reach.

A large percentage of Nepal's population lives in remote mountain areas, making access difficult and expensive. The group hiked to see ADRA's work in Bhumisthan, a remote and highly disadvantaged mountain community.

"More remote communities like Bhumisthan will be able to access ADRA's training, meaning hundreds more lives will

be saved," said trip coordinator Jessica Ennor. "Also, donors will be able to see the impact their support is making in this area of poverty. It's helped secure the sustainability of the project and the communities it helps."

The group of nine students raised \$A10,000 to purchase the new equipment, as well as donating their own time and expertise during the 10-day visit. As a result, local Nepalese are trained in media production—a skill they would never previously have access to. The students continue to raise funds to support ADRA's work in Nepal.

A second ADRA trip will visit Malawi in November. For more information, visit <www.adra.org.au>. —Braden Blyde



The images and footage taken will promote ADRA's work.

Avondale sets another record

Cooranbong, New South Wales

Increases in the early childhood, nursing and outdoor recreation courses have contributed to yet another record enrolment at Avondale College of Higher Education.

Enrolment for semester one this year is 1347, 29 more than the previous semester one record set in 2010.

The number of new students is 538, compared to 566 in 2010. The number of returning students offsets this—869 compared to 752 in 2010. The mentoring and recruitment initiative, Helping Hands, is thought to be partially responsible for the increase.

Bachelor of Nursing remains the most popular course with 296 students—another record. The Faculty

of Nursing and Health will continue dividing year levels into two groups to enhance the scheduling of classes and the availability of clinical placements. It may also begin offering evening classes to manage future increases in enrolment, reports the dean, Dr Paul Race.

Enrolment in the Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood) also continues to grow—from the previous record of 51 students in semester one, 2010, to 71 in 2011. This is due partly to the course being offered by distance education and to an increased number of Commonwealth supported places.

Nineteen students are completing the Diploma of Outdoor Recreation course, up from eight in semester one, 2010. Enrolment in higher degree by research courses increased, with 20 students now completing a Doctor of Philosophy, up from 15 in 2010. A further 23 students are enrolled in Avondale's four research masters degrees. Students in these courses will help Avondale in its application for university college status. —Brenton Stacey

New chocolate diet

Melbourne, Victoria

A new book by Adventist researcher, Dr John Ashton, says a little chocolate every day might actually help you lose weight!

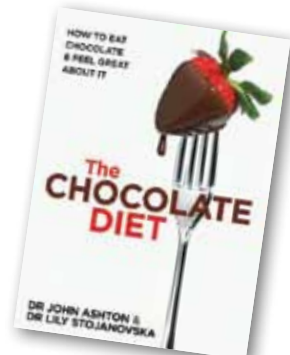
The Chocolate Diet, co-authored with Dr Lily Stojanovska, says cocoa is rich in theobromine, which is known to increase energy and cause weight loss.

Dark chocolate has much higher concentrations of theobromine than milk chocolate. Theobromine also widens the blood vessels thus reducing blood pressure.

Consuming a small amount of good quality dark chocolate may help achieve weight-loss goals sooner and protect heart health.

The Chocolate Diet is more than biomedical facts, however. It also contains tips and recipes. Dr Ashton said it was already receiving excellent reviews.

Dr Ashton is adjunct associate professor of Biomedical Sciences at Victoria University, which is formally launching the book. —Kent Kingston



Emma Townend is completing a Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Teaching. Credit: Colin Chuang



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"Celebration of Creation conference: How old is the Earth?"

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Every child

Julie Weslake

Children's ministry has a vision for every child to be a disciple of Jesus. As a Church we have a rich tradition of discipling children through programs such as Sabbath School. We have many people who love and treasure children. We know that there is nothing more important than to be involved in the life of a child, helping them build their lifelong faith, beliefs and values.

Unfortunately every day, children are being reached with the secular views, beliefs and attitudes of society. If we are to reach them with the Gospel and connect them to Jesus, we need to be intentional and start as early as possible in a child's life. To reach and keep the next generation, we must urgently rethink some current church practices.

The successful discipleship of children needs to be a collaboration of many people and institutions. It cannot be compartmentalised but requires strong partnerships between leaders, churches, homes and schools. It is what happens on the Sabbath day plus what is happening 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Every leader can help by fighting attitudes that isolate and discourage children. They can ensure that children are fully integrated into the plans of the whole church and broaden the church's mission and outreach to reflect the inclusiveness of Jesus. Discipleship covers the life span and needs an integrated plan.

Every church can help by ensuring they are family-friendly and that they involve children and their families in worship, ministry and outreach. They can support by: having a strong church community which mentors children and celebrates the key milestones of a child's life; working closely with the children's parents, ensuring that they are equipped to disciple their children; and focusing discipleship on transformation and spiritual disciplines not just education and knowledge.

Every home can help by taking seriously their responsibility as disciple makers. Parents have the greatest potential to influence their children and monitor their faith development. They do this when they live their faith 24/7, are intentional about creating spiritual routines in their home, and ensuring faith is talked about and shared.

My prayer is that everyone will help EVERY child to be a disciple.

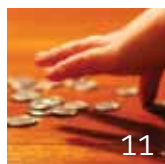
Julie Weslake is director of Children's Ministries for the South Pacific Conference.

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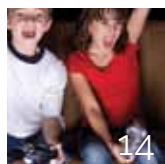
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Children's leader visits

Children's Ministries director for the Papua New Guinea Mission, Judith Nagamisovo, met with children at the most recent Session. With a church membership of 250,000 in PNG, there is a huge potential for the Church to influence the lives of many children in the country.



Church planter

Coastlife church, Qld, held a special Children's Easter Celebration where 40 children thanked Jesus for His gift of life to them. Pastor Wes Tolhurst shared the story of Easter while the children sat at the cross-shaped table eating pancakes. Hidden under their cross on a hill place setting was the symbolic bread of Jesus' broken body. The children also made an egg carton craft in the shape of a cross which they placed at the foot of a large wooden cross during the worship service.



Swimming pool baptism

Benjamin Gonzalez was baptised in the swimming pool of Matilda Homestead on the Gold Coast on April 23. Matilda is the home of Michelle and Graham Hood (left), founders of Mission Serenity. Mr Hood studied with Benjamin, and Pastor Geoff Donovan officiated. Benjamin is the son of Ana Maria and Eliezer Gonzalez (right).



Changed lives

My life was miserable. I was always sick, and my mum and dad were drug addicts. Now my life with Jesus is awesome. He helped my mum and dad stop drinking and smoking and now I go to church. My life is great. I'm full of energy. Jesus helps me when I need Him. I love Jesus. —*Luke*



Faith found

My name is Faith and I am three years old. Five years ago my mum and dad believed that God told them they would have a baby in two years even though doctors said neither of them could have babies. The next two years were hard for them to believe this, but then they had me. So they called me Faith. —*Faith*



Jesus found at VBS

I told my mum I was going to Vacation Bible School in 2008. No-one could stop me. There I found my Jesus. I felt His love for me and I knew He was real. Mum came along to keep me out of trouble, and found her Jesus too. I tell everyone I meet about Jesus— that's what He wants me to do. I have autism but so what—my Jesus loves ME! —*Seth*



Happy Adventurer

I love Adventurers. I really love my God. I praise Him and love Him and love singing in the children's choir. I'm not always wise or obedient, but I pray to God to help me or when I'm afraid I immediately shut my eyes and ask for help from God. —*Menhere*



Forever friends

"My name is Jemma and I am nine. I have loved God all my life but this Sabbath I had a commitment ceremony to say that I wanted to be forever friends with Jesus and want to go to heaven. I go to a public school so I get lots of opportunities to tell my friends about Jesus. I had my commitment ceremony with one of my best friends, Isabella."

"My name is Isabella and I enjoy loving God and Jesus; they are my best Friends ever. The way I got to know God is through the XChange and house church, which is where we sing songs, play games, cook and, most of all, learn about God and Jesus." —*Pictured with Daron Pratt*



Raising dough for flood victims

Children on the Central Coast (NSW) were watching the unfolding flood disaster in Queensland and wanted to help. They had the idea of selling scones to raise money. Creating a flyer called 'Helping Hands Scones', the children doorknocked the local community to invite them to the event. A garage and front yard were converted into a cafe and the children 'served' the community. The scones were not sold for a price but for a donation and the children raised over \$A1000. The event was even promoted on local radio stations. —*Jared Madden*

Mission makes big impact

Adelaide, South Australia

The South Australian Conference has started its biggest ever-evangelistic campaign, "Mission 2011", in Adelaide.

The Norwood Concert Hall was filled as Pastor Gary Webster, director of the Institute of Public Evangelism (IPE), presented "Ancient mysteries reveal the future". While 1600 people booked across the city, 900-1000 attended the first meeting.

Mission 2011 was born in 2010 when Pastor Webster contacted the South Australian Conference asking if it would like to have the IPE run evangelistic campaigns there.

"We're privileged to have eight programs running around the city of Adelaide," said Pastor Andrew Kingston, president of the South Australian Conference. "The six evangelists working with Pastor Webster, who are part of the IPE, are a blessing to our Church."

The six evangelists from throughout Australia and New Zealand are simultaneously presenting a "full message" series across eight venues in and around Adelaide.

"The program will give people who don't know Jesus, hope," Pastor Webster said. "I know that our visitors like to hear the messages as they come straight from the Bible. It offers them solid truth that they can believe in."

Adventist churches are supporting and staffing the venues nearest to them until the series finishes on June 12. "Every minister and church has committed to Mission 2011," said program manager, Heather Slade. "The aim of the Church in South Australia is for 500 new members to be added to our Church by the end of 2011."

Towards the end of last year, the then president, Pastor

Garry Hodgkin and Heather Slade visited every church and explained the concept and vision for Mission 2011. By sharing the dream with every church, a solid foundation of commitment of commitment was laid for the evangelistic series.

In preparing for Mission 2011, the Conference invited Pastors Webster and John Denne, as well as Johnny and Tina Wong, to equip church members in their endeavours to connect with the community and invite their friends.

"We want to use 2011 as a foundation to focus on mission," Pastor Kingston said. "This year is about public evangelism. In 2012 the focus will be on the local church as the centre of evangelism. We don't want to leave any stone unturned in sharing the Gospel."

Christine Halim, venue manager and member of Adelaide City Church, said there were five churches involved at the Norwood Concert Hall. "This gives everyone an opportunity to be involved," she said. "Greater involvement leads to ownership, so it's rewarding when people are given a chance to serve and make an impact in changing the lives of those who don't know Christ." —Pablo Lillo



The team of evangelists with Gary Webster in the centre.

Final book in children's trilogy released

Melbourne, Victoria

The final book in *The Adventures in the Bible* trilogy, by Pastor David Edgren, was released recently.

The three books form a "Christian faith journey" for primary school aged children and their families.

The first book, *The Serpent Scroll*, examines the great controversy between good and evil. The second book, *The Lamb Scroll*, models the wisdom of choosing to follow God and choosing to be baptised. The final book, *The Kingdom Scroll*, explores the joy of living as a resident of the kingdom of God.

Using a creative strategy and the active imagination of the reader, *The Adventures in the Bible* series dives into the Bible and allows the reader to immerse themselves in the culture and context of its stories.

"My goal was to create a way for kids to explore the Bible from the inside out in an adventurous and creative fashion. By putting three children 'in the Bible' they are able to ask questions of the text from the inside," Pastor Edgren said.

Following each of the 70-plus chapters in the trilogy, a

list of questions leads the reader into thought or, if the book is being read as a family, discussion time.

"We learn better when we learn together," Pastor Edgren said. "The books are meant to teach both Bible stories and Bible study skills. There are over 25 Bible stories retold in these three books, and three overarching themes of Scripture—one in each book. It is my hope that families will read the Scroll books together for family worship and be irresistibly drawn to their Bibles, to explore together the stories from the Source."

The Adventures in the Bible trilogy, and Pastor Edgren's other books, can be found in your local Adventist Book Centre or online at the <adventistbookcentre.com> website. —RECORD staff/David Edgren



Pastor Edgren with the books.

Church leader steps down

Lae, Papua New Guinea

The president of the Papua New Guinea Union Mission (PNGUM) has stepped down for family health reasons.

The family of Pastor Joseph Talipuan, who became president of the Papua New Guinea Union (PNGUM) in September 2010, needs to receive vital ongoing medical treatment in Australia. It became apparent to Pastor Talipuan and his wife that the medical needs of their family were preventing him fulfilling the role as president.

In the process of considering the best option for the Talipuan family and the Church in Papua New Guinea, church leaders had consulted with leadership at the General Conference, as well as church leaders and lay people in Papua New Guinea. They explored every possible solution. However, strong medical advice meant that family members currently receiving medical treatment must remain in Australia. And further, any ongoing family separation could

be detrimental to their health.

The South Pacific Division Executive Committee has appointed an acting senior administrator, Pastor Leigh Rice, currently the general secretary of PNGUM, will fill the temporary role. A permanent replacement will be elected by a full meeting of the Division Executive Committee later this year.

Pastor Talipuan has accepted a pastoral appointment in Greater Sydney Conference, funded as an initiative of Global Mission. He will fill the position immediately.

—David Gibbons



Pastor Joseph Talipuan.

DVD developed by youth to reach Pacific

Suva, Fiji

The Suva Civic Centre was packed to capacity when *Pacific Reach*, a youth-initiated DVD series, was launched.

The DVD is the first of a 28-part series that local young people, Apaitia Rokotuni, Salusalu Manoa, John Tausere and Peni Bolatui, have developed as a tool for the youth in their local mission. "We wanted to create something for the young people that would enable them to use technology and friendship for evangelism," Mr Rokotuni said. "This DVD series will be a way that anybody who has a DVD player can invite a friend to come and share Jesus within the comfort of their own home." The DVD contains preaching and music from groups within the Pacific region, interviews and a facts segment based on the topic.

Episode 1 was sold out and the Youth Department is making another run of the much-anticipated resource. "I was really encouraged by the response and commitment of the young people to this new resource," said Pastor Mavani Kaufononga, Youth director of the Trans Pacific Union Mission.—Litiana Turner



Pastor Fifita Vatulesi, Youth director of Fiji Mission, lent his support to the project.

New development facilitates learning

Cooranbong, New South Wales

Avondale School has officially opened its new \$A3.8 million library complex, the i-Centre.

Community members, including local MP, Greg Combet, attended the event. The MP acknowledged the Australian Government's Economic Stimulus contribution to the cost of building the facility. The government contributed \$3 million to the project.

The opening brought all the students together to participate in this significant moment of Avondale School's history. An item by the Kindergarten students was particularly appreciated.

The 1700 square metre i-Centre, laid out over three split levels, was completed on time and on budget. The extra space for research, learning services, tuition rooms and a media room is already much appreciated by senior students.

Avondale School's entire IT infrastructure has been relocated to the building, along with an upgraded main school server.

Principal Dr David Faull said the i-Centre would bring together all members of the Avondale School community. "This is an exciting development that will provide increased learning space, library research and information technology services across the campus," he said.

—Susan Rogers



Some of the students who took part in the opening ceremony.



Up in smoke

Senior United Nations health director Douglas Bettcher says if people keep smoking at current rates, one billion people will die by the close of the century. Bettcher says, while many wealthy countries are winning the war against tobacco, the rest are headed for high levels of disease and premature death.

—UN News



Claim rejected

The last Catholic adoption agency in Britain says it will close its doors after unsuccessfully trying to win an exemption from the UK's anti-discrimination laws. The agency says it wants to work in a way that is consistent with its Christian ethos, which means placing children with heterosexual couples only.

—Christian Today



Going public

In an historic first, 17 of China's largest underground churches have formally petitioned their government for an increase in religious freedom for unregistered churches. The action is seen as a gesture of support for Beijing's Shouwang church, which has been repeatedly blocked from finding a place to worship.

—Agence France-Presse



Church that saves?

The first consultative conference of the Anglican Alliance, held in Nairobi, Kenya, has recommended that the church set up a bank. It's believed an Anglican bank for savings and loans would help Kenyan communities better participate in the local economy and break the cycle of poverty.

—Anglican Communion Service



Carcinogen

New research shows that more than one out of five cases of breast cancer are related to alcohol consumption. The risk increases along with the level of drinking. The links between alcohol and other cancers are well-established but the breast cancer connection has come as a surprise to many.

—Cancer Council Australia



Times are changing

The Presbyterian Church of USA has become the fourth American denomination to accept the ordination of homosexuals. The church has dropped its requirement for ordained workers to be faithful in heterosexual marriage or otherwise be celibate. Critics have warned the change will prompt many members to leave the church.

—Christian Newswire

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affirms **celebration**

by Brenton Stacey

Special "Celebration of Creation" events have been held at Avondale College of Higher Education, NSW, and Pacific Adventist University (PAU), Papua New Guinea, during May. Guests from the General Conference and the church's Geoscience Research Institute (GRI), joined local presenters in affirming the biblical creation account.

At Avondale, college president Dr Ray Roennfeldt, used his welcome on Friday evening to remind listeners that God is the focus of creation. Genesis 1 and 2 "challenges every other god of this world," he said. "Nothing is to be worshipped. Not the trees, not the animals, not the rocks, not the sun, or moon or the stars . . . no human being—they're all created."

Dr Grenville Kent, Old Testament lecturer at Wesley Institute and producer of the *Big Questions* documentaries, mentioned ways that space exploration was revealing fine tuning in the universe: 'The heavens are declaring the glory of God', says Psalm 19, a creation psalm in which the heavens speak (verses 1-6), God speaks through the Bible (7-9) and then the writer speaks intimately to God, asking for grace to deal with his sinfulness (10-14). Dr Kent argued that, because of the Fall, nature no longer speaks as clearly as Scripture, so Scripture must interpret nature for us, not the other way around. He said the Gospel was about redeeming all of nature as well as people (Rom 8:18-23). Dr Kent argued that theistic evolution suggests suffering and death were part of God's original plan, and does not match the biblical meta-narrative or the good God of the Gospel: 'As in Adam all die, so in Christ shall all be made alive' (1 Cor 15:22).

Dr Barry Oliver, president of the South Pacific Division (SPD), preached the sermon during the worship service in Avondale College Seventh-day Adventist Church on Saturday morning. He began by asking three questions: "Does the Bible affirm God as Creator?"; "Does the Bible affirm God as Re-creator?"; and "What is special about how Seventh-day Adventists relate to God as Creator and Re-creator?" Using a variety of Bible texts, including the first of the three angels' messages of Revelation 14, Dr Oliver showed the intrinsic relationship of creation, salvation and worship to answer yes to the first two questions. The answer to the third: we celebrate God as Creator and Re-creator by honouring the time—the Sabbath—He created for the purpose.

Dr Gerhard Pfandl, associate director of the Church's Biblical Research Institute, identified three Adventist

interpretations of Genesis 1 and 2 during the opening Saturday afternoon meeting. The first, a two-stage creation, interprets Genesis 1:1 as referring to the creation of much of the universe a long time ago and then to the creation of life within the creation week. The second, a literal, six-day creation, interprets the same text as referring to the creation of everything, including the universe, within creation week. The third, theistic evolution, interprets the text metaphorically.

The following speaker, Dr Timothy Standish, a molecular biologist who serves as a research scientist at the Geoscience Research Institute, identified problems with evolutionary fossil theory. He spoke of "Lazarus" species such as the Wollemi pine, and the sophisticated compound lenses in the eyes of trilobites, which are among the earliest known fossils and have no known evolutionary history.

Paleontologist Dr Raúl Esperante, a colleague of Dr Standish, noted the increasing acceptance of catastrophism, which attributes certain vast changes in the earth's history as being caused by catastrophes rather than gradual evolutionary processes, in geology. He referenced evidence gathered from his work on fossilised whales in Peru .

Other presenters included Dr Jim Gibson, director of GRI, who opened the conference, Dr Ross Grant, executive officer of the Church's Australasian Research Institute, and Dr David Tasker, field secretary for the South Pacific Division (SPD).

The conference ended with a panel answering questions sent electronically by those attending. The response to, "I don't believe in a literal, six-day creation. Do I belong in this Church?" summarised the weekend. You do belong, said Dr Delbert Baker, a vice-president of the General Conference. We accept you, but we expect you not to promote views counter to the Church's position, he said.

Celebration of Creation is one of a series sponsored by the worldwide Church's Faith and Science Council. PAU (Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea) held their conference the weekend before Avondale. These were the first events run outside of the United States. The church has held others at Loma Linda University (California) in 2009 and at Andrews University (Michigan) in 2010.

Brenton Stacey is public relations officer for Avondale College of Higher Education. —with Kent Kingston, assistant editor of RECORD.



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OPINION*

Nick Kross

Building the kingdom

There is a growing passion among many Adventist young adults to build the kingdom of God today. Increasing numbers are willing to take on big issues like poverty and social inequality. The continued growth of StormCo ministry across the South Pacific, and the rise of youth-led international mission trips to places like India and Cambodia, confirm this trend.

While Pathfinder clubs and youth groups have often assisted the Church with the ADRA appeal and other service-oriented ministry roles, adolescents today have their sights on more than service alone. Recently, I spoke with a young male teacher from Victoria who chose to resign from teaching at an affluent school in order to work with students who have fallen through the cracks of the education system. He spoke with passion about the needs of these young students and his joy at helping them rebuild trust and re-engage in the learning process. This is kingdom building at its core—Jesus style.

There is a growing number of youth also engaged in sharing their faith. As the world witnesses a significant economic downturn and the polarisation of religious and national communities, the call to build the Kingdom comes into clear focus. Building the kingdom may not look like it used to. People are meeting in homes, at the beach, in cafeterias, gyms and other places where young adults socialise. Building the kingdom is quite different to building a building. Faith resides in people not buildings. Community and life happen where people meet and there are numerous options available.

Jesus' commission to "Go and make disciples" was spoken to a group of young followers 2000 years ago, and His challenge stands today. We need to affirm and empower our young adults to live out the commission of Christ in ways that may appear new or different. In that respect they would be just like Jesus.

* Views represented in Opinion reflect those of the author and not necessarily those of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Pastor Nick Kross is director of Youth ministries for the South Pacific Division.

OPINION POLL



How does your child respond to church?

- They enjoy the programs
- They love the time to socialise with friends
- They love Sabbath School but not church
- They resent it

Visit record.net.au to answer this poll.

Options don't suit you? Send a letter to the editor (250 words or less)



Counting the kids counts

by Derek McCutcheon

IN LUKE 15, TWO OUT OF THE THREE PARABLES ARE about counting. In the parable of the lost sheep we are told that when we count our sheep, if one is lost then we must go after it until it is found. In the next parable the woman had counted her coins and when she realised that one was missing she searched until she found it.

There is nothing wrong with counting. What is imperative is that we count the right things for the right reasons. When it comes to the local church, what are the two or three things that are “counted” and measured to indicate the “health” of our church?

We love to count how many baptisms that we have. While it is important to have a vision of increased numbers, it is more imperative that we have this vision for the right reasons and motivation.

At the end of the last century, Luis Bush released a paper entitled: “The 10/40 Window: Getting to the Core of the Core”. In this paper, Bush detailed how the Church needed to focus on the region between 10 and 40 degrees north latitude to reach the unchurched people groups who had yet to hear the Gospel of Jesus, let alone had the opportunity to accept it.

Since that time, there has been extensive work from missionaries and church groups to make an impact on this region. There have been some exciting results, with a 2.2 per cent increase in followers of Christ as a percentage of the population.

4/14 Window

Luis Bush last year released another paper urging a different missional focus. His paper is entitled: “Raising Up a New Generation from the 4/14 Window to Transform the World”. His research has shown that to more effectively reach the unchurched, we need to focus on the age group between 4 and 14 years of age. The 10/40 Window referenced a geographic frame; the 4/14 Window describes a demographic frame. Bush states that it is crucial that mission efforts be re-prioritised and redirected toward this 4/14 age group, many of them actually living in the 10/40 Window.

George Barna is a respected research analyst for the evangelical church. He conducted research in ministering to children and published his findings in a book entitled *Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions*. In his research

he found that 80 per cent of Christians made their decision to follow Christ between the ages of 4 and 14. In Australia it has been found that the percentage is even higher at 85 per cent.

The reasons he cited as to why reaching children is so important are:

1. Children are still building their world view

Neuroscientists believe that our brains are 90 per cent formed before we reach the age of three, and 85 per cent of our adult personality is formed by the time we reach six years of age. Children are the most open, receptive and mouldable to every form of spiritual and developmental input.


Barna’s research verifies that a person’s lifelong behaviours and beliefs are generally developed during childhood and early adolescence. In the overwhelming majority, most of the moral and spiritual foundations are in place by age nine. If we can reach children and shape their beliefs before the age of 14, we are putting in place a spiritual identity that cannot easily be changed. In Proverbs 22:6, King Solomon states, “Train up a child in the way they should go; even when they are old they will not depart from it”.

2. Children are great evangelists

Children are less reluctant to evangelise to friends and they will share both what they believe and why they believe it in the most concise and efficient of ways. We will be much more effective in reaching our vision if we let the kids get excited by it and let them play their part in making a difference. Our job is to equip and empower them for ministry so they will then be able to transform the world.

3. Lifelong disciples for Christ

When children become disciples of Christ at a young age, they have the majority of their lives in front of them in which they can influence others and make a significant contribution to local communities and churches. The possibilities and potential of 4/14ers is astonishing.

As a Church, are we counting and measuring effectively the ministry and resources provided to children? In what ways can we minister to them more effectively so that they might do the same for their friends? Continue to count the kids for God because kids count to God! 

Pastor Derek McCutcheon is director of Children, Leadership and Associate Youth, Western Australian Conference.



OPENING HIS WORD

David McKibben

Hold on in tough times

How do you keep your faith in Christ when everything is going against you? The Bible offers great help.

Firstly, don't be surprised when trouble happens. Every follower of Jesus will have trials.

Read 2 Timothy 3:12; 1 Peter 4:12

Secondly, in times of difficulty remember you are not alone. God is with you even though you can't see or sense His presence. Absolutely no trial or difficulty can separate you from Him or His love.

Read Isaiah 41:10; 43:2; Hebrews 13:5; Romans 8:35-39

Thirdly, you can handle this trial and will come through victorious. God will never allow anything to come your way that is too much for you to handle. He will make a way of escape for you.

Read Isaiah 43:2, 16; 1 Corinthians 10:13

Fourthly, just as God has helped His people in the past, He will help you and make you strong during this ordeal.

Read Isaiah 41:10, 13, 14, 18, 19; 2 Corinthians 12:9, 10; Romans 8:37

Fifthly, remember that God allows trials to come your way to help you grow spiritually. This is the way it was for Jesus. Thus we are called to contemplate His death.

Read James 1:2, 3; Hebrews 12:5-7; 5:7-9; 12:1-3

Finally, to come through these trials victoriously you must be born of God by putting your trust in Jesus. Continue to place your trust in God no matter what comes your way. Rest in the death and resurrection of Jesus as your victory.

Read 1 John 5:4; Revelation 12:11

Pastor David McKibben is senior pastor of Parramatta church, Sydney, NSW.



HEALTH WISE

Dr James Wright

Feeling sneezy

Q: Should everybody have the Fluvax shot?

A: Yes, yes, yes. This contains the three most virulent viruses that caused serious bouts of the flu in the northern world last year. It gives a high level of protection. One single shot is adequate, preferably given late autumn to early winter. It will not cause the flu, although some develop a sore arm and mild fever for 12-24 hours. The annual Fluvax is recommended and it's free for the elderly. Anyone exposed to the coughing, sneezing public should also receive Fluvax annually.

Q: What about the pneumonia vaccine?

A: This single shot injection is advised for those 65 years and over who are more likely to be infected. It is given each three years. Once called the "old person's friend", pneumonia still kills a significant number each year in Australia, and is essentially preventable.

Unwell? Go to <docwright.com.au>. Enter symptom and click for immediate help. If symptoms continue, see your doctor.

MY MINISTRY IDEA

Rochelle Madden

When I started as chaplain at the Wyong Grove Public School (NSW), some of the students' parents were surprised. "I thought you'd be fat, balding and male," one of them said. They had a mental picture of a school chaplain that I just don't fit. A few of them were a bit suspicious of my motives and made snide comments about me being a religious nutcase.

"You'll find us everywhere!" I joked with them. That broke the ice and now most of them see me as someone who's down-to-earth and approachable. I'm a school mum myself so we have a lot in common.

I've been working two days a week there since the beginning of this year. The position is funded by the Federal Government but I'm employed by my local Adventist church, Central Coast Community, which has a good relationship with the school. But the truth is, I'd do it whether I was paid or not. I see my role as a friend. I'm part of the school community—there for teachers and parents as well as students.

I'm there for the good times as well as the bad. Sometimes kids just want to share their excitement that they won their soccer game or got a new puppy. I get together with the mums—some dads too—twice a week for a coffee morning. I'm also organising a "drug-proofing your kids" program.

I believe my role as chaplain is to be a window to Jesus. I really want the kids, parents and teachers to see a Christian as someone who really cares about them and what's going on in their lives. I feel very blessed that God is able to use me to reach out to the community in such a meaningful way.





Lose weight and keep it off

To successfully lose weight, it is important not to become too fixated with losing it quickly. It's about achieving good health and a positive self-image, as much as it is about weight loss. Instead of simply cutting back on the amount of food you eat, try and modify the type of foods you eat. Replace less healthy options (such as chocolate, biscuits and pies) with more nutritious options (a piece of fruit or salad sandwich). This ensures you are still eating adequate amounts of food but it is more nutritionally packed and has fewer calories. It is also important to exercise. This not only aids weight loss and improves fitness, it helps balance our moods and releases endorphins that make us feel good.

Top tips to help avoid overeating:

- ▶ Eat regular meals, especially breakfast. Eating regular meals based on vegetables, fruit, grains, legumes and nuts, helps prevent us from getting too hungry and then overeating on less healthy foods.
- ▶ Enjoy your food. Take time to savour each mouthful and concentrate on the tastes and textures of what you are eating. It can take 20 minutes for your brain to register that you are 'full', so allow time between meals and snacks. Avoid eating on the run or while watching TV.
- ▶ Plan healthy snacks. If only healthy snacks are available you may not be so tempted to eat outside of meal times, and if you do, at least it will be a healthier option.
- ▶ Watch serving sizes.
- ▶ Rethink 'good' and 'bad' foods. Instead of 'banning' certain foods from your diet, think of them as 'occasional' foods.

▶ Reduce the amount of fat in your diet, particularly saturated fat. Because fat contains twice as many kilojoules per gram as carbohydrate or protein, cutting down on fat means cutting down on kilojoules. Ways to reduce fat include:

- ✔ If you eat meat, trim all visible fat off meat and remove skin from chicken before cooking.
- ✔ Swap to low-fat dairy foods and soy alternatives.
- ✔ Try steaming, microwaving, dry-roasting and stir-frying to limit the amount of fat added during cooking.
- ✔ Avoid or limit high-fat foods, such as takeaways, chips, biscuits and pastry.

A quick note on fats. Some 'good' fats are necessary to maintain health—try having a small handful of nuts or seeds as a snack and ensure any oils or spreads you do use are unsaturated (such as olive, canola or nut-based).

- ▶ Avoid alcohol. Alcohol contains many 'empty' kilojoules which contribute no nutrients but still cause weight gain.
- ▶ Choose water as your main drink. Water is a kilojoule-free, caffeine-free alternative to many of the beverages we commonly consume. Save the fizzy drinks for special occasions.

Call and speak with one of our nutritionists, 1800 673 392 (Aus) or 0800 100 257 (NZ). Alternatively, email us with a nutrition question at <nutrition@sanitarium.com.au> (Aus) or <nutrition@sanitarium.co.nz> (NZ). And don't forget to order your FREE copy of *Food for Health and Happiness Cookbook*—it has plenty of delicious and wholesome recipes. To order the cookbook, visit our website <www.sanitarium.com.au> or <www.sanitarium.co.nz>.

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RECIPE

Broccoli and kumara couscous

- 1 kumara, peeled and chopped into 2cm chunks
- Spray oil
- 100g fresh corn kernels
- 1 cup couscous
- 1 avocado
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 400g broccoli
- 2 cups vegetable stock
- 5 tablespoons pine nuts
- 1 bunch fresh mint
- 1 lemon, juiced (optional)

1. Preheat oven to 180°C.
2. Place kumara onto baking tray. Spray with oil and bake for 15-20 minutes.
3. Cut the broccoli into small florets. Steam broccoli and corn kernels.
4. In a saucepan bring stock to the boil. Place couscous in a large bowl and pour 1 cup of heated stock over the couscous and rake with a fork.
5. Let the couscous sit for 5 minutes then rake again.
6. Mix in broccoli, corn kernels, kumara and pine nuts. Peel and cut the avocado into 2cm chunks and mix.
7. Hand-pick mint leaves and scatter them through the couscous.
8. Drizzle with olive oil and lemon juice and serve. Serves 4.

Preparation time: 10 minutes. Cook time: 25 minutes.

PER SERVE: Kilojoules 1700kJ; Calories 380Cal; Protein 16g; Fat 14g; Carbohydrate 50g; Sodium 1230mg; Potassium 1060mg; Calcium 115mg; Iron 3.9mg; Fibre 9g.



Wh

WHEN WRITER, PUBLISHER AND SOCIAL researcher and commentator, Maggie Hamilton, presented at the recent Australian Union Conference Union Session, her message was unequivocal: "There is an alarming, established societal trend for children to be the deliberate targets of an aggressive worldwide billion dollar marketing campaign that exploits and damages their innocence and humanity."

Ms Hamilton immediately caught the absolute attention of every delegate as she summarised the premature sexualisation of children that is occurring right across our nations. She is a sensitive and seasoned campaigner who knows her stuff. Her resume is impressive: senior roles in the ABC and on numerous Australian Government committees; adviser to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet; and an author, whose books have been published internationally. The delegation was impressed, very impressed! At the conclusion of Ms Hamilton's presentation, actions that proposed to better protect the rights of children were put to delegates.

Unanimous acceptance of these actions was demonstrated by raised arms and, significantly, white balloons—a symbol of solidarity for child protection that has spread across Australia and is annually celebrated in the week of the session.

What was it about Ms Hamilton that had such a powerful impact on the delegates? Clearly she is committed and passionate about the best interests of children and young people, and is sensitive to her audience, "speaking the truth in love". She is also a person who loves to travel to out-of-the-way places. She has a passion for deserts and for wilderness places in general as the perfect antidote to the pressures of city life, and for the art of living meaningfully. Indisputably, at the very heart of her appeal, is her message!

A recent article submitted to the *Newcastle Herald*

captures the essence of that message:

A decade ago families didn't have access to the internet. There were no kids with camera and video-enabled phones. These advances, along with the overwhelming marketing to kids, have forever changed childhood and teen life. Many parents, teachers, school counsellors, emergency staff in hospitals and police are now run ragged trying to keep kids safe.

If we're serious about protecting our kids, we need to understand what it's like to grow up in a world of branded toys and DVDs. By the time many of our children are at preschool, they're no longer playing at being astronauts or firemen, or whatever they dream up. They're following the scripts of DVDs they watch endlessly instead. Years before they learn to read or write, our preschoolers are now anxious about their looks and clothing. Their early carefree years are being replaced by small children stressed about whether they have the right branded backpack and lunchbox, the right clothes and hair. These anxieties increase as they grow.

Experts tell us kids need imaginative play, good food, fresh air, the chance to run around and be in nature for their brains to develop. Instead our kids are living more of a battery hen type existence—spending hours inside in front of the TV or the computer. The end result? A generation of kids with shrinking life experiences, fewer friendships across the generations and tenuous links with their local community at best.

In one recent piece of British research into brain development, today's 11-year-olds were on average two to three years behind 11-year-old kids from only 15 years ago. The fallout from shrinking childhoods is tangible, concerning. We're now seeing kids as young as seven needing professional help with depression and eating disorders. Almost 4000 children under 10 were prescribed anti-depressants from mid-2007 to 2008. Over 500 of these kids were under five.

What's happening to our kids?

by David Robertson

As our children live in a performance culture, their whole life is on show and frequently recorded in graphic detail, normalising risky behaviour including sexual behaviour. We're right to continue to be concerned at how vulnerable our girls are growing up in a highly sexualised world. The fallout is self-evident. Girls as young as 12 are being admitted to sexual assault support units after being gang-raped and filmed. New figures suggest 40 per cent of young Australian girls have had unwanted sex. Sexting is commonplace, and something primary schools are now battling.

While our girls need greater protection and more understanding about the climate they're in, we can't ignore the effects this sexualised climate is having on young boys. A steady diet of video games, MTV clips, suggestive ads and billboards, and ready access to porn, don't encourage boys to see women and girls as anything other than objects. As one clinical psychologist put it, this climate is also abusive to boys as it shuts down their tenderness and empathy, encouraging them to be predators instead.

Alongside these challenges, we're facing growing mental health issues amongst our teenagers. One in 10 girls in Australia is now self-harming—cutting or slashing their skin, pulling their hair out. Body issues remain a major issue for girls. Now increasing numbers of boys are going down the same track as the marketing to boys of everything from fashion items to toiletries intensifies.

Bullying is more intense and linked, in part, to the arrival of reality TV, and the psychologically cruel, often humiliating ways in which attention-hungry contestants are treated. In this uneasy world you're the star one week and gone the next.

Not all kids are out of control, but they're constantly exposed to those who are. The tragedy is that often parents are the last go-to people because kids see us living in a parallel world, and they're right. Perhaps the question isn't so much what's wrong with our kids, but what's

wrong with us? Our kids don't need more best friends. They need adults who care about boundaries and giving kids a childhood. Dads also have a crucial role to play in modelling what good men are all about.

Sometimes these issues seem overwhelming, but every generation has its challenges. We must never underestimate the power of engaged parents, teachers and other professionals. It's important—the future is in our hands, not that of the marketers, who see our kids purely in terms of the bottom line. If we don't speak out for our kids who will?

Speak out the delegates did as the actions they affirmed reflect:

We, as representatives of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Australia, gathered at the national quinquennial meetings of the Australian Union Conference (September 8, 2010), choose to do all we can to bring an end to inappropriate marketing to young children.

1. We support all current community efforts that seek to provide tighter regulation of age-appropriate material to any children under the age of 12;
2. We call upon community, civil and religious leaders, as well as local, state and federal legislative and regulatory personnel to ensure all efforts are made to end the sexualisation of children;
3. We call upon the Advertising Standards Board to make the necessary changes to standards of practice in media that will better protect the rights of young children;
4. We recommend that the Australian Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists research and produce specialised resources that will assist parents and teachers to deal more effectively with issues regarding the sexualisation of children. ⇨

Maggie Hamilton's books have been published in several countries, and include What Men Don't Talk About, What's Happening to Our Girls?, and What's Happening to Our Boys?

Pastor David Robertson is director of Safe Place Services for the Australian Union Conference.



Leaving a legacy of fa

AFTER DECADES OF WANDERING AND WAITING, the time had finally come. The Jewish people were about to reclaim their homeland and settle into the land of promise. A whole generation had passed away in the wilderness and a new generation was coming. They were on the brink of exciting times and yet their leader feared for the future. Would the promised prosperity and blessings of their new land affect their faith and, more particularly, would the present generation pass on their faith to the next generation and the generations yet to come?

The people had now gathered to hear Moses' farewell address. So much was at stake—their destiny as a people and the heritage of faith they would pass on. Moses was determined, however, that the present generation would not make the same mistakes as their parents. And so, in one of the most profound passages in the Bible, Moses proclaimed:

Hear, O Israel, The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates (Deuteronomy 6:4–9).

Known to Jews as the Shema, and revered and recited to this day, these words have been, and are central to, the transmission of faith from one generation to the next. Deuteronomy 6:4–9, or the "D6 Model" as it is sometimes

referred to, reveals incredible insights for parents and leaders about the passing on of spiritual values.

According to Reggie Joiner in his excellent book, *Think Orange*, there are five vital family values he gleans from this passage.

1. The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

"In this one passage Moses establishes a frame of reference for everything—and that is, GOD. He reminds his people that God is to be central, number one, the cornerstone, of all life and faith.

This first value is all about staying focused and having a priority that is above all others—God. In a number of ways it is like the first Commandment—"You shall have no other gods before Me".

Moses knew that keeping the families focused on God would affirm their identity and shape their destiny. It was indeed the number one principle to uphold if they were to leave a legacy of faith with the next generation.

2. The next principle or value was one that Jesus would repeat and amplify 15 centuries later. "Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength." The principle of love is the core issue that separates a system of religion from a faith that is relational. It is the missing link, without which faith can degenerate into a system of rules or a ritualistic orthodoxy. In the book of Deuteronomy, this command or what Jesus would later on call "a new commandment", would be reiterated more than a dozen times.

Moses in these words is fighting for the heart, something more important than either lifestyle or practice. He is warning parents and leaders about the danger of passing down rules without the context of a loving relationship. Moses knew that if the parents and leaders would love God heart and soul, then it would show up in their

ith

by Neil Marks

lifestyle and practices.

3. The third value suggested by the Shema, according to Joiner, was for parents and leaders to have a personal relationship with God. "These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts."

To leave a legacy of faith, the truths one believes in need to be upon and flowing out of the heart. To positively influence children, parents and leaders need to show some desire and passion for the things of God so that kids get to see their faith—actively seeking a closer relationship with Jesus Christ, attempting to build a more loving, committed marriage, or by rejecting the materialism and consumerism of this world.

4. The fourth family value suggested by this passage is the creation of a family rhythm.

"Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home, and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up . . ."

The Shema provides a daily structure that transcends time and place and enables the members of a family group to grow in their relationship with God. Moses, in these words, appeals to parents to create a rhythm of worship that will work for the family. Children learn best through routine and when families create rhythms, it accentuates the discipling of their children.

Moses suggests four impressionable times; when you get up in the morning and when you tuck the children into bed at night; when you walk or travel together and when you sit down to share a meal together. At these times parents are to share the great faith building stories of the Bible plus what they personally know and have seen and heard of God's love and saving activity in their lives.

Moses warns against compartmentalising our faith or marginalising our relationship with God to some set time

in the day or week. He encourages parents and leaders to live their faith day in and day out, so it is on constant display for their kids to see.

5. Using the first three words of the Shema to conclude, Reggie Joiner suggests that the fifth family value that facilitates the transmission of faith from one generation to the next is widening the family circle. "Hear O Israel . . ."

In ancient Israel the transmission of faith was always understood to occur in the context of community and intergenerational support. When Moses spoke the first three words of Deut. 6:4–9, he knew that he would be speaking to parents and relatives and all others in the faith community. Thus children in that culture not only got to see faith in action through their parents but also through the lives of others their family came in contact with.

Families and parents need to be supported in their primary role of discipling their children by 'widening the circle', with other safe parents and leaders having the opportunity to speak and build into their children's lives to broaden the spiritual influence and increase the overall impression.

To sum up, according to the D6 Model outlined by Moses, if we want to pass on our faith to the next generation, we must:

1. Stay focused and make God central to our lives
2. Fight for the heart
3. Make faith a personal reality
4. Create a family rhythm
5. Widen the family circle

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Pastor Neil Marks is director of Health and Children's Ministries, South Queensland Conference.

LETTERS

A TSUNAMI OF LOVE

Joe Patrick, NSW

I refer to "Healthy relationships" (Opinion, April 30) by Pastor Kylie Ward. I thank God that it came like a tsunami of love from on high. I put it alongside "the most powerful argument that can be presented in favour of the gospel, is a loving and lovable Christian" (*Ministry of Healing*, p470).

CONVERTED TO ADVENTISM

Angus McPhee, NSW

The article "Sunday Worship on Wallis Island" (News Feature, April 30) reminds me of an early irony regarding the day of worship on Pitcairn Island.

The *Bounty* mutineers failed to correct the calendar after they had sailed east across what was to be proclaimed in 1884 as the International Date Line (IDL). When John Adams, the sole survivor of the mutiny, reformed the islanders and introduced Christianity, the Pitcairn community, thinking they were worshipping on Sunday were, in fact, worshipping on Saturday.

This was corrected when they were later "discovered" by the British. Then, in 1887, the entire island was converted to Seventh-day Adventism by John Tay and worship on Saturdays was restored. This is pointed out in Peter Clarke's book, *Hell and Paradise* (1986), p171. Over the years, for various reasons and in various places, the IDL has been moved. This year, December 29, Samoa will have the IDL moved to its east.

STRONG WORD OF CAUTION

Monica Nash, NSW

I refer to "Vegetarianism (part 2)" by Dr Wright (Health Wise, April 16) in which he extols the virtues of gluten as a vegetarian protein.

Dr Wright's enthusiasm for vegetarianism is to be commended and I agree with the stand he has taken. However, I do want to inject a strong word of caution against the all-out statement, "Go for gluten".

It would appear that people who suffer from coeliac disease are forgotten. The Australian Coeliac Society points out that one in 100 people in Australia suffer from this condition. Many are not even aware they have coeliac disease. If left undiagnosed, all sorts of problems arise—anaemia, osteoporosis, B12 deficiency—just to name a few.

In fact, type 1 diabetes is strongly linked to coeliac disease and there is growing evidence of other autoimmune diseases tying in with this as well.

I know only too well, from personal experience, of the damage that untreated coeliac disease can cause.

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.



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BIBLE TEXT

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Matthew 7:11



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SNAP SHOT

with Dr Barry Oliver



Adventist education

As I write I am attending our educational leaders conference for Australia and New Zealand in Adelaide. Very early last century, in her classic on the nature and method of education, Ellen White wrote, "Education . . . is the harmonious development of the physical, mental and spiritual powers". Seventh-day Adventist educators have taken her words seriously. Today we have a global education system which is differentiated from other systems by its application of this counsel to the task of education.

Seventh-day Adventist education aims for excellence in providing what may be termed a classical education in the arts and the sciences—"reading, writing and arithmetic". And so it should be. But Seventh-day Adventist education is much more. It also provides a foundation for an ethical and moral life. Children and young people are encouraged to think for themselves and adopt a lifestyle which honours what is right and good. But Seventh-day Adventist education is much more. It provides a classical, moral education in a Christian framework. The Christian world view is both taught and lived by the teachers and faculties of our educational institutions. And so it should be.

But Seventh-day Adventist education is much more. It does all that it does within the special character of what it is to be a Seventh-day Adventist: to believe in God as Creator and Re-creator; to celebrate God in the Sabbath; to anticipate His soon return; to be committed to the wholistic development so eloquently articulated by Ellen White. I thank God for those among us who have committed their lives to providing us with Seventh-day Adventist education.

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

ADELAIDE CITY, South Australia

Ashna Neeliah

Soon after arriving from Mauritius to study nursing through Careers Australia College of Healthcare, I started attending the Adelaide City Church (ACC).

ACC has a regular attendance of up to 200 people every Sabbath, with members and visitors from different parts of the world. We're blessed to have a mix of age groups, many university students and a welcoming spirit.

My church has been a vibrant part of the Adelaide central business district for 60 years. From the beginning, the church has offered a range of community services, including food distribution, refugee support, health seminars and quit smoking clinics.

Dr Wolfgang Stefani is our pastor and I enjoy his preaching and listening to the church choir. Three times a year the youth take the church service. It's great seeing young people preach, sing and lead everyone into worship.

I belong to a 'Fast Group'. It's where students meet to study God's Word, memorise Scripture and pray for each other and our church. I serve as worship coordinator and deaconess.

Our mission is to serve the community of Adelaide.



WHY I BECAME AN ADVENTIST

Jeremiah Fruean

I grew up in a strict Seventh-day Adventist home. I wasn't allowed to watch TV, use the internet or own a mobile phone. I was never allowed to go out in the evenings and had to go home straight after school. I've never once stayed at a friend's house for a sleepover.

My dad has always wanted to protect me from the world and its bad influences.

Before moving to Adelaide, we lived in Mildura where I had Bible studies with Pastor Louis Bermudez. I had always wanted to rebel and try the things my friends were doing but Pastor Bermudez kept on telling me that the world couldn't offer me what Christ could. Throughout my studies I learned of Christ's love for me and was baptised in July 2010.

Since my baptism I've found confidence in who I am. As a 17-year-old, I don't need to try and be like anybody else or do the things my friends are doing. I know that my earthly father loves me as much as my heavenly Father and that's all I need.

I now appreciate everything my dad has done for me. I know why he's been so strict. If he hadn't, I'd probably be living on the streets.

I'm part of the worship team in my church and would love an opportunity to preach some day. My sermon would be based around God's unconditional love, acceptance and forgiveness—a message that needs to be shared more often.

When I finish school I want to go to Avondale College and study to become a pastor. I want to share my faith and love for Jesus with those who don't know Him.



RECORD REWIND

Lester Devine

Bible worker

Pastor John Allen was born in Ireland and immigrated to Australia in 1884. Resigning his position as stationmaster at Bunbury in Western Australia when he joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1899, he took up canvassing work in Tasmania three months later. Within 18 months he was appointed to Bible work which he continued in Tasmania for 10 years, until he was called to Queensland and ordained to the Gospel ministry in 1910.

Marrying for a second time when close to retirement, he and his wife had seven children in their later years, including Teddy, who also became a pastor.

Pastor Allen checked himself out of the Sydney Sanitarium and Hospital and took the train home to Dora Creek. Finding the train did not stop at Dora Creek that late at night he got off at Morisset and walked along the railway track toward home. In the process, he fell off the railway bridge at Dora Creek to the roadway below and, severely injured, remained there all night until found the next morning. He died at home two weeks later and is buried at Avondale.

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



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MYSTERY HISTORY



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POSITIONS VACANT

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■ **Cashier—North NSW Conference (Wallsend, NSW).** Provide cashier and clerical support services as part of the Conference treasury team. The role is part-time being 0.4 of a full-time equivalent position. The role is responsible to the Conference accountant and the successful applicant will be familiar with petty cash systems, receipting, banking, credit card payment processing, etc. Enquiries to Vic Bonetti (02) 4951 8088. Applicants should express their interest by emailing their resume to Vic Bonetti (North NSW Conference accountant) at <vicbonetti@adventist.org.au>. Applications close **June 6, 2011.**

■ **Payroll officer and clerical assistant—Greater Sydney Conference.** This is a full-time position of 36.25 hours per week. We are seeking a practising Seventh-day Adventist who is self-motivated and an experienced payroll clerk to process the payrolls for both the Conference and education company employees. Must be able to work to deadlines, have exceptional customer service skills and a focus on attention to detail. Competency and experience in the following areas are highly desirable: computer skills; clerical skills (including reconciliations); payroll systems and processes (Micropay Meridian) Sun 5 Accounting, Microsoft Office Word and Excel. This role will require the applicant to not only process payroll but also all associated payroll functions such as wages journals and superannation returns. Applications in writing to Michael Worker, General Secretary, Seventh-day Adventist Church (GSC) Ltd, 4 Cambridge St, Epping, NSW 2121, <michaelworker@adventist.org.au>. Applications close **June 9, 2011.**

■ **Print sales representative—Adventist Media Network (Wahroonga, NSW)** is seeking a full-time print sales representative who will be based in Wahroonga. The successful applicant will liaise with existing and new customers to maximise the opportunities to generate print work for our business. Key requirements: baptised member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church; demonstrated understanding of the print industry, preferably with a sales background (alternatively, may suit someone with a graphic design background); the ability to generate leads, qualify leads and close the deal; knowledge of print-related areas including paper stock, colours and design options; excellent communication skills, professional approach, strong ethics and a passion for sales; a strong client focus with a "can do" attitude; excellent time management with the ability to work individually as well as part of a team. Overseas applicants should ensure they can satisfy Australian working visa requirements before applying. Adventist Media Network reserves the right to fill this vacancy at its discretion. Applications and enquiries should be directed to Kalvin Dever, Corporate Services, Adventist Media Network on (02) 9847 2222 or email <kalvin@adventistmedia.org.au>. Applications close **June 10, 2011.**

■ **Maintenance manager (chief engineer)—Adventist Aviation Services PNG** is seeking a highly motivated, suitably qualified and experienced professional to fill a full-time position based in Goroka, Papua New Guinea. Major responsibilities include managing the Approved Maintenance Organisation and maintaining a fleet of PAC750XL and C206 aircraft. Minimum qualifications are to hold appropriate aircraft maintenance licences, 10 years industry experience (preferably GA), and training on P&W PT6A Series engines. The successful candidate should be self-motivated, have superior organisational skills, give attention to detail, and be able to work positively and to a high standard within a small team environment. Industry standard pay and benefits (accommodation provided) negotiated commensurate with experience and qualifications. For additional information contact Roger Millist at <ceo@aa.org.pg> or fax +675 532 1030. Applications close **July 30, 2011.**

To receive regular email updates go to
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WEDDINGS



Major—Venter. Clinton Trevor Major, son of Trevor and

Deborah Major (Perth, WA), and Marsouw Venter, daughter of Douw and Maralinda Venter (Toowoomba, Qld), were married 19.12.10 at Coogee Beach, Perth, WA.

Douw Venter



McLane—Brownhill. Gregory Alan Glendon McLane, son of Glen and

Suzanna McLane (Cherrybrook, NSW) and Anika Rose Brownhill, daughter of Mike and Dawn Brownhill (Redcliffe, Qld), were married 6.3.11 in Redcliffe church.

Mike Brownhill



Przybylko—Chang. Pastor Daniel Przybylko, son of Paul and

Ruth Przybylko (Adelaide, SA), and Geraldine Lynn Chang, daughter of Ron and Esther Chang (Sydney, NSW), were married 20.3.11 at Wahroonga church. Daniel and Geraldine will be working in Guam where Daniel will be pastoring a church and Geraldine will continue her work as CEO of the Guam SDA Clinic.

Louis Torres, Geoffrey Youlden



Sipec—Gibson. Kristijan (Kiki) Sipec, son of

Atila and Jelena Sipec, and Kristie (Michelle) Gibson, daughter of Robert and Gay Gibson, were married 6.3.11 at Springwood church, Qld. It was a wonderful celebration of music and colour.

Peter Stojanovic



Tomassi—White. Carlos Martin Tomassi, son of

Cesar (dec) and Mercedes Tomassi (Zillmere, Qld), and Kylie Marie White, daughter of Colin White (Capalaba) and Joan Waugh (Canberra, ACT), were married 26.3.11 at Tranquil Park Resort, Maleny, Qld.

Mike Brownhill

North Gosford Private Hospital. Ivan is survived by his wife of 54 years, Joy; his three sons, Stephen (Wahroonga), John (Adelaide, SA) and Jeff (Hornsby, NSW); and seven grandchildren. Following a service at the Northern Suburbs Crematorium in Sydney, a memorial service was held at Epping church, which Ivan and Joy joined when they first became Adventists in 1970, and where they remained active members for 32 years. In 2002, they retired to Davistown on the Central Coast. A full church testified to the esteem in which Ivan was held.

*Ron Evans, Russel Stanley
Ken Duke*

Bowman, Donald Seymour, born 13.2.1924 at Mt Gambier, SA; died 12.11.10 at Victoria Point, Qld. On 15.7.1947, Don married Betty Catt in a marriage that lasted 63 years. He was predeceased by his son, Geoffrey. He is survived by Betty, his daughters and their spouses, Elizabeth and Wes Abel (Brisbane), and Angela and Doug Robertson, (Brightwaters, NSW); six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Don was a kind and generous family man whose quiet, consistent Christian influence was an example of consideration, thoughtfulness and compassion to all who knew him.

Robert Steed, Doug Robertson

Fletcher, Joyce (nee Johnson), born 13.4.1923 in Sydney, NSW; died 5.4.11 at Capricorn Adventist Retirement Village, Qld. On 12.4.1944, she married Edward (Ted) John Mackay Fletcher. She is survived by her husband; her children and their spouses, Vivienne and John Watts (Cooranbong, NSW), Raymond and Lynne Fletcher (Salmon Arm, BC Canada) and Graham and Winifred Fletcher (Wooloowin, Qld); her grandchildren, Sonja, Andrew, Heath, David, Dan, Brian, Michelle; and great-grandchildren, Jaerah and Otis, and their families. She fell asleep confident in the blessed hope of her Lord and Saviour.

David Fletcher, John Watts

Green, David Lloyd, born 14.3.1926 at Tooperang, SA; died 23.9.10 at Coffs Harbour, NSW. On 16.12.1952, he married Vivienne Magus at Waitara. He is survived by his wife; Stephan (Qld), Paul (Hornsby, NSW),

OBITUARIES

Baxter, Ivan Kerr, born 3.11.1933 in Sydney, NSW; died 17.4.11 at

Sonia Nash (Lismore) and Renee Brogan (Sacramento, USA). David had many years of ill health. He loved his Lord, and his family and friends eagerly await seeing him when Jesus comes.

Miroslav Stilinovic



Jessup, Raymond (Ray), born 10.10.1918 at Burnie, Tas; died 13.4.11 at Umina Park, Burnie. In 1958, Ray married Caroline Jones, who predeceased him. Ray had a strong faith in God, reading his Bible daily. He now sleeps until Resurrection day. Till we meet again.

Karl Winchcombe

Martin, Elizabeth Adrienne (nee Wiltshire), born 9.2.1934 in Christchurch, NZ; died 15.1.11 at the Bupa Aged Care Facility, Dural, NSW. On 19.2.1958, she married Peter Martin, who predeceased her. Elizabeth is survived by her children, Greg, Amanda, Angela and Julianne; and her grandchildren, Ben, Rebecca, Nathan, Aaron, Emily, Jonathan, Michael, Daniel, Lucy and Ruby. Family and friends attended the funeral service at the Avondale Chapel, Cooranbong. She is now with Peter awaiting the Resurrection.

John Gate

Miller, Norma Joyce (nee Price), born 28.5.1937 at Concord, Sydney, NSW; died 22.3.11 at Cooranbong. She is survived by her three sons, Andrew, Steven (both of Cooranbong) and Peter (USA), and their partners; four grandchildren, Jordan, Luke, Sorin and Caete; and her younger sister, Anita Hefren. There were also a number of foster children Norma cared for as if they were her own. Norma was constantly on the watch to see who among her daily contacts she could bring to her Friend, Jesus. Norma will be remembered as a wonderful Christian.

*Lester Hawkes, Laurie Draper
Glynn Hefren*

Phare, John Lewis Richmond (Jack), born 2.1.1919 at Te Puke, NZ; died 27.10.10 at Te Puke. On 14.4.1941, he married Elva. He was predeceased by his son, Nelson, in 1984. He is survived by Elva, his wife of 69 years; his children and their spouses, John and Beryl Phare (Tauranga), Marion and Roy Lewin (Te Puna),

Charles and Lindell Phare (Melbourne, Vic), Raewyn Otto (Te Puke, NZ), Keith and Rosie Phare (Salmon Arm, Canada), May and Razmik Cachatoor (Te Puna, NZ), Sharyn and Robert Symes (Canberra, ACT), Glenda and Tony Nilsson, and Elsie Phare (all of Tauranga, NZ); 38 grandchildren; and 45 great-grandchildren. Jack loved the Lord and had the courage of his convictions. He lived according to his beliefs and would not be swayed from them.

*Pat Downey, Ian Sutton
Bruce Telfer*

Rowe, Helena (Ella) Francis (nee Wilson), born 6.8.1917 at Bunyip, Vic; died 9.1.11 at Bendigo. Ella married Reg Rowe at Bayles on 11.1.1944. She is survived by her two children, David Rowe (USA) and Marjorie Rowe (Bendigo, Vic). Ella was well loved by her family and church community and will be sadly missed as a loving mother, grandmother and friend.

Peter Watts

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Finally

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Next Record **June 18**

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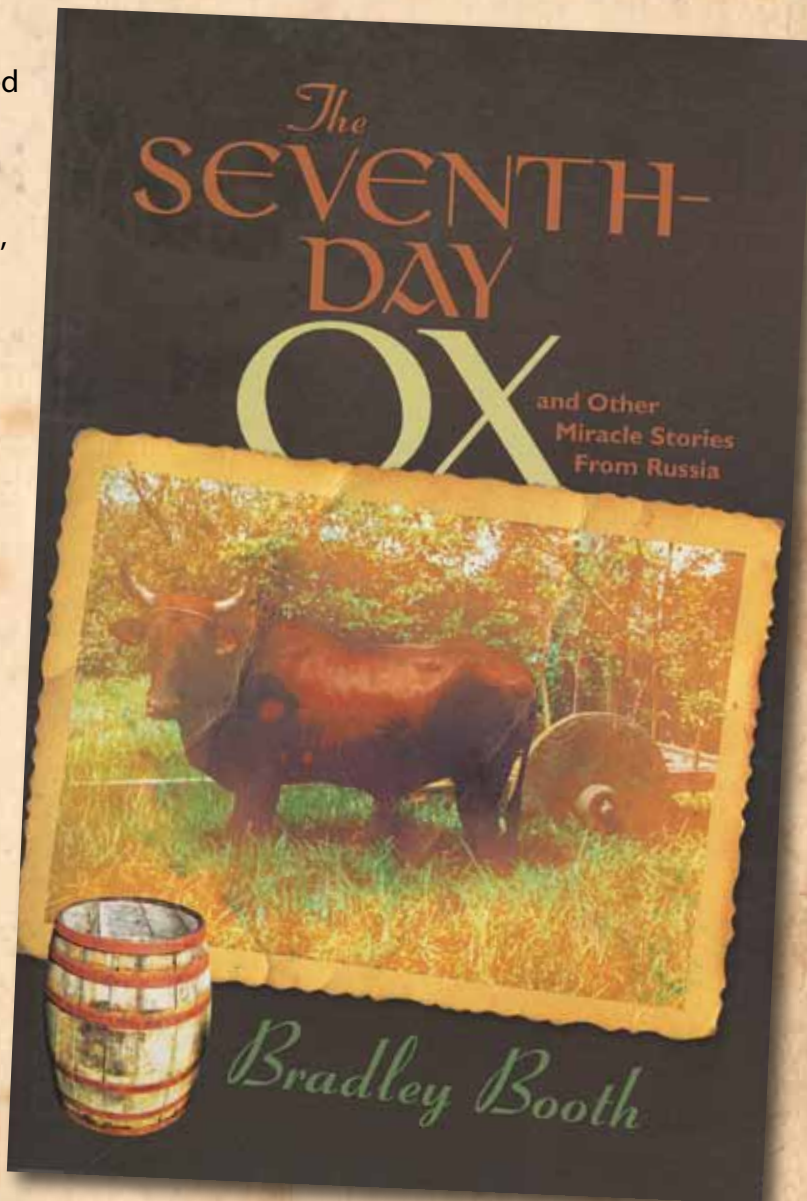
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