

JULY 30 2011

# Record

ISSN 0819-5633

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## BOOSTER SHOT FOR CLINICS page 7

## CLASS OF THEIR OWN page 9



**TPUM  
EDITION**

# FULTON COLLEGE

...educating Pacific Islanders for more than a century.

## TOMORROW



### New Sabeto Campus

The construction work has already commenced. It is anticipated that the move to the new site will take place over the 2012 year end. Classes should commence in 2013.



A 30 acre farm has already been established.

## TODAY

Fulton College offers the following courses:

- Bachelor of Arts (Theology)
- Bachelor of Arts (Primary)
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- Diploma of Business (Business Computing)
- Diploma of Business (IT)
- Diploma of Education (Early Childhood)
- Diploma of Education (Primary)
- Diploma of Theology
- Certificate of Education (Early Childhood)
- Foundation Studies



An International Reunion will take place at Fulton December 2-4, 2011

## YESTERDAY



Then - office/store  
Now - clinic →

Then - dormitory  
Now - staff housing  
←

Then - kitchen  
bakehouse  
Now - housing →



For more information and applications,  
contact Ms Nellie Manuca at [nmanuca@fulton.ac.fj](mailto:nmanuca@fulton.ac.fj)

## Members bless church leaders

*Port Vila, Vanuatu*

More than 30 members from Freshwind church visited the Vanuatu mission office and prayed with staff.

Pastor Lolet Worwor and elder Winch Dick led the team, who made a presentation to each department at the end of their tour.

In her presentation, Pastor Worwor encouraged the mission staff, saying “they are employees of local churches like Freshwind”, and reminded each one to work shoulder to shoulder in God’s battlefield.

Mr Dick reminded the mission to be good leaders and to make sure they mobilise the whole church to pull together in God’s work. Pastor Worwor said she had been talking to her members about putting their regular prayers for mission workers into action by visiting them and praying with them.

The Freshwind mothers served lunch so everyone could fellowship.

Mission president, Pastor John Leeman, said he had never witnessed a visit like this since taking office. The visit reflected one of the mission’s core values—togetherness.

The 900 member church is the biggest Adventist church in Vanuatu. According to a report presented by a Freshwind member, the church is planning to finish its new church building and organise its dedication before the end of this year. —*Jean Pierre Niptik*



Pastor John Leeman.



Former students and teachers.

## New lab enables school to grow

*Viti Levu, Fiji*

The new Navesau Adventist High School science lab building in Wainibuka, Fiji, has been formally opened.

The ceremony was attended by school staff and students, hundreds of ex-scholars and supporters of the school, including chief guest Joeli Cawaki, the Commissioner of Fiji’s Western Division. Mr Cawaki spoke about the important role the school played in enriching the development of the surrounding rural communities. “I’m here to reinforce our commitment and our government’s guarantee to more funding for Navesau in the future.”

Fiji Mission education director Apisalome Vuadreu praised the government’s efforts and generous financial assistance of \$FJD100,000. “This is an historical occasion for Navesau. The opening of this new lab facility will enable Navesau to include the Fiji Seventh Form Examination, which is equivalent to Year 12 in Australia.” A special offering was collected, which raised more than \$FJD7000. These funds will be used to purchase more equipment and lab resources. —*Semi Francis*

## Churches on the beat

*Apia, Samoa*

Politicians and police in Samoa say they need churches’ help to stem the tide of violence and crime in the district of Vaitele-fou, on the outskirts of the capital, Apia.

Lealailpule Rimoni Aiafi, Member of Parliament for Vaitele-fou, said more than 90 per cent of people banished from their villages moved to Vaitele-fou. Church leaders from a variety of denominations have met with the MP to form a council to reduce the risk of crime and violence.

Pastor Uili Solofa, president of the Samoas-Tokelau Mission, said others lived in Vaitele-fou because of religious differences—they’ve been excommunicated from the dominant church in their village and told to leave the area. The Seventh-day Adventist Church, which is not involved in the inter-church effort at this stage, is open to future cooperation but is focused on more spiritual interventions.

The one established Adventist congregation and two smaller “companies” in Vaitele-fou have been actively

involved in outreach to their community through distributing tracts, pastoral visits and signing up people for Bible correspondence courses. Church members are also involved in a regular visitation program with the nearby prison.

“As a church in Samoa we believe that we have a very significant role to play in the corporate effort, with other Christian denominations,” Pastor Solofa said. “It is a very big challenge for us as a church. The lives of these troublemakers are so important for us—to work hard for their salvation.” —*Kent Kingston/Council for World Mission*



Churches hope to promote positive activities for the young people of Vaitele-fou.



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South Pacific Division  
Seventh-day Adventist Church

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"Netava Waqa, chief executive of the Civil Aviation Authority in Fiji, shares his story with RECORD."

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

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## Talk of the island

Waisea Vuniwa

The Holy Spirit is working in powerful ways throughout the 11 nations of the Trans-Pacific Union Mission (TPUM). One particular story is "the talk of the island".

Pastor Senitiki Waqa, supported by church members from eight different zones and much prayer, baptised 33 souls in Tuvalu. Of this group, 27 are from non-Adventist backgrounds. Pastor Waqa is constantly telling the people he meets that God is awesome and powerful. Such is the mighty working of the Holy Spirit in Tuvalu that the new members are inviting their families and relatives to meetings and study groups. People are asking questions and ministers from other denominations are facing difficulties in responding to their questions. While nurturing the newly baptised, 17 more non-Adventists started attending meetings. He advised me that our team of prayer warriors still carry on with daily supplications at 5.30 in the morning at the church even though the evangelistic programs are over. They have tasted what the Lord can do when we are faithful. I strongly believe it's when the Holy Spirit moves mightily through the people of God, that His actions become the talk of the island.

Can the Tuvalu experience be replicated elsewhere? In the light of Revelation 18:1 it can. Be it an island, village, town or city. When God's people avail themselves to be used by the all powerful, all conquering Spirit of God in making disciples for Jesus, the outcome will be the talk of the town like in the day of Pentecost.

Many more exciting things are happening in our region and challenges keep on coming. We rest in the knowledge that our big God is able to do immeasurably more than what we ask or imagine.

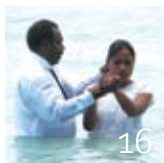
*Pastor Waisea Vuniwa is president of the Trans-Pacific Union Mission.*

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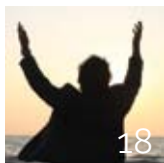
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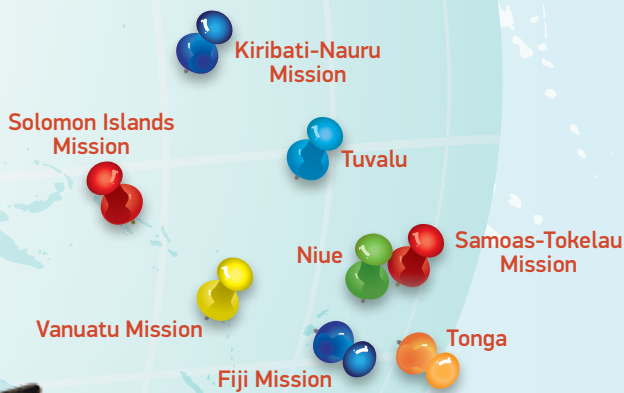
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# Trans-Pacific Union Mission

Membership: 100,704  
Churches and companies: 1036  
Membership to population: 1:21.5



Our MISSION is to make disciples for Jesus Christ of all peoples, communicating the everlasting Gospel in the context of the three angels' messages of Revelation 14:6-12.

## Solomon Islands Mission

Population: 523,170  
Membership: 40,252  
Churches: 422  
Membership to population: 1:12.9

## Fiji Mission

Population: 849,218  
Membership: 28,717  
Churches: 260  
Membership to population: 1:32.9

## Vanuatu Mission

Population: 256,275  
Membership: 17,769  
Churches: 205  
Membership to population: 1:12.3

## Samoas-Tokelau Mission

Population: 247,502  
Membership: 9391  
Churches: 83  
Membership to population: 1:26.5

## Tonga

Population: 103,967  
Membership: 2456  
Churches: 38  
Membership to population: 1:49.2

## Kiribati-Nauru Mission

Membership: 2167  
Churches: 30

## Tuvalu

Membership: 157  
Churches: 3

## Niue

Membership: 16  
Churches: 1

# RESOURCES ONLINE

The **AUC Resource Centre** has an **online store** where you can purchase all the resources listed in their catalogue plus a range of new items, specials and clearance lines.

Some of the new items are **contemporary Christian images** from Oxygen Church Media that are ideal for preaching, evangelism and backgrounds.

[resources.adventist.org.au](http://resources.adventist.org.au)



Resource Centre Catalogue  
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## South Pacific leaders reach higher

*Brisbane, Queensland*

More than 120 leaders and administrators from throughout the South Pacific met in Brisbane to attend the South Pacific Division's Adventist Leadership Summit.

The five-yearly summit provides professional development for those who are division, union, conference/mission administrators and leaders from the Church's institutions and service providers.

"The focus of the summit was to explore how collectively and individually we can reach higher in our leadership capacity in order to serve God and His people better," said Dr Branimir Schubert, manager of Leadership Professional Development for the South Pacific Division (SPD).

"The great irony is that to 'reach higher' is only possible through connection with a God who has already reached lower to help us and be so available to us. It is only by putting our humble, child-like hand in His that we can reach any new heights."

Dr Jan Paulsen, immediate past president of the General Conference (GC), Dr Pardon Mwansa, general vice president of the GC, and Dr Schubert were the plenary speakers over the five-day conference.

The summit was conducted for a number of reasons, including fellowship, professional growth, and spiritual refreshing and renewal.

Dr Barry Oliver, president of the South Pacific Division, said, "It's my hope that our leaders will leave the summit energised and renewed in their leadership for the Lord."

Half of the leaders travelled from overseas, where they serve in areas such as Tonga, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, Fiji, New Caledonia, Kiribati, Cook Islands, Samoa, French Polynesia and New Zealand. The event closed with a special communion service led by Dr Oliver. It was a time to remind church leaders of the presence of the Lord in their lives and the need for recommitment to humble service. —Pablo Lillo



Dr Jan Paulsen worships with Pacific leaders.



Some female leaders who attended the conference; (L-R) Vivienne Watts, Karo Matainaho, Moran Wasson, Pele Alu, Danijela Schubert, Elise Napaa and Cathy McDonald.

## Booster shot for clinics

Port Vila, Vanuatu

Taiwan Health Center (THC) in the Solomon Islands and Kaohsiung Medical University Hospital (KMUH) Mobile Medical Mission staff donated drugs worth more than \$SID129,000 to the Health department of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Solomon Islands.

The donations were received by the president of the Solomon Islands Mission, Pastor Wayne Boehm, on behalf of the Health department.

Dr Silent Tovosia, Solomon Islands Mission health director, in acknowledging the donation, said the drugs were not available or in short supply in many of the clinics in the rural areas and he thanked the THC,

KMUH, Taiwanese Embassy and government for this act of kindness. He said the drugs would be distributed to the clinics to help the needy in rural areas.

Taiwan Health Center has been working in cooperation with the Adventist Health department in various projects since 2009. The cooperation has included providing outreach mobile health services to many locations including schools and clinics in and around Honiara, in Guadalcanal, and Isabel Provinces.

From April 12 to 17, they were part of a combined medical and dental team who visited Poitete Station, on Kolombangara Island.

The team, coordinated by the Adventist Health department, provided free medical and dental services to about 1000 patients over a five-day period.

The Adventist Health department visited Temotu Province to treat 600 patients with a common fungal skin infection, called 'bakua' in Pijin, using some of the drugs received in the donation. Dr Tovosia said the donations would benefit many people. —*Solomon Star*



Dr Tovosia and Pastor Boehm accepted the donations.

## R MY CHURCH

### NADI INDIAN, Fiji

Brian Nileshchan

I pastor an Indian church located five minutes from Nadi International Airport. The church was started nine years ago as a church plant by the Namaka Adventist Church as a mission program to bring Indians to the Lord.

We have a regular attendance of 40 Fijian Indians who meet to worship God together. Lately we've had four visitors worshipping regularly with us. Six Adventists who stopped attending are returning.

The biggest joy we have every Sabbath is opening God's Word together. The congregation loves long Bible studies and sermons. It gives me a chance to dig deep and teach from the Word.

When I first started, we ran two evangelistic programs a year. I'm encouraging the church to be evangelistic all year round. Wherever a church member lives, we put up a marquee with a sound system, a screen and offer demonstrations on fruit juice therapies as Indians eat spicy food. It helps to cleanse their system.

The church building is minimal. It's made up of roofing iron and timber posts that are tied down with rope. The Hindu Indians worship in well-built temples. They say they need a beautiful temple as their gods live in them.

Evangelism is very difficult. When I make contact with non-Adventist, non-Christian families and they ask us



Pastor Nileshchan outside the Nadi Indian church.

where we worship, they cannot understand that we worship in a shed. The other week I was visiting a Pentecostal who wouldn't even consider visiting our church. His church is up the road and is well built with four walls.

Whenever we have storms or rough weather we pull the corrugated roofing down until the weather subsides.

My dream is to have a church completely built by December 2012. I want it to seat 150 people. We don't have a cent in the bank but God allows us to dream and I believe that all things are possible through Christ.

Our church members fast and pray regularly that God will answer our prayers. My five-year plan is to train my members to win souls for Jesus without my daily help. I want them to be disciples who will make other disciples. I want them to run the church without me, as there are only five Fijian Indian ministers on the island. —*with Pablo Lillo*

# Schools vision realised

Port Vila, Vanuatu

Vanuatu Mission has successfully registered 34 Adventist schools under its Adventist Education Authority.

This brings to a successful end a six-month process involving negotiations with school communities and the Vanuatu government's Ministry of Education by Adventist Education director Simon Luke and his associate, Joses Seth.

"The education sector in Vanuatu is experiencing rapid change and development," Mr Seth said. "The government has initiated restructuring and rationalisation programs as well as curriculum changes. New registrations and renewals were necessary to continue operating these schools. It also opens the way for additional government funding and salaries."

During the 1990s and early 2000s Vanuatu Mission's education system faced financial difficulty with many small schools closed or placed under local management. Some of these schools had been registered under provincial education authorities. Others were operating unregistered. "With God's leading we are realising our vision for a unified and growing education system in Vanuatu," said Pastor Damien Rice, general secretary for Vanuatu Mission.

"Schools will remain cost centred but operate as part of an integrated Adventist education system," Mr Luke said. "We are providing a clear vision, stronger Adventist ethos, operating guidelines, training, resources, governance

training and financial advice to assist our schools."

Mission president, Pastor John Leeman said, "Our administration is strongly committed to the developments of our schools. They are important for discipleship of young

people and producing future church workers and capable church members. Strong schools result in stronger churches. Our vision is to provide the highest quality Christian education in Vanuatu in an Adventist learning environment."

A small number of schools remain registered under other education authorities. It is expected that up to six more schools will register with the church this year. Needs and challenges include meeting minimum wage requirements in rural schools, building adequate classroom facilities and providing quality learning resources. Vanuatu Mission, in partnership with ADRA, AusAid, Fulton College and retired Australian teachers Peter and Glenda Roberts, will continue to offer certified upgrading programs for Ni-Vanuatu teachers. —Damien Rice



Students from Vanuatu.

## Adventist Health Professionals Conference & Alcohol Summit

### AUGUST 5-7

<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">  <p><b>Prof Garry Egger</b> Dr Egger has over 40 years of experience in health promotion and epidemiology, with a mixture of teaching, consulting, clinical work as a registered psychologist and researcher.</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">  <p><b>Dr Peter Landless</b> Dr Landless (Associate Director, Adventist Health, GC), will address the growing problems of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, especially among youth.</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px;">  <p><b>Dr Fred Hardinge</b> Dr Hardinge (Associate Director, Adventist Health, GC), has a special focus on nutrition and how our choices impact our health.</p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">  <p><b>Dr Wayne Dysinger</b> Dr Dysinger from Loma Linda Uni teaches residents and students. His passions are medical education, population health, lifestyle medicine and global health.</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">  <p><b>Dr Mihram Ask</b> Dr Ask from Los Angeles, trains medical students and residents in all aspects of addiction medicine. He will take a key role in the alcohol summit.</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px;">  <p><b>Dr John Kelly</b> Dr Kelly will talk about epigenetics and diabetes. He was the principle investigator for a 3 year (\$US2mill) trial investigating the use of lifestyle interventions to treat type 2 diabetes.</p> </div>
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Last  
chance to  
register!

**VENUE:** Sydney Adventist Hospital, Wahroonga, NSW, Level 2 Conference Room

**REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL**

For more information or to register contact Jenny Robson at Adventist Health (SPD)

**PHONE:** +61 (02) 9847 3368 **EMAIL:** jennyrobson@adventist.org.au

Brought to you by Adventist Health (South Pacific Division) and the Australian Union Conference in conjunction with Sydney Adventist Hospital and the Sanitarium Health & Wellbeing Company.





# Class of their own

by Joseph Pitakia

**O**NE OF THE EXCITING THINGS ABOUT ADVENTIST education in the Solomon Islands is that it has attracted many children and parents from outside of our denomination. What attracted them is both the values we uphold and the good academic performance of our schools, both in the primary and high sectors. When these parents request to transfer their children to our schools, they say, "Your school has good discipline". What they really mean is that our school upholds rules that enforce respect, integrity, hard work, honesty, grooming, no smoking, no betel nut, no alcohol and attending religious programs.

Recently, we've seen some new and exciting things happening. Let me tell you three of the stories that were related to me as director of Adventist Education for the Solomon Islands:

## Moro breakthrough

At Kopiu in the south of Guadalcanal Island, we have a community junior high school that is very much supported by Frontier Outreach Ministry, operated by Pastor Ervin Ferris from Queensland. The school is located in the heart of Moro Movement territory. This is a cult religion that tries to keep itself isolated from the world and the changes that are washing onto the shores of the Solomons. A new leader has taken over during the last few years and has decided to open the door to the Adventist medical work.

Earlier this year Pastor Ferris and his team came back from Kopiu and told me that the door is now open for education work too. Pastor Ferris said many students from Moro families have requested enrolment at Kopiu. He told me that the principal needed to put a notice saying "no more enrolments" on his door and still they came and begged to be given the opportunity to attend Kopiu.

The principal found it difficult to stop them and now the dormitories are over-filled with students. They even have to use the dining hall chairs in the classrooms.

## High demand

Just the other day, the principal at Puzivai Adventist Junior High School in Choiseul Island related to me that he has

to double the school's Form 1 intake because many parents from non-Adventist villages have requested an Adventist education for their children. They refuse to send their children to the government high schools or community high schools, saying there is a lack of discipline. What touches me about this story is that these parents travelled with their children from the other side of the island, which takes about four days paddling. The principal told me that he has directed his deputy to arrange accommodation with the teaching staff so the parents can spend one or two days observing classes and the programs in the school. What a great way to sell our schools!

## An interesting offer

A district director pastor from Savo and Nggela Sule islands asked if I could take up a local village chief's offer to buy some land and run the school that is on it. The name of this chief is Ataban; he is the elder brother of the speaker of parliament and one-time prime minister of the Solomon Islands. Ataban is very old and felt that if the church legally purchased the land this would stop any dispute that may arise in the future.

The interesting thing about this offer is that this is a government school. It has been criticised for its lack of quality education and so many students have transferred to other schools that the government is thinking of closing it down. Our work in these two islands is less than 10 years old and we haven't got a school in this area.

I told the pastor to wait because the Church does not have money to purchase the land and operate the school. Also, we do not have trained missionary teachers. This is an issue throughout the Solomons where we have many untrained teachers working in our schools.

## Please pray

What impresses me about these three stories is the way the education work here has impacted the lives of both parents and children. Will you pray for us? I believe with my whole heart that education is the right hand of the Gospel here in the Solomons at this particular time of history.

*Joseph Pitakia is director for Adventist Education in the Solomon Islands.*

**Netava Waqa**

I attended a government school and was encouraged by my parents and church to share my faith. So from a very young age, I wanted to witness to others. By inviting my neighbourhood friends to evangelistic meetings I, too, was won to Christ. I was baptised by Pastor Kevin Moore when I was 15 at Fulton College.

From that time onwards I was committed to the Seventh-day Adventist Church and sharing my faith. My parents always taught me that three things would affect my life; my choice of career, starting a family and my belief system.

The career path I chose required me to work on Sabbath. Because I couldn't continue my education and get into university, I had to work. I started an apprenticeship as an aircraft maintenance engineer with Air Pacific, the national airline for Fiji. My new job required me to be on a seven-day roster—24 hours a day.

My choice of career conflicted with my belief system. One had to give. Before I knew it, peer pressure, work and my after-hours social activities affected my judgement. I soon left church. Even though I was working and earning money, I knew that something major was missing in my life.

When I finally made a commitment to be faithful to God, I took a stand and chose not to work on Sabbaths anymore. I asked God for wisdom and ended up changing my career. I took an engineering job, organising aircraft maintenance.

Soon after, I was rebaptised. It was then that I started to see God working in my life, and I realised He had plans for me. I was given an opportunity to further my education and get a scholarship to study in the US. So I completed a Bachelor of Science in Aircraft Engineering.

God opened doors for me and allowed me to work

my way up the corporate ladder, something I couldn't have done otherwise. My faith was tested once I took on more responsibility. Greater responsibility required me to work on Sabbaths—something I chose not to do. So I

resigned from my position. I left Air Pacific and moved to a smaller airline. The change meant I didn't have to work on my day of rest, a day I learned to treasure.

While working for the smaller airline an opening became available to work for the Civil Aviation Authority in 2000. I believe that God had pre-ordained the position for me. He showed Himself to be faithful, all-powerful and loving.

I now serve my country as the chief executive of the Civil Aviation Authority. We have a team of 50 people who develop and implement civil aviation laws for Fiji. Our team regulates the safety and security oversight of airports, airlines, air traffic control, search and rescue, security operators and air navigation service providers, surveillance and information services. I now work Monday to Fridays.

I've seen God's leading in every aspect of my life. He has blessed me with three children and a beautiful wife who loves God as much as I do.

I now attend the Namaka church in Nadi and serve as stewardship leader. —with Pablo Lillo

**Tateiti Marewentetaake**

*I met Tateiti at my church in Bikenbeu, one Sabbath after a baptism. I was surprised as I did not expect her to be there. She had heard that there was a baptism and wanted to be baptised as well. However, when she arrived, the baptism had finished. I could see the disappointment on her face and assured her that we would have a baptism the next Sabbath. Here is her story.—Pastor Benjamin Asa, president of Kiribati and Nauru Mission.*

Hi, my name is Tateiti Marewentetaake, I am 18 years old and currently attend St Patrick High School (Form 5)—a Catholic high school located in Betio on the western end of Tarawa. I came to Tarawa to attend this school but because it is not a boarding school, I live with one of my close relatives who works for the government. Both of my parents are Roman Catholic and I was raised attending

church on Sundays.

While living with my uncle, my grandparents came and spent some time with their son. They introduced me to Jesus and the truths found in the Bible. Some of these truths were new to me. I discovered healthful living—with the emphasis on the need to care for our bodies because it is the temple of the Holy Spirit— and the state of the dead.

Perhaps the most convincing truth for me is the Seventh-day Sabbath, which makes us different and distinct as a Church. At first I was sceptical and somewhat confused having been raised to worship on the first day (Sunday), however after going through the Bible and the evidences given in the Scripture, I am convinced beyond doubt that the seventh day is the true Sabbath of the Lord my God.

As the sun sets on the western end of Tarawa every week, it reminds me that God is my Creator and I am His

**POTOROKI, Vanuatu**

Teddy Kingsley

My church was built not long ago by mission project funding from 13th Sabbath offerings, in Port Vila, the capital of Vanuatu. There are approximately 40,000 residents living in the city region.

Potoroki church is the largest Adventist church in Port Vila, situated in the centre of town. It's one of seven Adventist churches in the city, with a membership of 3000 Adventists. The Church in Vanuatu is growing with a total membership of 17,769 and 205 active churches and companies.

We have 200 people attending our church every Sabbath, including 50 children, 30 young people and 120 adults. In early July, 11 young people were baptised. A highlight for our congregation. There was a lot of singing, testimonies and tears of joy as we celebrated together.

The church members are very active and friendly and they see their city, Port Vila as their mission field. Throughout the city we're known for our willingness to serve others and our singing group. Our singing group reaches out and serves the community—visiting hospitals, prisons and performing concerts outdoors.

On Sabbath mornings, our Sabbath School classes go into the community to run Bible studies and return before Sabbath School starts at 9:30am. It's an early start but our church members return excited, ready to praise God for the great things He's doing in the community. The Sabbath School classes are separated into the geographic areas where people live. They meet in their neighbourhoods, interacting and teach their neighbours and friends using various themes from our fundamentals.

In Vanuatu, three languages are spoken: Bislama, French and English. Bislama is a creole language one of the official languages of Vanuatu. It is the first language

of many of those who live in Port Villa, and the second language of much of the rest of the country's residents.

One of our challenges is a lack of resources and materials in Bislama and French but our church is hoping to start a literacy program. We're seeking funding from ADRA Vanuatu to purchase Christian reading material. We want locals to learn to read Bislama, then English, so they can read God's Word for themselves.

According to National Statistics Office figures for Vanuatu, literacy rates in teenagers and young adults (aged 15-24 years) are an alarming 34%. School attendance is low and many young people drop out because of family poverty or low schooling standards.

Over the month of July, we've been running an evangelism campaign at Pango church, a branch church of Potoroki. The campaign was started by Mission president, Pastor John Leeman, then taken up by Stephen Joel, an elder, and the women's ministries department of the church. The themes included last-day events and how to live a healthy, vibrant life. We tend to struggle with the same issues as other city churches. Most people living in cities live comfortable lives and don't see a need for a loving Saviour.—with Pablo Lillo



creature and that I'm so pleased we will spend the next 24 hours together celebrating His Creatorship and Lordship of my life.

I am convinced that the Sabbath is a foretaste of the rest one can find in Jesus. Because of that conviction, I have decided to follow Jesus and joined the Sabbath-believing Christians in Tarawa.

On April 23, it was an honour and privilege for me to be officially baptised by the president of the Kiribati Mission, Pastor Benjamin Asa, and join the Bikenbeu church. The path ahead of me is not easy but I know that God will continue to lead me into His truth.

Like Paul, I am indebted to my parents and relatives for the truths that I found in Jesus. I want to become a teacher and would like to attend a Seventh-day Adventist institution like Fulton College or Pacific Adventist University.



## Annual General Meeting

The Avondale Alumni Association gives notice of its 24th Annual General Meeting. The meeting is in College Hall on the Lake Macquarie campus of Avondale College of Higher Education (582 Freemans Dr, Cooranbong, NSW) on the Friday of Homecoming, August 26, 2011, at 12pm. The association will hold the meeting according to the constitution. The agenda of the meeting will include:

- Amending the association's constitution
- Electing the president and the vice-president of the association for 2011/2012
- Electing at least five members of the association to serve on the association's committee for 2011/2012
- Accepting the association's report for 2010/2011
- Conducting any other business brought to the meeting.

**Registration is in Avondale College Seventh-day Adventist Church on Friday, August 26, 2011, from 9.30am to 12.00pm.**



### OPINION\*

Stephen Currow

## Just one request

Scott Wesley Brown's song *Please Don't Send Me to Africa* parodies the attitude of a lot of believers. Because of our commitment over a period of years, we think God owes us. Therefore, we deserve just one request: "Please let me stay in the comfort of my present life!"

Many of us would do anything in terms of ministry within the congregation just to avoid doing mission work beyond the congregation—let alone around the world. In many aspects of our lives, we are proud of our achievements and successes. We love to tell the world how good we are! So why is it hard to be involved in mission? Have we taken for granted what Jesus has done? Do we find it hard to express our faith in everyday language? Or are we just too ashamed of the Gospel of Christ?

Even though I have lived outside of my own country for almost half of my life, I face a similar challenge. I need to ensure I am an ambassador of Jesus Christ in cross cultural ministry everywhere and not just an advertisement for western civilisation.

According to Philippians 2:5-8, Jesus' mission required Him to leave His comfort zone, enter our world and save us. What can you and I do to get out of our comfort zones and engage in mission? Maybe it is just too easy to see what we would lose and too hard to imagine what we could gain. Or is it only when we lose everything that we consider God might be calling us?

I dream of the day when our one request is for God to send us outside of our comfortable life to where we are needed—be it New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Australia, Tonga, Tokelau or our untouchable neighbour in mission.

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

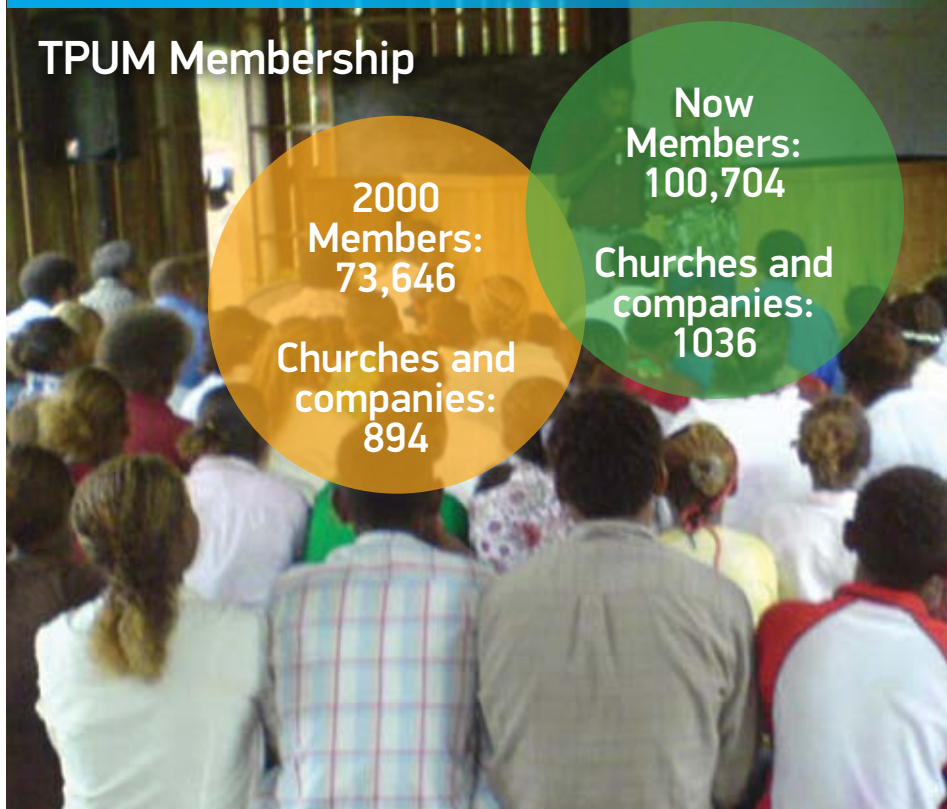
*Dr Stephen Currow is the principal of Fulton College, Fiji.*

## NOW AND THEN

### TPUM Membership

2000  
Members:  
73,646  
Churches and  
companies:  
894

Now  
Members:  
100,704  
Churches and  
companies:  
1036





#### Qwen Ham

I'm from Vanuatu and I attend Freshwind church. I was born into an Adventist family and am passionate about my church. John 3:16 means the world to me. I love that God was willing to send His Son to save everyone.



#### Lilly George

Kiribati is one of the most beautiful islands in the Pacific. My favourite Bible verse is Jeremiah 29:11. In life, I've faced many challenges—some have been very difficult. I'm fully aware that God is with me, walking me through my journey. I know He wants me to prosper.



#### Edgar Saafi Qalotaki

Coming from a Methodist background, I was baptised in 2005. Teachings on what Sabbath means had the biggest impact on my decision. I couldn't get past the idea God rested on Sabbath and made it holy. Matthew 11:29 reminds me that I serve a gentle God.



#### Alice Jacob

I was born in the Western Province of the Solomon Islands, on Kolombangara Island. I was baptised in 2002, when I joined Sausama church. One of my favourite Bible verses is Ephesians 5:15,16. The verses remind me that while we're living on earth, we need to be careful to follow God's commands and be faithful in every aspect of life. This is my daily challenge.



#### Jesel Navakalomana

I work for the Trans-Pacific Union Mission (TPUM) in Fiji. I completed a Bachelor of Theology at Pacific Adventist University in Papua New Guinea but haven't had a chance to serve as a minister yet. In serving TPUM, I look after archives, communication and the union website. I also serve as part-time chaplain for a government school, Adi Cakobau School.



#### Clayton Kuma

I'm from Boro in Vella Lavella, Solomon Islands. I lecture in the School of Accounting and Finance at the University of the South Pacific in Fiji. Romans 12:1 has always been my favourite verse. "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing." It reminds me of who I am and where God lives.



#### Mele Afu

I'm from the second largest church in Tonga called Vaini. Tonga is made up of 176 islands scattered over 700,000 square kilometres of ocean in the South Pacific. My favourite part of the Bible is Psalm 23, a special psalm for many. I memorised it as a child and have never forgotten it. I feel protected by a loving God. I know that He will supply all my needs.



#### Leila Ross

I'm from the Solomon Islands and have known God all my life. Proverbs 3:5,6 describes my motto, "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."



#### Momoi Tagai

"Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind" (Ecclesiastes 12:13,14). My Samoan parents have always taught me to respect God and follow His commands.



#### Toaia Oten

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well" (Matthew 6:33). This verse reminds me I need to put God first in my life. I'm fully aware that He will supply all my needs as I face life's challenges. I'm a fifth-year medical student and plan to serve my people as a doctor in Kiribati when I graduate.



#### Jerry Timothy

I'm from Sarakata church in Luganville, Vanuatu. I'm currently studying a Masters in Science to improve and grow as a teacher. Romans 6:23 reminds me of God's free gift to everyone—His love. "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."



# A brand plucked from the

# fire

by Alec Fefe/Carol Boehm

**I**F YOU LOVE ME, KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS." THE voice was deafeningly inaudible. Is that possible? I heard it loud and clear but am sure no-one around me would have heard it—or maybe that was because of the thick iron bars between me and the next cell mate.

Those words sounded familiar—where were they from? Maybe I had heard them in my early Christian days, or were they used by that visiting Seventh-day Adventist pastor who sat in my kitchen preaching to my wife each week?

My jaw clenched at the thought of him. Why wasn't he scared of me? He had come week after week to talk about the Bible, and usually I would chase him away with my bush knife, screaming that if he dared come back I would kill him. Surely he knew I could; I was locked up in this disgusting place for more years than I cared to remember; usually for murder. And yet he kept coming. And now those words . . . If you love Me keep My commandments.

That night in 2005 was the turning point. I had just asked God to show me His true church. It was time for a pretty major life change.

Having been in and out of jail for nearly 30 years I had finally come to the realisation that there had to be more to life. So a new struggle began. As far as I could see there was only one church that kept all 10 of the commandments—the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Some days were hard, or rather should I say impossible in my own strength. Soon after being released from prison I remember walking down the busy main street of Honiara and spotting the man who had slashed my face with his knife. I traced the scar across my forehead with my finger. The physical pain was gone, but the humiliation and anger still burned deep.

Today was the day of sweet revenge. I carried a huge concealed bush knife strapped to my back and a pistol on my side. However, I was a new Seventh-day Adventist Christian, so before striking I paused and asked my God which method I should use to kill this enemy. His answer? "Love him". WHAT? Lord are you kidding—he deserves to die! "LOVE HIM". The words couldn't have been clearer if God had written them across the sky.



I approached the man with uncertainty—this was new ground for me—and grabbed his arm firmly. He swung around with eyes that showed raw fear as he anticipated the first blow. Instead my words (or should I say God’s words) knocked the wind out of him. “I forgive you,” I said. “In fact I want to pray with you . . . and for you.”

He looked hesitant and suggested we move over to the side road where there were some bushes to hide in. “No, the deed was done in public, so it is here I will pray for you.”

I held his shoulders tight with my huge, strong arm and stood there in the middle of the path and prayed earnestly to a God who had already accepted and forgiven this chief of all sinners. My new friend wept openly. Surely if there was hope for me, there was hope for him too!

Another enemy who had an appointment with the business end of my machete was the man who had many years before committed adultery with my wife and got her pregnant.

I remember the day that I saw him in the market place. I had my wife with me at the time. I made my way over to where he stood oblivious to the potential danger. What was this I was feeling? Consciously I knew he must die for his past sin, but my heart was feeling something different. Where was the rage? Where was the uncontrollable desire for revenge? Why did I only feel sympathy and dare I say it—love.

I grabbed his wrist and took hold of my wife’s as well. We stood in a circle of silence for a moment while he searched my face for a clue as to what my next move might be. “I forgive you brother,” I said with a confidence that I did not feel. “I forgive you both.”

The look of amazement and relief was unforgettable. And what look was that on my wife’s face? Was that . . . respect? Love? Could someone such as I ever deserve that type of response?

The prayer we shared in that market place that day was powerful. My stony heart was melting, and my broken life, healing.

One by one my former enemies were confronted, but not in anger—with love and forgiveness. My temper had no power over me anymore; I belonged to Jesus.

Then He called me to do something I never dreamt I would ever do. I was to go back home, to the highlands of Malatia, and build a church on my piece of land. My family and friends thought I was mad!

With one little old chainsaw, myself and my God I went to work. Every last cent we had was used to complete this church, but that was fine as God had always provided for our needs. A few months into 2011 the church was finished.

On the first Sabbath there were three people who worshipped there—me, my wife and our daughter. Through God’s blessing and leading there are now over 60 precious souls worshipping in that little church regularly.

On days other than Saturday you can usually find me out in surrounding villages with my picture scroll telling of a transforming love and a God who is HUGE!

I look back and can’t believe where He has taken me from and to. I stand in awe at His all-encompassing love, grace and forgiveness and continually thank Him for allowing me to work for Him.

Where to from here? I have no idea, but my future is finally bright with promise and purpose.

R

*Alec Fefe lives in the Solomon Islands. He told his story to Carol Boehm.*

by Younis Masih



The  
**God**  
with a  
**womb**  
and a  
**long nose**





I GREW UP IN A SMALL PAKISTANI VILLAGE, MURIDKE, which was surrounded by conservative Muslim communities. I cherish many childhood memories, though I am hesitant to reflect upon some of them. One memory that has disturbed me for a long time is the type of God our local church elder presented to the innocent children. I remember him frightening us, telling us that if we caused a disturbance in church, God would be very angry with us. He presented not only the angry God to us but also demonstrated it through his actions by beating children with a stick if they moved around in the church service. His stern actions may have enhanced the so-called reverence in the church but his portrayal of this angry God disturbed me for a long time. One day a biblical account helped me to change my perspective of an angry God, embedded since my childhood. The story is found in Exodus 34:1-9.

### From slavery to freedom

Exodus 34:1-9 briefly outlines the 430 or so miserable years that the Israelites spent in captivity in Egypt. They had already travelled for almost three months (Exodus 19:1) since leaving Egypt. They had walked from Goshen (Egypt) to Marah (15:22), Elim, Rephidim (17:1), and finally arrived at Mount Sinai (19:2). At Sinai, God gave Moses the Ten Commandments (chapter 20). He also gave him the laws concerning Hebrew servants, personal injuries, protection of property, social responsibility, and justice and mercy (see Exodus 21-23). God even gave Moses details regarding the annual feasts, the tabernacle, offerings and priesthood (See Exodus 23-31).

### God Shows His Glory

Since his first encounter with the Lord at Horeb (see Exodus 3:1), Moses enjoyed a special relationship with Him. For this reason, God could not deny Moses' request when he asked to see God's glory (see Exodus 33:18). But God knew that revealing Himself to Moses could kill him. Not wanting this to happen, He proposed some safety measures to keep Moses safe. God told Moses to stand on a nearby rock, where He would reveal His glory as He passed by. He would then hide Moses in the cleft of the rock, covering him with His hand to keep him safe. Once God had passed by, He would take away His hand so that Moses could catch a glimpse of His full glory. Satisfied, Moses retired for the night.

The next day, Moses rose early and went up Mount Sinai. As he called on the name of the Lord, the Lord descended in a cloud and passed before, Moses proclaiming, "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation" (Exodus 34:6,7, NIV).

### The Womb of God

The captivating part of verse 6, which readers of the English translations miss out on, is the original Hebrew text for "compassionate" and "slow to anger". The Hebrew words translated in English as compassionate and slow to anger are *rah'h'um* and *'erekh 'payim*. In Exodus 34:6, *rah'h'um* (compassionate) is used as a common singular masculine noun and belonging to the family of nouns derived from the consonantal root *rh'm*. As a noun, this Hebrew word also refers to the womb. In the Bible, "the womb carries with it a picture of the tender care bestowed on an infant when it is most vulnerable".<sup>1</sup> It speaks of the tender love of a mother for her children. By using this word to describe Him, the Hebrew language describes a God who loves His people and clings to them—even when they have consistently disobeyed Him. Exodus 34:6 presents the type of God who graciously imparts His tender love and compassion for His children, just like a mother who feels the churning of love and compassion in her womb when she sees her beloved son or daughter returning home from afar.

### God with the Long Nose

Additionally, the Hebrew phrase translated as "slow to anger" in English is "long ('*erekh*) of nose ('*payim*)". Together, these Hebrew nouns form a construct relationship and refer to an antecedent subject, which is God. Consequently, it is fitting to translate the phrase as "the God with the long nose". The combination of *'erekh 'payim* first appears in the Book of Exodus and also in Numbers 14:18; Nehemiah 9:17; Psalms 86:15; 103:8; 145:8; Proverbs 14:29; 16:32; Joel 2:13; Jonah 4:2; and Nahum 1:3. "In Hebrew, the idiom 'long of nose' was used to describe someone who was patient or slow to anger (Proverbs 14:29). Conversely, a person 'short of nose' (Proverbs 14:17) was considered to be impatient or quick-tempered, much like the modern English idioms 'hothead' or 'short fuse'."<sup>2</sup> Furthermore, "the theological significance of God's long nose is not to be underestimated. Because God is patient, his people do not perish. Because God's nose is long, he has not treated us as we deserve. In the New Testament we are encouraged to 'bear in mind that God's patience means salvation' (2 Peter 3:15; cf. 3:9)."<sup>3</sup>

Looking at it from this context, Exodus 34:1-9 introduces us to a loving God who, like a mother, gives tender love to His children and, like a father, He protects them day and night. While God also disciplines His children, it all happens under the shadow of His grace, compassion and long suffering. For the past few years, reaching such understanding about God has improved my relationship with Him. So the next time someone tells you that your God is an angry God, just remember that the God you worship has a womb and a long nose.

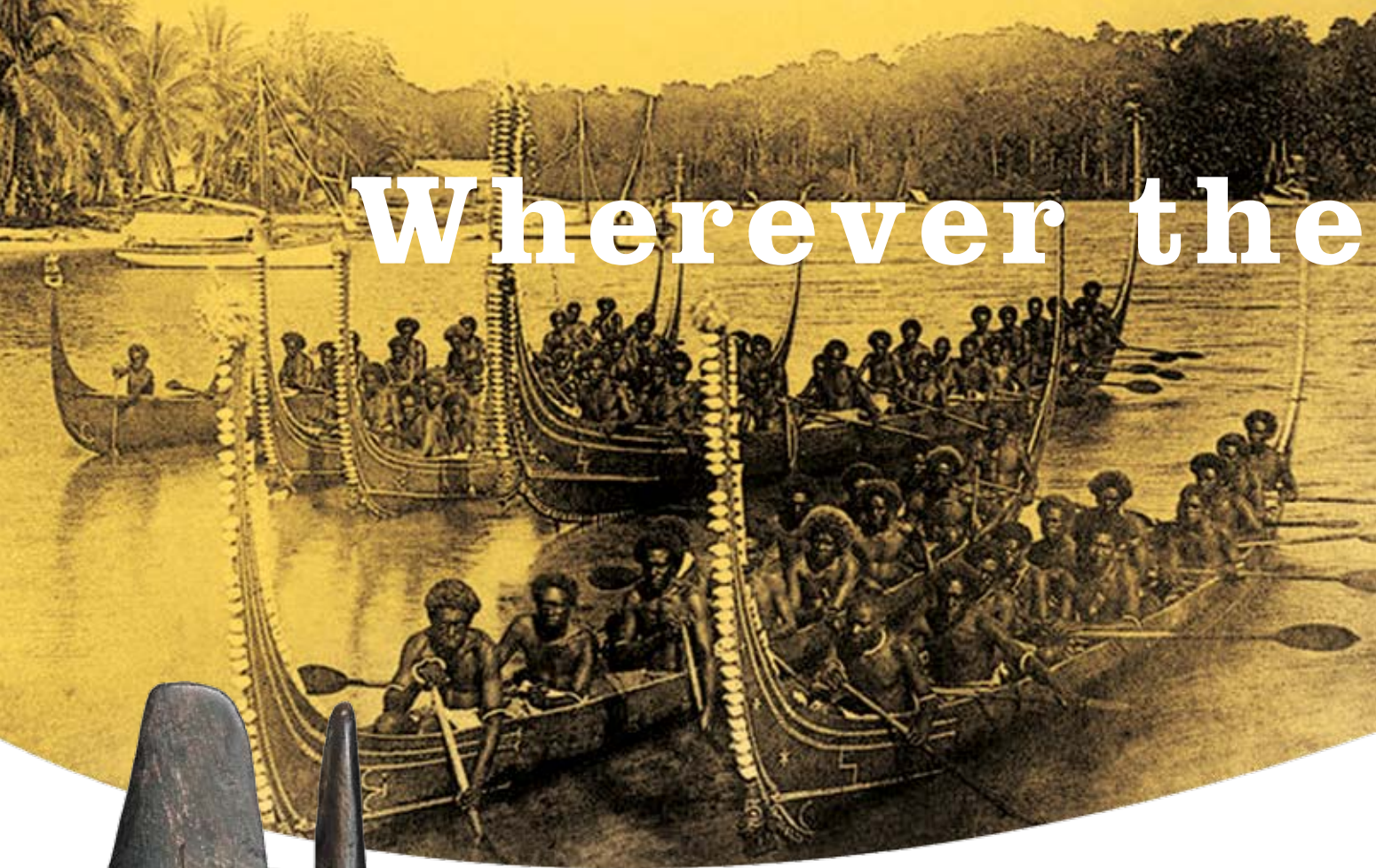
<sup>1</sup> Mike Butterworth, "rh(m)," NIDOTE 3:1093-95.

<sup>2</sup> Gary D. Pratico and Miles V. Van Pelt, *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Grammar* (2nd ed.; Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2007), 47.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

*Younis Masih lectures in theology at Fulton College, Fiji.*

# Wherever the



**T**HE EARLY ACCOUNTS FROM OUR MISSIONARIES TO THE SOLOMON ISLANDS IN the 19th century included tales of a savage, headhunting people. Their war canoes were much feared, 60-feet-long and carrying up to 100 warriors paddling to the rhythm of blasts on a conch-shell trumpet. But these early pioneers also brought back stories of great transformations; locals experienced the superior power of the Holy Spirit working through prayer and the power of the name of Jesus, which was used to bring victory over the evil spirits. The islanders grew to value the peace that came to their society when Christian love was practised.

One such pioneer was Griffith Francis Jones, a sea captain. He was a born missionary, engaging and friendly—soft-spoken, small in stature but with great courage and heart.

He was called to the Solomon Islands, landing at Gizo, New Georgia on May 29, 1914, “sailing wherever the Lord leads”. Using a purpose-built boat called the *Advent Herald*, with an auxiliary 12 hp engine, he spread God’s message throughout the islands. The *Advent Herald* had a portable cabin that also doubled as a temporary safe haven among the more hostile tribes.

Pastor Jones had his first real introduction as a Seventh-day Adventist missionary with Chief Tatagu when he and a local trader, Mr Wheatley, paddled ashore in a dinghy at Babata Beach in Marovo Lagoon. Carrying some gifts and curiosities in hand—a pocket watch and some canned food—he was nervously presented to Chief Tatagu. Pastor Jones was able to speak through a translator to the Chief concerning his desire to establish a mission for teaching his people to read and write English.

Pastor Jones had the particular aptitude for quickly absorbing a new language and was peculiarly adapted for breaking new ground. Over the next six months, Pastor Jones continued his efforts as he drew the island people to him by his warm-hearted, friendly personality. His aspirations for the establishment of a mission school were not realised straight away, as the local chiefs did not want to anger the spirit gods and ancestors they worshipped. While discouraged, Pastor Jones did not dismiss his intentions as he repeated his offerings with other village chiefs.

# Lord leads

by Rebecca Heuston

The Lord worked through the desires of some young boys from Babata, who had observed the differences the missionaries had made on other islands. They had also heard the lovely singing drifting over to the shore from the *Advent Herald* as it sailed throughout the islands. They were excited and wanted to learn more.

The young boys followed the *Advent Herald* and spoke with Pastor Jones about a chief named Pidala who would donate some land at Sasaghana for a mission school. Praising the Lord for his marvellous ways, Pastor Jones promised the boys he would come and establish a mission school there as soon as possible. So on foot, the three boys journeyed back to Marovo, travelling alone through dense jungles and dangerous waters, to tell the villagers the good news.

Pastor Jones sailed into Sasaghana a month later to the excitement of the villagers. He had brought supplies of timber and roofing to establish a residence for himself, the missionary house, a school house and dormitory.

During the years leading up to 1920, the mission's popularity grew with the arrival of Australian teachers. Chief Tagu noticed the difference the peace of God brought to his people and while he was never baptised as a Christian, he upheld the Christian teachings in his life. He even requested a Christian burial service, which Pastor Jones performed.

In 1920, Pastor Jones returned to Australia from his six years of service in the Solomon Islands. At that time, there were five central stations and 17 out-stations with a Sabbath School membership of 1108.

Many of these early pioneers brought cultural objects back from their missionary work. Each one of these tells

a story, revealing a people who delighted in visual beauty, embellishing items of most value to them: their feast bowls, ceremonial clubs and, perhaps most memorable, the small figureheads that they tied to the bows of their canoes to detect hidden reefs.

They also wore decorative combs in their hair, armlets of small shell discs and clamshell ornaments with filigree designs of astounding beauty.

Today, there are more than 40,000 baptised believers in the Solomon Islands—a testament to the courage and faith of these early pioneers in sailing wherever the Lord led.

We are seeking historical photographs, stories and artefacts brought back from the Solomon Islands by our early pioneers. These relics can help future generations understand how our pioneers lived and worked with these inspiring people and what they experienced during the early days in the Pacific Islands.



*Rebecca Heuston has an interest in the historical works of the Pacific Islands. She wants to locate documents and artefacts from early Christian influences in the islands to record the cultural context of various museum artefacts.*



## Do you know?

- The name of this early mission boat to the Solomon Islands
- Any information about it: eg how it got to where it is?

Send to [news@record.net.au](mailto:news@record.net.au)

## MYSTERY HISTORY



LETTERS

**PART OF THE WIDER CHURCH**

Emosi Lomata, FIJI

Thank you for RECORD. We're blessed to be receiving it fortnightly and feel part of the wider Church.

We appreciate the challenging articles, news stories and spectacular photos.

Even my non-Adventist friends enjoy reading it.

**GREATER INCLUSION OF PACIFICA**

Damien Rice, VANUATU

Thank you for RECORD. I understand it involves a considerable investment of the Church. However it helps to unify us with other members, churches and territories across the South Pacific.

It's encouraging to see our magazine becoming a truly South Pacific publication with greater inclusion of Pacifica news, faces and opinions.

Our members do not always receive RECORD. We would like to see this happen more often. However, we do commend you for the development of digital and visual media that can be accessed by increasing numbers of people.

We truly are a global Church and must do what we can to promote unity, identity and innovation in mission while maintaining a distinctly South Pacific flavour.

I hope that RECORD will continue to facilitate open dialogue and vigorously present the issues facing the church at this time.

**HAVE YOUR CAKE . . .**

Joy Cornell, QLD

Pastor Eddy, you say in "Revival, revival, revival" (Feature, July 2) that revival comes not as we focus on preparing to be ready for the

Second Coming, but as we become 'the kind of people that Jesus describes in the Beatitudes', people who show His love and compassion for all 'the woes of the world'.

I can hear Jesus chuckling "Eddy, I want you to have your cake and eat it too!"

Because as we become these caring, compassionate people, Jesus will open His arms wide—some glorious day, soon—and shout "Come, you blessed of My Father, I was hungry, and you fed Me; naked, and you clothed Me . . ."

Let's start the revival!

**WOW—WHAT A CONCEPT!**

Linda Grant, NSW

What an inspiring man of 69 years, Pastor Johnson is. I believe he has captured the true essence of the terminology "revival".

As an Adventist I've struggled with this concept for so long and often developed deep feelings of guilt because I "lose the energy buzz" for the same revival concepts such as Revelation and health seminars.

I wholeheartedly agree with Pastor Garth Bainbridge's statement (as quoted by Pastor Johnson), "Revival will not come because we seek it for itself" and "Revival is simply the outgrowth of a relationship with Jesus which makes me into a more loving and lovable Christian". Wow—what a concept!

**REFRESHING CONTRIBUTION**

Graeme Dustow, email

What a refreshing contribution by Pastor Eddy Johnson.

Perhaps if Seventh-day Adventists altered their focus from repetitive calls to

revival from an introspective generation to a revival in applying the all enduring love of Christ in selfless service to the needs of communities around the world, calls to revival would become redundant.

Do we not believe God loves and died to redeem our fellow human beings suffering the impacts of natural and man-made calamities?

They are not simply collateral damage to be ignored in the battle for the universe, nor to be triumphantly exhibited in calls for revival as signs of the nearness of Christ's return.

**LOOK UP AND LIFT YOUR HEADS**

Jan Knopper, NSW

I'm disappointed in the tenure of the article on "Revival, revival, revival".

It lacks clear support for the focus of the General Conference and its leadership.

I'm appalled in the way Pastor Eddy Johnson reacted to the church member who was filled with joy about what is taking place in regard to the fulfilment of the signs of the coming of our Lord. I appreciate that Pastor Johnson has concern for the pain and sadness caused by natural disasters.

In Luke 21:28, Jesus reminds us of the final days, "And when these things begin to come to pass then look up and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth."

Sister White adds to Jesus' words, "When the signs predicted begin to come to pass, the waiting, watching ones are bidden to look up and lift their heads and rejoice because their redemption draweth nigh."

*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.*



## 101ST BIRTHDAY



**Schofield.** Congratulations on your special day! Henry Schofield celebrated his 101st birthday on 28.4.11 in Bupa Banora Point, NSW, with his daughter, Beryl Race, and family and friends. Henry has been a very keen Bible student over the years and had the joy of seeing a number of his friends take their stand for their Saviour in baptism.

## ANNIVERSARIES



**Tinworth.** Noeleen and Loren Tinworth celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with a special cake. They were married 14.3.1951 in Concord church, Sydney, NSW. They were blessed with three children, David, Roslyn and Judy; three in-laws, Sue, Geoff and David; seven surviving grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Noeleen graduated from the old San as a nurse, and Loren pursued a business career. They continue their membership with Fox Valley Adventist Community church in Wahroonga.

## WEDDINGS



**Herbias–Laredo.** Albeth Herbias, son of Albert and Lizbeth Herbias (Melbourne, Vic), and Alexis Laredo, daughter of Alejandro and Eufemia Laredo (Philippines), were married 29.12.10 in East Prahran church, Melbourne, Vic.  
*David Pearce*



**Young–Glover.** Andrew Charles Young, son of David and Anne Young (Ballarat), and Katie June Glover, daughter of Wayne and June Glover (Melbourne), were married 13.13.11 in Wandin Uniting Church, Vic.  
*David Pearce*

## OBITUARIES

**Bloemitje,** Jacoba Johanna Aletta (Joy) (nee Arnold), born 30.9.1923 at Capetown, South Africa; died 23.5.11 in Fremantle Hospital, WA. In 1944, she married Samuel John Bloemitje. She was predeceased by her husband, and her eldest daughter, Florence.

Joy is survived by her children and their spouses, Benjamin and Jane Bloemitje (US), Beatrice Koopman (South Africa), and Sally and Frank Bobongie (Perth, WA). Joy assisted her husband as one of South Africa's leading educationists, often entertaining important officials. Together, they migrated to Australia in 1977. She was a devoted mother, grandmother and great-grandmother who, constantly shared her love and passion for Jesus. Joy was a gracious giver to God's work over the years.

*Keith Godfrey*

**Bradford,** Cynthia Constance Halley (nee Norrie), born 1.9.1925; died 3.7.10. Cynthia and her first husband, Keith Clark, who predeceased her in 1968, were baptised in 1953. She then married Bert, who also predeceased her, in 2000. She is survived by her daughters, Katharine Clarke and Jeanette Burrows, and son-in-law John Burrows; granddaughter, Catherine; great-grandson, Adam, and his wife, Rhiannon; five stepchildren; 17 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren (on the Bradford side). Cynthia was a member of Maroochydoore church, Qld and had previously been active in various churches in Victoria and Queensland. She was also leader of ADRA at Mitchelton church. She loved God deeply and followed Jesus fearlessly.

*John Rabbas, Eric Hursej*



**Brown,** Dorothy Ruth Anna (nee Boileau), born 10.6.1919 at Kalgoorlie, WA; died 21.4.11 in Perth. On 2.11.1940, she married David, who predeceased her in 1996. She is survived by her son, Paul; her granddaughter, Natalie; sisters, Marie and Judy (all of Perth, WA); and brother, Philip (Sydney, NSW). Ruth was known for her passion for life and the joy she brought to others. A humorous and energetic lady, she showed her genuine Christianity by much charity work in the church and in the community.

*Andrew Skeggs*

**Cain,** Ellen, born 1916 in Belfast, Ireland; died 5.6.11 at Victoria Point, Qld. She married George, who predeceased her. She is predeceased by her nephew, Robert Harvey. Ellen loved her Lord and

waits for the blessed hope of Jesus' return.

*Graham Allen*

**Clarke,** Norman Wilfred, born 15 August at Bangalow, NSW. On 7.8.1940, he married Sylvia Clarice Gray at Clunes, NSW, who predeceased him on 21.5.11. He was also predeceased by two of his children, Ivan Alan and Neal Geoffrey. He is survived by his children, Lindsay, Norman and Kaye Sylvia. Norm was a successful businessman all his life. He donated generously to many mission projects and believed passionately in the second coming of Jesus.

*Ted White, Ray Fraser, Ray Kent, Ron Ugljesa*

**Curley,** Wendy, born 24.8.1960; died 29.4.11 in Meekatharra Hospital, WA, after a sudden heart attack. She was predeceased by her partner, Robert Tullock, in 1982. She is survived by her sons, Sharrick (Sharky) (Port Hedland) and Warwick (Meekatharra); and six grandchildren. Wendy started her education at Meekatharra High School and attended the Adventist church held in the Country Women's Association hall as a young girl. She became Karalundi's first cook after it reopened in 1986. Wendy later pursued a career in Education and graduated with her BA degree in 2009. She taught at Meekatharra Primary School for the last two years of her life. Wendy loved

## POSITIONS VACANT

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■ **Minister to the Torres Strait–Northern Australian Conference** is seeking expressions of interest for the position of minister to the Torres Strait. The role covers a ministry area that extends from Cape York to the Papua New Guinea border. It is a diverse role and the successful applicant will be a self-motivated, energetic person who has a passion to share Jesus and His Word; have cross-cultural experience together with a willingness to learn from others; coordinate ministry on three main islands and follow-up interests that exist in other locations; have the relevant boat licences (Coxswain) and the ability to skipper the church's 7.7 metre vessel (if not holding the required licence the prospective candidate must be willing and able to be sponsored to obtain the Coxswain qualification); and be a practical person who also has some mechanical and building maintenance experience. Please email your expression of interest to the Conference President, Pastor David Stojcic, at [davidstojcic@adventist.org.au](mailto:davidstojcic@adventist.org.au) or phone (07) 4779 3988 for more information.

■ **Activity Officer/Physio Aid–Adventist Aged Care (South Qld) (Melody Park, Nerang Qld).** Part time 48 Hours per fortnight. Providing diversional therapy and physio aide services to 40 residents in our Nerang Residential Aged Care Facility. Essential Criteria: must be vibrant and innovative; good communicator; commitment to quality and Resident Care Current Federal Police clearance. Desirable criteria: relevant qualification in leisure and lifestyle Cert IV. Contact Jan Hume, Care Manager, on (07) 5557 1777 or email [janhume@adventist.org.au](mailto:janhume@adventist.org.au). Applications close **August 7, 2011.**

■ **Systems Engineer (IT)–South Pacific (Wahroonga, NSW)** is seeking a highly skilled and experienced Systems Engineer to join the busy Information Technology service in Wahroonga NSW. Based at the South Pacific Division head office, this full-time role will provide network and server support to locations within Australia and the wider Pacific, as well as level 2 service desk troubleshooting. The successful candidate should be eligible to work in Australia. For more information please visit the South Pacific Division's Human Resources website on [www.adventistemployment.org.au](http://www.adventistemployment.org.au). All written applications, including your CV, 3 work related referees and the contact details of your church pastor, must be forwarded to: Human Resources, Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Ltd, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga, NSW, 2076 Australia; email [hr@adventist.org.au](mailto:hr@adventist.org.au); fax (02) 9489 0943. Applications close **August 9, 2011.**

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Jesus and loved to help others know Him, too.

*Keith Godfrey*

**Danes**, Lynette, born 17.1.1933 in Sydney, NSW; died 22.5.11 in Robina Hospital, Qld. She is survived by her husband, Paul. Lyn was a quiet, lovely Christian lady with an enduring faith in Jesus. She is greatly missed by Paul and members of his family, and her Surfers Paradise church family. "How precious are the death of His saints."

*Peter Colquhoun, Ray Richter*

**de Beer**, Paul Bernard, born 21.8.1936 in Zimbabwe; died 10.4.11 at Hallett Cove, SA. On 14.2.1959, he married Florence Hyland. He is survived by his wife; and his children, Bernard (Isle of Man, GB) and Michelle Kandiliotis (Hallett Cove, SA). Paul and his wife were involved with lay ministry in the Adventist Church for over 36 years in Zimbabwe, South Africa, Geneva, Switzerland, Isle of Man, Great Britain, and finally in Adelaide, SA, caring for Brighton church. He was involved in public evangelism, radio ministry, church planting and pastoring while still self supporting. He was widely respected and dearly loved by family, friends and the congregations he spent his life ministering to.

*Wolfgang Stefani, Graham Wynniatt, Andrew Kingston*

**Gajda**, Julian, born 10.2.1920 in Brzeziny, Poland; died 11.4.11 in Robina Hospital, Gold Coast, Qld. He is survived by his wife, Helena. Julian escaped from Poland following the Nazi inva-

sion, and joined the Allied cause in active service across Europe and in North Africa. He made his way to England, where he joined the RAF as a fighter pilot in the Polish squadron of freedom fighters. Following the war, Julian spent some years finding and uniting missing members of Polish families. Finally, he made his way to Melbourne. There he met Helena also a survivor of the war in Poland. In Melbourne, Julian developed a successful business but, more importantly, found a whole new freedom in Jesus as his Saviour and Lord. This kindly christian man with a quiet bearing, natural gentleness, easy smile and manly embrace belied the steady unconquerable indomitable spirit that courageously and selflessly endured so much for the freedom of his fellow man.

*Peter Colquhoun, Ray Richter*

**Hale**, Frederick, born 22.6.1932 in Victoria Park, Perth, WA; died 11.5.11 in Sherwin Lodge, Rossmoyne, after a brief struggle with cancer. Fred was loved by the many friends who became his "family." After committing his life to God at Pastor Geoff Youlden's meeting in the 1980s, his church became his extended family. Fred was a practical, no-fuss man and lived his life simply. His devotion to his God is a legacy he will be remembered for. Resting in Jesus until his name is called.

*Keith Godfrey*



**Hergenhan**, Cyril Hamilton, born 6.3.1920 in Bega, NSW; died 22.12.10 at Bega. Cyril and his family learned to love the truths of the Bible through Voice of Prophecy speaker Pastor LC Naden. The family travelled to Goulbourn in 1952 to be baptised by him. He was predeceased by his wife, Una, and daughter, June. He is

survived by his wife, Faith; his sons, Rex and Barry, and their wives; 10 grandchildren, and their spouses; and eight great-grandchildren. Cyril lived his whole life in Bega, on the family dairy farm. He was a loyal member of Bega church and loved to be involved in practical service to God.

*Rick Hergenhan*

**Jovanovic**, Branislava (Branka) Biro, born in Nische, Serbia; died 6.4.11 in Calvary Nursing Home, Cessnock, NSW. She married Mladen in Belgrade, Serbia, who predeceased her. She is survived by her daughter, Natalie Biro (Cessnock); and the Furtinovic family (Hanover, Germany). For those that knew Branka, they found an uncompromising, multi-talented, determined, tenacious, generous, amazing and extraordinary woman who will live on in the heart of her daughter.

*Nataniel Pereira*

**Hon**, Hona Joyce Gee, born 30.5.1920 at Glen Innes, NSW; died peacefully while asleep in Sydney Adventist Hospital on 22.5.11, after a fall at home. Hona was one of 11 siblings and is survived by her three sisters, Ora Mee Lee, June Long and Norman, and Jill Wong and Andrew (all of Sydney). Hona's first love was her God and His church. She was totally dedicated to creative activities, giving devotionals at age care facilities, Asian Aid, Signs, and a host of charities. Hona was generous with love, talents, time, energy and money. After burial in Castlebrook Cemetery next to her mother and siblings, Eric, Dulcie and Merle, family and friends celebrated her life with tributes in Thornleigh church.

*George Porter, Alex Currie*

**Lambert**, Oswald Charles Gordon, born 11.3.1925 at Geelong, Vic; died 13.5.11 in Advent Care Yarra Junction. On 30.12.1955, he married Josephine. He is survived by Mark Lambert (Launching Place) and Louise van der Kraan (Riddells Creek). Oswald will be remembered for his love of family and friends. His working life was primarily with the PMG (now Telstra).

*Darrell Croft*

**Levers**, Dorothy (Dotty), born 12.10.1960 in Cairns, Qld; died 5.5.11 in Cairns. She was predeceased by her mother, Madaleen; and siblings, Veronica

and Vincent. She is survived by her father, Wilfred; and her siblings, Elberta, Mopsy, Willie, Sylvia, Maureen, Merridy, Charlie, Wendy, Carmen and Glenda. Dotty believed and accepted Jesus as her Saviour. She was the eighth of 13 children. She passed away peacefully with members of her family by her bedside.

*Frank J Gorry*

**McGaw**, Mavis Esma, (nee Blanchard), born 3.11.1927 at Wollongong, NSW; died unexpectedly 15.1.11 at Normanhurst. On 14.12.1948, she married Bill in the old North Sydney church. She was predeceased by her husband and her grandchild, Hayley. Mavis is survived by her children and their spouses, Lynley and Adrian Katschke (Tintenbar), Glenda and Sandy Nugara (Dural), and David and Diane McGaw (Schofields); her grandchildren, Elizabeth Hicks, and husband Tristan, David Katschke, Amanda McGaw, and partner, Jake, Megan Nugara, Ashley McGaw and Natalie Nugara; and greatgrandson, Riley. Her strong faith in God's truth kept her sustained even though her health was deteriorating and she was obliged to leave the home which she and Bill had built to move into the Adventist Retirement Village at Normanhurst only two months before she passed away. She is missed everyday by her family and they eagerly await the call to life for Mavis, Bill and Hayley, when Jesus returns.

**Ninez**, Dyan Anacleto, born 19.9.1987 at Iligan City, Philippines; died 16.5.11. She is survived by her mother, Daisy; father, Nathan; brothers, James and Gordon; and her boyfriend, Simon. Dyan was the youth leader and the youngest-ever elected elder of Woolahrah church. During her life, she did a lot of volunteer works in Australia and Philippines and mentored young people. She was loved by many for her humility, compassion, love and care and, most of all, for her devoted spiritual life and faith in God. She will be missed very much by her family, relatives and friends, Klaus and Minerva Lebmeier, Ronald and Aileen Manahan, Zillah, Merlyn and Bhiebbie.

*Klaus Lebmeier*

**Sattler**, Rosa (nee Munns), born 7.12.1921 at Lichtenberg, Roma-

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nia; died 1.5.11 in Lyell McEwin Health Service Elizabeth Vale, SA. On 17.9.1948, she married Gotthard, who predeceased her. She is survived by her children, Franzl (Munich, Germany), Manfred, John, Edie (all of Adelaide, SA) and Gerhard (Darwin, NT). No longer in our lives to share but in our hearts, she will always be there. Awaiting the Lord's return.

*Wolfgang Stefani*

**Scells**, Norman Stephen, born 19.12.1920 at Stanthorpe, Qld; died 6.6.11 at Cottonvale, NSW. He was a beloved member of the Stanthorpe church family, and a strong and active man for his age. Norm worked and lived alone on his farm, and his untimely death occurred when his tractor accidentally rolled over him. He is survived by his children, Elizabeth, Rose, and husband, Snow, Paul, Isabel, and husband, Eric, Margaret and Allan; six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren. He will be missed.

*Reg Harris, David Hall*

**Skelton**, Loloma (Loma) Jean Ellis (nee Grafham), born 4.10.1920 in Perth, WA; died 29.4.11 in Freeman Nursing Home, Rossmoyne. In February 1945, she married Rex Skelton, who predeceased her. She is survived by their children, Merilynn Eastland, Dorothy-Mae, Ngaere Byfield, John and Llewellyn; nine grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. Loma was a Carmel College student and worked for the Sanitarium in Perth, Melbourne and Hobart. She was always involved in Adventist church life, as the children's Sabbath-school director and as one of the first Pathfinder Directors in WA. Loma was deeply loved by her children, extended family, friends and church.

*Keith Godfrey*

## ADVERTISEMENTS

**South New South Wales Conference Triennial Constituency Meeting.** Notice is hereby

given that the 83rd Constituency Meeting of the South New South Wales Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church will be held at Canberra National Seventh-day Adventist Church, Cnr Gould & Macleay Streets, Turner, ACT 2612. The business session will be held on Sunday, September 18, 2011, commencing at 10am. Registration will be required prior to the commencement time. Delegates are to be appointed in harmony with the Constitution. The business of the Constituency Meeting will be as provided in the Constitution, incorporating the presentation of reports and financial statements for the period. The officers, executive committee and other committees, as provided in the Constitution, will be appointed.

*Kendell Cobbin, General Secretary*

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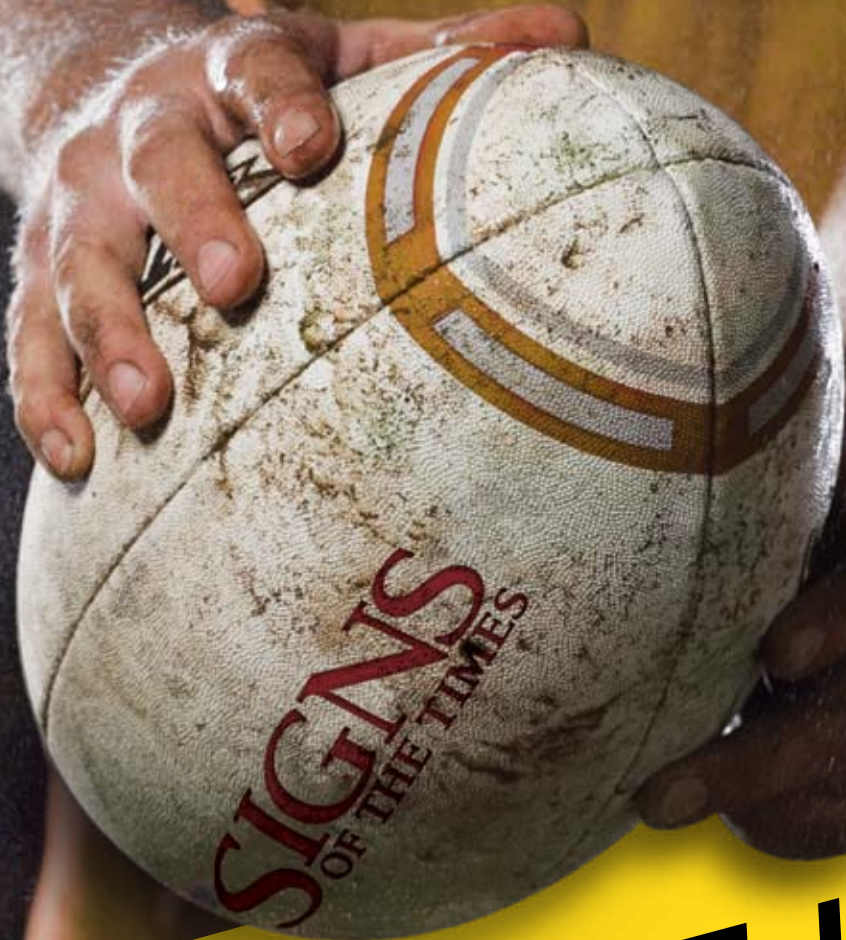
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