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Record

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OF THE NATION** page 9

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ORDINATION** page 14

*"It's what's inside
that counts"*

Sanitarium
health & wellbeing

NEW **vegie**
delights

Illustration of recipe

Sanitarium Spicy Pepperoni



**Delicious hot or cold, spicing
up your favourite vegetarian
dishes has never been so easy!**

New Vegie Delights Pepperoni is now available in the chilled health food category in Coles & Woolworths Australia.

Roast Pumpkin and Pepperoni Pizza

With a moderately spicy kick, our vegetarian Pepperoni is the perfect complement to accompany the flavours of the roast pumpkin and peppery rocket. Our Roast Pumpkin and Pepperoni Pizza is a sure fire crowd pleaser!

1x large wholemeal pizza base or pita bread
1 x 140g pizza sauce or tomato paste
½ cup fresh rocket, washed
1 cup diced roast pumpkin
½ cup thinly sliced Vegie Delights Pepperoni
½ cup thinly sliced Buffalo mozzarella
½ cup shredded mozzarella cheese

1. Preheat oven to 180°C (375°F)
2. Place pizza base on lightly greased oven tray then top with sauce or paste and spread over pizza base with a spatula
3. Add Buffalo mozzarella, roast pumpkin, Pepperoni, rocket and shredded mozzarella cheese
4. Place pizza in oven and cook for approx 15 minutes or until cheese is melted and golden

**Try these additional toppings: dried or fresh herbs,
roast sweet potato**

Serves: 6 Prep time: 15 mins

Cooking time: 25-30 mins

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High note for Hymns and Songs of Praise

Newcastle, New South Wales

A neutral venue and the appeal of a popular journalist and broadcaster have helped deliver the Hymns and Songs of Praise program its biggest audience to date.

About 1000 people attended the concert at Panthers Newcastle on November 3. While it has an eight-year history at Avondale College of Higher Education, musical director Dr Lyell Heise, a senior lecturer in the School of Ministry and Theology at Avondale and director of the South Pacific Division's Institute of Worship, moved it to reach a wider audience. He also collaborated for the first time with the North New South Wales Conference.

"Hymns and Songs in a leagues club—that's Newcastle," said NNSW Conference president, Pastor Justin Lawman, who recommended the venue. "It's a working-class city so we needed a working class venue."

Pastor Lawman described Hymns and Songs as making "an important statement. It builds so many bridges with members of the community—they get to know us for who we are rather

than just for what we believe."

Inviting Geraldine Doogue, host of the religious program *Compass* on ABC TV and the political program *Saturday Extra* on ABC Radio National, to compere also sent a message. "One of mutual validation," said Pastor Heise, who co-produced the concert with Valmai Hill.

The 50-piece Institute of Worship Orchestra provided the accompaniment for the congregational singing and for Avondale vocal ensembles Avondale Singers, the Contemporary Choir and The Promise, soprano Marianne Maroney and tenor Albert Mataafa.

Dr Heise vacated the podium during the program for three other conductors—Aleta King, music strand convenor at Avondale, Benjamin Millis, a music specialisation student at Avondale, and Daniel Brinsmead, a young alumnus of Australian National University's School of Music. It was the world premiere performance of his arrangement of an orchestral score of "We Shall Behold Him".

This song and "As The Deer"—fea-



The program featured traditional and contemporary music.

turing children Maegen and Georgia Craig on piano and Zara and Jayden Lynch on violin and cello—are examples of the institute's "conscious attempt to mentor the next generation of leaders and musicians," Dr Heise said. "We're keen to stand as an interpreter of the past to help children and young adults better understand their heritage and as an interpreter of the future to reassure older adults it's possible to be thoroughly Adventist, thoroughly contemporary and thoroughly relevant." —Brenton Stacey

Photo: Ann Stafford

New book honours first Adventist physician

Watson Park, Queensland

The untold story of the first Seventh-day Adventist to study medicine in Australia features in a new book by an Avondale staff member.

Rose-lee Power describes Dr Margherita Freeman, the subject of *Born To Serve*, as "courageous and determined". "For a woman to take up medicine was really . . . going against the odds—it was a man's world," said Ms Power,

who researched the story for three years in her role as curator of the Adventist Heritage Centre.

Sydney Adventist Hospital's connection with its community and reputation for providing quality care "is in no small part due to the work of Dr Freeman and others like her who had a vision and spirit of service that all would do well to emulate," said Dr

Barry Oliver, president of the Church in the South Pacific and chair of the hospital's board.

Dr Oliver attended the launch of *Born To Serve* as part of an Adventist Women's Conference at the Watson Park Convention Centre, north of Brisbane, on August 17.

Rod and Nita Ellison, who were friends of Dr Freeman, began the project to write her story. Mrs Ellison recalled the doctor's sense of humour. "We spent a lot of the time laughing with her while we were visiting," she said.

Mrs Ellison approached Ms Power to finish writing the story, but because Dr Freeman had no children she found it difficult finding accurate sources. However, a set of documents and photographs became available from the Freeman Nursing Home in Rossmoyne, which is named in her honour. The documents confirmed facts and provided images of Dr Freeman later in her life.

All profits from the sale of the book will go to Keep Girls Safe and Women's Safe Haven.

Born To Serve is available from the Avondale College of Higher Education online store. —Jemma Galindo

See *Record Rewind* (November 17) for full story.



Author, Rose-lee Power.



Pacific fire

James Standish

Geoffrey Rush is among the people calling on Australian theatres to use fewer foreign actors. Of course, Mr Rush's job is hardly threatened—but his point is that unless you give local actors the opportunity to be cast in Australian productions they will never develop. And if we don't develop our local talent, we will end the remarkable run of Australians who make it, very literally, to the world stage.

I suppose it's the same in every country. One of the reasons given for the remarkable number of Canadian music stars, besides the obvious incentive for Canadians to do anything they can to get to a warmer climate, is that Canadian broadcasters are required to play a certain amount of local talent. Does it work? Think everyone from Justin Bieber (scream) to Michael Bublé (swoon), Celine Dion (scream, but in a different way) to Carly Rae Jepsen ("Call Me Maybe"), Canadians form a sort of artistic fifth column in America—hard to spot, and when you do, it's too late because you've already surrendered to their charms.

The sensible steps proposed by Geoffrey Rush and enforced by the Canadian Government made me think of an Australian church event I attended.

When I arrived there were three speakers, speaking simultaneously in the three large venues. But what was interesting to me as I wandered from venue to venue was that every speaker was American. I could have been wandering around a convention in Albuquerque or Texarkana, instead of Australia! All in all, for that one event, there were five American speakers who had been flown in.

Now, it's no secret that I love America and Americans, and that I'm a dual citizen. But when an Aussie event is dominated to that degree by American speakers, something strikes me as a bit off. And, apparently, that event is hardly unique. I've been informed with confidence by my RECORD colleagues that the hallmark of a big event in Australian Adventism is American speakers.

Our infatuation with all things American doesn't end at the pulpit either. A local church recently advertised its service with the names of singers followed by "USA". Really? In the entire South Pacific, a region overflowing with musical talent, the best idea we can come up with

is to ship in religiotainment from America? Sure, if it was Elvis I'd understand. But that seems unlikely at this stage, doesn't it?

All of this is a shame for three reasons.

First, I've heard at least as good speakers in the South Pacific over the past two years as I heard in the US over two decades.

Second, when "international speakers" drop by and deliver their well-honed, greatest hit sermons they often sound to me to be exactly what they are—well-rehearsed pieces that are not tailored to who we are, what we are doing or our authentic spiritual needs.

Third, and most problematic, we are missing crucial opportunities to develop local preaching talent.

A friend recently observed that every year we have a couple of Avondale graduates who excel in the preaching department. He then went on to muse, once they graduate he never hears of them again. I suppose that's inevitable if we cede our top speaking spots to overseas speakers. If local speakers aren't given the opportunity to hone their homiletics and refine their repartee, they can't. Rather, they will be giving great sermons every week to a relatively small circle. And, when we have major events, they will be relegated to handing out fliers or assisting with logistics.

I think Geoffrey Rush has a good point when it comes to Australian theatre. And the Canadians are onto a good thing with their radio slots for home grown talent (even if that does include Celine Dion). Either local talent is developed or it is wasted. And I think the same applies in our Church.

It's time to have the courage to organise big events with our best South Pacific speakers headlining them. In the process, we'll get a little less reheated leftovers served with a generous helping of jetlag, and a lot more sizzling substance served hot with Pacific fire.

James Standish is RECORD editor for the South Pacific Division.

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 "A child worshipping in the new church at Apatula."

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SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

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



Where is thy sting?*

Linden Chuang

On December 13, 2009, my dad passed away. I'll never forget the moment the phone call came through or the searing pain that pierced my heart and literally brought me to my knees.

It happened without warning. Only a week earlier my dad and the rest of my family had gathered at Avondale College to celebrate my graduation. I had also spoken to him on the phone the day before he died. He sounded fine; he seemed happy. And I think he truly was . . . until Satan decided to step in.

Doctors told my family a cerebral haemorrhage killed my dad. While I accept this diagnosis, I am also mindful of Satan's ability to bring pain to a time of peace, and devastation to a period of delight. That's his M.O. He did it in heaven. He did it in Eden. And he does it now.

But Satan doesn't think things through. You see, for every move he makes, God has a counter move. Satan created chaos in heaven, and God cast him out. Satan brought his plan of destruction to earth, and God met it with His plan of salvation.

In killing my dad, Satan brought my family and me our greatest hurt. But to counter the hurt, God offers a hope—a great and magnificent hope that puts Satan's hurt to shame.

That's not to say the wound from my dad's death is gone. No—the pain from losing him is still very deep. But, as oxymoronic as it sounds, it's a healthy pain. The great hurt reminds me of the greater hope that is Jesus Christ.¹ And because of Jesus, "I can stand in the pouring rain and believe the sun will shine again. I can know that the grave is not the end".² I can hold fast to the truth that my dad is a bigger part of my future than he is of my past!

To those who have lost somebody, you may feel as though you don't have enough faith to hope. Trust me—my faith isn't much either. But a crumb of faith, no matter how tiny or frail, is immovable and imperishable when placed in the hands of the "author and finisher of our faith".³ Therefore, "let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful" (Hebrews 10:23).

On December 13, it will be three years since my dad passed away. But praise be to God, for I'm simply three years closer to seeing him again.

* 1 Corinthians 15:55: "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"

1 1 Timothy 1:1

2 From "Heaven In The Real World" by Steven Curtis Chapman

3 Hebrews 12:2

Linden Chuang is editorial assistant for RECORD.

Shores of Galilee

Recently it was my special privilege to wake up in the early morning and wander along the shores of the Sea of Galilee close to the remains of Capernaum. The morning mists were on the water. A flock of egrets nesting in the bushes near the water's edge was just waking up. There were a few small fishing boats dotted across the lake.

As I bowed my head for some moments of reflection and prayer I realised that I was literally walking in the footsteps of Jesus. In my mind's eye I saw the fishing boats, the spread fishing nets and the baskets full of freshly caught fish. I heard the laughter; the voices of the fishermen, the children and the mothers who came to prepare to meet the needs of their families. And then my imagination caught sight of Jesus walking along the shore—the Son of God, but at the same time the Son of Man—one with His people. He saw their need and He touched them.

It was indeed a privilege which I wish everyone could share. But now I am back home and reminded of these words:

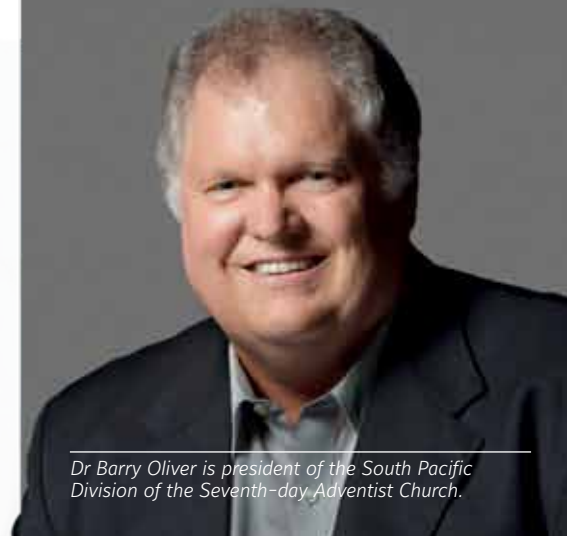
"Many feel that it would be a great privilege to visit the scenes of Christ's life on earth, to walk where He trod, to look upon the lake beside which He loved to teach, and the hills and valleys on which His eyes so often rested. But we need not go to Nazareth, to Capernaum or to Bethany, in order to walk in the steps of Jesus. We shall find His footprints beside the sickbed, in the hovels of poverty, in the crowded alleys of the great cities, and in every place where there are human hearts in need of consolation" (Ellen G White, *Ministry of Healing*, 105).

REVIVED BY HIS WORD

December 1 - 14

READING THROUGH THE BIBLE TOGETHER
ONE CHAPTER A DAY

1 - Judg. 18	5 - Rth. 1	9 - 1 Sam. 1	13 - 1 Sam. 5
2 - Judg. 19	6 - Rth. 2	10 - 1 Sam. 2	14 - 1 Sam. 6
3 - Judg. 20	7 - Rth. 3	11 - 1 Sam. 3	
4 - Judg. 21	8 - Rth. 4	12 - 1 Sam. 4	



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

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Sabbath focus of community conference

Naracoorte, South Australia

A one-day conference about the Sabbath was held at the South Naracoorte Primary School hall in South Australia on October 15.

It was conducted by Pastor Andrew Kingston, president of the South Australian Conference.

It came about following a plea for help from an Adventist family, the Thompsons, who moved to the Naracoorte area two years ago. They received a request from the Adventist Discovery Centre in Sydney to deliver Bible study materials to some of the townspeople who had asked for them. Ruth Thompson discovered that these people had been watching HopeChannel and 3ABN and were very interested in knowing more about the Bible Sabbath.

There is a very small company of Adventist members who meet in Naracoorte, so Pastor Kingston and Mrs Thompson organised a one-day seminar for these people and others interested in learning more about the Sabbath. Topics included: "The Sabbath in the Old Testament" (and in the New), "A study of texts mentioning the first day in the New Testament", "The Sabbath in the context of law and grace", "What was nailed to the cross?", "How did the Sabbath happen to be changed to Sunday?" and "How to keep the Sabbath—scriptural principles".

Members from surrounding non-Adventist churches who wanted to refresh their knowledge of what the Bible has to say about the seventh-day Sabbath also attended. An Adventist member from the Philippines, who had recently arrived to work in Naracoorte, saw an ad for the seminar and joyfully came to find his brothers and sisters.

Many of those who were learning about the Sabbath were very thankful for the confirmation of what they had already discovered and enjoyed the added materials they received. Young Adventist members were also enlightened and encouraged.

Attendees said it was a wonderful way to conduct a regional meeting of churches. —Janette Kingston



Participants had the chance to study the Sabbath in depth.

OPINION POLL RESULT



Should children be smacked?

Yes, it's standard punishment

14%

Yes, rarely within limits

31%

No, it's counter productive

2%

No, it's abusive

53%

Vegetarian food company arrives in Australia

Berkeley Vale, New South Wales

The SPD Health Food Department has launched Life Health Food (LHF) Australia.

Life Health Food (LHF) is a company established in conjunction with Sanitarium Health and Wellbeing and owned by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in New Zealand. It specialises in producing gourmet vegetarian foods.

Since November, LHF's Bean Supreme products—Mushroom Burgers, Roasted Garlic Vegetarian Sausages and Ginger and Honey Marinated Tofu—have been available at Coles supermarkets throughout Australia.

LHF will also now produce Sanitarium's Vegie Delights product range. "We know how much people enjoy traditional Vegie Delights products such as Nutmeat," said Dean Epps, sales marketing and commercial manager for LHF Australia. "Rest assured that we will continue to maintain and grow the successful Vegie Delights product range of

canned, chilled and frozen products."

"The Seventh-day Adventist Church is firmly committed to inspiring and resourcing people to enjoy meat-free meals," said Kevin Jackson, Health Food Department director and Sanitarium CEO.

"The establishment of LHF Australia represents a significant new step in this journey to offer fresh, innovative cuisine."—*Sanitarium Health and Wellbeing*



These new products are already available.

Adventist congressman defeated

Washington, United States

One of only two Adventists in the 441 member US House of Representatives, Congressman Roscoe Bartlett, was defeated in the recent US presidential election, after two decades in office.

His defeat came after the boundaries of his district were substantially redrawn.

Mr Bartlett studied theology and science at what is now Washington Adventist University, and then went on to graduate school at the University of Maryland, where he earned a PhD in physiology. He served on the faculty there and later at Loma Linda University.

Mr Bartlett was a great friend to the Adventist Church during his tenure in Congress. For example, he personally intervened with the US State Department to ensure the visa process for delegates to the 2005 and 2010 General Conference Sessions was handled efficiently. His work was invaluable after visas became increasingly hard to secure in the wake of the 9/11 attacks. He was also an active supporter of religious liberty measures, including the Workplace Religious Freedom Act. In 2006, he was recognised for his contribution to religious freedom at the annual Liberty Awards Dinner, Washington DC, an event sponsored by the Seventh-day Adventist Church.—*James Standish*



Mr Bartlett served his rural Maryland district for two decades.

Chamberlain lawyer receives state's top honour

Central Coast, New South Wales

Defence lawyer Stuart Tipple was awarded the 2012 President's Medal by the Law Society of New South Wales on October 25.

Mr Tipple, a Seventh-day Adventist from the Central Coast, provided legal advice and representation for fellow Adventists Michael and Lindy Chamberlain after their baby was taken by a dingo at Uluru in 1980. His work on the case, which was resolved earlier this year during a final coronial inquest, led to improved forensic testing practice in NSW.

"It was very humbling and wonderful to think that I was deemed worthy of the Law Society President's Medal," Mr Tipple told the *Central Coast Express Advocate*. "It is the most prestigious honour you can get."

In his more than 30 years as a legal practitioner, Mr Tipple has provided pro bono support to war widows and

their families, and The Salvation Army. He also serves as a board member for Central Coast Adventist School and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency.

He was awarded the medal at the Law Society's annual members' dinner. It recognises significant personal and professional contributions to the betterment of law and justice in the community by a NSW solicitor and member of the Law Society of NSW.—*RECORD staff*



Stuart Tipple with his President's Medal.



Russian Bible

Last year, the Russian Bible Society released a Slovo Zhizny translation of the Bible; previously the only other Russian translation was published in 1876. According to *Adventist World*, another modern language project is also underway and is due for completion by 2015. —*Adventist World*



Jewish Adventists

In 1990, Jews who had accepted Jesus attended mainstream churches. But today, according to *Adventist World*, there are up to 5000 Jewish Adventists around the world worshipping in 40 synagogue-style congregations. 2013 will see an effort to spread the Gospel in New York City, home to a growing Jewish population of 1.5 million. —*Adventist World*



Sink or swim?

The Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem was recently issued with an unpaid water bill for \$2.3 million, covering the past 15 years. The water company froze the Church's bank account and while negotiations are underway, other bills have gone unpaid. Unless they can come to an agreement, the sacred site may have to be closed. —*The Guardian (UK)*



Adventist radio in India

An Adventist program was broadcast for the first time on FM radio in India last month. The program, *Avennel*, which means *The Dawn* in Telugu, was aired in the city of Hyderabad. Additional broadcasts in Hindi and English will follow in other large cities. —*AWR*



True love waits

Data from 31 developed countries show that 94 per cent of Jews admitted to premarital sex, compared to 79 per cent of Christians, 65 per cent of Buddhists, 43 per cent of Muslims and 19 per cent of Hindus. Researchers were prompted to undertake the study by statistics that show very low rates of HIV infection in Muslim majority countries. —*Religion News Service*



Abseiling priest

Tim Harrison, an 85-year-old reverend, was seen abseiling from the bell-tower of St George's Anglican cathedral in Perth earlier this month. The reverend took on the challenge to celebrate Seniors' Week and to prove that he, like many older Australians, still has much to contribute. Reverend Harrison has not ruled out a repeat effort next year. —*Nine News*

Up to four million women and children are trafficked around the world

for forced prostitution, labour and other forms of exploitation every year. Trafficking is estimated to be a \$7 billion dollar annual business. India is one of the countries that struggles the most with the issue of human slavery. Asian Aid and partner Oasis India fight human trafficking and help trafficked women and children find their way back home.



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Give generously this Christmas and make it a season to GIVE HOPE!



Church at the heart of the nation

by Kent Kingston

It was a scramble at the end, with the sign going up, lights being tested and scaffolding coming down so that Australia's newest Adventist church building could be used for its first opening Sabbath program. The volunteer builders downed tools and declared the job complete just 10 minutes before sunset.

The story of Aputula (Finke) Adventist Church, more than four hours south of Alice Springs (Northern Territory), begins with one shy woman, Lorraine Ferguson. Several years ago, while living in the South Australian town of Port Augusta, Ms Ferguson came into contact with Adventists and became convinced of the truth of the seventh-day Sabbath. She rang her family in Aputula, a remote Aboriginal community of less than 300 people, and shared her convictions.

Many people in Aputula have a strong spiritual commitment, so the clear biblical evidence Ms Ferguson shared had an impact. Some expressed interest in attending Mamarapha College so Pastors Fehlberg and Eric Davey, along with Ms Ferguson made a visit to assist them. Senior community members gave them a warm welcome.

Pastor Don Fehlberg, associate director of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministries (ATSIM), has been a mainstay of the warm relationship between the Aputula community and the Adventist Church. His style involves genuine personal concern, home visits, Bible meetings and sharing stories as he visits various Outback communities. Pastor Fehlberg's encouragement has led a number of Aputula community members to attend ATSIM's Mamarapha College on the outskirts of Perth, an experience that has led to lifestyle change, the strengthening of faith and baptisms for many students.

The Alice Springs pastor now makes regular visits and links have been strengthened with Adventists in Port Augusta, Coober Pedy and Oodnadatta, South Australia.

The South Australian connection was reinforced when, in 2004, members of the College Park Polish church in Adelaide helped run a series of health meetings in Aputula. A number of people began talking about having an Adventist church building in the township. The idea wouldn't go away. A series of concerts were organised and \$A20,000 was raised for the project.

The negotiations between various Church jurisdictions took some years and the original building plans were down-scaled to a more modest sanctuary and attached two-bed-

room residence for visiting pastors. The Aputula community was fully supportive, providing land on the edge of town.

Key to the success of the project was volunteer labour. Enter Athol Grosse, a retired Adventist teacher in Perth, together with his builder mate, Noel Fulwood. They'd worked together on volunteer construction projects previously and agreed to take on the Aputula build. A team of 17 volunteers was assembled, including tradespeople, from locations as far-flung as Mt Isa, Brisbane, Perth and Port Hedland.

Most of the building materials, including the prefabricated steel framing, were purchased at capital city prices in Perth and transported by road train across the desert dirt roads to Aputula. The owner-driver of the truck, Peter Hayden, donated his time and the fuel, a significant sacrifice for a 5000 kilometre round trip in a heavy vehicle.

Sacrifice was a theme of the project, with the builders spending four weeks away from their families during July, living in tents and caravans and working "from dawn to dark and sometimes after" as Mr Grosse puts it. In July, desert temperatures can drop below freezing at night. The team returned again in October for another three weeks to finish the church building, facing the opposite problem with the temperature some days soaring into the mid 40s.

Volunteer labour kept the cost of building down significantly; ATSIM director, Steve Piez, estimates the total cost at \$A108,000, a startlingly low figure for a 100-seat church sanctuary and two-bedroom residence in a remote area.

The opening weekend was held while the volunteer builders were still in town and saw most of the Aputula community turn out, as well as visitors from Alice Springs, Coober Pedy and Oodnadatta. A highlight was music and worship led by country gospel artist Gavin Chatelier.

The official dedication commenced with a procession through the streets of Aputula, led by SA ATSIM director Pastor John Beck playing the didgeridoo. Community elders Violet Doolan and Yundu Spider provided the welcome and Northern Australian Conference president Pastor Brett Townend cut the ribbon. Four people were baptised during the first Sabbath morning service, and more than 20 came forward in commitment, including one of the builders. After a prayer of dedication, organisers moved quickly to gather names and contact details in order to follow up on the desert harvest at the heart of the nation.

Kent Kingston is an associate editor of RECORD.



OPENING HIS WORD

Gary Webster

From bored to board: God, you and church committees

For most, church committees or councils raise about as much excitement as watching grass grow. Of course, when something "juicy" is on the agenda it can be "standing room only". But have you ever thought about the fact that church councils are God's idea?

Jesus and church councils

Jesus believed strongly in the importance of church councils. The decisions of Spirit-led councils had serious consequences for those taking them lightly.

Read Matthew 18:15-17.

Church councils and selecting leaders

The early church used councils to choose leaders, relying on Scripture, prayer and the votes (lots) of members to select the appropriate people. Read Acts 1:13-26.

Church councils and fights

When disagreements broke out in the New Testament church the members were called together for a council to find a solution to the conflict. As a result the church experienced explosive growth.

Read Act 6:1-7.

Church councils and theological matters

When serious theological matters created tension in the church at Antioch, the leaders of that church sent Paul and Barnabas, with others, to the apostles in Jerusalem to sort the matter out. A church council was convened and a decision was made in favour of what Paul and Barnabas had been teaching. The decisions of that council were then imparted to the global church for implementation. As a result the church continued to grow.

Read Acts 15:1,2,6,7,22,23,30.

The example of the New Testament church informs us that:

1. Church councils keep the church mission focused.
2. Members should take seriously the decisions of Spirit-led church councils.
3. Local churches and members must take seriously the decisions of church councils at higher levels.

Pastor Gary Webster is director of the Institute of Public Evangelism.



OPINION

Trafford Fischer

What's happening to our men?

Men are in trouble! That's the conclusion of Steve Biddulph, Australian researcher and social commentator, who suggests that all through the 20th century, and into the 21st century, men have been suffering uniquely and severely. "Suicide, premature death, accidents and addiction—the statistics are all dominated by men. Physical violence against spouses, child sexual abuse, divorce, moral bankruptcy in business and politics, all point to something badly wrong with large numbers of men. Schoolyard shootings, serial killings. Men, always men" (*The New Manhood*, 2010).

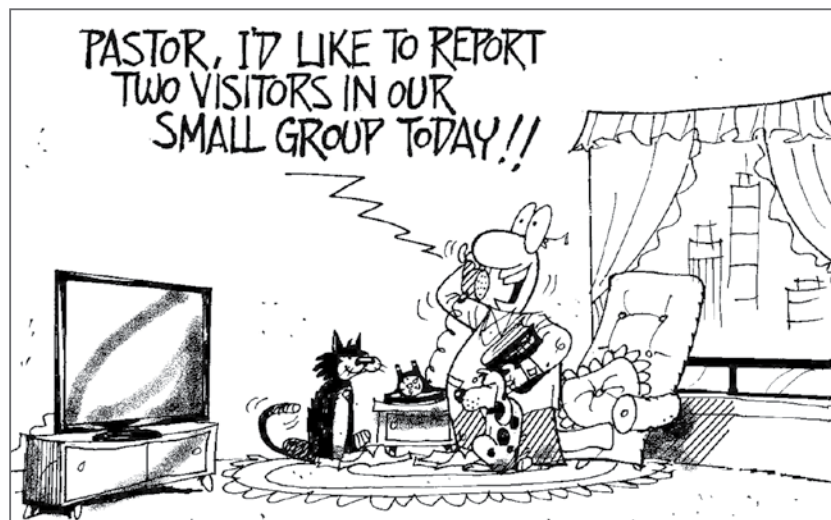
The statistics aren't real kind to men! Men on average live six years less than women; they have the highest death rates in every category from womb to tomb; over 90 per cent of acts of violence are carried out by men, and 70 per cent of the victims are men; in school, around 90 per cent of children with behavioural problems are boys, and over 85 per cent of children with learning problems are boys; young men aged 15-25 have three times the death rate of young women, and those deaths are all from preventable causes—motor vehicle accidents being the greatest; men make up 80 per cent of the homeless, and 90 per cent of jail populations; the leading cause of death among men between 15 and 44 is self-inflicted death.

What's happening to our boys and men? What have we done, or failed to do, to get to this place? Have we failed at parenting? Has our education system missed some vital ingredient that is necessary for instilling decency and resilience into the souls of boys?

What about our Church? How are men doing in our worship and church life? Are they thriving or just surviving? Do they feel they belong, that they are needed, valued, treasured? What is there in the way we "do" church that attracts and holds them? What of our terminology? We speak of having a "relationship" with God—is that men's usual language? Do men feel comfortable and easy in talking about a relationship with their God, or would they feel more at home talking about doing something for God? Might men find meaning and involvement in some kind of "shed church" where they can meet to "sharpen their spiritual blades?"

Nehemiah said (4:14), "Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives, and your homes." It's time to fight for all the men and boys in our churches. It's time to do all we can to ensure church is a place where men can find meaning, adventure and belonging. It's time to seek out the men and boys who have walked away and welcome them back—to a Church that challenges them to be the men they can be, under the moulding hand of God.

Pastor Trafford Fischer is director of Family Ministries for the South Pacific Division.





R HEALTH FEATURE

with Cathy McDonald

Kitchen time-saving tips

Here are some tips that can make your time in the kitchen more efficient.

Multiply your meals

Doubling your dinner recipes is a great way to save time later in the week. Double recipes for casseroles and stews, freezing the other half; defrost then reheat for a cheaper and healthier alternative to takeaways for those days where you have limited time and energy.

Get all your supplies together before you start

Planning meals prior to your weekly shop is beneficial as it stops the agonising decision of what to cook every night and provides an opportunity to buy ingredients that are missing. Before you begin to make dinner place all ingredients together on the bench; this is helpful as it cuts back on time hunting for things half-way through the cooking process.

Clean as you go

When you are finished with each ingredient put it back where it belongs. Additionally, as you finish with a dish, rinse and either stack near the sink or put it in the dishwasher.

Keep a shopping list on the fridge

Keep a shopping list and pen on the fridge so that you can add things as you notice they are running low.

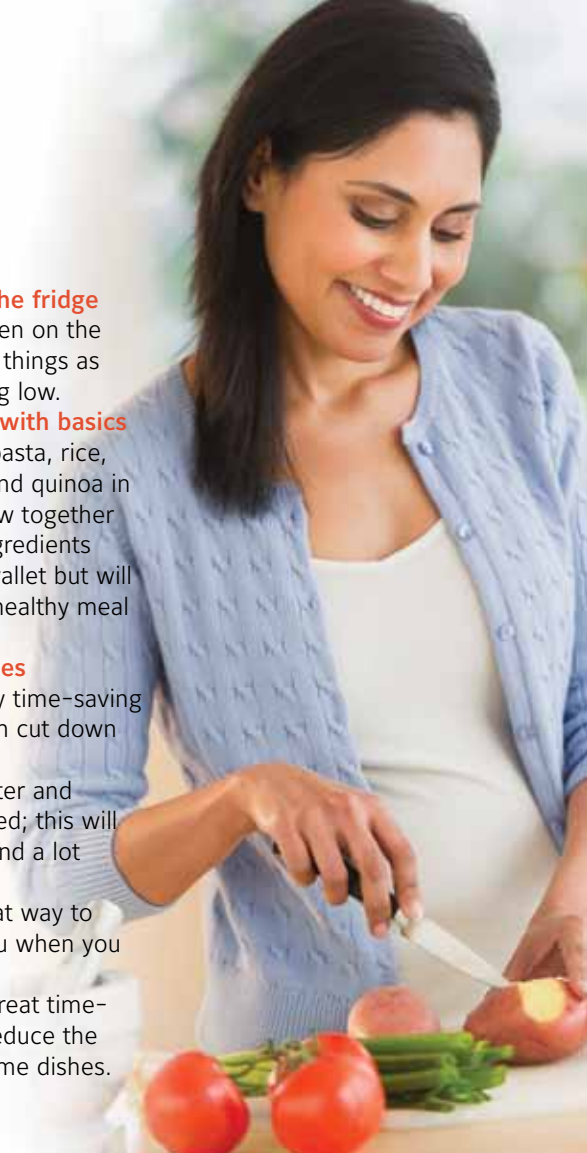
Keep the pantry stocked with basics

Keep ingredients such as pasta, rice, canned beans, couscous and quinoa in the pantry for a quick throw together meal in minutes. These ingredients are not only easy on the wallet but will provide you with a quick, healthy meal option.

Use time-saving appliances

These days there are many time-saving appliances; using these can cut down on cooking prep time.

- ▶ Use the kettle to boil water and transfer to a pot once boiled; this will be more energy efficient and a lot faster.
- ▶ Use slow cookers—a great way to have dinner waiting for you when you get home.
- ▶ Pressure cookers are a great time-saving device which can reduce the cooking time in half for some dishes.



Spring veggie pie

Preparation time: 10 minutes Cooking time: 20 minutes Serves: 4

- 1 carrot, peeled and grated
- 1 zucchini, grated
- 330 gram can corn kernels
- Handful of baby spinach leaves
- ¼ red capsicum, finely chopped
- 1 medium onion, finely chopped
- 3 teaspoons oil
- 3 eggs, beaten
- 1 teaspoon sweet chilli sauce (optional)
- ¾ cup (100 grams) self-raising flour
- 50 grams Edam cheese, grated
- Salt and pepper to season

1. Preheat oven to 200°C and grease a 25cm flan/quiche dish.
2. Prepare vegetables: grate carrot and zucchini, chop capsicum and onions finely.
3. Add vegetables and oil to beaten eggs and sweet chilli and mix together. Add flour, but do not over mix. Add salt and pepper to taste.
4. Place into prepared dish, sprinkle with grated cheese and bake in oven for 15 to 20 minutes or until golden brown.

NUTRITION INFORMATION PER SERVE: Kilojoules 1244kJ (298cal); Protein 14g; Fat 12g; Carbohydrate 34g; Sodium 628mg; Potassium 509mg; Calcium 152mg; Iron 2.4mg; Fibre 6.2g.

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R
MY MINISTRY

What happens when an Australian congregation partners with Adventists overseas to spread the Gospel? In the case of the Filo-Australian Adventist Church from Dandenong, Victoria, the answer is lives changed, health improved, faces brightened and 338 souls baptised into the kingdom.

Members of the Filo-Australian church have had a connection with the Philippines for a long time. For five years they have supported a church plant at Bolongis in the city of Cagayan de Oro, northern Mindanao.

So when an opportunity came to run an evangelistic mission at Bolongis, they embraced it with enthusiasm. Partnering with church leaders at the North-Central Mindanao Conference, they employed 15 lay workers who would prepare the way in the months before the public meetings, visiting homes in the city as well as remote villages.

On December 17, 2011, a devastating typhoon hit Cagayan de Oro. More than 5000 people died as massive floodwaters rose 10-15 metres. One of the hardest hit suburbs was Illigan, where 74 of the 98 church members were killed and the church building was destroyed. The Bolongis church was also inundated. But the Conference leaders were determined to press on with preparations for the mission program. Filo-Australian church members donated clothes and cash, and continued their planning.

In July, 41 Australian volunteers went to the Philippines and worked with local Adventists to reach souls for Jesus. The holistic strategy included health checks by qualified doctors, nurses, dentists and an optometrist. Young people coordinated children's activities and groups visited local orphanages, prisons and a tent city of typhoon survivors.

The seven-night mission program was themed "How Great is Our God" and included children's activities and health talks. After a Monday night drenching, a wall of prayer kept the rain away, allowing chartered jeepneys to access the site. At the conclusion of the meetings, 338 people were baptised and five others expressed a desire to be baptised.

The Australian visitors presented a Bible to each of those who had been baptised and the Conference donated hymn books. The Filo-Australian church board has voted to fund a lay worker to assist the Bolongis pastor with the new converts. Another reaping campaign is now being planned with a goal of 300 baptisms. —David Simms, mission leader; Mebzar Quinto, church pastor, Filo-Australian church, Dandenong





Ready or not . . .

Thirty-seven literature evangelists from Vanuatu and Solomon Islands came together for their annual summit in Efate, Vanuatu, from October 2-6. The theme was "Coming, Ready or Not", and the presenters were two publishing leaders from the South Pacific Division. Summits are held to hone the skills of evangelists in the ministry of sharing Jesus and selling books. —*Adventist Media: Vanuatu*



40-year milestone

Gladstone Adventist Church (Qld) celebrated its 40th anniversary on November 3. Terry Managrave, the first person to be baptised in the church 40 years ago, was among the community members who helped to celebrate the occasion. Pastor Heinrich Rusterholz travelled from Nam-bour to present the sermon. —*Community Advocate*



Silent Night

An It Is Written Oceania (IIWO) television program about the story behind the song "Silent Night" will feature as part of Channel Seven's Christmas morning line-up. *Silent Night: A Simple Melody* will air across Australia at 5am on December 25. The episode is also available online at vimeo.com/itiswritten/silentnight and on DVD. For more information visit www.itiswrittenoceania.tv.



Former policeman now a pastor

In August, Mountain View and Canterbury Cook Island Adventist Churches (NSW) celebrated the ordination of their spiritual leader Pastor Tai Mokoroa. Many pastors from the Greater Sydney Conference came to witness the event, with Pastor Garth and Aleta Bainbridge formally welcoming Tai into the ministry. After serving 10 years in the police force in the Cook Islands, Tai brought his wife, Teremoana, and three children (Refrick, Jimmy and Teramake) to Australia. After he and his wife were baptised in 2000, Tai went on to study theology at Avondale College, graduating in 2005.



Stanley's journey leads to ordination

Pastor Stanley Togafau and his wife Maria were ordained at Auburn Adventist church in Sydney (NSW) on October 13. In a touching ceremony, Stanley shared his ministry journey and thanked his parents, Mau and Ana Fepuleai, for being his "prayer warriors". The ordination service brought together the congregations of Stanley's two churches (Auburn and Caringbah), who pitched in by leading out in praise and worship. The boys from Auburn church youth group also sang an original song written especially for Stanley's ordination. —*Anne Togafau*



Sweet sixteen

Moora Adventist church (WA) held its 16th annual Happy Holiday Club from October 8-12. An average of 54 primary school-aged children from the community came each day, with the majority not attending any church on a regular basis. The theme was "Friends Forever" and the program included singing, crafts, stories, skits and lessons about Jesus and friendship. —*Virginia Chapman*



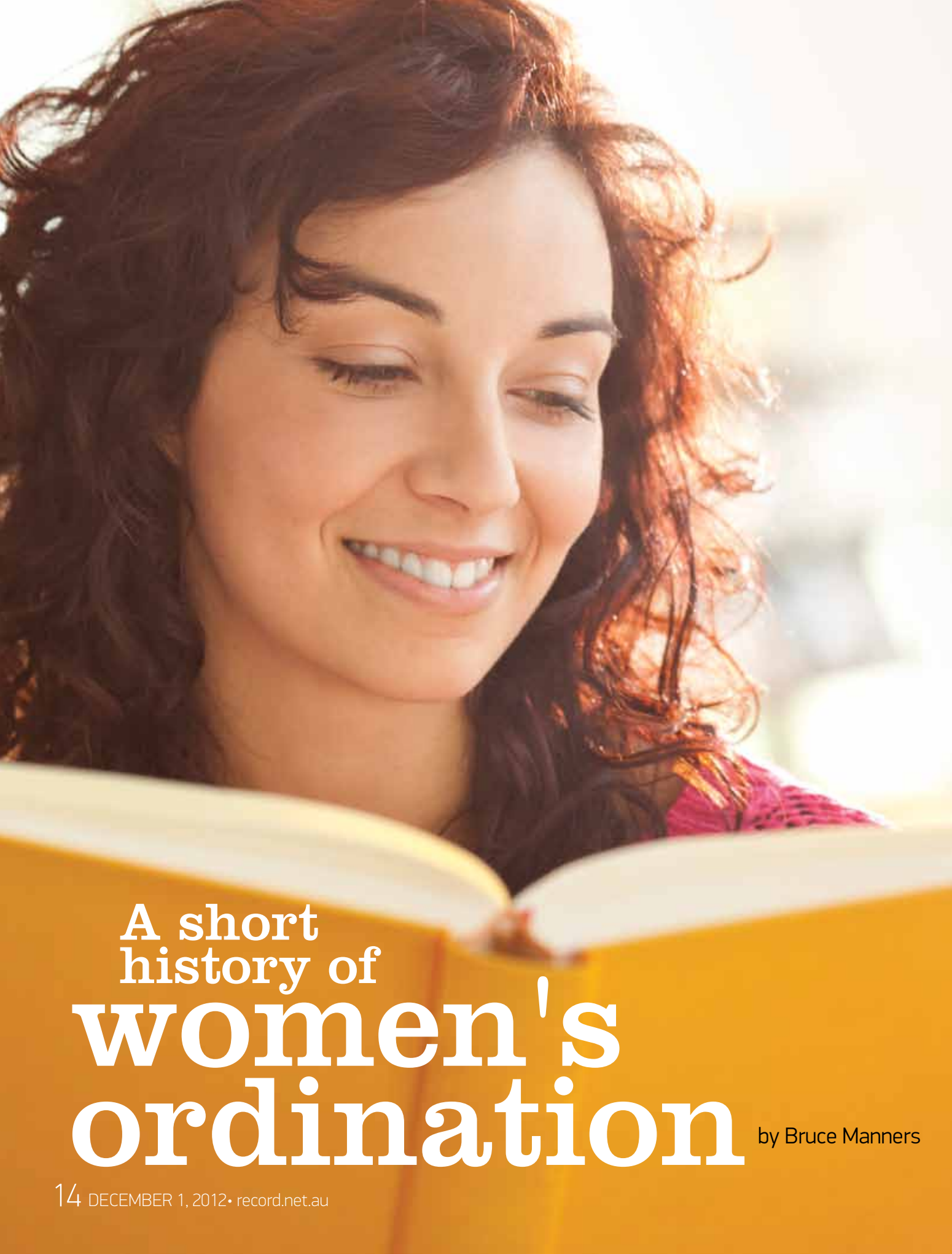
Out in the field

About 300 children (aged six to nine) from 17 churches across the Suva South district (Fiji) attended the Adventist Church's Adventurers Club sports day at Ram Laxhan Park on November 5. The annual sporting event tested the children's endurance, integrity and commitment, and encouraged them to apply the lessons they learned at church into every facet of their lives. —*The Fiji Times*



World record

Sanitarium, with the help of 648 Kiwi children, has set a new Guinness World Record for the largest cereal breakfast. The record was set during the Weet-Bix Breakfast Challenge in August at the Cloud in Auckland, New Zealand. Former Olympic athletes Danyon Loader and Rob Waddell were on hand to help the kids from various schools across Auckland break the old record of 324. —*Sanco News*



A short
history of
**women's
ordination** by Bruce Manners

14 DECEMBER 1, 2012 • record.net.au

The Seventh-day Adventist Church is currently engaged in a global discussion on the practice and parameters of ordination. As part of this discussion, the General Conference has constituted an ordination study process to make recommendations in the lead-up to the 2015 General Conference Session.

Our community was founded on deep Bible study and thoughtful discussion in the pages of our early publications; RECORD aims to continue in that tradition. Hence, as our Church discusses the issue of ordination, the RECORD will endeavour to provide not only current news as it develops, but also thoughtful analysis from a variety of perspectives. The first in our series on ordination was Kent Kingston's article ("Back to Basics", October 20) that explored where our concepts of ordination originated and how they relate to the biblical precedents. The second is this history of ordination practice in the Adventist community. At record.net.au we welcome your analysis, reactions, perspectives and insights as our community examines these complex questions with maturity and grace.

MORE THAN 130 YEARS AFTER THE ORDINATION of women in ministry was first discussed at the General Conference, it's firmly back on the agenda. Back then (1881) a resolution was "presented for discussion": "That females possessing the necessary qualifications to fill that position, may, with perfect propriety, be set apart by ordination to the work of the Christian ministry." It's not known if it was ever discussed further.

Currently the Church's various Biblical Research Committees have been asked to study the issue. A Theology of Ordination Committee is being formed to bring a report to the General Conference's Annual Council in 2014 to determine what recommendation, "if any", should go to the 2015 General Conference session. While this seems more extensive than previous studies on the topic, it's the fifth since 1950.

A more pressing matter though comes from a couple of unions (Pacific Union Conference and Columbia Union Conference in the United States) that have held special constituency meetings where, by more than a two-to-one majority, they decided to ordain "without regard to gender". Several women are now approved for ordination.

The argument from these unions is that because they hold the right to ordain church pastors they can. Just as local churches have the authority to decide who can be ordained as elders, the unions are the ones who decide who should be ordained as pastors. The policies unions work under are not specific about gender.

Problems in interpretation

In 1984, when one study group was formed, a former General Conference president, Robert H Pierson, made an "earnest appeal" that those who studied the issue would "stay by what the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy have said, not by what other churches have done".

The next year the study group of 66 came back with two recommendations. The first supported the ordination of women as local church elders "as each division may see its way clear to proceed". That was accepted.

The then-president, Neal C Wilson, reported, "On the ordination of women to the gospel ministry, however, no clear consensus emerged. Although a slight majority supported the concept, most of them did not think it wise to act on the matter now." Further study was required.

This illustrates a core issue—the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy are not as helpful in clarifying the ordination position as we would want. Some, of course, claim that the Bible and Ellen White's writings are quite clear on the issue. But, like the 66, there are those who disagree. It seems that each study group has had the same problem.

Commissioning—almost ordained?

Commissioning of female pastors was adopted after discussion at the General Conference Annual Council at the end of 1989. This gave women pastors the rights of male pastors—except to officially form a church, to unite churches or to ordain church elders and deacons.

At the time, several saw this recommendation as an attempt to please both sides of the argument. "This is not a clear decision but a compromise," said one delegate. Another said, "The document is consistent with the inconsistency of the Church's position on women's ordination over the past 15 years."

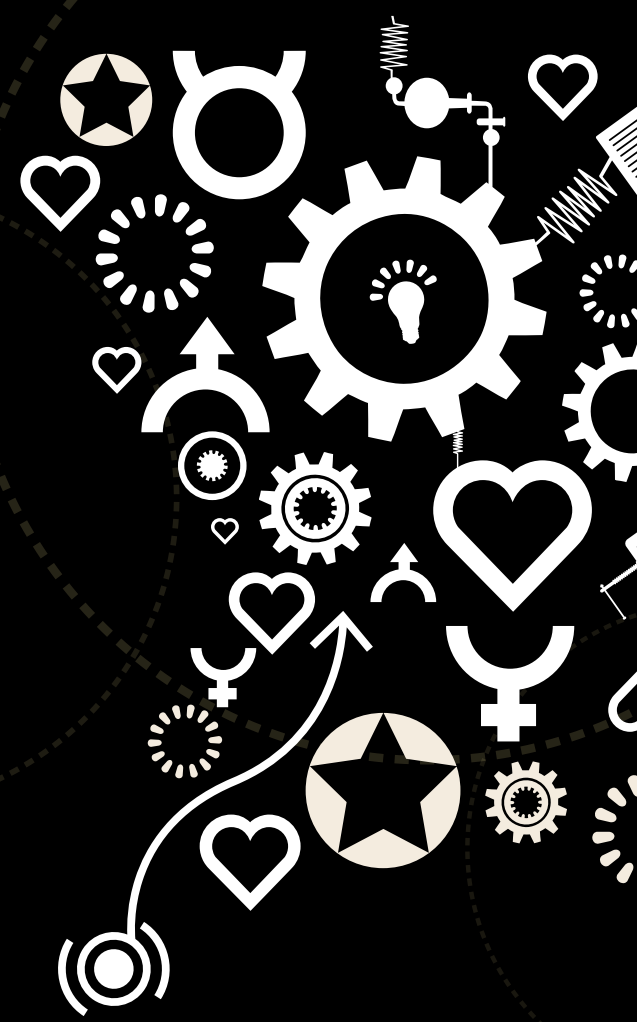
General Conference president Neal C Wilson argued for commissioning in this way, "Ordination should be a global endorsement. . . . We have stated that we wanted women in ministry even though we have said it is not wise to ordain women. Also we didn't feel comfortable with continuing to discriminate between unordained men and women in ministry."

That ordination and commissioning are almost the same is also found in *The Seventh-day Adventist Minister's Handbook* where it lists ordination and commissioning services together, and adds: "In divisions in which women receive commissioning to ministry, the same order of service [as for ordination] may be used for the commissioning service, or the ordination and commissioning service may occur in the same service."

One more thing

The current "crisis" will be settled with time one way or the other. How we treat each other through the crisis, and how we support the disappointed, are much more an indication of our Christ-likeness than decisions made. Let's pray for those who have to make the call on this thorny issue. ✎

Pastor Bruce Manners is senior pastor of Lilydale church, Victoria.



God created sexuality

by Kriselle Dawson

FOR SOME REASON I HAVE ALWAYS CRINGED when the topic of sex arises. As a pharmacist I tried to pass the buck onto my colleagues when I needed to discuss with a patient his use of Viagra or her request for the morning-after pill. However,

contrary to many opinions, sex is not something taboo or dirty but instead is something that's beautiful and transforming, created as a gift from God.

Genesis 1:27 tells us that in the beginning "God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He

him; male and female created He them." After creating Adam and Eve God declared that all was "very good" (verse 31). We know that God created male and female with differing anatomies, and therefore can conclude that there was nothing flawed or dishonourable in this fact. In fact, we know that God is an intimate, loving Being and having created us in His image, we similarly need intimate loving relationships.

God created the first male and female to complement each other. Genesis 2:18 tells us Eve was created to be Adam's "help meet", and Genesis 2:24 describes the physical and emotional connection between a man and his wife in which they become as "one flesh".

There are several reasons why God created sex and the first is obvious: procreation. God told Adam and Eve to "be fruitful and multiply" (Genesis 1:28), and in this He referred to reproduction by sexual activity.

God also wanted them to develop intimacy with one another, and He knew that sex would generate intimacy like nothing else could. For this very reason God knew that limits must be applied to the sexual act, so He stipulated that sex was to be used solely between marriage partners. He very specifically said in Exodus 20:14, "Do not commit adultery", and in

1 Corinthians 6:18, "Flee sexual immorality". That is, reserve sex for your spouse. God declares that "Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge" (Hebrews 13:4).

Unfortunately, as sin became endemic on the earth, humans abandoned God's original intention that sex be reserved for marriage between one man and one woman. God's gift of human sexuality became perverted. The Bible is full of devastating examples, including Lot and his daughters; Abraham and Hagar; and Solomon and his harem. Each of these stories is accompanied by tragedy and devastation. Such would never have happened if human beings had abided by God's plan for sexuality.

Looking now at sex in the modern day it is tragic to see that the percentage of professing Christians who engage in extramarital sexual activity and end their marriages in divorce is just as high, and sometimes even higher, than among non-Christians.

There are also disturbing trends amongst young people who are choosing not to reserve sex for their marriage partner, but rather are engaging in sexual activity before they have the physical or emotional maturity to deal with its consequences. King Solomon, who was granted wisdom of God, referred to waiting for the right time to

"awaken love" (Song of Solomon 2:7), which is important in terms of healthy sexual development. Solomon also wrote: "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1) and that there is "a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing" (Ecclesiastes 3:5).

From a health perspective it makes perfect sense to reserve sexual activity for a life-long marriage commitment between a man and a woman. There are certain physical and emotional/relational problems associated with other uses of sexual behaviour. For example, HIV and other sexually transmitted infections are frightening realities. Although we are taught methods of "safe sex", even these are really only facilitating "reduced risk sex". There is also the risk that a child may be conceived, which will undoubtedly affect the lives of yourself, your sexual partner, your families and of course the innocent baby.

In addition to these physical complications are the emotional and relational consequences. Sin, including sexual sin, never fails to damage our relationship with God. The Bible says, "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me" (Psalm 66:18). God is dishonoured and displeased when we reject His command not to commit adultery, and instead intentionally disobey. When we sin sexually we also cause relational damage to those who are observing our Christian walk. Dis-

obedience to God's commands makes us hypocrites and makes Christianity less appealing. Sex outside of marriage also damages the relationship between the persons involved and potential marriage relationships of either sexual partner. A lack of trust and respect are synonymous with such relationships.

However, the most important thing for you to take away from this discourse on sexuality is a reminder that no matter what sexual sin you may have committed, God is always willing to forgive when you truly repent and return to Him. 1 John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." So, what course of action do you need to take?

First, acknowledge that your actions are sinful. Confess your sin before God and pray that He will forgive you, and be truly penitent of your actions. Finally, remain sexually pure forevermore. Jesus commanded the woman caught in the act of adultery to "go and sin no more" (John 8:11). Jesus did not come to earth to save us in sin, but rather to save us from sin. ↩

... as sin became endemic on the earth, humans abandoned God's original intention that sex be reserved for marriage between one man and one woman.

Kriselle Dawson is a pharmacist, music teacher, missionary and mother living in Lae, Papua New Guinea.



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RECORD REWIND

Lester Devine

The visiting pastor

Born in Devon, England, in 1853, Pastor James Hookings travelled to Australia in 1883 and onto New Zealand in 1903. In Napier he learned of Christ's Second Coming and the Sabbath from local Adventist dentist, Dr Roy Caro, and joined the Adventist Church in 1914. Hookings was a brilliant storyteller and the children and youth of the Napier church admired him greatly. Thus it was understandable that a man of his talents was made youth leader for the North New Zealand Conference in 1919, but his age of 66 years at the time makes that appointment quite remarkable!

He was known to catch the train and then cycle for 20 or 30 miles from a station to visit a young person, stay the night and then travel back the next day. Birthday cards from this kindly, elderly man were also a highlight to each young person. He was a living legend whose example inspired many of the recipients to fully involve themselves in the life and witness of the Church.

In 1920, he became secretary of the Sabbath School Department in North New Zealand, a position he held until poor health forced his retirement. While he was known as a builder of churches, Sabbath School secretary and Conference youth leader, Hookings was best remembered as a visitor in the homes of the isolated.

A sad blow came to him when he lost his wife, Eliza Jane Hookings, and daughter, Ethel Mary Rundel, in the Napier (NZ) earthquake on the morning of February 3, 1931. They were killed, probably instantly, while shopping. For five days he searched trying to find them, only taking a break to faithfully teach the senior men's weekly lesson class at church on Sabbath. He wrote of that Sabbath, "What an inspiration it was to look into the calm, peaceful faces of the brethren and sisters who had been through that awful day and night of terror! Their trust and faith in God, their love and sympathy with and for each other, their words of comfort to me, I shall never forget."

Finally, once allowed into the most devastated part of the city, Hookings, with help from others, began removing rubble from the destroyed store where he expected his wife and daughter would have visited on the day of the earthquake, and there he found their badly burned remains.

Knowing his wife had been confident in receiving her eternal reward, Hookings pledged his commitment anew, "but if the call to rest should come before that glad day, may I be found, as she was, ready".



Pastor and Mrs Hookings.

Lester Devine is director emeritus of the Ellen G White/Adventist Research Centre at Avondale College of Higher Education.

KIDS' SPACE

DYDD DA* KIDS

1-6

4- DRAW THE DOT TO DOT AND COLOUR IN THE SHAPE TO SEE WHAT THE SHEPHERDS SAW IN THE SKY

2

3

The night Jesus was born was very special for all the angels in heaven. Shepherds who were watching their flocks saw a beautiful bright light in the heavens. Inside the light came an angel who told them the exciting news that Jesus had been born. Suddenly the sky was full of angels singing the first Christmas song.



MEMORY VERSE:

"Every perfect gift is from God." James 1:17

* Hello in Wales

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WHO DARES DENY?

Joy Cornell, Qld

"King to high priest, high priest to prophetess—the line of spiritual authority . . . appears clear" (Editorial, Daughters of Zion, November 3). Even more amazing? Jeremiah and Zephaniah were prophesying in Jerusalem at that time—between them they wrote three books, about eight per cent of the Old Testament.

Yet, when King Josiah begged Hilkiah to enquire of Yahweh for him, the High Priest didn't go to either prophet but to this godly woman, gifted by God with the Spirit of prophecy.

And God's response? She said to them, "The Lord, the God of Israel, has spoken! Go back and tell the man who sent you, 'This is what the Lord says: . . .'" (2 Chronicles 34:23, 24 NLT). When our God chooses His servants, who dares deny Him?

GOOD AT EVERYTHING

Howard Smith, NSW

I find your editorials refreshing and interesting—and appreciate your approach, including the way you challenge our problems and inconsistencies. As an ageing petrol head, I also enjoy your occasional automotive touches.

Regarding "Daughters of Zion" (Editorial, November 3), I taught in secondary schools for 40 years—in Australia, England and British Columbia—mainly industrial wood technology. I taught both boys and girls—and found the girls were so often superior to boys. Yes, girls are good at everything.

BACK TO BASICS

Eddy Knopper, via email

I refer to "Back to basics" (Features, October 20). I agree that when looking at the issue

of ordination it is important to look at it with fresh eyes and lay aside all prejudices and tradition to be taken where God and His Word will lead us.

However, part of the article seems to focus on the validity of ordination in the Bible, stating: "The pre-eminent leaders in the early church were 'first apostles, second prophets . . .'" (1 Corinthians 12:28). But it was not from ordination that this authority was derived; there is no record of anyone being ordained as an apostle or prophet."

What about Mark 3:14 (KJV) which says, "And He ordained twelve . . ."? I recognise other versions do not use the word "ordained", however the *SDA Bible Commentary* refers to *Desire of Ages*, p 296: "When Jesus had ended His instruction to the disciples, He gathered the little band close about Him, and kneeling in the midst of them, and laying His hands upon their heads, He offered a prayer dedicating them to His sacred work. Thus the Lord's disciples were ordained to the gospel ministry." Even though the Greek used is not clearly translated "ordained", certainly Mrs White was shown that this was an ordination process.

I believe that is where our Church has adopted this practice from. It is not important what word is used; it is clear the laying on of hands and setting apart for the work of elders and apostles is biblical.

SHEPHERD'S ROD

Anne Tonkin, WA

I was really impressed by the editorial "Spare the rod; cherish the child" (October 20) and agree with the author's view. I only wish I possessed such wisdom when my own children were young.

If I had my time over, I would discipline without corporal punishment, just as we do in our schools, enjoying the deep satisfaction of engaging children with gentle reasoning and love.

I am reminded of a sermon at a camp meeting in Western Australia many years ago. I'm not sure who the speaker was but he referred to Proverbs 13:24. He believed this text uses the analogy of the shepherd's rod, which was intended to guide the sheep, with the crook placed gently around their neck to lead them away from danger. This of course leads onto the concept of Jesus, our loving Shepherd who leads us and guides us through the Holy Spirit.

AGE OF DECISION

Nick Kross, SPD Youth director

I'm very surprised by the opinion poll regarding the ideal age of baptism for those raised in the Church (November 3). Most early adolescents (11-14 years) are making decisions about their future engagement with the Church. By the time they reach 18-plus the decision's been made well and truly. They may not reveal their opinions till then but they worked it out years before.

The earlier adolescents make a decision for Christ, the better chance they have of maintaining that direction for life. When younger youth choose to follow Christ through baptism, the adult faith community needs to nurture these precious souls. Baptism is only the beginning of a life with Jesus and His Church and, like us all, they need to experience His love in ongoing caring, mentoring relationships.

WEDDINGS

Bull-Lewis. Monty Kerry Bull and Marianne Rose Lewis were married 9.9.12 at Wallsend church, NSW, the first service in the new church.

John Denne, Graham Stewart



Dittmer-Munoz. Andrew John Dittmer, son of John and

Elizabeth Dittmer (Castle Hill, NSW), and Evelyn Roxana Munoz, daughter of Horacio and Cristina Munoz (Hornsby), were married 16.9.12, at Fernbank Farm, Wyong Creek. They were blessed with a gloriously sunny day for their outdoor wedding ceremony. Andrew and Evelyn will make their home in Wahroonga.

Garth Bainbridge



Leslie-Scott. Phillip Leslie, son of Anne and stepson of

Murray Leslie (Sydney, NSW), and Amanda Scott, daughter of Bryce and Robyn Scott (Central Coast), were married 30.9.12 at Chatswood church. Many family and friends gathered at the church to celebrate with the couple and to wish them well in their new life together.

Barry Wright

Machalek-Raymond. Emil Machalek, son of Waldemar and Zofia Machalek (Melbourne, Vic), and Elise Raymond, daughter of Ralph and Julene Raymond (Valley Heights, NSW), were married 30.9.12 at Traralgon church, Vic. The service revolved around the

lessons drawn from the Genesis account of the first marriage. It was God who brought the bride and groom together. There was a special prayer as the parents offered their blessings on the union.

Tony Knight, Oscar Sande

Uhr-Skinner. Mark Uhr, son of Keith and Wendy Uhr, and Leanne Skinner, daughter of Noel and Roslyn Skinner, were married 22.9.12 at Dan Gleeson Memorial Park. It was a beautiful afternoon wedding as the sun was setting.

Levi Mote

OBITUARIES

Barden, Vera, born 5.6.1914 in Inverell, NSW; died 15.9.12 in Elizabeth Lodge, Normanhurst. In 1936, she married Alwyn. She was predeceased by her husband in 2005 and son, Kevin, in 2006. She is survived by her children, Robyn Collings, Allyn and Ian, and their spouses; nine grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren. Vera was a faithful member of the Adventist Church and in her younger days was well known for her hospitality and for catering at church programs. Vera was much loved and cherished by her family and greatly respected by life-long friends.

Ron Evans



Clifford, Doctor Gerald Francis, born 24.6.1927 in Cape Town, South Africa; died 13.9.12 in Sydney, NSW. He is survived by his wife, Pam; and his children and their partners, Carol and Neville Bradfield, Colleen, Dennis

POSITIONS VACANT

■ **Country director, ADRA Vanuatu (Port Vila, Vanuatu).** The role of ADRA Vanuatu country director is to provide visionary and strategic leadership to ADRA Vanuatu so that it fulfils its mission as the humanitarian development and relief agency of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the area. The country director also ensures that ADRA's administrative operation is professional, efficient, is financially accountable and sustainable, provides a positive and challenging work environment for personnel, and is an exemplary model of Seventh-day Adventist values. For more information please visit the South Pacific Division's Human Resources website at <www.adventistemployment.org.au>. All applications, including your CV, three work-related referees and the contact details of your local church pastor, must be forwarded to: Human Resources, Seventh-day Adventist Church (Pacific) Limited, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga NSW 2076 Australia; or email <hr@adventist.org.au>; or fax to (02) 9489 0943. Applications close **December 10, 2012.**

■ **Human resources manager—Avondale College of Higher Education.** This fantastic opportunity is for a senior hands-on HR generalist with a solid track record in delivering employee advice and coaching in areas such as employee relations, industrial relations, performance management, change management and HR policy. The successful candidate will be tertiary qualified in human resources/industrial relations or in a related discipline; have a proven track record of delivering HR, IR and enterprise agreement services to business; have exceptional interpersonal skills including the ability to influence and mediate conflict, along with a strong understanding of organisational culture and its dynamics. For enquires phone Bronwyn Humphries on (02) 4980 2284, or email <bronwyn.humphries@avondale.edu.au>. For more information, selection criteria and the application procedure, visit <www.avondale.edu.au/jobs>. Applications close **December 17, 2012.**

■ **Administration assistant—Western Australian Conference (Perth, WA).** This is an opportunity to join our mission-focused Conference team and provide administrative support for the Conference president and secretary-treasurer. We are looking for someone who has a strong commitment to the mission and lifestyle of the Church, who has had experience in secretarial work and is a resident of Australia. If you enjoy working in a team environment, providing exceptional customer service and love the challenge of making things happen, then we want to hear from you. To obtain further details for this role, to lodge an application or if you have questions in relation to this position, please contact Lionel Smith, Associate Secretary, PO Box 134, Gosnells, WA 6990 or email <lionelsmith@adventist.org.au>. Applications close **December 19, 2012.**

■ **Business managers—Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd (Brisbane, Qld).** Commencing 2013, three new full-time senior positions have become available as part of a major restructuring of finance and management roles planned within the Education ministry of the South Queensland Conference. The successful candidate will work in close consultation with the local school principals to achieve positive financial/management aims and objectives for the individual schools concerned. Forward written applications for this position to: Chief Financial Officer, Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Limited, 19 Eagle Terrace, Brisbane, Qld 4000. Administration of Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd reserves the right to make an appointment to this position. Applications close **December 28, 2012.**

For more vacant positions or to advertise, go to <adventistemployment.org.au>.



KARALUNDI

■ **Two male and two female house parents 2013 (Meekatharra, WA).** Develop and facilitate an out-of-school-hours program for students aged 10–17, including camps and excursions, music, sports and weekend activities. A focus on health and hygiene, respect and responsibility are priorities in achieving personal and group development outcomes and creating a caring and supportive community within the dormitories. Karalundi is an oasis in the Outback and includes a swimming pool, staff gymnasium and other recreational activities. Salary package includes subsidised on-site housing and utilities with salary sacrifice available. Salaries/wages based on the Federal Education Services Award. Contact the CEO or Principal for further information on (08) 9981 2000, email <ceo@karalundi.wa.edu.au> or <principal@karalundi.wa.edu.au> or post your CV with three work-related references to The CEO, PMB 6, Meekatharra, WA 6642.

Karalundi is independent of the Seventh-day Adventist Church organisation but is supportive of the Church.

and Nicky; granddaughters, Alannah and Lara; his brother and his wife, Bert and Doreen; nephews Anthony and Lester and their families; and his niece, Beverly Joubert and family. Gerald served the church as a teacher, leader and administrator in the area of education in Africa (1950-1970) and Australia. He also served as assistant to the SPD president until retiring in 1996. His colleagues highly valued his ability to combine clarity of vision with gentleness of persuasion, high principles with kindness and patience. His practical woodworking skills blessed scores of people.

Garth Bainbridge, Bob Saunders



Craig, Frances Violet (nee Smith), born 28.11.1931 in Brisbane, Qld; died 4.9.12 in Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane. On 6.9.1953, she married Donald Craig, who predeceased her in February. She is survived by Donna Savige, Janelle Robertson, Gary Craig, David Craig, Julie Sutton, Ross Craig, Julieanne Zurvas, Peter Craig and their families, including 16 grandchildren. Fran died suddenly following emergency surgery. She is greatly missed by her family and the South-East Queensland church family. Fran also fostered 26 children. She loved the Lord with all her heart and found great comfort in the Bible teaching that she rests in peace until Jesus comes.

Keith Grolimund

Drowley, Wilma Ruth (nee Heenan), born 31.10.1932 in Denolly, Vic; died 20.1.12 in Heritage Park Nursing Home. On 26.3.1967, she married Alan Drowley at North Fitzroy church. She is survived by her husband (Millgrove); and their children, Peter (Croyden), Mark (Millgrove) and Anne Elesworth (Lilydale); and grandchildren, Aron, Bianca and Jessica. Wilma was a kind, loving and thoughtful wife, mother and grandmother who is sadly missed. Even though she battled illness during her final years she had an enduring hope in her Lord and Saviour.

Murray Thackham

Jasperson, Ivy Iris (nee Eckert), born 10.6.1923 in Forest Hill, Qld; died 16.6.12 in Dalby. On 17.8.1940, she married John Jasperson. They had 11 children,

Ivan, Alan, Norman, Sylvia, Daphne, Ivy Joan (dec), Judith, David, Jennifer, Ronald and Michael. Ivy was a loved and faithful member of Dalby church for the past 38 years. During the last two years she suffered failing health and moved into the Karingal nursing home. A quiet and independent lady, she awaits the call of the Lifegiver.

Charles Boyd

Kalinowski, Joseph James (Jim), born 21.4.1925 in Binnaway, NSW; died 19.5.12 in Lismore. On 24.8.1970, he married Lydia at Dural. He is survived by his wife (Meerschamvale); and children, Linda (Sydney), Robert (Gosford), Victor and Simon (both of Brisbane, Qld). Never shy of a word, Jim was able to approach many people with friendship and words of Jesus. A provocateur and a tower of strength, Jim was much loved and respected and has left a large hole in the church and the communities in which he found himself.

Tim Kingston

Martin, Edmund George (Ted), born 16.6.1921 in Gilgandra, NSW; died 19.9.12 in Cooranbong, NSW. He is survived by his wife, Edna; his children, Jan and Warren Judd (California, USA), Leonie and Roger Wade (Brisbane, Qld), Lynne and Charles Low (Sydney, NSW) and Gary and Yonni Martin (Melbourne, Vic) and their families. Ted was a loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather and will be missed. We look forward to the soon return of Jesus when we can be together with him forever.

Claude D Judd



Phillips, Ivy Winifred (nee Maxwell), born 1.10.1936 in Sydney; died 18.9.12 in

Melbourne, Vic. On 26.2.1967, she married David Phillips at Hurstville Adventist church, NSW. She was predeceased by a stillborn son in 1969. She is survived by her husband;

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daughters Karyn and Toni; 10 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. Ivy was actively involved in church life and known for her practical help in the church and the community. She demonstrated a deep faith and confidence in God's provisions, especially through her final illness.

Bruce Manners

Rayner, Thomas Ralph, born 8.7.1937 in Maryborough, Qld; died 22.8.12 in Warwick. He is survived by his wife, Enid (Warwick); his children, Les (Mt Isa), Adele, Jenny (both of Toowoomba) and Neralee (Warwick), and their spouses; and 10 grandchildren. Ralph worked in the wholesale department of Sanitarium in Melbourne and Cooranbong. After some time he moved to Queensland where ill health forced his early retirement. Ralph used his talents to God's glory in church and Pathfinder work.

Don Bryant

ADVERTISEMENTS

House for sale. Bonnells Bay. 3x2x3, 12km to Avondale College. Lake and mountain views, northerly aspect, excellent area. Full recent internal renovation, quality kitchen, hardwood flooring, new paint, tiles and carpet. Front and rear decks. \$399,000. Phone owner on 0424 530 269 (A/H).

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Reduced price quality satellite kits for Adventist television and radio. Full instructions for easy DIY installation, photos, technical support. \$235 + freight. Australia only (02) 6361 3636.

Projectors, screens, wireless microphones, ampli-

fiers, speakers etc. Lower prices for Adventist institutions. Australia only. Contact Trish, <greenfieldsenterprises@bigpond.com> or (02) 6361 3636.

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

Christian Services for the Blind and Vision Impaired (CSFBHI) is wishing to create a register of "signers" for the deaf in each conference geographic area. These people would be available for individual churches and church meetings upon request. If you have skills in this area and would be willing to act as a signer at public meetings or special church services in either a paid or voluntary capacity, contact Lee Dunstan, manager CSFBHI: phone +61 2 9847 2296; email <leedunstan@adventist-media.org.au>; post to PO Box 1115, Wahroonga NSW 2076.

Finally

No-one can whistle a symphony. It takes an orchestra to play it.

Next RECORD December 15



Signs Ministry has a new Goodwill flyer for you to share with your community this Christmas—in a church program or to letterbox. Stock limited.

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John 10:10

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