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Record

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BLESSING** page 14

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CHIP RESOURCE** page 9



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GraceLink strengthened to ensure faith

Wahroonga, New South Wales

After a decade of service, the GraceLink Sabbath School curriculum is being renewed and expanded to make it even more effective.

The process has started with the Junior Powerpoint Bible studies. These well-designed studies will be available in 1st Quarter 2013. They have been updated to include:

1. Striking new graphics and illustrations that give the series a modern look and feel;
2. Easy-to-understand explanations of the fundamental beliefs in each Bible study;
3. Six new lessons that give a stronger expression of our sanctuary and millennium beliefs;
4. A beautiful timeline so that children clearly see where each story fits into the Bible;
5. Sections that have been especially written to help children with special needs;
6. Pages that support and empower parents; and
7. Ideas to facilitate faith conver-

sations and material for family worship.

Children's Ministries director Julie Weslake said Sabbath School plays a key role in children choosing to become disciples of Jesus.

"It remains one of the highest influences [79 per cent] in developing the students' faith as surveyed in [the research study] Valuegenesis 2," she said.

"At the core of the Sabbath School experience is GraceLink—the Adventist Church's worldwide Sabbath School curriculum that is designed to give our children the biblical knowledge they need to know Jesus and understand the beliefs of the Church.

"Importantly, Gracelink uses an experiential, learner-focused methodology that connects children's hearts to Jesus. The focus of the curriculum is to help children learn to apply Bible stories to everyday life, discuss stories, to think deeply through debriefing questions and learn ways to share



their faith with others."

Mrs Weslake said the ages of 10 through to 12 are extremely important years for making decisions and consolidating beliefs and attitudes.

"Our children need quality discipleship training and examples both at church and home," she said.

"GraceLink has an important role in assisting in the process of making disciples and building lifelong faith."

Check out the new student and teachers' guides at <www.gracelink.net>. —RECORD staff

ADRA and Sanitarium partner to help remote village

North Tanna Island, Vanuatu

Eleven enthusiastic Spirit of Sanitarium Award recipients from Australia and New Zealand headed to Vanuatu in November to take part in an exciting community project with the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) to paint, prepare and open a new school at Hebron Village, North Tanna Island, Vanuatu.

The once-in-a-lifetime experience was developed in conjunction with ADRA as part of the annual Spirit of Sanitarium Awards program, a program that rewards and recognises Sanitarium employees for "living the values" of the company. The Spirit of Sanitarium Awards donated \$A30,000 to the Hebron Village school building project before the team arrived in the remote community.

Over four days, the Sanitarium and ADRA teams provided support

to the community by painting the new school building and inside the church, running an oral health class at the school and a "Kids' TRYathlon" games day. Approximately 200 students attend the school and they were excited to see a new classroom and office.

"We were totally removed from 'the world as we know it'; there was no such thing as the modern conveniences of home," said Belinda Peuser, 2011 Branch Award recipient from Sanitarium Development and Innovation.

"The generosity of the community in sharing their food, their thatched huts and caring for our team cannot be understated. Our team will never forget the experiences that we have gone through."

The students and wider community at Hebron Village were sad to see the group leave and were so thankful for the work that they provided.

"Our team enjoyed every challenging and rewarding moment," said Julie Praestii, Corporate Communications manager for Sanitarium. "Thanks to ADRA's professionalism the entire trip was a huge success and there is already talk of 'what's next?' Although, it will be pretty hard to beat this experience." —Braden Blyde



All ages joined the painting fun.



Show the world

James Standish

I suppose it's showing my age, but one of my favourite Christmas songs is "Do They Know It's Christmas?" I'm sure you've heard it. You know the one: "It's Christmas time, there's no need to be afraid . . ." As the song plays out, various '80s pop royalty pitch in to tell the story of people starving to death as the world watches on impassively at Christmas time. The song concludes with a rousing call to "feed the world, let them know it's Christmas time".

The part of the song that always sends a chill down my spine is when Bono sings "tonight thank God it's them, instead of you". Tonight, I suppose, that can be said of the vast majority of us reading the RECORD. We have an enormous amount to be thankful for as we look forward to a peaceful and prosperous Christmas holiday, during which our primary concern is that we'll eat too much, rather than having too little.

A Christmas song about giving to the poor works, because Christ Himself focused so intently on those in need. Today, however, I am a little worried about the soul of Christianity in the Western world. We seem to be splitting increasingly into two, imbalanced camps.

There are those so satisfied in their self-proclaimed saved status that they have lost sight of the ideal of sacrifice and self-denial. The "prosperity gospel" has even infiltrated into our Church, with speakers telling us God wants us all to be rich. It's a very popular message—unsurprisingly. It's certainly a lot more marketable than "blessed are the poor", "love of money is the root of all evil", "no one can serve God and mammon" and "it's easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God".

On the other side, we have some churches embracing the mission to serve the poor, while leaving the rest of Christian doctrine in the dustbin. Divinity of Christ? Optional. Virgin birth? Impossible. Heaven? A state of mind. The social gospel is all well and good, but what about the rest of the gospel?

Christmas gives us all a chance to recalibrate our faith back to its balanced core. Christmas has at its centre a supernatural promise combined with a path of self-denial.

It's all the vogue to gloss over the judgement as if an event that caused fear and trembling in Paul should cause us not an ounce of concern. But when I think of following the essence of Christ's life and when I read Jesus' words in Matthew 25, I do tremble. And, I suppose, I'm not the only one who should.

By many standards, a middle-class person like myself is wealthier today than the richest person in Christ's time. What would King Agrippa, King Herod or Caesar himself have given for a car, access to a modern hospital, an iPhone or the ability to fly almost anywhere in the world? They couldn't even dream of the extravagances that I take for granted. We're the richest generation in history, living in one of the wealthiest regions in the world. And of whom much is given, much is expected. For the safety of my own soul, I wish it were not the case—but Christianity can be very inconvenient that way.

Christmas provides a perfect opportunity for us to review whether we're responding to Christ's call in its totality—whether those of us who have been given much are giving much in return. Simple questions provide clarity:

- How much have I spent on holiday accommodation this year versus how much have I given to provide basic shelter to the homeless?
- How much have I spent on my clothes this year versus how much clothing have I provided to those in need?
- How much have I spent eating out versus how much have I donated to those who are hungry?
- How much time have I spent visiting friends versus how much time have I spent visiting those in need of a friend?

And not just to think about it, but to do something about the imbalance most of us have in our lives. Let's not just *tell* our world about the love of Christ, this Christmas let's *show* our world the love of Christ.

James Standish is RECORD editor for the South Pacific Division.

Record

Dr Barry Oliver Senior Consulting Editor
James Standish Editor and communication director
Jarrold Stackelroth Assistant editor
Kent Kingston Assistant editor
Dora Amuimuia Sales & marketing
Tracey Bridcutt Copyeditor
Linden Chuang Editorial assistant

Letters editor@record.net.au
 News & Photos news@record.net.au
 Noticeboard ads@record.net.au
<http://record.net.au>
 Mail: Adventist Media Network
 Locked bag 1115
 Wahroonga, NSW 2076, Australia
 Phone (02) 9847 2222
 Fax (02) 9847 2200

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SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

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



Made to worship

Kent Kingston

"You and I were made to worship"—it's a lyric from contemporary Christian songwriter Chris Tomlin. Maybe you've sung it at church.

But is it true? I have to admit that, to me, it sounds very "Pentecostal" and even a bit self-indulgent. Surely we are "made to stand for truth"; "made to love one another"; or "made for mission"—something a bit more practical.

But the Bible is harder to dismiss than Chris Tomlin. Revelation 4:8 pictures the four living creatures gathered around God's throne, worshipping "day and night". In the Psalms, David expressed his desire to "dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple" (Psalm 27:4).

Is it possible that this is what God wants from us; that this is what He created us for? Just to experience His presence and to know Him truly? Against my natural impulse to find something to *do* for God, I think the answer is Yes. But with a twist.

Because of the presence of the Holy Spirit, we as believers are God's throne and His temple. Therefore we don't need to go to a physical building to worship like David did; we can be in God's presence 24/7 and respond to Him in a way that recognises and proclaims His infinite worth—that's what worship is.

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship" (Romans 12:1).

With this understanding, I believe it's possible to make everything we do an act of worship. Even mundane tasks can be completed with a commitment to excellence and an attitude of rejoicing and gratitude. God's glory and goodness are proclaimed every time one of His creatures takes a step closer to what He created them to be.

Kent Kingston is an assistant editor of RECORD

Looking forward and looking back

I was looking through the final RECORD for the year (then the *Australasian Union Record*) published in 1912—100 years ago. A poem by an R L Johnson caught my eye on page 5. The first three verses read:

I am wondering as I am writing
If we're giving God His due?
I have asked myself this question,
And I ask it now of you.

With the wealth that He has
blessed us,
Be it great or be it small,
Are we willing, cheerful givers?
Do we ever give at all?

O my brother and my sister,
'Tis a question we must face;
We can all be faithful stewards
In a high or lowly place.

The language may be quaint, and the poem may have been about tithes and offerings, but 100 years on the underlying essential message is still the same. Right now, where is God in my life? Do I really count my blessings or do I just take them for granted? Do I care for the gifts God has given me . . . my health; my mental capacities; my family; my resources?

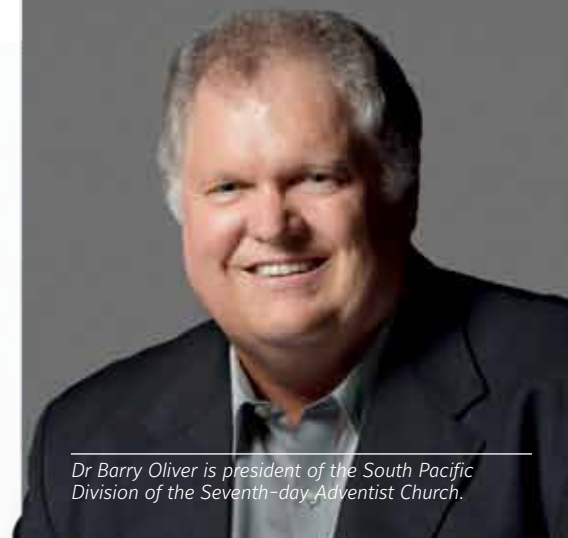
The end of one year and the beginning of another is a good time to look back and look forward. I wonder where we will be 100 years from now.

OPINION POLL

How should we celebrate Christmas?

- Ignore it, it's pagan
- Fully embrace every aspect
- Use it to witness
- Focus on charity

Visit record.net.au to answer this poll.



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



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Adventist missionary dies in tree-felling accident

Sepik, Papua New Guinea

An accident has claimed the life of John Lello, a Seventh-day Adventist missionary who was serving in Papua New Guinea (PNG) through Adventist Frontier Missions (AFM).

Mr Lello died while felling trees near a remote project site in the East Sepik Province on November 26. He was 46.

Mr Lello's wife, Pam, and the couple's two daughters, have been flown by Adventist Aviation Services to Port Moresby, where they were joined by Stephen and Laurie Erickson, another family working in PNG through AFM.

AFM associate training director Dale Goodson, who spent 12 years in PNG with the Dowa tribe, and his wife are currently en route to lend additional support, said James Arkusinski, communication director for the ministry.

"The tragic death of John Lello is a great loss to the church family in PNG and especially the pioneering work into this un-entered area which is the focus of AFM," said Pastor Leigh Rice, president of the Papua New Guinea Union Mission (PNGUM). "There are a number of AFM families in PNG and this accident will be a challenge to them as they reflect on the sacrifice they make to the service of God and His kingdom."

Pacific Adventist University held a special prayer time for the family at midday on November 27. Pastor Rice said the Church in PNG would do what it could to support the family and to continue the work that has begun among the Ama people.

The Lello family had worked with AFM since 2009.

"It is really sad," said Andrew Opis, communication director of PNGUM. "We always love missionaries leaving behind families, friends, their country and their comfort zone to help save Papua New Guineans. To this humble man, others who died in our land and others still working, we love you all for helping our people to have an opportunity for salvation."

Mr Lello was born in Cape Town, South Africa. He earned a bachelor's degree in physics from church-run Walla Walla University, Washington, United States, in 1991. Later, he graduated from the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland, with a master's degree in science education.

Before accepting a post with AFM, Mr Lello taught maths and physics at Glendale Adventist Academy and Spring Valley Academy.

AFM is a Seventh-day Adventist lay ministry dedicated to establishing church-planting movements among people groups with no Adventist presence. It currently has 30 long-term missionary families or single missionaries serving worldwide. Mr Lello is the first AFM missionary to die in the field over the ministry's 27-year history. —ANN/RECORD staff



AFM missionaries, John and Pam Lello, with their daughters, Alissa and Abby.

REVIVED BY HIS WORD

December 15—30

**READING THROUGH THE BIBLE TOGETHER
ONE CHAPTER A DAY**

15 - 1 Sam. 7	19 - 1 Sam. 11	23 - 1 Sam. 15	27 - 1 Sam. 19
16 - 1 Sam. 8	20 - 1 Sam. 12	24 - 1 Sam. 16	28 - 1 Sam. 20
17 - 1 Sam. 9	21 - 1 Sam. 13	25 - 1 Sam. 17	29 - 1 Sam. 21
18 - 1 Sam. 10	22 - 1 Sam. 14	26 - 1 Sam. 18	30 - 1 Sam. 22



THE LAST
EMPIRE
DISCOVER REAL HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

Harvest time in big cities by Garth Bainbridge

How do we go about sharing the Adventist message with a city of 4.5 million people spread across 12,000 square kilometres, where 35 per cent of residents speak a language other than English at home?

Sydney's population represents some 20.5 per cent of the Australian population. In the five years to 2008, it grew by 210,000 or more than 40,000 annually. Sydney is now one of the most multicultural cities in the world, reflecting also a wide diversity in religious pathways.¹ The challenge of evangelising this complex and widespread city is daunting.

The Greater Sydney Conference (GSC) is preparing for a city-wide outreach campaign in 2013. This conference was chosen by the Australian Union Conference to be the beneficiary of a General Conference grant to enable concerted evangelisation of major cities around the world. Original expectations were that perhaps 10 venues could be sponsored; however, once Pastor Michael Worker, GSC president, extended an invitation to pastors and churches to participate in this global campaign, close to 30 pastors and 40 churches opted in. This has become Sydney's biggest evangelistic thrust in decades.

Almost all the presenters are from Sydney. Programs will be held in nine different languages; one of the English venues will focus on the needs of Aboriginal people. The thematic title in the advertising for most of the venues will be "The Last Empire", beginning with Daniel 2, but within that framework will be a variety of styles of

presentation to meet the diversity of Sydney's population. The advertising and presentation materials are being professionally developed to harmonise with the quality of our message. These will then be available for use by other conferences in Australia and New Zealand.

Four strategically positioned billboards (on the M4 and M5 motorways and at Dural) have been rented at a price far below the usual cost. A significant aspect of the awareness campaign before and during the public meetings is the use of electronic and social media. These include a website <www.lastempire.com.au> with links to all the venues, enabling people to choose a venue that suits them. A Facebook page has also been developed <www.facebook.com/sydneyadventists>, with links to Instagram and Twitter.

"I am excited about the momentum and enthusiasm amongst our pastors and church members to work together in reaching our city for God," Pastor Worker said.

"The level of buy in and support from the team far exceeds our dreams and expectations. We are blessed with an amazing team of pastors in Sydney and we are investing in their development and growth as we prepare for next year. Our prayers are for a great harvest for His kingdom as a result of this initiative."

Pastor Garth Bainbridge is ministerial secretary for the Greater Sydney Conference.

¹ Based on information at www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/AboutSydney/CityResearch

Four major urban centres, one within each of the SPD's four Unions, will be targeted by comprehensive evangelistic projects as part of the Hope for Big Cities initiative, led by the General Conference. Hope for Big Cities aims to incorporate personal witnessing, public evangelism and an increased profile in the community.

The programs will take place in Apia, Samoa; Lae, Papua New Guinea; Sydney, Australia; and Christchurch, New Zealand.

At its annual meetings in November, the SPD executive committee heard reports on each Union's plans for the 2013 outreaches. Each of the Union presidents—Waisea Vuniwa for Trans-Pacific Union Mission (TPUM), Leigh Rice for Papua New Guinea Union Mission (PNGUM), Jerry Matthews for New Zealand Pacific Union Conference (NZPUC) and Chester Stanley for the Australian Union Conference (AUC)—outlined information on the places, presenters and strategies employed to make a significant impact on the cities' communities.—*RECORD staff*



Turn off

Angus T Jones, the young star of the TV comedy *Two and Half Men*, was baptised at an Adventist church in Los Angeles earlier this year and has publicly criticised the sitcom, calling it "filth". Church leaders have welcomed Angus but distanced the denomination from the independent ministry that filmed the comments. —*A Sabbath Blog*



Change denied

There's been dismay after a motion at the the Church of England General Synod to allow women bishops was narrowly defeated. There was strong support for the change in both the House of Bishops and House of Clergy votes but the House of Laity failed to reach a two-thirds majority by just six votes. —*Anglican Communion News*



Vindicated

The blasphemy case against Christian girl Rimsha Masih has been quashed by the Islamabad High Court, Pakistan. The judge closed the case after hearing from the 14 year-old girl's legal team that the evidence that she had burned pages of the Qur'an was fabricated. Rimsha remains at risk from extremist violence. —*Christian Solidarity Worldwide*



Pray for freedom

December 1, 2012 was a special day of prayer for two church members in jail in Togo, West Africa. In a bizarre case, Pastor Antonio dos Anjos Monteiro (left) and businessman Bruno Amah are accused of organising a blood trafficking network. Despite no evidence of the allegations, they have been detained for eight months. —*ANN*



Warm welcome

Harsh winter conditions in the Middle East are threatening the lives of the hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing war-torn Syria. But the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) has stepped in, supporting 3500 families with winter clothing and sleeping bags, targeting young children, the elderly and widows. —*ADRA Australia*



Your piece of history

The world's fourth largest cathedral is offering the opportunity to adopt a gargoyle. Milan's gothic cathedral took 600 years to build and was completed in 1965. But Italy's economic woes have prompted the search for alternative ways to fund essential maintenance. For \$123,000 you can have your name carved underneath one of the cathedral's 135 gargoyles. —*ABC*

Photo: BBC

CELEBRATING TOGETHER

This is Christmas.

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for women escaping abusive relationships



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to help a Tanzanian family caring for an albino child to earn an income

Healthy outlook for new CHIP resource

Nathan Brown

A new global and integrated health resource for local churches was launched at a CHIP Summit on November 15-19 at Cohutta Springs Conference Centre, Crandall, Georgia.

The all-new Complete Health Improvement Program (CHIP) builds on the foundation of the former Coronary Health Improvement Project, including the continuing core principles of health intervention and lifestyle medicine with a contemporary presentation, and updated medical and scientific research.

Dr Hans Diehl founded the CHIP ministry 25 years ago and acknowledged that the previous materials needed updating but that the self-supporting ministry did not have the necessary resources. "We needed to find a strong partner with commensurate resources [who] also embraced our basic Adventist holistic values with strong spiritual underpinnings," Dr Diehl explained.

Working particularly with church-owned Sanitarium Health and Wellbeing in Australia, the South Pacific Division purchased CHIP with a plan for it to be renewed and relaunched under the leadership and management of Sanitarium.

"CHIP has been a great program that was setting the Church up to be a centre of influence in the community, that was bringing great results and bringing the Church's health message to life," said Cathy McDonald, general manager of Sanitarium's Health and Wellbeing Services. "We also saw the potential to update it and enlarge its impact."

"After 25 years of making CHIP my life and my mission, it was not easy to let it go but my team and I recognised the need for an enriched environment in which CHIP could develop to full maturity," Dr Diehl said. "We are truly grateful for how God has led. We are overjoyed to place this project in the hands of the Church for which it was created."

While the need for a new CHIP was recognised, the measurable clinical outcomes of the existing program have

been lauded by medical researchers. Early this year, the American College of Lifestyle Medicine described research on CHIP participants published in the *American Journal of Cardiology* as "some of the most impressive recorded clinical changes ever in the literature".

Some 270 CHIP facilitators, health professionals and health leaders applauded the launch of the new CHIP resources, included integrated textbook, participants' journal, recipe book and DVD series. The redevelopment of CHIP has been driven primarily in Australia and has seen a number of church entities working together including Sanitarium, Avondale College of Higher Education, Adventist Media Network and the South Pacific Division.

One of the Australians prominent in the new series is co-presenter Dr Darren Morton, senior lecturer in physical education at Avondale College. "Through my involvement in this project, I've learned a lot more about the role of nutrition in wellbeing," he said. "And it has given me a greater appreciation of how the foundations of the Adventist health message are so relevant to our communities today. I have been excited to be involved in such a worthwhile project."

According to Ms McDonald, the combined American and Australian team is planning for the new CHIP "to become the biggest lifestyle medicine and disease reversal program globally and to resource the global Church with a quality health program at a local church level.

"We believe this will significantly add to the medical missionary work of the Church," she said. "We want to be able to support local churches to be centres of health, hope and healing."

The new resources will be launched in Australia and New Zealand at CHIP summits on February 1-3 (Australia) and February 15-17 (New Zealand). More information at www.chiphealth.org.au and www.chiphealth.org.nz.

Nathan Brown is book editor for Adventist Media Network.

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Having a few bugs in our first Android App made us feel a bit like a new release of Windows. For that, we're very sorry! The good news? We've got our German app team on the job, and their meticulous engineers have wiped out all the *bugs, and updated our Android App. It now drives like a teutonic juggernaut flying down the autobahn. Don't believe us?

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ALICE SPRINGS

Alice Springs in the Northern Territory is a tourist town—the gateway to Uluru (Ayers Rock) and Australia's Red Centre. The attendance at the Adventist church each week reflects this as travellers from across Australia and further afield join in worship.

The church has seen a lot of changes over the past few years, with a flood of African migrants arriving in town for work. The church was already very multicultural, with Aboriginal, Filipino, Fijian, Chinese, Lithuanian and Anglo-Australian members. Now, more than half the 60 regulars are of African origin—many of them professionals in various fields from South Africa, Zimbabwe, Kenya and South Sudan.

Social worker Munyaradzi Timire, or "Tim" to his friends, is the church's music director and has helped spawn two new vocal groups, rigorously training singers using the traditional "do re mi" technique still used in his native Zimbabwe. He hopes to bring them up to public performance level.

While Tim is enthusiastic about his role at the church, he's also conscious of how the African influence has changed the character of the congregation—he knows it's been a difficult transition for some.

Like many African migrants, Tim says his church background was very strict. It's taken a while for him to adjust to the more informal worship practices in Australia. He's aware of his tendency to be judgemental but he has a motto to live by: "We need to focus less on being right and more on being righteous," he says. "Less on being good and more on being godly."

Tim says the African migrants in town turn to one another for support. They cross religious and ethnic lines they might not have if they were back home. This has created friendships. Chris Mukangaya's church denomination doesn't have a congregation in Alice Springs, but he has always felt welcome at the Adventist church. A university student, he's a keen debater of the finer points of doctrine and has been convinced of the truth of the Sabbath. He says the next time there's an appeal for decisions he'll come forward. —with Kent Kingston



Sabbath morning in the Red Centre with Tim Timire (left) and Chris Mukangaya.





R HEALTH FEATURE

with Cathy McDonald

Food swap

As a new year begins many of us make resolutions to eat healthier. An effective way to ensure the changes you undertake are sustainable is to make small alterations to your whole diet. When you start to implement these changes it will involve a conscious effort, however, soon enough it will become second nature and you won't have to think before making healthy choices.

Here are some easy food swaps to get you started on the journey to a healthier you.

Breakfast

- ▶ Change from using whole milk to reduced fat milk.
- ▶ Swap toasted muesli for natural muesli or porridge.
- ▶ Instead of a sprinkle of sugar on your breakfast cereal use fresh or dried fruit, or a spoon of yoghurt.

Lunch

- ▶ Swap white breads for wholegrain varieties.
- ▶ Spread avocado on a sandwich instead of mayonnaise or butter.
- ▶ Select light or Edam cheese instead of tasty.

Dinner

- ▶ Switch creamy or cheesy sauces for tomato or vegetable-based sauces on your pasta.
- ▶ When making mashed potatoes use reduced fat milk, a little olive oil, garlic, salt and pepper to add flavour instead of cream and butter.
- ▶ Select healthier cooking methods, such as grilling, baking and steaming over frying.
- ▶ Replace coconut cream with coconut milk.
- ▶ Swap a side of chips for a baked potato or salad.
- ▶ Add a splash of vinaigrette in place of creamy salad dressing.

ette in place of creamy salad dressing.

Drinks

- ▶ Order your usual coffee with reduced fat milk.
- ▶ Swap a glass of fruit juice for a piece of fruit and a glass of water.
- ▶ Reduce the amount of sugar you use in your tea or coffee.

Snacks

- ▶ Instead of a muffin or piece of cake have a piece of wholegrain fruit bread with a thin spread of margarine or jam.
- ▶ Enjoy air popped popcorn instead of chips
- ▶ Eat yoghurt instead of ice-cream
- ▶ Instead of having cream with a dessert/cake, use natural or vanilla yoghurt.
- ▶ Replace cheese and crackers for vegetable sticks dipped in hummus, tzaikiki or salsa.



Italian bread salad

Preparation time: 15 minutes Cooking time: 20-30 minutes Serves: 6

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 ciabatta loaf | 1 telegraph cucumber, seeds removed |
| 2 tablespoons oil | 100 grams feta, cut into cubes |
| 1 teaspoon crushed garlic | 1 cup fresh chopped parsley |
| 6 tomatoes | 100 grams black olives (optional) |

1. Preheat oven to 180°C (fan bake).
 2. Cut ciabatta bread into cubes. Mix oil and garlic and toss through ciabatta, place on baking tray and bake in oven for about 5-6 minutes until golden brown and crunchy to bite. Allow to cool.
 3. While bread is cooking chop tomatoes in half and scoop out seeds with a spoon (discard seeds) and chop into bite-sized pieces.
 4. Wash cucumber, and slice lengthways down the middle and remove seeds (discard seeds). Slice into half rounds.
 5. When ciabatta is cooked and cool, toss together with the tomatoes, cucumbers, feta, olives and parsley.
- Serve** immediately.

NUTRITION INFORMATION PER SERVE: 1079kJ (258cal); Protein 11g; Fat 10g; Carbohydrate 33g; Sodium 638mg; Potassium 723mg; Calcium 154mg; Iron 2.2mg; Fibre 4.7g.

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Sanitarium

LIFESTYLE
MEDICINE
SERVICES



Turning 30

Mt Druitt Samoan church (NSW) recently celebrated its 30th anniversary. Aleni Fepuleai and Neone Okesene spoke about the journey of the church, which was “divinely inspired through the vision and aspirations of our pioneers to worship God in their own language”. The weekend celebration included presentations, singing, a Samoan-style feast and 30 cakes.—*Theodora Amuimuia*

RAW experience

Two hundred and forty youth attended a Real Authentic Worship (RAW) youth rally at Advent Park (WA) on November 3. Participants endured a very raw experience when the rain came down on the outdoor set-up. The audio equipment and seating were quickly relocated inside, where the youth were treated to the testimonies of Kelly Long and Pastor Uili Mauga.—*Terry Johnson/NewsWest*

Royal rendition

Pacific Adventist University (PAU) International Choir sang for their Royal Highnesses, The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall, and more than 200 guests on November 4 in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea (PNG). The royal couple were visiting PNG to commemorate the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee.—*Glennes Anis*



Power of prose

Avondale College lecturer Carolyn Rickett graduated with a Doctor of Arts from The University of Sydney (NSW) on November 9. Ms Rickett’s thesis—“Write yourself: your body must be heard—the therapeutic benefits of narrating a cancer experience”—emphasised how the “act of writing through this trauma can provide a strategic and enabling means through which to process and assimilate suffering”. Ms Rickett dedicated her dissertation to Dr Noel Rowe, one of her first supervisors who died from cancer. She also acknowledged her family, friends, colleagues and Lily, her Cavalier King Charles spaniel, for their support.—*Brenton Stacey*

Evangelism excites

Pastor Gary Webster recently presented a Revelation seminar at Gosford Adventist church (NSW), speaking on the topics of the seven seals and the seven last plagues. Twenty-nine out of 33 people invited to the evangelistic event attended, with a number of guests making a decision for baptism. “We had eight decisions to follow Jesus, 15 decisions for baptism and three for Bible studies,” said Pastor David Price. “I have been told so many times that public evangelism is dead, but it keeps bursting out of the tomb!” A follow-up baptism is planned for today.—*David Price*



Bringing joy

The children at Mount Gambier Adventist church (SA) ran “Kids’ Church” on November 11. “Joy” was the theme for the Sabbath morning worship service, which featured a sermon by 13-year-old Jacob Ellis, a live skit and a puppet choir. Twenty-two children participated in the program, including two community children who were attending church for the first time.—*Matthew Tompson*

DVD debut

Vanuatu Adventist Mass Choir recorded its first DVD album on November 18 in Port Vila. The video was shot by Livah Line Media, with audio recording provided by Wiles Studio. The DVD features 11 songs and will be released early 2013. Vanuatu Mass Choir has more than 60 members from different islands of Vanuatu who live in Port Vila.—*Adventist Media: Vanuatu*

107 years and counting

More than 160 people gathered at Bickley Adventist church (WA) on October 20 to celebrate the building’s 107th anniversary. The gathering doubled the size of the church’s usual congregation and brought together members (old and new) for a time of fellowship, worship and sharing. There was a presentation of the historical highlights of the church, as well as an afternoon concert.—*Yvonne Johnson/NewsWest*



And goodwill to men

by Braden Blyde

IT WAS THE FIRST CHRISTMAS EVE. MARY AND JOSEPH wandered the streets of Bethlehem, perhaps in desperation. All they needed was a place to stay. A simple lodging was all they sought—but seemingly their luck had run out. There was no room—anywhere.

Were it not for the generosity and compassion of the innkeeper, Jesus' life may have begun on the streets. Through no fault of His own, the unborn Christ was on the edge of homelessness.

Framed in this way, we come to realise that compassion, generosity and justice are integral parts of the Christmas story we celebrate—that Christ's affinity with the poor and marginalised, the lonely and the abused began at birth.

And if we are to really celebrate the meaning of Christmas in its fullest, that same sense of compassion, generosity and justice should be just as integral to our experience at Christmas.

Recent statistics indicate 35,000 Australians sleep on the streets or in temporary shelters every night. And close to half a million of our own neighbours will celebrate Christmas alone—having no family or close support network to call on, at Christmas or any other day of the year.

But these are more than statistics; these are real people and real families who much like Christ's family, are in need of generosity and compassion.

Melissa* wandered the streets in a haze, the stinging refusal of her request for help still ringing in her ears.

She literally had nowhere to turn. Her purposeless walk took her passed an ADRA community centre. The green and bright orange facade caught her attention.

"Maybe they can help," she wondered hopefully.

Inside, she recounted her story. Melissa was a migrant to Australia who had just been abandoned by her husband of 15 years. He had left her to be with another woman in their home of South Africa.

She was left with the uncertainty of not knowing how

she would survive financially and emotionally. With no family, no support network, no employable skills and not qualifying for government assistance, Melissa was truly alone. The bills began to mount and frustration, anger and desperation rose within.

More than the hurt of losing her husband, more than the difficulty of being a foreigner, the pain Melissa felt most was not being able to provide for her two young daughters.

The staff and volunteers at the ADRA community centre took her in and listened—they cared for her physical needs by providing food parcels at times when she could not afford to eat, and connected her with a supportive local church network who, through the centre, helped with rent assistance. The staff also cared for her emotional needs and provided a network of care she could rely on.

Their efforts were touches of Jesus' hands and feet when Melissa needed them most.

The modern carol "I Heard the Bells" highlights that though we sing about peace and goodwill, when we open our eyes, suffering, injustice and sadness surround us.

Its final lines read, "then pealed the bells more loud and deep, God is not dead nor does He sleep, the wrong shall fail, the right prevail, with peace on earth, goodwill to men".

Christmas is the time to reach out to those, like Melissa, who are alone, who need encouragement and who deserve to be shown Christ's love during a season centred on Him.

This Christmas we have the chance to right wrongs, to spread peace on earth and goodwill to men. You can help families in need through ADRA's Christmas gifts. Purchase gifts from the ADRA tree in your church, school or organisation, or order online or via phone before December 20, to receive your Christmas gift tag before Christmas day.

Visit <www.adra.org.au> or call 1800 242 372.

**Not her real name.*

Braden Blyde is communication coordinator for ADRA Australia.



Christmas blessing

by David Edgren

THEY SAT LIKE TWO CHILDREN, PLAYING ON THE steps, outside Jerusalem's temple. The game they played wasn't one of competition or make-believe. It was a game children don't play well. But they weren't children, yet they laughed as they played. And each day, as they continued playing, they shared stories from their childhood. The game they played was one of patience, but one worth playing. The waiting game is like that.

Many people passing on the street said the pair were living their second childhood. At 84, Anna considered it her third or fourth. And Simeon, while he couldn't recall his exact age, knew he enjoyed waiting more than anything he'd done in his long life.

It was here, on the steps of the temple, that Simeon first met Anna. He had been drawn to the temple as if something was beckoning him. An invitation sent. Invitation received. He couldn't be sure what the invitation said, just

that he was meant to be here. So, he sat on the temple steps and watched the people come and go.

He found himself, like most people of grandparent age, drawn to the young parents who brought infants to the temple to dedicate them to the Lord. He studied the parents' faces. And, if they walked within earshot, he called them over, asked to hold the baby and stared—transfixed—into each little face.

He wasn't sure what he was looking for. Until he met Anna. She had been watching him from a distance for many days. She, too, was drawn to the temple. But she knew her calling. She was a prophetess and was often called to speak into the life of some person for whom God had a message. She, too, was studying the young people, assuming the prophetic blessing within her was for someone early in life.

She couldn't help but notice Simeon. He spent most of his day smiling, laughing and talking with people who journeyed to and from the temple. Simeon was about her age and she felt herself drawn to him. Her husband had died lifetimes ago, after only seven short years of marriage. Although she'd felt much too old to be, she couldn't help but be drawn closer each day. Until one day (many years ago now) she'd joined him on his step.

They watched the faces together, studied the young parents together, cuddled babies together—laughing, loving, sharing stories—new and old. After months of togetherness, the message came upon Anna. She knew the old feeling of a prophetic word. It was here and she was surprised by the person God had put on her heart.

Anna turned to Simeon, "The Holy Spirit has a message for you, Simeon. You will not die until you see the Lord's Messiah!"

Hot tears rushed down his wrinkled face, creating pathways of joy through the dust on his time-worn cheeks. It was as if all his Christmases had come at once. Or, it would have been, if he had known what Christmas was to be and would become. He embraced the old prophetess and they laughed and wept together.

Years passed. Each day they sat on the temple steps. People became accustomed to their presence. Everyone learned of Simeon's passion and Anna's prophecy. It was the talk of the town, like Noah's Ark, for a year or two. Then it was just an old couple, dreaming their days away on the temple steps. "Let them enjoy their sunset years," people would say, smiling as they passed. "They're a lovely couple and they're not hurting anyone." And they would watch Anna and Simeon laugh, tell stories and kiss babies. "They're like children," the people said. "They love to play their game on the temple steps."

Then one day, Simeon felt it. He couldn't explain what it was that he felt, but he turned to Anna and said, "This

is what it's like for you?" She raised her eyebrows, not understanding, "When the Spirit comes upon you—this feeling. Oh my, Anna, it's like a knowing without words."

Anna nodded, tears coming to her eyes. "The time is here, Simeon," she said. "The Holy Spirit has come upon you. The Messiah must be somewhere near the temple today. Watch, seek out the eyes of each man. You will know when you see Him."

Simeon, sitting on his step, gripped his hands tightly together across his knees. They were shaking—hands, knees, even his heart. He began studying the face of every man as he walked by. It was too hard to see, from down here, so he stood up. His anxious eyes jumped from man to man. Some were on the steps. Some were walking below the steps. Some stood above him, on the landing. How could he see them all?

Then he was distracted by his usual interest, a young couple carrying a baby, coming down the steps. He studied the man's face, caught his eyes. Nothing. He looked down at Anna, "Another baby, Grandma. Shall we?" Anna laughed and said, "After you, Grandpa!"

"May I hold you precious babe," Simeon asked. The young woman looked at her husband; they had expected this encounter as does every couple leaving the temple. She smiled and handed the small bundle to the old man.

As the child rested against Simeon's chest, his racing heart stilled and a gentle breeze, like a solitary dove landing, blew across his face. Simeon, whispering a prayer, praised God, saying: "Sovereign Lord, now let your

servant die in peace, as you have promised. I have seen your salvation, which you have prepared for all people. He is a light to reveal God to the nations, and he is the glory of your people Israel!"

The old man kissed the Baby's forehead and blessed Him. Then, as he handed the Baby to His mother, words cascaded from above, like a waterfall in spring, erupting from Simeon's mouth. "This child is destined to cause many in Israel to fall, but he will be a joy to many others. He has been sent as a sign from God, but many will oppose him. As a result, the deepest thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your very soul."

Simeon shook with the after effects of a prophetic word, spoken. Anna had shuffled toward them, a few steps behind Simeon and arrived as the words of prophecy flooded from him. She gave thanks to God for this moment. One prophecy fulfilled, another commissioned.

Although they had seen the Messiah, the couple remained on the temple steps—laughing, loving, sharing stories—telling all who would listen about the arrival of the Christ-child and God's plan for the rescue of Jerusalem. ➤

Pastor David Edgren is director, Children's Ministries and Sabbath School, for the Victorian Conference.

When the Spirit comes upon you—this feeling. Oh my, Anna, it's like a knowing without words.



OPENING HIS WORD

Gary Webster

The omen of the virgin

Wicked King Ahaz was petrified on hearing the kings of Syria and Israel were coming to wage war against him at Jerusalem. In love, God sent Isaiah to him. If he would just trust in God alone for help, he would be delivered. To strengthen his faith, the king was told to ask God for any sign. Piously Ahaz responded, "I will not tempt God, by asking for a sign." If he asked for a sign he knew God would fulfil it and he would have to abandon his own plans of asking for help from the mighty Assyrians. Isaiah responded angrily, "Then God will give you a sign: 'The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, who shall be called Immanuel—God with us.'" The virgin birth was to be a sign or omen to strengthen Ahaz's weak faith that God would surely deliver him from the impossible. **Read** Isaiah 7:1-16.

The Hebrew word for virgin used by Isaiah usually just means a sexually mature woman. However, the Holy Spirit revealed to Matthew that this was also a prediction that the Messiah would be miraculously born of a true virgin as an omen that through Jesus, God will deliver his people from their greatest enemy—sin. **Read** Matthew 1:18-23.

Are you burdened with a load of guilt? The virgin birth of Jesus is your omen of assurance that He will forgive you, delivering you from your guilt, if you will turn from sin and just put your trust in Him. **Read** Matthew 9:2,6; Luke 7:47-50.

Are you trapped and chained by sinful habits that rob you of joy, freedom, dignity and peace of mind. The grace of the Master chain-breaker will deliver you from any temptation of lust, anger, pride, greed, intemperance and self-centred living. All you need to do is throw your helpless soul on Him. **Read** 1 Corinthians 10:13; 2 Peter 2:9; Romans 6:14; 1 John 3:6; 5:18; Titus 2:11-14; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11.

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



OPINION

Nathan Brown

Worldly

A new slogan and marketing campaign launched by my other higher education provider earlier this year has caught my attention—and imagination.

Deakin University's new attempt to encapsulate, position and promote itself in a single, bold word is "Worldly".

As someone who grew up in a church environment, I don't think I have ever heard this word used positively, so the idea of successfully pitching this to the university intrigued me. "Worldly", it seems, is the word that best sums up what Deakin aspires to be and why prospective students should choose to study there.

The continuing roll-out of the marketing materials has added to the picture of "Worldly" as a promise to expand a student's experiences and understandings of our world in a holistic way, becoming engaged with, interested in and passionate about—as well as relevant and useful to—the wider world. This, as counterintuitive as it might initially sound, is exactly what Christians, churches and church-based entities are called to do and be.

The Christian's relationship with the "world" should always be one of tension, best summed up by James in a call to care about the world around us, particularly those in need, at the same time as we "refuse to let the world corrupt us" (James 1:27, NLT). It's in this second sense that the word "worldly" has been a negative and even threatening or dismissive description in most common Christian usage.

However, we also need to reclaim and redeem "worldly"—in the best sense of the word—as part of our sense of identity and mission. After all, it's the motivation ascribed to God Himself for His mission to our world: "For God loved the world so much that He gave His only son . . ." (see John 3:16, NLT). That mission includes us—and the rest of the world. And we are called to be "worldly" agents of His kingdom mission.

Nathan Brown is a Masters of Arts (Research) student at Avondale College of Higher Education and book editor at Adventist Media Network.

MY STORY

Graynie Boeson
VANUATU

I was raised in an Anglican family, but my brother learned about the Adventist Church. He gave me Bible studies and I was baptised in 2007.

Today I study accounting/finance at the University of the South Pacific. I hope to work in the finance industry when I complete my degree. I pray God will use me to be a witness within the industry.





Surfing the gift tsunami

by Leisa Morton-Standish

THE PROBLEM WITH CHRISTMAS GIFTS IS WHERE to put them all. Think about it. Today people live longer so there are plenty of grandparents and even great-grandparents around. At the same time, families are generally smaller so there are fewer children around than in past generations. Our societies are wealthier than they've ever been, and toys have never been less expensive in real terms.

All of this combined results in a tsunami of Christmas gifts to children. Sometimes in December it feels like it's raining moulded plastic toys! But I'm pretty sure this is doing nothing for our kids, and it's also missing a very real opportunity.

So what are we to do? Stop giving? Hardly. The joy of giving is truly a gift from God. So how do we balance our desire to give generously to those we love, against our recognition that something has gotten out of balance with our Christmas giving? There may be many ways, but one is to focus on giving gifts that make a lasting difference, that genuinely enrich our lives and make the kind of impact we as Christians long to make. Here are some ideas:

Magazine subscriptions: My daughters love to collect the mail, which these days usually consists exclusively of bills and advertising. Imagine their delight at receiving a magazine in the mail each month. Why not give children magazines designed to capture their imagination and engage them with pictures and text? For example, *GiGi* magazine is the perfect gift for teenage girls.

Gift vouchers for classes: Supplementing a child's education with after-school classes can greatly enrich their lives, so why not give the gift of a fun learning activity? There are so many to choose from—art classes, gymnastics, ballet, language lessons, music lessons, swimming, soccer, basketball, horse riding, ice skating, etc. After-school and Sunday activities are a great gift for kids to keep them active and learning, support local business and are great for parents too!

Books: I am just re-reading with my children some of the classics from my childhood. They are dog-eared and scrappy from many, many readings but our children are enjoying

them as much as we did. If you don't have Uncle Arthur's *The Bible Story* and *Bedtime Stories*, Christmas is a great time to get your hands on a set—they are terrific. But they are hardly alone: today there are more options for great, character-building books that kids love than ever before. Our kids have enjoyed the books we've bought at the Adventist Book Centre, and the values they teach are right on point.

CDs: CDs are another great gift especially for the car. I can't recommend highly enough the *Your Story Hour* series of dramatic audio plays that bring stories from the Bible and history to life. Our kids love them—and I have to admit, I enjoy them too!

ADRA animals: Last year we bought goats, chickens, a cow and a sheep for our family. Yes, it's true and they loved it! ADRA sells gifts of livestock and food that can be donated in someone's name to developing communities around the world. In fact at the last GC Session one of the most popular VIPs was ADRA's goat—and maybe it will be the most popular gift at your family's Christmas too!

Sponsor a child: A very special memory of my teaching years in the US was when our class raised money to sponsor a child to go to school in India. One day they would bring pennies, the next nickels, the next dimes, then quarters and the last day notes. One year one of my kindy students brought in the money she had won in the school talent show. I asked her if she was sure that she wanted to give her winnings and she looked at me with shining eyes and replied that the little child needed it more than she did.

What about you? Do you have ideas about true giving this Christmas? Giving that supports local business and charities? Giving that gives for more than a few minutes of excitement? Giving that promotes spiritual values and healthy living? Why not post ideas in the comments section following this article at <www.record.net.au>. Let's make this the best Christmas yet—a Christmas full of love for others, gifts that teach the joy of giving and bring our children closer to Jesus. ↻

Leisa Morton-Standish, PhD, is a lecturer in education at Macquarie University, NSW.

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Requests for a job description and how to apply can be directed to:

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PO Box 129
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E-mail: ayoung@adra.org.au
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RECORD REWIND

Lester Devine

Former president dies

On November 5, after nearly 30 years of retirement, Pastor R R Frame passed to his rest in the United States, two weeks shy of his 97th birthday. Although he finished his work for the Lord in America, Pastor Frame gave much of his life to the Adventist Church in the South Pacific Division.

Robert graduated from Avondale College in 1935, having completed a business course. He spent the next year as a colporteur in South New South Wales, and then was called to the Division Treasury to work as the cashier.

In November 1938, Robert married Peggie Jean Watson and was appointed secretary of the Papuan Mission. After three years they were evacuated to Australia because of World War II. Robert was invited to serve as Division assistant treasurer with specific responsibilities covering the mission territories. November 1947 saw the Frames return to PNG where Robert was appointed president of the Papuan/North East New Guinea Mission based in Port Moresby. In the 1950s the family was granted permanent return for health reasons. Robert was appointed as the first secretary-treasurer of the newly established Trans-Tasman Union, where he remained until 1954. In 1955 he was ordained to the gospel ministry.

His next appointment was as associate Division secretary. In 1962 he was elected Division secretary, followed by a call to the General Conference in 1966. In Washington Robert's responsibility was that of associate secretary.

In 1970, Robert was invited back to the South Pacific Division to serve as president and in 1977 he was appointed president of the Media Centre being established in Thousand Oaks, California. After nine years he retired and the family settled in Hendersonville, North Carolina.

Robert served the denomination for a total of 50 years—30 at the Division office. He said he would ever be grateful to God for His daily blessings through those years, and in retirement.

He is survived by his wife, Peggy, who is living in a nursing home in America. He has one daughter, Judy, in America and a son, Peter, in Australia. —with RECORD staff



Pastor Robert Ronald Frame.

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



G'day Mate!*



King Ahab prayed to Baal every day to send rain. This made God very sad. The only person still worshipping God was Elijah. God told Elijah to go to King Ahab and tell him it would only rain when God said it would!

Being a messenger of God was very dangerous in those days. Elijah knew his life was in danger and he ran away. God promised that He would always feed Elijah. One day God sent the ravens to feed him! Wow! God really does keep His promises.



Find The Words & fill in the blanks

WORSHIP MESSAGE

7 2 US AND 1 US
4 WE 3

MEMORY VERSE

"MY 7 WILL 5 ALL 6 3 S"
Philippians 4:9

* Australian Slang for Hello

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LETTERS

EXPERIENCE NOT EVERYTHING

Peter Schaper, Qld

I was reading "Questions and Answers" (Feature, October 20). Throughout my 35 years in the Church, I have found that there is a strong focus on experiential religion.

There are a multitude of methods and processes by which people achieve an emotional uplift, from the simple singing of Christian songs and some types of prayer to glossolalia and the more complicated spiritual exercises recommended by some people, but nowhere do I find Jesus recommending a feel-good religion.

On the contrary, the Bible clearly says that our emotions are not to be trusted—"The heart is deceitful above all things" (Jeremiah 17:9). So whether you feel Jesus in your heart or not is irrelevant. Christianity is not about how you feel, it's about who you trust and how you live your life in response to what He has done for you.

LEADING WOMEN

Ralph Williams, Qld

Thank you for "Daughters of Zion" (Editorial, November 3). There is an interesting website called "The rise and fall of Adventist women in leadership" by Kit Watts, which was quoted in *Ministry* magazine. It includes a number of quotes from Ellen White including:

"It was Mary who first preached a risen Jesus; and the refining, softening influence of Christian women is needed in the great work of preaching the truth now" (*Signs of the Times*, September 16, 1886).

"There are women who

should labour in the gospel ministry. In many respects they would do more good than the ministers who neglect to visit the flock of God" (Manuscript 43a, 1898. Cited in *Evangelism*, p 472).

Kit Watts provides documentation that during the life of Ellen White, many women served at GC level: three as GC treasurers, others in Education and still others in Sabbath School. There was even one, by the name of Flora Plummer, who served for a time as an acting conference president. She also led the GC Sabbath School department for 23 years, which has never been exceeded. In 1915 approximately two-thirds of the 60 educational department leaders and more than 50 of the 60 Sabbath School department leaders were women.

Watts concludes that "Ellen White's death in 1915 must not be underestimated as a factor in women's declining visibility in the Church."

CHILD RIGHTS?

Dawn Smith, NSW

In response to the editorial, "Spare the rod, cherish the child" (October 20) and the related opinion poll question. For 22 years I was employed as a social worker for the Department of Community Services at Bankstown (NSW).

I believe there have to be rules and later consequences for children. I don't believe any child died of a smacked bottom. But I also believe that as parents we need to consider:

1. Whether the child actually deserves the smack or if we have lost our temper and displaced this onto the child.
2. That children have rights (under the United Nations Convention).

3. That if an adult was assaulted in any way they have recourse via legal systems, i.e. they have rights, as do children.

I attended too many courts and saw so much abuse that I really believe if there is an alternative . . . take it ! But I also am aware that some kids would send a saint crazy.

The law [in NSW] as it stands allows for smacking not with any implements or around the head or upper body and in a way that does not hurt or mark the child. So I guess I would support the "rarely within limits" option. It really is up to the individual. Parents have rights, too, but the law as it stands is there to protect children from those who just don't know when to stop.

ONE TO SHARE

Lorraine Everitt, via email

Thank you for excellent RECORDS and editorials, and for including easy access to past stories on the amazing RECORD website!

I have just printed several copies of "Baptizvah" (Editorial, July 21) for parents and church members planning upcoming baptisms. Thank you, and may God continue to bless the RECORD team.

WITH FAITH

Alan, via website

Being blind, I can relate to Bartimaeus ("Faith to see" devotion, RECORD website). At the same time, I take comfort in the words of Jesus in John 9 when answering the disciples, "this happened that the works of God may be displayed in him". In other words? There is a reason for my being blind, and I may not understand every bit of it until I'm in heaven.

Note: Views in letters do not necessarily represent those of the editors or the denomination. Letters should be less than 250 words, and writers must include their name, address and phone number. All letters are edited to meet space and literary requirements, but the author's original meaning will not be changed. Not all letters received are published. See Page 4 for contact details.

ANNIVERSARIES



Woosley. Glen and Roslyn were married 10.9.1962 at Brisbane

Central church by Pastor L J Kent. They have three children, Bettina (Jimboomba, Qld), Paul and Belinda (both Sunshine Coast); and six grandchildren. They celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with family and friends at Landsborough church where they now attend. They are thankful for God's leading in their lives and look forward to many years together.



Wright-Nilsson. Rodney (Bud) and Shirley celebrated their 60th

wedding anniversary on 3.11.12. They were married in the Avondale Village church by Doctor W G Murdock. Bud was

an engineer for Sanitarium at Cooranbong and then transferred to Christchurch. They lived there for the next 26 years, raising their three children Carol, Stuart and Dianne. Bud and Shirley attended Papanui and Bishopdale churches in Christchurch, where Bud was appointed Pathfinder director in 1962, a position he held until 1978. Then they moved to Rotorua to be near Shirley's elderly father. They spent the first three years in Rotorua as caretakers of the Tui Ridge campground before moving to Waihi. Shirley and Bud have served the Lord throughout their lives together, Bud as an elder and Shirley as an organist.

WEDDINGS



Cooney-Mikl. Benjamin James Cooney, son of Leon and Jennifer

POSITIONS VACANT

■ **Admin assistant-Adventist Media Network (Wahroonga, NSW)** is seeking to employ an administrative assistant to work with our media ministries. This position has a particular focus with Hope Channel but will also be involved with our other ministries as is necessary. Flexible working arrangements can be arranged. This position involves day-to-day management of the database system for recording donations, creating reports and mailing lists; providing front line communications by handling phone and web enquiries; coordinating the ministry resources of DVD's and other printed material; coordinating events; providing general administrative support with filing, mailing, documentation, minute taking, and other administrative support activities as requested from time to time. To apply or for more information contact Calvin Dever, Corporate Services on (02) 9847 2222 or email <calvin@adventistmedia.org.au>. Applications close **January 11, 2013**

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.

■ **Chief financial officer**-responsible for all accounting functions and systems. 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-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.

POSITIONS VACANT

■ **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 candidates 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 these positions 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.**

■ **Departmental assistant-Youth Department, Greater Sydney Conference (Epping, NSW)** is seeking the services of a departmental assistant. This full-time position involves ministering to Adventurers, Pathfinders and youth through training, resourcing and events. The successful applicant must be passionate about God and serving the Church, love working with youth and leaders, be highly organised, self-motivated, relational, willing to help out with youth events and committed to the mission and teachings of the Adventist Church. For further information contact the General Secretary, Pastor Adrian Raethel at <adrianraethel@adventist.org.au>; or phone (02) 9868 6522. Applications close **January 18, 2013.**

■ **Director-Marketing and public relations, ADRA Australia (Wahroonga, NSW).** For more information, see page 18.

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



Cooney (Glasshouse Mountains Qld), and Jessica Marie Mikl, daughter of Franz and Carolyn Mikl (Nambour), were married 15.4.12 at sunrise, in a Sunshine Coast beach setting. They were surrounded by friends and family as they pledged their love to one another and committed their marriage to Jesus. BJ and Jess now reside in Tasmania.

Murray Hunter

Coyte-Salmond. Tony Coyte and Robyn Salmond were married 30.9.12 at Papatoetoe church, NZ. They will make their home in Perth, WA.

Kendell Cobbin, Ed Gallagher



Davey-Ly. Wayne R Davey, son of John Davey (Victoria Point, Qld) and Shirley Davey (Inala), and Thi Uyen Ly, daughter of En Ly and Chen Thi Trinh (Gia Rai, Vietnam), were married 9.9.12 at Garden City church, Brisbane. Guests travelled from Vietnam and other parts of Australia to enjoy the ceremony. Wayne and Uyen plan to continue living in Brisbane with Jesus as the Head of their home.

Keith Grolimund

OBITUARIES

Aitchison, Gavin, born 9.8.1951 in Waiuku, NZ; died 30.9.12 in Southport, Qld. He married Sue Aitchison. He is survived by his wife; son, Toby (both of Tallai, Qld); brother, Tom (Papakura, NZ) and sister, Myrtle (Lismore, NSW). During his life, Gav was a

member at Papakura, Pukekohe and Coastlife churches, and served as an elder at the latter two. He was also involved in Pathfinders and youth ministry and is remembered as Uncle Gavin or Big Daddy G by many of the young people he served. He always had a heart for people, 4WDs and for God.

Wes Tolhurst

Aune, Pastor Bjorn, born 12.7.1936 on Bornholm, Denmark; died 30.9.12 in Kempsey, NSW. He is survived by his wife, Karen; Lisa (both of Kempsey) and Thomas and Debbie (Bonnelles Bay). Bjorn had known his wife, Karen, since they were nine years of age, as they both lived in the same apartment block in Copenhagen. Karen was raised a Catholic and Bjorn an Adventist but he conveyed a picture of God to her that saw her convert to Adventism despite strong opposition from her family. They were married in 1958. Bjorn completed his final three years of theology at Avondale College before taking up ministry back in Denmark. The family returned to Australia in 1980 where Bjorn and Karen formed a strong pastoral team in the North NSW Conference. Bjorn had a healthy disrespect of death because he was immersed in the love, mercy and justice of God and His Son Jesus Christ.

Barry Satchell



Gilbert, Raye Loma (Coltheart) (nee Williams), born 15.11.1923 in Te Puke, NZ; died 23.9.12 in the Mater

Private Hospital, Cleveland, Qld. She married John Coltheart in 1948 and spent 26 years in active support of his evangelistic programs in NZ, Australia, UK and Europe. When John died in 1974, she returned to Sydney and worked as the sister-in-charge at the Fox Valley Medical Centre, Wahroonga. After retiring to Queensland, she married Gordon Gilbert in 1986. She is survived by her husband (Victoria Point, Qld); and her children, David (Buderim), Alvin and Pirjo (Redland Bay), Alison and John Littleton, (Wales, UK); step-daughter, Glenda Jeffries (Thornton, NSW); her siblings, June, Val, Ralph and Zelda; 10 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Bob Possingham, Aaron Jeffries

Kelly, Margaret (nee Thorton), born 21.12.1925; died 20.8.12 in Albury, NSW. In 1954, Margaret married Henry Allen Kelly in Geelong, Vic. He predeceased her. She is survived by Marion and Rodney Pittard, Peter Kelly, Pam and Owen Brown (Adelaide, SA), Geoffrey and Jenny Kelly (Albury, NSW), Judy and Ian Pendlebury (Beechworth, Vic) and Neal and Gail Kelly (Albury, NSW); nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Margaret was a loving, caring, devoted mother with an engaging smile and a zest for life. She was a faithful and loyal member of Albury church.

L R Landers

McDonald, Ruth Joy (nee Shirt-cliff), born 3.8.1934 in Auckland, NZ; died 21.9.12 in Whangarei. In 1959, she married Neville McDonald. She is survived by her husband; son, Peter; daughters and their spouses, Virginia and Ray West (Whanganui), Anne and Malcolm Anderson, Carol and Tony Vance (all of Sydney, NSW); four grandchildren; and stepsons, Alan and Robert McDonald. Ruth was a godly lady who gave unstintingly to her family and her Lord. She sacrificed much time for Pathfinders, the North NZ Conference, Tape Club and was a church organist from her youth until a few weeks before her death.

Ken Curtis

Shortis, Nola Joy; born 11.5.1945 in Carlton, Vic; died 5.10.12 in Dural, NSW. Joy married George

Shortis in 1968. She is survived by her husband; children, Jason, James, Nicolas and Lisa; and grandchildren, Jordan, Lily, Joshua, Sofia, Jack, Jessica, Mia, William, Henry, Eva and Philo. Nola and George were married for 44 years. Nola was a generous and gracious person, with a quiet, strong faith that was expressed in love for her family.

Peter Roennfeldt

Morcombe, Trevor William, born 10.3.1954 in Three Springs Hospital, WA; died 21.9.12 as result of a tragic farm accident at Scaddan, near Esperance. He was predeceased by his mother, June and sister, Brenda. He is survived by his wife, Rhonda (nee Kendall); son, Clinton and his wife Kate; son "Shortie" (all of Esperance); his father Miles Morcombe (Mt Barker); siblings Jenny Ridgeway (Albany), Shelley Ridgeway (Condup) and Philip (Scaddan); father and mother-in law, Ron and Margaret Kendall; siblings-in-law, Neil, Philip and Noelene. Trevor was a devoted husband and best mate to his sons. He was a faithful son of God and member of the Esperance church family whom he adopted being the only Adventist in his family. He was a deacon, elder and a Pathfinder leader for almost 20 years, exercising his passion for church youth and unchurched mates in the district.

Roger Millist, George Porter



Smith, Winifred Margaret, born 20.7.1921 in Bowen, Qld; died 8.9.12 in

Murwillumbah, NSW. She was predeceased by her husband, "Ned". She is survived by her children: Vincent, Annette and Neil (Bowen), Carolyn (Ingham), Leslie (Baralaba), Pamela (Brisbane) and Beverly (Murwillumbah), 15 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

Ken Martin, Darryl Groves



Van der Stok, Klazina, born 8.8.1922 in Holland; died 1.10.12 in Kings

Langley Adventist Nursing Home, Sydney, NSW. Ina came to Australia with her late husband, Arend, in 1952 and eventually settled in Wollongong where she became an Adventist.

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VOLUNTEERS

Assistant deans for both the men's and women's dorms for Longburn Adventist College in New Zealand needed. Duties include: looking after the students in their dormitories, being responsible for vespers, Friday night workshops etc. You would be required from mid-January through to mid-December.

For more information visit www.adventistvolunteers.org or contact AVS volunteers@adventist.org.au (02) 9847 3278 —Anna Downing.

Ina and her husband moved into the Adventist Retirement Village to spend their final years and they became esteemed residents and much loved. They were married for 67 years. Klazina is survived by two sons, Jake and Jerry; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Now our sister rests in faith and with the glorious hope of a joyful resurrection when Jesus comes.

William Sleight, Wal Taylor

Volkwyn, Muriel, born 27.11.1926 in Cape Town, South Africa; died 1.8.12 in Wheelers Hill, Melbourne, Vic. She was baptised in 1945 in Cape Town. She is survived by her children, Gillian (Vancouver, BC), Lloyd and Cheryl (both of Melbourne); six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Muriel was unswerving in her faith and a true warrior for God. She knew of disappointment and loss, but maintained a good sense of humour and a firm trust in God. She awaits the call of the Lifegiver.

Denis Hankinson

Wallrodt, Gregory Allan, born 27.9.1953 in Northam, WA; died 6.10.12 in Busselton, WA. He is survived by his mother, Helen Wallrodt (Bunbury, WA); and siblings, Bill, Robert (both of Albany), Patricia (Melbourne, Vic) and Joan (Busselton, WA). Greg will be remembered for his entertaining, cooking and fishing.

Robert Kingdon

Wheeler, Brian, born 25.9.1935 in Grafton, NSW; died 11.10.12 in Toowoomba, Qld. On 16.5.1965, he married Valerie Ruth Hay in South Brisbane. He is survived by his wife, Dalveen; siblings, Neville and Colleen Wheeler (Ballina, NSW), Tania Jardim (Brisbane, Qld); and in-laws, Helen and Keith Miller (Toowoomba, Qld), Jillian and Alastair Macgillivray (Vanuatu), Carol

and David Tasker (Sydney, NSW) and their families. Brian loved the outdoors. In earlier years he ran several Pathfinder clubs. He delighted in teaching young people new skills. His working life included building, plumbing, sheepdog trialling and breeding dogs. He and Val were an inseparable team. He battled cancer with the same courageous determination that he faced life.

*Keith Miller, David Tasker
Don Bryant*

Williams, Elizabeth Alwyn (nee Bailey), born 5.11.1925 in Dannevirke, NZ; died 12.10.12 in Adventist Retirement Village, Victoria Point, Qld. On 3.2.1948, she married Eric William Williams. She was predeceased by her husband in 2005, her son, Gwynn, in 1973 and her brothers, Selwyn and Cecil Bailey. She is survived by Vere and Vyvyan Williams (Brisbane, Qld), Rhyl Cole (Christchurch, NZ), Ula Paton (Forrester's Beach, NSW), Ora Williams (Christchurch) and Myr Matheson (Gisborne, Vic). Betty was a school teacher before her marriage. She raised and educated three boys and four girls as well as fostering about 98 children. She had a huge heart and worked as a missionary for the children in her care. Enduring Parkinson's disease for more than 20 years, she remained actively involved in her local church. She was one of God's quiet saints.

*Orm Speck, Vern Parmenter
Bob Possingham*

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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 Hearing 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
It's nice to be important . . .
but it's even more important to be nice.
—John Cassis

Next RECORD
January 19

**Fly'n Build
Betikama College
2013**

Adventist Singles Project: Building a new computer lab at Betikama, Solomon Islands
16-23 July, 2013
Contact Cathy Kingston catherinekingston@adventist.org.au

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