

MARCH 2 2013

Record

ISSN 0819-5633



**RECORD ENROLMENT AS
SCHOOL TOPS 1000** page 7

MARMITE RESUMES PRODUCTION page 3

A CARING PLACE page 18



*give
the gift of
beyond*



The NEW Beyond 14 DVD series can reach those you love for Jesus in a unique way. Your friend or family member may not be ready for church, but will enjoy this evangelistic documentary series that has already won 14 international film awards. We challenge you to buy a set for yourself plus a set to give away to a special loved one in 2013 (your spouse, child, parent, sibling, colleague or friend anywhere in the world), then pray for them wholeheartedly all year. Invite them to any Adventist church in 2014, the International Year of Evangelism. Imagine the difference a year of prayer will make. Imagine how loving our Church would be if we **all** reached out to someone this year and prayed like never before!

Give the Gift of Beyond. It's a priceless way to reach your community **and** your friends and family for Jesus.

Order online at www.hopeshop.com or visit your ABC or the AUC Resource Centre. Ask your pastor or local conference for stock and ask if they are offering local church members a special bulk order price. Only **AU\$45** for the boxed gift set or less for bulk orders.



hopeshop.com

French Polynesia holds special session

Papeete, French Polynesia

The French Polynesia Mission held a special session last month to discuss pressing issues facing the Mission.

"Currently all the Mission's properties are held by an Adventist Church trust in France," said Graeme Drinkall, secretary/treasurer of the New Zealand Pacific Union (NZPUC).

"This creates substantial practical problems. For example, when church members want to donate real property to the Church here, the legalities make it difficult because they have to transfer the title to France.

"We held this special session to adopt a constitution for a new entity based here in Tahiti, formed under a 1939 law specifically designed for churches. The session also approved transferring the Mission's properties to this new locally controlled entity."

Mr Drinkall said they still had to go through some more steps to achieve the transfer.

"First, the new entity has to be approved by the French authorities," he said. "Second, we are working to ensure the transfer occurs in a way that doesn't incur property transfer tax.

"Obviously, this is a paper transfer—the property remains within the Adventist Church. Our local lawyer indicates that if we follow the right process we should be able to make the transfer without incurring tax liabilities. We are proceeding carefully."

French Polynesia Mission president, Pastor Roger Tetuanui, said it's an important step.

"It may seem like an obscure administrative detail, but there are real ramifications for our efforts," he said.

"For example, we currently have a couple of pieces of land that we cannot use. We want to sell them and use the proceeds to advance our core mission."

NZPUC president, Pastor Jerry Matthews, said the plan is for the French Polynesia Mission to become a Conference by the end of 2015.

"In order to take that step, it must become financially self-sustaining and ensure there is adequate leadership development in place so that we have the depth necessary to replace leaders when they retire," he said. "We are getting tantalisingly close on both



Pastor Jerry Matthews and Graeme Drinkall.

fronts." Pastor Tetuanui said the global financial crisis had hit French Polynesia particularly hard. "Tourism, which is a significant part of our economy, really dropped off," he said.

"Related to this, the value of the Pacific Franc dropped significantly in relation to world currencies, making everything we purchase from overseas more expensive in real terms for us. So that set us back on our road to financial self-sufficiency. But we have made adjustments, and we believe we will reach our goal on schedule."

—James Standish

Marmite resumes production in Christchurch

Christchurch, New Zealand

New Zealanders around the world breathed a collective sigh of relief as Sanitarium Health and Wellbeing announced production has started on the yeast spread Marmite.

General manager of Sanitarium's NZ operations, Pierre van Heerden, announced this week that New Zealand retailers would have Marmite on the shelves from March 20.

Only the 250g jars will be produced until the supply chain is filled.

"Our loyal consumers have really struggled not having Marmite available to them," said Mr van Heerden. "We are so pleased to can announce Marmite will be back on retail shelves again. Once we've filled

the pipeline in New Zealand, we will export to Australia again. This may take a few months."

Marmite's return was a carefully guarded secret. New Zealand media reported that only Mr van Heerden and Prime Minister, John Key, knew the exact date of return.

"People have been so relieved," said Mr van Heerden. "Everyone is very excited from the Prime Minister right through to the retailers."

The iconic brand, loved by New Zealanders for more than 100 years, has had a 15-month hiatus after severe earthquakes damaged the Christchurch factory.

The factory has been reinforced and strengthened, meeting stringent safety standards.

The factory looks very different but Mr van Heerden is keen to assure customers that the product is still the same. "We are using the same equipment, making the same product to the same recipe."

And for those of us that have lived through "Marmeggedon", that is good news.—Jarrod Stackelroth



Pierre van Heerden with new Marmite jar.



Glad to be different

James Standish

A few years ago a moderately amusing list entitled “you know you grew up in an Adventist home if . . .” was sent to me. It contained a sardonic look at a few Adventist quirks—things like eating copious amounts of vegie food, wading but not swimming on Sabbath afternoon, and, in America, wearing a watch on the wrong arm to signify engagement rather than an engagement ring. As I read the list, I enjoyed a knowing chuckle.

But a list like that raises an interesting question: beyond Nutmeat and Sabbath walks, how is growing up in an Adventist home different to growing up in a run-of-the-mill home? I can't say for everyone, but I know my upbringing was profoundly different from the norm.

As our society embraced unbridled materialism, we were encouraged to pursue spiritual fulfilment rather than material success. My dad repeated regularly, “it doesn't matter what career you pursue, what matters is that you are in the kingdom . . .”

In an age of increasing isolation, we were part of a rich community. No matter where we lived (and we lived many, many places) I was constantly surrounded by people who cared for me and encouraged me to do the right thing—even when I would have preferred a little less encouragement. I had so many people praying for me it was hard not to feel just a little special.

During the height of the “me generation” my parents' lives were genuinely designed around helping other people—sometimes in rather spectacular ways like when my dad flew off to Vietnam during the middle of the war in order to provide medical care to civilians or when my mum invited an elderly, impoverished Hindu man to come and live in our home.

That's not the norm now, is it?

And I also remember the first time I realised I was missing out on some of the “joys” of the standard home. I was across the street visiting a friend when his dad came home from a party. Generally, his dad was an affable fellow. But add a little booze and the guy turned into Mount Vesuvius.

It was one of the few times in my young life when I was genuinely afraid. And so was my friend. He began crying as his dad raged around the house. It was a very heavy scene and I scuttled off home as quickly as I could.

I never saw his dad drunk again. I don't know how often it happened, or what went on behind those closed doors when it did. What I do know is that despite the flaws in our family, I never had to live through anything remotely like that or many of the other “privileges” of a “normal” life of the times: my home wasn't full of secondhand smoke; spam has only entered my home through email—it was never served as food; and no-one blew our family's grocery budget on the pokies.

Sure, there were imperfections, inconsistencies, irritations and the occasional indignity—it doesn't take a blinding intellect to rack up a list of grievances against one's upbringing. But overall, the Adventist lifestyle protected us from many of the worst issues that plague our society. And more importantly, it connected me to Christ in a way that has lasted a lifetime.

I have my own kids now. I know their dad is far from perfect. When my girls grow up, I wonder if they'll make a sardonic list of the quirks associated with growing up in the Standish home. If they do, they'll be spoiled for choice! But one thing I hope they will always appreciate as deeply as I do is that, irrespective of our idiosyncrasies, the Adventist lifestyle has protected our family from many of the pitfalls that destroy so many lives. And as imperfectly as we reflect Christ, our Lord is the centre of our lives.

So let's have a chuckle at our own expense now and again, acknowledge our shortfalls, recognise our inconsistencies, while at the same time never forgetting to thank God for insights that bring so much joy, and prevent so much pain. Being Adventist means being different—different in the best of all possible ways.

James Standish is editor of RECORD.

Record

Dr Barry Oliver Senior Consulting Editor

James Standish Editor
and communication director

Jarrold Stackelroth Associate 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

Subscriptions

Record mailed within Australia
and New Zealand
SA43.80 SNZ73.00

Other prices on application

Printed fortnightly


subscriptions@record.net.au

Cover credit: Avondale School
“Avondale Schools record their
highest enrollment with more than
1000 students.”

Official news magazine of the South Pacific
Division Seventh-day Adventist Church

ABN 59 093 117 689

Vol 118 No 4

 twitter.com/RECORDadventist


SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST

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



Face your Jerusalem

Jarrod Stackelroth

They were on their way up to Jerusalem, with Jesus leading the way, and the disciples were astonished, while those who followed were afraid. Again he took the Twelve aside and told them what was going to happen to him. "We are going up to Jerusalem," he said, "and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles, who will mock him and spit on him, flog him and kill him. Three days later he will rise." Mark 10:32-34 (NIV)

Fear is one of the strongest human emotions. It produces physical reactions as adrenalin shoots into your bloodstream. The hair stands up on your arms and you feel hollow in the pit of your stomach. It can be debilitating or can force you into action. There are different types of fear: sudden flight or fight reactions that set you on edge for hours after the danger has past; slow creeping, coiling fear that gradually constricts and suffocates; anxious, irritating fear, like a splinter under the skin you just can't dig out. Fear is often irrational and yet it's a powerful motivator.

Here, those following Jesus are afraid. This is it. From here it gets serious. It's crunch time! There will be no turning back. Jesus is going into the lion's den. This decision makes no sense.

Unfortunately, God doesn't always wait until we're ready. His timing leaves us astonished or afraid. Where is Jesus leading you? He talks of death and persecution for the Son of Man. Sounds hard, sounds painful but at some point things have to come to a head. You see Jerusalem was a place of triumph. It was the place where evil was overcome and the God-Man's mission was successfully completed.

Sometimes you'll be astonished or afraid with where Jesus is leading you. Yet you must find your Jerusalem. Where is it? What has God equipped and trained you for? The disciples had spent some time with Jesus. They had watched Him do miraculous things and even done some of those things themselves as they were sent out.

When God called me to move to Sydney, to continue to work at RECORD for Him, I didn't want to. I'd always said I'd never work in this busy, polluted city. I was firmly in my comfort zone and didn't want to move. Yet I had no idea about the amazing things God had in store for me—a revived spiritual walk, a nurturing, challenging church family and meaningful relationships.

Maybe you've walked with Jesus for awhile but at some point in the journey, He needs you to bite the bullet and head to Jerusalem. Maybe by starting a missional project that suits your talents and passions or standing in the gap for a family member in crisis who needs to meet their Saviour. Wherever God is calling us, we must follow.

Even though it seems daunting—the sacrifice and risk is great—we must follow through. Jesus did for us. He went down that road to Jerusalem and did not turn back or back down. He went and faced it head on. To seek and save the lost, He lost everything, even His life.

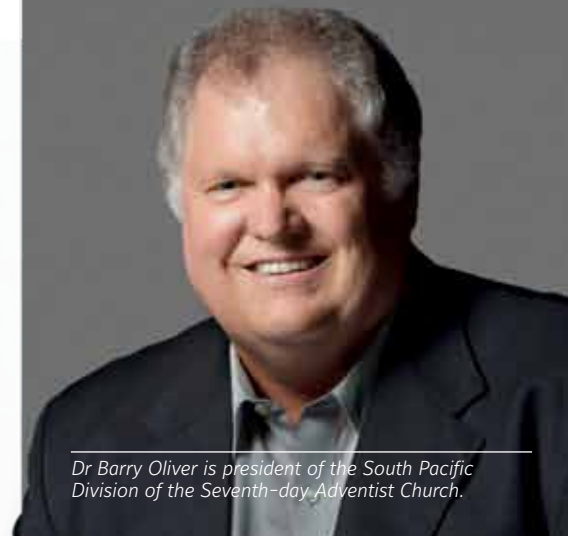
Jarrod Stackelroth is associate editor of RECORD.

Therefore . . .

The other day I was once again reading the gospel commission in Matthew 28. As I have so many times, I was contemplating Jesus' directive to His disciples to go and make disciples among all the peoples of the earth. I was busy thinking about how we as a Church can fulfil Jesus' words. We need to be actively involved in teaching, baptising and sending missionaries. Lots to do. Plenty of huge obstacles to overcome. Strategies needed! Human resources needed! Finance needed! Exciting and challenging at the same time. My mind was working overtime as I thought about some of the projects in the pipeline.

But then I glanced back at the verses in Matthew. My eyes drifted to verse 18 of Matthew 28: "All authority in heaven and earth is given to me." And then the first word of verse 19: "Therefore." My line of thought totally changed. I had been thinking about all *we* could do. Now I was struck by what our God is doing! *He* has all authority . . . Therefore! Nothing is impossible for Him. . . . Therefore! He has sent the Comforter. . . . Therefore! With Him, nothing is impossible. . . . Therefore!

Such a seemingly insignificant word. A word so quickly passed over. But doesn't this word denote the key to our success? It is not about us in the first place. It is not so much about who we are or what we do. It is all about Jesus. Our mission is all about Him. . . . Therefore . . .



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

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

for Pacific Islands Outreach (PIO)

ALL SIGNS to the Pacific are sponsored. Thousands more are needed.

Signs currently go to 20 destinations:

ADRA shop—Kiribati Mission

PAU prison outreach, Lae Tech—PNG

Church—Pitcairn Island

Bible study groups—Torres Strait

Church outreach—Fiji

Bible worker—Tokelau

Pacific Yacht Ministries—Vanuatu

Medisonship clinic—Solomons



To support SIGNS Pacific Islands Outreach* or to subscribe for yourself, phone:

1800 035 542 (Australia)
0800 770 565 (New Zealand)

Monday to Thursday 9 am-5 pm AEST

or subscribe online at
www.signsofthetimes.org.au

*PIO special price: \$A20 (\$NZ24) per subscription

Adventist village hit by tsunami

Santa Cruz, Solomon Islands

An Adventist village at Santa Cruz, Temotu Province, Solomon Islands, is one of five villages effectively destroyed by two earthquake-related tsunamis that hit the remote island.

The official death toll stands at 10. But the president of the Adventist Church in the Solomons, Pastor George Fafale, said the eventual number is likely to rise to 13 as bodies are found of people previously listed as missing. Two of those confirmed dead are the parents of an active Seventh-day Adventist Church member in Santa Cruz.

Pastor Fafale said 200 Adventists were among the 2500 left homeless. "All their belongings were lost and they are now sheltered at the market open shed," he said the day after the tsunamis struck.

"The pastor's office, and storage room under his house, were filled with water and all the equipment, such as PA system etc, was soaked in water. The church building was also filled with water and dirt and they lost all their church property such as furniture."

The children's Sabbath School and activities shelter was also badly damaged and the church-owned outboard motor and fibreglass boat were washed away.

"The Adventist Church in the Solomon Islands is praying for the people of Temotu, especially those who are affected by the tsunami," Pastor Fafale said.

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Solomon Islands is participating with other government and non-government agencies in the relief effort. Joe Lovi, communication officer for ADRA Solomon Islands, said ADRA had supplied more than 20 bales of clothes and 1000 casks of bottled water. The agency is also trying to secure funding to supply other essential items like tarpaulins and jerry cans.—Kent Kingston

Donations to ADRA Australia's Famine and Disaster Relief Fund can be made at <adra.org.au>. Donations earmarked for "Santa Cruz tsunami" will go directly to ADRA Solomon Islands for this purpose.



A house has been washed away at a village at Santa Cruz.

REVIVED BY HIS WORD

March 2 — 16, 2013

READING THROUGH THE BIBLE TOGETHER
ONE CHAPTER A DAY

2 - 2 Kgs. 7	6 - 2 Kgs. 11	10 - 2 Kgs. 15	14 - 2 Kgs. 19
3 - 2 Kgs. 8	7 - 2 Kgs. 12	11 - 2 Kgs. 16	15 - 2 Kgs. 20
4 - 2 Kgs. 9	8 - 2 Kgs. 13	12 - 2 Kgs. 17	16 - 2 Chr. 28
5 - 2 Kgs. 10	9 - 2 Kgs. 14	13 - 2 Kgs. 18	

Reaching the cities underway

New York, United States

Fourteen Adventists from around the world arrived in New York City in January for the General Conference (GC) Youth Department's One Year in Mission (OYiM) initiative.

OYiM, part of the GC's NY13 urban evangelism project, brought together young adults from each of the Church's 13 world divisions, as well as the Middle East/North Africa Union. Over the course of their six-month stay in New York, representatives will undertake training and community service projects.

Joshua Wood from Ballarat, Victoria, is the South Pacific Division's representative. "When I received the call to go, I wasn't prepared for what sacrifices I might have to make," said Mr Wood, who put his Ministry and Theology studies at Avondale College on hold to attend the program. "But that's what mission is about—sacrificing self for the betterment of others."

OYiM aims to empower, train and encourage divisional delegates who will then return home to their divisions and help coordinate similar programs in 2014. In 2015, pro-

grams will filter down to the union level, before ultimately reaching local conferences the following year. By 2016, more than 1500

young people will have been specifically trained to spread the Gospel to urban areas around the world.

"One of the key things about the program is that traditional forms of evangelism are being recognised as being somewhat outdated and unsuccessful," Mr Wood said.

"We are looking at new ways of evangelising, bringing the Gospel to people, without large meetings and sermons, but rather by simply showing compassion as Jesus did." More information can be found at <www.gcyouthministries.org>. —Josh Wood/Linden Chuang



One Year in Mission team from around the world.

Church member launches motherhood book

Sunshine Coast, Queensland

A Sunshine Coast church member has self-published and launched a book that explores the dramatic life change that comes with motherhood.

Described as "a real conversation about the early tumultuous days of parenthood", Georgina Hobson's *Lifted* draws on her own experience, conversations with many other mothers and her Christian faith to bring honesty, comfort and hope to new mothers.

"Conscious of the time challenges facing mothers, the book is deliberately short and in a style that can be picked up from any page," said Mrs Hobson, who wrote *Lifted* in response to the noticeable lack of this kind of book at the time of her becoming a mother. "*Lifted* will speak to women just beginning their journey, as well as those further down the road and may even help their partners gain insight into their new perspective." More at <www.perpetual-one.com.au>. —Nathan Brown



Record enrolment as school tops 1000

Cooranbong, New South Wales

A record number of students have arrived at Avondale School classrooms as enrolment figures top the 1000 mark for the first time.

With 1005 combined primary and secondary students now on the books, Avondale School has seen a 20 per cent increase in enrolments since school principal, Dr David Faull, first took tenure 10 years ago.

"Dr Faull immediately recognised the potential for significant growth when he joined us in 2003, and has worked tirelessly since then to secure government building grants and extend campus facilities to capture new demand," said Karen Zeuschner, head of the school's Marketing and Development department.

"It's exciting to watch our enrolments continue to grow as a larger student body provides the capacity for more activities, sports, specialist teachers and facilities. In the last year alone we have added a specialist trade training centre, three new Year 6 classrooms and a sports office."

As the campus expands so does the waiting list. "It is clear that parents are looking for education which is consistent with their own values, and that families choose to make the investment in Avondale School because it not only meets their religious and social values, but provides the best schooling for their children," Mrs Zeuschner said. —Felicity Pittaway



Avondale School now has 1005 students enrolled.



Christi-action-ity

Concern over binge-drinking and other risky behaviours in Adelaide's notorious Hindley Street has spilled over into action, with Christian volunteers patrolling the nightclub strip on Friday nights. The Edge International church (AOG) offers coffee, food and support to revellers, sometimes peace-making when minor disputes break out. —*The Advertiser*



Smashed

A study of the drinking habits of 450 Year 11 high school students in Victoria found half of those surveyed had engaged in binge-drinking during the past two weeks. Harder drinking teens were more likely to be involved in sexual activity with one or multiple partners, and more likely to regret it. —*News Limited*



Guns in small hands

A Christian ministry that rehabilitates former child soldiers in Africa, has reacted with dismay at a memo from US President Barack Obama, that overturns America's ban on providing military support to four nations known to recruit child soldiers. Every Child Ministries says the US government's move is only prolonging the suffering. —*Mission Network News*



Under attack

A human rights report has criticised Indonesia's religious freedom record, saying the government should enforce its own laws. Attacks on religious minorities almost doubled in 12 months, with 264 incidents in 2012. Christians were denied permission to build churches, and minority Muslim sects suffered violent attacks. —*Human Rights Watch*



Not likely

Suggestions that disaffected Lutherans join a specially set-up section of the Catholic Church have been rejected by Lutheran world leaders. In recent years, several thousand Anglicans have joined distinct "ordinariates" of the Catholic Church. But Lutheran leaders say their tradition of religious freedom is incompatible with papal supremacy. —*Reuters*



Clear agenda

The newly-appointed Catholic archbishop of Fiji, Peter Loy Chong, says churches need to take a more proactive approach in raising awareness of family violence. Archbishop Chong also said the Church should stay out of party politics and concentrate on helping Catholics make a conscientious and informed vote. —*Fiji Times*

Photo: Saloni.com

Risk Management Service (known as RMS) is a dedicated service department of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. RMS administers the insurance program for the Church in the South Pacific and helps Church organisations with safety and risk management.

Visit our website to learn more about us rms.org.au.



Senior Risk Officer

Wahroonga, NSW

RMS is looking to appoint a Senior Risk Officer to lead our risk control and asset protection services.

The key responsibilities of this position include:

- Developing and implementing risk management and asset protection resources and support
- Coordinating and conducting site inspections
- Encouraging and assisting church organisations with risk management and asset protection

We are looking for a person who:

- Is passionate about protecting and enhancing the mission of the church
- Can think strategically while maintaining the detail
- Is a team player, excellent communicator and able to build effective relationships
- Enjoys and embraces diversity in their work and has energy and enthusiasm
- Has qualifications and/or 5+ years experience in risk management, asset protection or other professions. (We'll consider candidates from other professions who've got a willingness to learn - we'll train you.)

For more information about this position visit:

www.adventistemployment.org.au

Applications close: 15 April 2013

POSITION AVAILABLE

Wilson meets French Polynesian president

by James Standish/ANN

Authentic spirituality is at the core of the Seventh-day Adventist message, General Conference president Ted Wilson said during an official visit with the leader of French Polynesia.

The Adventist world Church leader met with President Oscar Temaru and other French Polynesian government officials at the president's office in Papeete, Tahiti, while on a tour of the South Pacific island groups.

President Temaru said he was grateful for the positive impact the Adventist Church has on French Polynesia, adding that Adventists are "good citizens". Dr Wilson, speaking in French, expressed appreciation for the religious liberty granted by the government of French Polynesia.

Later in their conversation, Dr Wilson illustrated the Adventist Church's belief in holistic living. Gesturing toward a table in the president's office, he said, "When one leg is missing, the table can't stand. Similarly, people need their spiritual, physical, mental and social needs met. We believe God wants us to develop all of these attributes in harmony."

Before praying with President Temaru and his senior staff, Dr Wilson read Micah 6:8, a Bible verse he has previously called a blueprint for leadership. The Old Testament passage encourages justice, mercy and humility. "That is the wish God has for you, your colleagues and your staff," he said.

Earlier in the week, Dr Wilson met with Gaston Tong Sang, the mayor of Bora Bora and former president of French Polynesia. Mr Sang later made the 45-minute flight to Tahiti to attend an Adventist worship and evangelism rally.

During his Sabbath sermon, Dr Wilson urged an audience of close to 4000 to prioritise spiritual development,

citing the Old Testament story of Elijah, who advocated a return to godliness. "God is calling us to be Elijahs in our modern world," he said.

Local church leaders credited the strong turnout to members who brought their friends and neighbours to the rally. There are about 4600 Adventists spread throughout French Polynesia.

"When we regularly meet in small groups, it can be hard to imagine the large worldwide community of which we are a part," said Jerry Matthews, president of the New Zealand Pacific Union.

The previous day, thousands more Adventists learned the history of the Church in French Polynesia. Adventist missionaries first sailed to the island groups on a boat called the *Pitcairn*. The British colony of Pitcairn Island was historically an outpost of Adventism in the South Pacific.

Marcel Millaud, communication director for the French Polynesia Mission, reflected on reading the letters of early Adventist missionaries in the archives at Avondale College of Higher Education. "You can feel their human emotions as they struggle, as they dream, as their faith is challenged," he said. "I only wish those early pioneers could be here with us today. They could see that all those hardships were not in vain. We haven't forgotten their sacrifice."

The Adventist Church operates 37 churches in French Polynesia, as well as a high school and media centre.

"This rally has been a profound blessing for us," said Roger Tetuanui, president of the French Polynesia Mission. "It has brought our church family together . . . but most important has been the spiritual impact of the messages. We feel unified and spiritually energised."

James Standish is editor of RECORD.



Big bundles of help

In the wake of severe flooding in Bundaberg (Qld) in early February, Adventists in Brisbane banded together to donate truckloads of clothes and goods to help the victims. Sanitarium also donated four pallet loads of food, while an Adventist church in Melbourne collected new women's underwear in a project called "Undies for Bundy". The local church in Bundaberg has already distributed the donations, and is asking people to continue to support the victims in any way they can.

Precious drop

Through the combined effort of 15 Avondale College (NSW) student volunteers and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency Vanuatu, homes on the island of Atchin now have safe, clean water. To celebrate the achievement, the whole island community came together and ate "laplap sosors" with volunteers at the conclusion of the project on February 1. The project was part of a New Zealand government-funded initiative that seeks to bring improved water and sanitation solutions to remote communities in Vanuatu. Similar ventures will soon begin in Tafea, Efate, Epi, Malekula and Ambrym. — *Jean Pierre Niptik*



A little R and R

"Revival and resurrection" was the theme of the Tasmanian Conference's big camp at Pine Springs Campground, January 18–26. Keynote speaker, Pastor Bill Knott, editor of *Adventist Review*, brought stories of Jesus to life in his presentations. Another key aspect of the camp was morning Bible study sessions. Attendance at these studies grew daily, as Pastor Knott challenged participants to apply Scripture to their lives. — *Wendy Scott*

Gold start to the year

To start the new year in style, Lismore Adventist church's "Golden Oldies" enjoyed a trip to Manna Haven in Byron Bay (NSW). Twenty-five people, including church pastor Keith Jackson and his wife, Julie, and a number of visitors, made the trip to the vegetarian cafe, where they enjoyed a tasty meal and entertainment by bluegrass-gospel singing group Black Train. — *Valerie Dunstan*

Successful systems

Sanitarium Health & Wellbeing was awarded the 2012 SAI Global Systems Excellence Award in the Food Safety category late last year. Sanitarium's Quality Systems team, managed by Nerolie Dever, submitted the application for the award, which recognises Australian organisations with "best of breed" certified management systems. — *Sanco*



Million-dollar mark

In 2012, Avondale Memorial church's congregation gave more than \$AU1 million in tithe. It was the first time in the North New South Wales Conference's history that the tithe of one of its churches exceeded the million-dollar mark. "They're really the backbone of our conference," said Conference president, Pastor Justin Lawman. "We are very thankful for the leadership Vadim [Butov], Helen [Butov] and Daniel [Milenkov] have brought to the church." Tithe at Avondale Memorial church has increased by an average of 10.86 per cent for the past five years, with an increase of 24 per cent over the course of the past 12 months. — *Around the Traps*

Wilsons wowed in Tassie

Before embarking on their trip to French Polynesia, Adventist world Church president, Dr Ted Wilson, and his wife, Nancy, spent time in Tasmania. The Wilsons marvelled at the state's natural beauty and were "impressed by the gentle people and their gentle way of life". Dr Wilson spoke on the last Sabbath (January 26) of the Tasmanian Conference's big camp, and at Glenorchy church the following Sabbath. The Wilsons also visited Collinsvale church—the only church in Tasmania where Ellen White preached. — *Wendy Scott/RECORD staff*

Not alone at uni

by ASA executive team

THERE ARE SO MANY UNCERTAINTIES WHEN YOU enrol at university. Have you chosen the right course? Will you enjoy what you have chosen to study? Will you be able to pass all of the subjects or units that you need to be able to graduate? Will you meet arrogant professors and classmates who challenge your belief in the Bible and six-day Creation? Will you meet someone whom you will ultimately fall in love with and marry? Will you be pressured into drinking alcohol at a party, or to sleep with someone before you are married? Will your Adventist faith still be intact by the time you graduate?

There is one thing that is certain, though, and that is that Jesus has promised to be with you throughout your time at university. You are never alone because He has said that He will never leave you or forsake you, and that's true when you are attending lectures and tutorials and when you are sitting in an examination trying to remember everything that you have studied.

In fact, Jesus has not only promised to be with you. He has a purpose for you being at university, a plan that will give your life meaning, fulfilment and purpose. It will bring incredible joy to your life and be really exciting as well! Jesus is calling you to become His ambassador on the university campus, demonstrating what His kingdom is really like to all the lecturers and students there. He wants you to be a missionary for Him within the university, in a situation that is very similar to what Daniel faced in Babylon. Are you willing to accept Jesus' mission for you while you are studying at university?

There are literally hundreds of thousands of students and lecturers at university who do not have the hope in Jesus Christ that we share as an Adventist Church. They have very little or no idea about the prophecies in the Bible that tell of His soon return. They have not experienced His transforming power in their lives. They do not know that He loves them so much that He died on the cross for

them. They have not accepted His Lordship over their lives and they have not entered His kingdom by being born of His Spirit. Jesus' plan for your time at university probably doesn't involve complicated strategies or superhuman efforts. Jesus has promised the gift of His Holy Spirit to guide and equip you for His mission. There are also some simple, practical steps that will enable you to be effective in accomplishing Jesus' mission while you are at university.

Spend time with Jesus every day, reading the Bible and talking with Him in prayer. Ask Jesus to give you wisdom as you relate to your classmates and lecturers and open up opportunities to share your faith with them. Have the courage to share openly and boldly that you are a follower of Jesus and that you are really looking forward to His soon return. Read

some Christian books that will provide you with solid answers to questions that they may ask you. Also, pray that God will connect you with other Adventists who you can work with to reach your friends and classmates.

The Adventist Students Association (ASA) has a vision to reach the one million students who are enrolled at Australian universities. The association is connected with a growing number of Adventist campus groups across the South Pacific. If you sense Jesus calling you to become an ambassador and a missionary for Him while you are studying at university, we would be delighted to work together with you. We can connect you with other Adventist university students who are also responding to Jesus' call, and we can provide you with practical coaching and training on how to effectively reach out on campus by building a vibrant Adventist university student group. **R**

We can connect you with other Adventist university students . . .

To connect with the Adventist university student movement, contact your local youth leader. In Australia, contact ASA president Brenton Race on 0448 995 757 or email <executive@myasa.org.au>. Check out the website <www.myasa.org.au>. Also see: <record.net.au/items/uni-clues>.

H.E.L.P EMPOWER INDONESIANS

English language skills for
future employment, and
Healthy living education
for better quality of life

We need **\$80,000** to
support the **Health,
Education and
Lifestyle Program
(H.E.L.P)** in Indonesia.

Donate or volunteer with Asian Aid
and Give Hope Today!

P 02 6586 4250 W asianaid.org.au
E contact@asianaid.org.au
Like Asian Aid on [facebook](#)

Donations of \$2.00 and above are tax deductible

Mitsy Strickland

Karratha, The Pilbara, Western Australia

I'm originally from the Cook Islands and grew up in New Zealand. I lived most of my life in Rotorua. I taught for a decade in a predominantly Maori state school in Rotorua. After 10 years, I felt it was time for a change. I wanted to keep serving God and others, but I was ready for a new challenge. So I prayed about it for a long time.

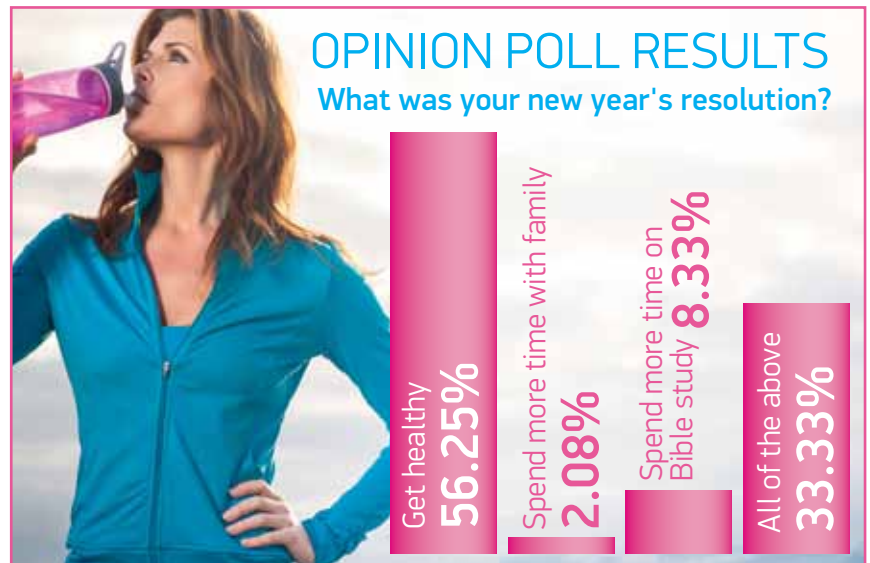
God led me to Western Australia about a year ago, where I now serve as a senior youth worker in an Aboriginal community. The community has close to a thousand people—95 per cent are Aboriginal. There are lots of drug, alcohol and sexual abuse problems. There are plenty of government-funded services in the town. But I see my role as more than just providing services: I am there to share the love of God.

Being from an ethnic minority group in New Zealand where I worked with Indigenous kids has given me a level of understanding that I think provides me with compassion for the Indigenous people of this land.

I think the underlying problem is a loss of identity. One of the challenges we have is to help kids feel a sense of belonging in their own community and in the broader society. It's about giving them self-esteem and purpose so they can make healthier choices. Many in the community work in the mining industry, but that is a double-edged sword as the culture is pretty rough. There's lots of boozing, gambling and prostitution surrounding the mines. It also takes the men away so the kids experience that loss as well.

At our centre we help kids aged from 3 to 17. I heard a lot of negative things about the problems in the community before I came here. But when I arrived I was overwhelmed by the unselfish love of the children. There is something so pure and wonderful—something the rest of our society could really learn from.

Philippians 4:13 is very dear to me. There we're told: "I can do all things through Christ." When I went to the Pilbara I was all alone. I had to trust God completely. Without God, I couldn't have survived. I felt weak and missed my family. But through Him, my family has grown. And today I am surrounded by the love of those I serve.



LETTERS

FAIR PLAY

John Ralston, via email

Re: "Stop the [illegal boat] people?" (Feature, January 19).

At present two groups of asylum seekers desire to enter Australia. One large group waits patiently to enter through our front door with permission. Another group, with more resources and determination, pays our neighbours to pass through their property and climb over our back fence to demand entry through the back door. Should not our sense of fair play, as well as compassion, require that the first group have priority, and that efforts are made to discourage the second group from "jumping the queue"?

All Christians want to be compassionate, but in government other considerations are also necessary. The Bible examples used in support [in the article] are applicable to quite different situations.

SEEKING JUSTICE

Vanessa Reynolds, NSW

Thank you for the article, "Stop the [illegal boat] people?". It is great to see a biblical perspective on the issue.

This is certainly a controversial topic and one that is a strong theme throughout the Bible and part of our responsibility as a signatory country to the UN Declaration of Human Rights. Asylum seeking is in fact legal, contrary to popular belief! It is interesting Jesus was also a refugee for part of His life and an outsider for the majority of His time on earth.

Statistics show that people who arrive by other modes of transport and overstay their visa (making them illegal) outnumber the ever-feared "boat people". There is no easy solution to the complexities caused by many crisis situations

around the world. It is clear, however, that God desires that we all seek justice for the poor and oppressed.

Editor's Note: In reference to "Queue Jumping" (Letters, February 16): "Stop the [Illegal Boat] People?" did not include 2012 asylum seeker arrival numbers because it was written during 2012 when the annual numbers were not yet available. The author points out the high figure for 2012 does not obscure the overarching point of the piece. Further, the number of arrivals fluctuates due to a variety of global conditions and national policies, and hence a longer period of time provides the best perspective on numbers over the period during which asylum seekers have been a political hot potato.

GOD'S CALL

John Waters, Vic

I concur with the writer of Gamaliel's Test (Feature, January 19) that "calling" is paramount in ministry, but would add that God calls whom He will. However, I believe the author has stepped unwittingly into two traps. The first is to equate modern ministry with the Old Testament priesthood. We have only one Priest, Jesus Christ, who superseded the ancient priesthood and provided a more excellent way.

The second is to reason that the ordination of women caused a decline in membership in mainline churches. Scholars, seeking to understand the reasons for the decline, identify several fundamental problems. Most agree that problems began in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, long before the ordination of women became an issue.

Churches forsook their

traditional standards and theology, even to the point of risking a loss of identity and reason for being. Parents, although more or less faithfully attending, became less likely to discuss religious ideas with their children. Consequently, when they reached the age of decision making, they decided that church was not really relevant. Falling birthrates among traditional support communities negatively affected church membership, while growing individualism and the influence of universities were also factors. The Catholic Church in America would be in the same predicament were it not for Catholic Latino immigration, and it has no female priests. It is imperative for our Church to decide wisely in this issue, but that decision must be Spirit inspired and not based upon our preconceived ideas.

CREATION CONVICTION

Evelyn Bean, ACT

With all due respect to the compilers of our current Sabbath School lesson pamphlet on Origins, I have a question: If the earth was already in existence before the creation week how can we argue, as we have done, against scientists in favour of a young earth?

I believe God did on the first day what the Bible says He did. He created the heavens and the earth without form and void, then He began work, firstly by saying, "Let there be light".

My conviction was confirmed by what I read in the SDA Bible commentary (Number 8 "Bible Dictionary", p 231).

It says of Creation's first day, "As the earth came forth from its Maker's hand it was without form and void, shrouded in darkness which, however, disappeared at the word of God, 'Let there be light'."

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.



PART 1

The Oliver interview

So, you think you know what’s on Dr Barry Oliver’s mind? You may be surprised as you read this interview with the president of the South Pacific Division.

RECORD: The official “mission” of the Adventist Church in the South Pacific is to “make disciples”—what does that mean?

OLIVER: Being a disciple is all about following in the footsteps of Jesus. We can’t make disciples if we aren’t disciples ourselves because we can’t give others what we don’t have. So, discipleship starts with me, and it starts with you. It is about humbling ourselves at the foot of the cross, giving up our self-centred hopes and dreams, our prejudices and our preferences, and letting Christ fill us with His will, His power, His peace and His joy.

When we have Christ’s heart in ours, it’s natural to follow Him and attract others to follow Him as well. I don’t mean by this that we twist people’s arms against their will. I mean a genuine, authentic process that follows Christ’s model—first mix with the people and get to know them, meet their needs, give without necessarily expecting anything in return. Then, and only then, invite them to follow Jesus. And that is persuasive!

RECORD What about public evangelism?

OLIVER: I believe with all my heart in public evangelism. But, and it’s a very big but, with very few exceptions public evangelistic events must be reaping campaigns, not sowing campaigns. What do I mean? They are the places to bring

our friends who already know about Christ because they have seen Him in our lives. Christ mixed with people first, met their needs and then called them to follow Him. If we miss the first two steps, we aren’t following His example. Public evangelists can only do their work if we have invited people to the program. We should not criticise the evangelist if we have not done our part.

RECORD As you look back over the past five years as president of the Church, what milestones have we reached toward achieving our mission?

OLIVER: This is a trick question. If I provide you with numbers, you’ll say “wait a minute, there’s a difference between disciples and baptisms”. If I provide you with illustrations, then you’ll say “but they are just generalisations!”

RECORD (laughter) You know me well! But you must have some way of measuring success?

OLIVER: When I look at how we are travelling as a church family, I look at a matrix of information. Sure, I do look at the numbers and I don’t apologise for that. Specifically, I look at not only church growth, but also our retention rates. I look not only at the number of people attending our churches, but, for example, the percentage who are tithe payers.



RECORD: Tithe paying as a measure of success? You're joking, right?

OLIVER: Hold on—I know you are thinking “Barry, stop counting the shekels!” Let me tell you, God does not need our tithe, and as anyone will tell you, the last thing I want from our members is money. Why I care about the tithe number is because Christ said “where your treasure is, there will your heart be also”. I care about tithe numbers because I care about the condition of our hearts, plain and simple. Tithe is also the most reliable number—you can pad your baptism numbers and you can fail to “clean up” your church books, but I haven’t seen a case yet where someone came up with a large chunk of cash in order to pad the tithe numbers!

RECORD: So you have membership data and tithe data, do you use any other measurement?

OLIVER: The hard numbers are where I start, not where I end. As you know, I travel around our region every year. I don’t get to every location, meet every member or attend every church, but in a year I get a pretty good sample.

RECORD: So, how are we doing?

OLIVER: All our hard numbers indicate that, overall, we’re moving forward at a faster pace than we have in many years. And that is in a number of places. The Australian census found our growth has been very encouraging in Australia in recent years. Similarly, our growth in PNG, the Solomons and many other Pacific nations continues strongly, albeit we have been doing work in some parts of the Pacific to ensure our records are accurate. Before, during and after the global financial crisis, the total tithe returned by our members across the division continues to grow at a rate faster than inflation.

What strikes me most strongly, though, is the vitality of faith in this generation of young people. It’s no secret that in some places the Church experienced tough times during the latter years of the last century. The theological controversies, and our community’s delay in reacting to profound changes in society, distracted us. Today, things feel very different. There is a positive direction, a real thirst for an authentic Christian experience—that is so refreshing. Often when I visit churches, I find our young people have more to

give me than I have to give them. They remind me of what it is like to be in love with Jesus for the very first time. Something profound and very, very good is happening.

I see it too at the special events that the Church conducts such as camp meetings, congresses and retreats. And then there is the amazing spirit of volunteering that is revitalising the spiritual lives of so many. I am grateful to God for what I see and experience.

RECORD: On a personal level, you’ve faced huge family challenges over the last handful of years. How has that affected your spiritual life?

OLIVER: I’ve had to cling to Christ even more tenaciously than ever. It’s relatively easy to have faith when all is well. But even Christ Himself called out in despair on the cross. I’ve had my moments when I’ve been down on my knees calling to God in desperation. Looking back I have to say that through the enormous stress of intense personal family challenges, God’s assurance and love have kept us going. It’s no picnic. We had some very dark days that are known only to God and us. But like David, I can say “the Lord is my strength”. And there are many who can identify with just what I am saying.

RECORD: If you could change anything about the Adventist Church what would it be?

OLIVER: It would be spiritual superficiality. It is so easy to have a veneer of faith, but be unchanged underneath. But true godliness requires a total change inside us. It’s what is deep down that matters most! If our entire church family could experience the new heart and new spirit God has promised us on a daily basis, there would be no force on earth that could hold God’s Church back.

RECORD: Who is the Bible character you most identify with?

OLIVER: It may seem simplistic, but my answer is Jesus. Not because I can ever be exactly as He was but I aspire to be as He was in His humanity. To be like Jesus is my greatest desire and prayer.

Part 2 of this interview, in which Dr Oliver candidly addresses some of the toughest questions facing our church, will be published in an upcoming issue.



OPENING HIS WORD

The 144,000 and you (part 2)

Last time we saw that 144,000 Israelites is symbolic for Jewish and non-Jewish real Christians. What are they like?

Loving like God

Having God's name and seal means they not only belong and are committed to God, but they also have His character of love and justice. Such restoration of the image of God in us is the purpose of the Gospel. **Read** Rev 7:3, 14:1; 2 Tim 2:19; Ex 34:5-7; Rom 8:29; 1 Cor 15:49; 2 Cor 3:18; Col 3:10.

Faithful to God

That they are "virgins" not defiled with women means they are faithful, having no part with the end time system called Babylon, the great prostitute. When people all around them are unfaithful, they are loyal. Compromise is unthinkable. **Read** Rev 14:4; 2 Cor 11:2; Rev 17:5.

Spirit-filled followers

Power for such living only comes from God. Being servants of God means they are filled with His Spirit by leaning on Christ. **Read** Rev 7:3; Rom 8:2, 6:22; John 7:37-39; Eph 1:12-14.

Motivated for impact

Such people have an irresistible influence on others for Christ. They are motivated by love for Jesus as seen by the fact that they follow Him everywhere. He is everything to them. They love Him because: 1. He has redeemed them—they know they are loved and valued; 2. Christ has justified them by His death. His grace has powerfully impacted their lives. **Read** 1 Pet 2:9-12; Rev 14:3,4; Phil 1:21; 1 John 4:19; Rev 14:5, 7:14; Titus 2:11-14.

Can we call ourselves Christians if we do not want to be one of the 144,000? In fact, in the end times we must be. How? By throwing ourselves on Christ, trusting in Him alone. So what does the number 144,000 mean? Check this space next time for the answer.

Pastor Gary Webster is director of the Institute of Public Evangelism, Wahroonga, NSW.

Angels over Bundaberg

As we drove out of the Coral Coast Christian School grounds on January 23 and headed to Brisbane for staff development meetings, we never dreamt it would be a very different world we'd be returning to!

Cyclone Oswald was a lurking danger up north but very far from our beautiful rural town of Bundaberg on the east coast of Queensland.

But after reports of the storm damage in Bundaberg, we were anxious to get home and especially to our school. We listened to reports coming in of the waterway in front of our school rising and overflowing its banks. "Please, Lord, protect our school!" we prayed fervently. A parent living near the school spoke to me on her phone while she was wading in knee deep water on the school driveway. I could hear the sound of the water. She described it as one big brown lake around the school and the water was still rising. "Lord, put your hand over the school! You control the waters and determine their boundaries." This text kept ringing in my head.

The sun eventually came out and finally the highway was opened. We made our way home through devastation and mud and our hearts sank the closer we came to Bundaberg. Whole sections of the town were completely cut off. Everywhere the results of severe flooding from rivers overflowing their banks could be seen. The water was receding but left its unmistakable high water mark of debris and mud. It was an unbelievable sight—as if an artist had taken a brown brush and swept it across houses, fields, cars, everything in its path.

Pathetic piles of soggy furniture were being dumped in the streets outside each affected home by forlorn residents. Everyone just stared in stunned shock. The two main bridges were closed over to the north side where our school is situated and it became clear that it was the worst hit area.

The school chairman and I took a roundabout route via Childers to inspect the school. What would normally take 10 minutes over the bridge turned out to be a 370 km trip! As we drove up the muddy driveway, what a relief to see our precious school standing high and dry like a green oasis in a brown sea of muddy grass! We broke into spontaneous prayers of thanksgiving.

After thorough investigation of each building we were able to ascertain that no water had in fact penetrated any classrooms or the administration block. The damage was minimal. We were one of the few schools in Bundaberg that was able to open relatively unscathed.

Is our God able to deliver? Oh yes, He has a thousand ways of which we know nothing! Some of our staff and dear ones suffered severe losses. That does not mean that God was not with them. We do not understand the end from the beginning. But what we do see is how God is turning a curse into a blessing in front of our very eyes.

Meg Harebottle is principal of Coral Coast Christian School, Bundaberg, Qld.





R HEALTH FEATURE

with Cathy McDonald

Cooking methods

There are many different methods of cooking vegetables—the method you choose may slightly change the way the food tastes.

Stir-fry

Simply cut up your favourite mixture of vegetables, add to a preheated frypan with your choice of flavourings and cook until they are to your liking.

Steaming

Bring water to boil in a pot. Once boiling place steamer over the pot, making sure the water does not touch the steamer. Place vegetables in the steamer and cover with the lid ensuring there is a gap for the steam to escape. Alternatively, place vegetables in a microwave-proof dish and cover with cling film, leaving one corner open for steam to escape. Steaming time will range from 1–2 minutes for leafy green vegetables and closer to 8 minutes for chopped broccoli and cauliflower.

Roasting

Vegetables taste great when they are roasted. You can always add things like beetroot, onion, zucchini and carrots to

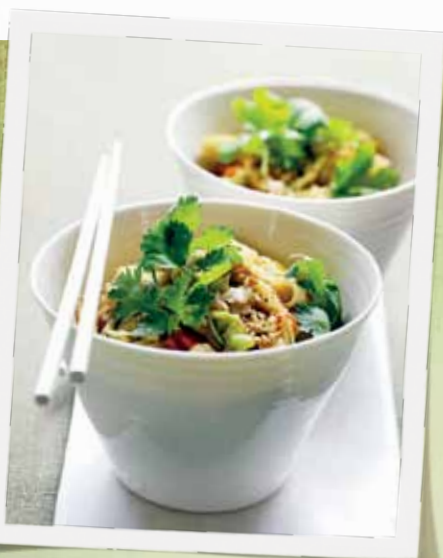
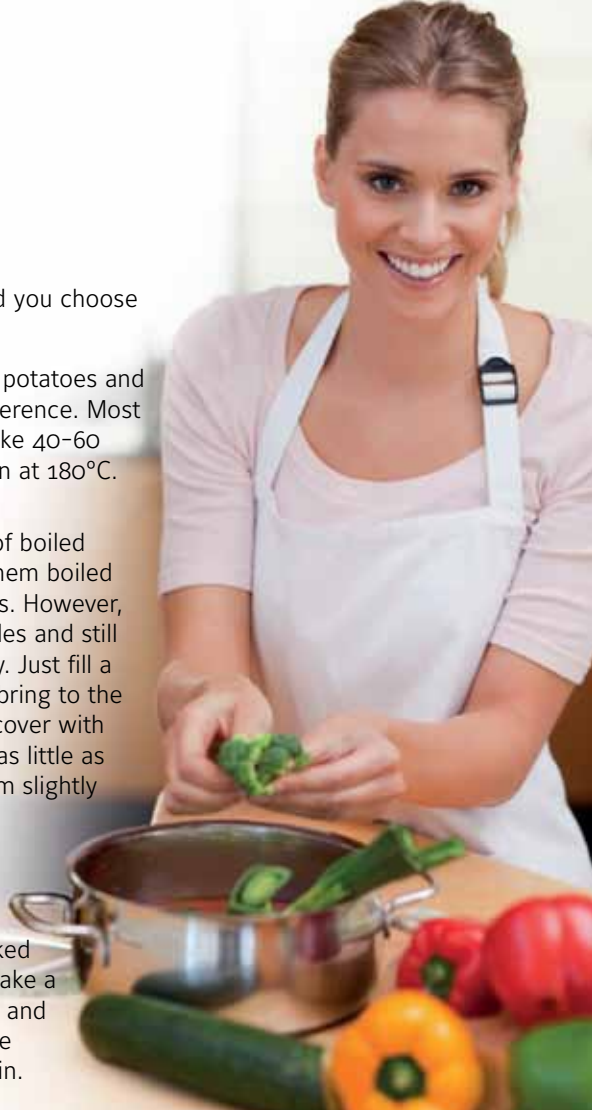
a roasting dish along with potatoes and kumara to add a bit of difference. Most of these vegetables will take 40–60 minutes to cook in an oven at 180°C.

Boiling

When most people think of boiled vegetables they think of them boiled within an inch of their lives. However, you can boil your vegetables and still have them slightly crunchy. Just fill a saucepan with water and bring to the boil. Add vegetables and cover with lid. Vegetables may need as little as 2–3 minutes to soften them slightly or as long as 20 minutes.

Raw

There are also many vegetables that can be eaten raw in a power packed salad. So next time you make a salad with lettuce, tomato and cucumber, try adding some grated beetroot or pumpkin.



Asian market noodles

Preparation time: 15 minutes Cooking time: 10 minutes Servers: 4

- 500g fresh thick rice noodles**
- 2 tablespoons peanut oil**
- 1 onion, peeled and chopped**
- 3 garlic cloves, finely chopped**
- 1 large carrot, peeled and finely diced**
- 125g baby corn, thickly sliced diagonally**
- 1 red chilli, deseeded and thinly sliced**
- ¼ Chinese cabbage, finely shredded**
- ¼ cup light soy sauce**
- 2 eggs, lightly beaten**
- 100g bean sprouts, trimmed**
- 2 tablespoons chopped roasted unsalted peanuts**
- 1 green onion, thinly sliced diagonally, to serve**

1. Place noodles in a heat-proof bowl. Cover with boiling water. Stand for 1–3 minutes, until almost tender. Drain and separate noodles. Set aside.
2. Heat a wok over high heat. Add oil and heat until hot. Add onion. Stir-fry for 2 minutes or until onion is just soft.
3. Add garlic, carrot, corn and chilli. Stir-fry for 2 minutes. Add cabbage.
4. Stir-fry until combined. Toss through soy sauce and noodles. Swirl eggs over noodle mixture. Toss for 1 minute or until eggs set slightly. Spoon into serving bowls. Top with bean sprouts, chopped peanuts, thinly sliced green onion and serve immediately.

NUTRITION INFORMATION PER SERVE:

Kilojoules 1450kJ (340Cal); Protein 11g; Fat 18g; Carbohydrate 33g; Sodium 650mg.; Potassium 530mg; Calcium 65mg; Iron 2.2mg; Fibre 5g.

Call and speak to one of our qualified nutritionists at Sanitarium Lifestyle Medicine Services on 1800 673 392 (in Australia) or 0800 100 257 (in New Zealand). Alternatively, email us at nutrition@sanitarium.com.au (Australia) or nutrition@sanitarium.co.nz (New Zealand). Don't forget to order our free cookbook, *Food for Health and Happiness*, by visiting our website www.sanitarium.com.au or www.sanitarium.co.nz

Sanitarium | LIFESTYLE
MEDICINE
SERVICES



A Caring place

by Louise Inglis

STRUGGLED TO FOCUS ON THE PAEDIATRICIAN'S words: "What do you know about autism?" I looked back blankly. The doctor continued: "Your son will probably never speak. He has very low muscle tone, so he may never walk . . ."

With those few words, my dreams for my family shattered into a thousand tiny pieces.

That was seven ago now, though sometimes it feels as raw as if it were yesterday. Since then my husband, Michael, our eldest son, Matthew, and I have had to learn how to live with a severely disabled child. I wish I could tell you it's easy. It isn't. "The valleys are deeper and the mountains are steeper than I ever would have dreamed."¹

Disability is something our society struggles with. Should we look at someone in a wheelchair or ignore them? Should we smile at the parent struggling with an intellectually disabled child or turn away? What is the polite thing to do? What is the right thing to do? What will help the most and hurt the least? How can our church community best respond to severe disability?

Early in our journey with Kevin, we were blessed to have several church friends with medical and educational backgrounds who understood the profound significance of our son's diagnosis. As our hearts ached and as we tried to come to terms with our broken dreams, these friends

provided understanding as they listened quietly while we shared our grief. It helped to talk, to cry and to have my feelings validated.

In the month leading up to Kevin's diagnosis we had over 25 appointments: hearing and visual tests, specialist and therapy appointments. My days were consumed, busy and stressful. With the eventual diagnosis I was shattered. The practical support of our church family was immensely helpful during this time. We received many home-baked meals. Others covered our usual roles at church. Some took a special interest in our eldest son.

A friend offered to come for two hours, once a week, for a whole term and mind Kevin so I could have reading time. The amount of information to absorb when you have an autistic child is overwhelming and finding time to read while caring for young children is nearly impossible. Another friend acknowledged she knew nothing about autism but was willing to learn with me. She offered to watch DVDs and read books that I thought were relevant. Friends cared for our children so Michael and I could attend an autism conference. Other friends bought books they thought might be useful. Another gave me CDs with beautiful music. One offered to come and babysit so Michael and I could enjoy some time out together. An early intervention teacher gave us ideas while we waited for appointments.

The youth leaders in our church offered to coordinate a roster of youth carers for Kevin so I could attend an adult discussion group and the church service. The youth enabled me to attend church and participate in a meaningful way. I doubt I would still be attending church if it had not been for their support. My parents moved to our church, always on standby.

One of the teachers from Kevin's age group asked how they could include him. I sincerely appreciated that his different needs were recognised with a genuine desire to accommodate him as best as possible. This is what a church community looks like at its best—rallying around to show the love of Jesus in the ways that matter most.

Our church family has learned how to communicate with Kevin. He has never spoken but can understand basic language. "High five Kevin"—with the simultaneous hand action—is meaningful to him. We use photographs to show him where we are going, what he is going to do, who he is going to see. He likes to show others his visuals.

Parents provide simple explanations to their own children, such as, "Kevin's brain works differently from ours. He cannot speak and he finds it hard to look people in the eye, but he still likes it when you say hello to him."

"Losing" a child to disability brings a profound grief, one that is cyclical in nature. For me this grief is triggered at birthdays, Christmases and other milestones, such as starting school. While recently watching our older son race in a school cross-country running competition, I felt sad that our younger son could never participate in such an event. I wanted more for him. The sadness caught me unaware. Seven years on I still feel the loss acutely at times.

Our experience with church has been positive, but anecdotally it seems that many families with disabled children stop attending church. The obstacles feel insurmountable at times. Exhaustion from the week makes a morning at home particularly appealing. Children, who are highly sensitive to noise and touch, are prone to melt down in busy environments. Parents can question why it all happened and doubt God's love and even His existence. Depression weighs heavily and just staying home feels easier. I experienced this for a time but I felt lonely. I wanted to worship collectively; I wanted to be part of the community and I am forever grateful to be part of a church that recognised most of our needs and supported appropriately.

Along our journey, not all "help" has been beneficial. Sometimes, in a genuine attempt to encourage, words have been spoken that hurt. It's hard, when trying to support someone through unfamiliar territory to know what to say.

It did not help when someone commented, "Don't worry,

about Kevin. We all worry about our children." That hurt me. It minimised Kevin's condition by equating his needs with those of typically developing children.

"He will grow out of it," said another. That hurt too. It was well intended but untrue. Autism is a lifelong condition. There is no cure and children do not grow out of it. Better to say nothing than make ill-informed comments.

The search for a silver lining in the tragedy is natural but it comes across as a way to dismiss the very real pain; as if saying something happy permits society to turn a blind eye to the deep, raw tragedy in this life.

I often dreaded arriving at church and being asked, cheerily, "How are you today?" How should I answer that question? Should I lie and say "I'm fine" or should I tell the truth and burst into tears, yet again, at church? I used to wish people would simply say, "Nice to see you."

Many Sabbaths I wanted to sit in church anonymously. To be in the midst of our church family, hear the music, be encouraged by the sermon and not have to interact. I felt too emotionally fragile. I longed for a quiet room with a video link, without children, without noise, without questioning but just to be blessed with tissues and God through what was being offered that day.

I also longed, on Sabbaths, for someone, just one person, to come and be with me privately, to listen to my pain and offer prayer and encouragement. I've since spoken to other grieving friends who have

expressed similar yearnings.

Perhaps a "listening room" is something for churches to consider.

Personally, throughout this journey, I gain strength from thinking ahead to heaven. I imagine Kevin in full health, running, climbing trees, looking into Jesus' face, free of seizures and able to talk with us. Strong hope in the future gives me perspective and strength for dealing with the present.

There are many things I've gone through that I never imagined, let alone understood, before Kevin came into my life. I therefore understand why so many people lack the understanding and sensitivity necessary when interacting with families who have a child with autism or other profound disabilities, or with families who have lost a child. I hope, however, that my experience gives you just a little window into the serious issues we face, and how to respond to them. Christ reached out to those most in need and He didn't mind going to extraordinary lengths to meet them where they were at. We can do the same for disabled children and their families, if we are informed and intentional.

1. Chapman, Steven Curtis. *Long way home*. 2011. Recreation. Sparrow.

Louise Inglis has authored the book *Happiness in his eyes: a story of love and disability, and lives in Auckland, New Zealand*. The book is available from www.louiseinglis.com.

This is what a church community looks like at its best—rallying around to show the love of Jesus in the ways that matter most.

CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL 4
manifest

March 20 – 23, 2013
Avondale College



Song Composing
Filmmaking
Fine Arts
Writing

where arts meet faith...

ADVENTIST MEDIA
NETWORK



Manifest is an annual event celebrating and encouraging creative arts for ministry

- ▶ Workshops
- ▶ Showcases
- ▶ Exhibitions
- ▶ Performances
- ▶ Competitions (cash prizes)
Entries close March 8, 2013
- ▶ Gabe Reynaud Awards
Saturday, March 23 at 7:30 pm

To find out more or to enter go to
www.artsmanifest.info



RECORD REWIND

Lester Devine

Almost president

Dudley M Canright was an Adventist pastor who was in and out of the ministry several times, and eventually renounced Adventism.

Once falling only one vote short of being elected General Conference president, Canright was an opinionated but powerful preacher of considerable ability. He tended toward emotional highs when things went well and became despondent under pressure. Popularity was important to him, and one of the reasons he left Adventism permanently in 1887 was that he believed, career-wise, he would do better elsewhere. He believed he could be a great man if he were not preaching "this unpopular message". However, his uneven temperament did not serve him well anywhere, and while he pastored for the Baptists for a time, his new career never really developed outside Adventism like he had hoped it would.

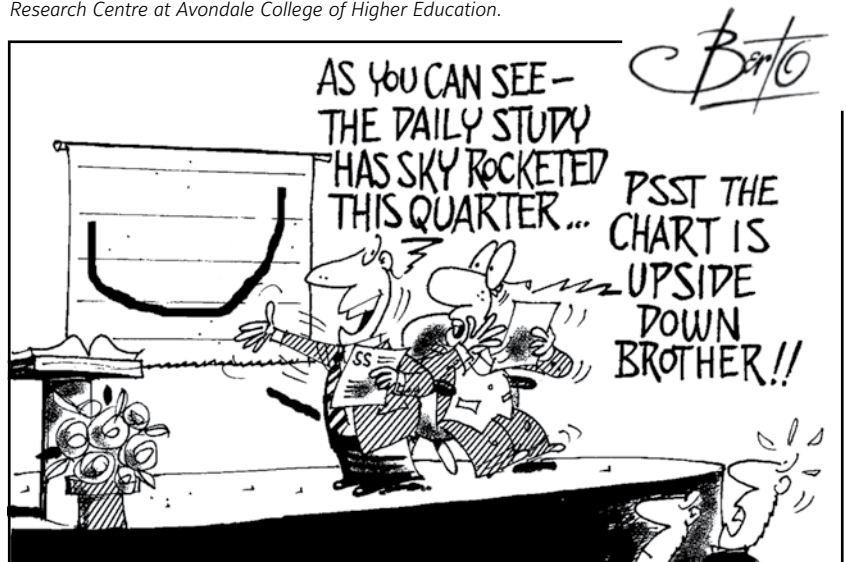
He is most remembered for his book, *Seventh-day Adventism Renounced*, which went through many printings during his lifetime. In his later years he earned his living by speaking against the Adventist Church generally and Ellen White specifically. Criticism of Adventist Church teachings today tends to be largely based on Canright assertions, which were well answered more than a century ago. Thus folk who, understandably, find such criticism unsettling, are encouraged to not accept it without question but rather seek appropriate answers. A good source is the Ellen G White/Adventist Research Centre at Avondale College of Higher Education.

Canright's second wife, Lucy, died of pneumonia and heart failure at the age of 57 in 1913 and her obituary, written by "DM", was published in the *Review* on June 12 of that year at his special request even though he had long left the Church and had preached against it for many years.

Near the end of his life Canright was preparing an anti-Ellen White book, but when she died he passed by her funeral bier twice, and spoke very fondly and positively of her on that occasion. Church leaders stayed in contact with Canright and constantly encouraged him to return to the faith of his youth and he came close to accepting that invitation several times.

Dudley Canright had a fall on March 10, 1916, and became an amputee and an invalid. He died on May 12, 1919, in poverty—his death little noticed and his grave unmarked for many years.

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



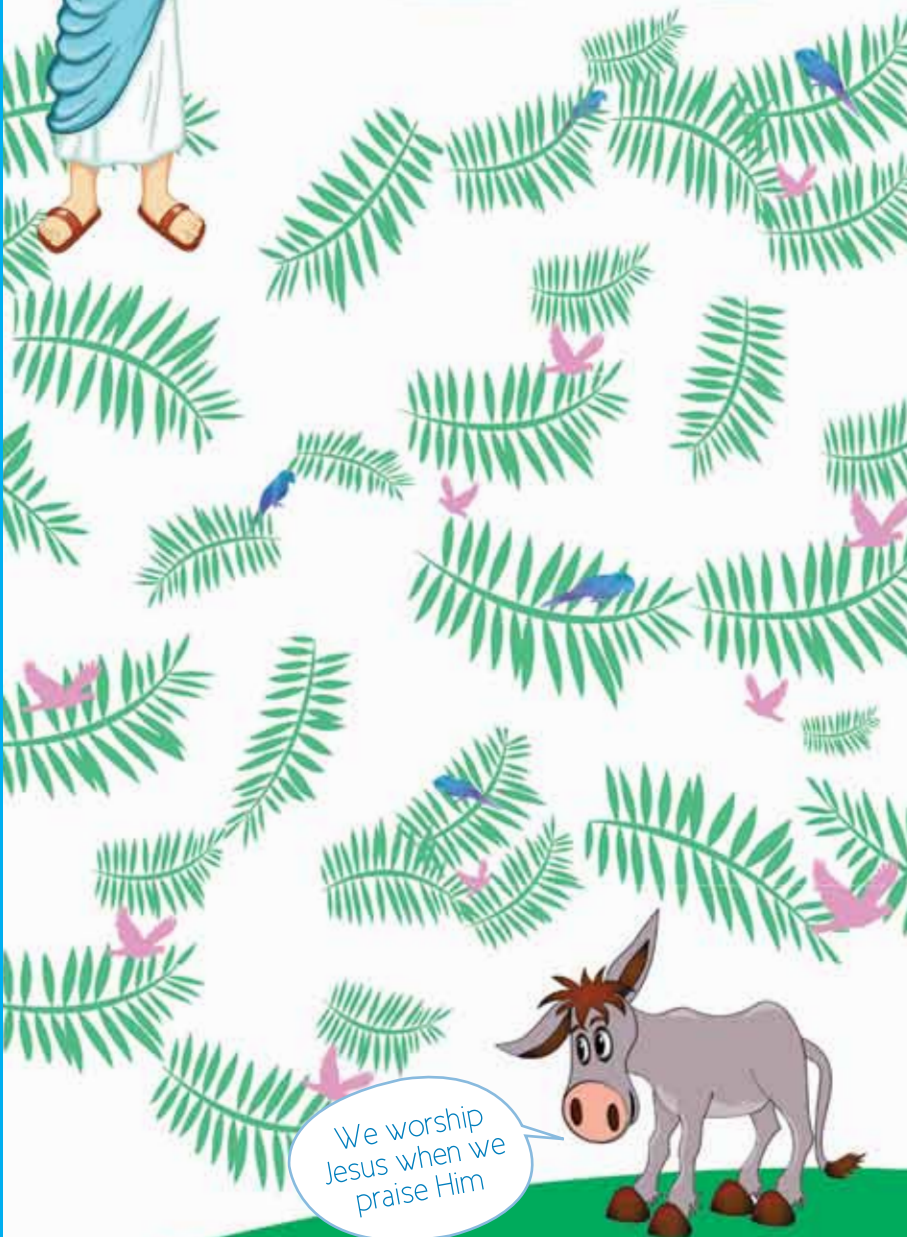
Kids' Space

HI KIDS!

Jesus asked His disciples to go into a village and get a special donkey. He told them that if anyone asked why He wanted the donkey, to say, "The Lord needs it".

Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the donkey to fulfil what the prophets said would happen. The people were so excited, they waved palm branches in the air!

Help me find the donkey



We worship Jesus when we praise Him

"BLESSED IS THE KING WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!" LUKE 19:38



SYDNEY
ADVENTIST SCHOOLS

Record Enrolments in 2013!

Find out why more people than ever are choosing Adventist Education.

Call Now
(02) 9868 6522

for a personal tour of a school campus near you.

greatersydney.adventist.edu.au

"Our Adventist schools are our best-kept secret. The teachers really care, my kids are getting great results, and the values are giving them a foundation for life. I only wish I had enrolled them sooner."

- Parent

APPRECIATION

Norm Eaton (Pink), his family and Jeannette's family, would like to thank everybody for the kindness shown in the floral tributes, cards, prayers and condolences. Jeannette was laid to rest in Manjimup, WA. Her large funeral—attended by family and friends—was conducted in the Catholic Church by Father Pat Rooney and the graveside committal prayer was offered by Pastor Tim O'Keefe. Norm says he is privileged to live in a close, caring and supportive Christian community.

ANNIVERSARIES



Greenwood. Fraser and Lorna (nee Clements) celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on 18.3.12 with a small family dinner. Fraser and Lorna were married by Pastor Petrie on 10.3.1952 at the Ipswich church. They set up a wonderful Christian home in Brisbane. They have four children, Gayle Rusterholz, Neil,

Bronwyn Jacobson and Bruce, all of whom value the Christian ideals and principles held by their parents as well as the country lifestyle they grew up in. Lorna and Fraser were among the founding members of the Park Ridge church in Queensland, having lived in the area for the previous 14 years. The couple are loved and respected by all who know them, including their eight grand and step-grandchildren; and two young great-grandsons.



Miller. Bill and Llevellys (nee Weber) were married by Pastor Raymond Reye on 15.12.1952 in the old South Brisbane church, Qld. As teachers, they spent more than 40 years in the mission field as part of their denominational service. They have two children, William (Brisbane) and Jennifer Butler (Adelaide, SA); and two grandchildren, David and James. Bill and Llevellys send greetings to all their old friends.



Mowday. Pastor Des and Shirley (nee Petherbridge) celebrated their 60th anniversary on 25.11.12. They were married by Pastor O K Anderson in 1952 at the Stanmore church, Sydney, NSW. On the morning of their anniversary, Des officiated at the wedding of their grandson, Lindsay, and his wife, Danielle. Later in the day, the immediate family gathered at the home of Shirley's sister, Jennie Underhill, for a small celebration. They have five children, Daryl, Barrie, Glennis, Sharon and Lynette; 11 grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter. So many blessings over the years. It was an occasion for loving congratulations and thanksgiving.

Trim. Pastor John and Dr Mary Trim celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary with family in a celebratory morning tea at Avondale Aged Care on 24.12.12. Pastor Claude Judd, who officiated at their marriage in the Mont Albert church, Melbourne (Vic), attended with his wife, Yvonne. Congratulatory messages were received from the Queen, Governor-General and many friends as well as members of the original wedding party unable to attend: Nell Rogers, Noelene Johnsson (USA) and Pastor Ray

Trim. Dr Lynden Rogers, son of one of the bridesmaids, was master of ceremonies.

WEDDINGS

Irving-Irving. Jeremy Paul Irving, son of Paul and Diane Irving (Waterford, Qld), and Anita Jeanette Irving, daughter of Lydia and John James (Brisbane), were remarried 31.12.12 in the delightful setting of "Mission Serenity". Their teenage children, Liam and Tiana, were involved in the wedding party. Refreshments were served to more than 80 family and friends. The couple will continue to live in Greenbank where Anita works as a marketing manager and business owner, and Jeremy works in the refrigeration industry.

Steve Cinzio, Daniel Cinzio

Scanlan-Lambert. David Scanlan, son of Michael and Nellie Scanlan (Perth, WA), and Kym Lambert, daughter of Tony and Shane Lambert (Perth), were married 30.12.12 at Sunken Garden, University of Western Australia, Crawley. The bride was attended by her two sisters, Nikki and Emma, and Dave was attended by two long-term school friends. Kym, a teacher, and Dave, a lawyer, plan to set up their home in Manning.

Tony Knight



Slade-Beaden. Joel Slade, son of Phillip and Gail Slade (Cabarita Beach, NSW), and Rachael Beaden, daughter of David and Bethley Beaden (Palmwoods, Qld), were married 2.12.12 at Wirreanda Park, Buderim. Joel and Rachael met while studying at Avondale College. They plan to live in Cooranbong while finishing their studies at Avondale.

Wayne French



Svensson-Bjornsson. Anders Svensson, son of Alf and Eadie Svensson (Galston, NSW), and Emma Kristen Bjornsson, daughter of Sven and Danetta Bjornsson (Rouse Hill), were married 23.1.13 at a peaceful setting called "The Turpentine Tree" at Kurrajong Heights, west of Sydney. Anders will be completing his theological studies at Avondale College and

POSITIONS VACANT

■ Sales representative—Sanitarium (Rockhampton, Qld).

Sanitarium is seeking a highly motivated person to join its northern region sales team based in Rockhampton. This job provides an excellent opportunity for someone who wants a challenging and satisfying role and one that also offers the scope to develop a career in the FMCG industry. Some overnight travel will be required. This role includes the introduction of new products to stores, merchandising of stock and ensuring stores comply with agreed initiatives. If you are self-motivated, computer literate, good at negotiating, can deliver exceptional customer service and enjoy working on your own as well as being part of a high achieving team, then this could be the role for you. You will be provided with a company vehicle and therefore should possess a current driver's licence. Previous sales experience would be an advantage. We are an organisation driven by our mission and values. If you share our passion for what we do, our products and you can align with our Christian based principles this is a great opportunity for you. Apply online at <www.sanitarium.com.au/about-us/career-opportunities>. Applications close **March 8, 2013**.

■ **Adventist Book Centre support—Greater Sydney Conference (Sydney, NSW).** The Adventist Book Centre is seeking an enthusiastic person to fill a new part-time role of 20 hours per week at the Epping branch. The role will include customer service, processing SS pamphlets, stocking shelves and unloading stock deliveries. Send your application and CV to: Adrian Raethel, 4 Cambridge St, Epping, NSW 2121 or email <adrianraethel@adventist.org.au>, or phone (02) 9868 6522 for more information. Applications close **March 8, 2013**.

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



VOLUNTEERS

■ Trades volunteers needed for a fly'n'build project

in Gegema, Malaita, Solomon Islands, April or May 2013, to build a church. A number of people baptised from a nearby village are now in desperate need of a place to worship. Reedy Creek church, in partnership with Volunteers in Action, are willing to assist with roofing the new church. Entrepreneurs needed to establish business ventures and provide support/assistance for the ventures, as well as running a series of evangelistic meetings.

For further details contact Maryanne Jakovac at Adventist Volunteer Services <maryannejakovac@adventist.org.au> or phone (02) 9847 3275.

Emma will continue her nursing career. They plan to live on the Central Coast.

Alex Penman

OBITUARIES



Adams, Nola Agnes (nee Timmins), born 10.7.1922 in Eketahuna, NZ; died 12.12.12 in Rossmoyne, WA. On 2.1.1947, she married Cyrus Adams. She is survived by her husband; siblings, Evelyn and Trevor (NZ); children, Robert, Rosalind and Janice (all of Perth, WA), grandchildren and great-grandchildren. They will all miss her faithful weekly updates. Nola worked for the Church as a business teacher at Longburn and Fulton colleges. She was also a Bible worker on a mission team in Wellington and supported her husband's missionary, pastoral and leadership work in Fiji, Australia and Samoa. Nola also worked tirelessly for the Bible Society and Woman's Christian Temperance Union. She will be remembered as an organised and caring lady with a passion for God and her Church.

Glenn Townend

Allen, Colleen Joan (nee Cleaver), born 19.5.1933 in Christchurch, NZ; died 4.1.13 in Redlands Hospital, Cleveland, Qld. On 17.1.1954, she married Pastor Graham Allen. She is survived by her husband (Victoria Point); Lindsay and Valmae Allen (Brisbane), Marilyn Allen (Perth, WA), Ashley Allen (Canberra, ACT) and Mark and Laura Allen (Montville, Qld); her grandchildren, Kelly, Jared, Nathan, Grace, Lillie, Angela, Shelby and Rhett; and her great-grandchild, Jack. Colleen was a devoted wife who supported her husband through decades of ministry. Graham honoured her with these words, "My sweetheart, rest in the blessed hope of the new morning. Always my pink vision."

Bob Possingham

Durrant, Maxwell "Bruce", born 7.5.1929 in Adelaide, SA; died 4.1.13. He married Vyrona, who predeceased him on 12.2.1984. He is survived by his wife, Lorna (nee Mowbray); his children and their families, Calvin and Lyn Durrant and Lovette and Lyndon Butcher; loved Poppi to grandchildren, Larissa, Kristylee, Lashaye and Scott; loved

great-grandfather of Sophie and Tianha; loved Father Bruce of Sharon Durrant; loved brother-in-law of Joan Chermiside; loved stepfather of Anthony, Phillip, Andrew and Cameron Mowbray; beloved Poppi of Antoinette and Reuben Mowbray, Georgina, Angelique, Taflin, Lachlan, Genevieve and Isobel Mowbray, and loved stepfather-in-law of Kathy, Keryn and Jennifer Mowbray. Maxwell was a Christian gentleman, beloved husband, father, grandfather, artist, principal, teacher, friend, support, counsellor and mentor. He will be greatly missed.

*L J Laws, A Lindsay
C V Ballegooyen*

Foots, Wilma Eva (nee Allum), born 18.1.1917 in Shanghai, China; died 2.12.12 in Gosford Hospital, NSW. On 12.1.1942, she married Jack Rowe, who died on 2.8.1946 while on mission service in Fiji. On 5.12.1948, she married Mark Foots, who predeceased her in 1985. She was also predeceased by her son, Robert, in 1995. Wilma is survived by Lynette Gray (Canberra, ACT), Yvonne Chan (Melbourne, Vic), Jennifer Lumsden (Macksville, NSW) and Pam Adams (Terrigal); 17 grandchildren; and 27 great-grandchildren. She was a wonderful Christian lady and member of Erina church. She was patient and faithful under suffering.

Russel Stanley, John Chan



Lacey, Ivan John, born 14.6.1923 in Yallourn, Vic; died 17.1.12 at home in Palmwoods, Qld, with his daughter by his side. On 29.11.1948, he married Iris Winifred Hornett in Mont Albert church, Vic. She predeceased him in June 2007. He is survived by his children, Beverly-Joy (Mitcham, Vic; and Palmwoods, Qld) and Graham (Yarwun); and grandchildren, Cameron and Jaiden. Born a Roman Catholic, Ivan studied with Pastor Ralph Tudor before his baptism at the age of 17 by Pastor J B Conley. During World War II, he served for nearly three years in Papua New Guinea as a male nurse with the 4th Field Ambulance. After the war, he worked for Sanitarium and as a literature evangelist. He also worked at Heidelberg Repatriation in Victoria for two and-a-half years. Ivan was devoted to

his God, his family and his church. His participation in the Sabbath School lesson was always appreciated. Ivan loved children and will be sadly missed in Palmwoods where he became the resident "grandfather" to several local families.

*Heinrich Rusterholz
Percy Harrold*

Schwantler, Jakob Fred, born 6.11.1925 in Austria; died 9.12.12 in St Andrews Home, Dunedin, NZ, after a short illness. On 8.9.1960, he married Hannelore in Dunedin. He is survived by his wife; children and their spouses, Heidi Pilley (Dunedin), Eric and Debbie Schwantler (Sydney, NSW), Karin and Michael Comins (Dunedin, NZ), and Malcolm Schwantler (Brighton, Dunedin); and grandchildren, Deirdre, Julie, April, Tabitha, Kitrena, Joshua, Nathan, Thomas and Daniel. Fred was baptised in Vienna and migrated to Australia in 1954, before moving to NZ in 1958. He had a keen sense of humour and infectious smile. He was active in both the church and the community. Fred was a much-loved husband, father, grandfather and friend who will be very much missed by us all.

Malcolm Eastwick

ADVERTISEMENTS

Essentials of personal and public health evangelism.

Inspiring and practical six-week training in the pioneer work of the Gospel. Includes essential Bible and Christian life subjects, nutrition, hydrotherapy, natural remedies, health talks, community seminars, etc. Visit <www.eastward.edu.au> or call 0427 112 310.

"Back to Collie" (WA)–Sabbath, October 19. Seeking stories, photos, past members, all memorabilia, enquiries to Robyn <sjram47@bigpond.com> or phone (08) 9734 2237, Raewyn <dandjrjones4@hotmail.com> or phone (08) 9734 3394.

Note: Neither the editor, Adventist Media Network, nor the Seventh-day Adventist Church is responsible for the quality of goods or services advertised. Publication does not indicate endorsement of a product or service. Advertisements approved by the editor will be inserted at the following rates: first 30 words or less, \$A68 +GST; each additional word, \$A2.26 +GST. For your advertisement to appear, payment must be enclosed. Classified advertisements in RECORD are available to Seventh-day Adventist members, churches and institutions only. See masthead (page 4) for contact details.

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

Projectors, screens, wireless microphones, amplifiers, speakers, etc. Lower prices for Adventist institutions. Australia only. Contact Trish, <greenfieldenterprises@bigpond.com> or (02) 6361 3636.

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.

Finally

Sometimes God lets you hit rock bottom so that you will discover that He is the Rock at the bottom.

Next RECORD March 16

CLINICAL CARE COORDINATOR Advent Care Yarra Valley

- Varied role in low and high care facilities
- Salary Packaging Benefits
- Ongoing training and support

Advent Care Yarra Valley needs focused Christian leadership. You will be a dynamic and energetic leader with the ability to drive positive change and continuous improvement. Outstanding communication skills and a positive, cheerful outlook are essential in your role of liaising with residents, relative and staff.

Aged Care or Health Management experience is essential. You will:

- Manage all aspects of Clinical Care for the 37 bed hostel and 9 bed dementia wing
- Be a key support to the Nurse manager and the Director of Care and Services
- Coach and manage clinical staff
- Maintain the Accreditation standards and continually improve
- Create a consistent and positive environment
- Be a Registered Nurse

Enquiries to Zaigere Eales, Director of Care and Services on (03) 5967 5500 or zaigere.eales@adventcare.org.au



MAKE YOUR MEAT-FREE DAYS **A LITTLE GOURMET**

These Bean Supreme sausages are made with fresh tofu infused with **roasted garlic**, herbs and spices.

Bean Supreme Roasted Garlic sausages are also **100% gluten free.**



**SEEK OUT THE BEAN SUPREME RANGE
NOW AVAILABLE IN COLES STORE AUSTRALIA**

DELICIOUSLY TASTY, DELIGHTFULLY HEALTHY.

WWW.BEANSUPREME.CO.NZ