

# InTouch

Spring  
2013

Powerful stories of God's grace in Literature Ministry

## She was already sharing her faith

I am always amazed at how the Holy Spirit arranges for us to meet people that He has prepared for us; always at the right time. God always prepares the way for us. It was a wet day, so Phil and I set out, armed with umbrellas. At the second house we called on, we noticed that the garage door was up and that the family had organised the garage into a rumpus room. We soon met Sandy, who invited us to come in and sit down. Sandy had six children and was expecting her seventh.

After talking for a few minutes, we then shared with her the reason for our visit and the various life-changing books that were available. When we got to the book, *Today Tomorrow and You*, she asked us which church we belonged to. When we said that we attended the Seventh-day Adventist Church, she excitedly replied, "I am a Sevvy too."

As we talked more, she said she hadn't been to church for a long time but had recently had a strong conviction to know and understand her Bible better—and find a church to attend again. She mentioned

that her husband from a different church background was open to her beliefs, and that her neighbour and friend across the road was also interested in the Bible. So she had been sharing her Adventist beliefs to the best of her knowledge with those around her!

As a result of Sandy's enthusiasm, her two sisters have become interested in learning more about the Bible and how to share it with their partners. I felt that we were standing on holy ground and this was exactly where God wanted us to be with Him on this wet day.

Sandy was excited to place an order for books for her family. She was more than happy to have the local pastor call on her. The next day, we visited Sandy's neighbour who ordered a Bible, along with a number of other books about the Bible for her young children. We are envisioning a branch Sabbath School developing in this little street. God is awesome!

*Sone Mariner, Team Leader, South Queensland & Northern Australian Conferences*

## Welcome

The literature ministry of the Adventist church is founded on the revelation of God through the prophet Ellen White. After coming out of vision, Mrs White told her husband James, "You must begin to print a little paper and send it out to the people. Let it be small at first; but as the people read, they will send you means with which to print, and it will be a success from the first. From this small beginning it was shown to me to be like streams of light that went clear round the world" (*Life Sketches*, page 125). Today there are thousands of literature evangelists distributing Seventh-day Adventist literature all around the world.

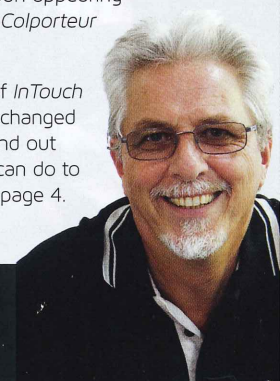
The role of literature ministry is focused on reaching the lost before the soon return of Jesus Christ, through door-to-door visitation. This is done by making friends and leaving truth-filled literature in homes. This literature is either purchased or some items are given away. Literature evangelists pray with their customers, and invite them to church and to church-run programs. They also work closely with their local pastor to arrange Bible studies. The usefulness of these faithful workers has benefits that will only be seen in the light of eternity.

Concerning this last-day literature ministry, Ellen White wrote, "This is a work that should be done. The end is near. Already much time has been lost, when these books should have been in circulation. Sell them far and near. Scatter them like the leaves of autumn. This work is to continue without the forbiddings of anyone. Souls are perishing out of Christ. Let them be warned of His soon appearing in the clouds of heaven" (*Colporteur Ministry*, page 25).

Enjoy this special edition of *InTouch* as you read how lives are changed by literature ministry. To find out more or to see what you can do to help, check the details on page 4.

God bless,

*John Breerton  
Publishing Director,  
South Pacific Division*



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"The world is to receive the light of truth through an evangelising ministry of the word in our books and periodicals" (*Tesimonies*, volume 9, page 61).

## Reconnecting with God

I was scheduled to work with two other literature evangelists—Badai and Lomeri—and we had organised to work in a village where a series of evangelistic meetings was being held over a two-week period. Our visit would occur in the final week of the meetings.

On the Thursday morning of the last week, we displayed our books and about 60 people came to see what was available. A young man in his 30s, his mouth stained with beetlenut, came out of the crowd, wanting to buy books. I discovered that he had attended church many years ago but had drifted away. He had not been to church for 29 years! He purchased a Bible and *Last Day Events* book, paying cash saying that these were the books he wanted to read. I encouraged this man, reminding him that "Jesus is coming soon and He loves you and He wants you to be saved in His Kingdom."

I also met another young man in the same village who had left the church for almost 20

years. He purchased a Bible and *The Great Controversy*. I encouraged him by reminding Him that "God loves you and is calling you back home and He wants you to be saved in His Kingdom." We prayed together and this man was recently baptised!

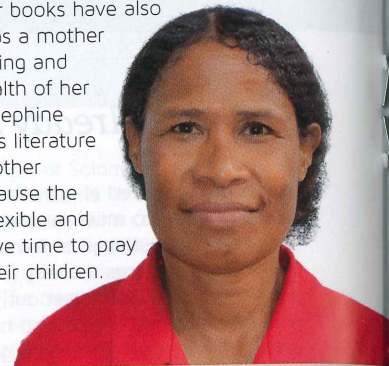
God is calling people back to the fold—those who have gone astray—before He appears in the clouds of heaven. We need to take books to those in the villages, so they too can read and be strong in the Lord. I want to praise God for His leading and care upon our lives, and all glory and honour is given to Him.

"Books will reach those who can be reached in no other way, those living far from any large settlement. I call these the byway hearers. To such ones our canvassers are to carry the books containing the message of salvation" (*Colporteur Ministry*, page 39).

Vavine Komba, Area Manager,  
Papua New Guinea

## Partners in Ministry

**Josephine Ambuari** of Port Moresby previously worked in Air Niugini as a "Rotable Component Officer," now enjoys serving the Lord in literature ministry. She says our books have also helped her as a mother in child training and with the health of her children. Josephine recommends literature ministry to other women because the hours are flexible and mothers have time to pray and train their children.



**Kylie Raka**, an ex bank officer, and now a literature evangelist with nine years experience in Papua New Guinea, says what she likes the most about being a literature evangelist is that you get to know God personally. Kylie says she loves being involved in saving souls for eternity and can't wait to go home and be with Jesus forever. Kylie recommends that other Adventist women partner with God in this ministry because God pays you with blessings daily!



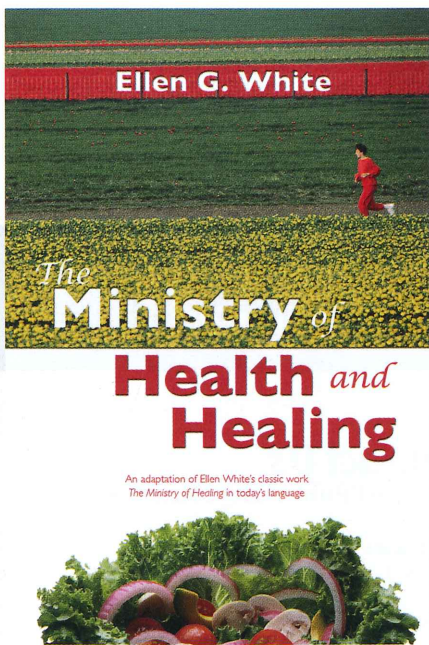
**Miriam Pingi**, an ex paediatric nurse, has now been working for 21 years in literature ministry and says she loves meeting new people and bringing good news to their homes. She particularly likes literature ministry because it helps promote healthy lifestyles and restores hope and a positive attitude in Papua New Guinea. She says she would strongly recommend literature evangelism to both men and women for their own physical and spiritual good, and quotes Isaiah 40:31.



## Changed priorities

I was doing the last of my deliveries to customers when I called on Wendy, who I have been visiting for a number of years. She said, "Collette, I need to look at my life and get things into perspective. I need to see where God fits into the picture!" What an incredible opportunity to witness! The most recent earthquake in Christchurch, with more than 4000 aftershocks, has encouraged people to look more closely at their lives. As a result of our conversation, I have arranged to take a friend with me to care for Wendy's children so we can study the Bible together uninterrupted! Praise God.

Collette Brown, Team Leader, South New Zealand Conference



## God's perfect timing

After purchasing my books one Thursday afternoon from the book depot in Port Vila, I began to make deliveries to my customers. On the way I met Janine, a customer of mine from another church, who had a special experience to share.

Janine had purchased a copy of *The Ministry of Healing* in 2010 and had never read the book. She recounted how she had suffered back pain and sleepless nights for the past six years, which had been difficult for both her and her husband.

"I've been to the doctor and the witchdoctor but never did I feel better until recently when

I started reading the book I bought from you," Janine said. "That night I felt healing take place and since then I've had a good night's sleep every night! I told my husband about what had happened and encouraged him to read the book also. Thank you for selling me that book."

I encouraged her, saying that all thanks for her healing goes to God, the Great Physician. Janine then said she wanted to buy more books similar to *The Ministry of Healing*. Praise God for His leading, blessing and perfect timing.

Nancy Ernest, Literature Evangelist, Vanuatu

## Attracted by Jesus and His Truth

Lorraine Lowe and I met with a lady by the name of Susan (not her real name) while working together in Esperance, Western Australia. As we showed her the various life-changing family books available, her eyes began to well up with tears of love and concern for her children. Seeing the difference these books would make in her family, she purchased *Great Stories for Kids*, *The Bible Story*, *Sammy Series*, *Stress and Anxiety* and *Today Tomorrow and You*.

Susan is not a Christian, has no Christian friends or any exposure to Christianity and no belief in God. Please pray for her as she and many others are being introduced to Jesus, often for the first time, through the power of the printed page and the ministry of faithful literature evangelists.

Brenton Lowe, Team Leader, Western Australia Conference



## Meet Eunice Winship...

### When did you start in literature ministry?

I've been involved in literature ministry since 1998. I received God's call immediately after graduating from university.

### Where are you working?

I began my ministry in Cairns and still work in the Cairns region.

### Why did you become involved in literature ministry?

I wanted to tell everyone about Jesus and how much He loved the world and what He was offering. God provided a way for me to do just that. "Surely everybody wants to live forever!" I thought.

### What is so special about literature ministry?

This work is unique because it is a home visitation ministry ordained by God as a way of reaching people via the printed page with a message of hope in the closing moments of earth's history.

### What impact has your work had on your spiritual life?

This ministry has taught me many things. First and foremost, it is a self-supporting "faith" ministry. Absolute, moment-by-moment dependence on Jesus is crucial.

Learning to die to self each day and remain humble allows the Holy Spirit to work through you mightily to influence and convict those He sends you to meet on the doors. Meeting with people in their homes each day grows your love for Jesus more deeply and strengthens your resolve to reach out to others with the unparalleled love of God.

### Have you had a special experience in your work?

When I met Bill (not his real name), he was facing a family crisis. During our conversation he asked me what church I attended, so I told him. I later offered prayer for him. The following Sabbath, I was so amazed to see him walk into church. He is now baptised and a church deacon. Praise the Lord!

### How has the Lord blessed you and your family in literature ministry?

It is incredible how God blesses you in so many ways because of your faithfulness and dedication to His calling. He meets your every need and more so, extends those blessings to your family. My husband Peter has been regularly attending church and our son Christopher, his wife Lauris and their two sons were baptised last year as a



Eunice Winship

family. Praise the Lord! Now we are praying fervently for other family members.

### Why would you recommend the literature ministry to others?

If you sense the Holy Spirit stirring your heart to proclaim the love of God in the final moments of earth's history, there is nothing like literature ministry as a means of reaching searching people! Ellen White says that "It is a work second to none and if properly conducted, is a missionary work of the highest order." Wow! What better place to be than labouring for souls in the vineyard of the Master when He appears again! *Maranatha.*

**"If there is one work more important than another, it is that of getting out publications before the public thus leading them to search the scriptures" (Colporteur Ministry, page 7).**

## How You Can Be Involved

### If you would like to:

- (a) Receive our e-mailed InTouch newsletters for free
- (b) Sponsor books to give away
- (c) Enrol in the free soul-winning course
- (d) Join our Literature Ministry soul-winning team

Please email <winsouls@adventist.org.au>.

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