

SAMOAN CHURCH GROWS 15 PER CENT page 9

SPD AFFIRMS REPORT ON ORDINATION page 3

**ADVENTIST PROSTITUTES AND
SEVENTH-DAY THIEVES** page 10



NURSING

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Sydney Adventist Hospital Clinical Education Centre

From Semester 1, 2014, Avondale Bachelor of Nursing students will have access to brand new facilities and an ultra-modern training environment in the new Clinical Education Centre. This new training Centre will allow student nurses to develop enhanced critical thinking and decision making abilities, learn to respond to emergency scenarios, and develop best-practice clinical skills for life-saving patient care.



New facilities

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SPD affirms report on ordination

Wahroonga, New South Wales

The South Pacific Division (SPD) has unanimously affirmed a report from its Biblical Research Committee that "does not see any scriptural principle which would be an impediment to women being ordained".

The report, based on lengthy deliberations and seven research papers on the theology of ordination prepared by academics from around the SPD, concludes that "the calling of the Holy Spirit needs to be recognised for both men and women. There is a sense of injustice that needs to be addressed."

The November 13 vote at the Division's year-end executive committee meeting does not imply a change of working policy within the South Pacific at this stage, but it does signal a clear message to the world Church's Theology of Ordination Study Committee ahead of the 2015 General Conference (GC) meetings, when the issue of the full ordination of women pastors will be discussed.

"My personal conviction is that ordination should not be dependent on gender," said SPD president Dr Barry Oliver after the vote. "But I also recognise the enormous importance of unity in the Church. Our global unity

is a wonderful gift from God and it is my hope that, as a global Church, we will move forward in an orderly, unified manner."

Delegates from across the Pacific voted in support of the conclusions but recognise the complexity any change would have in the diverse cultural landscape of the region.

"Historically we haven't seen women as leaders, but we're changing," said Pastor Nasoni Lutunaliewa, Personal Ministries director at the Fiji Mission. "As I'm committed to following the Bible not the culture, I support this move. This is my personal view, not the view of our Church in Fiji at large. So, even if the GC moves to open ordination to women, I don't expect the Church in Fiji will move in that direction for some time. We will have a thorough and respectful conversation about this."

Principal of Papua New Guinea's Sonoma Primary School, Ellie Kotoveke, wholeheartedly agreed with the outcome. "We have women joining the pastoral team and they can minister to other women in a special way. They have a spiritual dimension that contributes to the vitality of our



Church delegates look through the report.

church family."

A number of church territories in North America and Europe have moved unilaterally in implementing women's ordination, despite counsel from GC leaders. Union and conference presidents within the SPD have maintained a commitment to continuing to move together on the issue with the world Church.

"We understand that going forward our cultures will determine how this is implemented should the GC open ordination to women," said Australian Union president, Pastor Chester Stanley. "That is part of the respect necessary when we're part of a global community." —Kent Kingston

Full report online at <record.net.au>.

The San opens Clinical Education Centre

Wahroonga, New South Wales

A new education centre at the Sydney Adventist Hospital is at the forefront of training the doctors and nurses of the future.

The \$A20 million-plus Clinical Education Centre was officially opened by NSW Governor Marie Bashir on November 1. It's a collaborative project between the Commonwealth and NSW governments, Sydney Adventist Hospital, the University of Sydney, Avondale College of Higher Education and private philanthropy. It will provide education and training for multiple professions, including medical, nursing, midwifery, pharmacy, radiation science, occupational therapy, dietetics and physiotherapy.

"Education is a cornerstone of our philosophy of caring for our community," Adventist HealthCare CEO Dr Leon Clark said. "This new centre provides a home for education and training here on site at the hospital."

The centre is home to the Sydney Adventist Hospital Clinical School of the University of Sydney (SAHCS), the

first fully-fledged private hospital clinical school in NSW, and the Avondale College faculty of Nursing and Health. It features two auditoriums, a library, a student common room, a simulation centre and rooms for tutorials, lectures, practising clinical skills and problem-based learning.

"This is a great example of collaboration between the public and private sectors," NSW Health Minister Jillian Skinner said. "The Sydney Adventist Hospital Clinical Education Centre will help train the doctors of the future." —Vania Chew



NSW Governor opens the centre.



Rehoboam's blunder

James Standish

"My father scourged you with whips; I will scourge you with scorpions." Or so said King Rehoboam, beginning a rather unfortunate, if predictable, series of events.

It turned out people did not want to be scourged with anything—and certainly not with scorpions. So first the people outside Jerusalem rebelled. Rehoboam sent out a taskmaster to bring them into line. It didn't work as Rehoboam expected. Rather, people stoned the taskmaster to death, thereby sending a rather unambiguous message back to the crown. The message wasn't well understood. The king himself ventured forth to subdue his rebellious subjects. He was unceremoniously chased back to Jerusalem with his tail between his legs.

And that was just the beginning of Rehoboam's woes.

Eventually he lost control of the northern 10 tribes of Israel. His little kingdom, in constant fear of its northern brethren, was so weakened that when the Egyptians invaded he gave them all they demanded—even the treasures from the temple his father Solomon had built. Rehoboam ended up an emasculated pawn in a vassal state of Egypt.

And yet all of this, and much more, could have been avoided if Rehoboam had simply listened to the right people. The old advisors told him to deal mercifully with his subjects. After all, his name meant "he who enlarges the people". Why not begin his reign by doing just that? The people would love him in return. But the young men, surging with testosterone and pumped up on privilege, gave the opposite advice. They told him to be tough. Show some swagger. Let the little people know who's boss.

Rehoboam chose the confidence of youth over the prudence of experience. He must have felt quite the big man when he delivered his scorpion line, along with boasting that his little finger was stronger than his father's torso. Forget the old man. Throw out the dusty aged advisors. It's a young man's world and Rehoboam was at the reigns. Like a character out of an Ellie Goulding song, he was going to "burn so bright they'd see him in outer space, coz Rehoboam baby, was the star of the human race".

Until he wasn't.

Are we in danger of repeating Rehoboam's blunder?

We live in a society where youth is routinely prized over

experience. Attributes like prudence, wisdom, perspective and thoughtfulness—attributes that often sharpen with age—are not the flavour of the day. We live in a society, like Rehoboam, confidently embracing ideas untethered from the wisdom of the ages. We can expect a similar return on investment.

But it isn't just our society at large. I get many compliments from church members that I have a "young team", as if that is something good in and of itself. Why is having a young team better than having a team of experienced veterans? I've asked, and what I get are vague notions about creativity, exuberance, relevance and just all round wonderfulness. Yes. But are older people lacking in all these?

Of course young people can be creative but plenty aren't. And some of the most wonderfully creative people on earth are old. Frank Gehry, arguably the most influential architect of our time, is in higher demand now than ever—and he's 84 years old! His masterpiece, the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain, was built when he was 68; his 8 Spruce Street, New York residential tower, which won the Emporis Skyscraper Award for "world's best skyscraper", was completed when he was 81 years old; his striking design for three towers in Toronto is so thoroughly original it's currently the subject of intense public debate that will determine if it's allowed to be built; and his controversial structure for UTS Sydney is currently under construction. Are you still going to tell me older people aren't creative?

But just as importantly, why does society routinely assume open-mindedness and flexibility are more valuable than perspective and wisdom?

A well-balanced church values the creative, the experienced, the energetic, the prudent, the young and the old. And when people with experience, people with runs on the board, those who have built the house that we currently inhabit . . . when they speak, a wise person—whether old or young—listens carefully. If only Rehoboam had done the same. He would have kept his scorpions to himself, and by so doing, built a strong, vibrant legacy of a united nation dedicated to glorifying God.

Let's not repeat Rehoboam's blunder.

James Standish is editor of RECORD.

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 "Pastor Ionatana Neufeldt baptising a candidate at Fusi/Wailoa Anoamaa site."

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



With power comes . . .

Kent Kingston

What if a Seventh-day Adventist became a prime minister or a president? What if an Adventist-dominated political party won an election? It's more than a hypothetical question. A number of politicians in Papua New Guinea are Seventh-day Adventists. French Polynesia now has two Adventists in its Council of Ministers. And renowned Adventist neurosurgeon, Dr Ben Carson, has left open the question of running for US president.

I've noticed when speaking to Adventist health directors that they invariably support any toughening of laws that limit the impact of tobacco, alcohol or even (in PNG) the mildly narcotic betel nut. Higher taxes, plain packaging, warning labels, even outright bans.

So what would an Adventist with a strong commitment to wholistic health, for example, seek to do if he or she were in a position of political power? Ban tobacco altogether? What about alcohol? Sugar? Caffeine? Meat? And in the area of social policy, how would an Adventist prime minister define marriage or deal with homosexuality, transgender issues or polygamy? How would an Adventist president seek to fund schools or to protect religious freedom? Would an Adventist politician seek to limit work or frivolous recreation on Sabbath?

It's very easy to maintain strong views from the safety of our minority enclaves—views that are consistent with an Adventist lifestyle. But as our numbers grow, particularly in Melanesia, and we disproportionately inhabit the tertiary educated and upwardly mobile sectors of society, opportunities to have significant political influence will increase—indeed they are already increasing.

While I'd want an Adventist politician to vote in harmony with his or her values, I believe it would be a mistake to simply impose personal or denominational standards in parliament. There are issues of pragmatism standing in the way—an immediate shutdown of the beef, gambling and alcohol industries in Australia, for example, would have a devastating economic impact.

But there are also issues of freedom and conscience. There comes a point when people must be allowed to make their own decisions, even if those decisions are harmful or unbiblical. It would be unconscionable, for example, for an Adventist prime minister to try to close down Roman Catholic churches or Buddhist temples—even though there are theological problems with both religions. Would it also be unconscionable for an Adventist politician to make homosexuality illegal, for example; or to imprison injecting drug users?

Most of us will never be given the power to make these kinds of decisions for our country. But most of us do have the power to vote or to speak out on current issues. It stands to reason then that when we do, we should wield our influence not just as an expression of our personal standards, but with genuine concern for everyone in our community, whether or not we agree with their beliefs or lifestyle choices.

Kent Kingston is assistant editor for RECORD.

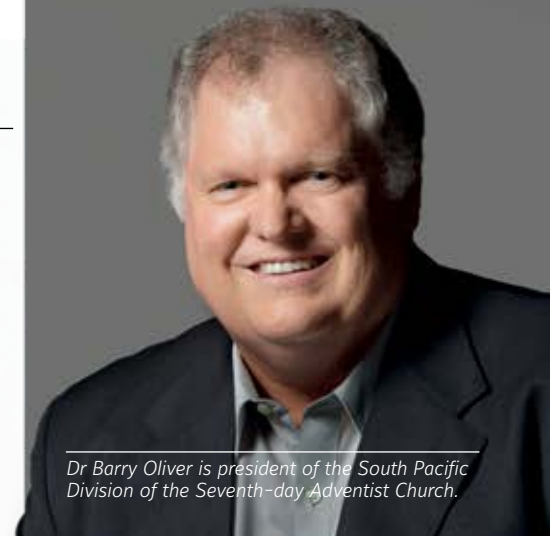
Church of volunteers

Nine people were given special recognition at the annual meetings of the South Pacific Division Executive Committee. They represent the thousands of volunteers who are the backbone of our Church.

The Church could not possibly exist without the commitment of people like these who give their time, resources and talent in service for God, the Church and the community. I think of those who care for the functions of the local church—the services; the training of children and youth; Pathfinders; maintaining records and ensuring financial accountability—the departments of the local church. I'm grateful to God for the thousands of young people who have participated in service to others through StormCo and missionary trips of various kinds.

Our institutions such as Sydney Adventist Hospital have been sending teams of highly skilled volunteers overseas to bring health and happiness to people who may otherwise have had little hope of a complete life. I think of those who are more mature in years who are organising and mounting project after project to assist others in practical ways. To me all of you are the hands and feet of Jesus.

I cannot conceive of this Church without YOU. People are being introduced to and nurtured in the kingdom of God through your service and that's what makes me so proud of this Church.



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

REVIVED BY HIS WORD

December 7-21, 2013

READING THROUGH THE BIBLE TOGETHER
ONE CHAPTER A DAY

7 - Pslm. 122	11 - Pslm. 126	15 - Pslm. 130	19 - Pslm. 134
8 - Pslm. 123	12 - Pslm. 127	16 - Pslm. 131	20 - Pslm. 135
9 - Pslm. 124	13 - Pslm. 128	17 - Pslm. 132	21 - Pslm. 136
10 - Pslm. 125	14 - Pslm. 129	18 - Pslm. 133	

Typhoon Haiyan: ADRA on the ground

Leyte, Philippines

Thousands of families have received emergency food aid through the first stage of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) response to Typhoon Haiyan.

Fritz Neuberg from ADRA Germany said that after the food distribution in the north of Cebu Island, "an elderly man came to me. 'Thank you very much,' he said in broken English, 'Thank you!' Four times he came to me. Repeatedly he expressed his appreciation for ADRA's work."

Government estimates of the number of people affected by the November 8 super-storm have been revised up to 13.2 million with more than 4.4 million people displaced. Weeks after the typhoon hit, critical needs continue to be food, safe drinking water, basic shelter and sanitation.

ADRA is in close consultation with the United Nations and other aid agencies to ensure survivors are reached quickly with life-saving supplies. With vast areas of devastation, estimates indicate that more than a million

people are yet to be reached.

"Portable water purification systems have been deployed and the distribution of water has commenced in Capiz Province," said Beryl

Hartmann, ADRA Australia's Humanitarian coordinator. "One unit will provide 15,000 litres of purified water per day for surrounding communities and the district hospital."

The next phase of ADRA's response will see the distribution of larger food packs, shelter kits and hygiene kits to prevent the spread of disease.

Adventist churches in Australia and New Zealand took up a special offering on November 23. —Janelle Muller



More than 3500 families have been helped.

Creation film available online

Silver Spring, Maryland, United States

It's the creation of the world like you've never seen it before and it's now available free online.

The Creation: The Earth is a Witness, produced by the General Conference (GC) of the Seventh-day Adventist

Church, is a day-by-day account of the creation week recorded in the book of Genesis. Featuring world-class imagery and special effects, the film will serve as one of the denomination's key evangelism efforts for 2014.

"We need to proclaim to the world this prophetic truth," said Williams Costa Jr, director of the GC's Communication department. "Please share this film with as many people as possible."

The 27-minute production is a four-years-in-the-making effort by Adventist filmmaker Henry Stober. According to Adventist News Network, the film had already amassed 70,000 views in nine countries by mid-October. *The Creation: The Earth is a Witness* is available at <<http://vimeo.com/78072521>>. For more information about the Church's emphasis on creation, visit <www.creationsabbath.net> or <www.dareto believe.com>. —Linden Chuang/ANN



The film took four years to make.

Health and wellbeing subject of studies

Cooranbong, New South Wales

A research centre established by Avondale College of Higher Education is helping to measure the effectiveness of a health improvement program while encouraging collaboration among academics.

The Lifestyle Research Centre provides staff members and postgraduate students with an opportunity to primarily study the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Complete Health Improvement Program (CHIP). One of the centre's lead researchers, Dr Darren Morton, a senior lecturer in health and exercise science in the School of Education, describes CHIP as "arguably the most well-published lifestyle intervention in the research literature".

That literature is growing—the centre has had publication success already. Melbourne-based epidemiologist Dr Lillian Kent, a research associate/fellow for the centre, is the lead author of two published papers—one in what was the *British*

Medical Journal. Dr Morton is lead author of another paper in the *New Zealand Medical Journal*.

"[The centre] provides an opportunity for our academics, no matter which faculty they're from, to participate in research," said vice-president (research), Professor Tony Williams.

The centre will have a governing committee that includes representatives from each faculty, from the Church and its Australasian Research Institute, and from Sanitarium Health & Wellbeing. —Sherona Pillidge, with Brenton Stacey and Nathan Brown



Dr Darren Morton.



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WIN SOULS WITH SIGNS!

Decades of volunteer service honoured

Wahroonga, New South Wales

Long-serving volunteers were acknowledged by the Adventist Volunteer Service at the South Pacific Division's (SPD) year-end executive committee meeting on November 13.

Among those recognised were Dennis and Marjorie Perry and David and Elaine Woolley, co-founders of Operation Food for Life (OFFL), and Trevor and Helen Oliver, founders of Serving Overseas Nations by Ship (Sonship).

Pioneer leaders of the fly'n'build movement were also acknowledged. Warren and Maureene Bailey, Derek and Betty Peacock, and Elwin (Arthur) and Valmae Ferris have, between them, led more than 100 service trips throughout the Asia Pacific. The three couples represent more than 20 volunteer leaders and hundreds of others who have participated in fly'n'build projects over the past several decades.

As the leaders were being acknowledged inside the SPD office headquarters, volunteers were outside filling a six-metre shipping container with supplies for an upcoming OFFL project to Papua New Guinea. In addition to donations of clothing, wheelchairs and walking frames, more than 500 new Bibles from the Adventist Youth Ministries department were being packed into the container.

"Our calling in ministry is inspired by the example of Jesus, by meeting the physical and spiritual needs of the poor, disadvantaged and forgotten," Dennis Perry said. "The Bibles will provide spiritual food in the areas we minister, some of which no relief agencies enter because of personal security issues." —Linden Chuang

For more information about the South Pacific Division's Adventist Volunteer Service, visit <adventistvolunteers.org.au>.



Dr Barry Oliver presented each volunteer with a certificate, acknowledging their contribution.

OPINION POLL

When should the Sabbath sermon start?

- 11:00 am
- 11:15 am
- 11:30 am
- 11:45 am
- 12:00 noon

Read Church's paradise on page 16 then visit <record.net.au> to vote.





Mission to the cities: Samoan Church grows 15%

 by Jarrod Stackelroth

Samoa. Land of a thousand churches. The palatial churches dwarf all the other buildings on the island. With around 98 per cent of the population identifying as Christian, religiosity is at Samoa's heart.

Even Samoa's national motto, *Fa'avae i le Atua Samoa*, proclaims: "Samoa is founded on God". Saturation is high—making evangelism hard work. Add to that the country's recent move to the western side of the international date line, with its impact on Sabbath worship, and there were fears the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Samoa would struggle for traction and distinction.

This makes the more than 1000 people baptised at the end of the Last Empire program (November 3) so miraculous. All up, 1440 people have been baptised in the Samoas/Tokelau Mission (STM) this year—including those baptised in the revival in the lead up to the Last Empire and during the program itself.

This represents an increase of more than 15 per cent in the membership of the Mission as church membership at the end of 2012 sat at 9000.

"This comprehensive evangelism has come to us as a blessing," said Pastor Uili Solofa, STM president. "[The program was] a great opportunity to witness for the Lord. But above all, it has come to us as an answer to the most challenging time [the date line change]. We have been blessed to have it in our country."

Apia was the final of four cities chosen for the South Pacific Division's Mission to the Cities initiative. STM made the most of the opportunity and, with the help of Living Ministry Media, webcast the programs to 23 sites around the islands of Upolu, Savaii and American Samoa, instead of just focusing on the city.

The main meeting was held in the modern Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi Building, which held around 500 people each night. The final Sabbath programs and baptisms took place at the Lalovaea church on the STM compound.

Health talks addressing Samoa's modern lifestyle disease epidemic were presented by SPD associate health director, Dr Chester Kuma—attended by government officials and health professionals. This was followed by more

traditional Adventist prophecy presented dynamically by Pastor Jean-Noel Adeline and translated into Samoan.

On the final night, many responded to the call for baptism—young and old, professional and plantation worker, from all faith backgrounds and no faith background.

It was an historic program, both for the number of baptisms and the number of sites simultaneously running the same message. "This is the first time we have used the internet uplink and (as far as I know) we are the first of any church in Samoa to run a program like this," Pastor Solofa said. "It is very unique. Our people are very excited."

With the challenges the Church here has faced, it's no wonder the people are excited. Their excitement was harnessed and the good results achieved not just by chance, but by faithful work and prayer.

"[Prayer was] the key to the program," Pastor Solofa said. "Church members who worked in the city would gather at the meeting venue on their lunch breaks to pray."

STM general secretary, Pastor Sione Ausage, took Pastor Adeline out to a different downlink site every morning at 6 am for prayer. At Fasito'otai church, a group would sometimes hold vigil from 12 am to 6 am, sleeping in the hall and praying an hour at a time through the night. Follow up teams were formed and people were fasting. There was also a revival program before the evangelistic series began.

But the STM understands that this is only the beginning. Some of the new converts are under pressure from their families and villages.

"The big challenge we are facing now is nurturing these people," Pastor Solofa said. "This is the challenge for the Church—we must help to fully accept and integrate them into church life."

That process has already begun: three new churches have been planted to care for the needs of the new converts, like Salome, who shared her testimony on the final night: "Jesus not only called us from Fiji to work but to see the truth. We were baptised this morning and are looking forward to serving the Lord in the Adventist church."

Jarrod Stackelroth was in Samoa for the final weekend of the program.



Adventist prostitutes and seventh-day thieves

by James Standish

MY HUSBAND CALLS ME 'LITTLE MISS Friendly,'" laughs Jasmin Simyunn, ADRA country director for Papua New Guinea. It's an interesting response to my question about how this genteel woman knows prostitutes and gang members in Lae—one of the toughest towns on the planet.

"When I'm in the community conversations normally just start with a smile. And from there a relationship develops. People living in the streets are human beings just like anyone else. And so when you're friendly, they are friendly back. Over time you get to know each other. And just like any friendship, you begin to share about your life."

One of the startling things she has learned is that some of the prostitutes and petty criminals are Seventh-day Adventists. "They don't want to be doing this but they are really so poor," she says. "You have to understand what it means to be unemployed, without job skills and feeling like you've got nowhere to turn. The women particularly break my heart. Many of them are pimped by their husbands. Imagine your own husband selling you to other men. It's sickening."

It's so hard to imagine that I have to ask who would be buying sex from married women in Lae. "You'd be surprised," she says. "It's local men, Australian men, Asian men—a broad cross section." And what of the growing rates of HIV/AIDS? "Many people aren't well educated on the risk. One woman our staff recently talked to was gang

raped by 30 men. It was brutal and horrific in every way. I doubt those men will ever be caught and punished in this life. But what they didn't know is that she is HIV positive. So each one of them may now be infected. And if they are, they will take it home and keep spreading it. It's a terrifying reality. Evil brings even more evil, and more and more innocent people are devastated."

It's all starting to feel a bit hopeless. Where do you even start when men stoop to the level of prostituting their own wives? It turns out Jasmin is the right person to ask.

Born in the Philippines, she has been working in aid and development for a while now. After studying finance she first served ADRA in Sri Lanka following the 2004 tsunami. Australian couple Michelle and Chris Abel-Jensen then convinced her to join the ADRA Mongolia team and seven months ago they encouraged

her to go to PNG to serve as country director. "I knew this wasn't going to be an easy assignment," she says, "but the need is so great and the difference ADRA is making is so dramatic that I am just loving it. And the friends I am making—whether in the church or in the street—are very precious to me."

So back to the question: how do you do anything to help the thieves and prostitutes—whether they are Adventists or not? "The first thing I've noticed about Adventist thieves," Jasmin says, "is that they often say they try to avoid robbing fellow Adventists. Of course that's a moral absurdity,

One of the startling things she has learned is that some of the prostitutes and petty criminals are Seventh-day Adventists.

but it does indicate they have not completely lost a sense of ethics—even if it's very twisted. The second is that every one of them wishes they weren't involved in crime. These are not hardened criminals or sociopaths. They are simply very desperate people doing very desperate things."

Helping them gives her a great deal of satisfaction. "The pathway out of crime and prostitution is paved by economic opportunity," she says, "and economic opportunity requires basic skills—as basic as literacy, numeracy and simple skills that allow someone to create value. The literacy programs ADRA is involved in are very literally changing the lives of women. Once they can read they can absorb a broad range of information that helps in every facet of life. Simple things like doing a budget become possible. We also run programs to teach people skills like market gardening, small engine mechanics, basic computing, catering, making pavement blocks and the basics of running a micro-enterprise. All of these things might seem simple but when you are illiterate and living on the streets they are skills that can liberate you."

So is it working? "I had a moment of mixed emotions the other day," Jasmin says, "when Rita Maruha, ADRA's HIV/AIDS prevention coordinator, told me about a woman who, after completing ADRA training successfully, is running a micro business. 'My husband is happy now,' she told Rita, 'because he no longer has to prostitute me.' I am

happy too—but it still disgusts me that any man would do that in the first place. Still, we live in a very messy, sometimes very ugly world. And every woman ADRA frees from prostitution, every man ADRA frees from the incredibly dangerous world of crime, it's a victory for the light, for the good, it's a victory for humanity that our Saviour gave His life for. And that's what makes my life and my work here in PNG worth it."

As we wrap up our time together I pause to take in all Jasmin has told me. It's easy to admire Christ mixing with prostitutes and others on the margins of society, but how many of us actually do that? And not just mix, actually reach out and rescue people from the cycle of poverty and desperation that has trapped them. I may not be a Jasmin but I am thankful to God that I have a chance to support what she and the rest of the ADRA PNG team are doing. They are the hands of Christ, reaching out with practical love to broken lives in some of the toughest conditions in the world.

James Standish is editor of RECORD.



Jasmin Simyunn, ADRA country director for PNG.



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New life for Samoan chief

The Last Empire downlink site at Fusi Saolufata/Vailoa Anoamaa (Samoa) had the most non-Adventist attendees of any site during the Mission to the Cities campaign in October/November. The paramount chief of Lufilufi village, Selelimalelei, was baptised as a result of the mission.—Jarrod Stackelroth

Healthy information

Dr Chester Kuma's health presentations attracted many people to the Last Empire program in Samoa. Among the attendees was the director of the non-communicable diseases department, who has asked Adventist Health Ministries to present on combating lifestyle disease to the Samoan parliament, to help them develop policies to address the problem.—Jarrod Stackelroth

Spirit of Christmas [competition]

For the past few years, students at Longburn Adventist College (NZ) have contributed to the Operation Christmas Child shoebox campaign. While students have enjoyed taking part, the number of boxes made has never exceeded a dozen. This year was different. Through a "boys versus girls" competition organised by a team of Year 11 students, the school has managed to collect 59 boxes—42 boxes by the girls and 17 boxes by the boys.—Julene Kapao



Brad's big day

Pastor Brad Thomas was ordained to the gospel ministry at North Perth church (WA) in September. Brad's story is one of being led to places he was not expecting. In looking for a community to practice his faith, the one church Brad said he would never attend was the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Brad's wife, Naomi, also resisted his calling into ministry initially. Now she is a key part of the Thomas ministry team, along with their five boys, Joel, Ethan, Reuben, Levi and Malachi. The family currently serves at the Adventist church and school in Esperance.—Newswest

Breakfast at Bomana

Prisoners in the Medium Security Unit and Women's Division of the Bomana Correctional Institute of Papua New Guinea, located on the outskirts of Port Moresby, broke out in resounding applause following a visit by Operation Food For Life (OFFL) volunteers in October. Led by Phillip and Maureen Vaki, OFFL directors of operations in PNG, local and overseas volunteers prepared a healthy breakfast of Weet-Bix and fresh fruit for every inmate. Prior to concluding breakfast, the prisons governor publicly paid tribute to OFFL's long-term practical and spiritual commitment to the inmates at Bomana.—OFFL



Kids and culture

Footsteps Adventist Preschool staff and students took the church service at Palmerston North Central church (NZ) on November 2. The theme was culture, with children and teachers entering the church carrying a flag from their native country and dressed in national costumes. Forty-seven mostly non-Adventist children took part in the service.—Julene Kapao

On ya bike, Kev

Avondale College student services director Kevin Judge recently completed an 800-kilometre bicycle ride from the Gold Coast to Coorabong to raise money for a mission club. Despite battling 37 degree temperatures and strong headwinds, Kevin averaged 194 kilometres a day over four days in October. The ride raised \$4500 for the One Mission Brazil and Philipines teams.—Monique Graf/Colin Chuang

Father and son baptism

Rob and Daniel Pontil were recently baptised at Lacey Creek in Mission Beach (Qld). More than 60 people witnessed the special occasion, including the local dentist and his family, who are non-Adventists. Rob said getting baptised at Lacey Creek was significant because his wife, Lucy, was baptised there many years ago.—Top News



R HEALTH FEATURE

with Cathy McDonald
Board Director, Lifestyle Medicine Institute

Complete health

A church pastor who had run CHIP (the Complete Health Improvement Program) in his church shared with me a story of one of his church leaders who reluctantly signed up to the program. The reluctance soon turned into deep curiosity, then into transformative discoveries as the lifestyle changes he adopted made enormous differences almost immediately.

This local church leader was a typical, middle-aged professional who worked long hours. He was suffering pain in his hands and knees, had multiple high risk factors and slightly elevated blood sugar levels. When the pain in his hands and knees was relieved by the end of the second week of CHIP, he felt elated and surprised by how quickly his body responded to the change in lifestyle. He also questioned why many health professionals had not told him that the answer was so simple—lifestyle change.

How long have we been unintentionally withholding life-changing tools from people who have learnt to live with their suffering for so long that they have now sadly accepted their plight and permanently lowered their vision of what their life could be?

Leaders, do you want to see your church mobilised for more ministry? Do you want your church members to be less passive, more engaged, growing in their faith, with a more optimistic outlook on

life, with higher expectations of what might be possible and what our Sovereign God can do? Then you need to help facilitate miracles in their lives! Encounters of intercessory prayer, processes and tools such as CHIP, Depression Recovery, marriage and relationship seminars and sermons on the power of forgiveness will help contribute to released and recovered lives.

Contact the Lifestyle Medicine Institute at info@chiphealth.org.au to find out how your church can offer

CHIP to bless your members and community.



Salsa salad

Preparation time: 15 minutes Serves: 4

420g can corn kernels, drained and rinsed

1 medium tomato, finely diced

1 medium green capsicum, finely diced

1 medium red capsicum, finely diced

1 small cucumber, finely diced

1 avocado, diced

1 small red onion, finely diced

1 teaspoon ground cumin

1 tablespoon chopped fresh coriander

2 tablespoons lime juice

1. Place all ingredients in a bowl and mix together until well combined.

2. Serve with baked potato and beans, or with tortillas.

NUTRITION INFORMATION PER SERVE:
211kJ (884cal). Protein 5g. Fat 14g. Carbohydrate 14g. Sodium 165mg. Potassium 668mg. Calcium 37mg. Iron 1.4mg. Fibre 6g.



To learn more about the Complete Health Improvement Program check out www.chiphealth.com or contact your local office on: Australia: info@chiphealth.org.au; + (612) 4348 7777, New Zealand: info@chip.org.nz; + (649) 250 1770, Trans Pacific -Fiji: TransPacificCHIP@gmail.com; + (679) 332 1711, USA: office@chiphealth.com; + (1909) 796 7676. For information on Depression Recovery, visit www.nedleyhealthsolutions.com



LIFESTYLE
MEDICINE
INSTITUTE



AMERICAN SOCIOLOGIST PETER BERGER describes secular society as a “world without windows”; a world of repressive triviality unable to embrace the transcendent.¹ It's not that secularity necessarily impedes social action. Secularists challenge all manner of social ills: from oppression of human life to government corruption, from corporate exploitation to social inequality. But their challenges don't call into question the most fundamental assumption of secularity: there is nothing but the here and now. The “world without windows” bars not only any hope of a new and better world to come, but also any help from a greater and more powerful source in the world we live in.

The secularists' challenges may, like the Christians' challenges to social norms, throw a spotlight on the most downtrodden. They may even instigate the passing of legislation to restrict malevolent men and women. However, secularists' efforts never go beyond addressing the symptoms of evil into addressing why evil exists; they never venture beyond changing external parameters into transforming the human heart. When Christians operate within the broader society—whether it's on university campuses, in secular businesses or in our interactions with government—we bring with us a world view based on changing lives, transcending the parameters of this world, and we bring with us a source of inspiration, hope and unimaginable power to make that change.

William Wilberforce, the man credited with ending the slave trade within the British Empire, was not only inspired in his quest by his God, but appealed to God's power to achieve his goal. Similarly, Reverend Martin Luther King not only employed religious language but the power behind it. Singer Bono inspires the world to greater social engagement—motivated by his faith and appealing to the Author of that faith. Similarly, all over

the world today, millions of Christians are engaging their societies with a message of personal and societal transformation. I am one of them. And as I go, I carry with me God's promise to me and to the entire world:

“A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.”²

The biblical prophet Daniel remains an inspiration for all of us today who live and work in the vortex of a society that's increasingly hostile to our faith. Babylon was not a world without windows but its windows were clouded and afforded no clear view of the beyond. Just like today, in Daniel's time when the most perplexing problems emerged, it became clear that it was necessary to move beyond the tangible world to find real answers:

“The Chaldeans answered the king and said, ‘There is not a man on earth who can tell the king's matter; therefore no king, lord or ruler has ever asked such things of any magician, astrologer or Chaldean. It is a difficult thing that the king requests, and there is no other who can tell it to the king except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.’”³

The “wise men” of Babylon freely admitted the limits of their reason and faith. These limitations seemed to them to be common sense and thus prevented any leader from asking particular questions. They may be one better than the secularists of today—they did admit there were gods somewhere beyond—but these gods were remote and ultimately unapproachable. They did not interact with or influence the affairs of men. Daniel, of course, knew a very different God.

“Daniel answered in the presence of the king and said, ‘The secret which the king has demanded, the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians and the soothsayers cannot declare to the king. But there is a God in Heaven

Transcending triviality

by Sebastien Braxton

who reveals secrets, and He has made known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days . . ."⁴

Daniel took the royal Babylonian court to the clear windows of the world. There is a God beyond who is able and willing to aid in the affairs of the hearts of men. This God is not only able to aid, but to change. After God spoke through Daniel, Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face and said, "Truly your God is the God of gods, the Lord of kings and a revealer of secrets, since you could reveal this secret."


It's important to remember Daniel was a captive, stripped of privilege. He came from a defeated and humiliated nation and he held a religion that was mocked and considered inferior. After all, if the God of Israel was as powerful as the Jews claimed, why were they the vanquished and the Babylonians the victors? And yet, against all the odds, here was a youth influencing the most powerful nation on the earth and eventually, through Daniel's witness, the most powerful man of his time came to experience the new heart God promised.

I believe that Jesus is calling all of us—but most particularly youth—to be Daniels today. Through God's power, questions of human hearts can be answered and the people we meet can get to know Jesus and experience Him as their Saviour.

Does this generation face anything less than Daniel? Maybe we haven't been threatened with a furnace or lions' den, but the pressure of modern life can be intense. I see it every day working on the campus of the University of Michigan—one of America's largest and most prestigious secular universities. I see students constantly bombarded by the jargon of men and women in positions of tremendous power and influence who are fighting to impose a world without windows. I see ideas like creation, sexual purity, faith itself, mocked as the products

of superstition and ignorance. Our culture—whether it's in the media or academia—is increasingly hostile to our faith. And I see many young people, even those who only a few years earlier would have claimed Christ as their Lord, crack under the pressure to conform.

But those who choose to stand; those who, in the words of the old song, "dare to be a Daniel"; those who accept the Power and resist the pressure; they are part of a very, very special generation. They are not just building a world with windows on faith, they are smashing right through the windows to the other side where they live every day in a world filled with God's grace and awash in His power. And they are alive, sharing their faith with a vibrancy and authenticity that's infectious. Within the arena of adversity, I am seeing something remarkable occur: young women and men coming forward like gold tried in the fire, full of the Holy Spirit and telling the world the good news.

And I believe we are only at the beginning. Things will get harder for Seventh-day Adventist Christians. But at the same time our youth are becoming stronger in the Lord. Not all. Maybe not even a majority. But those who remain are living out lives of vibrant faith and are turning the world upside down—one conversation, one action, one explanation, one friendship at a time. Together they are transcending the triviality of secularism and replacing it with the centrality of Christ. 

1 Ursula King, *Spirituality in Secular Society: Recovering a Lost Dimension*, British Journal of Religious Education, Volume 7, Issue 3, 1985.

2 Ezekiel 36:26, New International Version (KJV)

3 Daniel 2:10-11 (NKJV).

4 Daniel 2:27, 28 (NKJV).

Sebastien Braxton, program coordinator for CAMPUS (Centre for Adventist Ministry to Public University Students) at the University of Michigan, will be speaking at Adventist Youth for Christ's re:volution convention, February 13, 2014. Details: <www.adventistyouthforchrist.org>.



Church's Paradise

by James Standish

THIS IS THE LAW OF THE UNIVERSE: WHEN YOU take one child on an adventure to see the world, you must reward the other similarly. And true, the Gold Coast isn't Paris, but it seemed the perfect getaway for my youngest daughter and I to spend some time together luxuriating in all of the finer things in life. I never expected, however, that going to church would be among them.

I will be candid: church is a challenge when you have an active child. Yes, it's critically important to take them because research shows that children who attend church regularly are significantly more likely to continue attending as adults. But boy oh boy, most churches don't make it easy!

At my regular church, children's Sabbath Schools finish at 10:45 am sharp. The sermon starts somewhere between 50 and 75 minutes later depending on the vagaries of the day. So we bring snacks and activity books, do plenty of "shushing," bribing, threatening and all the rest of it. We

generally seem to struggle through, and sometimes we even manage to get something out of the sermon along the way, but I've always suspected there must be a better way.

I talked with Greg Pratt, pastor of Reedy Creek Adventist Church (Gold Coast, Qld), a couple of months before the trip and he mentioned their 8:30 am family service. Not a children's service but a service targeted to the needs of families. I was intrigued, and as we had nowhere else we had to be, we decided to check it out.

So what did we find?

I have to admit I was a little apprehensive as I didn't have the "Sabbath bag" with me. In my experience, going to church without the bag filled with activities and distractions is like trying to fly an A380 without engines; it will not end well. When we walked into the hall it was very low key. Everyone was friendly. The service began with three lovely songs. Then Pastor Greg got up, said a prayer and the sermon began. We were about 10 minutes into the service and the sermon was already underway. Unheard of!

And it was an unusual sermon. I say unusual, not because of the content. Nor because of the tone. There was nothing “dumbed down” or simplified about it. What made it unusual was Pastor Greg stopping periodically and asking questions of the congregation. Specific questions. Expecting specific answers. My daughter sat spellbound. And occasionally she called out an answer. Apparently Greg decided that using one of the most effective methods of teaching ever invented—the Socratic method—may work just as well in church as it does at the most prestigious universities in the world.

When the sermon was finished I almost found myself calling out: “we want more!” Now, for the record, that isn’t something that generally occurs to me. And remarkably, my particularly high energy little princess hadn’t fidgeted at all. She had listened to every word. Astonishing.

Or maybe not. After all, it’s much easier to keep attention when the sermon doesn’t come after a run of seemingly endless preliminaries. And a little congregational involvement certainly keeps listeners engaged.

After the service I had a chance to sit down with Greg and ask him some questions.

“We started this service for two reasons,” he said. “First, our normal service was filling up. Second, a number of families wanted to reach out to other families with young kids. Today people find it hard to bring kids to formal, longer services. They get embarrassed by kids’ behaviour. But here, if a child yells out, there’s no problem. We’re all in the same boat!”

Yes, but is it working?

“On a typical Sabbath around half the families in attendance don’t come from an Adventist background,” he replied as if that was the most natural thing on earth.

“But just because families are our focus it doesn’t mean this is a kids’ church—we’ve designed this to be multi-generational,” he continued. “Substance is key, and Jesus is very much the centre of our service. This isn’t about entertainment—it’s about a deep, lasting relationship with Christ.

“We started out with one family service a month. We’re now going to two . . . we plan to ramp up to every Sabbath.”

How does this fit into his vision for the church? “The first pastor of Reedy Creek expressed his vision for the church as a light on the hill. As you can see, we are very literally on a hill,” he replied. “We celebrated our 30th anniversary in September and I believe now more than ever we must be the light our founding generation envisioned. Our elders meet every Monday and we pray simply for the Holy Spirit to be among us. And that very much includes our family service.”

After talking with Greg, what we had just experienced all made sense. The church set out intentionally to meet the needs of families with young children. They dedicated themselves without reservation to God. And they designed

a service to suit the cultural and demographic needs of those they were trying to reach. It all sounded so obvious. So why is it so rare?

When we got back to our holiday apartment overlooking pristine Coolangatta Beach, my daughter and I tucked into lunch. We were about to settle in for a nap when a text arrived from a friend. She wrote: “We’ve just had a good sermon.” I was stunned. It was only 12:02 pm. But then I read on: “But now the actual sermon is just beginning . . .”

James Standish is editor of RECORD.

Pray 'n' Play

After a nap, a walk and a play, we headed back to Reedy Creek. This time it was to “Pray ‘n’ play”, a program run by the Adventist school located next to the church. And what a clever innovation that is.

The evening began with some singing and then a lovely worship about God’s plan for our lives by Pastor Anthony Kent, who was visiting in advance of running an evangelistic series in 2014. It’s hard to tell but I imagine, of the roughly 200 people in attendance, well over half weren’t from an Adventist background—reflecting the diversity of religious backgrounds of the students who attend the school. Principal Guy Lawson was welcoming parents and leading out, while both the Reedy Creek and Gold Coast Central pastors participated. It was a seamless integration of church and school—all with the goal of meeting the spiritual needs of families.

After the worship—and great dinner provided by the Gold Coast Central Pathfinders—it was onto games under the lights. The kids threw themselves with gusto into playing “belly flop baseball” and other similarly delightful games supervised by Pastor Sean Berkeley and his Gold Coast Central team. My daughter loved every minute of it—and looking around, so did all the other kids.

The next morning we visited a park at Kirra Beach where my daughter started playing with a couple of children and I began talking to their mum. As we talked, I learned she was like so many 21st century parents—struggling to balance work and home, high academic aspirations for her children, concerned about too much screen time, etc. Her husband was Catholic, she was Methodist; they attended a Presbyterian Church mid-week service when they could get there.

After a while she asked me what had been the highlight of our trip. I thought about it for a minute, then told her all about the family church and “Pray ‘n’ play”. She listened carefully and asked, “Which church was that again?” I gave her the details. As we went our separate ways, she said, “I’m going to go and check that out . . .”



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RECORD REWIND

Lester Devine

Australia's largest ever tractor

Designed and built by Frank Bottrill in 1914/15, this huge tractor was intended to haul wool from outback stations in the Broken Hill area. This "Titanic of the desert" set off from Melbourne in 1916 carrying almost 18,000 litres of fuel (which lasted three years before its first refuelling), while also carrying around 3200 litres of water. Despite scepticism about its



ability to cross the Mallee's sandhills, Big Lizzie reached Mildura without difficulty but was unable to cross the then flooded Murray River. The tractor remained in Victoria carting wheat with one record haul being 899 bags. Another record load was a similar number of bales of wool.

Big Lizzie is huge: 10.7 metres long, 5.7 metres high and weighing 45 tonnes. It hauled two trailers giving a total length of about 30 metres and it was capable of hauling an 80 tonne load. The total weight of tractor and trailers was 121 tonnes. Each trailer had huge tanks under the decks to carry fuel and water and the workmen lived on the load deck of the rear trailer while the Bottrill family lived in a hut forming the engine room of Big Lizzie itself. The tractor had a single cylinder crude oil engine and proceeded at a maximum speed of about three kilometres per hour. It had "dreadnaught wheels" invented by Bottrill, which enabled Big Lizzie to traverse soft and sandy soils. These very large wheels had thick wooden planks on them to spread the load and were the forerunner of today's tracked vehicles. While these wheels were effective they were said to provide an extremely uncomfortable ride.

When land clearing began in 1920 in the Red Cliffs area, the Victorian government hired Big Lizzie to uproot trees and it often cleared 50 acres in a day. In all Big Lizzie cleared 1500 hectares, a valuable contribution to the development of the area. From 1925 to 1929, Big Lizzie was used in the Balmoral area of Victoria. Today Big Lizzie, Australia's largest ever tractor, has been restored and is on covered display in Red Cliffs, Victoria, with one of its wagons.

This is a well-known story with many website references for those interested in further investigation, though the details do vary in the several accounts. So why then a story in RECORD about a great big tractor? As is often the case with things historical, there is a story behind the story. Frank Bottrill, designer, builder and operator of Big Lizzie, was a Seventh-day Adventist. In Big Lizzie's last contract to clear a large tract of land, the station manager had open contempt for a group of workers who were idle a day a week for religious reasons and in time tension over this reached the point where Bottrill parked Big Lizzie and returned to Melbourne. Abandoned, Big Lizzie never worked again, not for any mechanical or economic reason but because its designer, builder and operator would not compromise his Sabbath-keeping principles.

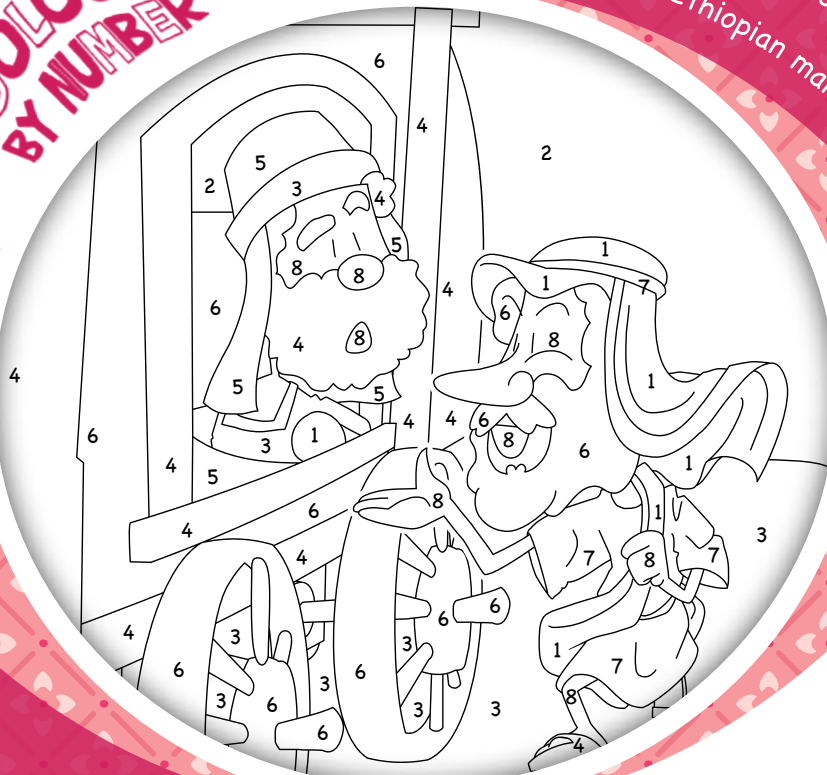
Lester Devine is director emeritus of the Ellen G White/Adventist Research Centre at Avondale College of Higher Education.

Kids' Space



Philip was preaching when an angel told him to walk towards Gaza. He saw a chariot coming toward him in the distance. As the chariot got closer he heard an Ethiopian man reading from the Bible. Philip asked the man "do you know what you are reading". The man said "no". Philip got into the chariot and had a great Bible study with the Ethiopian man.

COLOUR BY NUMBER



WORSHIP MESSAGE
Gods helps us understand the Bible.



MEMORY VERSE
"Let your word help me understand". Psalm 119:169

- 1 Yellow
- 2 Blue
- 3 Green
- 4 Brown
- 5 Purple
- 6 Grey
- 7 Orange
- 8 Skin

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LETTERS

CRYING SHAME

Athol Briden, NSW

As a grief counsellor since 1982, it was refreshing to read "Big boys do cry" (Editorial, November 16).

When a female child falls over and skins her knee, a big fuss is made and all kinds of comfort given. If the child is a male, medical attention if needed is given, then they are told: "Big boys don't cry; now run along you will be alright."

In truth they have just been rejected, usually by a person they look up to, be it a parent, teacher or older sibling. Emotional tears have a chemically different composition to irritant tears and act as a means to excrete the high amounts of protein and manganese that occur at times of grief. We allow females to cry and discharge their tears, but discourage males.

What a tragedy because when emotional tears are not shed, a wide range of physical disorders can result—all due to our society's attitude towards males crying or should I say not crying. Charles Dickens had the right idea when he wrote *Oliver Twist* and had Mr Bumble say, "Crying opens the lungs, washes the countenance, exercises the eyes and softens down the temper. So cry away."

MEDIA AND THE MIND

Pauline Ind, Vic

Thank you James and Vania for your enlightening articles on media and reading ("Fiction addiction" and "Why you really left the church", November 2).

I cannot think of anything that so affects our Christian experience and growth in society today as the choices we make in regard to what we allow into our mind through the

media. I believe if we cut out everything on the media that does not meet God's approval, our spiritual lives would have a better chance to grow.

Thank you, Linden, for speaking up about our need to care for all God's creatures ("Blood in the water"). God's character is such that He cares about all the creatures He has made, including the little sparrow. It is God's purpose to restore us to His likeness of character. When we become like Him in character, we will care about His creatures and all His creation just as He does. I also appreciated the article by Geoff Donovan ("A grandson, the environment and me"), which speaks in a similar vein.

Thank you, Kent, for uplifting the benefits of a whole plant food diet ("The vegan revolution"); and for revealing how the Adventist Health Study, Adventist health retreats, the CHIP program and Sue Radd all encourage and uphold a healthy vegan lifestyle. I am glad to learn that Sanitarium and RECORD are presenting fewer recipes with eggs and dairy.

The Adventist Church is seeking revival and reformation. I believe these three areas: what we give our minds to, what we eat and how we care for God's creation, are all relevant to revival and reformation.

STIRS THE EMOTIONS
Marlene Quick, Qld

James Standish, your editorials are so enjoyable because of the spiritual "food" we are able to taste therein—thank you very much.

Reading your editorial "John" (October 5), it became like a detective story—as to why Jesus named John the

greatest. Coming to your third last paragraph, I experienced a great "stirring" in the mind and I thought: Jesus was left "rotting" on this hellhole prison Earth. He died young, poor, humiliated, apparently defeated by His archenemy. The disciples thought His death was a complete failure, an end to a very promising career.

Perhaps this could also be a reason John was named "greatest"—as a type of Jesus—similar to the other heroes you named. This planet, after all, is the wilderness of the universe, isn't it?

This scene of Jesus crucified stirs the emotions of this hardened old biddy, as nothing else can.

FICTION ADDICTION

Ruth Lamb, via website

Thank you for speaking about a definite problem [in "Fiction addiction", Feature, November 2]. I can identify with all that you have said and have often thought my going to a library is a bit like an alcoholic going to a pub! Yes, as you said in the last paragraph, it's time we acknowledge our problem and ask the Lord for His victory over it.

GOOD NEWS

Paul de Ville, WA

There is good news for Ken and Jill Hisco ("Heavy hearts" Letters, November 16).

There is still one Adventist boarding school left in Australia! Carmel Adventist College continues to provide quality Adventist boarding house services for students, as it has for the past 107 years.

It welcomes students to its idyllic environment just outside Perth so that they can learn from a wonderful team of dedicated Christian teachers.

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.

APPRECIATION

Lassila, Orvokki (Violet). Ismo and family wish to thank all who cared for her during her illness. They also want to thank those who expressed their condolences on the passing of their beloved wife and mother.

OBITUARIES

Aitken, Desmond ("Des") Patrick, born 9.12.1930 in Bendigo, Vic; died 13.7.13 in Bendigo Base Hospital. As a young man, Des embraced the faith of the girl he later married and had two children, Julie and Mark. Des served in various church capacities. He had different interests and hobbies, including painting, drawing, music, physical fitness and pursuing further education. From these he made contacts that led him to giving Bible studies to others. As with all of us, life did not flow smoothly, however. In recent months, Des described his life journey as positive early and late, with setbacks in between. He was laid to rest at the White Hills Cemetery, farewelled by family and friends, including some of those with whom Des studied the Bible. We "sorrow not, even as others who have no hope".

*Hensley Gungadoo,
Eric Livingston*

Cunningham, Grace Evelyne (nee Ferguson), born 23.12.1922 in Victoria Park, WA; died 3.9.13 in Cooranbong, NSW. She was predeceased by her son, Murray. She is survived by her four sons, Gil (Yarrowonga Park, Vic) Gren (Morningson), Lester (Gosford, NSW) and Dale (Wanthagi, Vic). Ev was very gifted with her hands and sharp minded until the day she peacefully went to rest. She loved her boys and their families deeply and looks forward to seeing them in heaven.

Kenn Duke

Curzon, Percival Reginald (Reg), born 19.10.1923 in Coventry, UK; died 3.5.13 in Victor Harbour, SA. He is survived by his wife, Irene; and children, Linda, Denis and Barry; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Peter Pump

Ferret, Edward Arthur (Ted), born 14.10.1955; died 29.3.13 in John Hunter Hospital. He was predeceased by his father, Arthur

Ferret, in 1985. He is survived by his daughter, Sharlene (Sydney, NSW), and his siblings, Will (Wadalba), Liz Thoresen (Christchurch, NZ) and Rick (Cooranbong, NSW). Now at peace.

Rick Ferret

Ferret, Esther (nee Bowden), born 10.3.1932 in Cooranbong, NSW; died 3.9.13 in Cooranbong. She was predeceased by her husband, Arthur, in 1985, and her son, Ted, in March, 2013. She is survived by Will (Wadalba, NSW), Liz Thoresen (Christchurch, NZ) and Rick (Cooranbong, NSW). Esther studied nursing as a mature age student and her career included deputy matron and later director of nursing at Coronella, Nunawading, Vic. In retirement, Esther moved from Wauchope, NSW, to the Adventist Retirement Village, Cooranbong, where she organised bus outings for the residents and was also involved in health assessment outreach in outback parts of NSW. She is fondly remembered.

Rick Ferret

Lassila, Raija Orvokki (Violet), born 13.9.1931 in Finland; died 23.7.13 in Rossmoyne, WA. On 30.9.1956, she married Ismo. She is survived by her husband (Thornlie); and Helena Gillies (Melbourne, Vic), Henry Carl Lassila (Newcastle, NSW) and Hannele Susan Margaret Miller (Townsville, Qld). Violet and Ismo migrated to Australia in 1958. She loved her Lord and looked forward to the coming of Jesus.

Richard Reynolds

McCrostie, Royce, born 27.2.1945; died in Devonport, Tas. On 18.4.1964, he married Patsy. He is survived by his wife; and his children, David and Bronwyn (Orford), Adelle and Paul (Smithton) and Sue-Anne and Steven (Ulverstone). Royce became an Adventist at 14, and was a faithful and active member of the Church, including working as a colporteur along Tasmania's north-west for five years. Royce experienced declining health due to a trucking accident, but his love for his family and his grandchildren helped to alleviate his suffering. He continued to do a great work, actively sharing his faith in Jesus until his death.

Brad Cooke

Miller, Iye Ling, born 6.3.1952 in Raub, Malaysia; died 9.3.13 on the Gold Coast, Qld. She is survived by her daughters, Priscilla, Stephanie and Jacqueline; her mother, Seow Ying; and her

siblings, Linda, Carol, Sandra, Louis and Larry. Iye Ling had an international outlook in regard to the Church's mission and activities, and she gave generously of her business skills and resources

POSITIONS VACANT

■ **Sales representative—Sanitarium (Melbourne, Vic)** is seeking someone to join its sales team in Melbourne's western suburbs in a role that will bring satisfaction and personal reward. This is a 12-month maternity leave position that will commence in January. If you would like to become part of a sales team that is highly motivated and dedicated to growing the company's business through the distribution and promotion of its products, then we invite applications to join our southern region sales team based in Melbourne. Duties will include: driving product sales in the assigned sales territory, introducing new products and driving distribution of all existing products at store level, merchandising products and driving shelf management, and product position at store level. You should possess a current driver's licence, good communication and negotiation skills, the ability to work as an individual and within a team environment, organisational skills and computer literacy particularly in Microsoft Office products. Previous sales experience would be an advantage. Apply online at <www.sanitarium.com.au/about-us/careeropportunities>. Applications close **December 20, 2013**.

■ **Business manager—Adventist Senior Living (Avondale) (Cooranbong, NSW).** Adventist Senior Living is entering a dynamic growth phase and is seeking to appoint a business manager to work within the head office environment based at Avondale near Lake Macquarie. The position is pivotal to driving the financial performance of the organisation through the development of systems and measures that monitor the organisation's financial performance and efficiency. The successful applicant will report directly to the CEO and will require solid management accounting skills and experience. They will need to have an inquiring mind and be able to translate facts and figures into results and information that is understandable by clinical and non-clinical staff and support decision making in relation to finance matters. In addition to the operational related finance matters the organisation has a number of different projects either planned or underway; the business manager will be an integral part of the project control group assisting to develop business cases to feed into the decision-making process for each project. To discuss the role or to request a job description please contact David Knight (02) 4977 0000 or email <davidknight@adventistseniorliving.com.au>. Applications are to be submitted in writing via email to <davidknight@adventistseniorliving.com.au> addressing the essential and desirable criteria outlined in the job description. Applications close **December 12, 2013**.

■ **Lecturer/senior lecturer (Communication/History)—Avondale College of Higher Education (Lake Macquarie campus, NSW).** This role involves the undertaking of independent teaching and research in the above disciplines. The successful applicant should hold a doctoral degree (or near completion) and have a proven track record of effective delivery of units and meeting targets. For enquiries on this position please contact Tony Martin, Head of School Arts and Humanities, via <tony.martin@avondale.edu.au>. Full details of the role and selection criteria are available via the Avondale website <www.avondale.edu.au/jobs>. Applications, addressing the selection criteria, with contact details of at least three referees, should be emailed to <employment@avondale.edu.au>. Applications close **December 20, 2013**.

Sign up for job updates and find more vacant positions at <adventistemployment.org.au>



towards the work of the Church at home and overseas. She had a passion for prayer and the memorisation of Scripture and encouraged her fellow members in both of these areas of Christian life. Her sudden passing leaves a huge gap. She will be greatly missed by her family and her church family at Parramatta.

*David McKibben
Jean-Pierre Martinez*

Sauer, Alysha Maree Elizabeth, born 10.4.04 (9 years) and her sister, Emilee Rose Michelle, born 18.11.05 (7 years), were tragically killed in a car accident in Mackay, Qld, on 3.7.13. The girls are survived by their mother, Andrea (who was also in the accident), and father, Mark. Granddaughters of Bill and Estelle Kersey (Mackay), Jean Hansen (Mackay) and Noel and Betty Sauer. Two lovely young sisters, taken so suddenly and whose lives will always be remembered.

Rick Ferret, Tom Osborne

Seemann, Elvira Alice, born 17.2.1925 in Konigsberg, Germany; died 15.8.13 in the Adventist

Retirement Village, Cooranbong, NSW. On 11.9.1948, she married Gerhard, who predeceased her in 2003. They settled in Geelong, Vic, in 1954. Her first contact with Adventists was with naturopath Nigel Love, who studied the Scriptures with her and she was baptised in the Geelong church in 1960. Elvira was a kind and considerate person, always concerned for the welfare of others, and an enthusiastic supporter of worthy projects. She was also a keen Bible student and an asset in the Sabbath School class. She is survived by her sons, Kurt, Mark and Paul, their spouses Luisa and Corina; and grandchildren, Jessica, Enrico, Luke, Jaymi and Timothy. Her many friends look forward, as she did, to the great resurrection day.

George Drinkall

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Finally...

The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.

—Proverbs 18:10

Next RECORD Dec 21

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3 out of 4 poor people are **women.**

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You can read more about how ADRA is empowering women like Ashmi at:
www.adra.org.au/christmas

Gender inequality hinders not only individual lives, but a community’s ability to lift itself out of poverty.

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or call

1800 242 372

* Name changed to protect privacy

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- \$5 **Fruit Trees** to help Mongolian families establish a garden and grow income-generating food.
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- \$56 **Sewing Machine** for a woman in Tanzania to help her earn an income and secure her family’s future.
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- \$ _____ **Where it’s needed most** for people in greatest need.

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