

SEPTEMBER 20 2014

# Adventist Record

ISSN 0819-5633



**CHURCH LEADERS AFFIRM  
BIBLICAL CREATION** page 7

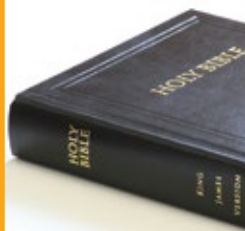
**FIRST CHURCH TO BE BUILT ON NAURU** page 3

**HIGH SCHOOL MISSIONARY** page 18



### Love not war

More than 150 Australian religious leaders have joined together in support of a statement headed by the slogan, "We'll Love Muslims 100 Years". The leaders say the recent public discussion on Islamist terrorism has unfairly smeared Australian Muslims who do not share the violent values of extremist groups like ISIS. —*lovefor100years.com*



### Old school, new style

Pentecostal publisher Charisma Media is hoping to woo readers to what it calls the most modern translation produced in the King James tradition in 30 years. The Modern English Version uses the same source texts as the King James translators and also uses the KJV as its base for the English rendering. —*ModernEnglishVersion.com*



### Crisis continues

Serious concerns remain for Christians and other minority groups targeted by ISIS militants in Iraq and Syria. Three senior members of Australia's Federal Opposition have called for immediate aid to Christians in Iraq and say they support Assyrian Christian aspirations to establish a politically autonomous province in the Nineveh region. —*Chris Bowen*



### Strong stand

Andrews University seminary faculty members have released a statement opposing the notion of headship in church organisation. The statement affirms Christ as the only rightful Head of the Church and says church leaders are servants. The theologians denied that the pattern of male headship in the family should influence church leadership structures. —*Andrews University*



### Peacemakers

Churches played a vital role in bringing peace during the protests and riots that rocked the St Louis suburb of Ferguson in Missouri, USA. Church volunteers offered support to protesters, passing out food, toiletries and other supplies. Other Christians stood guard outside buildings throughout the night to protect them from looters. —*Assist News Service*



### Aspiration

One of Australia's leading Christian tertiary institutions is making moves towards becoming the nation's third Christian university. Wesley Institute, in Sydney, has announced a partnership with Indiana Wesleyan University, USA, and from January 2015 will be known as Excelsia College. —*Wesley Institute*

## WHY ADVENTIST AGED CARE, SYDNEY, IS THE RIGHT CHOICE

- ▶ Care is always given with love and dignity.
- ▶ We preserve the unique Adventist life-style and culture.
- ▶ Location - from bush settings to choice suburbs.
- ▶ Modern, well-equipped facilities - villas, apartments, assisted accommodation and nursing care.
- ▶ We offer a continuum of care for changing needs over time.
- ▶ Adventist Aged Care has gained a marvellous reputation in the industry over the past 45 years of services. Our homes have been recognised for excellence by the Aged Care Standards Agency and awarded the maximum term of three years accreditation.

"I made the right choice"

Planning for the inevitability of old age? We will be happy to arrange an inspection of our Wahroonga, Kings Langley and Hornsby properties and assist you in planning the future.

## Adventist Aged Care Sydney

If you would like to apply for residential care in Adventist Aged Care please request our free information pack.

Let us provide our award winning support to you or your loved ones.

Joy Loau  
Admission Liaison Officer  
P: (02) 9487 0600  
E: joyloau@adventist.org.au

www.aacsyd.org.au

Care,

with love and dignity

## First church to be built on Nauru

*Nauru*

The first Seventh-day Adventist church will be built on Nauru, after Parliament approved a 99-year lease on land belonging to a church member.

Nauruan president Baron Waqa signed the document giving Adventist Steve Mwea Amwano permission to build a Seventh-day Adventist church on his land. Church members have been meeting in a rented hall.

"This is something that the members of the Nauruan Church have been looking forward to for years," said Pastor Glenn Townend, president of the Trans-Pacific Union Mission (TPUM), of which Nauru is an attached field. "Land in Nauru is very expensive and not easily transferred to others."

There are 25 church members living on Nauru with up to 40 people currently attending weekly services.

The lease was the latest in a number of hurdles that had to be overcome before a church could be built.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church was not registered in Nauru until 2013 and the new land is now registered in the Church's name.

Mr Mwea Amwano wanted to give land for a church after he had attended Navesau Adventist High School in Fiji. The land was transferred from his extended family into his care and then onto the Church, each time needing the approval of Parliament.

The final hurdle will be building the church. TPUM has

been working with church members and the local pastor on plans for a double-storey church—with hall, kitchen, youth and children's Sabbath schools downstairs and the main worship centre upstairs.

TPUM has also agreed to build a two-bedroom house for Mr Mwea Amwano and his family on other land that he owns, in exchange for the land.

Pastor Townend said building materials are already being shipped to Nauru from Fiji, with delivery expected sometime in October.

Church members in Nauru and the TPUM hope that members from across the South Pacific will help with a fly'n'build to put the church up.

Nauru has a population of about 9400 and is only 21 square-kilometres, making it the smallest country in the South Pacific Division.

For more information contact Eparama Drou, associate CFO of the TPUM <eparamadrou@adventist.org.fj>.

—Jarrod Stackelroth



Nauru is only 21km<sup>2</sup>.

## Conference presidents re-elected

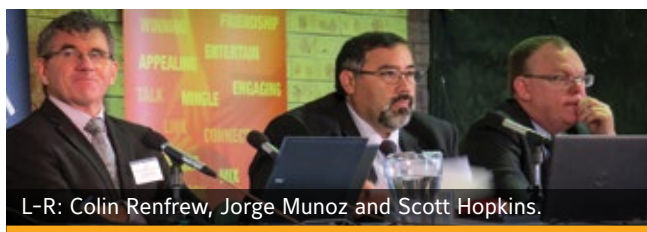
*Epping, Sydney; Watson Park, Queensland*

Greater Sydney Conference (GSC) president Pastor Michael Worker and South Queensland Conference (SQC) president Pastor Jorge Munoz were re-elected to their respective positions during the conferences' constituency meetings in August.

A serious case of acute (viral) pneumonia prevented Pastor Worker from attending the GSC meetings (August 23-24) at Mountain View Adventist College.

In a Facebook post made while in hospital, the re-elected president said it was "humbling" to be given the "privilege to lead the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Sydney for the next four years".

"The reality is that it is God's Church and I am simply the chief servant," added Pastor Worker. "I am really excited by the potential and possibilities that lie ahead for the Church in Sydney and for the team I have around me."



L-R: Colin Renfrew, Jorge Munoz and Scott Hopkins.

That team includes GSC general secretary Pastor Adrian Raethel and chief financial officer (CFO) Eva Ing, who were voted back to their respective positions.

The SQC also saw its key leadership personnel re-elected, with general secretary Pastor Colin Renfrew and CFO Scott Hopkins reappointed during the Conference's 75th constituency meeting at Watson Park Convention Centre (August 15-17).

The Conference also confirmed its plans to move its head office to a new facility in Brisbane city—a move approved by an overwhelming majority of its 325 appointed delegates.

Pastor Munoz said the move was much more than "just a relocation".

"This is an opportunity God has opened for us to expand the ministry and mission reach of the SQC right across our territory, from the city to the country, in equipping disciples to evangelise their local areas," he said.

The new venue, which is under contract and awaiting final sign-off, could be used as a ministry centre. It will also allow a number of church entities currently operating away from Conference headquarters to be housed under the one roof.—Linden Chuang



## Shorter, smarter, better

James Standish

"Never again . . . ! I tell you there's nothing like your child shouting 'I'll LISTEN TO YOU IF YOU STOP HURTING ME', right in the middle of a silent and packed church service. Then it was a repetition of 'I'm BORED', and 'When can we GO?! FYI, I never hurt my child . . . but I wanted to! . . . Why should kids have to sit still and listen to topics way over their heads? It's just not worth it to spend an entire hour feeling anger towards my children, when they are just being CHILDREN."

This is a real post, from a real friend, on Facebook. And it resonated with me. When we had young children, I quipped to a friend at the General Conference that church is designed to torture kids. She became indignant. "We decided from the start," she replied firmly, "we would have our children sit through the church service. We sit up the front, take appropriate things for the kids to do and they are developing the right habits." I left feeling rather inadequate in the parenting department.

A couple of months later, I happened to be visiting her church. As I was slinking out the back of the building after the children's story with my wriggly three-year-old, who should come by but my friend's husband with their child wailing at the top of his voice. As the dad went by, he looked at me with envy, shook his head and said, "I don't know why she makes us go through this every Sabbath . . ."

It's strange, isn't it? Every church wants young families in its congregation. But very few design their church service around the needs of those families. Young children are not designed to sit happily through preliminary after preliminary, followed by another preliminary, and then a full-length sermon, and most young children are adept at expressing their dissatisfaction to their parents. It's no surprise then, that at every church I've attended, there is a predictable exodus of parents with young children out the back door before the sermon begins.

This is a shame because parents of young children, more than most, need the comfort, inspiration, encouragement and spiritual substance that church can provide. It's not only a shame, it's also totally unnecessary. With a little thought and planning, congregations can make their service much

more family-friendly.

A good place to begin is rethinking the length of sermons. There is nothing more effective or meaningful about a long sermon over a short sermon. In fact, the exact opposite is true. Think for a minute about the most memorable speeches in history. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech, for example, was only 15 minutes long. Christ's "Sermon on the Mount", as recorded in Matthew 5, 6 and 7, is roughly 13 minutes. Churchill's "We Shall Fight Them on the Beaches" speech? Just 12 minutes. Abraham Lincoln's "Gettysburg Address"? Less than three minutes!

Great oratory is directly linked with brevity. And there's a good reason for that.

As former General Conference president Dr Jan Paulsen once noted, the length of the presentation is often inversely proportional to the time spent preparing it.

It's not only that our sermons are generally too long for young children to sit through, it's that the timing of the sermon makes a difficult parenting job almost impossible. Changing the order of service would make church much more child-friendly.

Imagine, for example, a service that begins at 11 am with a song, a prayer and a Scripture reading, and then a 15-minute sermon. The substantive—and subsequently most boring for children—portion of the service would be complete in the first 20 minutes when children—and their parents—are fresh. The interactive and praise parts of the service (music, children's story, offering, etc) that children generally find more interesting would happen in the second half when children need to be actively engaged.

It may be a different order of service, but it would hardly be less effective. Speakers would, generally, far prefer to preach early in the service when the congregation's attention span is fresh, rather than being shunted off to the end when shoulders are drooping, eyes are heavy and tummies are rumbling.

Shorter, smarter, better. It's a formula to get parents and their young children back into church. And in the process, it might just breathe a spark back into church for everyone else as well.

**Dr Barry Oliver** Senior consulting editor  
**James Standish** Communication director  
**Jarrold Stackelroth** Associate editor  
**Kent Kingston** Assistant editor  
**Vania Chew** PR/editorial assistant  
**Dora Amuimuia** Sales & marketing  
**Tracey Bridcutt** Copyeditor  
**Linden Chuang** Assistant editor—digital  
**Loopeck Lewis** Graphic designer

Letters [editor@record.net.au](mailto:editor@record.net.au)  
 News & Photos [news@record.net.au](mailto:news@record.net.au)  
 Noticeboard [ads@record.net.au](mailto: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  
 Mailed within Australia and NZ  
 \$A43.80 \$NZ73.00  
 Other prices on application  
[subscriptions@record.net.au](mailto:subscriptions@record.net.au)  
 (03) 5965 6300

Cover Credit: Lina Stackelroth  
 "Young Adventists visit Yosemite  
 National Park, California, US."

Official news magazine of the South Pacific  
 Division Seventh-day Adventist Church  
 ABN 59 093 117 689  
 Vol 119 No 20



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



## What the community thinks of us

The South Pacific Division is currently engaged in a major strategic planning process. We are considering, in consultation with our unions, conferences, missions, institutions and churches, how we can position ourselves in order to fulfil the mission Christ has given to us. We are looking at major initiatives and priorities for the next five years. In due course we will be sharing all this with you after we have received as much feedback as possible.

There is something I want to ask you as part of this process. We are wanting you to make suggestions as we work to develop a tagline that will be a readily recognisable representation of the Church in our community. Most other organisations have such a tagline. Toyota, for example, has "O What a Feeling". Harvey Norman has "Go Harvey Go". If you think about it you will recall many others.

Can you suggest something of 3-6 words that would be good for us to use? We are not asking for a mission statement or a vision statement. Rather, we are looking for a short, sharp, attractive tagline that captures the essence of our Church and is appealing to people who are not affiliated with us. One suggestion that we are already trialling on our web page is "Live more, Love more, Learn more". Another, used by Adventist Health Care, is "Yours for life".

If you have any suggestions would you please email them to Lyndrea Maywald on <lmaywald@adventist.org.au>. Thank you for your input. I look forward to what you have to say.

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



## Blessed assurance

Vania Chew

As far as I was concerned, it was a typical Sabbath service. The offering had been collected and the prayer said. We had sung songs and shared testimonies about how God had blessed us during the week. And now the speaker, a pastor from another church, was standing up to preach.

"My sermon title today," he announced, "is The Gospel of Assurance".

I was quietly relieved to hear this. I didn't feel like listening to anything too heavy. A simple sermon that would be easy enough to follow would suit me perfectly. Little did I know what was in store.

The preacher revealed that before he had become a pastor, he had worked briefly as a literature evangelist in Thailand. This is not a ministry for the faint-hearted. With every door they knock on, literature evangelists leave themselves vulnerable to the possibility of rudeness, ridicule and rejection. This man had the added complication of a language barrier—he spoke only a little Thai, and the people he met didn't speak English. How was he supposed to sell his books?

You can imagine his excitement when he learned a "foreign" family had moved into the neighbourhood. Gathering up his collection of books, he headed straight to the family's house. In his mind, he was already eagerly practising his spiel.

The family were Christians and willingly listened to what he had to say.

"May I ask you a question?" the father asked respectfully when the colporteur had finished his speech.

"Of course," the colporteur said confidently. He was well schooled in Adventist doctrine and was sure that he could answer any question they threw at him. State of the dead, baptism, the Sabbath . . . he knew it all.

But the question the father asked was not at all what he had been expecting.

"Tell me, my friend," he said gently. "If Jesus came back today, would you be saved?"

The colporteur froze. Was this a trick question? If he said yes, would he sound arrogant? If he said no, would it sound like he didn't have enough faith? He hesitated, unwilling to commit to an answer for fear of getting it wrong.

I drove home that afternoon with the pastor's words still ringing in my ears. Would I be saved? How could I know?

Like the Pharisees, we can be guilty of being secure in our knowledge of the law, but not secure in our knowledge of the Lawgiver and His character.

The Bible says that God loves me. That He has a plan for me. That I shouldn't be afraid. That He's preparing a place for me. And that He's coming back for me.

His salvation is a gift. We just need to accept it.

Blessed assurance, indeed.

*Vania Chew is PR/editorial assistant of Adventist Record.*

# Voyager of the Seas



**3 NIGHT SAMPLE CRUISE  
19—22 February 2015**

## Get a taste for cruising!

Come and experience 13 decks of entertainment including an ice-skating rink, mini golf course, rock climbing wall, Royal promenade, a plaza in the middle of the ship, the day spa & fitness centre, nightly entertainment and many food outlets to choose from including fine dining.

Departing Sydney on the evening of Thursday the 19th February 2015, enjoy a leisurely cruise into the sunset on Pacific waters and return to Sydney on the morning of Sunday the 22nd February.

Fares start from \$530.00 including taxes & gratuities

For bookings & more information call SPD Travel Michele 0403 868641 or email [spdtravel@adventist.org.au](mailto:spdtravel@adventist.org.au)

[www.spdtravel.com.au](http://www.spdtravel.com.au)

Brought to you by



## Picture book helps children say “stop” to abuse, bullying

Lilydale, Victoria

A new picture book is helping young children say “stop” to abuse, bullying, violence and unwanted touching.

*Stop! I Don't Like That!* was launched at the Victorian Conference’s “Inspire: Children’s Ministries Conference” at Edinburgh College, Lilydale, on August 30.

Author Kerene Whelan has a professional background in health and counselling and has had a long interest in creating resources to help children stand up and seek help. “I couldn’t find anything that connected with children aged between three and 10, so this book has been designed to meet that age group,” she explained. “It’s straight-forward, non-threatening and covers a number of different areas of behaviour.”

While the book was first produced a number of years ago, *Stop! I Don't Like That!* has been updated with all-new illustrations by Kylie Knott, with the support of the Victorian Conference’s Safe Place Services. According to Safe Place Services coordinator Sue Mercer, this is a valuable resource to address an important issue.

“In Victoria, we have recently seen the Parliamentary Inquiry into the Effects of Child Abuse and, nationally, we are seeing the work of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, so there has never been a more appropriate time for a resource of this nature to be available,” Mrs Mercer said.

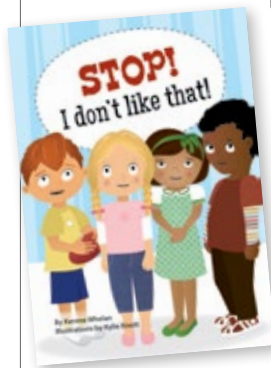
While *Stop! I Don't Like That!* has only been available for a short period of time, it has already received a positive response from parents, classrooms and churches. And work has begun on developing an Adventurers award around the book. “Adults are finding this very easy to use,” Mrs Mercer said. “And it is not only a church product but can be used anywhere there are children who can learn this message.

“It is important that children practise being heard, which is great grounding for them to speak up when something happens to them that makes them uncomfortable.”

The initial response to this new book includes interest from around the world and there are plans to produce translations and further resources. Sample copies of *Stop! I Don't Like That!* are being distributed to churches, schools and other denominations across Australia, and the books are available from Adventist Book Centres. —Nathan Brown



L-R: Katrina Campbell, Sue Mercer and author Kerene Whelan.



**REVIVED BY HIS WORD** Sept 20—Oct 4, 2014

READING THROUGH THE BIBLE TOGETHER  
ONE CHAPTER A DAY

20 – Amos 8	24 – Jona. 2	28 – Mica. 2	October	3 – Mica. 7
21 – Amos 9	25 – Jona. 3	29 – Mica. 3	1 – Mica. 5	4 – Nahu. 1
22 – Obad.	26 – Jona. 4	30 – Mica. 4	2 – Mica. 6	
23 – Jona. 1	27 – Mica. 1			

## Partnership cements ADRA's role

*Nunawading, Victoria*

Since the tragic Black Saturday bushfires of February 2009, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Australia has been active in seeking out an agreement with local government to provide support, in a formal capacity, to Victorians in times of emergency.

A newly formalised partnership is the beginning of an exciting new phase for Adventists in Victoria.

"The agreement with the City of Whittlesea formalises the first stage of ADRA's involvement during emergencies," said Rebecca Auriant, Conference ADRA director for Victoria. "This partnership will see ADRA and our volunteers at the forefront of the emergency relief centre in a 'meet and greet' role, working with council and other staff to ensure that affected people are attended to immediately and directed to the most appropriate service."

The City of Whittlesea is located north of Melbourne and is a member of the North West Metropolitan Region Collaboration on Relief and Recovery, which covers 14 municipalities. The partnership is one of many Ms Auriant hopes to see established in Victoria.

With knowledge and experience spanning the continent and—thanks to the keen nature of Adventist members—capacity across the state, ADRA is in a strong position to assist those in need.

"Thank you to all the volunteers who stepped up to support those affected by the Wallan and Horsham fires this year," she said. "Without the support of dedicated volunteers we would not be able to help people in an emergency."

In New South Wales, the Australian Capital Territory, Western Australia and some parts of Queensland, ADRA holds official agreements with government to facilitate short-term emergency accommodation for people affected by disaster.—*Braden Blyde*



ADRA's Kevin Munro with Russell Hopkins from the City of Whittlesea.

## Church leaders affirm biblical creation

*St George, Utah, United States*

Seventh-day Adventist world Church president Dr Ted Wilson strongly affirmed the Church's position that God is the Creator of the universe, as he opened a conference for senior Adventist educators in St George, Utah.

In his remarks, Dr Wilson emphasised the importance of careful study of the creation accounts in Scripture and

called for Seventh-day Adventist educators to support the evidence for a literal understanding of Genesis 1-11, including acceptance of a short chronology and a global flood. He was not backward in stating that teachers in Seventh-day Adventist schools should stand up and be counted in affirming the biblical story of creation in the classroom. Dr Wilson was speaking to a group of some 450 leading educators, mainly from Seventh-day Adventist tertiary institutions around the world. The 10-day conference was organised by the Education Department of the General Conference.

South Pacific Division president Dr Barry Oliver said, "This is the best conference that I have attended on the subject of creation and the flood." *Read more <www.record.net.au>.*—ANN



The conference was held in Utah near geological features.

## 'Dream church' opened in Solomons

*Choiseul, Solomon Islands*

More than 1000 people gathered in North East Choiseul, Solomon Islands, in July to witness the opening of the new Tagibangara Seventh-day Adventist church.

Solomon Islands Mission president Pastor George Fafale officiated the ceremony, with Pastor Lawrence Tanabose unveiling a placard during the dedication service.

"The opening of this church will mean the Adventist members of Tagibangara will now have a proper place of worship," Pastor Tanabose said.

A number of government officials attended the ceremony, including Parliament Member for East Choiseul, Manasseh Sogavere, and Provincial Member of Segu (Choi-

seul Province), Jacob Sogavere. Several Adventist and Uniting Church delegates were also in attendance.

The new Tagibangara church was funded by local businesses and Adventist church members.

The "dream church" building took five years to complete and seats more than 800 people.—*Solomon Star/Record*



# Big questions at Newcastle University outreach

by NASA team

"I'm an atheist. I only came for the free food," joked Andrew, 22. But he came every night, watching the *Big Questions* films and listening to Dr Grenville Kent's talks on the evidence for Christianity. On the final night, he said, "These meetings are really getting to me. I want to know more about your God. Can I come to your church?"

"I was expecting apologetics seminars might move people from say a minus-10 on a spiritual scale to a minus-5," said Dan Livingston, elder of the My House church plant in central Newcastle. "But Andrew came to our church the next Sabbath—not bad for a treasurer of the Atheist Society. He told us, 'I like the intellectual evidence, but I want to experience God'."

Keith, an agnostic, was having a beer in the bar near the seminar room when someone invited him to see the presentation, "Could God See The Future?" He was fascinated by the prophecy of Daniel 9. "I didn't know there was such evidence that God can see the future with perfect accuracy, and sees my life too," he said. "I'm going to go home and read the book of Daniel." He'll also be invited to Bible studies.

Melinda, 19, said, "I'm an agnostic because no-one has shown me evidence for God." A very quiet, gifted person, she listened intently to the talks and is now reading books on Christian evidence. Adventist students helped her to feel included and even drove her home after the meetings, a 60-minute round trip.



Ben, 19, was raised a Christian but lost his faith while studying science. He attended the seminar out of curiosity, and said, "I didn't realise there were so many top scientists who have faith." He is now reading a book by Oxford math-

ematician and Christian apologist John Lennox.

Rohan, 19, has a Hindu background. He enjoyed the meetings so much that he brought a fellow Indian student.

These are just some of the people who came to outreach seminars at Newcastle University, where Dr Kent test-screened some of his new *Big Questions* apologetics films and spoke about reasons to believe in Christianity.

"This outreach was run by young people . . . [who] worked hard at advertising and got great support from young Adventists who really reached out to visitors, inviting them to great follow-up meetings and socials," Dr Kent said.

"Universities are a great untouched mission field. You have bright people in an open, curious stage of their lives, with time to ask big questions. You won't get converts in 5 minutes because many people start at a minus-10, but they'll start considering faith.

"It was good to test the *Big Questions* films, which we plan to release next year. The feedback was encouraging."

Education student Morgan Vincent, 20, one of the organisers, said: "If you want to take the gospel to the world, Australian universities have people from almost every country, and when they go home, they're the thought leaders."

Bible workers Katie Kuivisto, 23, and Tarenne Greenwood, 18, are happy with the outcomes. "People came and were challenged to re-consider Christianity and the evidence for it," Katie said.

Tarenne said people at church were excited by this new idea for evangelism. "And they really helped out," she said. "The seminar series was called 'Is God Finished'? It introduced a God who gives meaning to life.

"This is just the first in a series of outreach events we're planning. God isn't finished with university students yet." ↪

NASA is the Newcastle Adventist Students Association, which is based at Newcastle University, NSW.





# What will I say?

by Wolfgang Jenke

**W**HEN THE SON OF MAN COMES IN HIS GLORY, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides His sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left." Matthew 25:31-33.

The Lord paints for us a solemn picture of His Second Coming. It is not a time to make decisions then, of where we want to be. Jesus knows which of us are sheep and which are goats. The difference is not seen in our church attendance, neither are we divided according to our lifestyles. We are separated according to what we have done to the least of His brethren. They were hungry and thirsty, but the sheep ministered unto them. Some were sick in hospital, others were strangers in the land. There were even those who spent time in prison, but the sheep visited them.

The sheep are compassionate and merciful. They don't think of the cost of servant hood but they simply do what is necessary. Yes friends, the sheep are hard workers; they use their God-given talents to relieve the suffering and spend time with the forgotten and lonely. Their Christianity cost them something, and they didn't even stop to count the cost. Helping the people whom God put on this earth was like second nature to them. It didn't even matter whether the people in need were natives of the land, or whether they came by plane or by boat. The sheep did not discriminate between the different races, but helped those in need.

The sheep were judged by their peers as backward. After all, what did they have to show for all their hard work. They only managed to live in a modest home, one without the expected luxuries in life. Perhaps they were too busy with the marginalised, to 'get a life.' No wonder they never saved

much money, because they spent it on so many different charities. One could think, 'when their retirement comes, they'd be penniless,' but no, Someone greater than themselves cares for them.

Friends, I know what the Lord will say to these sheep. "Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." Matthew 25:4. All their compassion and self-sacrifice, their wanting to help, even if it cost them something, has been seen by their heavenly Father, and been rewarded.

But what about the goats, those who have had the right profession but been lacking in deeds of kindness and benevolence? Those who were rich in houses and lands, in stocks and shares but did not love their neighbours as themselves. Their neighbours went to the grave without knowing Jesus, because they did not support the Mission of the church. Some of their fellowmen starved to

death because the goats didn't help in time of great need. When the Lord asks me, "What have you done with my talents?" What will I say?

To try and put priorities where they belong is a hard and often unpopular task. We can be so busy making money—but for what purpose do we accumulate? Have we not learned that our assets keep us tied down to this earth? You realise but your assets, if not used to God's honour and glory, will make sure that you stay right here with them. Friends, it is time to cut yourself loose. Be free to leave this world behind.

The work will be finished with the same self-sacrificing spirit, in which it was started. Are you, am I, going to be part of it? R

*Pastor Wolfgang Jenke is pastor of the Atherton, Ravenshoe and Malanda churches, Queensland.*

**Their Christianity cost them something, and they didn't even stop to count the cost.**



### Godpods for PNG

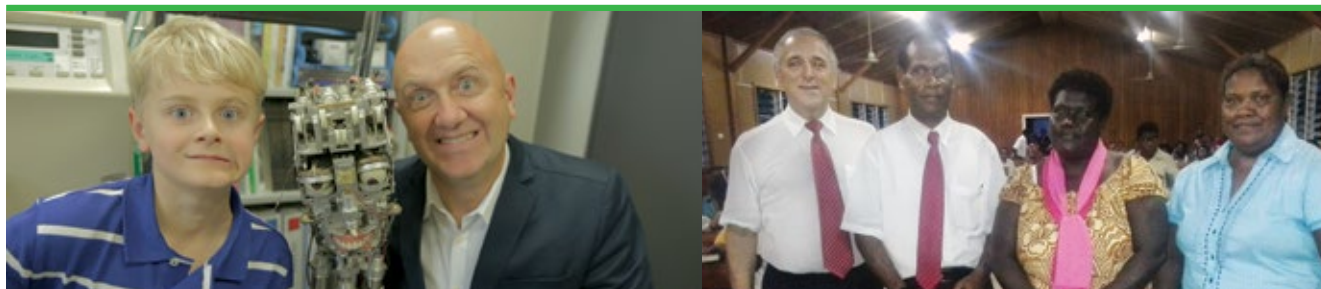
A special offering collected at Blue Haven church company (NSW) on August 16 has raised \$1829 for the purchase of Godpods for the people of Tumulbil, Papua New Guinea. A team of 11 people from Avondale Memorial church—Blue Haven’s “mother church”—left Australia a few days later to complete an ongoing “Adopt-A-Clinic” project in Tumulbil.—*Margaret Major*

### CHIP-ping away

Vanuatu Mission’s Health Ministries department is filming a series of videos that will help present the practical messages of the Complete Health Improvement Program (CHIP) to local communities. The DVD project is being produced in partnership with local production studios and the Mission’s Communication department, with funding provided by ADRA Vanuatu.—*Adventist Media: Vanuatu*

### Charlie’s special day

Charlie Tasker was baptised at Lismore church (NSW) on July 19, with her extended family from Fraser Island (Qld) making the trip south for the special occasion. Pastor Horace Evans and Tim Merrit said they were “very happy” to baptise Charlie, who has already proven herself to be an active disciple, having recently instigated a “Blaze Out” outreach program for the church’s teens and youth.—*Gail Witten*



### Big questions

What do educated urban people think about God, and why? Working with two marketing/social research agencies and three globally respected Christian missiologists, Dr G renville Kent looked at the reasons Australians have for believing or not believing in God, and how Christians can best address those reasons. “In targeting a \$2 million-plus outreach film series using a new approach, we didn’t just want to have a guess,” said Dr Kent (pictured with his son Marcus). The research has been published in a book titled *Asking Big Questions*. The *Big Questions* film series, supported by the Australian Union Conference, is almost complete.—*Record staff*

### End it now

Solomon Islands High Court judge, Justice Stephen Pallaras QC, gave an awareness talk on domestic violence at Burns Creek church in Honiara on August 23. Justice Pallaras spoke on the vulnerability of women and girls to violence and sexual abuse. He also challenged church members “to look after each other in the community”. The Sabbath presentation was part of the Seventh-day Adventist world Church’s annual “enditnow” campaign. Burns Creek elder Caleb Anisi said the session “really helped our church members understand a lot more on this issue”.—*Solomon Star*



### Art for all seasons

Longburn Adventist College’s Visual Arts department recently presented an exhibition at the Square Edge Gallery in Palmerston North (NZ). The exhibition—called *Seasons* (based on Ecclesiastes 3:1-8)—featured the work of Longburn’s Year 11-13 Visual Arts students, as well as a collaboration piece from the Year 9 art class. Opening night was a huge success, with many people from the community attending.—*Daniela Brown*

### Faith shapers

Fifty-five people in Samoa completed a 40-hour certificate in Children’s Ministries in early July. South Pacific Division Children’s Ministries director Julie Weslake and Mere Vaihola led participants through the seven essential experiences for shaping faith in children. To learn more about the “Faith Shaper” initiative, visit <a href="http://children.adventist.org.au/faith-shaper">children.adventist.org.au/faith-shaper</a>.—*TPUM newsletter*

### Hope FM a hit in Fiji

Fiji Broadcasting Corporation’s latest listenership survey has placed Hope FM in the top five radio stations in Fiji. An American firm conducted the survey, with population samples taken from across the country. “God is working,” said Fiji Mission Communication director and Hope FM manager Joe Talemaitoga. “Thanks for your support and prayers.”.—*TPUM newsletter*



# R HEALTH FEATURE

with Cathy McDonald

## From hopes to habits

For most of us, it can be a little confronting to try and count the number of times we've thought, "Today I'm going to <insert healthy habit here> and this time it's for good!", only to look back a couple of weeks later hoping that nobody remembers our proud proclamation. So often we find ourselves with a missing link between best intentions and new healthy habits, but it doesn't have to be that way. Here are our favourite tips for helping to bridge the gap:

- ▶ **Be prepared:** Don't just jump in without being ready for the challenge. Maybe it's stocking up on healthy recipe books or containers for healthy lunches to take into work. Maybe it's planning your routine to get to bed a little earlier for regular quality sleep. A little planning can help you get around those first roadblocks that stop others in their tracks.
- ▶ **Measure up:** Whatever your goal, look for a way to measure your progress. It could be as simple as marking down on a calendar which days you meet the daily recommendation of five serves of vegetables or something as high tech as a GPS watch to accurately track how far and fast you run. There's nothing like looking back on how far you've come to make you want to keep going.
- ▶ **Remember your reasons:** This might sound obvious, but for any change to stick, we need to have a good reason for doing it. When it gets difficult, look to the reason you wanted to make this change in the first place and remember what you wanted to achieve. Then look back on how far you've already come, draw strength from your preparation and take the next step towards a healthy habit.



### *Baba ganoush*

Preparation time: 10 minutes Cooking time: 30 minutes Serves: 8

- 2 large eggplants
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 3 tablespoon lemon juice
- ½ cup tahini
- 2 cloves garlic
- ½ teaspoon ground cumin

1. Preheat oven to 200°C. Place whole eggplants on a baking tray. Bake for 30 minutes or until soft and wrinkled.
2. Slice eggplant open and, using a spoon, remove the flesh, placing it into a food processor. Discard eggplant skins.
3. Add oil, lemon juice, tahini, garlic and cumin and blend until smooth.
4. Serve with fresh vegetables and crackers.

**NUTRITION INFORMATION PER SERVE:** Kilojoules 356kJ (85 Cal). Protein 3g. Total fat 8g. Carbohydrate 1g. Sodium 10mg. Potassium 90mg. Calcium 42mg. Iron 0.7mg. Fibre 2g.

Call and arrange to 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](mailto:nutrition@sanitarium.com.au) (Australia) or [nutrition@sanitarium.co.nz](mailto:nutrition@sanitarium.co.nz) (New Zealand). For more great recipes and health articles visit our website [www.sanitarium.com.au](http://www.sanitarium.com.au) or [www.sanitarium.co.nz](http://www.sanitarium.co.nz)

Sanitarium

LIFESTYLE  
MEDICINE  
SERVICES



# Prayer makes the difference

by Murray House

**G**OD MAKES THE IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBLE. IF EVER I have believed in the power of prayer it is now," says Alex Green, a ministry student from Avondale College of Higher Education. Alex and eight other students, along with Pastors Mike Parker and Vadim Butov, conducted evangelistic meetings at four different sites around Malaysia. "Seeing God respond by answering prayer is just one benefit of sending students overseas to places like Malaysia," Pastor Parker says.

Each year, Avondale College sends a group of ministry students abroad to gain experience running evangelistic meetings. But this year in Malaysia, the students were amazed at the number of answered prayers. One example involved a teenage girl who had accepted Jesus and wanted to be baptised but her Buddhist father forbade it. What does a third year ministry student say in a situation like this? Alex Green and David Toogood explained the necessity of honouring her father's decision, but also encouraged her to believe in the power of God to change hearts. The students committed to praying for her and her father after the meetings each night and they saw the girl, supported by her mother, baptised on the final Sabbath.

Alex and David had been preaching at Pioneer Memorial Church in Tamparuli, on the Island of Borneo, for a week when the chaplain of the local Adventist school approached them. He invited them to preach the following week for a Week of Prayer at the school. They were initially hesitant due to weariness but accepted the invitation. As relationships developed with staff and students their campaign grew. By the final night they were preaching to crowds of up to 1000 people. "God gave us the necessary energy to endure that week and blessed our efforts," David says.

Avondale students also travelled to the Malaysian state of Sabah to conduct five evangelistic campaigns. Pastor Butov led out in the centre of the city and also ran evangelism classes for the local pastors and Avondale students. Siberian Adventist musicians also came to support Pastor Butov.

**On the opening night 280 people attended, but by closing night attendance had increased to 620.**

Tulaga Aiolupotea and Toma Talafua had been preaching in Rangalau when a Catholic man from Kuala Lumpur began attending their meetings. "He was in the area visiting his wife's family but God had other plans," Tulaga says. On the final night of the campaign, the man approached Tulaga and stated his desire to be baptised as a Seventh-day Adventist. He was one of 243 people baptised at that series.

Students Nigel King, Simon Gigliotti and Leathan Fitzpatrick preached in Tenghilan. "One man drove four hours to come to the final night of our campaign and would not stop hugging us afterwards," Nigel says. He also tells of an elderly lady who adopted the three students as her "great-grandsons" and asked them to call her *todu*, which means "grandmother".

Pastor Butov was preaching at the main site in the city of Kota Kinabalu to crowds of up to 1700 people but was unable to preach for a night. Nigel was called upon to take his place. "God certainly puts us on the spot sometimes but He always pulls through," he says. Another series of prayers answered.

Ray Hobbs and Allen Bierschbach also witnessed the power of prayer in the rural village of Pukak. On two nights continual rain threatened to ruin the program as most of the attendees walked from surrounding villages. But a season of prayer prior to each program saw the rain stop and allowed the messages to be proclaimed. On the opening night 280 people attended, but by closing night attendance had increased to 620.

Avondale's Ministerial Training and Scholarship Fund, chaired by alumnus and retired minister, Pastor Vern Parmenter, provided \$A10,000 for the evangelistic campaigns in Sabah and continues to support the training of ministry students at Avondale College. Plans are in the pipeline for Pastor Danny Milenkov to lead a team of students to run evangelistic campaigns in Vanuatu in June-July 2015. **R**

*See back page for more details.*

*Dr Murray House is senior lecturer in Ministry and Theology at Avondale College of Higher Education.*



## OPINION

Julian Archer



### Mango seeds

One of the most common questions we ask ourselves regarding our income and savings is, "How much is 'enough'?" And it's a very valid question.

Is there a financial value at which a Christian can say, "I now have enough"?

Do we have "enough" when our net worth is 10 times the average annual household income of the country where we live? Or does it need to be 20, 50 or 100 times?

I recently heard of a guy who said, "I know I'll have enough when I don't have to suck the flesh off mango seeds!"

Retirement planners tell us that we need \$XYZ to "retire comfortably". Should this amount be any different for a truly devoted follower of Christ?

"Enough" is actually a relative term. For some people, a million dollars would be "more than enough" but others have tens of millions and say, or feel, that it's "not nearly enough".

For a follower of Christ, the important question is not "How much is enough?" but rather, "Is my striving to acquire my level of 'enough' getting between me and my Lord?"

So is it? Is it getting between our heart and God's?

If it is, then we need to make some serious changes . . . even if we're still sucking the flesh off mango seeds.

Jesus is enough.

*Julian Archer is author of Help! I've been blessed! from Toowoomba, Qld.*

Discover  
what is  
possible with  
the right  
education.



SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST SCHOOLS  
(GREATER SYDNEY) LIMITED



ENROLMENTS  
OPEN FOR 2015

To find a school near you visit  
[www.greatersydney.adventist.edu.au](http://www.greatersydney.adventist.edu.au)

A woman with long brown hair, wearing a floral off-the-shoulder top and a blue and yellow patterned apron, sits on a kitchen counter. She is looking upwards and to the right. The kitchen has wooden cabinets, a tiled backsplash, and a white range hood. Various kitchen items like a kettle, a toaster, and a pan are visible on the counter.

# Missing Mr Buck

by Michelle Abel

I'VE NEVER MET MR JACK BUCK BUT I WALK THROUGH his memories every day. A creative, practical man, he made his own clothes line with an innovative pulley lifting system that gives me a small workout every time I hang out a load of washing. He made retractable mosquito screens that snap into small locks, enabling us to leave our windows open on summer nights—which was excellent when we moved in and it was 46°C during the day.

After his wife died 10 years ago he had a few good years before health problems necessitated his move into an aged care facility. We moved into his house in January as a temporary residence while building our own house. The house was fully furnished and the pantry was filled with tinned fruit—especially tinned pineapple—and cans of Spam. I gave away the Spam, and I am slowly using up the fruit in fruit crumbles. There was a drawer containing about 50 boxes of matches. The kitchen is small, really only designed for one person to use at a time. I have been told that when his two boys were young and living at home they had a small table in the kitchen, pushed up against the only wall. Sometimes I sense the shadow of meals the family would have eaten there.

I use his wife's tea towels to line one of her old colanders to prove my sourdough loaves. She had a pile of old-fashioned, high quality linen tea towels in a neatly ironed pile in the linen press. In the kitchen cupboards I found glass measuring jugs, mixing bowls and most things needed for a functional kitchen, all of the higher quality that was standard decades ago. The old cooktop and oven are set inside what originally would have been a chimney for a wood-fired combustion stove. I use the same space on the kitchen floor as she would have, both of us stirring pots on the stove.

Mail addressed to Mr Jack Buck arrives at our house and telemarketers call and ask for him. I know he was a pilot who served in the Australian Air Force as some of the letters are from the Department of Veterans' Affairs. I have been told the story of his twilight romance, when he found a long lost wartime girlfriend at an RSL event. The pair had both been married for decades, and were now both widowed. They had a few lovely years of carefree romance that included a hilarious incident in the bathroom that I am reminded of every time I take a shower and lean against the mobility rails on the wall.

In the lounge room we sit in his old chairs, looking at some of his paintings that we didn't take down when we moved in. Mr Buck doesn't know that strangers are living in his house. He always thought he would come home again one day. Sadly, at 92 years of age, his life is slipping away. This temporary home of ours—what will be a short year in a

long list of houses we have lived in—was his proud sanctuary.

The lemon tree in the back yard is loaded with fruit. Despite the hot dry summer, the tree is in a spot that gets natural groundwater that flows to the bottom of the block. This afternoon I took a box down to the tree and filled it with lemons. Then I hauled it out onto the footpath with a sign for passers-by to help themselves to some fruit. The yard has several fruit trees, all old and needing care, once mere saplings promising a future harvest.

We have rented houses before, but there is usually no trace of the previous occupants' lives, except perhaps a glow-in-the-dark sticker in the corner of a ceiling or a room painted canary yellow by a little girl. Living in Mr Buck's house is like taking part in somebody else's history.

My daughters have framed hand-sewn embroidery that's hanging on their wall. There is a vintage '60s clock, ticking away the moments. I sit here listening to the clock, thinking about shared space and experiences. There is a lifetime of experiences in this house, and I can only imagine a fraction of it. I feel that I should pause for a moment to reflect on a life well lived, even though I have no actual experience of what went on in this house. I just want to acknowledge the rich memories here that are not ours.

The ability to imagine the feelings or experiences of others is vitally

important for our understanding of people. Trying to walk in someone's shoes is a foundation for compassion. I stumbled onto this compassion when my mother rang me today and told me that Mr Buck may not see tomorrow. I was sitting on the old sheepskin rug in front of the gas fire. In the moments of our final breath a house is not that significant. But for me, sitting in this house links me to a lifetime of joy and sorrow. It felt right to pause and reflect, to imagine the pilot, his wife, their two sons and all the activities that happened here. This was a way for me to respectfully mark the transition.

Tonight I dropped Mr Buck's new daughter-in-law at the aged care home after she made an urgent trip from interstate. It's a cold night, and Mr Buck is now breathing shallowly in his sleep. Technically I recently became his step-granddaughter. His new daughter-in-law met her husband when he made the hard decision to move Mr Buck into a care facility. Now his step-great-granddaughters sleep under his roof. We are strangers, and we are family. Sleep in peace Mr Buck. R

**Trying to walk in someone's shoes is a foundation for compassion. I stumbled onto this when my mother rang and told me that Mr Buck may not see tomorrow.**

---

*Michelle Abel is an international community development consultant.*

# eGIVING

An online giving portal for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the South Pacific.



Freely you have  
**received...**  
freely  
**give**

Support your church  
through online giving

- Tithe
- Donations
- Offerings

**Convenient, safe  
and easy!**

Visit:

**egiving.org.au**  
**egiving.org.nz**



## RECORD REWIND

Gary Webster

### Seven signs of Christ's return Sign seven: the 2300 days (part two)

In Daniel 8, transgression or sin gave rise to the little horn or anti-christ with its withering effects. Last issue we noted that God delivers His people through the cleansing of the sanctuary or the pre-advent judgement at the end of 2300 days. But how is the heavenly sanctuary cleansed? How do we receive judgement in our favour?

**Read** Daniel 8:12,13,14; 7:9,10,22,26

In chapter 9, Daniel prays about God's unfavourable judgement on Israel at the hands of the Babylonians because of their sin. In response to his plea for Israel's deliverance, Gabriel comes to help him understand the previous vision of the 2300 days. He reveals that the Messiah's death, during a 70 prophetic week or 490 literal year period, will break rebellious hearts, give victory over sin, and provide righteousness and reconciliation to God. His death is the way to favourable judgement—the means of "cleansing God's sanctuary".

**Read** Daniel 9:1-20; 21-23; 24,25-27; Ezekiel 4:6

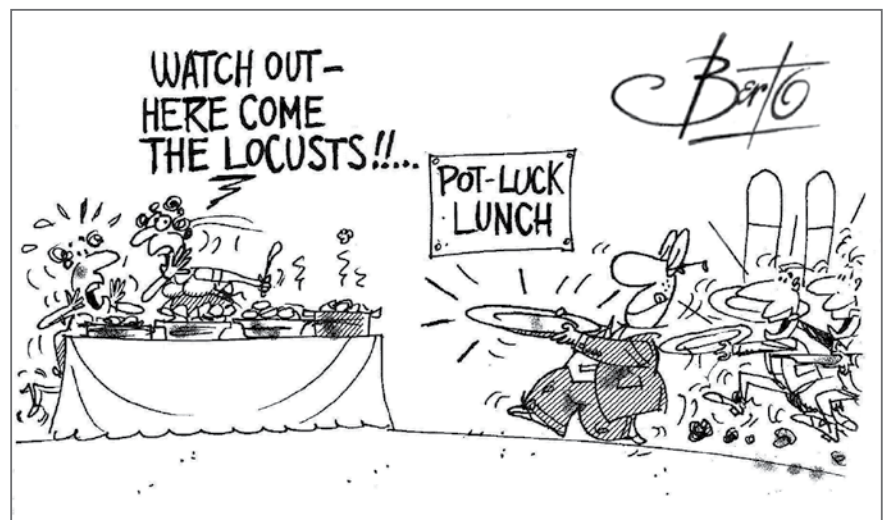
The 70 weeks were "cut off" (determined) from the 2300 days/years of Daniel's previous vision that he had not understood. Since they began with the decree for Jerusalem's restoration (457 BC), that date also commences the 2300 years, which therefore end in 1844. The fulfilment of the predicted times of the Messiah's arrival (AD 27) and death (AD 31) assures us that God's end-time judgement began in 1844. The cross is the heart of the 2300-year prophecy.

**Read** Daniel 9:24; 8:27; 9:24-27; Ezra 7:1-26; 6:14

Little wonder Jesus linked the world's judgement with His death! This is why God's end-time, pre-advent judgement favours all who believe they were judged IN Christ at the cross. The pre-advent judgement will also soon deliver an unfavourable verdict against the anti-christ and those who side with it. But there is "no condemnation to those IN Christ, who walk in His ways". Thus the gospel is the world's greatest need today! Won't you join Christ in sharing it?

**Read** John 12:31-33; Daniel 7:22,26; Romans 8:1-4; Revelation 14:6,7

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





LETTERS

*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.*

**HEALTHY WHIPLASH**  
Gennaro Cozzi, Vic

Referring to "Fire" (Feature, August 16). It is an excellent article and well timed—thank you. I agree with and feel encouraged by the words, although they seem like whiplash—a healthy (spiritual) one. "Stop playing Christian and start being a disciple of Christ" is a whole program, which surely means commitment, but we can count on Jesus—He promised to be with us every day (Matthew 28:20). We (all) really need to feel we do have a mission; it doesn't matter what . . . we are gifted in for us to contribute.

**ARTWORK ON FIRE**  
Sone Mariner, Qld

Re: "Fire" (Feature, August 16). I congratulate Nick Kross for this power-packed and challenging article. I was first drawn to it by the "strange" but wonderful artwork (signifying fire) as perhaps Moses was to the burning bush, and in reading the article I realised that it's God speaking and it's right on the mark as the key to our witnessing success.

I had to read it twice so that I would not miss any of the biblical and spirit of prophecy witnessing principles jam-packed in this article. I pray that many more of our church members will read it and be inspired and moved to action. For "this gospel of the kingdom will be preached to all nations, and then the end will come" (Matthew 24:14).

**1000 POUND GORILLA**  
Julian Archer, Qld

I found the "Rethink" editorial (August 16) to be a timely message from God.

I recently returned from two conferences in the USA: the non-denominational 2014

Christian Economic Forum and our very own Adventist-laymen's Services & Industries (ASI). Both were inspiring and motivating. However, when I tried to combine the excellent spiritual lessons from the conferences with the conversations that I was having with very educated secular folks in the "marketplace" I really struggled.

I was being confronted by some very "informed" and very "ethical" people with very well thought out belief systems that I've never before come across, and I was significantly challenged to try and counter their arguments. I had to repeatedly fall back on sharing my own personal testimony (the best place to start), rather than trying to develop counter-arguments, because I simply didn't recognise a single blade of grass in the battlefield I was standing on.

On reading your article today, my eyes were opened to the "1000 pound gorilla in the room"—secular orthodoxy. Thank you. I've printed your article and will share it widely with family and friends.

**PUTTING GOD FIRST**  
Paul Richardson, NSW

I found Equal in Christ, Letters August 2nd somewhat ill informed when purporting that Ellen White has not written on the topic of women in ministry.

The reality is that Ellen White did write on this topic. In c. 1900 - 6 Testimonies p. 322 she says, "The Holy Spirit of God prepares both men and women to become pastors of the flock".

Further in Evangelism p. 472, Manuscript 43a, 1898 she adds, "There are women who should labour in the Gospel

ministry".

I am unsure if Ellen White could have stated the case more plainly, as her words and the meaning are so clear that they need no interpretation.

The question is are we still taking note of the voice of God as expressed through His spokeswoman Ellen White?

If her words offered a message at the beginning of our church history, I am even more certain that they have something to say now.

However as she said, go to the Scriptures first. Ellen White does not write contrary to an educated study of the Word of God.

**THE LOST WORD**  
Lee Dunstan, NSW

The editors of *SIGNS OF THE TIMES* would like to issue a sincere apology to Pastor Peter Roennfeldt for a typographic error introduced into his article, "From Dan and Caesarea Philippi," in our September 2014 issue. The error, unfortunately, has strong implications.

What we meant to say was, "On this rock [not meaning Peter] I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it (verse 18)."

Pastor Roennfeldt had very clearly expressed this in his original manuscript, but the word "not" was regrettably excluded in our summarisation of his longer explanation, which resulted in the error. Clearly, one word makes an important difference.

When you look deeper, it is clear that Jesus is our Rock—as Pastor Roennfeldt stated in his original article—not Peter. And at the end of the day, who would you rather build your faith and church on? We agree with you: Jesus.

# High school MISSIONARY

by Emi Price



**W**HAT DO YOU MEAN YOU CAN'T GO TO THE party on Friday night?" "You're not going to the dance competition on Saturday. What? Are you crazy? This is the biggest one of the year!" "Hey! Why can't you come to our movie night on Friday?"

These are the kinds of questions I've been confronted with since starting at a non-denominational high school this year. The girls cannot believe I would give up my Friday nights and Saturdays to attend church rather than go to the movies, a concert, a party or the high school formal. Whenever I tell them, "I'm a Seventh-day Adventist. It's my religion and we believe that Friday sunset to Saturday sunset should be a rest day to spend time with God", I get mixed reactions. Some of the girls look at me as if I have totally lost my mind; others give me a little smirk and taunt, "Let's see how long you can keep up this useless religion of yours". Others give me a genuine look of pity and promise that they will fill me in on all the excitement I am bound to miss out on.

Life is very different from my days at an Adventist primary school. Even though the majority of students there came from non-Adventist families, everyone understood the Adventist lifestyle. School events were organised to respect the Sabbath. And our faith was an integral part of school life. It has definitely been a shock to the system moving to my new school.

I hadn't always planned to go to a non-denominational school. It was only after my parents went to speak with the principal—who is a Christian—and they saw the morals and values of the school, that we considered it. But we still weren't sure until God opened up the way through a scholarship to the school. But why did He do it? Mum has explained that it's because God wants me to help minister to this largely secular group of girls. Not by preaching in the quadrangle or criticising them for not believing in Christ. Rather, my strategy is to pray that my actions and words reflect those of Jesus; that He can shine out of me. After a few weeks of this strategy, however, I was a bit discouraged that no-one had come up to me asking for Bible studies or whether I knew a pastor who could baptise them. I began to have doubts that this really was God's plan for me. If it was, why wasn't it working?

I soon realised that this was an unrealistic and detrimental way to look at trying to minister in a secular environment. I needed to first consider the small impacts I was making. One of these was the influence I was having on my best friends who used swear words and blasphemy during conversations. They replaced the s-word with "shivers"

**Some of the girls look at me as if I have totally lost my mind; others give me a little smirk and taunt, "Let's see how long you can keep up this useless religion of yours".**

and "Oh My God" with "Oh My Goodness". I found this very encouraging—that they were subconsciously not swearing and taking the Lord's name in vain as much as they used to (or at least at school and in front of me). These little things made it clear to me that I could be a positive influence on my friends, even if they still had secular views.

Probably the best and most rewarding moment I've had trying to share my beliefs with my peers is when my friend asked me why I couldn't attend an athletics event on a Friday night. When I explained to her about the Sabbath, she looked quite disinterested. After I finished she replied with a simple "Oh, that's cool" and walked off. A few weeks later we were talking about the school's biannual musical, which was being held after sunset on a Saturday night. When I told her that I was so excited to go, she looked at me in bewilderment and asked, "Wait, what about your Sabbath?"

I was taken aback—in a good way of course. I was ecstatic that she remembered our conversation, especially when her response at the time gave me the impression that her head was in the stars. Trying to maintain my cool through all of this, I calmly replied, "Wow, you remembered about my Sabbath. I'm impressed!"

"Well, yeah, of course I did. Hey, I told my mum about it too. She is actually quite interested. She used to be religious, I don't think Seventh-day Adventist, but she isn't so much anymore. Anyway, it really appealed to her."

I haven't heard about her mum since, but this experience made me feel like all the trying was paying off. Even if her mother looks into Adventism and rejects it, maybe she will come back in 10 years and think, "What is that religion of the girl my daughter told me about?" At least the seeds of interest have been planted in her heart and, for the moment, that is the best thing that can happen.

Even with all these little victories, I'm still waiting for the moment when someone comes up and asks me directly to tell them more about God. Maybe it will happen, but maybe it won't. All that I know is that God's positive influence on a secular crowd doesn't have to be immediate or large-scale. The change in their hearts might not even happen during our time at high school. They could decide to discover more about Christ years after we graduate, and they may even have conversations about Him with their own families and friends. And all this comes from the seeds God has let me plant in their hearts. But for now, I don't regret missing Friday night parties if it means I can share my faith with curious peers. R

*Emi Price did some holiday work experience at Adventist Record.*

YOUR CHANCE TO

**write**  
or **film** for



**it is written**

OCEANIA

Australia's No.1 Bible  
Television Program

**Calling all  
producers and  
script writers!**

This is your chance to produce  
a 3-5 min video clip  
and write a script



FOR MORE INFO:

**itiswrittenoceania.tv/  
competitions**

TO DONATE:

1300 567 297  
PO Box 115  
Wahroonga  
NSW 2076



SUPPORTED BY

**manifest**

**R**  
**MY STORY**

What do you do when God asks you to tell people in authority over you that they are doing something wrong? That was my challenge and this is my story.

My name is Stephannie Elodo, I'm 16 years old and I live in Bougainville, Papua New Guinea. My father is a pastor and church leader so we have moved around a lot. Last year we lived in Lae—I was in Year 9 at an Adventist school there.

It was a good school, but as the year went on I started to notice something about my teachers—even the principal. From the way they looked at one another and talked to one another it seemed that they were upset or even angry sometimes. Of course they would not discuss their problems openly with students, but I gradually realised that there was some kind of conflict between them—ongoing tension that was affecting their work and, in turn, affecting us as students.

For as long as I can remember my father has had the special gift of reconciliation—helping people who are in conflict to discuss their differences, give apologies, offer forgiveness and restore their relationships. He has done this many times with married couples, church congregations and other people who are arguing. To me it seemed obvious that my teachers should participate in a reconciliation process—I thought this is what God would want them to do—so I asked my parents for help.

I was surprised when mum and dad did not agree to go to my school immediately and deal with the problem. Instead they explained to me that they never went forward with reconciliation until they had prayed many times—sometimes for months—and were sure the Holy Spirit was leading them in this direction. So they said I should begin to pray about the problem. They also said that if God showed me clearly that He wanted a reconciliation process to occur, I should be the one to speak to my teachers and explain the problem to them. Yes, me.

Now I was scared. I was only 15 years old and quite shy. How could I ever do something that brave? Maybe I would be punished for being disrespectful. I didn't want to say anything to my teachers, but I could at least pray.

I prayed for a number of days and the feeling I had about the need for reconciliation wouldn't go away. One night I had a dream that seemed to point very clearly the same way. I was still scared, but with the encouragement of my parents, I agreed to speak out.

The next day at school, I was shaking inside as I approached the principal and asked to speak to her. But God helped me be brave enough to explain my concerns and suggestion. Of course, she was shocked to hear a student speak so openly to her about a sensitive issue like this. Not angry—just shocked. Probably she hadn't realised that the conflict going on was so obvious to the students. She didn't know what to say at first, but at least she didn't shout at me or anything.

It was a turning point for our school. The reconciliation meeting happened—my dad helped of course—and, after that, it was a much happier place for the teachers to work, and a much better place for us to study. I thank God for giving me the courage to speak and I thank my parents for helping me learn about the power of prayer.—as told to Kent Kingston by Pastor Kepsie Elodo



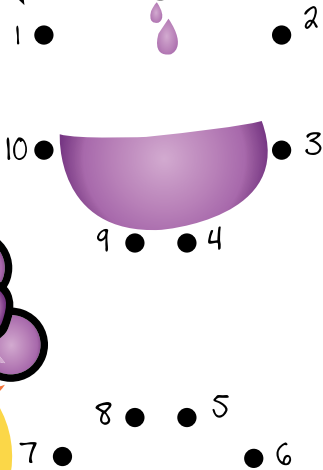
# Kids' Space

MERHABA \* KIDS!



Joseph is faithful to God even in jail. The warden puts Joseph in charge of everything in the prison. Two prisoners, one of them a cupbearer, have strange dreams. God helps Joseph to interpret them and the dreams come true! Two years later Pharaoh has a bad dream. Joseph is brought out of prison to interpret it and God helps him do it! Pharaoh takes Joseph out of prison for good and gives him a very important job. Wow! God always has a plan.

WHAT DID THE CUPBEARER DREAM ABOUT?  
Connect the dots to find out.



USE THESE LETTERS TO FILL IN THE BLANKS BELOW



CLUE  
white letters on the white lines  
and yellow on the yellow lines.

## COMMUNITY MESSAGE

God helps me to be  
----- no  
matter what happens.

## MEMORY VERSE

"Well done, good and ----- servant! You have been ----- with a few -----; I will put you in charge of many -----" Matthew 25:23

\* hello in Turkey

# ALL CHURCH MEMBERS ARE INVITED to our next JUMP START LITERATURE EVANGELIST CONVENTION

Come and be Inspired and find out more about Literature Evangelism!



Crosslands Youth and Convention Centre, Sydney, Australia  
October 31 - November 2, 2014

GUEST SPEAKER:  
**Pastor Geoff Youlden**

Blessed Fellowship  
Incredible LE Testimonies  
Beautiful Location  
Amazing Food

Total Cost for this amazing weekend is only \$ 150

Bookings and Information:  
Jared.french@bigpond.com  
Mob 0414 433 615

Registration closes  
Thursday October 23

## ANNIVERSARY



**Elshof.** Henk and Elly celebrated their 50th wedding

anniversary in Wollongong church hall on 8.6.14, with family and friends. Both Henk and Elly were born in Holland but they did not meet until moving to Australia. When asked their secret to a long-lasting marriage, Henk first joked that it was about give and take: Henk takes and Elly gives. On a more serious note, they said it's important to appreciate, respect and tolerate each other.

## WEDDINGS

**Bull-Jones.** Andrew Lachlan Bull, son of Malcolm Bull (Long Jetty, NSW) and Glenysie Bull (Tamworth), and Katherine Anne Jones, daughter of Harry Jones (Loganville, Georgia, USA) and Brenda Rhoden (Oxford, Georgia), were married 11.7.14 at Superior, Wisconsin. They have set up their home in Superior.

*Malcolm Bull*

**Chan-Hsu.** KaHo Phil Chan, son of Tak Pui Chan and Yuk Ian Chau (Hong Kong), and AnTung Sara Hsu, daughter of Guo-Dong Hsu and Yue-Ying Hsu (Taipei, Taiwan), were married 20.7.14 in the Adventist Asian church, Vic. Phil and Sara met at Gateway church in 2008. Phil is an IT professional, while Sara works in food manufacturing. They will set up their home in Maribyrnong and support Gateway West church.

*WeeFoo Choo*

**Cowan-Woelk.** James William Cowan, son of Shane and Christina Cowan (Taree, NSW), and Abigail Jo Woelk, daughter of Hans and Patricia Woelk (Yakima, Washington, USA), were married 29.6.14 in Taree church.

*David Kosmeier*

## OBITUARIES

**Arvai,** Julia, born 15.9.1921 in Hungary; died 20.5.14 at her daughter's home in Eleebana, NSW. Her husband, John, predeceased her. She migrated to Australia in 1957, and in 1972 became a member of the Wallsend church. Julia is survived by her daughter, Amaryll Naismith; and three grandchildren, Alyssa, Joshua and Andrew. She loved

the Great Shepherd and awaits His return.

*Alwyn Gersbach, A W J Shirley*

**Cobbin,** Robin Glen (Bob), born 27.1.1930 in Brisbane, Qld; died 19.6.14 in Cooranbong, NSW. In 1964, he married Lorna Burgess. He is survived by his wife; two sons and daughters-in-law, Gary and Llewella Cobbin (Winmalee) and Kelvin and Judy Cobbin (Bowral) and their families; and six grandchildren. Bob was employed for many years with Sanitarium Health Foods as shift foreman in the flake biscuit department at the Cooranbong factory. When Bob retired he was heavily involved in the Cooranbong Community Services Centre for many years.

*Kendell Cobbin*



**Collins,** Ronald Robert, born 2.9.1926 in Rosedale, Tas; died 22.7.14 in Forest Reefs, NSW. He and his wife, Sylvia,

were attracted through their common love of country music, and were married on 26.7.1958. He is survived by his wife; his sisters, Mavis and Rhona; children, Brett, John and Dee, Sharon and David Creswell, foster daughter, Tanya and Ricky; grandchildren, Danae, Joel, Alesha and James, Peter and Kirra, Brianna, Belinda, Tara and Anastacia; and great-grandchildren, Jayden, Alaycia and Alexander. In 1988, the family travelled around Australia, and eventually came to live near Orange. Ron is remembered for his positive outlook and sense of humour. He loved his Lord.

*Colin Richardson*

**Everett,** Ada Josephine (nee Swanson), born 2.9.1922 in Telarah, NSW; died 11.7.14 in Belangry. On 31.7.1939, she married Ivan Everett at Upper Pappinbarra. He predeceased her in 1964. Jo was baptised in the Maitland church by Pastor Merv Tonkin in 1965. She is survived by her children, Shirley and John Chapman, Lyndon and Joh, Pearl Earnshaw, Wendy Hafey, Beverley and Bob Walker, Rosalie King, Kelvin and Julie, Lyonel and Sue, Glenda and Wayne McInerney; 28 grandchildren; 45 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and her remaining siblings. Jo was involved in Meals on Wheels and other volunteer community ser-

vices and will be remembered as a special, loving, caring lady who constantly gave for the benefit of others.

*George Drinkall, Marty Thomson*



**Fowler,** Dorothy Ida (nee Hart), born 22.2.1920 in Oatley, NSW; died 26.6.14 in

AdventCare Whitehorse, Nunawading, Victoria. Her husband of 71 years, Walter (Wal), predeceased her in 2012. She is survived by her children and their families, Lawrence and Louwana (Eudunda, SA), Tasma and Oliver Lofton-Brook (Ontario, Canada); four grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. Dorothy was kind-hearted, energetic, hardworking, and greatly loved and respected by her family and the various communities where she lived while she and Wal served the Church and its institutions (Sanitarium and in more recent times, AdventCare Whitehorse).

*Trevor Rowe*

**Haberfield,** Bill, born 28.10.1928 in Kempsey, NSW; died 7.5.14 in Domain Aged Care, Coffs Harbour. He was predeceased by his wife, Ivell. Bill is survived by his brother, Hilton, and sister, Alice; and stepson, Ian Missen, Ruth and their family, Brett, Sharna and Tara. On 19.5.14, Bill was laid to rest at Coffs Harbour Lawn Cemetery awaiting the sure call of his beloved Master. Bill was a man who loved people, and his big smile, deep loving voice and welcoming personality made him likeable to all. His deep devotion to the Lord's soon return make us all eager to reunite with him on the resurrection day.

*Miroslav Stiljinovic*

**Hodgkinson,** Jenny, born 7.1.1952; died 25.4.14 in Brisbane, Qld. She is survived by her sisters, Marg and Reg Morgan and, Linder; her niece, Raelene, and nephew, Glen and their families. Although she was born with disabilities, Jenny soon endeared herself to her family and many friends. She was endowed with a tremendous memory, and was able to quote the birthdays of every family member and acquaintances. Although she never attended school, with the help of her mother, she learned to read and write, and was able to read and quote many verses

of Scripture. Jenny really loved her Lord and looked forward to meeting Him on the great resurrection day.

*Neil Peatey, Judy Fua*

**Hoysted,** Doreen Margaret, (nee Davies), born 27.12.1933 in New Lambton, NSW; died 2.11.13 in Waratah. On 23.11.1957, she married Jim (Adamstown). She is survived by her husband; their daughters, Sharon (Hamilton), Margaret (Maitland) and foster-daughter, Anne (Barnsley). Doreen was a faithful and active member of Hamilton church, and is remembered for the many years she taught children's Sabbath School and the other roles she played in the church. She had a strong personal faith and looked forward eagerly to the coming of Jesus. Doreen was confined to Maroba Nursing Home with Alzheimer's disease for the last five years of her life.

*David Stojic, David Edgar*

**Page,** Philip Andrew, born 5.12.1961 in Norwich, England; died 11.4.14 at home, Wyee Point, NSW. On 18.12.1983, he married Neroli. He is survived by his wife (Wyee Point); and their children, Katie Dose (Gosford), Timothy and Joshua (both of Wyee Point). Phil was uniquely special; all who came into his presence were blessed by his influence. He was loved and adored by the children and youth of the Wyee church. His impact will be valued and cherished for years to come. Phil was a master of many skills and gifted with talent, yet maintained an unassuming composure. He was a spiritual giant, a servant leader, a husband and father extraordinaire, a friend to all.

*Alan Saunders*

**Rolston,** Peter John, born 17.4.1961 in Lincoln, Christchurch, NZ; died 22.7.14 in Christchurch. He was the son of Florence and the late Arnold Rolston. Peter is survived by his beloved wife, Michelle; stepchildren, Erin and Eric; siblings, Christine Keegan, Suzanne Brown, Rob Rolston, Martin (deceased) and Catherine Hasse. Since early childhood, Peter took a keen interest in the intricacies of God's creation. His inquisitive mind led to his becoming an inventor, taking out patents on several of his inventions. He will be greatly missed

and remembered for his creativity, love of nature and joy of singing at church. At the funeral service, Psalm 23:2 described his passing.

*Bob Larsen*

**Ryan, Judith Heather**, born 1.8.1950 in Sydney, NSW; died 14.7.14 in Dubbo. On 21.3.1982, she married James Ryan. She is survived by her children, Andrew, Cameray and Mathew; and brothers, Bill and Cliff (all of Dubbo). Judy had a very sad life battling depression, bipolar disorder and finally cancer which took her life.

*Roger Ward*



**Senko, Beatrice Maude (Beatie)**, born 15.4.1921 in Christchurch, NZ; died 14.7.14 in Kawana, Qld. She is survived by her son, Fred Senko (Tully, Qld) and daughter, Karen Denham (Bellara), three adult grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Beatie remained faithful and steadfast for her Lord unto death.

*Mike Brownhill, John Rabbas*

**Schmitz, Michael Heinz Georg**, born 2.9.1964 in Germany; died 3.7.14 in Doncaster East, Vic. He is survived by his parents, Dieter and Ursula Schmitz (Doncaster East); brother, Dieter and his wife, Mary (Melbourne); and nieces, Laura and Olivia Schmitz (Melbourne). Michael was loved and appreciated by all who knew him. He was a qualified pilot and was accomplished in scuba diving, leather fabrication, taekwondo, accounting, radiotelephony and as a coxswain. He loved his Lord and had a very close relationship with his mother who will sorely miss him. Ongoing health problems eventually took his life.

*Tony Campbell, Brian Lawty*

**Stellmaker, Robyn Florence** (nee Leeder), born 13.7.1937 in Hamilton, NZ; died 12.4.14 in John Flynn Hospital, Gold Coast, Qld. On 18.11.1958, she married Murray Stellmaker. She was

predeceased by her son, Andrew John Stellmaker, in 2012. She is survived by her husband (Gold Coast); her brother and his wife, David and Leanne Stellmaker (Launceston, Tas); and grandchild, Faith Leigh. Robyn lived for others, especially the lonely and hurting. She was courageous to the end and a wonderful witness to the staff at John Flynn Hospital. She was loved by her family and two special young people from the Philippines who she and Murray nurtured: Naomi and Noralyn Jowett. An accomplished organist, her talents will be missed.

*Shaun Berkeley, Bob Possingham  
Wayne Humphries*

## ADVERTISEMENTS

### Grey Nomads camp—Adventist Alpine Village, October 6–12, 2014.

Calling all Grey Nomads! Join us again in 2014 for a spiritual feast and social fellowship at Adventist Alpine Village, Jindabyne, NSW. Join us in the beauty of the Australian Southern Alps. Numbers are limited to 200 attendees. To receive an application form and details of accommodation options, please contact Robyn Howie, phone (02) 6249 6822 or email <robynhowie@adventist.org.au>.

### 50th anniversary Caringbah church, NSW, November 1, 2014.

To register your interest and to share photos and stories, contact Ruth Gibbs email <ruthgibbs@gmail.com> or phone 0422 115 747.

### High quality satellite kits for Adventist television and radio.

Full instructions for easy DIY installation, technical support available. \$275 plus freight. Australia only. Call (02) 6361 3636.

**Projectors, screens, wireless microphones, amplifiers, speakers etc.** Lower prices for Adventist churches etc. Australia only. Email <admin@

masterantennasystems.com> or (02) 6361 3636.

### Law firm in Melbourne:

McMahon Fearnley Lawyers Pty Ltd. Areas of law include the sale and purchase of property, litigation, commercial transactions (including shareholder and partnership agreements, franchising and leasing), wills, estates and probate applications. Adventist lawyers include Lloyd McMahon and Michael Brady. Please call (03) 9670 0966 or email <mb@mcmahonfearnley.com.au>.

### Saving the world never

tasted so delicious! Buy Vissot Cambodian curry and help raise funds for an Adventist health centre in Cambodia. Go to <www.jomnin.org> to buy curry or support the cause.

### Bible Stones Australia.

Bible Stones Australia is owned and operated by Seventh-day Adventists who are committed to spreading the Word of God

through messages in stone. See <www.biblestonesaustralia.com.au> for beautiful Christian gifts. Contact number: 0438 378 150 or <admin@biblestonesaustralia.com.au>.

### “Stand Up”—men’s gathering.

Featuring guest speakers Grenville Kent, Alex Royes, Eddie Hypolite, Mark Craig, Kayle de Waal, Loma Rome Ulia and Nimrod Maua. October 11 and 12, 2014. The Big House, Avondale College Church. For more information visit <collegechurch.org.au> or email <collegechurch@avondale.edu.au>.

## Finally . . .

Always laugh when you can, it is cheap medicine.

—Lord Byron

Next RECORD Oct 4

## VOLUNTEER

### Health educator/lay gospel medical missionary for Palm Island—Medical Missionary Training Institute Inc. (Palm Island).

Medical Missionary Training Institute Inc is looking for a successful applicant, preferably a married couple, to continue the health work on Palm Island. The successful applicant will be spirit directed and passionate about the Adventist health message. Program support and development supplied. Non-professionals encouraged to apply. Commitment will be from 12 to 24 months. Applications can be emailed to Beverley Krogdahl at <info@mmti.org.au>. For more information or enquiries, please phone 0458 536 115.

## POSITIONS VACANT

**School secretary—Carlisle Adventist Christian College (Mackay, Qld).** Do you love kids and enjoy people? Are you competent in processing financial matters, able to be trained in MAZE, computer competent in publishing, self-motivated and able to work unsupervised? The successful applicant will have demonstrated administrative and word processing skills and an ability to operate independently and/or with limited supervision with numerous interruptions, good communication skills, ability to work with all members of the school community (teachers, administration, parents, students, visitors) both individually and as a member of a team and demonstrate and be supportive of a strong Christian Adventist ethos. Previous secretarial and clerical experience an advantage. MAZE training provided. Above award wages; remuneration rate available on application. This is a full-time position commencing January 12, 2015. Contact the principal for the job description and key selection criteria at <principal@carlisle.adventist.edu.au> or on (07) 4949 7455, and email or send your resume to PO Box 10419, Mt Pleasant, Qld 4741. Applications close **October 27, 2014.**

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



**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. All advertisements, appreciation, anniversary, wedding and obituary notices may be submitted via <ads@record.net.au>. Please note all notices should be a maximum of 80 words and may be edited in accordance with Record style. Record reserves the right to shorten notices due to space constraints.

**ALL NEW  
AND IMPROVED**

# Biblical Archaeology at your fingertips



**DIG DEEPER INTO THE PAST WITH A DIGITAL OR PRINT EDITION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIGGINGS**

Subscribe to the print edition online at  
**[www.diggings.com.au](http://www.diggings.com.au)**

or phone **1800 240 543**

Australia only, all other countries phone +61 2 9847 2222

Download the interactive digital version to your  
iPad, iPhone, Android device or Kindle Fire.

Scan for  
direct access  
to the App store

