

**KIDS CONNECT  
AT CAMPOREE** page 10

**ADRA RESPONDS TO  
ADELAIDE HILLS FIRES** page 7

**NO STRINGS ATTACHED** page 16





# DO YOU HEAR YOURSELF BEING CALLED TO THE MINISTRY OF TEACHING?

## APPLY NOW FOR AVONDALE'S MASTER OF TEACHING (PRIMARY OR SECONDARY)

Do you have an undergraduate degree in a field other than teaching, but are ready to shape the lives of others by becoming a teacher? Apply now to commence in March and you could be a teacher in just two years!

Avondale offers two graduate entry teaching degrees via distance education (online):

- **Master of Teaching (Primary)**, or
- **Master of Teaching (Secondary)**.

"I chose to study the MTch because I wanted to add another dimension to my undergraduate degree. My previous study made me really passionate about teaching history, and I get great joy when I see the students share my passion."

**TARA HANSEN**

Teacher, Hills Adventist College

BASED ON THE 2013 AUSTRALIAN GRADUATE SURVEY, 90% OF 2012 AVONDALE TEACHING GRADUATES WERE EMPLOYED WITHIN APPROXIMATELY FOUR MONTHS OF COMPLETING THEIR DEGREE.

COMMONWEALTH SUPPORTED PLACES (HECS-HELP) AVAILABLE TO ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES.

To find out more or to apply online, visit [www.avondale.edu.au/r215](http://www.avondale.edu.au/r215)  
Alternatively, phone **1800 991 392** (Australia) or **+61 2 4980 2377** (International).

## 100 years celebrated on the track

*Efogi, Papua New Guinea*

More than 5000 campers gathered at Efogi, a village along the Kokoda Track (Papua New Guinea), with the 700 residents of the village to celebrate 100 years of Adventism in the district.

The theme "Tracking to Glory Land" was appropriate, as many of the campers had trekked for three or four days to attend the 12-day celebration from December 10 to 21, 2014.

Five flame runners, grandsons of pioneer Koiari missionaries, had spent three days carrying two lighted lamps from Owens Corner at the southern end of the Kokoda Track to Efogi for the official opening. Pictured are Berry Geda, grandson of Faole Adobo; Martin Otio and Geda Vame, grandsons of Timothy Baigani; Benson Morgan, grandson of Belesi Elulu; and Elisha Peter, grandson of Boloni Kelea.

Present at the celebrations were Papua New Guinea Union Mission president Dr Leigh Rice and Adventist politician and Environment Minister John Pundari, whose department oversees the Kokoda Track Authority. Also in attendance were Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and other PNG government representatives, together with Mission presidents Pastor Kove Tau (Central Papuan Conference), Pastor Peter Oli (Western Highlands Mission, who was pastor-teacher at Efogi in 1976-77), Pastor Peter Yorio (North East Papua Mission, where the track ends) and Pastor Kepsie Elodo (Bougainville Mission and son of Efogi).

In 1914, pioneer Pacific missionary Pastor William Lock extended the mission work from Bisiatabu where the Church had commenced work six years earlier. With his wife and family he settled in Launumu village and from there the Adventist Church spread along the Kokoda Track and to the surrounding villages.

By the Second World War the Adventist message had spread north and the villages along the southern half of the track were Adventist.

"The coming of the Adventist message to the Mt Koiari area transformed the communities," Pastor Elodo said. "The story of Jesus and the Adventist lifestyle won the hearts of the people. My grandfather happily gave land for the establishment of the mission in Efogi. This is now the district headquarters and there is a clinic and primary school here. The Church is working with the national government to see the establishment of a high school for the district."

As part of the celebrations a new Adventist church at Launumu was dedicated. Displayed prominently in front of the church are the remains of the *gaba*: the original log bell (part of the Fijian connection) that Pastor Lock had made to summons the congregation to worship.

Local MP Peter Isoaimo and James Enage, CEO of the Kokoda Track Authority, unveiled a plaque commemorating the 100 years. Mr Enage is a son of Launumu and was instrumental in sourcing funding and overseeing the logistics of getting materials into this isolated site. "The costs more than double because of the isolation of Launumu," he said.

"The track passes right in front of the church and more than 5000 international trekkers will see it each year," Pastor Tau said. "The influence of the church will spread around the world." —*Leigh Rice/Record staff*



Torchbearers: grandsons of the pioneers.

## Tragedy at Sydney Tongan church

*Leppington, New South Wales*

An eight-year-old boy has died following an accident at a construction site at an Adventist church property in Sydney.

Erwin Makafana was playing at the back of the Sydney Tongan Seventh-day Adventist Church's two-hectare property in Leppington when stored building materials fell on top of him. The church was in the process of finishing construction of a new function hall.

"Apparently there was a number of people out there with children; the children were playing as children do, they have wandered over to the materials," Inspector Mick Pearsall

told Nine News. "Unfortunately as kids do they played and didn't realise the danger in these things, and a number of these blocks has trapped one of the children."

The boy was taken to Liverpool Hospital where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

Erwin's parents were on the church property at the time of the accident. His father, a builder and the church's treasurer, was helping to put in a sound wall around the hall.

"I'm devastated by this accident," Tongan church pastor Sitiveni Fine Teupa said. "Our whole community is heartbroken. There is nothing more precious to us than our children. We are going to thoroughly investigate how this accident occurred. All work on the site has ended until we complete the review.

"Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers. We're all in deep shock." —*Record staff*



The hall at the back of the Tongan church property.



## Love life advice

James Standish

How can modern marriages survive and thrive? A friend, who sadly has been twice divorced, thought she'd found the formula in an article she copied to Facebook. The problem? The article's author admitted up front that she had failed at her marriage too; and as I read her opinion of how to succeed, it was obvious why.

It just so happens I read that article during a week of strange confluences. First, a colleague casually told me: "Your marriage is the one we all look up to." I'd never thought of my colleagues noticing our marriage, let alone evaluating it! Later in the same week a friend I've known since second grade said, "Don't you know we're 'generation divorce'—you guys are bucking the trend!" And in the very same week, I kid you not, we received a note from a friend that read, in part: "I really admire . . . the kind of heavenly atmosphere you have at your home . . . I come out of your home feeling inspired and grateful!"

Just in case you're tempted to think my everyday life is filled with admiration and success, fear not: it's very much the exception! But it's an exception that has me thinking.

The truth is that I went to graduate schools with people who have been fabulously more financially successful. I have friends who are better looking, in better shape and who have better toys.

But when it comes to love, my life has come up trumps.

There aren't many things I feel excessively well-qualified to provide advice on. But if writers whose marriages ended in a crumpled heap are writing marriage advice columns, would it really be presumptuous for me to have a stab at love life advice?

So here it is: my Valentine's Day five steps to a successful love life:

### **Step one: if you want a match made in heaven, let heaven make your match**

I'm not always the best at surrendering my will to God. But in the case of proposing, I did. And God was gracious enough to give me the strongest "yes" I can recall. Only after His "yes" did I ask for Leisa's "yes". I married the girl God told me to marry. Our marriage is witness that you can't do better than that.

### **Step two: share a common purpose**

We agreed at the outset that our marriage would be filled with the love of God. We pray, go to church and study together. We're very imperfect, and we've had our ups and downs like all human beings, but together we're still on the same Christian path 23 years later. And that's a beautiful thing.

### **Step three: invest in each other**

Marriage is about sharing life together—and stretching ourselves out of our mental cocoons to experience a whole new dimension of life that our spouse gives to us. Loving another person involves learning to love—or at least taking a polite interest in—the things that bring them joy. If you have children, remember that a strong marriage is the best gift you can give them. So go off on dates regularly. And take the occasional spectacular holiday without them. Investment also means forgiving each other. Regularly and completely.

### **Step four: don't flirt with anyone other than your spouse**

Obvious? Yes. But it's shocking how many people get this one wrong.

### **Step five: painful compromises**

"You can't always get what you want, but if you try sometimes, well you just might find you get what you need" as the old Rolling Stones song goes. And that's certainly true in any healthy marriage. In fact, if you always get what you want, that's a sure sign your spouse isn't getting what he/she needs. And pretty soon, you won't be either.

Ellen White calls the Christian home a "powerful argument" for our faith. I don't know if our home quite qualifies. Certainly, like in all homes, we have our share of moments of emotional turmoil. But the love, kindness—the fun—we have together gives us confidence, stability and energy. It's a beautiful, precious, marvellous thing.

My net worth is nothing to brag about. My career is a bit of a zigzagging mess. I could stand to lose a few kilos. All true enough. But I've found true love. And that's an achievement I cherish above all others. And now you know how—just in time for Valentine's Day.

Dr Barry Oliver Senior consulting editor  
James Standish Communication director  
Jarrod 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: Charmaine Patel  
"More than 70 Pathfinders were baptised at the SPD iThirst Camporee."

Official news magazine of the South Pacific  
Division Seventh-day Adventist Church  
ABN 59 093 117 689  
Vol 120 No 2



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



## Declaration of dependence

Linden Chuang

I was standing at Gate 24 at Melbourne Airport waiting to board my flight to Newcastle. The outlook for the day was promising. In a couple of hours I'd be hanging out with my brother on a sunny afternoon in Cooranbong (not the destination of dreams but a pretty decent place to relax nonetheless).

Then the phone rang.

"Hello, Linden speaking."

"Hi Linden, this is Maria\* from Dr Copeland's office."

"Oh, hi Maria."

"Please don't be alarmed but the results of your ECG (electrocardiogram) have come in and we need you to go to hospital right away."

"Oh," I said—rather alarmed. "Okay, umm . . . I'm actually at the airport about to board a flight to Newcastle. Is it that serious? Can I check into a hospital when I land?"

"No! I'm sorry I can't give you any more information but I can't allow you to get on that plane. You need to go to the hospital, *now*."

"Okay I will. Thanks Maria. Bye."

The bus/train trip from the airport to the hospital was one of the most unnerving experiences of my life. The feelings of worry and anxiety were terribly overwhelming. It eventually got to a point where I had had enough and I resigned my fate to God.

I can honestly say there are few things as sweet as completely surrendering oneself to God. The feeling of placing your biggest burdens into the hands of the One who carries the world—sorry, the universe(s)—is incredibly liberating. I guess you could call it that peace "which surpasses all understanding" that Paul talks about (Philippians 4:7). This peace doesn't solve all your problems—it simply brings you into a place where you can be OK with the idea of being not OK.

Sadly, I don't enter into this place often enough. I don't know about you, but my dependence on God is fleeting at best and it usually takes a tragedy—or a potential tragedy—for me to fall at the foot of the cross. But God deserves to be more than a last resort. The fact is we don't need Him at the worst of times—we need Him *all* the time, every second of every single day.

*"Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge" (Psalm 62:8 NIV).*

In case you're wondering, my heart is fine. The ECG had simply picked up some irregular palpitations, which doctors later put down to a viral infection. The reason for their initial concern was I didn't feel sick and they thought the palpitations may have been a sign of some heart condition I can't remember the name of (I think it started with a "B" . . . it could have been an "M").

I'm thankful to God that it wasn't serious, yet there may come a time when my heart does fail or some other tragedy befalls. I just don't know. What I do know is God is calling for my dependence in both the worst of times and the best of times—as well as everything else in between.

\* Real names not used

Linden Chuang is editorial assistant of Adventist Record—digital.



## Global mission

As I put pen to paper, Julie and I are about to make the long journey home after attending a meeting of our global Church leaders in the Dominican Republic.

The Dominican Republic shares a border with the country of Haiti, reportedly one of the poorest countries in the world.

We were able to take time out of the meetings to help construct a village church and Sabbath School lamb shelter through a Maranatha building project. It was a blessing for us to work alongside the local people and experience their anticipation and joy in having a church to worship in.

Church leaders were meeting to review the agenda for the upcoming General Conference (GC) Session and to pray for the power of the Holy Spirit to be experienced in greater measure in the Church and the world. As we met I looked around and was again reminded of the global nature of our Church. Division leaders representing every country in the world were present. GC leaders who themselves come from several continents sat with us. I thought about the challenges and joys of being a global family and I was again moved by the commission of Jesus to share the good news of the gospel in all the world.

With all that is happening around the globe on a daily basis, that mandate may seem more daunting than ever before. Humanly speaking the task seems impossible. But such have always been the circumstances when God has acted as only He can. We do not need to sensationalise or exaggerate the events that will herald the coming of Jesus. We just need to open our eyes and at the same time seek the presence and power of God in our lives on a daily basis. Our mission is global . . . but at the same time it's so local that it involves just my God and me. God's blessings to each of you.

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



#### Just not cricket

The Australian Christian Lobby has responded to Pakistan's blasphemy laws by calling for their national cricket team to be banned from the upcoming World Cup. Among the 16 Pakistanis on death row for blasphemy is Christian woman Asia Bibi—sentenced to death in 2010 for allegedly making derogatory comments about the prophet Mohammed. —ACL



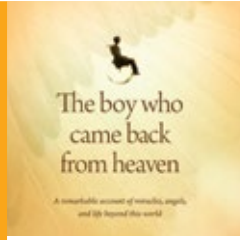
#### Soon and very soon

Famous for gospel favourites such as "Soon And Very Soon" and "The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power", legendary singer-songwriter Andraé Crouch has died, aged 72. After his debut in 1960, Crouch was instrumental in the Jesus Music movement. He had suffered from ill health for some time. —Time



#### Churches targeted

At least eight churches have been burned during riots in Niger. A mob of up to 1000 youths raged through the capital, Niamey, clashing with police. Meanwhile, around 255 Christians in Niger's second largest city, Zinder, were placed under military protection. The rioters are angry over the *Charlie Hebdo* cartoon depicting the prophet Mohammed after the French terror attack. —AFP



#### Heaven story recanted

Bestselling book *The Boy Who Came Back From Heaven*—written by Alex Malarkey with his father Kevin—has been recalled after Alex recanted his story. He says he did not meet Jesus or go to heaven and just made the claims to get attention. Christian publisher Tyndale House has recalled the book and all associated products. —Washington Post



#### Deadly massacre

An estimated 2000 people have been killed in Baga, Nigeria, by extremist group Boko Haram. According to reports, extremists drove into villages and fired grenades and assault rifles on unsuspecting residents. Most of the victims are believed to be women, children and elderly people who could not flee the attack. Many Christians were also killed in the massacre. —Christian Post



#### World's worst

For the thirteenth year in a row North Korea has been named the world's toughest country in which to be a Christian. Second on the Open Doors 2015 World Watch List is Somalia, with Iraq and Syria also high on the list. A couple of African nations have jumped into the top 10: Sudan is sixth and Nigeria 10th on the list. —World Watch List

## POSITION VACANT Chief Executive Officer | Adventist HealthCare

AHCL Board is seeking applications from suitably experienced and highly motivated individuals for the position of Chief Executive Officer of Adventist HealthCare.

Adventist HealthCare Limited is based in Wahroonga, NSW and comprises the following entities: Sydney Adventist Hospital, Dalcross Adventist Hospital, San Day Surgery Hornsby and San Diagnostics and Pharmacy. Adventist HealthCare is currently operating 551 registered overnight beds and 28 operating theatres and has almost completed a major development project on the Sydney Adventist Hospital (SAH) site. The new development at SAH will see the hospital expand bed capacity to 535 registered overnight beds, 24 operating theatres and an integrated Cancer Centre. The new Clark tower includes 40 state-of-the-art maternity beds and 9 delivery suites. Currently plans are in progress for the development of rehabilitation beds at Dalcross and an expanded role is being considered for the San Day Surgery Hornsby site.

As CEO you have practical experience in infrastructure management and a broad knowledge of the issues, challenges and opportunities within the private health sector.

For further skills and qualification information please refer [www.adventisthealthcare.org.au](http://www.adventisthealthcare.org.au) or [www.adventistemployment.org.au](http://www.adventistemployment.org.au).

For further information please contact:

Dr Barry Oliver, Chairman Board Directors

Email: [Barry.Oliver@adventist.org.au](mailto:Barry.Oliver@adventist.org.au) or Phone 9847 3211

Address applications to:

Melva Lee, Director Human Resources

Email: [Melva.Lee@sah.org.au](mailto:Melva.Lee@sah.org.au)

Sydney Adventist Hospital 185 Fox Valley Road Wahroonga NSW 2076

Applications close 5pm 27 March 2015

## New era for Avondale

Cooranbong, New South Wales

Avondale College of Higher Education has become the first Australian non-university higher education provider to be granted self-accrediting authority by the country's national regulator.

The classification from the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) means Avondale can self-accredit all of its higher education courses, including higher degrees by course work and by research.

"Self-accrediting authority is not granted lightly," said TEQSA's acting chief commissioner Professor Nick Saunders.

Avondale submitted its application in July—the initial documentation exceeded 2000 pages—and a "rigorous" assessment process followed. But as Professor Saunders noted, TEQSA benefitted from accrediting multiple Avondale courses over the past few years. This gave the regulator a better understanding of Avondale's academic governance and of its quality assurance processes.

"TEQSA looked for evidence of proven experience, a history of low risk and, most importantly, strong academic governance and the ability to self-assure critical higher education processes," he said.

Chair of Avondale's governing body, Dr Barry Oliver, who has served on the Avondale College Council for 17 years, welcomed the news.

"It's probably impossible to say any one milestone is the most significant but this has to be right up there," he said.

College president Professor Ray Roennfeldt described the granting of self-accrediting authority as a "new era for

Avondale".

"While self-accrediting authority does not provide university status, it does require that the institution's internal processes are at least as robust and rigorous as that of a university," he said. "So in this regard it is a large step towards the fulfilment of

Avondale's vision to be an Australian Christian university."

He is grateful to all members of Avondale's staff, particularly vice-president (quality and strategy) Professor Jane Fernandez who "capably managed the application process".

"Our staff make Avondale what it is: a provider of quality higher education that motivates people to serve human-kind," Prof Roennfeldt said.

But with new responsibility comes new challenges. "We must—and will—live up to the trust that has been extended to us," he said.

Established by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1897, Avondale has been a registered higher education provider since 1974. It has been offering postgraduate masters degrees since the early 1990s and doctoral degrees since 2006.—*Brenton Stacey*



Self-accrediting authority moves Avondale another step closer to university status.

## ADRA responds to Adelaide Hills fires

Adelaide Hills, South Australia

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Australia provided support to the victims of last month's devastating Adelaide Hills fires.

ADRA Emergency Management coordinator for South Australia, Henk La Dru, said the government's State Recovery Office requested volunteers to assist in the emergency call centre.

"Thanks to our committed volunteers we were able to meet the request quickly," he said.

"The ADRA Community Centre in Parafield opened its doors to provide a safe place for people affected. The centre is air-conditioned and

child-friendly, and our volunteers were keen to support those seeking refuge.

"With an established presence in the area and a network of volunteers on the ground we were ready to offer assistance quickly."

In addition, ADRA responded to a request by the Country Fire Service for water and food to support its volunteers.

ADRA liaised with the State Recovery Office in order to offer assistance as necessary.

This was the first time ADRA Australia has been able to respond to disasters in South Australia through direct requests from the State Government. A formal agreement for an established role is currently under negotiation.

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



The Adelaide Hills fires destroyed 27 homes.

is God  
delusion

paleo,  
quit sugar  
or 5:2?

answers to  
life's big  
questions

FIFTY SHADES  
OR JUST  
PLAIN SHADY?

TO SUBSCRIBE OR  
SEND AS A GIFT

AUS  
1800 035 542

NZ  
0800 770 565

One-year gift  
subscription AU\$25 (NZ\$30)



## Vanuatu's big year of baptisms

Port Vila, Vanuatu

Christmas blessings came early for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Vanuatu, with 543 people baptised at the conclusion of the "PV14: Hope for Port Vila" campaign.

The baptism, which took place at the Ex-Fol sports complex in Vanuatu's capital city, came three months after 2213 people were baptised following a similar program in September.

The two city-wide campaigns were part of the Seventh-day Adventist world Church's Mission to the Cities initiative. These events, combined with other campaigns held around the island nation throughout 2014, resulted in more than 3315 baptisms.

"Somehow God has chosen to bless Vanuatu Mission five or six times more than the average annual baptisms of 600 in the past," general secretary Simon Luke said.

The latest baptismal ceremony served as the climax of an 11-day campaign hosted by Pastor Jean-Noel Adeline, Church Ministries (Cluster) leader for the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference (NZPUC).

More than 6000 people attended the program on a nightly basis with some travelling from as far as the country's outer islands.

An even larger crowd of approximately 10,000 people, made up of both Adventists and non-Adventists, braved heat and rain to witness the baptisms.

A big part of the Church's PV14 campaigns were a number of downlink sites set up across the country. December's meetings featured 20 downlink sites, up from the eight sites used in September.

The effectiveness of these sites was shown on the final weekend of the program. According to Mr Luke, a man who had been watching the ceremony on the Presbyterian island of Ifira "rang and begged them to hold [the ceremony] a little longer".

"He said, 'please, can you tell Pastor to wait for me? I am coming to be baptised,'" Mr Luke recalled. "He then took the boat across and made his way to the pool."

More than five prisoners were also baptised as a result of watching the live broadcast on HopeChannel. A number of government officials and a 106-year-old lady also committed their lives to Christ through baptism.

Despite the success, Mr Luke said running the campaign wasn't without its challenges. There was opposition from other denominations during the event, and up until the final day there were "just over a hundred" people requesting baptism.

"But what happened the next morning on Sabbath was truly a miracle," Mr Luke said. "The whole event was no doubt a test of God's power and He did manifest it in a powerful way."—Linden Chuang




Pastor Jean-Noel Adeline speaks during the December campaign.





# In the path of an inferno

by James Standish



Dorothea Mackellar describes her “sunburnt country” as a land of beauty and a land of terror. And there's nothing in this land that terrifies more than the destructive power of fast-moving bushfires on a blistering hot summer's day. Stringy bark lights up like fuses. Gum trees explode like firebombs. And the hot winds spread burning twigs and leaves like matches for kilometres around. If you think you can outrun, outfight, outlast an Australian bushfire, it's because you've never experienced one.

Some say you can't truly understand the heart of Australia until you've weathered a raging bushfire on your property, sifted through the remains of your charred belongings and, in the smoking aftermath, thanked God that at least you're still alive. Bushfires are how this rugged land purifies and regenerates. But there's no process on earth that's more gut-wrenching.

From January 2-9, bushfires raged through the Adelaide Hills and Adventists were caught in the middle of the crisis.

South Australian Conference president Pastor Andrew Kingston found his four-hectare property in the path of the inferno. “We thought we'd lost everything,” he says. “It is shocking to come home and see the land blacked and charred in every direction.” But his home? “The fire came right up our carport but no further. Sadly, the caravan I'd bought for retirement and parked under trees for shade, it was burned to cinders. I imported it from the UK especially.

So much for our human plans! But we still have a home and, much more importantly, we still have each other. For that we are profoundly grateful to God.”

Pastor Kingston wasn't the only Adventist who found themselves in the path of the fire. Lyndon Wright was certain his home would be consumed. When needed most, his trusty fire pump spluttered and died. The fire was racing towards him and he had no way to respond or prepare apart from bucketing water from his swimming pool and hurling it on the approaching flames. All through this he was praying for God to do something.

Just as the raging fire was about to hit he heard a rumbling sound in the distance. It came closer and louder, and then, through the blinding smoke he saw Elvis: the air-crane helicopter that holds 9500 litres of pure firefighting gold. It dumped its contents and saved his home. It came back a little while later and dumped a second load for good measure.

“We were fortunate this time,” Pastor Kingston says. “No Adventists lost their homes. But we also know some of our friends and neighbours did lose their homes, their pets, their cars and everything they owned. Our hearts and prayers go out to them, as does our hand of help and friendship. This is a tough, tough land sometimes. But through bonds of mateship we can help each other. It's all about doing for others as we'd hope for. And you can't get much more Aussie—or Christian—than that.”

This also was the first time ADRA Australia had responded to a disaster in South Australia after a direct request from the state government. For more on ADRA's response see page 7.

## Adelaide bushfires January 2-9

27 homes, 125 outbuildings lost

134 injuries

0 fatalities

\$A13 million damage

*James Standish is editor of Adventist Record and director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty.*

Source: Wikipedia



# *kids connect at* **camporee**



After two years of planning the iThirst South Pacific Division Pathfinder Camporee at Toowoomba (Queensland) was a once-in-a-lifetime “memory event” that kept thousands of energetic Pathfinders involved in physical and spiritual activities during the second week of January.



Opening parade. No less than 14 South Pacific nations were represented among the approximately 8000 Pathfinders and leaders who participated in the camporee.



Featured speaker, Pastor Eddie Hypolite, presented on a God who can transform broken lives.



Hillamore Faiumu (centre) was one of the reggae-influenced worship team who led the camporee in its musical feast.



The good clean fun of camporee involved getting thoroughly drenched in glorious mud!



Prayer of dedication. Nearly 500 staff members, many of them volunteers, came from across the South Pacific to coordinate the largest camporee ever held on Australian soil.



Sabbath was a high day with more than 70 Pathfinders baptised. A tally of the commitment cards filled out on Friday night produced the following numbers:

- Requests for Bible studies 1483**
- Requests for baptisms 472**
- Commitments to Christ 1663**
- Commitments to serve 2330**

The next SPD-wide camporee will be held in 2023. ⇨

Making friends. Pathfinders were divided into 12 subcamps, where clubs from different parts of the South Pacific Division mingled. Filo (left), from Tacirua, Fiji, and Liviana from Griffith, NSW, started talking when they met during the Water Witness activity. "You can introduce yourself to new people and tell them what you like," Liviana said. "You can ask what they like and what their name is. And just be friendly."





### Investiture program at Homu

Sixty-two Pathfinders and 22 Adventurers were recently invested at Homu Mission Station (Eastern Highlands Union Mission, PNG). The ceremony was conducted by eight Master Guides, several of whom invested their children and grandchildren. Homu district director Pastor Williamson Torosa was the guest speaker. He encouraged them all to "be light-bearers and shine for Jesus". —*Peter Bopalo*



### Food for the needy

Volunteers at Port Elliot's ADRA Op Shop (SA) packed and delivered food parcels to more than 210 financially disadvantaged families at Christmas. Families are the main focus with local schools providing ADRA with lists of those needing assistance. "We try and make sure each family gets three or four parcels each year," manager Lynelle Packer said. —*The Times (Victor Harbor)*



### Beulah baptisms

A Mormon teacher and 50 students were baptised at Beulah College, Tonga, in 2014. College chaplain Pastor Heilala Feaomoeata continued Bible studies with the group after the Last Empire series was held in June. He was also the main speaker for an evangelistic series at Beulah in October. Many of the baptismal candidates were Form 6 students. —*TPUM newsletter*



### Huggles and Heartsongs launch

More than 50 people attended the recent Cooranbong (NSW) launch of "Huggles and Heartsongs", a children's music CD. Kylie Stacey and Coralie Fraser recruited nine musicians to help produce the CD for Asian Aid. "I consider it an absolute joy to be involved in music with young children," Kylie said. "It is at a young age that children receive their first glimpse of God and His love for them." Funds raised through sales of the CD will be used to empower children through Asian Aid's Hope in Communities program. —*Sonja Larsen*



### University students connect

University students and young adults from across Australia met in the Blue Mountains (NSW) for the annual Adventist Students Association convention in January. The main speaker was Pastor Roy Ice, who shared practical and biblical advice on discovering your life purpose and coming to really know God. Activities included relaxing at a local swimming hole, a giant water fight, bubble soccer (played in inflatable balls), a 200m multi-pitch abseil and a Rubik's Cube party (pictured). All those involved were greatly blessed and inspired to seek God's leading in their lives. —*Brenton Race*



### Training disciples

Two thousand church members in Port Vila (Vanuatu) came together recently for discipleship training based on the World Changers Bible. The training was run by Pastor Maveni Kaufononga from the Trans Pacific Union Mission and Pastor Charlie Jimmy from the Vanuatu Mission. Every participant was challenged to pray for five friends, share their faith and invite them to public evangelistic meetings. —*Jean-Pierre Niptik*



### New church plant

A new Indian church plant has been established in Sorokoba village as a result of the work of Fijian church members and evangelistic meetings conducted in Lautoka by Pastor Tiko Kabu. It is one of 94 new churches the Fiji Mission planted in 2014. The Indian people continue to appreciate visits from the Fijian church members. —*TPUM newsletter*



### Closing the gap

Refurbishing Kuranda Adventist church (Qld) has led to offers of employment for 35 local jobseekers, including seven members of the indigenous community. Church member Judith Enoch said the project had helped to close the gap in youth unemployment. —*Tablelands Advertiser*



## Partnering in health

When we think of good health role models we often think of people diligently eating leafy green lunches or spending their weekends running marathons, but new research out of the UK shows us that we all have a powerful chance to help those around us, no matter what point of the health spectrum we are at.

Researchers from the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing recently looked at 3722 participants over the age of 50 who were either married or living together as couples. Their goal was to measure changes in three healthy behaviours: smoking cessation, increased physical activity and a weight loss of 5 per cent of body weight or greater.

What the researchers found was that when one partner made a change to adopt one of these healthy behaviours, the other partner was also more likely to make a positive change. What was interesting though is that if a participant already didn't smoke or was already consistently physically active, this also increased the chance of their partner making these changes, but not as much as in couples both making the new change together.

More and more we see the media and internet saturated with stories about people who seem to eat impossibly perfect diets and who love nothing more than three hours of exercise before breakfast. As inspiring as those people can be, what we often forget is that it can be just as inspiring to watch the person next to you—someone you can relate to—take that first step to health. So take that step today.



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)



### Indian Spinach and Tofu Curry

Preparation time: 20 minutes  
Cooking time: 20 minutes Serves: 4.

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 teaspoon grated fresh ginger
- 1 clove garlic, crushed
- 1 onion diced
- 2 tablespoons medium curry paste
- 375g packet of firm tofu, cut into cubes
- 2 tablespoons pumpkin seed kernels
- 8 cups (250g) English spinach leaves (or frozen spinach)
- 2 tomatoes, diced
- 4 cups steamed brown rice

1. Heat a frypan over medium heat, add oil, ginger, garlic, onion, and curry paste. Cook for 2 minutes, stirring constantly until fragrant.
2. Add tofu and fry for 5-8 minutes until tofu is coated. Add pumpkin kernels and cook for 2 minutes. Add spinach, place a lid on the pan and cook for a further 3 minutes until spinach is soft.
3. Add the tomatoes and stir until combined and heated through. Serve with steamed rice.

**NUTRITION INFORMATION PER SERVE:**  
1950kJ (465cal). Protein 17g. Fat 14g.  
Carbohydrate 63g. Sodium 480mg. Potassium 740mg. Calcium 265mg. Iron 8.5mg. Fibre 8g.

A close-up photograph of a man's face, slightly out of focus, looking down at a white ceramic mug he is holding with his right hand. The background is a soft, blurred green, suggesting an outdoor setting. The overall mood is contemplative and focused on the act of drinking.

# Not-so-perfect cuppa

by Dr Elizabeth Ostring

**F**OR 100 YEARS SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS stood out as social oddities because we did not smoke. But by accepting the insights of a godly woman we were spared the now well-known major health issues that tobacco use causes.

Today the world has finally caught up with us on tobacco. It's even recognising the benefits of an alcohol-free and meat-free lifestyle. But there's one area of health that

finds society moving in precisely the opposite direction from Adventist teachings.

Today, in some societies, four out of five adults drink coffee, and many of those who don't, drink tea or caffeinated soft drinks. This use of caffeine is not generally viewed as a health concern by contemporary society. Rather it's celebrated. As one New Zealand website joyously put it:

*In the last couple of decades, New Zealand has undergone a coffee revolution as many Kiwis have become connoisseurs of their favoured black beverage.<sup>1</sup>*

But more than 100 years ago Adventists were advised by Ellen White to avoid caffeine. Was her advice correct? Or did she misunderstand something? Should we follow her counsel? Or should we go with the practices of contemporary society? To answer this question, the place to start is at the beginning.

Coffee was developed in Ethiopia in the ninth century. It was originally known as the “wine of the bean” because it was used to circumvent the Muslim prohibition against alcohol. It became an essential part of the performance-driven religious behaviour of the “whirling dervishes” associated with the mystical Sufi branch of Islam. Christian churches originally outlawed it but in the 16th century the Pope blessed its use. English women were initially banned from coffee houses. In return they suspected coffee reduced their husbands’ potency. Were they correct?

Even as caffeine is being embraced as the fuel necessary to sustain our 24/7 culture, the scientific evidence is beginning to pour in. And it isn’t looking good for coffee.

Kenneth Kendler, director of the Virginia Institute for Psychiatric and Behavioural Genetics, studied 3600 twins. Because of caffeine’s widespread use it’s extremely difficult to obtain appropriate controls—that is, to find enough people who don’t use caffeine to form the population of similarly situated people necessary to compare with those who do. Thus his study could only show what a reduction in coffee use demonstrated. He found that more than five cups of coffee a day doubled the risk of antisocial personality disorders, panic attacks, anxiety, depression, and the use of cannabis, cocaine and alcohol. According to Kendler, coffee is a substance that “influences the way you think”. That is, caffeine is a mind-altering drug.

Five cups of coffee a day is a lot. However, there are two things to remember.

First, the caffeine in a “cup of coffee” is generally measured by a traditionally sized cup of regular brewed coffee. But the amount of caffeine in a cup of coffee varies dramatically. A US study, for example, found Starbucks coffee had roughly twice the caffeine content of some other widely available brands.<sup>2</sup> In addition, coffee cup sizes have expanded dramatically. A large (“venti”) Starbucks coffee contains roughly 3.3 times the volume of a standard-sized cup. Put another way, just one venti cup of Starbucks coffee may have the caffeine content of 6.6 standard cups.

Second, the question whether the cumulative use of one or two standard cups of coffee over an extended period of time raises the possibility of psychological problems

has not been adequately explored. It is, however, a very real possibility.

In addition to psychological damage, caffeine has been shown to increase blood pressure, blood cholesterol, and, tragically, the rate of stillbirth. It’s also associated with an increase in heart attacks in people with a particular gene variant, and, as is well-known, significantly increases sleep disorders. And remember the concerns of those English women all those years ago? Recent research has found they were right: caffeine does reduce a man’s potency—something to think about men before you drink your next cuppa.

But aren’t the performance benefits worth it? The Cochrane Library, the world’s foremost collection of evidence-based medical information, concludes that there’s no evidence that caffeine improves physical or mental performance.

And what of the claimed health benefits? The most common health benefit touted for coffee is that it’s rich in antioxidants. The problem? Antioxidants are prevalent in fruits, vegetables, legumes and nuts—none of which have the significant health concerns that accompany coffee. Similarly, many of the other health benefits reported can be obtained using healthy foods. In addition, in most cases, the benefits reported for coffee don’t outweigh the substantial negative impacts. Finally, like the loud pronouncements of the

cardiovascular “health benefits” of red wine—which have subsequently been shown to be non-existent—many of the “health benefits” of coffee reported in the media are based on small studies that are very likely to be found inaccurate when studied on a larger scale.

So what can we conclude? Caffeine is increasingly recognised by the scientific community as posing significant health issues. But what about our Church community? Sadly, just as the scientific community is beginning to wake up to the toll coffee takes on health, many Adventists are embracing its consumption. We should not forget, however, that it’s the same vindicated source of information that protected us from tobacco use that advises against caffeine. God used Ellen White to give us this advice, not to keep us from something good, but to help us live healthy, balanced, positive lives. Caffeinated drinks do not improve the quality of life; they merely raise the financial and health costs. It’s time for all of us to live caffeine-free. ✎

**God used Ellen White to give us this advice, not to keep us from something good, but to help us live healthy, balanced, positive lives.**

1. New Zealand’s Dedicated Coffee Culture, [http://www.newzealand.com/travel/en/media/features/food-&-wine/food&wine\\_new-zealands-coffee-scene\\_feature.cfm](http://www.newzealand.com/travel/en/media/features/food-&-wine/food&wine_new-zealands-coffee-scene_feature.cfm)  
 2. How Much Caffeine Is Actually in Your Coffee, From Dunkin’ to Starbucks, [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/thrillist/caffeine-in-coffee\\_b\\_3671665.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/thrillist/caffeine-in-coffee_b_3671665.html)

*Dr Elizabeth Ostring is an Adventist physician who writes from Auckland, New Zealand.*



# No strings attached

by Christopher Petersen

*"I've got no strings  
To hold me down  
To make me fret, or make me frown  
I had strings  
But now I'm free  
There are no strings on me."  
—Pinocchio*

**T**HE SONG "THERE ARE NO STRINGS ON ME" DEMONSTRATES the ecstatic joy of the puppet boy Pinocchio as he proclaims to the audience that he is free and not restricted by strings. However, this lighthearted song could also present us with far deeper philosophical and theological questions: Are there strings on me? Are there strings on humanity?



Each person will have their own opinion based on their unique world view. Buddhists will tell you that until you reach Nirvana you have strings attached to this mortal, physical realm. Atheists tell a different story, saying that because there is no "big man in the sky" they are not accountable and therefore have true freedom. However, from a Christian perspective, we discover that most of this earth's population do have strings and don't act of their own free will but are instead slaves to a more sinister entity.

Before we discover the secret of the strings we must investigate what it means to have no strings whatsoever.

The dream of the puppet boy Pinocchio was to become a real boy—to be human. But why does he want this so desperately? What does it mean to be human and what is so unique about it?

*"So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them" (Genesis 1:27).*

Obviously God is not referring to anatomy. So what is He talking about? He has given us the amazing gift of free will. We often take for granted (and more often misuse) this gift.

God had such a passionate love for His creation that He didn't want us to merely be His puppets, forced to be subservient to His every whim. Instead, He created us without strings, with the free will to either love or rebel against Him.

So if the very essence of being human is to have free will, and we all realise that we have freedom of choice, then how can it be suggested that any human in the world has strings attached? Or could it be that another external force is secretly, deceptively pulling the strings of unsuspecting and vulnerable humans?

*"And that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will" (2 Timothy 2:26).*

The Bible says that the devil compels us to do his will, thus taking away our free will. It pictures him as a puppet master pulling the strings. The devil is trapping ordinary people and they may not realise the full scope of their actions but they willingly allow him to do so.

You see, God gave us the freedom to choose to obey or disobey Him. But if we accept Jesus Christ and His sacrifice for us and listen to His commands, we are free from sin. However, Satan wants us to believe that keeping God's commandments restricts us and that real freedom is found in breaking the rules.

He told the same lie in the Garden of Eden. Translated from Aramaic, the Garden of Eden is actually referred to

as "The Enclosure of Pleasure". But even in Eden, Satan's lie worked, telling Eve, "Following God and staying in the enclosure is not real freedom. Real freedom is beyond the enclosure, away from God, distant from rules and commandments."

Sinful behaviour and addictions such as pornography, drugs, theft, lust and countless other sins not only separate us from God but allow Satan to enter our hearts and lives. Eventually we find it becomes increasingly difficult to resist the desires of the flesh and the more we fall into temptation and sinful desire, the more power Satan gains in our lives.

*"Jesus replied, 'Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin' " (John 8:34).*

*"The evil deeds of a wicked man ensnare him; the cords of his sin hold him fast" (Proverbs 5:22).*

But there is hope and light at the end of the tunnel as God offers a way out. A way to cut those strings completely and be free from slavery and bondage to sin, to unwind the cords that bind us to desires of the flesh and release us from the control of Satan.

*"So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" (John 8:36).*

*"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).*

*"But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world" (1 John 4:4).*

*"For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—because anyone who has died has been set free from sin" (Romans 6:6,7).*

When Jesus died on the cross as the sacrificial Lamb for all sins and said the words "It is finished", He was providing every human with the opportunity to not only accept the atonement He made for them, legally dismissing their sinful record, but also the freedom from sin by offering to cut the cords and strings that tethered us to Satan, sin, temptation and human desires. By accepting the gift we can make sure that there are no strings attached and we have true freedom in Jesus.

*"I had strings but now I'm free  
There are no strings on me!"*

➤

---

*Christopher Petersen wrote this piece while completing a week of work experience at Adventist Record.*

# Praise from a priest

by Joseph Pitakia



**V**ALASI ADVENTIST PRIMARY SCHOOL, ON THE remote island of Guadalcanal (Solomon Islands), is the only Adventist primary school serving Catholic communities in this mountainous region.

The school started around 2009 following an initiative by the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) to build a water supply system in the region. The school now has two volunteer teachers for grades one to four and a total of 87 students.

Senior teacher Caleb Ripo left school after sixth grade. Some might regard him as uneducated, however he listened to God's voice and went to work with these simple people as a "volunteer in action".

One of the highlights from last year was a visit by Catholic priest Francis Ceaser. Due to the remoteness and isolation of this region, a priest only visits once a year for the annual church festival.

For this particular visit the village elders came and asked Caleb to help them organise the festivities. They also invited Caleb and his students to participate in the welcome program.

The day came and the guest of honour arrived. Caleb and his assistant, Graham, lined up with the students and sang the welcome song.

Caleb noticed the priest's interest as the children read and sang to him. After the elders' welcome, the priest stood up and expressed his thanks to Caleb and his assistant teacher for the work they were doing for the children in his parish. He said this was the first time he had received such a welcome from his congregation in the mountains.

The priest went on to encourage and challenge his congregation to support the Adventist mission school. He said neither the government nor the Catholic Church could come up to the remote mountains and provide a Christian education. He asked the people to work closely with the teachers and their families, and also with the Adventist mission who had the heart to come and help them.

At the end of the welcome program he requested Caleb ring the bell for the evening prayer at the church. This is the main church service where members are required to make confessions to the priest. Following the service the priest visited Caleb's home and confessed to Caleb and his wife that he actually went to sleep while the people presented their confessions. He went on to say that God, and not man, should listen to confessions.

The following day, the priest preached from the book of James:

*"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.*

*"If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain" (James 1: 22-26, KJV).*

After reading the texts, he told the congregation that many of them, including himself, were like these people who read the Word but did not understand it. While they claimed to be Christ's followers they continued to practice witchcraft, smoking and drinking, and were not following the Bible's teachings.

He then made a comment that surprised Caleb and his wife. Referring to Caleb, he said there was someone in the congregation who read the Bible, understood it and followed its teachings. He said Roman Catholics read the Bible but did not understand it. "We say that we are Christian but do not accept the full teachings of the Bible."

The priest went on to challenge parents to allow their children to attend the Adventist school so that their minds could be opened and they could teach the older people the truth.

During the communion service many of the older students decided not to partake of the bread and wine. When questioned by their parents they said it did not agree with what their teacher had told them from the Bible.

After communion a feast was held. The priest told his congregation to separate the food onto two tables: one for the teachers and students who did not eat pork and some other foods, and the other for all the communities.

Before the priest left he took an evening church service and again admonished the people to support and send their children to the Adventist school.

Caleb sat through all the meetings and he was brought to tears, praising God for the messages given by the priest. He said he had been working with the people for five years but the priest had made a greater impact than what he had been able to achieve.

Caleb—named after the late Pastor Caleb Ripco, a pioneer in the highlands of Guadalcanal—and his wife have requested that our Church family remember them in their prayers. Although isolated and "uneducated" they are entrusted by God to carry out His work. ➤

*Joseph Pitakia is Education director for the Solomon Islands Mission.*



# GREY NOMADS 2015

8–16 May, 2015  
Stuarts Point Convention  
Centre

The annual North New South Wales Conference's Grey Nomads Camp will be held at the Adventist Convention Centre, Stuarts Point, NSW from 8 to 16 May, 2015.

The camp is open to Grey Nomads from across Australia, and is an excellent opportunity for retirees to meet together for fellowship and worship.

Dr David Jamieson, minister of the Aldergrove Adventist Church in Vancouver, Canada, will be the guest speaker. Pastor Geoff Youlden will conduct the morning Bible study sessions.

Applications are currently available to download from the NNSW Conference website, <http://nnsw.adventist.org.au>.

**Applications close 13 March, 2015.**

For further details about this year's Grey Nomads Camp, visit <http://nnsw.adventist.org.au/grey-nomads>, phone Debbie on (02) 4944 3220 or email [greynomads@adventist.org.au](mailto:greynomads@adventist.org.au).



## MASTERSTROKE

### Art for the Artist's sake

Australians and the British generally pronounce Vincent van Gogh as "Vincent van Goff", while Americans pronounce it as "van Go". And the actual Dutch pronunciation? According to the BBC, it sounds something like "vun Khokh". Whether he is van Goff, van Go or vun Khokh to you, the story of his life is sure to intrigue.

Did you know, for example, that van Gogh was a failed Protestant pastor? Anyone struggling in the ministry may want to consider that five of van Gogh's paintings have sold for over US\$100 million—there's hope! And there are many profound and moving spiritual messages and lessons in Vincent van Gogh's art and life that are explored in Neale Schofield's excellent new series *Masterstroke*.

The *Masterstroke* series, including the intriguing van Gogh show "Left out of the picture", is now available for free online. You can view the series, and most importantly share it with friends, at: [www.hop.ec/ms](http://www.hop.ec/ms).

God uses many ways to touch the hearts of His children. Art is a powerful way to communicate the Great Artist's love and His purpose. *Masterstroke* is a highly entertaining and intriguing way to do just that. —James Standish



LETTERS

**GREAT HOPE**

Heather Hagen, Qld

Dear Jacklyn, thank you from my tear-stained face and broken heart for sharing your story of loss with *Adventist Record* readers in our Division (My Story, January 17).

I lost my dad too early but late enough to learn some lessons in life. As I listened to others at his funeral service God impressed on my heart the incredible truth—that my dad would next open his eyes and see Jesus' face. Time means nothing to those who sleep. When our son died five years ago this same truth held us firm. Asleep in Jesus. Awake to His face as trumpets call.

May you and your lads hold fast until then. And what a great crowd will greet you on that morning—so many of the lives you have touched in your literature evangelism work. Challenge—weave your faith into poetry or stories and share. God still has a work for you.

**BOOZE FREE**

Peter Allbon, NZ

It's time for Adventists to put their "hearts where their mouths are". There is a strong call for sports in New Zealand to stop taking sponsorship from alcohol manufacturers and suppliers who use them for advertising purposes. This is a start to try and reverse the booze culture among our young people.

As a Church our beliefs take a strong stand against alcohol and rightfully so. We as a Church should get right behind the call with as much strength as we can. As a Church we have a lot of strength in our corporate business and we should unashamedly use this to promote our principles. If we don't direct our corpo-

rate business to uphold our principles then as a Church we are morally and spiritually bankrupt.

Our stand should be: any sport that actively supports alcohol advertising will have sponsorship withdrawn by our corporations. This should be done regardless of any economic consequences. Just remember what the "Smoke Free" campaign achieved.

Fellow saints in the Adventist Church, please help in this stand so we can help protect our young people.

**CHRISTMAS WORSHIP**

Michele Pascoe, NZ

Re: "Reclaiming Christmas" (Feature, December 20, 2014).

I can understand Adventists running nativity outreach programs, being hospitable and ready to talk about Yeshua/Jesus and supporting charities during December.

What I don't understand is Adventists who are willing to sacrificially keep Sabbath rather than Sunday, which originally honoured the "venerable, invincible sun god", and yet they are devoted to keeping that same false god's "birthday" on December 25 every year. They do it in their own homes with all the pagan traditions of Saturnalia, Santa suits, decorated Christmas trees, a festive meal and gifts for everyone. It's reminiscent of ancient Israel worshipping at the temple regularly and enjoying some of the local pagan customs as well.

If you think there's no idolatry involved, try not having a Christmas tree one year or only giving a big present to Jesus (charity) or having your special family lunch on another day and regarding the 25th as you do Sunday. It's not easy—we love it too much and others

expect it.

As for comparing our Messiah teaching His disciples the true meaning of the sacrificial lamb at Passover to Christians doing Christmas, that is inappropriate, verging on blasphemous. Passover was a commanded "festival of YHWH/the LORD", one of "His appointed seasons" (Leviticus 23:1), and Saturnalia a festival of the "sun god". Yeshua embraced no false worship systems—He was all about removing unscriptural human traditions from true worship.

**POOR EFFORT**

Paul White, Qld

I'm sitting at my desk looking at the front covers of *Adventist Record* for December 20, 2014 and January 17, 2015.

I note that while the photos on the covers have been changed, someone has forgotten to change the headline titles! I discovered this because, in attempting to read one of the articles highlighted on the January 17 cover, I found it was not in the magazine—in fact, none of them were.

This leads me to ponder: 1. Should I expect something better in return for the generous offering I give annually to *Record*? and 2. What else in the magazine might have its accuracy affected by similar editorial oversights?

If she were looking over my shoulder, my wife would remind me about now that I profess to be a Christian and that I should be more tolerant and forgiving. Point acknowledged so I'll let you off. This time . . .

*Editor's response:* Sorry. In the pre-Christmas madness, we messed up the titles.

*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.*

# Kids' Space

**SALAM' KIDS**

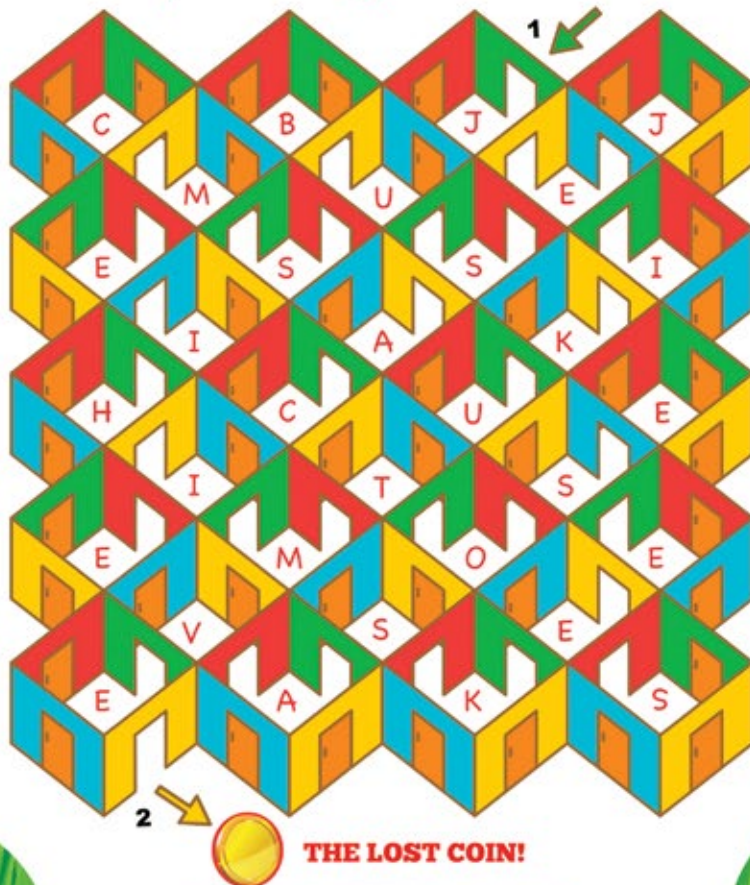


## TOO PRECIOUS TO LOSE!

After the story of the lost sheep, Jesus tells another story about a woman who has ten silver coins and loses one in her own home. She lights a lamp, sweeps the house and searches diligently until she finds it. When she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbours together to rejoice with her.

## HELP THE WOMAN FIND HER LOST COIN.

Enter door 1 and make your way through the open doors to the gold coin. Pick up letters along the way for the messages below.



### GRACE MESSAGE

\_\_\_\_\_ looks for \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_ am precious to \_\_\_\_\_.

### MEMORY VERSE

"For the Son of Man came \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
what was lost." Luke 19:10, NIV

\*Salam - peace in Urdu (Pakistan)

# Join us in 10 days of PRAYER

February  
11-21, 2015

[www.TenDaysofPrayer.org](http://www.TenDaysofPrayer.org)

## WEDDING



### Garrad—Lambe.

Joshua Garrad, son of Mark Garrad and Joanne Pidden (Plymouth, England), and Kiarylyn Lambe, daughter of John and Kerry Lambe (Brisbane, Qld), were married 5.10.14 in Brisbane Powerhouse. Joshua and Kiarylyn met during high school and have been together ever since. They are now living on the north side of Brisbane. The wedding was attended by family and friends from across Australia and the UK.

*Andre Hamilton*

Macquarie); three daughters and three sons. Stan had been a farmer and salesman but after searching for more to life began studying the Bible and one day ended up at the Adventist church in Port Macquarie. He was affectionately known as the "Jesus man" because he would witness to anyone he met, especially those struggling.

*Joseph Maticic*



**Carter,** Jasmine Sarah, born 29.9.1988 in Adelaide, SA; died 22.7.14 in Adelaide.

She is survived by her mother, Suzanne Craker; and her siblings, Garreth, Tiffany and Seth Carter. Jasmine was a happy, fun-loving young woman with a keen mind and a big heart. She loved God and her family and friends.

*Nigel Ackland, Lili Panozzo*

**Caylan,** Greeley Jane Manogura, born 26.11.1989 in Diplong City, Zamboanga del Norte, Philippines; died 6.11.14 in Robina Hospital, Gold Coast, Qld. She is survived by her parents, James and Neria (Los Angeles, California); her brothers, Sonyboy and Dundirk (both from Qld); and her fiancé, Troy Winch. Greeley was an ambitious, high achiever graduating valedictorian of her class in the Philippines.

Migrating to Australia in 2006, she embraced life in this new country seeking to excel in her education and career. Greeley was a warm and cheerful person with a promising future. Her life was cut short by illness that left an aching void in the hearts of her parents, brothers and all who knew her.

*Steve Cinzio*

**Chapman,** Sylvia Elizabeth May (nee Sleight), born 20.10.1928 in Dwellingup, WA; died 20.8.14 in Busselton. On 18.2.1953, she married Mel Chapman. She is survived by her husband; her children, Karen, Greg, Ron, Bernard, Andrea, Dianne and Ivan; and her siblings, Lynn Tanner, Bill Sleight and Barbara Strahan. Sylvia's life work was her family including 17 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. She is now sleeping peacefully till Jesus comes.

*Clark Riggins*



**Hill,** Maurine Daphne (nee Tonkin), born 9.9.1922 in Adelaide, SA; died 19.7.14 in Adelaide. On 7.7.1945, she married Colin Hill. She was

predeceased by her husband in 1989 and her daughter, Barbara, in 2006. She is survived by Barry and Joan, Patricia and Reg Pigou, Roslyn and Ted Hames, Trevor and Liz, and Kevin and Charie (all of Adelaide).

Maurine's greatest interest throughout her life were her six children, their partners, 13 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren (with one more on the way). A blessing to all she knew, they miss her greatly.

*Nigel Ackland*

**Keeler,** Joyce, born 18.3.1919 in North Sydney, NSW; died 17.7.14 in Elizabeth Lodge, Normanhurst. On 26.5.1934 she was baptised in the Pymble church. She married Arthur Edward Keeler, who predeceased her. She is survived by her children and their families, Ron and Ruth Keeler, David and Jill Keeler, Annette and Ray Howitt and Janice and John Spoor; eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Joyce was a gem who was polished by the hands of Jesus. She was loving, dedicated to family, loved her Lord and her family with a passion that could only be described as "given by God". Joyce was a colourful and beautiful lady with a heart that could not be measured.

*Alwin Hilton*

**Reid,** Douglas Allan, born 7.4.1937 in Oxford, NZ; died 29.8.14 in Oxford. On 6.4.1959, he married Colleen, who predeceased him in 2007. He is survived by his wife, Sylvia (Oxford); five children and their families, Pauline Agnew (Marlborough), Helen Corbett (Ashburton), Craig (Invercargill), Richard (Marlborough) and Pamela Shaskey (Marlborough); 11 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Doug valued and practised the core principles of a Christian life: honour, respect, trust, honesty and love. Everyone valued his willingness to help, always with self-sacrificing support. Doug gave valuable service to the congregations of Oxford and Nelson as an elder and deacon.

*Gordon Gossett, Alan Saunders*

**Reid,** Rod, born 28.2.1942 in Annerley, Brisbane, Qld; died 29.10.14 at home in Mt Tamborine, after battling

## OBITUARIES

**Binskin,** Stanley Edward, born 2.7.1936 in Nana Glen, NSW; died 1.11.14 in Port Macquarie. He is survived by his wife, Eileen (Port

## POSITIONS VACANT

■ **Media and communications coordinator—ADRA Australia (Wahroonga, NSW)** is seeking a media and communications coordinator to be part of the public and supporter relations team in Wahroonga. Responsible for planning, co-ordination and implementation of a multi-faceted communication strategy to support the organisation's brand development, fundraising and supporter relations operations, you will have a personal commitment to the mission/vision/values of ADRA Australia. Strong writing, editing/proofreading, layout/design, professional printing/publishing skills, knowledge and understanding of current trends in print and digital media/social media are essential. This is an excellent time to join an agency with a strong commitment to justice and an exciting vision to engage supporters in life-changing service for a better world. For more information go to <www.adra.org.au> or contact Alison Young on (02) 9473 9503. Applications close **February 15, 2015**.

■ **Country director—ADRA Solomon Islands (Honiara, Solomon Islands).** The role of the ADRA Solomon Islands country director is to provide visionary and strategic leadership to ADRA Solomon Islands so that it fulfils its mission as the humanitarian development and relief agency of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Solomon Islands. The country director also ensures that ADRA's administrative operation is professional, efficient, is financially accountable and sustainable, provides a positive and challenging work environment for personnel, and is an exemplary model of Seventh-day Adventist values. For more information please visit the South Pacific Division's Human Resources website at <www.adventistemployment.org.au>. To apply, please send a letter of application and your latest CV, along with three references including one from your Adventist church pastor, to: Human Resources, Seventh-day Adventist Church (Pacific) Limited, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga, NSW 2076 Australia; email: <hr@adventist.org.au>; fax: (02) 9489 0943. Applications close **February 15, 2015**.

■ **Chief Executive Officer—Adventist Healthcare (Wahroonga, NSW).** See page 6 ad for details.

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



### Grey Nomads Camp Perth—WA 6-12 September 2015

Calling all Grey Nomads for the inaugural camp in Western Australia. Join us during peak wildflower season for uplifting worship, bible study, and experiencing the beauty of Perth and its surroundings.

Call Natalie on (08) 9398 7222  
WAGreyNomads@adventist.org.au

an illness. On 20.7.1963, he married Derna. He is survived by his wife; children, Margaret, Shaun, Glenyse and Richard; grandchildren, Amanda, Jaymee, Kiara, Evie, Matthew, Victoria and Zara; and siblings, Brian, Richard, Robbie and Jan. Rod was a valued and well-respected member of the Church in South Queensland, and was a key leader in Pathfinder ministry. He will be remembered as "the most honest and hardworking man in town". He delighted in helping others, loved to spend time with family and friends and was a keen fisherman, with a deep devotion to his Lord.

*Murray Hunter*



**Shaw, Christine Maree** (nee Matthews), born 27.5.1958; died 22.10.14 in Nioka Hospital, Tamworth, NSW. She is survived by her husband, Gary; seven sisters and two brothers. Christine regularly attended Quirindi church with Gary. She loved her garden and especially butterflies, which earned her the nickname "Madame Butterfly". She was faithful to her Lord and having fought bravely against cancer, Christine awaits His return.

*Bill Blundell*



**Shaw, Geoffrey Bruce**, born 3.5.1936; died 1.11.14 peacefully at home, Quirindi, NSW. He married Shirley Ryan. He is survived by his wife; their five sons and one daughter; 15 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren. Bruce was baptised into the Quirindi church in 2006. He is remembered by all his family and friends as a wonderful, happy, positive man. He awaits the Lord's return.

*Bill Blundell*

**Walker, Keith Thomas**, born 18.12.1922 in Murrumbena, Vic; died 30.9.14 in Ringwood. On 3.4.1948, he married Norma

Neville. He was predeceased by his son, Ian, in 1996. He is survived by his wife (Nunawading, Vic); children and their families, Neville (Yarra Glen), Alan (East Ringwood), Heather (Ashwood), Stewart (Blackburn) and Colin (Beecroft, NSW); 13 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; his sister and her husband, Thelma and Ken (Nunawading, Vic), and their family. Keith loved his family and was very proud of them all. He lived his faith with kindness, generosity and a fun-loving, positive attitude. He is greatly missed by family and friends.

*Morrie Krieg, Wayne Stanley*

**Walker, Laurel Allison** Decema, born 12.12.1926 in Newcastle, NSW; died 12.11.14 in the Hawkins Village Nursing Home, Edgeworth. She was predeceased by her husband, Tom, in 2010. She is survived by her daughter, Christine and Terry Watts, and son, Phillip and Carima. Laurel accomplished many worthwhile career paths in life, loved the outdoors and a number of adventurous activities. During the chapel service her son highlighted Laurel's kind, caring, generous and unselfish spirit. She was a loving wife and a great mum who believed in the power of prayer.

*Roger Nixon, Gordon Smith*

**Weetman, Ronda Grace**, born 3.4.1926 in Perth, WA; died 7.11.14 in Bunbury Regional Hospital after a battle with cancer. She married Ernest Jones, who predeceased her in 1977. In 1984, she married Bob Weetman, who predeceased her in 1991. Ronda is survived by her children and their families, Lindsay and Barbara (Geraldton), Derek and Raewyn (Collie), Calvin and Debbie (Perth) and Keith and Christine Godfrey (Perth). Deeply loved and sadly missed, but beautiful memories

will be cherished until the resurrection day when Jesus returns and we are united again.

*Keith Godfrey, Nicu Dumbrava*

## ADVERTISEMENTS

**Israel tour: June 21–30, 2015.** A family-friendly, devotional trip with Andy Nash (author and professor, Southern Adventist University), Dr William Johnsson (author and retired *Adventist Review* editor) and Nathan Brown (author). For more information email <andynash5@gmail.com > or visit <facebook.com/TabghaTours>.

**Braille Bible free in New Zealand.** Bible in excellent condition to anyone who can use it. Bulky, so prefer delivery in north of the North Island. Contact Tim and Sandra Greenfield <sandrating@xtra.co.nz> or phone 09 267 7380.

**Absolute Care Funerals** is an Adventist family owned and operated business, providing personalised attention for you in that time of need. Contact Arne Neirinckx, who understands

our Adventist philosophy, on (02) 9482 9069 or mobile 0408 458 452. Covering Sydney to Newcastle and Wollongong. <arne@absolutecarefunerals.com.au>.

**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.

**Finally . . .**  
Every day holds the possibility of a miracle.—Elizabeth David

Next RECORD Feb 21

**SIGNS OF THE TIMES**

Signs Ministry's Goodwill Flyer series makes a great gift to visitors at your church's Easter program. **Stop, Drop and Roll!** outlines Jesus' mission and ministry on Earth—and why He had to die. Other Easter-related flyers are also available.

Packs of 100	1	2-9	10+
\$	AUD 23   NZ 28	AUD 21   NZ 25	AUD 19   NZ 22

For more information and to order:  
[www.signsofthetimes.org.au/flyers](http://www.signsofthetimes.org.au/flyers)  
**1800 035 542 (Aus)**  
**0800 770 565 (NZ)**





**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.

CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL

# manifest

March 20–22, 2015  
Avondale College of  
Higher Education

**NEW WEEKEND  
PROGRAM:  
FRIDAY EVENING TO  
SUNDAY AFTERNOON**

Song Composing  
Filmmaking  
Visual Arts  
Writing

where arts meet faith...

Manifest is an annual creative arts festival exploring, encouraging and celebrating faithful creativity.

- Competitions (cash prizes)  
Entries close March 6, 2015
- Gabe Reynaud Awards  
Saturday, March 21 at 3pm
- "Tell Me a Story"  
Saturday, March 21 at 7.30pm
- Workshops  
Sunday, March 22, 9am–3pm

Presenters  
include:

- Micah Bournes  
(poet/spoken  
word artist)
- Nick Zork  
(songwriter/  
worship leader)
- Becky De Oliveira  
(writer/artist)



ADVENTIST MEDIA  
NETWORK

To find out more or to enter, visit

[www.artsmanifest.info](http://www.artsmanifest.info)