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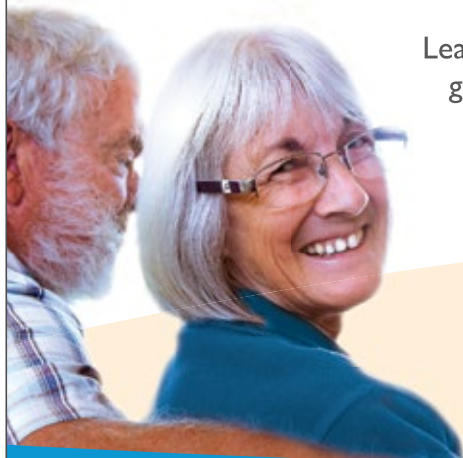


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Adventists serve at coronation of a king

Nuku'alofa, Tonga

Seventh-day Adventists in Tonga served breakfast during week-long celebrations for the King of Tonga's coronation.

Pallets of cereals and So Good were provided by Sanitarium Health & Wellbeing, and fed up to 4000 people over three days.

Tupou VI was formally crowned King of Tonga on July 4, capping a week steeped in traditional rites. Various activities were held during the week by different organisations, including church groups.

The Adventist Church's program started with an early morning prayer, followed by 30 minutes of physical exercise before the free breakfast was served. There were three different sites and all of them were packed with people—cabinet ministers, church workers from different denominations, civil servants and company representatives.

Sanitarium export business manager Andrew Wigglesworth, who attended the event, said it "was a resounding success, helping to break down barriers between the Church and local community".

On the first morning, the event was launched with speeches from Tongan Mission president, Pastor Saia Vea, and the Government Minister for Inland Revenue and Customs. The focus of the speeches was on the importance of making healthy food choices and protecting your most valuable asset—your health.

The King, who has a particular interest in health, was

very pleased that a program that promoted exercise and healthy food choices was going to be provided for the Tongan people.

"These are people who had never been to any Adventist compound and never attended any of their programs," said Ronald Stone, Ministerial Association secretary and Global Mission coordinator for the Trans-Pacific Union Mission.

"A big thank you to the representative from Sanitarium, Andrew Wigglesworth, president of the Tongan Mission Pastor Saia Vea, and Pastor Fanueli Mataele for coordinating this missiological event, and all the members of the Adventist Church in Tonga."

Beulah Adventist College students and staff also took part in the celebrations, providing food and music.

The remaining breakfast food was used to provide breakfast for patients at the local hospital. —Ronald Stone/Stephanie Arnold



Gold, silver and bronze for Adventist Media team

Wahroonga, New South Wales

Adventist Media team members received gold, silver and bronze awards for outstanding writing and design at this year's Australasian Religious Press Association (ARPA) awards, held in Brisbane on Saturday night, August 29.

ARPA is a non-denominational Christian network for Australian and New Zealand publications.

Adventist Record public relations/editorial assistant Vania Chew was awarded gold in the "Best New Writer" category for her piece "Extraordinary Love". In the piece, Ms Chew tells the story of Pastor Laurie Evans and his son Duane, who has Down syndrome. Judges described it as "a simply told but powerfully moving story".

Signs of the Times magazine received the silver award for design, which the judges described as "bright", "colour-filled" and "easy to read". Lulu Lewis is the principal de-

signer for *Signs* and *Adventist Record*.

"*Signs* is a professional publication that church members can be proud of," said associate editor Melody Tan.

Record associate editor Jarrod Stackelroth won bronze in the "Best News Story" category for his "White Ribbon Day" article, which was described as "well researched" and "appropriate for mainstream media".

Signs editor Lee Dunstan said winning an ARPA award "is no mean feat, especially in the areas of news and features, in which competition is intense; some writers are high-ranking editors and writers of the county's major newspapers.

"And likewise design, where church magazines and newspapers are now professionally produced. To gather three awards to Adventist Media is a credit to its staff."

"We couldn't be more thankful to God for our team [here at Adventist Media]," said *Record* editor James Standish. "Not only are they consummate professionals, but they are creative and insightful, dedicated and inspiring. We have an all-star team and I think it shows in every issue of *Adventist Record*, on *Record InFocus* and in *Signs* magazine." —*Record staff*



Jarrod Stackelroth, Lulu Lewis and Vania Chew with their ARPA certificates.



Change

James Standish

Jennifer Doudna and Emmanuelle Charpentier. Chances are you haven't heard of these women. And the chances are also pretty good your life will be changed in unexpected ways by their research. Just three years ago, they discovered CRISPR-Cas9. And that discovery has the potential to change everything.

Literally everything? Well everything with DNA. Which means every living thing—including you, me, our children, the food we eat and the pets we play with. If it's alive, CRISPR-Cas9 matters.

Why? Because it provides a mechanism to efficiently, precisely and cost-effectively edit DNA. Could CRISPR be the miracle cure for genetic diseases? It looks promising. Could it be used to target cancerous cells? Very possibly. Can CRISPR be used to edit the DNA of human embryos? We don't have to guess on this one. Chinese scientists announced this year the first ever DNA edit of a human embryo using CRISPR.

And CRISPR is just one of the stunning developments that appear set to fundamentally alter the world we live in.

Satoshi Nakamoto. That's another name you probably haven't heard before, but whose invention has the potential to radically alter the world. Nakamoto is a pseudonym used by the creator(s) of Bitcoin, a crypto-currency.

Would anyone really use an anonymously created currency with no nation state behind it and no physical notes or coins? You bet. Today you can buy a ticket to London on Expedia, a copy of George Orwell's *1984* from Amazon to read on the flight and some woolly undies from Kmart to wear when you arrive, all using Bitcoin. In fact more than 100,000 merchants accept it. Want to buy just one Bitcoin? It will set you back more than A\$300.

Imagine a world where there is a transnational currency out of the control of governments. If the state can't impact the currency, is it responsible for the economy? And if not, how relevant is it? And what about collecting tax revenue? It's hard enough now. Can you imagine a world where multinationals hold their revenue in transnational crypto-cash? And what will happen to the value of our quaint national currencies if transnational, private crypto-currencies

become the flavour of the era?

November 7, 2015. That's the date set for the first autonomous automobile testing in the southern hemisphere. And it will all take place in beautiful Adelaide.

What we know already is this: self-driving vehicles are on the way. Google's making them. Mercedes is making them. The Swiss are experimenting with modified self-driving VWs in Zurich. And the Americans are investing in the technology with gusto.

And we also know this: computers can very likely drive cars better than we do. They don't text while driving, get drunk or drop hot drinks in their laps. And that's a good thing because globally more than 1.24 million people are killed every year in car crashes.

Is there a chance that our children will never need a driver's licence? That our hospital trauma units will empty out? That commutes will be faster and more productive as we sit in our pods and are driven around? Not in 100 years from now, but in 10?

With so much changing, it can be hard to know how to respond. My friend Craig Price pointed me to the thoughts of Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos: "I very frequently get the question: 'what's going to change in the next 10 years?' . . . I almost never get the question: 'what's not going to change in the next 10 years?' And I submit to you that that second question is actually the more important of the two—because you can build a business strategy around the things that are stable in time . . ."

Which brings me to life. It's an exciting—even beguiling—time to be alive. But it's also unsettling and at times confusing. And if we build our identities around knowledge, assets or cultural norms, we will more than likely find our sense of self swept aside. In life, as in business, it is the things that remain stable that we need to build on.

I hope CRISPR-Cas9 lives up to its promise. I might buy a Bitcoin or two. And, though I love cars, autonomous transportation can't come soon enough in my book. However, no matter what happens in science, finance or technology, what gives my life meaning will not change: timeless values, eternal wisdom and infinite love.

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Changing of the guard

Kent Kingston

Right now the Adventist Church in the South Pacific is facing a significant shift in leadership. If you're a regular *Record* reader, you'll know we already have a new South Pacific Division (SPD) president, Glenn Townend. One of the implications of this, however, is that his previous position, the presidency of the Trans Pacific Union Mission, is now vacant.

As well as this, two of our other Union presidents are finishing up in their roles: Chester Stanley is retiring from the Australian Union Conference and Leigh Rice is returning from the Papua New Guinea Union Mission. It's probably also worth mentioning that Leon Clark is retiring from his position as CEO of Sydney Adventist Hospital and Neale Schofield has announced he's leaving his position as CEO of Adventist Media.

So what? you may well ask. *These people and institutions are so far from my everyday experience as to be irrelevant.* Yeah, I get that. But consider the trickle-down effect. Guess who's going to be in the frame to replace these Union leaders? Your local conference or mission president perhaps. And when your conference or mission office then needs to reconfigure its leadership arrangements, your local pastor or Adventist school principal may well be considered as a worthy addition to the team. Add to this the usual spate of

appointments, retirements and transfers and you've got a maelstrom of change that's bound to affect you in one way or another.

Change happens. The alternative is rigor mortis. We've got to learn to accept it, understand it and get the most out of it. Yes, there's a risk that successful programs will somehow fall between the cracks, now that their champion has moved on. But there are also opportunities for reinvigoration.

The new guard is likely to be younger than their predecessors, with fresh insights, innovative plans and the energy to see them through. I find that exciting. And after a century or so of seeing mostly Australians in senior roles around the South Pacific, we now have the chance to consider which local leaders are ready to take up leadership in their own territories.

Church leaders are often gifted and inspiring. But they are just people in need of the same love, respect and friendship as the rest of us. As we witness the changing of the guard, let's pray for our leaders and offer the guidance and support they'll need as they serve us and God.

Kent Kingston is an assistant editor for Adventist Record.

Food for thought

I like food. My wife willingly informs me of my dietary needs and the nutritional value of my choices. Good food gives me all the ingredients to live and function. So food serves a life-giving purpose. And it's a good thing that I enjoy eating it.

I like Bible reading. I know it gives me truth about God, myself, what to believe and how to live. But I like reading it because the God it reveals loves me, gives Himself to me, and has a purpose and future for me. So the words of Scripture give me spiritual life.

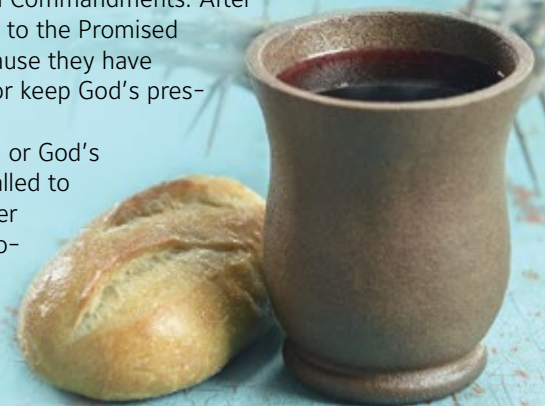
I eat and read the Bible every day. They are both habits but, more than that, they give me life, enjoyment and meaning.

If you are following the "Believe His Prophets" reading plan with many in the world Church, we are in the book of Exodus. Exodus records God creating the second greatest movement of history. God hears the pain of the enslaved Israelites, He calls leaders, acts miraculously and leads Israel on a journey of relationship with Him—providing food, water, guidelines for living and worship.

Israel does not always willingly follow. When God and Moses are conversing for 40 days on Mount Sinai the Israelites become restless and want a "god" to lead them. With Aaron's help they make a golden calf and worship it. When Moses returns to the valley he is outraged and destroys the stone-written copy of the Ten Commandments. After some consequences, God commands Moses (Exodus 33:1-3) to lead the people on to the Promised Land and an angel will guide and protect them. But God will not go with them because they have rejected Him. Moses and Israel have a choice to make—do they take the presents or keep God's presence?

What would you choose? Land, protection, employment, houses—the presents— or God's presence? Moses intercedes for the people and God does go with them. We are called to be a part of God's last great disciple movement before Jesus returns. This is another Exodus. There are presents or blessings on the journey but the greatest is the ongoing presence of God in our lives. Do we appreciate this presence?

Pastor Glenn Townend is president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the South Pacific Division.





Frontier compassion

For more than six months, ADRA has been helping displaced families in Kurdish-controlled northern Iraq, restoring livelihoods and providing informal education. Volunteer teachers, with the support of local Kurdish authorities, are able to teach small children in an informal school. ADRA also provides a nutritious meal as part of the daily program. —ADRA International



Conversion crackdown

A new law passed in Myanmar requires government approval for anyone wanting to change their religion. Critics predict a long and costly process for anyone who wants to leave Buddhism, particularly to become Muslim or Christian. The law was the brainchild of the nationalist Buddhist monk movement. —Mission Network News



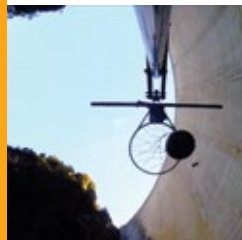
Here to stay

Catholic leaders in Kurdish-controlled Iraq have embarked on an ambitious plan to establish a university in the city of Erbil. Supported by church leaders in Australia and elsewhere, the university is due to open its doors next month and will ensure that Christian and Yazidi minorities have access to higher education. —The Tablet



Piazza Martin Lutero

In strongly Catholic Italy, authorities have agreed to name a central plaza in Rome in honour of the Protestant Reformer Martin Luther, who was excommunicated in 1521. The request to city authorities first came from the Adventist Church in 2009. Lutherans, Evangelicals and even the Vatican have given approval to the plan. —Religion News Service



Slam dunk

Three lads from a Perth Christian church have racked up 30 million views of their basketball trick-shots on YouTube channel, "How Ridiculous". In June, at Gordon Dam in Tasmania, they broke the record for the world's highest basketball shot. YouTube advertising has allowed them to go full-time with their basketball ventures as well as support Christian charities. —Eternity News



Sneaky stats

After secularist lobbying, Australia's 2016 national census form will list "No Religion" ahead of the other faith options. Results from New Zealand and elsewhere indicate that listing "No Religion" first can produce an increase of 7 or 8 per cent. At the last census 61 per cent of Australians identified as Christians. —Sydney Morning Herald

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Scan Me



Sanitarium still NZ's most trusted breakfast brand

Auckland, New Zealand

Sanitarium Health & Wellbeing has topped the breakfast foods category for the fifth consecutive year, in the annual *Reader's Digest* commissioned survey to identify New Zealand's most trusted brands.

"We are truly honoured that Kiwis continue to regard Sanitarium as the number one most trusted brand in breakfast," said Sanitarium New Zealand general manager Pierre van Heerden. "Weet-Bix is certainly an iconic brand that we can all be very proud of."

In Australia, Weet-Bix was voted as the most trusted breakfast food brand for the third year in a row.



"It's great to know Aussie kids, and their parents, are still Weet-Bix kids," said Sanitarium Australia general manager Todd Saunders. "Being recognised as one of Australia's most trusted brands is an honour, and we thank the generations of Australians who've grown up with Weet-Bix and rely on it to provide them with a nutritious and great-tasting start to their day."

Weet-Bix has been a breakfast staple for Kiwi and Aussie families since the 1920s.

"People place a high level of trust and credibility in Sanitarium because of the nutritious foods we produce, which also provides an opportunity to demonstrate the health message of the Adventist Church in a real and tangible way," said Sanitarium Corporate Communications manager Julie Praestiin. —*Sharyn Brady*

DIY playground built near Port Moresby

Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

An innovative playground constructed with used tyres and other local materials is the centrepiece of a research project involving an Adventist school, Pacific Adventist University (PAU) and overseas academics.

The collaborative project involves education researchers from the University of Canberra, the University of New England and the University of Cincinnati and is focused on the effects of a playground on children's school engagement, attendance and play behaviours. The playground itself was completed last month at Koiari Park Adventist Primary School (KPAPS) on Port Moresby's outskirts. Its construction was coordinated by Playground Ideas, a not-for-profit organisation that has helped more than 800 communities around the world build playgrounds using local materials and labour.

The researchers worked with students, teachers and

parents to ensure the playground reflects community ideas and identities. Preservice education teachers from PAU are assisting with the project, learning about research protocols as well as playground design and building skills. Parents and community members attended two working bees to help build the playground.

Marcus Veerman from Playground Ideas said he has never seen such incredible community participation and team efforts for a good cause. —*Kym Simoncini/Elisapesi Manson/Kent Kingston*



Children enjoying the new playground.

CEO to leave Adventist Media

Wahroonga, New South Wales

Adventist Media CEO Neale Schofield has asked for a leave of absence after seven years in the role.

Mr Schofield is going to study Theology and the Arts in London. "Neale will be missed as, besides having great skills and experience in media, communication and marketing, he has a real passion to win people to Jesus and the last day message," said South Pacific Division (SPD) president, Pastor Glenn Townend. The SPD is in the process of recruiting his replacement.

During his time at Adventist Media, Mr Schofield oversaw the combining of a number of the media

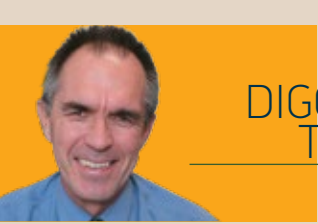
outlets that the Church runs in the South Pacific. He developed a clear strategy of ensuring Adventist media was "never more than an arm's length away"—whether on a phone, computer, TV, radio or book.

Mr Schofield oversaw the production of the *Beyond The Search* series as well as the *Tell The World* film that will be released this year. He was also instrumental in establishing It Is Written Oceania and authored the Secrets of Prophecy Bible study series.

Mr Schofield is also a skilled TV presenter. He developed and presented *Masterstroke*, a series on art and faith, and *Dogtales*, a lighthearted look at what we can learn about faith from his dog. Both series can be viewed on demand at http://hopechannel.com/watch/shows. —*James Standish*



Neale Schofield.



DIGGING INTO THE WORD

Gary Webster

Where are you heading?

If living in a modern, high-tech society is making us more sceptical of God and His Word, then the discovery of the ossuary (a box for the bones of the deceased) of Caiaphas, the High Priest, should cause us to consider where we are heading. Being a Sadducee, Caiaphas did not believe in angels or spirits, judgement, the resurrection of the dead or a future life. Thus he believed God took little interest in humans or their affairs, and man was the master of his own destiny. Naturally, secular material interests were his priority in life.

Read Matthew 22:23; Acts 23:8; Matthew 26:3

Little wonder when Jesus raised Lazarus to life and drove the money-changers from the temple, thus threatening priestly profits, that Caiaphas condemned Him to death.

Read Mark 11:15-18; John 11:47-53

Yet Jesus loved Caiaphas, and sensing no other way to rescue this worldly child of God, like Paul with others, Christ warned him of the day he would have to give account of his life before His judgement seat.

Read Matthew 26:63-66; 2 Corinthians 5:10,11; Hebrews 10:26-31

Are you becoming more sceptical of God and His Word? Then consider that the next time the bones of Caiaphas come together will be to stand before Christ's judgement seat. Scepticism is a dead end road to eternal loss.



Photo: Ellie & Jad

Ossuary of Caiaphas discovered in Jerusalem in 1990. Inside were the bones of a 60-year-old man. Archaeologists believe this ossuary was that of Caiaphas, the High Priest, who tried Jesus Christ. (Photograph: deror_avi.)

First baptism and church for Futuna

Tafea, Vanuatu

It was an historic day for the Vanuatu Mission on August 15 when 16 people were baptised in what is believed to be the first Adventist baptismal ceremony conducted on one of the nation's remotest islands.

The baptism was held at Herald Bay on the island of Futuna, located in the far south of Vanuatu*, with church and community members from Efate and Tanna islands making the journey to witness the event.

Tafea district leader Pastor Jonathan Moses conducted the baptism. Two days later, he also led the dedication ceremony for the first Seventh-day Adventist Church building on the island, marking the establishment of the Adventist message in an area that has remained mostly untouched during more than a century of Church work in Vanuatu.

"Out of the five islands in the district of Tafea, Futuna was the only island where there was no Adventist presence, despite the Church's many attempts," Pastor Moses said.

According to Adventist leaders, the people of Futuna simply did not want other Christian denominations to have a presence on the predominantly Presbyterian island.

That attitude has changed, however, as evidenced by Futuna's paramount chief, Johnny Naweikasi, officially opening the Imaraga Missionaries Seventh-day Adventist Church on August 17. People, including Christian leaders, from across the island also attended the ceremony.

During the dedication service, Vanuatu Mission representatives paid tribute to Elder Rakau, from the Epauto Seventh-day Adventist Church in Port Vila, for inviting and sponsoring Pastor Solomon Taipo to work on the island of Futuna.

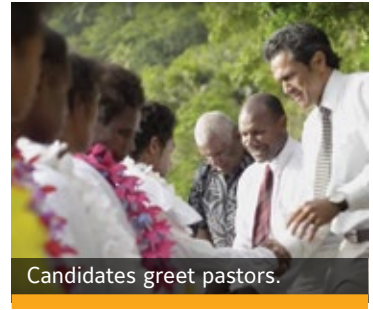
Pastor Taipo, from Fiji, arrived at Futuna in 2013 without knowing anybody and unable to speak the local language (Bislama, Vanuatu pidgin). However, he felt certain that God had called him to Futuna, and was determined to offer Bible studies and help the local communities in any way possible.

His work was soon noticed by a local resident Kopaji Maioho and his wife Esther, who gave Pastor Taipo land to build a church.

The bond established between the Fijian pastor and the Maiohos remained strong. When Mr Maioho passed away, Pastor Taipo helped his wife and children around the home and financially. Mr Maioho's mother was among the 16 people baptised. The Fijian pastor said he was "very humbled" to witness the first baptismal service ever held on Futuna.

The Vanuatu Mission has high hopes for Futuna's first Adventist church. The name of the church (Imaraga) means "multiply", and church leaders will soon begin lay training to resource and equip people to be missionaries for Jesus. —Jean-Pierre Niptik/Linden Chuang

* Not to be confused with the French-administered Polynesian islands of Wallis and Futuna, north east of Fiji.



Candidates greet pastors.



The new church sign.



Imaraga Missionaries church.



Covering NZ in Hope*

by James Standish

Who's that at my office door and what do they want? A man sticks his head in and says something about dead-lines. Doesn't he realise that there's a reason the door is closed? My desk phone starts ringing. And at that precise moment my mobile goes off. I look down at my mobile. It's Brad Kemp, president of the New Zealand Pacific Union. I wonder what he might want.

"Big news James! We launched HopeChannel NZ on September 12," Brad says.

"Haven't you had HopeChannel in NZ?" I reply, distracted by another visitor at my door.

"This time it's different," he says.

"How?"

"Breadth, breath and bridges."

"What?"

"Breadth—we used to reach a small fraction of New Zealanders. Since September 12, we have been available to 68 per cent of the population. That's more than two in three Kiwis. And in many cities like Rotorua, Nelson and Invercargill, we have 100 per cent coverage. It's a big deal. Today, the Seventh-day Adventist Church is just a simple, remote-control click away in the living rooms of most of the country. And they see us for who we are—a positive community with a healthy lifestyle, vibrant spirituality and love for family. In their homes, we are able to build trust, and that trust will allow us to talk about things that really matter."

Fair enough, that is news.

"Breath—we have original content produced by New Zealanders in New Zealand for New Zealand," he continues. "Right now we're finishing up 100 short films to go on the channel—creative, inspiring, engaging content that's 100 per cent pure New Zealand. And we'll be showing the best of global content—major films like *Luther* and *Amazing Grace*, cutting edge shows like *Masterstroke* and *Beyond*. More than 70 per cent of the material we've scheduled on HopeChannel NZ has never been available on free-to-air TV in NZ before."

Breadth, breath and bridges. That is what makes the new HopeChannel NZ different.

OK, well that is news, too. He has got my attention now. "Bridges—there's no point having a TV station unless it's a genuine ministry. And that means it must be fully integrated with the local church, a Bible school, an exceptionally good website with on-demand videos and online Bible studies, nationwide promotion and local content. TV shows that lack bridges to real live churches in the community are simply religio-tainment. Yes, HopeChannel NZ programming will be entertaining. But not for its own sake. The goal is to involve viewers in a relationship with Jesus Christ lived

out in a real faith community in their city or town. That is why local churches are the centre of HopeChannel NZ. Because, ultimately, the local church is the spiritual home for HopeChannel viewers."

"Breadth, breath and bridges. That is what makes the new HopeChannel NZ different. Have you got it?"

I'm scribbling away trying to keep up with Brad. "Ah, yeah, Brad, um, got it. But TV is expensive. Isn't this a bit, you know, ambitious?"

"Think about it James. We spent more than half a million on an evangelistic series that reached only one city, and only for a few weeks. With HopeChannel NZ we can reach the majority of the country, 24/7/365. It works out to pocket change per person we reach with the message. And when combined with local churches doing outreach, letterboxing, posters and, most of all, just conversations with friends and family, it is powerful."

OK, well that's Brad's opinion. I see where he's coming from. But what are other people thinking? It all sounds a little too good to be true. I make a few calls.

"Up until now, we've largely been having a conversation with ourselves on HopeChannel in NZ," says Wayne Boehm, HopeChannel manager for the South Pacific. "This is the start of a conversation with millions of New Zealanders. And you can expect similar announcements across the region as HopeChannel expands from a little internal

(Continued page 10)



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Both NZ conference presidents share the HopeChannel vision. "It was a privilege to kneel in prayer with Andrew Ross at the HopeChannel New Zealand Technical Operations Centre in Napier on a recent Sabbath afternoon," says Pastor Edward Tupa'i, president of the North New Zealand Conference.

"Andrew is one of the most passionate evangelists you will ever meet. For many years, through his technical expertise and immense heart for mission, he has been bringing Adventist television to New Zealanders. However, HopeChannel, with its plans to reach a large percentage of Kiwis, is his most exciting project yet. With the HopeChannel New Zealand team, he is working to present the Adventist hope in Jesus with quality productions and in a way that will reach as many Kiwis as possible. I do not understand all the equipment that he works with; it truly is amazing. But I definitely know that he is a man on a mission for God."

Pastor Damien Rice, president of the South New Zealand Conference, is equally enthusiastic: "HopeChannel New Zealand is an important tool for our personal and public outreach efforts. I believe it will raise the profile of the Adventist Church, creating many positive associations for people and opportunities to connect. This is not TV for our members. Our ambition is for a new direction in religious broadcasting that is driven by a need to make the Church and the gospel more relevant to secular New Zealand."

I get off the phone. The office is still buzzing. And so is my head. Imagine just flicking on your TV and seeing the Adventist message. Not the usual imported stuff. But something authentic, engaging and connected with a church in my town. This could be a game changer. Maybe New Zealand is really onto something big . . .

**Just in case you were wondering, this is a fictionalised summary of a series of conversations.*

James Standish is communication director for the South Pacific Division.



#SalvationSelfie

LETTERS

KEEP SERVING

Simeon Bouro, Solomon Is
Ambassador to Cuba

It is very heartening to see volunteerism still thriving within the Seventh-day Adventist communities in the South Pacific Division ("Solomons group helps Vanuatu", News, August 15).

Continue on your good work Niuleni Community Music Ministry in touching lives.

May God continue to lead you in the work that you do in helping others to feel, know and see that they are part of God's big family, immaterial of creed and race.

WOMEN LEADERS

Maree Roach, NSW

Much of what I have listened to and read regarding women pastors and ordination seems to be a discussion on whether women should be pastors or elders.

I fully believe in an ideal situation that men should be the spiritual leaders in the home and in the Church. However, where there are not enough men to fill these positions, surely well-qualified women can serve the Lord in this way and be leaders in their local churches.

I believe ordination as the Church practices it today in Australia is more about accreditation. This is like in the teaching profession when a teacher's certificate is given after some years of teaching.

Let our pastors, men and women, be ordained with special prayers and laying on of hands at the beginning of their ministry and then an accreditation certificate after some years as effective pastors. Elders and deacons, men and women, are ordained at the beginning of their roles in the Church. Surely pastors

need that even more.

HOW OLD?

Sandy Schofield, NSW

Re: "Baptism study reveals challenges but affirms commitment to Church" (News Feature, August 29).

I was baptised at the age of 14 and it was far too young for me to appreciate the gospel or to choose values. Consequently I was re-baptised at 47.

The judgement part of the human brain is not developed until we reach our mid-20s (what we think during our teens is very different to what we think in our 20s, 30s) and Jesus, whose life was to be an example for us, was not baptised until He was approximately 30 years old.

THANKS

Dr Timothy Gorle, via email

James Standish and *Record* team: Please accept huge portions of appreciation for the forthrightness, candour, sensitivity and sound balance of editorials and staff features.

This has been particularly assuring and satisfying to me in the issues dealing with the General Conference session and a sane reaction to it.

The most recent statement that the ordination of women and men should be identical, but for the time being women should be encouraged to be commissioned so they can function fully, matches my perceptions exactly.

The respect shown to the General Conference while stating South Pacific Division variance from that view was masterfully achieved.

Please be encouraged and continue under God's guidance to lead our thinking away from ancient prejudices to creative, divinely inspired realities.

MY NEIGHBOUR?

Dr Helen Driscoll, via website

Thank you for the timely editorial "Asylum" (July 16).

When political edicts impinge on morality, "Who is my neighbour?" has been absolutely answered by Jesus.

As a doctor, I am faced with the realities of the Border Force Act! My code of ethics is defined by Jesus' edict, and that a patient/person in need is my neighbour and I must respond without reference to race, gender, religion or domestic law that infringes upon human rights.

MEMORIES

Lyndon Thrift, NSW

Sanitarium to shut Cooranbong factory (News August 29) brought sorrow. There were memories of night shifts, rushes from classes to be on time for work and, sometimes, sleepiness in classes the next day.

But I wonder—how many ministers, teachers, office workers, would not have received their education if they had not been able to "work their way through" at the Cooranbong factory.

And I wonder—How many believers might have "missed out" on the Good News because the bearers of these tidings had been financially unable to study at the college without the earnings they received for their factory work.

Again I wonder—in eternity will Avondale alumni hear some of their contacts say "I'm here because you qualified as soul-winners while earning your way through college in the Sanitarium factory.

Sanitarium Cooranbong, has been a partner, indirectly, in soul-winning. Long may that be remembered.

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.

Get me out of here

by Joan Hancock



IN DECEMBER 2013 I MOVED MY HUSBAND TO A nursing home. It's a day I will never forget.

We parted with tears; never again to live together. Max could no longer cope with everyday life without total care. Only those who have endured this situation can fully understand. For three months, I cried myself to sleep at night.

I visited Max every day, attending to his needs and staying as long as possible, only to shed a flood of tears as I reached the car to go home. Without my man.

A year passed. On Christmas Day a nurse suggested I have lunch at the nursing home. My daughter Tammy then suggested that we take Max to her home for what could well be our last Christmas meal together.

As we drove through familiar home territory memories flooded Max's waning mind and he suddenly uttered, "My home, my home, my home."

I drove up the orchard-lined driveway through the carport and parked on the back lawn.

Elation shone on Max's face. He was repeatedly saying, "Oh my home, my home." But I could not lift him to go inside so we drove and parked under the shade of some big trees before heading to my daughter's home.

Vivid memories of little things that are so meaningful. The more happy times of the past. But Max had a one-track mind. "Oh my home, my home."

A good meal was had by all. Family is so important

and my dear husband ate more that day than he had for a long time. Like many a Christmas gathering, Max had his afternoon rest and awoke to his cold Milo and home-made biscuit. He soon slipped into a long sleep and on waking was welcomed by yet another tasty home-cooked meal.

Why do I remember with such clarity these little, otherwise everyday events? Because I so miss them. And I miss my husband.

Back to the nursing home. Back to reality. A few days later my eldest son and daughter-in-law visited Max. With his eyes fixed on his son he pleaded, "Get me out of here." These two life-long friends embraced each other.

Even when father and son had to say goodbye, Max, a man now of only a few words, again uttered, "Get me out of here". It was a sorrowful scene. Tears were plentiful. Love was unrestrained.

Max's sister's last memory of her brother were his words, "Get me out of here."

Another four weeks and it was all over.

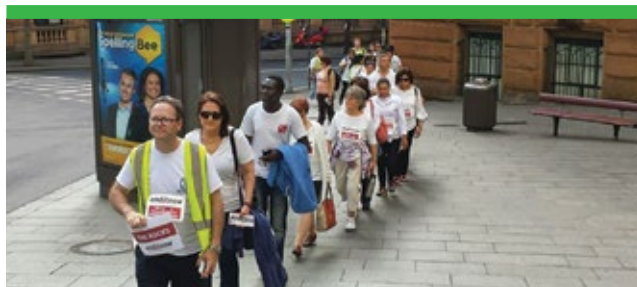
We brought his casket to the front lawn of our home—the longed for "his home" where the funeral service was celebrated. Max now awaits the coming of his Lord.

Lord come and get us out of here.

We want to go home.



Joan Hancock writes from Irymple, Victoria.



Walking in silence

More than 200 people walked in silence through Sydney's CBD on August 22 in support of the enditnow global campaign. The Silent City Walk was organised by the Women's Ministries department of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and aimed at raising awareness of domestic violence against women and girls. The men and women involved in the walk attracted much attention as they made their way, single file, through five of Sydney's main streets wearing white shirts and enditnow bibs. — *Greater Sydney Conference*



Youth evict church pastor, take over pulpit

University students and young professionals at Adelaide City Seventh-day Adventist Church (SA) evicted their church pastor from the pulpit for four consecutive Sabbaths in August. The move was part of an 11-meeting "iDiscover" series, with young professionals including Dr Wilson Chee and Ivan Lee hosting the worship services. "It is great to see young people praying together, planning ministry and on fire for the gospel," said "evicted" pastor Garry Hodgkin. Attendance at the iDiscover series varied from 80 to 160 people, with up to 30 people from non-Adventist backgrounds taking part in the meetings. — *Garry Hodgkin*



Fiji kids are Weet-Bix kids

Sanitarium and the Fijian government are working together to provide free breakfast for all Year 1 students across the South Pacific island nation. The program was launched earlier this year with the support of Fijian Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama (pictured centre). Weet-Bix and milk have been served to approximately 18,000 students per day since then. The program will run until the end of the year and, if it continues to be successful, could be expanded in 2016. — *Sanco News*



Frost reaps havoc in PNG

Frost in the Nebliyer district of Papua New Guinea's Western Highlands province has had a disastrous impact on local vegetable producers, including a number of Adventists. Church leaders in Tomba and Tambul said local residents "wept openly" after several days of frost left their food crops withered and brown. Local community leader Titus Nokopa said the frost had never been this severe in the past, with the disaster likely robbing local vegetable producers of thousands of kina. Church leaders have called upon the Disaster Office in the province to assess the situation and provide assistance. — *Leighton Kasimo*



It mite help

Researchers at Victoria University's College of Health and Biomedicine (Melbourne, Vic) are conducting a study on whether yeast-based products such as Marmite (produced by Sanitarium) help improve mood and stress levels. Individuals participating in the study will be asked up to 94 questions in an online survey. Their answers will then be analysed and reported, which will help in gauging the possible impact of yeast-based products and their vitamin additives, such as B12, in preventing anxiety and depression. To participate in the research, visit tinyurl.com/VitaminBdepression. — *Victoria University*



Special delivery

Thomas Alexander Fischl has become the 2000th baby born at Sydney Adventist Hospital, Wahroonga, since the new maternity ward opened in August last year. Weighing in at 3.7 kilograms, Thomas was born on August 11 at 12:12pm, perfectly timed for the one-year anniversary of the ward. Thomas is the first child of his parents Anna and Marc Fischl. The new maternity ward has 56 rooms. Mrs Fischl said the bath in her birthing suite helped her relax. — *North Shore Times*



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RECORD REWIND

Lester Devine

Pioneer women preachers

Women preachers were rare in 19th Century society but not the early Seventh-day Adventist church. While Ellen White was well known as a powerful speaker, few contemporary Adventists would be aware that from 1878–1910 there were 31 other women to whom the Church provided ministerial licences. While most were on the denominational payroll, at least one, dentist Dr Margaret Caro in Napier, NZ, was self-supporting. The Church was small back then and women held a higher proportion of ministerial and leadership/departmental roles than in the decades following.

Some of these pastors were particularly effective. Ellen Lane was a particularly powerful preacher who drew large crowds. One Sabbath morning in Virginia her husband Elbert attracted only 35 hearers while the next day 650 came to hear Ellen Lane preach. Lulu Wightman was licensed in 1898 and between 1895 and 1905 she planted 12 new churches in New York state. Then she and her husband, licensed in 1904, together raised up five more churches. In 1903 New York had 11 ministers and two Bible workers but 60 percent of the new converts that year were won by the Wightmans and one Bible worker. Also very effective in her ministry was Jessie Weiss Curtis, whose reputation in 1927 as a preacher attracted press coverage, the reporter writing, "Coming from a radius of 20 miles, there have been as many as 110 automobile loads at a single service." There are other notable examples which article size prevents us from sharing here.

Ellen White, remembering that the first preacher to tell of a risen Christ was a woman, observed in the January 2, 1879 Review that 'the refining, softening influence of Christian women is needed in the great work of preaching the truth.' In 1895 she recommended the ordination of some women to deaconess-related work, a suggestion soon implemented in the Ashfield church in Sydney by Pastors Corliss and McCullagh "by prayer and the laying on of hands." Five years later this was repeated in the same church with Elder W C White officiating on that occasion.

With the numbers of women pastors increasing in the early years of the Adventist Church it was inevitable the issue of ordination would come up for discussion. In 1881 the following resolution was offered to the General Conference session, "That females possessing the necessary qualification . . . may be set aside by ordination to the work of the Christian ministry." Referred to the General Conference Committee for consideration, there is no record the matter was ever addressed. However, the important thing to note is that if Ellen White believed that it was theologically wrong to ordain women to ministry she would have said so at the time—and she did not. After her death, her former assistant, CC Crisler, responded to an enquiry by writing, "This is not suggesting, much less saying, that no women are fitted for such labor (sic), and that none should ever be ordained; it is simply saying that so far as my knowledge extends, Sister White never encouraged church officials to depart from the general *customs* of the Church in those matters." (Italics supplied)

The reality is that during her lifetime the formal ordination of women pastors to paid ministry was not a priority for Ellen White. As always, her constant focus was on the Church achieving a greater unity and a deeper spirituality.

Lester Devine is director emeritus of the Ellen G White Research Centre.



R HEALTH FEATURE

with Cathy McDonald

Naturally active

It's well known that activity has an amazing effect on our bodies. Regular physical activity has been linked with the prevention and management of a wide range of health conditions, including stroke, type 2 diabetes, depression and even certain types of cancer. Longevity researcher Dr Robert Butler summed it up this way: "If exercise could be purchased in a pill, it would be the single most widely prescribed and beneficial medicine in the nation."

And the good news is that the activity doesn't need to be exhausting to be beneficial. Simply walking more can be enough to start seeing the benefits of an active lifestyle. It also turns out that if you're looking to increase the benefits of your daily walk, it's best to head outdoors.

UK researchers reviewed seven studies looking at participants who undertook both indoor and outdoor walking. In six of the studies they found greater improvements in mental health and wellbeing when they walked outdoors. Participants reported greater feelings of revitalisation, enjoyment, satisfaction, positive engagement and decreased tension, confusion and anger.

So with spring now upon the southern latitudes, it's the perfect time to boost the benefits of being active by getting out of the gym and into nature. Take the dog for a walk and invite family and friends for a great opportunity to nurture relationships as well.



Very berry smoothie

Preparation time: 10 minutes Cooking time: nil Serves: 1

- ½ cup cranberry juice
- ½ cup So Good Lite
- ½ cup frozen mixed berries
- 1 scoop So Good Vanilla Bliss frozen dessert

1. Place all ingredients in a blender; blend on high until smooth. Serve immediately.

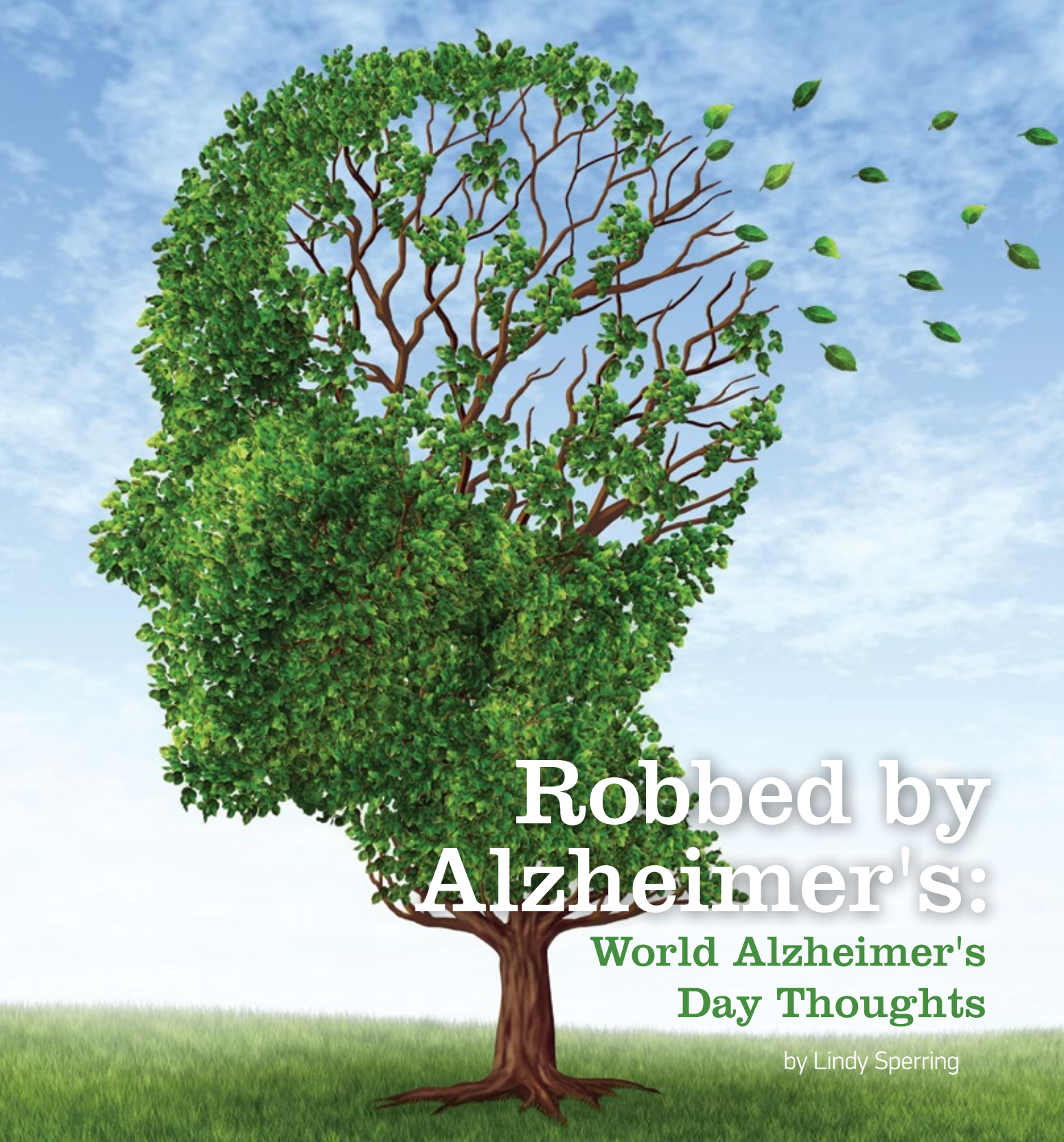
NUTRITION INFORMATION PER SERVE: 1179kJ (260cal). Protein 7g. Fat 9g. Carbohydrate 44g. Sodium 120mg. Potassium 575mg. Calcium 355mg. Fibre 2g.



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Robbed by Alzheimer's:

World Alzheimer's Day Thoughts

by Lindy Sperring

WE WERE VISITING MY PARENTS-IN-LAW for a family meal when my mother-in-law said to my father-in-law, "Come on dear, it's getting late, we'd better go home." My father-in-law quietly replied, "We are home love." This was the first sign my mother-in-law was experiencing

memory loss and confusion. Over the next six years we watched her gradual decline from a vibrant, active woman to a debilitated, confused and helpless invalid. Alzheimer's disease eventually claimed her life.

Over the past 21 years, I have observed family friends, Harold and Helen*, come face to face with Alzheimer's

disease. Helen was diagnosed at the age of 57 and with no known cure, Harold has had to slowly watch the love of his life drift away.

Helen's beautiful nature made the initial painful news that little bit easier as together they faced the future with strong faith in each other and their heavenly Father. Helen was aware her memory was fading and in the early stages was excellent in steering the conversation to Harold, who gave her the security and support she needed. She quickly became more and more dependent upon him.

Helen, like many sufferers of dementia, would have moments where she responded to old familiar music, even at times singing along or moving to the beat. And Harold, like so many carers, was determined to give his wife the utmost support that was humanly possible.

Harold wanted to make the most of every precious lucid moment by being as creative as he could in thinking of relevant activities they could enjoy together. It was clear at times that more than human hands were ministering to Helen.

Six years ago Harold had to make one of the hardest decisions of his life and pass the primary care of Helen over to the caring team at AdventCare. Over the years the disease has slowly but steadily progressed and Helen has deteriorated to the point where she is left with little more than the swallow reflex.

Helen's non-responsive expression provokes mixed feelings. There is the significant reality that, short of a miracle, she will never speak again nor be able to give a hug, squeeze a hand or sneak a smile.

Regardless of her physical condition, it is still surreal to be in her presence. There are moments when Harold and the family shut their eyes and enjoy the memories Helen worked so hard to create.

Most grandmothers are adored by their grandchildren and Helen is no different. Even though there is no response from her now, the feeling of being in her presence evokes a multitude of happy memories of when she could tell her grandchildren how special each and every one of them was. Helen had a unique gift of making every child feel like they were her favourite.

Helen recently celebrated her 78th birthday amongst family and friends. Her children and grandchildren came from near and far to celebrate and share the special day. The beautiful, loving, caring wife, mother, grandmother and friend could no longer communicate with them, but she is still, and always will be, Helen.

Harold encourages anyone faced with a similar situation to be open with each other and plan for the future. Like many couples with friends, some of whom are now being diagnosed with Alzheimer's, there is the inevitable variety of responses from denial to education and acceptance.

In my role as chaplain I believe a person living with Alzheimer's disease is still capable of receiving love and kindness and a sense of wellbeing from the presence of others. I often invite Jesus into their room by reading Scripture out loud, praying and playing or singing uplifting songs of praise to God.

As we recognise World Alzheimer's Day—September 21—may we all be reminded of this disease and openly and lovingly support those with dementia and their carers. As a community we face increasing challenges to keep up with the number of cases being diagnosed every day. ✂

** Names have been changed for privacy.*

Lindy Sperring is chaplain for AdventCare, Victoria.

Ten tips toward a dementia-friendly church/community

1. Trust in God—draw strength from prayer.
2. Enjoy the time you have together both individually and through church fellowship.
3. Learn to live in the Alzheimer's world—don't argue, avoid negative non-verbal cues, e.g. sighing, rolling of eyes.
4. Be responsive to lucid moments, allowing him/her to remain in control for as long as possible.
5. Remember they may have years of experience and words of wisdom to share even if they can't remember names of family and friends.
6. Encourage communication about the past even if the details change from time to time.
7. Remember that exercise and laughter benefit mind, body and soul.
8. Don't avoid opportunities to interact with persons with dementia and their carers.
9. Access and accept support from church members, support groups and, if appropriate, professional organisations such as Alzheimer's Australia.
10. Express love, as it is the greatest gift of all.



The medical marijuana ruse

by Gary Christian

ADVENTISTS HAVE ALWAYS TAKEN A STAND against drugs—from legal and widely available substances like caffeine, tobacco and alcohol to pills, powders and potions prohibited by law. Yet many medications we use contain opiates, steroids and other illicit drugs that have been harnessed to heal. As an increasing push is made to legalise medical cannabis, many Adventists either agree or are agnostic. But do we know the full truth?

Medical cannabis has been legal on prescription from Australian general practitioners for the past 18 years. Curiously the Australian media keeps singing the same tune—that state and federal governments must work together to legalise cannabis for medical purposes.

In my voluntary work for Australia's peak drug prevention organisation, Drug Free Australia, I have seen a dozen media releases, letters and various opinion pieces sent to all major newspapers and television stations around Australia, alerting them to the fact that medical marijuana has long been legal. Not one has made it to press and only Channel 7 has given a few seconds of national coverage to Drug Free Australia's information. It seems Australia's major media organisations have an editorial policy designed to suppress any information on the true current legal status of medical cannabis. In June 2014, Drug Free Australia informed all 900 or so federal, state and territory politicians in writing of the legality of medical cannabis. Yet the debate rages on.

Clinical trials of smoked cannabis began in 1974, to gauge its effectiveness in treating a range of medical conditions. Some of these results, since 1984, have been compared to Marinol, a synthetic tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) pill, the effect of which lasts twice as long as smoked cannabis but has a slower onset. Of the many conditions for which cannabis was claimed to be effective, only five—nausea, AIDS

wasting, chronic pain, multiple sclerosis (MS), spasticity and epilepsy—have recorded measurable but usually mild effects. In the case of chronic pain, cannabis is roughly as strong as codeine but can be effective for patients who do not respond well to opiates. Many of the other claimed benefits of cannabis have evaporated under the rigour of clinical trials. It's not unusual to find that certain conditions that appear alleviated by its use are actually caused by cannabis as part of a well-documented withdrawal syndrome.

In Australia, Marinol has been legally available on prescription since 1997, through special access arrangements with the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), the regulator of all medical treatments in this country. In 2012, a whole-plant extract of cannabis marketed as an oral spray, called Sativex, was approved by the TGA for MS. It can also be prescribed under special access for conditions where there is evidence that cannabis has a demonstrated effect. Sativex is no longer directly sold by Australian pharmacies due to a lack of uptake by MS patients (but is still available). The cost of buying these medications is no more expensive than purchasing cannabis of comparable dosage from a drug dealer, on average about \$A500 per month.

In 2014, significant publicity was given to the effect of cannabis on Dravet syndrome and Lennox-Gastaut syndrome, which both cause severe epilepsy-like seizures, particularly in young children. Some children have been helped by the use of cannabis strains high in cannabidiol or CBD, a constituent of cannabis that is not psychoactive as is THC. The manufacturer of Sativex, GW Pharmaceuticals, has already completed first stage clinical trials of Epidiolex, which like Marinol and Sativex, is a pharmaceutical-quality medication with standardised dosage, strength and purity, but with high levels of CBD. Epidiolex is fairly freely avail-

able in the US for trials, and Drug Free Australia has recommended that the TGA approve its use here for trials also.

So why is the media, along with the ACT and Victorian governments, calling for medical cannabis to be legalised, when it is already legal? The answer is simple. In the US, where states hold referendums on various legislative issues at the time of each federal election, the cannabis legalisation lobby has a fighting-fund 25 times greater than the anti-cannabis lobby. Some of the world's richest men such as George Soros (who spends up to half a billion dollars annually on his social liberalism agendas) heavily fund these referendums on legalising cannabis, firstly for medical purposes and then for outright recreational use as has now happened in a number of US states. Repeated TV advertising shows sick people claiming on-camera their dire need to access medical marijuana. And more than 20 states have voted to legalise it.

What the US public is not told, and the prevention lobby doesn't have enough money to tell them with any penetration, is that 95 per cent of medical marijuana "patients" are previous recreational users, according to US Institute of Medicine surveys from the late 1990s. They are not told that cannabis has only a handful of conditions it alleviates and almost all of these have far more effective medications available. They are not told that cannabis actually causes the chronic back pain that many claim it alleviates, as part of its own withdrawal syndrome, along with other maladies arising from its use.

Effectively, US states have allowed popular vote based on emotive advertising to determine what is a medicine, rather than the scientific regulatory processes applied to every other available medicine. This has led to tens of thousands of people claiming to have maladies that cannabis alleviates, so they can grow their own. In Nevada, 93 per cent of these claimed maladies cannot be objectively verified by a doctor and must be accepted on faith.

In Australia, where no such referendums are held, the pathway to legalisation is not so easily bought. In 2012, the Australia21 forum, with influential Australians such as Bob Carr and Nicholas Cowdery, began agitating in the media for the legalisation of all drugs—heroin, cocaine, speed, ice, ecstasy and cannabis—with the televised media giving them plenty of airplay, albeit fairly, with Drug Free Australia brought in to debate the issue on air. By contrast the *Sydney Morning Herald* held a public debate at Sydney University where five drug legalisation advocates were pitted against a single prevention advocate.

With the failure of that push by 2013, Australia21 operatives looked for a new pathway to legalising drugs and found it in young NSW cancer patient Dan Haslam (tragically

now deceased), who publicised his need to smoke cannabis to alleviate chemotherapy-induced nausea. And it's precisely this that the advocates are fighting for—not medical cannabis per se but for crude non-pharmaceutical cannabis products they hope will not be regulated by the TGA—all for the end-game it seems of getting home-grown cannabis made available to all, as it is in the US. In November 2014, a number of federal senators introduced legislation to remove the control of medical cannabis from TGA strictures.

In the ACT, a Greens proposal to legalise medical cannabis specifically states that Sativex is not part of their plan, despite Sativex delivering all the same cannabinoids via a safer and faster-acting delivery system than hash cookies, bongs or crude cannabis oils. Their parliamentary bill seeks to legalise home-grown cannabis, with up to nine cannabis

plants being considered a non-trafficable quantity under the ACT Criminal Code. What they fail to tell the public is that a single cannabis plant can produce five crops a year with a total 2500 grams, enough to make 8600 joints. With the average medical cannabis patient in the US requiring 1.5 grams per day or 550 grams per year, one plant provides five times the needed quantity, which in the US has provided too much temptation

for patients who could use extra cash.

This is precisely where the US medical marijuana legislations fail. In Colorado, which has allowed six plants per patient since 2009, 74 per cent of teenagers surveyed entering rehabilitation for cannabis addiction reported that they sourced cannabis from medical marijuana patients. This issue is the most dangerous aspect of the current push for crude cannabis, considering the damage done to a teenager's developing brain. A recent *Lancet* study has found that daily users of strong forms of cannabis have a five times greater risk of developing psychoses, such as schizophrenia.

These are the stakes. According to the 2013 National Drug Strategy survey of around 24,000 Australians, 91 per cent do not give their approval to the regular use of cannabis, yet 69 per cent support the legality of medical cannabis. Australians don't want more drug use but there are forces seeking greater availability of drugs.

It's a shame that virtually no Australians know what is really behind the current medical marijuana push and that it has been legal here for years. R

Drug Free Australia, along with the Australian Medical Association, made a submission to the ACT medical marijuana inquiry opposing the bill. On August 13 the bill was rejected by the Legislative Assembly.

Gary Christian is research coordinator for Drug Free Australia.

They are not told that cannabis has only a handful of conditions it alleviates and almost all of these have far more effective medications available.

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ISAIAH 60:1



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Kids' HI KIDS! SPACE

Paul and Silas
travelled to Berea. The
Bereans studied the
Scriptures & many of
them believed.

HELP PAUL AND HIS FRIENDS GET TO BEREA



The Thessalonica Jews made trouble for Paul and Silas.
The Bereans helped Paul escape to safety. Silas and
Timothy stayed to tell more people about Jesus.

WORSHIP MESSAGE

I worship God when I study my Bible every day

MEMORY VERSE

"The Bereans... received the message with great
eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see
if what Paul said was true." Acts 17:11, NIV

WEDDINGS



Chandler-Bateman. Simon Chandler, son of Stephen and Wendy Chandler (Greenwith, SA), and Catherine Bateman, daughter of Gordon and Lorraine Bateman (Fairview Park), were married 1.8.15 in The Grove church, Brahma Lodge. The wedding ceremony took place as part of a very special Sabbath worship service to the delight of relatives, friends and the church family. After honeymooning in the United Kingdom, they will live in Adelaide.

Tony Knight, Leighton Heise



McLaren-Cutting. Alex McLaren, son of Grant and Ngaire McLaren (Sunshine Coast, Qld), and Jessica Cutting, daughter of Steven and Julene Cutting (Mackay), were married 19.7.15 in North Mackay church. Alex and Jess, both doctors, met while studying medicine at university and are now practising in Toowoomba. Jess and Alex both made vows to lead each other closer to Jesus in their marriage.

Dana Howard

Spencer. Edward Spencer and Kerin Spencer of Welby, NSW, were married 9.8.15 at Bowral church, NSW. The Bowral church family celebrated with Ed and Kerin in their re-commitment to each other and hosted a reception for family and friends.

Frank Cantrill, Owen Ellis



Williams-Darlington. Daniel Williams, son of Jeffrey and Linda Williams, and Rheizza Darlington, daughter of Reginald and Perla Darlington, were married 26.7.15 in Maryborough church, Qld. It was a beautiful day with family and friends from across Australia coming to share Daniel and Rheizza's special day and seeing Varnya Lee Williams being dedicated.

Gary Roberts

OBITUARIES



Arthur, Edward (Ted) James, born 25.8.1929 in Newcastle, NSW, died 19.7.15 in

Avondale House, Cooranbong. He is survived by his wife Thora (Avondale House); children: Suzanne and Carey Akers (Goolwa, SA), David and Adele Arthur (Shenzhen, China), Carl Arthur and Carolyn Medland (Newcastle, NSW), and Joy and Jeff Guy (Newcastle); 11 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. Ted was gifted with many practical skills, particularly wood and metal working, which was invaluable to his ministry in Pathfinders. The family home he built was attached to a silk screening business and workshop. With a passion for Bible teaching, he trained others for home Revelation seminars and was invited to the United States to teach this outreach medium.

Roger Nixon, John Denne

Brewer, Robert John, born 26.6.1949 in Dungog, NSW; died 17.5.15 in Dungog due to a long battle with ill health and finally cancer. On 19.4.1981 he married Sharon Weare. Sadly they lost their only child Leichelle in 2009. He is survived by his wife; his mother Delma, stepfather Wesley; brothers Roger, Brett and John, and sisters Joy and Roslyn. In 1979 he was baptised by Pastor Doug Weare at Gloucester. Adversity struck when both Robert and Leichelle got sick but it drew them even closer as a family and closer to God. They were deeply thankful to God for the courage He gave them. Robert loved his Bible and was a keen Bible student. He was a good man who cared deeply for those close to him.

Glynn Hefren



Driscoll, Linda (nee Searle), born 27.11.1922 in Sydney Adventist Hospital, NSW; died 14.7.15 in the Cooranbong Adventist Nursing Home. On 10.11.1942 she married William Driscoll, who predeceased her. She is survived by her children: Colin, Jenny, Lyndon and Wendy. Linda was the first female theology graduate and served the Church at Avondale, Fiji, Vanuatu, NZ and Lord Howe Island—teaching chaplaincy and touching many lives.

Adrian Flemming

Hansen, Lois Anne (nee Scarfe), born 6.7.1930 in Sydney Adventist Hospital, NSW; died 6.7.15 in the Avondale Nursing Home. She was predeceased by her husband Bill in 2007. She is survived by her siblings Eleanor Butcher and Ted Scarfe (both of Cooranbong). Lois worked in the Avondale College office, Warburton Sanitarium and hospital and the Lewisham Sanitarium. In 1960 she did nursing training at Sydney Adventist Hospital, followed by a midwifery course at Royal Newcastle Hospital before returning to the San. Lois then served as matron of Sherwin Lodge. She was a generous, caring and devoted Christian. In her final years she was remarkably patient in suffering, maintained strong faith in God and was ever grateful to her carers.

Roger Nixon, David Bertelsen

Hartley, David, born 18.11.1936 in Christchurch, NZ; died 16.1.15 in Christchurch. He married Deanna Southen in 1960. He was predeceased by a son Calvin. He is survived by his wife; children: David and Carol (Toronto), Clive, Joanne, Warren and Cristina, Fayanna and Mark Sowerby (all of Christchurch); eight grandchildren: Justin, James, Zoe, Sam, Phoebe, Abigail, Alannah and Harley; two great-grandchildren: Eevee and Calvin; and siblings: Shirley Summerscales (Norfolk Island), Lorna Butzbach (Toowoomba) and Marian de Berg (Cooranbong). David was a man of the land, a man of machinery and a man of God. He was a very compassionate and caring friend to many.

Gordon Gosset



Havermans, Maria (Ruth), born 22.10.1926 in The Netherlands; died 11.12.14 in Melbourne, Vic. Ruth was born into a devout Catholic family. She worked for many years as a matron of a teaching hospital in The Netherlands. After miraculously surviving a serious car accident, her life took a different direction that eventually led her to join the Seventh-day Adventist Church in New Zealand in 1990. She had a very strong hope in the second coming of Christ at which time we look forward to meeting her again.



Hull, Audrey Rebecca (nee Wonga), born 17.10.1958 in Port Augusta, SA; died suddenly on 10.6.15 in the Homestead Hospital, Adelaide. Audrey was taken away from her family at a young age and spent time in a number of children's homes. She did her enrolled nurses training in Port Augusta. She is survived by her children: Jason, Alinta, Benjamin, Ronald and Raymond; her sisters: Marlene, Margie and Kathryn, and brother Michael; and five grandchildren. Audrey was first contacted by LE Eric Hoare in Port Augusta. She identified with the Adventist Church for many years but was finally baptised four days before her death. Even though both of her legs were amputated due to diabetes, she was determined to be baptised.

Dietrich Stahl, Don Fehlberg

Lindley, Kenneth, born 10.4.1941 in Charleville, Qld; died 28.7.15 in John Flynn Hospital, Gold Coast. On 4.5.1964 he married Glenis Justins. He is survived by his wife; and brother-in-law Lynden Justins. He was an uncle to Loren and Lincoln Justins. Ken and Glenis were originally from the Wynnum church, Brisbane.

Ray Fraser, Bob Possingham

Morgan, Lynette (Lyn), born 30.12.1947 in Orbost, Vic; died 1.7.15 in Sale. She is survived by her sons Damien Morgan (Sale) and Shane Dawson (WA). In 1993 Lyn was baptised in Sale by Pastor Keith Hankinson. She was a very active member of the Sale church. Lyn loved to share her faith with everyone with whom she came in contact. She had a passion for reading and collecting Bibles. Lyn passed away with a very strong faith in her Lord and Saviour.

Graham McNicol, Andrew Wilson

Price, Pastor Ernest Bruce, born 15.6.1932 in Fremantle, WA; died 2.5.15 in Pelican Waters, Qld. On 20.4.1958 he married Fay. He was predeceased by Clare and Shirley. He is survived by his wife; his children: David Wayne (Cooranbong, NSW), Kymmarrie Fay (Hervey Bay, Qld), Craig Bruce (Sydney, NSW) and Dean Andrew (Brisbane, Qld). Pastor Bruce Price was the author of the book *God's Channel of Truth*

- *Is it the Watchtower?* Bruce was a lion of a man, single-minded in his lifelong passion as a minister to bring everyone he could into a saving relationship with his Lord and Saviour, Jesus. Until our Lord comes he rests from his labours but will not be forgotten.

Mark Wilson

Ralph, Elizabeth Shirley (Betty) (nee Hambling), born 27.9.1927; died 15.7.15 in Greenslopes Private Hospital, Brisbane, Qld. In 1951 she married Alan Lewis Ralph, who predeceased her. She is survived by her children: Wendy and Glen Stewart, Glen and Avril Ralph, Richard Ralph and Trisha Hottinger (Ralph) (all of Brisbane); six grandchildren; and four step-grandchildren. Betty was active in the church:

Dorcas leader, church organist, children's Sabbath School teacher and superintendent. She loved music and sang in the Avondale College Choir, the CWA choir and the church choir in Auckland, NZ, with Leonie Donald.

Bob Possingham, Alvin Coltheart

Smith, Nancy Elaine, born 9.11.1930 in Lakemba, NSW; died 6.7.15. In 1951 she married Ronald Francis Smith in Parramatta. She is survived by her son Raymond; two grandchildren: Michael and Sharon; and four great-grandchildren: Sarah, Emily, Danika and Heidi. Nancy came to live at the Alstonville Adventist Senior Living Facility, studied the Bible with Edith Merritt and was baptised by Beth McMurtry on 16.4.11. She has always been

a delight to know and loved attending chapels and Sabbath services at the hostel.

Beth McMurtry

Watson, James Joseph (Jim), born 20.12.1939 in Brisbane, Qld; died 25.7.15 in Ipswich Hospital, aged 75 years. He is survived by his wife Pauline; his sons and their spouses: James and Deb, Timothy and Pauline, Peter and Kim; grandchildren: Collin, Joel, Luke, Chrystal, Ryan, Kate, Chloe and Thomas; and great-grandchildren: Truce, Emma and Felix. A founding member of Esk church, Jim was passionate about Jesus and never missed a chance to spread the gospel message. Jim's greatest desire was to speak with Jesus face to face.

Andy Krause

ADVERTISEMENTS

Coonabarabran Adventist Church. Celebrating 40 years on December 5, 2015. All previous members very welcome. For more information ring: Vicki on (02) 6842 1461 or Barb on (02) 6843 4438.

Missing members. Bunbury church, WA has lost contact over recent years with the following members and would appreciate assistance in locating them: Christopher and Robyn Noble, Christian Seal and Joachim Tuttass. Please email the church clerk <dlm@e-wire.net.au> or telephone (08) 97 252 248.

Mullumbimby Adventist Church celebrating 75-years – November 21, 2015. To register

POSITIONS VACANT

■ **Business Systems analyst, South Pacific Division (Wahroonga, NSW).** The Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Ltd is seeking a skilled and experienced individual to join its Information Technology area, providing software analysis and design to the Church's accounting systems. This 24-month contract role will also cover implementation, training, testing and support for accounting and related systems. For more information please visit the South Pacific Division's Human Resources website at <www.adventistemployment.org.au>. To apply, please send a cover letter, your CV, three work-related referees and the contact details of your Adventist Church pastor to: Human Resources, Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Limited, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga, NSW 2076 Australia; or email: <hr@adventist.org.au>; or fax: (02) 9489 0943. Applications close **September 22, 2015.**

■ **E-Learning system specialist—Seventh-day Adventist Schools (Greater Sydney) Ltd (Epping, NSW).** Reporting directly to the associate director of Education, some of the responsibilities include: educating and supporting lead teachers in the effective use of ICT to deliver engaging lessons; educating teachers on efficient use of ICT when planning classes and collating resources; educating teachers on how to use work-related applications more efficiently; delivering in-service courses; evaluating ICT initiatives in the classroom; networking with other e-learning specialists; and investigating the feasibility of remote classrooms. For further information please contact Jean Carter on <jeancarter@adventist.org.au>. To apply, please forward your application to <jeancarter@adventist.org.au>. Applications close **September 24, 2015.**

■ **Lecturer in Science Education—Pacific Adventist University (Port Moresby, PNG).** The successful applicant will be responsible for teaching undergraduate subjects in science education, specialist education subjects and professional subjects including practicums, and other general duties as required. The applicant will develop high quality educational material for undergraduate students in adherence with the academic policies of the university. In addition to the preparation and delivery of lectures, the role may also include postgraduate research supervision, subject revision and exam moderation across all affiliated campuses, assessing students, performing administrative duties and involvement in various

aspects of higher education activities associated with the School of Education. For further information and a full job description please contact HR via <hr@pau.ac.pg> or call (675) 3280200. Interested applicants may forward their CV and copies of their qualifications to: The HR Director, Pacific Adventist University, Private Mail Bag, Boroko NCD 111, Papua New Guinea. Phone: 328 0200, fax to: 328 1257, or email: <hr@pau.ac.pg>. Applications close **September 30, 2015.**

■ **Senior lecturer—Pacific Adventist University (Port Moresby, PNG).** Pacific Adventist University is seeking applications for the position of senior lecturer in the School of Business, commencing January 2016. The successful applicant will be responsible for coordinating the Masters in Leadership and Development program, and will also be responsible for developing high quality educational material for undergraduate and postgraduate students in adherence with the academic policies of the university. For further information and a full job description please contact HR via <hr@pau.ac.pg>. To apply, please forward applications, including cover letter, CV, three work-related referees and contact information of your Seventh-day Adventist Church pastor, to: The HR Director, Pacific Adventist University, Private Mail Bag, Boroko NCD 111, Papua New Guinea. Email <hr@pau.ac.pg>.

■ **Supervisor—Adventist Book Centre (Epping, NSW).** The Greater Sydney Conference is seeking to appoint a full-time supervisor for the Adventist Book Centre, based in Epping, NSW, which currently operates across two locations. The successful applicant will have proven management ability in a retail environment, a high level of customer service, a proven ability to meet deadlines, excellent written and verbal communication skills and be a committed member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Working under the direction of the chief financial officer, the ABC supervisor will oversee the operations and day-to-day running of the ABC and staff. For more information and a position profile, please contact Adrian Raethel on (02) 9868 6522 or email <adrianraethel@adventist.org.au>. Applications close **September 30, 2015.**

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your interest, share photos and memorabilia, contact Carol Alt, email <carolalt@outlook.com> or phone (02) 6687 1247 by November 6, 2015.

Grey Nomads camp—Adventist Alpine Village. October 5–10, 2015. Plan now to attend the South New South Wales Conference Grey Nomads camp

for a spiritual feast and social fellowship at Adventist Alpine Village, Jindabyne, NSW. Set in the beauty of the Australian Southern Alps, numbers are limited to 200 attendees. Guest speakers include Pastor Andrew Kingston and Dr Allan Lindsay. To receive an application form and details of accommodation options please contact Robyn

Howie: phone (02) 6249 6822 or email <robynhowie@adventist.org.au>.

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Finally . . .
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POSITIONS VACANT

■ **Management lecturer—Pacific Adventist University (Port Moresby, PNG).** Pacific Adventist University is seeking applications for lecturing position in the School of Business, commencing January 2016. Applicants with strengths in business administration, human resource management, marketing and accounting will be preferred. Applicants with other specialisations may be considered if they meet the needs of the School of Business. For further information and a full job description please contact HR via <hr@pau.ac.pg> or call (675) 328 0200. To apply, please forward applications, including cover letter, CV, three work-related referees and contact information of your Seventh-day Adventist Church pastor, to: The HR Director, Pacific Adventist University, Private Mail Bag, Boroko NCD 111, Papua New Guinea. Email <hr@pau.ac.pg>. Applications close **September 30, 2015.**

■ **Accounting lecturer - Pacific Adventist University (Port Moresby, PNG).** Pacific Adventist University is seeking applications for a lecturing position in the School of Business, commencing January 2016. Applicants with strengths in financial accounting, corporate accounting, management/cost accounting and government accounting will be preferred. Applicants with other specialisations may be considered if they meet the needs of the School of Business. For further information and a full job description please contact HR via <hr@pau.ac.pg> or call (675) 328 0200. To apply, please forward applications, including a cover letter, your CV, three work-related referees and the contact information of your Seventh-day Adventist Church pastor, to: The HR Director, Pacific Adventist University, Private Mail Bag, Boroko NCD 111, Papua New Guinea. Phone: 328 0200 Fax: 328 1257 Email: <hr@pau.ac.pg>.

■ **Two roles: assistant manager and cleaner—Crosslands Youth & Convention Centre (Galston, NSW).** Vacancies exists for a live-in, full-time assistant manager and part-time (19 hours per week) cleaner at the Crosslands Youth & Convention Centre, Greater Sydney Conference. Crosslands is a Christian campsite located in the Berowra Valley and Hawkesbury River region of Sydney. These two positions are ideally suited to a married couple as it is expected the assistant manager would live in housing provided on-site. The successful applicant for the assistant manager role will have trade and/or handyman skills, communication skills, an

understanding of and compliance with Work Health and Safety requirements, and be a committed member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The successful applicant for the cleaner role must be physically fit as the role requires appropriate lifting, bending, carrying equipment and walking, and be a committed member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. For more information and a position profile please contact: Adrian Raethel on (02) 9868 6522 or <adrianraethel@adventist.org.au>. Applications close **September 30, 2015.**

■ **Church pastor—Lord Howe Island.** The Seventh-day Adventist Church (Greater Sydney Conference) Limited is seeking suitable applicants for the position of church pastor, Lord Howe Island. Based on Lord Howe Island, the role involves pastoral care of the church and ministry to the local community. The position is for commencement in January 2016, subject to negotiation. This position requires a commitment to the teachings, values, and mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Pastoral ministry experience is preferable. For more information, or to apply, please contact Pastor Adrian Raethel (02) 9868 6522 or email <adrianraethel@adventist.org.au>. Applications close **September 24, 2015.**

■ **Two roles: principal and teacher of mathematics—Christchurch Adventist School. Years 1–13, (K-12 school) (Christchurch, NZ).**
Principal: The successful applicant will have proven leadership, communication and building relationships skills, with managerial experience; a sound knowledge of curriculum and effective pedagogy, with a commitment to building on the strong academic results. A willingness and ability to take part in religious instruction appropriate to the special character of the school shall be a condition of appointment. Start date: Term 1, 2016.
Teacher of mathematics. We seek an enthusiastic and innovative mathematics teacher with an ability to teach statistics and/or calculus for Years 9–13. Sound knowledge of the NZ curriculum and assessment requirements essential. Start date: Term 1, 2016. To receive an application pack, please contact BOT Chairperson Executive Assistant's email: <t.ling@christchurchadventist.school.nz>. Applications close 5pm, **September 25, 2015. (NZ standard time).**

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