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Adventist  
**Record**

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*HACKSAW RIDGE:*  
**HOW ADVENTISTS CAN SHARE  
THE FAITH OF DOSS**

# I AM MINISTRY

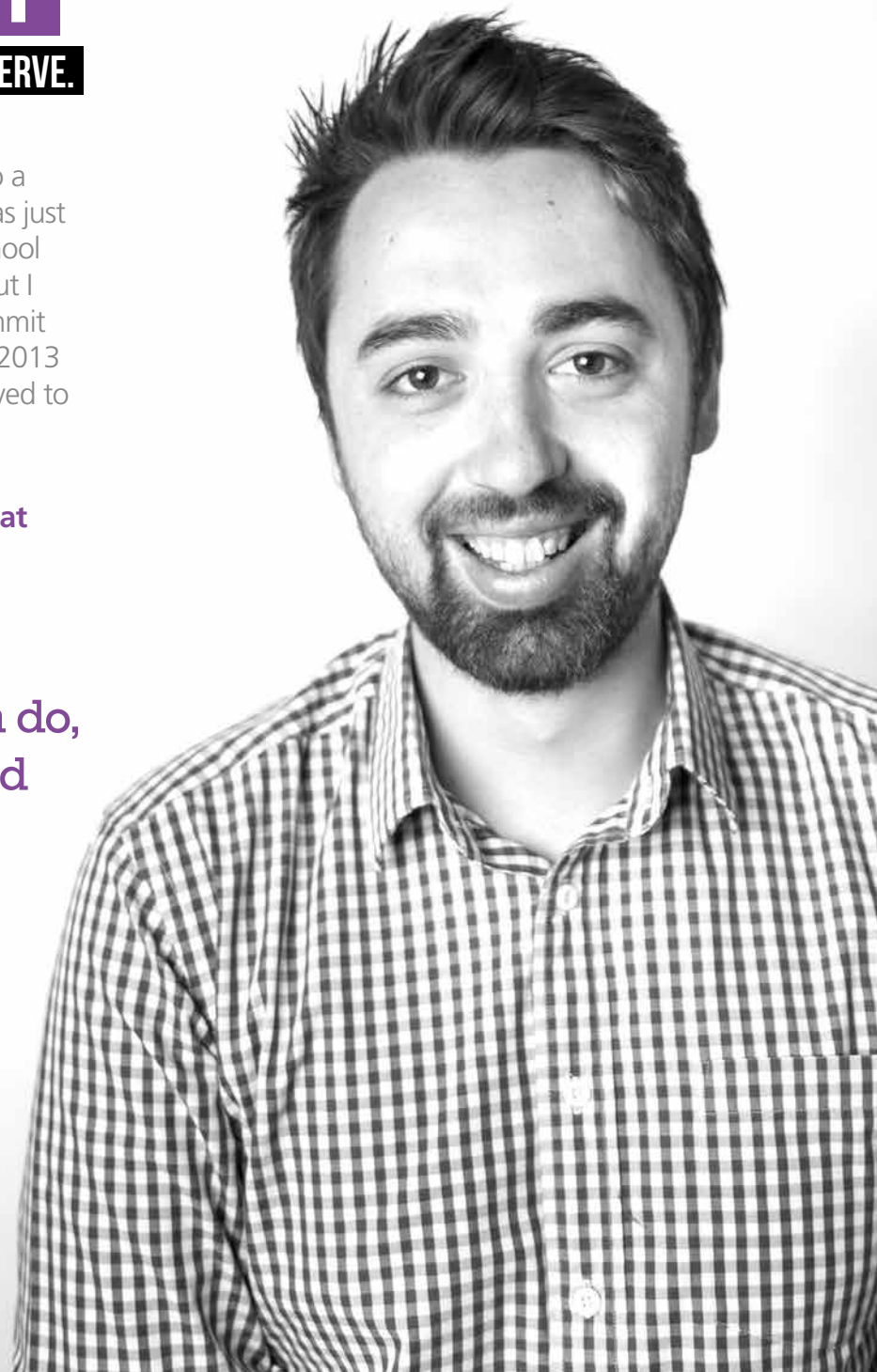
**AVONDALE SEMINARY. EQUIPPED TO SERVE.**

I grew up in a Christian home and went to a Christian school. But a lot of the time, I was just going through the motions. After high school I worked in various jobs in Christchurch, but I couldn't fight the feeling that I had to commit everything to God and pursue ministry. In 2013 I quit my job, dropped everything and moved to Australia to follow my calling.

**Called to serve? Be equipped to serve at Avondale Seminary.**

**“It's less about what I can do, and more about what God can do through me.”**

- Jono, Ministry & Theology student



## Unity document voted despite opposition

Silver Springs, Maryland, US

The General Conference Annual Council voted on October 11 to accept a document entitled "Unity in Mission: Procedures in Church Reconciliation" by a margin of 169 votes to 122.

The main question being considered was how to respond to church entities that are non-compliant to Fundamental Beliefs, voted actions and policies of the GC.

"The discussion and vote at GC was very focused," said South Pacific Division president Pastor Glenn Townend. "It outlined a biblical and Christian process of prayer and discussion aimed at bringing entities that are non-adherent to Fundamental Beliefs, voted GC actions and policies back into compliance."

The document (link at <record.net.au>) begins by describing the diversity of the Seventh-day Adventist Church worldwide and says that for this reason, it is important to come together to pray, plan and vote formal policies and guidelines. Once voted these decisions are not "something we should treat lightly or ignore".

"While the document called for unity there were no outlined consequences given if those who were not adherent did not respond positively," Pastor Townend said.

"The discussion was frank, with points of view delivered clearly and in a positive, respectful manner," said New Zealand Pacific Union president Pastor Brad Kemp. "I believe

that it was helpful for the Church to engage in such discussion."

The document is a response to decisions by union conferences to ordain women since the 2015 San Antonio General Conference Session voted that divisions should not make the decision independently from the world Church. At least two unions are ordaining women, with another union suspending ordinations altogether in the wake of the San Antonio vote.

Pastor Kemp spoke against the motion to accept the document before the vote was taken. "As the Church moves forward it must ensure that unity is not confused with uniformity," he said in an email to *Adventist Record*.

"Unity is usually always focused around purpose and mission; uniformity, around practice and application of ministry to mission. We need to remember that we are part of a large, diverse Church and the bigger we grow, the more diversity will be needed in how we do ministry to ensure that the world Church remains united around its mission."

See full report at <record.net.au>. –Jarrod Stackelroth

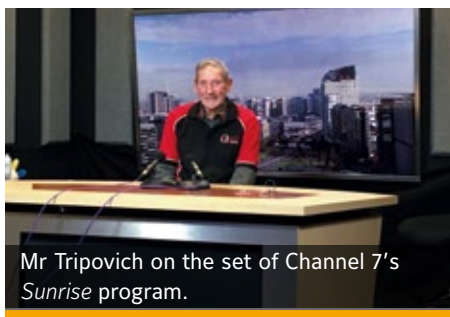


Brad Kemp speaks to delegates.

Credit: Brent Hardinge/ANN

## 90-year old walks around Australia for charity

Melbourne, Australia



Mr Tripovich on the set of Channel 7's Sunrise program.

At age 90, retired farmer Peter Tripovich has completed a 20,000km walk around Australia to help raise funds for charity organisation International Children's Care (ICC).

Circumnavigating

Australia by foot had long been a dream of Mr Tripovich's, but he officially committed to it at 79 years of age, eager to raise awareness of the work that ICC was doing to support children in developing countries.

"I really liked what ICC was doing . . . I decided that if I was going to walk around Australia, I was going to do it for some purpose, and by loving others, raise awareness and hopefully some money for those poor children," he said.

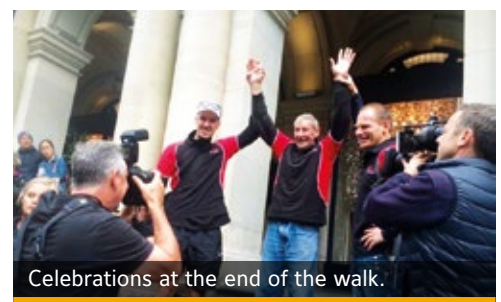
He began his journey in Melbourne but had to cut his walk short at Pemberton (Western Australia) when his wife became ill. Almost 10 years later, on January 26, 2016, he found himself in Pemberton again to complete the final

3500km of his journey back to Melbourne, which included celebrating his 90th birthday on the road.

At last count, Mr Tripovich's record-breaking trip has raised more than \$A100,000 for ICC.

"Whether you're a high school group going on a mission trip or a retiree like Peter based in Australia, you can make a massive difference to the lives of children in need," said ICC Australia president Andrew Perry.

"Finishing the walk was a dream of decades coming true," Mr Tripovich said. "I couldn't have done this without God's help. He really gave me strength on those lonely days. I've met some wonderful people over the walk—kind and generous. So many folk wanted to help by sponsoring a child or just making a donation to the kids. It made it all worth it on the hard days of struggle I faced." –Vania Chew



Celebrations at the end of the walk.



## Superheroes don't use guns

Jarrod Stackelroth

Gun violence. Barely a week goes by without hearing of another mass shooting in America. And then there is the other gun violence that is seemingly never far from the headlines—those given guns to protect, in positions of power and authority, who are shooting and killing un-armed civilians.

Into this mix steps superhero Luke Cage. Not squeaky clean but committed to doing right, *Luke Cage* is Marvel's newest series on television streaming platform Netflix. Cage is an African-American crime fighter who is bullet-proof. He takes down bad guys using only his strength.

*Luke Cage* executive producer Cheo Hodari Coker said, "When I think about what's going on in the world right now, the world is ready for a bulletproof black man."

One image from the show is iconic—Cage bending and destroying all the guns he finds. It is like he can't stand them.

Adventism has its own comic book superhero—Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, Private Desmond Doss.<sup>1</sup> Doss also refused to hold a gun, even during military training. He was ridiculed for it but stuck to his convictions. Instead, he went into the midst of the fight without a weapon and worked to save and preserve lives.

Superheroes stand for the right though the heavens fall. They never give up. They strive and chase and persevere until justice is restored and honoured.

Martin Luther King Jr, a famous proponent of non-violent civil action, said, "Violence never brings permanent peace."

Violence breeds violence. Pulling out a gun always escalates a situation.

It's amazing that surrounded by violence, intimidation and depravity, Doss had the strength to hold to his convictions. Not only did he hold to them but they were tested in the fire—refined and strengthened. He made a difference. He saved lives. He didn't escalate the violence or impact the hell that he found himself in. He pushed it back. He stood in the face of enemy fire, personal risk and injury, "having done all, to stand" (Ephesians 6:13). If only we could all stay as true to our convictions.

Jesus had at His disposal the ultimate power in the entire universe. He was no comic book superhero. He was God. He could have killed His oppressors. He could have destroyed the Romans. He could have taken revenge on those who killed Him. But He showed us a better way. Surely it is a more difficult way—a way that needs faith and courage, but a supernatural way. True heroes sacrifice and serve. True heroes take the difficult path, they come down to rescue and save those who need them.

In reading about the Adventist position on violence and military service I've been encouraged that we have traditionally taken a thoughtful and courageous stance.

As Adventists, we should be anti-war, anti-violence and anti-guns, while respecting and supporting the governments we live under. We must also love and support the individuals who do choose to serve their countries' militaries. They are living out their convictions.

Many of us will never have to make a choice like Doss did. Yet violence stems from control, either an abuse of power or a fear of losing control.

Therefore we can perpetuate violence with our words and actions. We can hurt others by the things we do and say—or the things we don't do and say.

It seems like it takes more courage to save and preserve life than it does to take it. It takes more strength not to fight than it does to hold your own. It's harder to make peace in my marriage, my workplace, my church than it is to criticise. It is harder for my pride and my ambition to humble myself and extend forgiveness or ask for it, than it is to forgive, to love, to sacrifice in words and actions and let go of tension, grudges, gossip and resentment. A commitment to non-violence starts at home.

It's dangerous. It's not a cop-out or coward's option. It takes strength and conviction. Doss was injured. Martin Luther King Jr was assassinated. Jesus was tortured and crucified.

When I think about what's going on in the world right now, the world is ready for more peacemakers.

1. *Hero without a gun* was a comic book produced about Doss's story.

Jarrod Stackelroth is editor of Adventist Record.

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Cover Credit: Mark Rogers

"Actor Andrew Garfield plays Private Desmond Doss in Hacksaw Ridge."

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



### Sanctification 101

Vania Chew

Sanctification. I still remember hearing the word for the first time as a child and wondering what it meant because its meaning wasn't instantly clear. Justification made sense, somewhat, simply because I had heard the word "justify" before. However, the word "sanctify" wasn't likely to be part of a primary school vocabulary—particularly since I went to a state school.

"It means to make holy or set apart," a kindly adult later explained. But that definition didn't make the word any more comprehensible to my adolescent mind. What was being made holy? How did it get made holy? And what did setting something apart have to do with anything?

Many years later, I've simplified my understanding of sanctification to just four short words: "Be more like Jesus."

How do we do that? Here are a few steps to consider:

**Look at Jesus.** The Bible tells us that we need to keep our eyes on Jesus while we run the race of life (Hebrews 12:2). If we want to be more like Jesus, we need to look at His character. What qualities does He have? What characteristics should we be emulating to be more like Jesus? One thing that I've found helpful is to specifically read Jesus' words in the Bible and think about what His quotes and actions say about Him and the Person that He is. Then I think about how my words and actions can reflect Him.

**Let go.** The more that we look at Jesus (Step 1), the more we'll understand just how terrible sin is—it threatened to separate us forever from our Heavenly Father. Only Christ's redemptive sacrifice paid our price. Being more like Jesus means letting go of the things (sins) that try to separate us from God. It's not an easy thing to do. Acknowledge that. Tell Jesus it's an issue. He is ready to forgive you (1 John 1:9) and help you get back on the right path (Proverbs 3:6).

**Don't be discouraged.** We often quote "Consider the lilies" (Matthew 6) when we're discussing clothing, food and other material goods. But the same God who provides for our material needs has also given us provision for our spiritual needs. I like the way preacher Charles Spurgeon put it: "If He gives you the grace to make you believe, He will give you the grace to live a holy life afterward."<sup>1</sup> If Jesus places that desire in your heart to live more like Him, trust that He'll be with you throughout the journey.

1. Charles Spurgeon, Sermon, "Justification by Grace."

Vania Chew is assistant editor for Adventist Media.

Mel Gibson's previous films have been known to be brutal and horrific. I expect *Hacksaw Ridge*, the movie about Seventh-day Adventist conscientious objector and American medic Desmond Doss, will be graphically horrid. That is the nature of war. And as we Adventists know, we are in a great controversy. War, suffering, sickness, crime, abuse . . . we face aspects of evil from the great controversy every day. None of them are nice.

In battle the enemy often attacks the leaders. Pastors are the frontline leaders in the spiritual battle. Ladies and men who are pastors are human—with their own deficiencies and battle scars. We see the weaknesses in ourselves and others. Having others point them out without support is not useful. Pastors are not immune from evil supernatural occurrences, rare diseases, verbal and emotional abuse. Accountability is needed but in an environment of encouragement and development. Pastors lead in the work to save others. They don't have all the spiritual gifts but give what they have and challenge all of us to have a go in rescuing others we know. Doss, like pastors, was abused but continued to minister lifesaving hope and compassion.

Through the battles of life we all have a Saviour. Like Doss, Jesus entered the battlefield with no advantage: He was born as a Baby—just like us. He experienced hunger, sadness and rebuke. But He ministered truth, healing and grace to everyone—to save "one more". To save all who would come. However, unlike Doss, Jesus overcame temptation but succumbed to abuse and the consequences of evil. As an innocent Man He died. His death was to take the punishment all humans deserved for evil. But death could not hold Jesus. To be a real Saviour He conquered death on our behalf. His life, forgiveness, ministry and judgement give hope. Ultimately He will come back one more time to earth and rescue all who are longing for Him.

May the love of Jesus compel us to rescue "just one more".

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





### Rising sea levels

Solomon Islands' main hospital needs relocation, graves are in danger of being washed away and five million people around the Pacific have been impacted by severe weather events, hunger and thirst over the past year. Catholic charity Caritas says island nations need more help and governments should increase efforts to slow climate change. —*Caritas*



Photo credit: Il Giornale

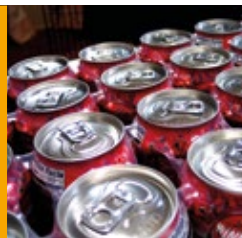
### Whereabouts unknown

Christian human rights lawyer Zhang Kai has been re-arrested in China after he posted an online video retracting a confession he made on state television earlier this year. Zhang said in the new video that his previous statement was made under duress and after six months of detention—"all black and no daylight". —*Religious Liberty Prayer Bulletin*



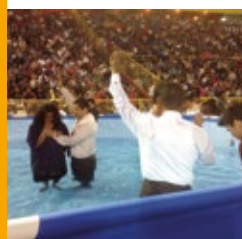
### Making a difference

Portugal is the poorest country in Western Europe with an Adventist membership less than 10,000. Yet ADRA Portugal operates 70 projects around the country, mostly focusing on providing food for struggling families. More than 700 church members volunteer with ADRA and young people from Pathfinders and Adventist schools help with fundraising. —*Inter-European Division*



### Stick and carrot

The World Health Organisation has joined calls for taxes on sugary drinks, including sports drinks and 100 per cent fruit juices, as a way to reduce obesity, diabetes and tooth decay. Its report, released on World Obesity Day, also suggests governments subsidise fresh fruit and vegetables in order to encourage healthier diets. —*ABC News*



### Hungry for God

As Communist Cuba gradually allows more freedom, Australian-born evangelist John Carter and his team have worked with local Adventist leaders to organise 13 campaigns around the country. Most Cubans believe in God but many practice Santeria spiritism. After nine nights of preaching, 648 baptisms were held with another 235 people requesting baptism. —*The Carter Report*



### Interactive

An exhibit at Estonia's new National Museum has drawn protests from church leaders and politicians who say it mocks religion. Visitors are invited to kick a plinth under a virtual image of the Virgin Mary, whereupon the image appears to fly into pieces and the word "Reformation" appears. —*Christian Today*




JOIN THE CELEBRATION  
JULY, 2017


## 100 YEARS OF SERVICE


**S**YDNEY ADVENTIST SCHOOL AUBURN will soon be celebrating 100 years of service as a school and provider of Adventist education in Sydney.

Over the span of ten decades, many have come through the doors of this school as students and staff. As we prepare to celebrate this milestone in the school, we'd love to be able to collect some of these stories and reconnect with those who have been involved in creating 100 years of memories.

### FIND OUT MORE AND JOIN IN THE CONVERSATION:

 Sydney Adventist School Auburn

 [www.auburn.adventist.edu.au](http://www.auburn.adventist.edu.au)

 02 9649 5279

## Students minister in Solomon Islands

*Batuna, Solomon Islands*

Fourteen students from Brisbane Adventist College (BAC) experienced first-hand ministry on their recent Sonship mission trip to Solomon Islands.

The trip, the sixth of its kind from BAC and the third to Batuna Adventist Vocational School, featured a mixture of practical service opportunities, cultural experiences and a small amount of sightseeing.

Batuna is located in the heart of the Marovo Lagoon and runs practical training courses in building, electrical work, agriculture and sewing. While there, the students helped to refurbish the chapel by painting most of the exterior.

"BAC is committed to sending students to serve in a variety of contexts," explained trip leader and BAC teacher Clinton Jackson. "We are very grateful for the relationship we have been able to build with our friends at Batuna."

A children's program, featuring a drama in Pijin about the story of Daniel, was presented in three villages, Ketoketo, Bisuana and Kokete, and to the student community at Batuna. The team also visited the village of Manabusu

to lead out in Sabbath School and church. Three of the student members of the team shared the sermon, with Year 10 student Chante Bates' message being particularly relevant to the needs of this community.

Many of the team members were confronted with the contrast between the lack of material wealth and the generosity of the community at Batuna.

"I can see why you would fall in love with this place," reflected BAC Bible teacher Bruce Myers. "The sights, the sounds, the tastes, make this a truly unique place." –Clinton Jackson/  
BAC staff

*The team would like to help improve staff housing at Batuna. For more information please email Clinton Jackson: <cjackson@bac.qld.edu.au>.*



The school group in the Solomons.



Willy Ramos.

## Ghetto preacher makes eternal impact

*Cooranbong, NSW*

More than 60 people, children and adults committed their lives to Christ during Avondale School's (Cooranbong, NSW) Week of Worship.

Headline speaker Willy Ramos, the "ghetto preacher", is a Florida-based lay evangelist with a rapid-fire urban style and a powerful testimony of rescue from a life on the streets. With frequent humour, vivid illustrations and

pointed Ellen White quotes, Mr Ramos unpacked biblical stories from the life of Christ.

The school took its Week of Worship to a new level by adding evening and Sabbath sessions where parents and the community were invited to participate. This was made possible by partnerships with Gateway church and youth leaders from surrounding Adventist churches. –Kent Kingston

## Pioneer evangelism bears fruit

*Rewasa, Fiji*

It was not an easy task for the eight families making up the branch Sabbath School (church plant) in Rewasa, Fiji, to host their first ever evangelistic series.

In a village largely dominated by another Christian church, the series and the very presence of Adventists were not welcome.

Lay evangelist Tevita Koro and his team were summoned to the community hall nine nights into the evangelistic series for a *bose va koro* (village meeting). Samuela Namua, head elder of the branch Sabbath School, recalls that all the taunting words spoken to them that night by members of the village council were only returned with silence and tears. "A feeling of calmness came over us that we have no need to reply to their words," Mr Namua said. "They told us that the present faith in the village is enough and we were just bringing disunity amongst the villagers in

holding this meeting."

The members of the branch Sabbath School were encouraged and strengthened by this encounter and were even more determined to preach the gospel.

Their sacrifices and commitment during the three weeks of evangelistic meetings were worth it as they witnessed eight baptisms. Furthermore, they are anticipating the next evangelistic series and are also looking forward to having a church building of their own.

The branch Sabbath School started one year ago and currently worships in a classroom near the village. –Wyse Bete/Na Kaci Fiji Mission newsletter



Rewasa is near Rakiraki.

Credit: Google maps

# NORTH NSW CONFERENCE

## grey nomads

12-20  
May 2017

This annual event, held at Stuarts Point Convention Centre, is an excellent opportunity for retirees to meet and fellowship together.

Dr Dick Stenbakken & Dr Peter Landless are the speakers.

Applications will be available in December

*Open to grey nomads from across Australia - and beyond!*

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call (02) 4944 3220 or email [greynomads@adventist.org.au](mailto:greynomads@adventist.org.au)

[nsw.adventist.org.au/grey-nomads](http://nsw.adventist.org.au/grey-nomads)

## Taps, toilets and transformation

*Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea*

Adventists in the Central Papua Conference spent almost two weeks building and providing much-needed services in the Motuan village of Boera.

The project team, named Boera Mission 16, comprised more than 1400 church members from

the Conference's National Capital District (NCD), Bisiatabu, Efogi and Kwikila districts. Among the volunteers were carpenters, plumbers, engineers, nurses, doctors, teachers, home-makers, youth, children, students and pastors.

The team travelled to Boera, 30 kilometres west of Port Moresby, on July 5 and camped at the entrance to the village. They spent seven days working on water and toilet projects, cleaning the village, providing medical checks, treating patients, conducting minor operations, doing exhibitions such as cooking, dyeing, making moringa and vegetable juices, flower arrangements, draping and skirting. They also distributed 51 bales of secondhand clothes.

Health talks by specialist doctors were held in the evenings at the sports field. Topics presented included snakebite, substance abuse, mouth cancer, cervical cancer and family planning.

The main projects were water and the ventilated improved pit (VIP) toilet. With the water project men, women and youth were involved in digging trenches from the bore to the water tank and through the village. They laid water pipes and installed 22 taps at various sites in the village. The drilling of the water bore was completed three weeks before the laying of pipes and installation of taps. Meanwhile, four VIP toilets were built for the Boera Primary School, the United Church, the women's hall and the sports field.

Conference secretary Pastor Rex Koi said the Adventist volunteers provided the services from their heart as they wanted to touch lives and make a difference in Boera. He appealed to the people of Boera to take care of the new facilities as they will improve health and sanitation for the village.

Boera village councillor Vivian McArthur said: "Boera village, in its length, breadth, height and depth, is truly humbled and grateful at what you have blessed us with. In our slumber, you came and knocked on our doors and despite the initial challenges that almost threatened the project, thank God we opened up and here we are today. All proud, all smiles and all relieved."

Ms McArthur gave her assurances that the villagers would care for the new facilities. She also challenged the villagers to work together to make Boera a better place.

Funding for the projects came from offerings collected in Adventist churches throughout NCD and Central provinces.

Similar projects were carried out in 2014 and 2015. In 2014, almost 800 Adventist volunteers travelled to Magarida, Central Province, where they cleaned the station and repaired the maternity ward at the Iruna health centre. In 2015, almost 1200 volunteers went to Bereina, Central Province, to clean the station, provide medical services and complete the building of a maternity ward, a project that had been abandoned by a contractor. —*Jacqueline Wari*





# Unique witnessing tool



Next week's release of the film *Hacksaw Ridge* offers members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church an unprecedented witnessing opportunity, according to Pastor Justin Lawman, president of the North New South Wales (NNSW) Conference.

"I cannot remember a Hollywood movie where the main storyline is about a Seventh-day Adventist who is faithful and obedient," Pastor Lawman said.

"This is an unparalleled opportunity that God can use and I believe God has orchestrated it all. I heard about *Hacksaw Ridge* when I went to the It Is Written Oceania partner weekend, where Gary Kent and John Bradshaw spoke about the powerful impact the movie had on them, so I thought we should do something about it. My love for evangelism means I get very excited by these chances where we can use God-given opportunities to direct people to the source of faith, and the reason for dependence and obedience."

Pastor Lawman asked NNSW Conference project manager Nic Coutet to put together a team to develop a public and internal strategy to promote Adventism through *Hacksaw Ridge*—a strategy that would eventually land on the desk of the film's director, Mel Gibson! Not long after this, Adventist Media CEO Calvin Dever, Pastor Cristian Copaceanu, director of Personal Ministries for the Australian Union Conference (AUC), Pastor Lawman and Mr Coutet became the core project team.

Since then the team has completed a strategy that aims to influence people's response to the movie, directing their attention to the faith of Desmond Doss. It features a website <[faithofdoss.com](http://faithofdoss.com)> along with multiple media platforms. NNSW and Adventist Media have developed a marketing strategy to target people who have watched the movie, with consistent messaging directing them to the website where they will find more information about Doss's faith and his beliefs.

Responsible for the "internal campaign", Pastor Co-

paceanu said the film offers church members a rare opportunity to share their faith with family, friends, neighbours and colleagues. "For the first time millions will be exposed to the quality and character of the Seventh-day Adventist faith—a faith not of the world but in it to its very miry depths," he said.

"We have launched this internal campaign, 'One more, Lord,' in order to encourage and equip members to use the movie's publicity as a sowing opportunity. There are various things people can do, from sharing information on their social media accounts to holding a Faith of Doss weekend at their local church."

Mr Coutet is uncertain how the public will respond, however he plans to saturate every possible media platform, directing any interest from the movie back to the website. "It is likely that if many of our members like and share our website and social media posts that it will be the top ranking resource on the net," he said. "Our public strategy is significantly focused on transitioning interests to be 'engaged' in a Bible study, live talks on Desmond's faith and ultimately connecting people with us, you and me! A media campaign won't do it alone; we've got to get out there and share the website."

The project team is optimistic about how the Holy Spirit will work in the lives of people who have seen the film. "Ultimately we hope it will lead people to Jesus," Pastor Copaceanu said.

*Hacksaw Ridge* tells the story of Doss, an Adventist man who served in World War II, the first conscientious objector in American history to be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. The army medic braved bullets, grenades and snipers while single-handedly evacuating the wounded from behind enemy lines.

*Hacksaw Ridge* opens in cinemas in Australia on November 3. For more information on how you can "share the faith of Doss" turn to page 17.



### Church's dream becomes reality

Work has begun on a new multipurpose centre for Cakau church in Suva, Fiji, that could open as early as the first quarter of 2017. Representatives from the Fiji Mission and Trans-Pacific Union Mission gathered to be part of this historic event, with director of the Nasinu District, Pastor Leone Tubuna, acknowledging the church members and elders who have been praying for the new facility for more than two decades. —*Hope Channel Fiji*



### Lismore baptisms

Lismore church celebrated four baptisms on September 24. David Jung, brothers Klayton and Lynkane Stevens-Kowald, and their mother Susan McPherson were all welcomed into fellowship. "It was an exciting day for the church to witness each one give their lives and make a commitment to Jesus," said church member Sherree Merritt. —*Sherree Merritt*



### Lay pastors graduate

The New Britain New Ireland Mission (Papua New Guinea) has held its first graduation for lay pastors. Twenty-four participants graduated from the East New Britain Laymen School. "It is our focus to give more training to local church leaders to equip and empower them in areas of ministry and church leadership," said Mission president Pastor Peter Yambe. —*Roger Nori*



### Men of Hope tour

Men of Hope, a Sydney-based men's choir with an international cast representing at least nine countries, recently spent a week touring the northern reaches of New Zealand. They supported a kids' club, the Switzer Aged Care Home in Kaitaia and various local church outreach events. The men supported evangelism in the Philippines this year and have plans to do the same in India in 2018. —*Lee Dunstan*



### Marriage enrichment

The first Marriage Enrichment Day for South Pacific Division (SPD) staff and their spouses was held on October 8 at Wahroonga (NSW). Themed "Growing Together", the event was led by Dr Brian Craig and Pastor Trafford Fischer, both of whom have been or are currently involved with Family Ministries at the SPD. Nine couples thoroughly enjoyed the program, which also included a special candlelight dinner. —*Maritza Brunt*



### First communion for new church

In 2002, a small group of families from Portoroki church (Vanuatu) began worshipping in their homes. As more members joined the group grew and a small branch church in Pango was established. On Sabbath, September 24, the newly named Emetnai church held its first communion service, attended by more than 30 members. —*Adventist Media Vanuatu*



### Snowball effect in Tahiti

When literature evangelist Maire Fosse came into contact with Vannes Tirène, she never knew the impact their meeting would have. A former Protestant believer, Vannes was inspired to build a new house for her church pastor and his family. She also bought Bibles to offer to non-Adventist friends, and as a result, three of Vannes' friends who have been studying the Bible were recently baptised into the Adventist Church on the island of Raiatea in Tahiti. —*Fanny Brotherson*



### Record number at women's retreat

Around 150 ladies met at Jindabyne to attend the South New South Wales Women's Retreat. Guest speaker Lanelle Cobbin encouraged and challenged the ladies and, for the first time, 25 teen girls had their own special program led by Karly Fraser. In another first, the largest number of Aboriginal women attended the retreat, coming from Wallaga Lake and Narromine. "How blessed we are to enjoy God's presence with us in a place where we can feel His presence in the things around us," said Women's Ministries director Wendy Hergenhan. —*Imprint Magazine*

# food as medicine

by Nathan Brown

**A**S A HEALTH PROFESSIONAL OF NEARLY 30 YEARS, I've always been interested in the potential to use food as medicine," explains Sue Radd, Sydney-based dietitian and author of the new *Food As Medicine* cookbook. "But in recent times, the scientific evidence base has strengthened for using a plant-based dietary pattern—including wholefoods like legumes, vegetables and nuts—to not only prevent chronic disease or better manage it but to even reverse some diseases. I wanted to share this information in a practical and delicious way with people around the world."

*Food as Medicine* brings together Ms Radd's expertise and passions as an experienced dietitian and a cook, a research scientist and a "foodie" traveller. The cookbook includes 150 plant-based recipes, as well as almost 100 pages offering an overview of the scientific research that underpins the recipes, responses to current dietary trends and tips for setting up a health-promoting home kitchen.

But it's the recipes that take centre stage in *Food As Medicine*. "My inspiration has come from traditional cultures, ranging from the Mediterranean to Asia and visits to 'aunties' and 'grandmas' in village kitchens," says Ms Radd. "Developing recipes is an extensive process so you have to be passionate about it—from concept stage to multiple testing, including variations in ingredients and methods and incorporating feedback from different taste testers! Then my recipes have been further refined at my award-winning Culinary Medicine Cookshops in Sydney where we actually show people how to use food as medicine."

Work on *Food As Medicine* has also complemented Ms Radd's doctoral research at The University of Sydney, where she is researching the effects of the traditional Mediterranean diet on memory and thinking problems. "There is good observational data that such a plant-based dietary pattern may reduce the risk of Alzheimer's disease—and dementia generally—by almost 50 per cent," she explains.

Ms Radd was recently featured on ABC TV's *Catalyst* program talking about her study and demonstrating some of her recipes. "Dementia is currently the second-leading cause of death in Australia and projected to become the primary cause in the near future," she adds. "However, we believe there is a window of opportunity to intervene early

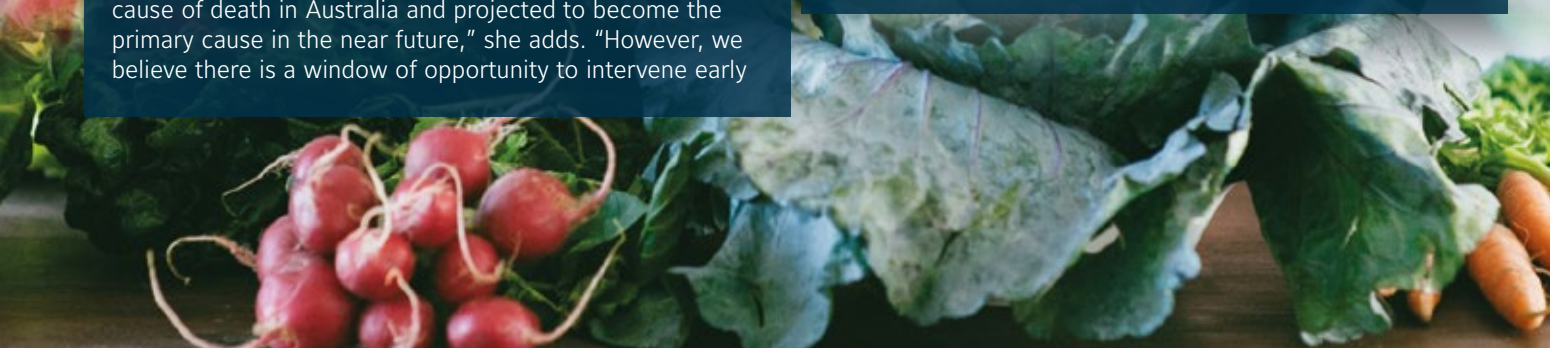
with diet and other lifestyle measures like physical activity to slow down progression once a person starts experiencing memory decline and that is what we are testing." Her research study will be using recipes from *Food As Medicine* as a key part of this lifestyle intervention.

While this research is an important part of her current focus, *Food As Medicine* is also part of a larger purpose for Ms Radd, thus her decision to publish this book with Signs after releasing her earlier book with larger publishers. "It has been a pleasure to work with Signs Publishing on this project and they have done an exceptional job ensuring the recipes are beautifully illustrated and presented," she comments.

"But my larger goal was to team up with like-minded people and Adventist organisations to take our health ministry, underpinned by the latest scientific findings and practical application, worldwide. The aim is to re-inspire Adventists and reach secular audiences searching for credible information to live a better life. This book is one foundation stone for the work I am planning to do in the future in this regard. It was also designed to be shared by you with your friends and family, knowing that the health message is the right arm of the gospel and we can all participate in this ministry."

*Food As Medicine: Cooking for Your Best Health* is available now from Adventist Book Centres in Australia and New Zealand. Subscribe to "Food As Medicine" updates at <[www.foodasmedicine.cooking](http://www.foodasmedicine.cooking)> or like "Food As Medicine" on Facebook and share with your online friends.

Nathan Brown is book editor for Signs Publishing Company.





## DIGGING INTO THE WORD

Gary Webster

### Philadelphia: church of the open doors

Sadly, due to numerous reasons, any of us can suffer from a lack of a real missional spirit. Philadelphia was a missional church as seen by the fact that its members did not deny Christ's name and that He had set before them an open door, a phrase Paul repeatedly used when talking about an opening for the gospel message into human hearts.

**Read Revelation 3:8; Acts 14:27; 1 Corinthians 16:9; 2 Corinthians 2:12; Colossians 4:3.**

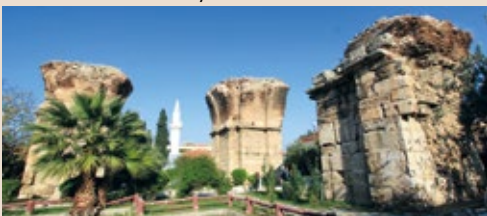
To help them maintain their missional spirit, Christ gave them a series of motivational stimuli to help them continue to share their faith—factors that will also help you and I to be more missional. Firstly, it is He who has the keys to the kingdom and who thus opens doors to human hearts. We are just instruments in His hands, so let's stop worrying about results. That's Christ's problem, not ours!

**Read Revelation 3:7.**

Secondly, when opposition comes our way in sharing Jesus, we must remember He still loves us. Thirdly, when trials come as we go about His mission, as they surely will, He has promised to keep us faithful. Fourthly, He promises that He is coming again—surely one of the greatest motives for witness and evangelism is the soon return of Jesus, our Friend and Saviour. Finally, He reminds us we belong to Him as His bride, for His name is on us, and to His Father as His children, for the Father's name is on us. We are not nobodies! What a mighty stimulus to reach out to others so they too can belong like we do.

**Read Revelation 3:9,10,11,12.**

If you sense your zeal for sharing Jesus is waning, why not claim these mighty motivational promises right now and see how God will re-ignite your flame for the lost.



Ruins of the Basilica of St John in Philadelphia. The name of the city, given by King Eumenes II (197-160 BC) for the love of his brother, was a fitting one for the missional church of Philadelphia.

## Church outgrows rented hall

EDMONTON CHURCH, QLD  
Daniel Matteo

My church is Edmonton Seventh-day Adventist Church, just south of Cairns in North Queensland. As soon as I arrived here as pastor I was overwhelmed with how active and friendly the little congregation was. Its mission is to "Build a caring Christian community, one person at a time". This "every single soul matters" philosophy is so important because the community around the church is very tough, plagued by social issues such as domestic violence, drug and alcohol addiction, abuse, ill health, homelessness and, sadly, a sincere ignorance of the love of Jesus.

In response to this, the church has run addiction recovery programs, health and gospel programs. The core ministry of the church is built around small group outreach, with its weekly kids' Bible studies being routinely packed with non-Adventist children from around the neighbourhood. In short, we have an active presence serving in the community. The church has seen quite a few people choose to follow Jesus through baptism recently, and more have indicated a desire to be baptised in the future. Everyone is thrilled to see the church family expanding. It means more people to love!

However, with that rapid growth has come an increasingly serious discomfort with the small community hall the church has rented for the past 10 years. Although very inexpensive, Down Park Hall is less-than-ideal in many ways. It is becoming clear that the Edmonton church needs to purchase a place of its own.

The community in Edmonton is itself also growing rapidly. In the near future there are plans to build a hospital and shopping centres in the area, with the township becoming a central business district. God wants the light of His church to shine in this blossoming community.

Looking to the future, the church has set itself a goal of raising its building fund so that it can afford a deposit for a suitable property and continue to serve the local community and be a light for Jesus. Please pray for this church to continue to fulfil Jesus' commission in Edmonton.

Genesis 12:2 says, ". . . I will bless you . . . and you shall be a blessing".

If you would like to contribute towards Edmonton church purchasing a permanent home, please make arrangements with the Northern Australian Conference office at +61 (0)7 4779 3988 or go to the eGiving website <egiving.org.au>, type "Edmonton" in the box and contribute to "Edmonton Building Fund".





## Food waste on the rise

A recent study has found that Australians are throwing away about 14 per cent of weekly groceries, which is the equivalent of \$A1000 waste per household per year or \$A10 billion for the nation as a whole. To make matters worse, the study found this national amount had increased by 6 per cent over the past three years.

In New Zealand the news is better, but still not good, with the average household wasting more than \$NZ500 of food yearly, the equivalent of 122,547 tonnes of food thrown away per year.

So besides the obvious financial cost to the individual, why should we be so worried about food waste? From an environmental perspective the cost is a pretty big one. Growing, harvesting, preparing food for sale and getting it to stores is a big process that ends up using a lot of fuel and producing a lot of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. New Zealand food waste alone makes such a big impact that if we wanted to offset it by driving less we'd actually have to take 118,107 cars off the road for the year.

So how can we cut down on our food waste? Here are our top three tips:

1. Shop with a plan—plan your weekly meals in advance and write a list before shopping. This way you'll be less likely to buy food you don't end up eating.

2. Only buy as much as you need—it can be tempting to think the big bag of potatoes or the two-litre bottle of milk is better value, but it really isn't if you end up throwing half of it away.

3. Get creative with leftovers—even with the best of planning, there's a good chance you're going to be left with some random ingredients in the fridge every now and again. Rather than just tossing them out, why not investigate new recipes and avoid waste and broaden your repertoire at the same time!



### Berry soda

Preparation time: 5 minutes Cooking time: nil Serves: 3

- |                         |                                       |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 150g frozen raspberries | 1½ tablespoons icing sugar            |
| 200ml cranberry juice   | Ice cubes                             |
| ½ lemon, juice only     | 1 bottle soda water (300ml per glass) |

1. Puree raspberries, lemon juice, icing sugar and cranberry juice.
2. Divide amongst glasses, add ice cubes, top with soda and stir to combine. Garnish with mint/lemon slices.

**NUTRITION INFORMATION PER SERVE:** 200kJ (50cal). Protein <1g. Fat <1g. Carbohydrate 10g. Sodium 30mg. Potassium 110mg. Calcium 10mg. Fibre 1g.



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Sanitarium

LIFESTYLE  
MEDICINE  
SERVICES



# HACKSAW RIDGE

By Kyle Portbury

MEL GIBSON IS NERVOUS. THE CINEMA IN Plano, north-east of Dallas, Texas, is packed with mega-church pastors, military veterans, special guests and a small contingent from Southwestern Adventist University. Walking across the front of the giant screen to take his seat on one of three directors' chairs set up between two posters of his first feature film in 10 years, Gibson stops momentarily to straighten one of the posters that is a little crooked on its easel. It was in that moment I knew we were in for something special. That is the hallmark of a filmmaker who sweats the details, who cares enough to adjust the poster. How much more care will he have taken with the legacy of Desmond Doss—a war hero by anyone's estimation and a giant of his faith if you're an Adventist.

Much has been written of Gibson's personal struggles but as a filmmaker there are few equals, particularly when it comes to war movies. If the sentence starts with Mel Gibson and war movie I'm already in the cinema eating my second mouthful of popcorn before you've finished that sentence. But this is different. This is an Adventist war movie. This is one of the most celebrated Adventists we have: Private Desmond T Doss. His courage and sacrifice as an army medic during one of the bloodiest conflicts of World War II, the battle for Okinawa, is awe-inspiring.

During basic training, his fellow soldiers repeatedly beat him to a bloody pulp for his refusal to carry a gun and stubbornness to keep the Sabbath. He was court-martialed for refusing to carry a weapon and in doing so disobeying direct orders, a charge that would be eventually withdrawn, allowing him to serve as a conscientious objector. In spite

of this abuse he held fast to his faith and saved scores of the same men who mistreated him. A man so modest that when he was conferred the Congressional Medal of Honor, the United States' highest military honour, he downplayed the number of men he saved during the battle for Hacksaw Ridge. He said around 50; those he saved said more than 100 and finally he and the army agreed to call it 75. Wow!

No wonder Gibson was nervous. He didn't need to be. From the opening moments to the climax this is one of the most inspiring, faith-affirming portraits of what it truly means to be a follower of Christ.

I want to encourage you to start planning who you're going to invite to the cinema on November 3 to see this film with you. If you've never been to the cinema, maybe consider this to be your first outing. What an opportunity we as Adventists have with this film. Desmond Doss's faith is dealt with openly, honestly and never shied away from. His personality shines through: cheeky, romantic, slow to anger, patient and kind. One of the theology professors from Southwestern Adventist University who met him numerous times commented after the screening, "that's exactly what he was like".

Andrew Garfield, who some will remember played the lead role in *The Amazing Spider-Man*, turns in a performance many are already saying could win him an Oscar nomination. Premiering at the Venice film festival on September 5, *Hacksaw Ridge* received a 10-minute standing ovation, a rarity at Venice and a testament to the power of one man's reflection of the character of Christ.

Now I have to address something, my fellow Adventists: the elephant in the room. We're not historically a

Images: Courtesy Hacksaw Ridge Resources





people who have engaged with cinema. We're suspicious of it, many of us have opinions about its influence and others will tell you outright that it's simply of the devil. My encouragement to us as a movement, as Adventists collectively, is to recognise the opportunity that's about to present itself with this film. There hasn't been and likely won't be for some time to come, an opportunity this high profile to talk about your faith with someone who you normally wouldn't be able to. Take it!

Make no mistake, this is an R-rated film\*. As one critic, David Rooney from *The Hollywood Reporter*, commented, it's a "Forceful comeback . . . A violent drama about pacifism that succeeds in combining horror with grace."

These are graphic depictions of the horrors of war without which the impact of seeing an unarmed Desmond Doss run back into the death and destruction would simply not work. While this will create discomfort, that's the reality of war. It's not comfortable nor should it be sanitised.

Gibson was quoted at the Venice premiere as saying of Doss, "His struggle is singular—in the midst of hell on earth he goes in armed with nothing more than faith and conviction. He does something extraordinary and supernatural, really, that inspired me."

*Hacksaw Ridge* is as much a love story as it is a war film, which will appeal to an audience not typically engaged with this genre. As one audience member at the screening

***Hacksaw Ridge* is as much a love story as it is a war film. . . love is the only thing that can explain why someone would run back into that [the battle].**

put it, love is the only thing that can explain why someone would run back into that [the battle]. The clearest example of this occurs midway through the battle. The American forces have suffered a horrific number of casualties, as have the Japanese. The Japanese counter attack and swarm out of their tunnels, a tactic they employed with regular, deadly effect during the Pacific campaign. They

force the Americans back over the rope ladders and down the ridge, leaving their dead and wounded behind. The navy once again begin to pound the top of the ridge—it's literally a maelstrom of hellfire, dirt, blood and body parts.

And there at the top of the ladders kneels Desmond Doss, alone. At this point he has rescued dozens of wounded soldiers throughout the course of the day. No-one would think ill of his retreat from this madness; he has done his duty. But there he is praying the most dangerous prayer any believer can pray: "Lord I can't hear you, tell me what I should do?" The response is almost instant as out of the deafening bombardment comes the cry: MEDIC!

\* US classification. The film is rated R15+ for New Zealand. The film is rated MA15+ for Australia.

Kyle Portbury is associate professor of the Communication Department at Southwestern Adventist University in Texas, USA. *Hacksaw Ridge* opens in cinemas nationally in Australia on November 3.



# One more

by Cristian Copaceanu

Images: Courtesy Desmond Doss Council

**W**ITH THE WORLD SO SET ON TEARING ITSELF apart, don't seem like such a bad thing to me to want to put a little bit of it back together." And with that Private Desmond Doss, a Seventh-day Adventist "conscientious cooperator", was thrust into one of the bloodiest battles of World War II.

As the last man standing on top of Okinawa's Hacksaw Ridge after a failed Allied attack, Doss prayed for guidance. In the eerie silence he heard a cry for help, and then another. His prayer was answered. He worked tirelessly through the night saving at least 75 wounded men. With each and every soldier lowered down to safety, Doss's prayer was, "Please Lord, help me get one more, just one more."

Doss's prayer has been the war cry of heaven since the plunge of humanity into sin: ". . . will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off?"; "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost" (Matthew 18:12; Luke 19:10).

If you're alive there are only two reasons for it: you're lost and Jesus is searching for you, or you're found and can join the search party.

The good news is that if you're lost, Jesus is longing to save you. Now! Don't put it off for another second—there's nothing to gain and everything to lose by delaying. And if you're found, you have the opportunity to join Jesus in "getting one more" for eternity.

". . . one soul is precious, very precious, in the sight of God. Christ would have died for one soul in order that that one might live through the eternal ages . . . Someone must have a burden of soul to find those who have been lost" (*Testimonies*, Vol 8, p 73).

In just a few days millions of moviegoers around the

world will crowd cinemas to watch *Hacksaw Ridge*. While the gut-wrenching battle scenes will nauseate a few popcorn filled stomachs, the heroic faith and bravery of Desmond Doss will linger long after the credits roll. For the first time millions will be exposed to the quality and character of the Seventh-day Adventist faith—a faith not of the world but in it to its very miry depths.

As thoughts (and Google searches) zero in on Seventh-day Adventists, we have a rare opportunity to share our hope-filled faith with family, friends, neighbours and colleagues. After they've seen the movie, talk to them about Doss's story, gift them *The Hero of Hacksaw Ridge* book or the *Conscientious Objector* DVD, invite them to spend a Sabbath with you and your family, point them to the <faithofdoss.com> website, invite them to a church visitors day—do something, anything, everything to get one more for eternity.

"How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!' (Romans 10:14,15).

Pray the prayer of Doss: "Please Lord, help me get one more, just one more." R

*\* Record is not recommending people see the MA15+ rated movie Hacksaw Ridge but is informing Seventh-day Adventists of the current opportunity to witness.*

*Pastor Cristian Copaceanu is director of personal ministries for the Australian Union Conference.*





# SIMPLE WAYS TO

## share the faith of Doss

### 02 SHARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Share/like/email [faithofdoss.com](http://faithofdoss.com) articles or offers on your social media accounts.

02



### 01 TALK TO FRIENDS WHO HAVE SEEN THE MOVIE

Share that you're a Seventh-day Adventist and discuss questions they may have.

01



### 03 GIVE OUT A BOOK

Give out *Hero of Hacksaw Ridge* books (available at your local ABC).

03



### 04 GIVE OUT CARDS/FLIERS

Share a [faithofdoss.com](http://faithofdoss.com) card/flier.

04



05



### 05 OFFER STUDY GUIDES

Offer friends the Faith of Doss Bible study guides or go through them with your small group.

06

### 06 INVITE FRIENDS OVER

Invite friends over for a Friday night/Saturday meal so they can experience Sabbath with you.



07

### 07 ORGANISE A WEEKEND

Organise and invite friends to a Faith of Doss weekend at your local church within three weeks of the movie premiere (November 3).

#### EXAMPLE:

- a. Friday night—*Conscientious Objector* documentary viewing.
- b. Sabbath morning—talk on "the gift of Sabbath".
- c. Sabbath afternoon—talk on "Who are the Adventists?"





# The 17-year project



In 1999, filmmaker **Terry Benedict** began working with long-time Adventist hero Desmond Doss. Seventeen years later, he has worked as a producer on *Hacksaw Ridge*, the Mel Gibson-directed theatrical retelling of Doss's remarkable story. Along the way was Benedict's award-winning documentary *The Conscientious Objector*—and also a deep friendship that Benedict says greatly influenced his life, even now, 10 years after Doss's death. Based in Tennessee, Benedict talked with Signs Publishing Company book editor **Nathan Brown** about the new film, Doss's faith and his 17-year project to share this Adventist story with a much wider audience.

## What has been your involvement in the making of *Hacksaw Ridge*?

One of the reasons Desmond never wanted to let Hollywood do his story was because he was concerned about how he would be portrayed. I had given him assurances that I would do my best to always protect the essence of his character. So when Andrew Garfield came on board to play Desmond—he wanted to portray him as transparently and as honestly as he could—we thought it would be a good idea if he came down to Tennessee and visit the pivotal geographical places in Desmond's life. It gave Andrew the chance to see the very humble environment that Desmond grew up in, as well as connecting with me who had got to know Desmond closely. We talked a lot about Desmond, the man and his faith. I think that translated incredibly well to the screen. If you watch the documentary and then *Hacksaw*, Andrew's performance is pretty amazing in how seamlessly he represented Desmond. He really did a terrific job.

## Why have you committed so much of your time and energy to this story?

I first read Desmond's story as a kid and it stuck with me my whole life. When it

came back around in 1999, I remembered just how much that story affected me as far as Desmond standing up for his belief system and having faith that God would carry him through whatever he faced. And when I met Desmond, I realised that really was who he was and it made me want to tell his story even more. Hollywood had been chasing him to tell his story for 55 years and he kept saying no. So one day we were standing in front of a grocery store in Tennessee and I told him that I really felt that his story would be valuable and inspirational to the whole world, not just one particular community (meaning Adventists), and my commitment to him was that I would answer to God first, him second—and everyone else could get in line. I really meant that because we would get one chance to tell his story and it is such an inspirational story that we had to tell it in a way that was very clear, compelling and authentically straightforward. He got a big smile and agreed on the spot then and there that we would do it.

## Why is Doss's faith so important to his story?

If you compromise his character and take out the fact that he was a deeply faith-





based man committed to honouring God while serving his fellow soldiers, then you don't have a uniquely powerful and inspirational story. That is the core of why Hollywood was interested. Desmond stood up to the military system but was a paradox because he also wanted to be part of the system in his own helpful way. You see this played out in both the documentary and in *Hacksaw Ridge*. I wanted people to come to know the man, to understand his belief system, why he valued his relationship and his faith in God. He wasn't perfect but he gives us a frame of reference so when we get in a tight spot, we can really believe that our faith can carry us through—and that we don't have to worry about the consequences.

#### Does this story have anything else to say about war?

There's always going to be a tug-of-war about whether this is an anti-war or pro-war movie. There's already that discussion going on. The funny thing is that Desmond thought of himself as a conscientious cooperator. He was an enigma who fell into a crack between two traditional beliefs. He was determined to serve his country but was against killing anyone in that service. When I was doing the documentary, one of the things I looked forward to was having an "intellectual" discussion with Desmond about the God-sanctioned killing that happened in the Old Testament. I wanted to know how was he going to reconcile that. But there really wasn't a discussion. Desmond simply said, "Terry, God convicted me not to kill or carry a weapon. I'm not passing judgement on anybody else as to how God convicted them, but it's just how God convicted me." And that was it.

#### What will people come away from the film thinking about the faith of Desmond Doss?

Adventists can be satisfied that Desmond represented his faith in a way that respected the Sabbath. However, his example goes way beyond one denomination and will surely inspire members of various faith communities. While he was an Adventist, Desmond was a Christian first and his personal relationship with God was the most important thing to him. This is what his men misunderstood in the beginning when he wouldn't work on Sabbath. But then he did perform on the Sabbath as medic when needed, because as Jesus said, "It is right to do good on the Sabbath." Desmond applied this by being of service

to mankind in his battlefield situation. This was the great epiphany for his men on the battlefield. It affected them well after the war and changed many a mindset—you see that by their own testimonies in *The Conscientious Objector*. Isn't that what being a Christian is all about? Making a positive impact in people's lives? Serving?

#### Tell us about your relationship with Desmond and why you admire him so much.

As I got to know Desmond and became part of his family—and he became part of my family—he rubbed off on me in a way that made me want to be a better person. At times it was almost imperceptible but at other times it was really obvious. Desmond seemed to have the ability to go through life in an unconcerned way. It didn't mean he didn't care about what was happening. He shed tears many times with me about the pain he had endured, the pain that is expressed in the documentary and *Hacksaw* with his prayer, "Lord, please help me get one more." He absorbed the hits and took on the burden, much like Christ did, on that battlefield. Yet he was able to put on his armour of faith in God to carry the day, so he just singularly focused on that relationship. That's the part that I loved him dearly for and admired. He was a man of principle and he shared those principles with my kids in a way that, even 10 years later, they remember him vividly though they were only four and six when he passed away. It just goes to show what an indelible mark a person can make when they demonstrate Christ-like characteristics.

#### What do you think Desmond would have thought of the new film?

Knowing that his primary concern was that he would not be glorified, that he wanted to see his God glorified and that he didn't want to see his character compromised, there is no doubt in my mind that he would be happy with the finished product. I think his concerns were well founded if you compromise along the way. Every film is a collaborative effort and after settling on Bill Mechanic as the primary producer, he put together the right team for the right story and the right commitment to that story. Desmond would have had a big smile on his face at the end of the film—as he did at the end of the documentary. I'll never forget that grin—it was ear to ear.



# CHIP Summit 2017

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Email: [info@chiphealth.org.au](mailto:info@chiphealth.org.au)



LIFESTYLE  
MEDICINE  
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Without telling Laban, Jacob leaves his house. Under God's instructions he travels back to his homeland. Laban is angry and chases after Jacob. When he catches up with him, they argue. Laban insists that all that Jacob owns really belongs to him. Jacob reminds Laban what a good employee he has been for the past 20 years. Jacob reminds Laban of his faithful service in harsh conditions, unfair wages, etc. Finally they agree to part on good terms and together build an altar to testify to their agreement.

HELP LABAN FIND HIS WAY TO JACOB  
Pick up the rock letters along the way to finish the verse.

All that you own, belongs to me!

Do you remember how I worked for you for 20 years?

"Whatever you do, work with all your \_\_\_\_\_."

Colossians 3:23, NIV



LIFESTYLE  
MEDICINE  
INSTITUTE

LETTERS

**FOCUS ON PURPOSE**

Emma Ray, NSW

Re: "Very concerned parent": worship music (Letters, October 1). Firstly, I would like to commend Robyn for her interest in what her children are listening to. My question is: What should the focus of worship music be? According to the letter it is not repetitive, not loud, not too secular sounding, not from Pentecostal writers and not entertaining.

According to the Scriptures, there should be a focus on Psalms, hymns, spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart (Ephesians 5:19). When we look at the Psalms they encourage us to shout joyfully to the Rock (Jesus) of our salvation (Psalm 95:1). Psalm 150:1-6 repeats "Praise Him" nine times.

What constitutes secular sounding music? Does it matter which church writes the songs or is it more important that writers have a heart for God and His message from the Scripture? Is this only exclusive to hymns and Seventh-day Adventist written songs? Not all hymns were written by Adventists. How do we determine if music is entertaining or praiseworthy to the individual? Who are we to tell someone the songs they listen to are wrong when they speak God's Word to them?

God is our Creator; He still sees us as individuals with great value (Psalm 139:17,18). I believe we need to focus on the purpose of the music and words we sing in worship—creating praise of and connection with God. This is more important than how the music sounds or whether you agree if the words suit you (we are

focusing on the youth—a new generation who are unique individuals).

I think you have found the best solution—go to a church that suits your style of worship, singing and music. Not every Adventist church is right for every person—we are all different.

**GOD IN A BOX**

Nerolie Dever, NSW

I was saddened to read "Very concerned parent" and find God placed in a box. I grew up singing hymns and still love them but I also enjoy singing current songs to which the writer refers. I can testify that I have been brought to tears as God has spoken to me through the words of both hymns and the modern day "repetitious ditties" as they are called. Let's not forget that many of the hymns were put to the music of secular tunes at the time of writing.

As I read Scripture, I get a picture of a God who will use whatever means He can to get people's attention and draw them to Himself. He comes in the still small voice, with thunder and lightning, and even using a talking donkey! He will use an organ playing softly, a piano with a microphone placed in it, trumpets and even drums to share His message.

When He comes again, we are told He will come with a shout and trumpets! It's going to be a loud celebration! I don't see why our praise of Him here now should be any different.

Let's not put God in a box. Let's allow Him to speak to our young people (and those of us who are older!) using a range of music styles. Praise God that our young people are in church, praising Him and

connecting with Him. When we get to the pearly gates, it is our relationship with God that is of ultimate importance. Our God will not be boxed.

**SOW SEEDS**

Beryl Turner, SA

"What do your pictures say?" (Insight, October 1) highlighted an important but unfortunately overlooked way we can sow seeds for Christ.

The walls of a home I visited were covered with football photos, scarfs and banners. It was very obvious where their loyalty and love lay. It caused me to question: what message do the walls of my home give; also the walls of our churches to all who visit?

Christian posters can give a message of help, comfort and encouragement, and also information on the gospel, in a bright, serious or humorous way. Not only to church attendees but especially to those who visit the church for other occasions like a wedding or funeral. Also to groups who use the hall for other activities not church-related.

The posters can be placed in prominent places in church foyers, kitchens, offices, children's rooms etc. Most Christian book or gift shops sell them or creative people make them. They make lovely gifts.

One day I received some upsetting news. Shaken, I flopped down on my lounge chair, looked up on my wall and read one of my posters: "Relax . . . God has it covered" (Psalm 9:10). I instantly felt relief and so thankful that message was on my wall. Let us never underestimate how the Holy Spirit can and does use wall posters to touch lost and saved people. Bare walls can't sow seeds.

*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.*

## POSITIONS VACANT

■ **Principal, Avondale Schools—NSW Schools (Cooranbong, NSW).** Following the retirement of Dr David Faull, after 20 years as principal of Avondale School (and a lifetime of service to Adventist education throughout the SPD), a new principal is being sought for the start of 2017. Avondale is an ELC to Year 12 co-ed day school with more than 900 students, located in Cooranbong, NSW. Please send Expressions of Interest to Dean Bennetts, CEO, NNSW Schools Company to obtain a role description and a NNSW Schools Company Identity Document. Please include a current CV. Contact can be made via <deanbennetts@adventist.org.au>. Applications close **October 30, 2016.**

■ **AdSAFE vacancies—South Pacific Division.** AdSAFE Ltd is a new service that is owned and operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Limited. It is superseding the current Safe Place Services (SPS) and will commence operations in 2017, providing protective services for children and vulnerable adults across the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Australia, New Zealand and in time the wider South Pacific region. The Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Ltd is seeking expressions of interest for the following roles. *Please note additional roles will be advertised in 2017.*

- **Administrative officer**
- **Training and development specialist**
- **Senior case officer (survivor support)**
- **Senior case officer (offender and investigations management)**
- **Policy officer**

*Applications for the above vacancies close November 20, 2016.* For more information on each of the above roles and to apply, please visit <www.adventistemployment.org.au>.

■ **Information security engineer, South Pacific Division (Wahroonga, NSW)—**The Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Limited is seeking an information security engineer to support the enterprise-wide information security, compliance and risk management program. This role will focus on implementing security standards and procedures, and assist with the execution of compliance assessments and security implementation projects, as well as be involved in communication and awareness initiatives across Church entities. 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; email <hr@adventist.org.au>; or fax (02) 9489 0943. Applications close **October 30, 2016.**

■ **Lecturer (English literature), School of Arts and Humanities—Pacific Adventist University (Port Moresby, PNG)** is seeking an experienced lecturer to teach in the area of English literature. A completed MPhil or equivalent degree in English is required, while completed PhD or equivalent degree in English would be preferred. Experience in postgraduate supervision and a record of research will be highly regarded. For further information on the position please contact: Dr Jennifer Litau (dean—School of Arts and Humanities) +675 328 0335 or email <jennifer.litau@pau.ac.pg>. For position descriptions or submission of applications please forward to Geoffrey Matainaho (director of Human Resources) via email <Geoffrey.Matainaho@pau.ac.pg>. Applications must include a cover letter that addresses each of the selection criteria listed, a complete CV and the names of three referees, two of whom must be professional. Applications close **November 4, 2016.**

■ **Lecturer (specialisation open), School of Theology—Pacific Adventist University (Port Moresby, PNG)** is seeking an experienced lecturer (New Testament) to teach in the School of Theology. A completed PhD or equivalent degree in New

Testament and the ability to teach Greek is essential. Experience in postgraduate supervision and a record of research will be highly regarded. For further information on the position please contact: Dr Elisapesi Manson (acting dean—School of Theology) +675 328 0335 or email: <elisapesi.manson@pau.ac.pg>. For position descriptions or submission of applications please forward to Geoffrey Matainaho (director of Human Resources) via email <Geoffrey.Matainaho@pau.ac.pg>. Applications must include a cover letter that addresses each of the selection criteria listed, a complete CV and the names of three referees, two of whom must be professional. Applications close **November 4, 2016.**

■ **Director, Centre for Adventist Research and lecturer in theology—Pacific Adventist University (Port Moresby, PNG)** wishes to recruit a director for the Centre for Adventist Research in the South Pacific (CARSP) and lecturer in theology (0.5/0.5 shared load). The director CARSP is responsible for the effective management of the centre, including financial, resource and human resource management, whilst as a lecturer in theology the appointed candidate is to provide innovative, motivating and challenging teaching based on sound scholarly activity that maximises learning and reflects a commitment to the philosophy, mission, objectives and values of the School of Theology and Pacific Adventist University. For further information on the position please contact: Professor Jeff Crocombe (deputy vice-chancellor) +675 328 0223 or email <jeff.crocombe@pau.ac.pg>. For position descriptions please contact Geoffrey Matainaho (director of Human Resources): <Geoffrey.Matainaho@pau.ac.pg>. Applications close **November 4, 2016.**

■ **Lecturer (New Testament), School of Theology—Pacific Adventist University (Port Moresby, PNG)** is seeking an experienced lecturer (New Testament) to teach in the School of Theology. A completed PhD or equivalent degree in New Testament and the ability to teach Greek is essential. Experience in postgraduate supervision and a record of research will be highly regarded. For further information on the position please contact: Professor Jeff Crocombe (deputy vice-chancellor) +675 328 0223 or email <jeff.crocombe@pau.ac.pg>. For position descriptions or submission of applications please forward to Geoffrey Matainaho (director of Human Resources) via email <Geoffrey.Matainaho@pau.ac.pg>. Applications must include a cover letter that addresses each of the selection criteria listed, a complete CV and the names of three referees, two of whom must be professional. Applications close **November 4, 2016.**

■ **Lecturer/senior lecturer or associate professor—Avondale College of Higher Education (Lake Macquarie Campus, NSW).** Avondale College (Lake Macquarie Campus) seeks applications from suitably qualified and experienced academics for the position of a lecturer, senior lecturer or associate professor in the area of accounting and finance in the Avondale Business School. Job description and selection criteria can be found on our website <www.avondale.edu.au/information/employment>. Applications, addressing the selection criteria, with contact details of at least three referees, should be emailed to <employment@avondale.edu.au>. Applications close **November 4, 2016.**

■ **Chief executive officer, Asian Aid (Wauchope-Cooranbong, NSW).** The role of the CEO is to support the Board in the development and implementation of Asian Aid's strategic direction, plans, controls, and direct all the operations to ensure the achievement of established organisational objectives. For further information please contact Kerryn Patrick. Email <kerryn.patrick@asianaid.org.au>. Phone (02) 6586 4250. Web: <www.asianaid.org.au>. Applications to <kerryn.patrick@asianaid.org.au>. Applications close **November 21, 2016.**

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



## WEDDING

### Schubert-Shackelford.

Leo Schubert and Marjorie Shackelford were married 13.12.15 at Wistow church, SA. Leo and Marjorie had lost their long-term spouses. They met at Wistow church and developed a friendship which, over time, grew into romance. Leo is an active farmer despite having just turned 80. He and Marjorie will live on his farm.

*Dave Hamilton*

## OBITUARIES

**Gillespie, Ronald John**, born 4.10.1924 in Melbourne, Vic; died 20.8.16 in Cabrini Residential Care, Ashwood. He is survived by his wife Katherine; children Karen and John Fry, Julie Gillespie, and Mark and Lisa Gillespie (all of Melbourne). Ron was a loved and long-serving member of the East Prahran church.

*Brian Lawty*

**Hailey, Barbara Estelle** (nee Adams), born 29.6.1941 in Hawthorn, Vic; died 28.6.16 in Wantirna. She married Ian Hailey on 2.10.1961. She is survived by her husband (Ringwood); children Warwick and Tracey Hailey (Melbourne), Nadine and Lyndon Millett (Melbourne); and grandchildren Brianna, Jordan, Hayley and Caitlin (Melbourne). Barbara had absolute trust that on the resurrection day Jesus Christ would call her to live eternally

*Brian Lawty*

**Harrington, Geoffrey Winton**, born 30.6.1932 at Riverton, South New Zealand; died 28.8.16 at Kings Langley Nursing Home,

Sydney, NSW. He was predeceased by his wife Audrey in 2015. He is survived by his daughter Sheryl and his sons Paul and Mark; and nine grandchildren. Life for Geoff was an adventure of service as a teacher and principal in New Zealand, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Adelaide and Sydney. His cremation was followed by a memorial service at the Galston church.

*Peter Jack*

**Jakowlew, Ksenia** (nee Petrak-zuk), born 8.2.1923 in Zhrebky, Ukraine; died 23.7.16 in Warburton, Vic. She was predeceased by her husband Nicholas on 10.8.13. She is survived by her children Alex and Heather (Lima East, Vic), Halina and Ted Ots (Surfers Paradise, Qld), Vera Blackburne (Mooroolbark, Vic), Paul and Julie (Ferntree Gully), Ruth and Terry Edge (Pakenham); 13 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren. Ksenia was a thoughtful and generous person. She supported many charities and her church in the Benalla area, also coordinating the sending of parcels to relatives and friends in Ukraine. Ksenia was a modern example of the biblical benevolent lady, Dorcas, with a strong, unmovable faith in God and His Word. She loved her family and centred on sharing her faith.

*Morrie Krieg*

**Lipkovich, Stephen**, born 8.11.1932 in Vinkovci (Croatia); died 26.7.16 in Gisborne, Vic. He is survived by his wife Bosilka; their children Yasmin, Paul and Deborah; five grandchildren and

his brother and family. After spending some years in France in the 1950s, Stephen migrated to Australia and became a founding member of Seddon church. His musical talents blessed many churches in Victoria and Queensland. Stephen was exemplary in his dedication to God and his family.

*Wayne Stanley, Peter Joseit*

**McCubbin, James (Jim)**, born 17.8.1940; died 27.5.16 in Epworth Eastern Hospital, Box Hill, Vic. Jim is survived by his wife Mara (Doncaster East); and daughters from his previous marriage, Linda Frederick (San Souci, NSW) and Ingrid Moore (Leonay); and their families. Jim grew up in Warburton, Vic, where his working life was spent as an accountant. On retirement he became an excellent handyman, with many of his clients becoming personal friends. His funeral service was held at the Ferntree Gully church where he was a much-loved member for many years.

*Trevor Rowe*

**McKay, Kevin Charles**, born 15.6.1931 in Scottsdale, Tas; died as result of a car accident on 22.7.16. He was the loving husband of Thelma and Loma (nee Stewart—deceased); and grandfather to Andrew and Bryce Rocheouste. His memorial service was held at Somerville chapel, Nerang, Qld on 3.8.16.



**Scott, John Huntington**, born 7.1.1927 in Bunbury, WA; died 1.8.16 in Busselton. He married Fay (Frances) Wood on 10.1.1951. He is survived by his wife (Busselton); children Adrian and Deanna (Perth), Del and Royden (Perth), Gwen and Wayne (Busselton), Jenny and Adrian (Perth), and Phil (Busselton); 14 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. At the age of three, John contracted

polio, which left him with only partial use of his left arm. He spent his life as a dairy farmer around Busselton and served as church elder. John was a compassionate gentleman, a lover of music and a great encourager of family and friends.

*Roger Millist*

**Walz, Doreen** (nee Austin), born 24.11.1921 in Mackay, Qld; died 25.8.16 in Southport. She was predeceased by her husband Glen in 1994. She is survived by her children Ross and family (Mackay), and Joy and family (Gold Coast). Doreen was a great worker for her church in Mackay. She spent her final days at the Golden Age Retirement Village, Southport.

*Mike Collum*

## ADVERTISING

**Absolute Care Funerals** is an Adventist family-owned and operated business, caring for you in Sydney to Newcastle and Wollongong. Contact Arne Neirinckx, who understands our Adventist philosophy, on 1300 982 803 or mobile 0408 458 452. Call us even if you have already prepaid your funeral. Email <arne@absolutecarefunerals.com.au>.

**Finally . . .**  
Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.

—Desmond Tutu  
Next RECORD Nov 5


■ **Various positions, Currawah Aboriginal Education Centre (Gongolgon, NSW).** Currawah Aboriginal Education Centre a co-educational, junior secondary, Christian boarding school which serves the Aboriginal people of Western NSW, is reopening in 2017 and is seeking expressions of interest for the following positions.

- Experienced boarding supervisor
- Male and female dormitory parents
- Office administrative assistant and accounts clerk
- Kitchen staff 1.5 FTE
- Grounds and maintenance person
- Teachers x 2

Applicants must be Australian residents or have documented permission to work in Australia. All applicants must have a valid NSW WWCC number. Indigenous Australians are encouraged to apply. For a copy of the position description and selection criteria for the position please contact Peter Eddy at <principal@currawah.nsw.edu.com>. Applications close **November 18, 2016.**



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