

# RECORD

April 26, 2008

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Past students of Longburn Adventist College returned to the school for the celebration of its 100th year of providing Adventist education.

## LAC celebrates 100 years of education

LONGBURN, NEW ZEALAND

Longburn Adventist College (LAC) celebrated its centenary over the Easter weekend, with close to 1000 former students and staff making the "pilgrimage" back to the school for the event.

A large percentage of those who attended were students at the school during the 1950s, 60s and 70s, and the most distant traveller returned to the school from their home in Switzerland.

Dr John Hammond, director of Adventist Schools Australia for the Australian Union Conference (AUC) and principal of the school from 1986 to 1989, and Pastor

Des Hills, former AUC president, were presenters at the Friday night vespers program and the Sabbath service, and spoke about the importance of the education and care provided by LAC.

LAC's principal, Bruce Sharp, says, "It was a great time, where memories were shared, stories were told and old friendships revisited. One message echoed by many returning students was that this was the place their lives turned around."

Mr Sharp believes this influences their desire to see the lives of future generations shaped in the same way, saying, "This was

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I had arrived at the first stage of dealing with it—admitting I had a problem.

# My life verse

**T**HE YEAR BEFORE THE INTERNET gained worldwide prominence, an experience with God and His Word prepared my heart and mind for the coming onslaught.

It was 1991 and I was a year 12 student at Rio Lindo Academy in northern California. Being a boarding school, we were daily subjected to 7.30 am chapel.

A visiting medical doctor had the chapel talk this particular morning and spoke powerfully about addiction. He told us of a variety of drugs and their long-term results. He told us about alcohol and cigarettes, and the harm they cause. Then he said, “In conclusion, I would like to talk about an addiction that is so powerful it alters the part of the mind that falls in love. This addiction can damage the way you perceive other people, to the extent that no marital partner will ever meet your desires. This addiction is very real—it is pornography.”

He then went on to talk about the warped perceptions pornography leads men to have of women. But I was uncomfortable with his labelling of pictures as addictive.

*You can't be addicted to a magazine!* I thought. *What are you going to do, roll it up and smoke it? Inject it into a vein? Ridiculous.*

I left chapel convinced he was wrong. But he had presented a challenge throughout his talk, and reapplied it specifically to pornography at the end: “If you want to know if something is an addiction in your life, try to go three days without it.”

It bothered me so much because I had two magazines in my room. I thought to myself, *I am not an addict! I don't smoke, drink or do drugs! I'm a good Adventist.*

I was getting mad and my inner arrogance was emerging: *I'll tell you what I am! I am the Year 12 class pastor. I am the head dean's assistant in the boys dorm. I am not an addict!*” And to prove it, I decided to take his challenge.

Before lunch, I had failed three times. Mysteriously, a magazine would be in my hands within minutes of entering my room between classes. I realised, according to the doctor's diagnosis, I was addicted to pornography. My heart had known the magazines were bad but I had been deceiving myself. I had arrived at the first stage of dealing with it—admitting I had a problem.

I laid the magazines on my bed and punched them—hard. I realised I was crying. I didn't know what to do.

I went over to my bookshelf and grabbed my Bible. Kneeling in front of my couch, I laid the Bible in front of me. I closed my eyes and prayed, “God, I am addicted to these stupid magazines. I don't know how to stop. I am going to open my Bible and point. And when I open my eyes, You are going to fix my problem.”

My hands fumbled in the dark and opened the Bible in front of me. With my eyes still closed, I pointed to the middle of the page. When I opened my eyes, my finger was under a verse number—15. I read the verse. And I read it again.

I was so amazed I went to my computer and printed a banner (remember dot-matrix printers?) that I wrapped right around my room, with the verse written on it.

I put the magazines in a paper bag and took them to the dean. He had been at chapel, so all I needed to say was, “Don't look in that bag. But you have got to hear what God just did!”

I told Dean Craig the story. When I got to the part about the verse, I asked to use his Bible. I opened it and read Psalm 25:15: “My eyes are ever on the Lord, for only he will release my feet from the snare” (NIV).

Dean Craig's face cracked into a weathered smile and his eyes twinkled, “You've just been given a life verse, David. Memorise it. I believe God knows you'll need it.”

I didn't have to memorise it. It was already emblazoned on my mind. And it has remained with me ever since. Whenever I am tempted to let my eyes stray from what is pure, I hear Jesus calling, “Look at Me, Dave. Fix your eyes on Me.” Daily, I am blessed by that verse. Only when we fix our eyes on Jesus can He truly lead our lives.

Pornography availability and addiction has taken a quantum leap since the arrival of the internet. But so has knowledge and visibility of Jesus. Put your eyes where they belong. Fix your eyes on Jesus and He promises to finish what He has started in your life.

David Edgren



Official Paper of the South Pacific Division Seventh-day Adventist Church  
 ABN 59 093 117 689  
 www.adventistconnect.org

Vol 113 No 15  
 Cover: Bruce Sharp

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www.record.net.au

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 Phone: (03) 5965 6300 Fax: (03) 5966 9019  
 Email Letters: editor@signspublishing.com.au  
 Email Newsfront: record@signspublishing.com.au  
 Email Noticeboard: editorsec@signspublishing.com.au  
 Subscriptions: South Pacific Division mailed within Australia and to New Zealand, \$A43.80 \$NZ73.00.  
 Other prices on application. Printed weekly.

Our vision is to...  
**know**  
*experience*  
 and **share**  
 our hope in Jesus Christ!

# Adventists show Australia “Ucan2”

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

Members and friends from more than 60 Australian Adventist churches donated blood to the Red Cross Blood Service as part of the annual “Ucan2” campaign in the lead up to Easter this year.

Making its debut this year, the “Ucan2” campaign saw Adventists throughout Australia appealing to the nation to donate blood in a variety of ways.

Television commercials were aired more than 700 times on all metropolitan and regional networks in Australia in the week leading up to Easter, reminding the public of the real meaning of Easter—that Jesus died and gave His blood to save all humanity.

A call to action was given for viewers to respond in a practical way, by donating blood to the Red Cross Blood Service to help save someone’s life. The commercial also very



Kevin Cobb donating blood.

clearly indicated the initiative came from the Adventist Church.

Church members have responded positively to the “Ucan2” campaign, either by donating blood individually or visiting the Red Cross donor centres as a group.

Sanitarium Health Food Company also supported the campaign by encouraging its employees at various factory and office sites to donate blood. Its head office in Berkeley Vale, New South Wales, organised for a Red Cross mobile donor centre to visit its premises on March 31. Employees were given opportunity to donate blood as part of the “Ucan2” campaign that day.

A Red Cross mobile donor centre also visited Wantirna Adventist church in Victoria two weeks before Easter. For the past 10 years, the church has been playing host to the mobile donor centre four times a year. Each visit lasts three days, with four days scheduled for Christmas this year.

“It is the habit of many Wantirna members to donate blood regularly,” says church member Lesley Clark. “Our last collection dates on March 3, 4 and 5 very conveniently coincided with ‘Ucan2.’”

Seventh-day Adventists have played a large part in saving lives through donating blood. Kevin Cobb, a member of the Clarkson Adventist church in Western Australia, was awarded a gold medal by the Red Cross



The “Ucan2” poster.

for making his 200th blood donation early this year.

Mr Cobb started regularly giving blood 20 years ago and recently began donating blood platelets every few weeks as well.

“‘Ucan2’ will happen in the lead up to Easter again next year,” says Pastor Chester Stanley, president of the Australian Union Conference. “And we hope to see even more Seventh-day Adventists support the campaign by donating blood and encouraging their friends, family and local community to do so, too.”

A number of churches and conference offices from every state and territory in Australia took part in the “Ucan2” project. —Melody Tan



◆ Stephen Cooper’s grandmother would call it the **World’s Greatest Shave**, even if it wasn’t the fundraiser’s official name. Stephen, 16, who attends Lakeside church, NSW, received \$A2000 in pledges and a new haircut for the **Leukaemia Foundation**. Two hundred dollars and a new beanie came from his grandmother. Six years

ago, Stephen’s grandfather died from leukaemia. “I shaved on his birthday,” he says. “Nan was really touched. There was a tear in her eye when I first told her. She misses him. They lived almost half their lives together.” The new hair style is growing on Stephen, literally and figuratively. “I’m going to keep it shorter than I had it but not quite this short. It’s low maintenance, though. I love it.”

◆ **Robinvale church, Vic**, are running two major evangelism outreaches this year. The first, which they have recently start-

ed, is in the **Fijian language**, for those who do not understand English. The other program, to begin in August, will be in the Tongan language. The church’s current focus is the Fijian language crusade, being run by Pastor Epeli Turagakula. It will be followed by Bible studies using Bible marking. The church has been preparing for these programs for much of the year, not only through visitations but also through involvement in other churches’ programs. Last month, they were invited by the Uniting Church to sing at a fair day.



**Pastor Lomani Uilou** was asked to preach at the Fijian community combined service. In addition, there will be a combined youth singing program in June, which was initiated by the Robinvale Adventist youth. Pastor Uilou has also been invited by the Christian Fellowship Church to take their Sunday service.

—Lomani Uilou



# Church leaders receive intern supervisor training

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

The South Pacific Division recently conducted its first series of intern supervisor training workshops. These workshops aimed to familiarise church workers with the new *Island Intern Supervisor's Manual* and focused on how to supervise and train ministerial interns.

The first workshop was held at the Trans-Pacific Union Mission's (TPUM) headquarters in Suva, Fiji, on January 22 and 23. Pastor Gary Webster, ministerial association secretary for the South Pacific Division (SPD) and Pastor Paul Cavanagh, general secretary for the TPUM, presented the material to local ministerial association secretaries.

The Solomon Islands Mission, based in Honiara, hosted the next workshop, which was held on February 17 and 18. It was attended by local mission intern supervisors.

The third workshop was held in Port Villa for the Vanuatu Mission on March 12 and 13. Pastor Webster and Pastor Nos Mailalong, ministerial association secretary for the TPUM, presented the material to local mission intern supervisors and district directors.

Pastor Webster says, "The ministerial secretaries and supervisors in each place were thrilled with this new direction in training interns. They expressed that they wouldn't only like this sort of training and manual for interns but also for pastors who have been in the field for some years.

"Supervisors who have this training will be better equipped to train church members. They also acknowledge that with this program, there is far more accountability at all levels for the training of our ministerial interns, and conferences and missions will need to be careful to ensure interns are placed close to supervisors."

Interns who receive the supervision set out in the manual are exposed to the same relational model Jesus used in training His disciples—observation, participation and debriefing.

Pastor Webster says, "For too long in most places, we have just sent interns off to sink or swim. There's been little accountability. But with this new model for intern training, and the manual put together by the SPD and the unions, there is an opportunity to really make a difference for interns and the long-term mission of the church." —*Adele Nash*

# Longburn celebrates 100 years of education

(Continued from page 1)

reflected in the Sabbath offering, collected for the LAC boarding scholarship fund—we more than \$NZ40,000."

A concert was held on the Saturday night, showcasing talent from over the decades, and a formal night was held on the Sunday night, which was attended by more than 600 people. Current students waited on their predecessors and during the dinner, a Dick Duerksen photograph was auctioned to raise funds for a student service trip to the Cook Islands in July. The photograph sold for \$NZ5200.

Mr Sharp adds, "A lasting impression of the weekend was how much everyone enjoyed returning to 'their college,' seeing the campus again and catching up with college mates from many years ago. One ex-student remarked to me, 'Could you run this again next weekend? I enjoyed myself so much and I can't wait another hundred years for the bicentenary!'"

Dr Hammond likened LAC to the schools of the prophets in ancient Israel, saying, "It was set up as a bulwark against evil and has let its light shine for 100 years." —*Adele Nash/Bruce Sharp*



◆ **Mountain View Adventist College's**, NSW, senior school recently hosted the first of three **Weeks of Spiritual Emphasis (WOSE)** at the school, with junior and middle schools to follow. Each morning, the students were involved in praise and worship, special items, dramas, video clips and an inspiring guest speaker. The guest speaker for the senior school was **Mike**

**Faber**, from Newcastle, who presented on the theme "Nothing to Lose." **Cheoneth Strickland**, from Kellyville, challenged the junior school in "God's Candy Store" and, with great humour, **Johnny Murison** from Mount Druitt church presented "Friend of God" to the middle school students. "It's been awesome and a lot of fun for the kids as they learn more about how 'sweet God is,'" said Head of junior school, **Megan Sketchley**. —*Sharyn Harrington*

◆ On March 15, about **45 people** gathered to enjoy a social con-

cert and waffles night at Yarra Valley church, Vic. With **Wayne Glover** as MC, church members presented items before enjoying waffles and ice-cream. Special items included Mark Lambert playing flute, **Veronica Tirchett** singing and joke telling by **Rob Simmons** and **Terry Cooper**. —*Talitha Simmons*

◆ **Central Coast Adventist School (CCAS)**, Erina, NSW, and **Oxigen Mind and Body Fitness** have recently entered into a unique partnership to promote a positive, healthy lifestyle to the stu-

dents, staff and families associated with the school. One of the key elements of this partnership is the Oxigen membership package provided to all Year-12 students. "It has been refreshing to see the emerging emphasis on healthy living and lifestyle choices over the past few years. Together, CCAS and Oxigen are empowering an emerging generation of young adults with the information and the skills to pursue fitness in a realistic and sustainable way. Well over 90 per cent of the Year 12 class access the centre with encouraging regularity," says principal **Dean**

DAYS AND OFFERINGS: ◆ MAY 10—HEALTH OFFERING ◆ MAY 3–10—ADVENTIST HEALTH WEEK

# Sanitarium awarded for breakfast club work

BERKELEY VALE, NEW SOUTH WALES

The Red Cross in Australia recently presented Sanitarium Health Food Company with a certificate of thanks for their continued involvement in the Good Start Breakfast Club (GSBC), which provides breakfast to children in a number of schools around Australia.

During the March 26 visit by Red Cross representatives Shaun Hazeldine and Chris Rawlins, staff were also updated on the progress of the GSBC project.

The Red Cross anticipates opening the 200th GSBC in the first half of this year. In addition, the next phase of the overall program will involve the development of nutrition education strategies with parents and the wider community.

"Funding has now been secured to implement 'FOODcents' training initiatives in South Australia, Queensland and the Northern Territory, with additional funding available in Western Australia for remote-area training," Mr Hazeldine, national program manager for Red Cross, told Sanitarium staff at the meeting.

Almost 23 per cent of children attending a GSBC, which are operated by the Red Cross and supported by Sanitarium, may not have access to appropriate foods in the home before going to school, reports

a Wollongong University evaluation of the Australia-wide program.

"Before attending breakfast club, one of the students would scavenge through the rubbish bins in the yard for scraps, which she would collect and then eat," reports a teacher from a South Australian school, who took part in the evaluation.

Another Queensland teacher reports, "One child was coming to school hungry, often 'caught' out of class going through school bags to find food to eat."

Twenty-three new GSBCs opened in the last half of the 2007 school year, bringing the breakfast club program to a national level, with 193 schools around Australia operating a breakfast club.

Resourcing the community to make healthy eating choices is fundamental to the philosophy and mission of Sanitarium, and the main reason for the company's support of the program with breakfast foods, soymilk and spreads.

"The nutrition education component of the program is to encourage long-term changes within the community, and a greater understanding of the importance of having breakfast," says Julie Praestiin, Sanitarium Brand and Communications manager.

Seventy-six per cent of teachers who



Shaun Hazeldine presenting the certificate of thanks to Sanitarium workers Julie Praestiin and Kevin Smith.

took part in the evaluation study indicated that students who attended the GSBC improved their time-on-task/attention. Concentration and cooperativeness also improved, according to teachers, by up to 72 per cent and 68 per cent respectively.

"This is further evidence of the importance of breakfast and the benefits to brain function. The GSBC program is helping thousands of kids not only get a good start to their day but a real boost to their ability to learn," says Mrs Praestiin.

The GSBC is also run in conjunction with Coles supermarkets and is available to schools in areas of need.—*Sharyn Brady*

More @ [www.redcross.org.au](http://www.redcross.org.au)

**Bennetts.** The partnership will also allow students, families and staff to become members of Oxigen at a special corporate rate.—*Brenton Luchow*

◆ With a **37 per cent** increase in schools over the past decade, currently numbering **318**, **Adventist education in Brazil** is booming. These schools are deemed some of the country's most competitive, drawing significant non-Adventist enrolment, and are positioned to help grow the church's membership. But even with the boom in schools, educa-

tional infrastructure is not matching membership growth. Brazil already has the largest Adventist Church membership of any country—about **1.6 million**. Yet in the country's largest region—the North Brazil Union, home to some 541,000 Adventists—there is no Adventist school at the university level. General Conference leaders visited a property there in February, which will be home to a new college in 2010. In most elementary and secondary schools throughout Latin America, classes are held in shifts, allowing teachers to double classroom usage.

Only an estimated eight per cent of Adventist students throughout the country attend Adventist schools, while 70 per cent of the estimated 217,000 students attending the country's Adventist schools are not Adventist.—*Ansel Oliver/ANN Staff*

◆ Despite the challenges awaiting the Adventist Church, members should not take a "defeatist attitude," General Conference president **Jan Paulsen** told nearly 150 church officials at the close of **Spring Meeting, April 7**. Instead, he challenged

Adventists to be "positive" and "move forward, focused on our mission." Pastor Paulsen also called for "inclusive discussions" and cooperation among church leaders heading into 2009, which delegates designated on April 6 as the church's "**Year of Evangelism**." Delegates appointed **Paul Brantley**, director of the church's newly formed Office of Assessment and Program Effectiveness, as a general field secretary. In his closing prayer, Paulsen suggested church leaders should be attuned to God's direction for the church.—*ANN Staff*

# Wholistic approach to education at MVAC

DOONSIDE, NEW SOUTH WALES

Mountain View Adventist College (MVAC) has started a new program, which aims to support and prepare parents and guardians of the school's students.

The "Student Wellbeing Support team" at MVAC, which is made up of professionals and administration staff, held a mentoring program for all middle school parents, aimed at dealing with the issues they may face in raising adolescents.

The team hopes to enhance the communication between parents and their children, enabling parents to be accountable, direct and able to monitor the care they provide their child.

Dr Alex Currie led a detailed overview and understanding of adolescence, explaining what parents can expect in this developmental stage of their children's lives. He encouraged parents to attempt to understand their teenagers' struggles as they move from dependence to independence and adulthood.

Ray Southon, MVAC counsellor, explored two of the most common mistakes parents make with teenagers, which were



Parents of middle school children at MVAC's "parent evening."

failure to be a consistent role models and failure to admit wrongs. He explained how easily adults fall into this trap and how to avoid it.

Parents were also led through a panel discussion on the goals of parenting teens, how to handle the differing expectations and where to find help. Resources suggested included books like those by Adventist author Steve Biddulph.

"It's important for us at MVAC to not only support our students but also their families by providing 'parent evenings,' which address the issues faced by parents. It allows us to work together and in partnership with the parents in the education of their child," said Jenny Gibbons, MVAC principal.

—*Fiona Lelilio*

# Avondale's oldest alumna dies at 108

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

The oldest-living alumna of Avondale College passed away recently, aged 108. Laura Kent (nee Petersen) passed away on February 17 at the Charles Harrison Memorial Home in Cooranbong.

The first black marble plaque in the "Alumni Heritage Walk" outside Bethel Hall bears Mrs Kent's name. At the launch of the walk in 1999, she spoke about the value Avondale had to herself and her family, as well as to the Adventist Church.

Mrs Kent was born in Queensland on May 14, 1899. Her family became Adventists in her teen years and she was baptised in 1916. While attending Avondale College, she met her husband, Pastor Thomas Kent. They married on February 7, 1921. Pastor and Mrs Kent ministered in a number of areas around Australia, as well as the Strand church in South Africa's Cape Province.

She is survived by her children—Ray, Tom and Glenda—16 grandchildren and 36 great-grandchildren, as well as five great-great grandsons.—*Brenton Stacey/Adele Nash*



Laura Kent.

◆ A new web-based ministry, **Adopt a Terrorist for Prayer (ATFP)**, helps Christians follow Jesus' instructions to love and pray for their enemies. While agreeing the military needs to fight terrorism, **Dr Thomas Bruce**, the founder of ATFP, advocates prayer as a counter-offensive that is off limits to generals and politicians. Dr Bruce sees the war on terrorism as a spiritual struggle against fear. "The terrorists are just the highest-profile intimidators in Satan's arsenal," he says. "They think they are serving God." Dr Bruce says

he believes terrorists are vulnerable to an authentic word from God and to Jesus' forgiving love. —*ASSIST news service*

More @ [www.myatfp.com](http://www.myatfp.com)

◆ For the first time in history, **Islam** has surpassed **Roman Catholicism** as the world's largest religion. According to the Vatican statistical bureau, the percentage of the world's population that identify as Muslim is **19.2**, with the number of Catholics trailing behind at **17.4 per cent**. "For the first time in history, we are no longer at the

top: Muslims have overtaken us," said Monsignor **Vittorio Formenti** during an interview. The figures on Muslims were put together by Muslim countries, then provided to the United Nations. When considering all Christians and not just Roman Catholics, **Christians** make up **33 per cent** of the world population. The new statistics also show that nearly half of Roman Catholic Christians live in America. —*Adventist Press Service*

◆ **Castle Rock Jeans & Apparel**, a fledgling American clothing

company, is rolling out **high-end jeans**, with a back pocket decorated with a Christian-related symbol and corresponding biblical verse inside the waistband. The line, called **His Spirit Jeans**, fills a market niche for Christian clothes while spreading the Gospel, said company **President Bob Beard**. "We want to be in good taste, fashion-balanced and impart an inspirational message at the same time," Beard said. The connection between symbol and verse on His Spirit Jeans is sometimes obvious, sometimes not.—*The Gazette*

IS YOUR CHURCH DOING SOMETHING EXCITING, INNOVATIVE OR INSPIRING? EMAIL [RECORD@SIGNSPUBLISHING.COM.AU](mailto:RECORD@SIGNSPUBLISHING.COM.AU)



# Adventist aged care sets new standards in Cooranbong

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

The new, state-of-the-art residential care facility at the Avondale Retirement Village (ARV) in Cooranbong was opened on February 20. Managing director David Knight said the facility was designed to create a home-like environment for residents, while incorporating the latest technology.

"This new building accommodates 122 beds, including 72 high-care and 35 low-care beds, all with ensembles, along with a 15-bed dementia-specific level," he says. "Each level is fully equipped with its own lounge, dining and activities area, and worship services are provided in the chapel."

A cafeteria has been incorporated into the design of the building to cater for residents' visiting family and friends, as well as the centre's staff.



One of the lounge rooms in the new facility.

"Care is provided by fully-qualified registered nurses, personal care and activity staff," Mr Knight adds. "Our staff are committed to the wellbeing of residents and we're proud to provide personal care in a Christian environment."

It is planned that the ARV will be further expanded, with another 28 units added by the end of the year.—**North New South Wales Conference News**

# "O week" outreach for NASA

NEWCASTLE, NEW SOUTH WALES

During the University of Newcastle's annual orientation week, affectionately known as "O week," the Newcastle Adventist Students' Association (NASA) worked on reaching out to the 6000 or so new students experiencing their first week of university life.

One of the week's major events was the "Uni Life Expo," which showcased the many student-run associations and groups. At their stall at the expo, NASA members spoke with more than 1000 students.

They also gave away more than 400 "goodie bags," which contained information about NASA, Adventism, Wallsend church and printed material including copies of *The Edge* magazine, as well as a variety of free gifts.

Evey Wegener, Wallsend church member and NASA's activities coordinator, says, "The stall proved very popular, particularly due to the lolly jar guessing competition and free mosquito spray! Over the course



Students at the NASA stall during the "Uni Life Expo."

of the week, 52 new members signed up to NASA.

"It was an exciting week, as we received many questions about the church, our beliefs and why NASA is different to other Christian uni groups. We explained that NASA's aim is to make God real in the lives of tertiary students through the 3 S's: social, spiritual and service."

This year, NASA is running Bible-study groups both on- and off-campus, and has a variety of activities planned for the year.

—**RECORD staff/Evey Wegener**

More @ <http://wallsend.adventist.org.au>

# Mission giving, tithe grows church budget

BERRIEN SPRINGS, MICHIGAN, USA

Despite the turbulent world economy, the Seventh-day Adventist Church continues to grow financially, General Conference (GC) treasurer Pastor Robert E Lemon reported to church leaders on April 6 at the GC's annual Spring Meeting, held at Andrews University this year.

"Not only have tithes and offerings increased," Pastor Lemon said, "but the church was blessed to receive a multimillion dollar 'extraordinary tithe.'"

His financial report at the meeting reflected about half of that extraordinary tithe, which was first announced at the church's 2007 Autumn Meeting.

GC president Pastor Jan Paulsen described the extraordinary tithe as a "privilege" to handle and said it would allow the church to work in ways not otherwise possible.

Some of the extraordinary tithe is currently allocated to specific areas of ministry, GC undertreasurer Pastor Juan Prestol reported. To help them divvy up the remainder, delegates agreed on a list of guidelines for evaluating potential initiatives. Pastor Paulsen said the church would await revised proposals from each church region, then move "briskly" to distribute funds.

"The church is making careful and expeditious plans to use these funds for mission, particularly in unentered areas," Pastor Paulsen said.

On the normal tithe front, global totals climbed 9 per cent during 2007, topping out at \$US1.78 billion, compared to \$US1.6 billion in 2006, Pastor Lemon reported. For the first time, tithe returned in the church's world regions nearly matched sums received in its North American Division.

Pastor Lemon said the growth of mission offerings and tithe, along with frugality at church headquarters near Washington, DC, mean the church ends the fiscal year with a \$US23 million increase in total net assets—not counting the extraordinary tithe.

Pastor Paulsen called the increases a "testament" to the church's emphasis on outreach. "If our members see that we stay focused on mission, they will want to support us," he said.—**Elizabeth Lechleitner/ANN**

# When will we get it right?

BY MICHELLE OETMAN

IT'S WHY CHILDREN ARE TOLD, "YOUR FATHER died of pneumonia," instead of the truth. It's why a young woman becomes an instant outcast to her family and community. It's why a husband keeps a secret from his family. It's why friends, siblings and colleagues walk out of your life—before you can shun them. It's why a young man vacates your church pew, fearful of the consequences of staying.

"It" is the stigma doggedly affixed to those living with HIV and AIDS. A euphemism for the pride, judgment and arrogance of someone playing God, the word "stigma" is seldom used outright and even less often self-identified as such. The result: in the mind and heart of the accuser, a cloak of undeserved shame and disgrace is cast over the suffering shoulders of those diagnosed with it.

Since the fall of man, there have been groups of people who, for a page of history, were outcasts—"lesser thans." When slowing our hectic lives enough to glance back at those pages, we are astounded at the inhumanity of humanity. Then we repeat those same mistakes.

Today, we're repeating them with those living with HIV or AIDS.

In my work with the Adventist Development and Relief Agency, I've knelt on a dirt floor in Zambia to touch the "untouchable"—a young bride and her mother, dying from a disease she didn't know her late-husband had. My heart broke as I sat face-to-face with a young Thai woman, my own age, newly wed and newly widowed, shattered by the news of her own diagnosis. She had been ignorant of a pre-marriage blood test that could have saved her future.

And in each of these situations, the look in the victim's eyes is the same—fear mixed with courage. But too often, the most sig-

nificant characteristic of these people is unseen: this person is the apple of God's eye. Still.

For those living with HIV or AIDS, care, support, compassion and a warm embrace are desperately vital. But instead, too often they are faced with apathy, disdain and condemning words or behaviours from those who define themselves as "Christian," the root of which—"Christ"—is ironically hard to see.

Two thousand years ago, God answered a vital question: "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Part of the answer included, "Love your neighbour as yourself" (see Luke 10:25-37). When asked to define "neighbour," God told a story. Sadly, too many Christians have forgotten His answer and its consequences when it comes to AIDS.

More often than not, Christians—including Adventists—exemplify the priest's and Levite's arrogance, disdain and bothered reaction to "those on the side of the road" with HIV or AIDS. Leaning on some self-established hierarchy of sin, authorising the apathy and condemnation we want to feel, we, the church, pass by.

Sadly, the secular world is putting the church to shame on this, getting the answer right more often than Christians do. Those leading the world in action and compassion for the cause of HIV and AIDS are celebrities, rock stars and governments—not Christians.

Rockstar and activist Bono challenges, "If the church doesn't respond to [HIV and AIDS], the church will be made irrelevant. . . . Millions of children and millions of lives are being lost to greed, to bureaucracy and to a church that's been asleep. . . . I implore the church to reconsider grace, to put an end to this hierarchy of sin."<sup>1</sup> Why is it



left to a rockstar to champion the cause—chastising the church and pleading with Christians to be like Christ? We must stop replicating the behaviour of the priest and Levite, who arrogantly and busily pass by the needy.

When will we get it right? Throughout the pages of history, God has continually asked, "Who is your neighbour?" This generation is giving the wrong answer. Nearly 40 million children, men and women worldwide are living with HIV or AIDS.<sup>2</sup> And we're getting it wrong when 15 million children orphaned by AIDS are ignored.<sup>3</sup>

Leaving people alone has never been the call of the church. Unfortunately, "we often withhold grace until we're sure they understand their sin. People understand their sin, it's grace they need help understanding."<sup>4</sup> This is what it means to be the church. Helping people find grace.

Those with HIV or AIDS are dying for your compassion. Today, nearly 12,000 more people will be infected by HIV.<sup>5</sup> The way I see it, that's 12,000 more chances to change our attitude and get it right. **R**

<sup>1</sup> "Bono's American Prayer," *Christianity Today*, March 2003, p 43.

<sup>2</sup> UNAIDS "AIDS Epidemic Update," December 2006

<sup>3</sup> *Children on the Brink 2004*, 4th edition, UNAIDS, UNICEF, USAID.

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=idCAAQtWzP0>

<sup>5</sup> UNAIDS "AIDS Epidemic Update," December 2006.

**Michelle Oetman is director of marketing and public relations for ADRA Australia.**



# The hunter

BY KAREN COLLUM

**T**HE HUNTER CROUCHES, MUSCLES tense, watching and waiting, waiting and watching. It is silent now, except for the rush of blood pumping through veins and his shallow, rapid breathing. He runs the net through his fingers one more time, rough fibres chafing his skin. It shouldn't be long now.

There it is! In a single movement, he launches himself from his hiding place and throws the net with such accuracy, such skill, it is obvious he is an expert. He captures his prey quickly and subdues it. He hands it over to be destroyed. The hunter is victorious once more.

This is not the hunter's first attempt. At first he was clumsy, uncoordinated and plain unsuccessful. He has spent many hours honing his craft, practising in controlled situations—all to prepare for this moment. He has invested the time, energy and commitment to his cause to become a skilful hunter. It was a slow process but with each catch, it became more natural and increasingly automatic—as though the very nerves in his body knew how to respond and when. Now, he could complete a capture with a minimum of fuss and expend a minimum of energy. He is truly the master of the hunt.

So what, exactly, is in his net? What wild beast, savage and ferocious, lies tangled within the knots and folds? Is it a jaguar, a tiger or some kind of fearsome reptile? No—it is something far more sinister, more dangerous, more unexpected. It is something that lives on every continent in the world; it can be found on desert plains and mountain ridges, in the deepest valleys and rockiest outcrops; it is present in every race, every culture, every creed. In fact, it dwells within each member of the human race.

What lies at the bottom of the hunter's

net? His thoughts. The ideas, the inspirations, the concepts, the criticisms; the flashes of words that flicker through his brain at lightning speed. These are what he has worked so hard to subdue. These are the prey he has hunted and conquered. He has read the words of Paul and has taken them seriously: "We capture every thought and make it give up and obey Christ" (2 Corinthians 10:5, NCV).

It wasn't easy at first. Initially, he wasn't even aware of many of the thoughts that trespassed his mind. They were so automatic, so momentary, it was hard to focus

## He has invested the time, energy and commitment to his cause to become a skilful hunter.

on them, let alone capture them. His first job was to listen—listen to the soundtrack of his life, the running commentary of ceaseless "brain chatter" that dwelled within his mind. Listening was harder than he thought. It took time, it took effort, it took commitment. But eventually, he could hear the inner workings of his thought processes more clearly. At times he was horrified by what he heard; other times, he was confused, bewildered by the logic or lack thereof of his own thoughts. But still, he listened.

Once his listening skills were honed and his senses alert to the thoughts that narrated his life, the hunter was able to begin the process of thought catching. Using the Bible as his guide, he assessed each and every thought against what he knew to be true, right, honest, pure and good. The



Ravi Tahiramani

standard was high, the effort required, monumental. Those thoughts that were acceptable, pleasing and obedient, were allowed to continue and grow. He nurtured those thoughts he knew would be pleasing to his Lord. Those thoughts that were contrary and disobedient were the ones he sought to capture.

Once captured, the hunter's thoughts were made to give up and obey Christ. How? By being reworded, revised or replaced by Christlike thoughts. It took effort, it took time, it took commitment and it took prayer. At times, he won the battle and captured a net full of useless, negative, destructive thoughts. Other times, his humanity prevailed and one got away. But he didn't give up.

Today, he was successful once again. Crouched behind the foliage of his mind, a thought had been festering. It was a critical, hurtful thought that would only bring pain and destruction. It would bring no glory to God. With ease only possible with practice, he waited for the right moment and cast his net. He captured this dangerous prey and handed it over to his Master to be destroyed. His job complete, the hunter brushed himself down and continued on his way.

Imagine if each one of us took Paul's advice seriously. How would it transform our relationships, our families and our churches if we took captive every thought and made it obedient to Christ? It takes time, it takes effort and it takes commitment. It's something worth thinking about. After all, as a man "thinketh in his heart, so is he" (Proverbs 23:7, KJV). **R**

*Karen Collum writes from Brisbane, Qld.*

# Hero then; heroes now

BY BRUCE MANNERS

**G**OD'S HERO THEN WAS INSTRUCTED to do some of the strangest things. His writings came to be considered difficult and suitable for mature Jewish minds only. His calling made him God's show-and-tell piece to people in exile.

When we first meet Ezekiel, it's July 31, 593 BC, and he's walking along the banks of the Kebar River in Babylon. He's been in exile for about four years.

God gives him a vision of living beings, four-faced creatures with four wings, darting all over the place. Each has a wheel underneath. There are wheels within wheels and the rims are covered with eyes. Above them is a throne. Above the throne is a glowing figure like a man. There's a halo like a rainbow about him (see Ezekiel 1-3).

Unbelievable!

One academic has tried to imagine Ezekiel's wife's reaction: "He came home late, walking unsteadily, and looking pale and shaken. . . . He could not say a word for some time, and when he did, nothing he stuttered forth made any sense. He babbled of rainbows and four-headed beasts, of a big chariot and a throne in the sky, and of eyes being all around."<sup>1</sup>

Unbelievable but it's real. Ezekiel falls face down in the dust.

God tells him he's to be a messenger to His people in exile. He's warned they're a rebellious people. A hard-hearted people. They will not listen.

"But don't fear them for I have made you as a rock," says God. He needed to be, for God had called him to act in odd, eccentric ways to get His message across.

Ezekiel is told to take a large clay tablet—a large brick—and draw a map of Jerusalem on it. He's to create toy siege ramps, enemy camps and battering rams around the "city."

"Now," says God, "Take an iron griddle and place it between you and the city. Take

the sins of the people on you. Then lie on your left side a day for each year the people of Israel have sinned against me. That's 390 days. Then lie on your right side, a day for each year the people of Judah sinned against me. That's another 40 days.

"Lie there prophesying Jerusalem's destruction, for it's going to be destroyed. Oh, did I mention you'll be tied up so you can't turn from side to side?"

How strange is this?

It gets stranger. In a land of plenty, he's told to eat as if there's a famine and drink as if there's drought.

Then he's told to cut his hair off with a sword and divide it into three parts. One part goes on the centre of the clay tablet map of Jerusalem. Another is spread around the "city," where he slashes it with his sword. The third is thrown to the wind. A remnant of hair is kept in his robe and a few of these are thrown in the fire.

At another time, he's told to pack his bags as if he's on the run. He's to do this outside and in daylight, so people can see him. Then, at night as if fleeing, he runs to the city wall and digs through it with his bare hands.

While it's true Ezekiel had some standing among the exiles—the elders gather in his home at one point—many must have thought of him as eccentric or strange. His visions and his behaviour were outlandish. In fact, if he were a relative, we'd probably encourage him to seek psychiatric help.

## God's heroes now

Shelley Gare fears airheads are taking over the world. The first chapter in her book, *The Triumph of the Airheads*, is titled "Why i comes before u." Her point is that we live in a self-first world—"I before you."

"This is what airheads understand: This is the age of the free market, and the pursuit and acquisition of money at all costs is now considered more important than knowl-

edge, values and commonsense.

"This is also the post-postmodern age, which means there are no such things as objective knowledge or values or truths or commonsense. . . . How lucky is that? It really comes down to you and how you see the world, so you can't lose. . . . Whatever you can get away with goes, really."<sup>2</sup>

I before you. God's looking for heroes to buck this trend. And He's given the vision of what His heroes should do.

First: "Love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you!" (Matthew 5:44, NLT).

This makes no sense in an "I-before-you" world. You can talk about biblical love being a principle, as if defining it in this way makes it easier. It doesn't. You can talk about it not being an emotional response, and divorce it from emotions but that's hard when you've been hurt.

What's difficult is when someone has hurt you and Jesus says, "They may be your enemies but love them anyway." Perhaps it's someone you've been in business with, the company has gone bust and they've left you with the debt. Love them!

Or someone you've been in a relationship with and they've cheated on you. Love them!

Or someone who has gone about the community blackening your name, your reputation—and they won't stop. Love them!

This is huge in an "I-before-you" world. Only a hero would attempt it. God's heroes accept it as their challenge.

Second: "Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples" (John 13:35, NLT).

Try this. Think of the person in your church you like least. Love him. Love her. That's the test of your discipleship.

Sometimes it's hard to love people you're close to, because you know their strengths and their weaknesses. The people you know can be the most frustrating. Build-



John B. Taylor, Ezekiel, IV Press 1969

ing a relationship can be difficult. Relationships are hard work—ask anyone in a difficult one.

C S Lewis once admitted he had difficulty going to church. He said he would rather be at home reading theology than at church suffering hymn singing with its fifth-rate poetry and sixth-rate music. Then he noted the fervency and intent of an old guy in the pew across the way, who happened to be wearing elastic-sided boots.

He came to the realisation that he was not worthy to polish those boots. An “I-before-you” approach would have kept complaining about the music.

1 Corinthians 13 is a popular passage for weddings because of its emphasis on love but it’s worth re-reading and noting its message is about the church, and the love that should be found there. The church is about people and how they relate.

God’s heroes now are relationship focused. Love for God and love for others are a priority. A church that’s a true centre of Christian love has much more appeal than anything the “I-before-you” culture can offer. Love overcomes differences in worship style. And love is more life influencing than doctrine.

What Ezekiel did was eccentric—embarrassing. It’s something people might want to lock you up for. But it was easier than Jesus’ teachings.

It’s easier to lie in front of a brick for 390

days on the left side, then 40 days on the right than love your enemies. Easier to cut your hair with a sword, divide it into three and scatter it about than love that former business partner. Easier to pack your bags and dig through the city wall with your bare hands than love the unattractive people at your church.

This isn’t to deny that doing an Ezekiel would be difficult. But each task was that—a task. Difficult, yes. But with determination and a concentrated effort, it was achieved—and thus, finished.

To love is not a task but a life-long calling. An eccentric calling in an “I-before-you” world. And it isn’t for one but all followers of Jesus. For God’s heroes now, this is only possible for those in a relationship with the One who is love.

## What love looks like

In October 2006, Charles Roberts IV walked into an Amish one-room school in Nickel Mines, Pennsylvania, and shot 10 girls, killing five. He then killed himself. A terrible event.

A terrible event that became inspiring in the reaction of the Amish families and friends. On the evening of the killings, an Amish neighbour visited the Roberts’ family and offered forgiveness. And it was meant. When financial support came in from across the USA, the Amish promptly passed a percentage on to his family in recognition of their loss.

ognition of their loss.

“Your love for our family has helped provide the healing we so desperately need,” wrote Marie Roberts, wife of the gunman. “Gifts you’ve given have touched our hearts in a way no words can describe. . . . Your compassion has reached beyond our family, beyond our community and is changing our world, and for this, we sincerely thank you.”

The Amish response is what real love looks like. It’s radical. It’s extreme. It’s unnatural in an “I-before-you” world. It’s our challenge.

God demonstrated ultimate love—in Jesus. Jesus continually gave of Himself. It’s in a sacrificial way. He’s other-focused. He’s people-focused.

Our calling is to follow Jesus’ example. God’s heroes are called to love. “Go after a life of love as if your life depended on it—because it does” (1 Corinthians 14:1, *The Message*). **R**

### References:

1. Johanna Stiebert, *The Exile and the Prophet’s Wife*, Liturgical Press, Collegeville, Minnesota, 2005, page 29.

2. Shelley Gare, *The Triumph of the Airheads*, Park Street Press, Sydney, 2006, page 19.

[www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,220857,00.html](http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,220857,00.html)

**Bruce Manners is the Senior Pastor at Avondale College church.**



# Impact

## ANONYMOUS

Van and motorbikes. He nurtured the kind of love for them most reserve for babies. His pride was evident—you could tell by his conversation—he was in love with his prized possessions and clearly, his world revolved around them.

Kevin was also in love with our daughter, Susan.\* He had asked her to marry him.

Then, on a wet Wednesday afternoon in December, Kevin's life impacted—on a tree—in the car he loved so much—at 160 km.

Many of Kevin's friends and all his family went to the funeral. During the service, Kevin's best mate tearfully recounted how the week before, the two of them spent the night on a Gold Coast beach with a bottle of bourbon and how good a "friend" that bottle had become. Kevin's dad told of his son's love for his car and of the restoration he was carrying out on another vehicle. Kevin was laid to rest with a few remnants of the car he loved so much.

After the funeral, Susan took us to the place where Kevin had lost his life.

It was a quiet stretch of road in the country. We got out of our car and looked along the sweeping bend in the road, where Kevin had lost control of his car. We could see the long black skid marks on the bitumen, which ended at a broken tree.

We walked over to the tree, where some shattered glass still lay on the ground. In our mind, we pictured Kevin's car wrapped around this tree and inside it his trapped, broken body.

His workmates had placed a hastily made plaque on what was left of the tree and, at its base, leaned an empty bottle of bourbon.

I still reflect on this tragic event: I think of the potential wasted, and the possibilities lost. I wish the circumstances were different.

If at his funeral, family and friends had not been told of his love for his car—but instead, of his passion for Jesus: a passion evident in his conversation and his actions. If they had been reminded that his life revolved around Jesus, instead of around his cars. If we had heard of Kevin's impact on their lives, if we knew how good a friend Jesus, and not a bottle, had become to Kevin.

The car Kevin loved so much took his life but the friend he could have had would have given back his life on the great Resurrection morning.

I think often of Kevin. When I do, I ask myself—what impact do I make on my world? **R**

\* *IMPACT is a true story—the names have been changed and the writer is anonymous.*

# Record Roo



Hi kids!  
Moving house is a big job! Imagine how Abram felt when, at age 75, God told him to pack up all his household and go somewhere else. Read more in Genesis chapter 12.

## Bible Text

"Get out of your \_\_\_\_\_, from your \_\_\_\_\_ and from your father's \_\_\_\_\_, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great \_\_\_\_\_; I will \_\_\_\_\_ you and make your \_\_\_\_\_ great; and you shall be a \_\_\_\_\_."  
Genesis 12:1,2 NKJV

## Word Search

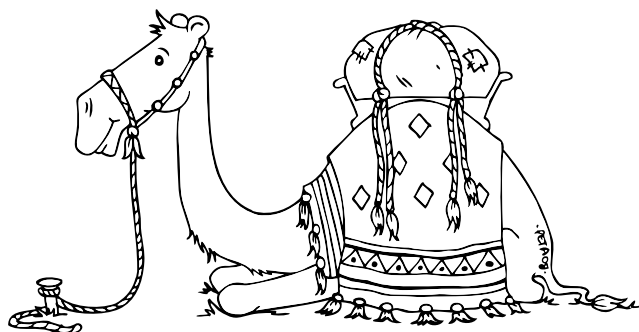
When Abram moved house he didn't put his belongings in cardboard boxes and hire a moving van like we would. He would have packed his belongings onto camels and donkeys and walked to his new home!

D D S K C O O P N O B G U C S  
G T N G B E L O N G I N G S B  
V M R G D K E J Z D N A D I L  
D B W A G N C M W E L S H V C  
F T S G V N V O L A B L O E C  
O V T S R E W V W E L W M D L  
G T E N T S L E F C T K E W P  
V B E S O B N C A M P O Z C W  
M N A U N K N O W N M F F R V  
L V M M D K P A C K I I D S F

Find these words in the puzzle above  
HOME, MOVE, PACK, BELONGINGS, TRAVEL,  
WALK, CAMP, TENTS, NEW, UNKNOWN

## Colour

Colour in Abram's pack camel.



## Take a deep breath

RENE GALE, QLD

I understand the frustration of dealing with rigid thinkers who cling to irrelevant traditions in our church (“Let my church breathe,” *Perspective*, April 5). It can be downright soul destroying. However, I wish to offer some survival tips that keep me bonded to Seventh-day Adventism.

1. Seek out spontaneous individuals with a fresh approach for social and spiritual support. They are out there, just waiting to connect with like-minded persons. Gather together for prayer and brainstorming sessions on a new worship focus.

2. Work within this sub-culture to implement the goals you set. For example, some groups may wish to organise Sabbath school at a beach or forest location, occasionally in an alternate time slot.

3. Empathise with some traditionalists. Many of these people fought hard to win souls in bygone eras by using methods that were appropriate for their time. We live in a fast-paced society that evolves rapidly, unlike previous generations. Give these good people time to adapt to new ways. They may surprise you.

4. Ignore destructive criticism. Some church members express their opinions without any thought for the spiritual welfare of others. They are hurtful and damaging to sensitive souls. However, there is no need to take all this negativity on board.

5. Focus on positives instead of negatives. Expend your energy on what can be realistically accomplished in your church. Do not waste time mourning over failure.

6. Look for a church with a worship style that meets your needs. If all else fails, relocate to another congregation. Why beat your head against a brick wall?

## Salvation and grace

JIM BEYERS, QLD

After reading *What's So Amazing About Grace?* by Philip Yancey, I used part of it as the basis for a sermon. Some hearers were impressed. Others objected—“Why do you even bother reading a book by a Sundaykeeper? Our own books are all we need.”

This sounds logical if we fail to notice an

undertone of Laodicea—we are spiritually rich, increased with goods and apparently needing “nothing.”

As one who has preached grace for more than 40 years, I found in Yancey a depth of understanding that is like a breath of fresh

air, especially when he raises the subject of “ungrace,” which is the opposite of God’s grace. That was such an eye-opener. As soon as it clicked into place, I wondered why I hadn’t seen it long ago.

I have often enjoyed a pleasant, comfortable feeling of being in God’s “good books” because I keep the Sabbath, tithe, live a healthy life and embrace other Adventist teachings. I definitely deserve to be saved! But really that’s not grace—it is, in fact, a sneaky form of ungrace. My abilities to see through problems wouldn’t save me. I can only be saved by grace through faith.

None of the saved in heaven will claim to deserve salvation. They’ll lean on the everlasting arms and accept the free, loving gift the Father offers.

It may take me an eternity to plumb the depths of this but I now understand why the common people heard Jesus so gladly. God’s grace and His undeserved kindness to sinners is what the gospel is all about. It’s the best news a sinner like me will ever hear.

## Seminar thanks

GLENN TOWNEND, PRESIDENT,  
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN  
CONFERENCE

I like what you’re doing in building up the number of writers in the Adventist church (“Seminars encourage Adventist writers,” *News*, April 19). We need to provide more ways for people to be involved in ministry, as this connects them to the church. Writing’s just one of many ways they can be involved.

I’d like to thank Nathan Brown for giving his time at Easter to be with us at the Western Australian campmeeting. It was really appreciated and I will be encouraging people to develop their writing skills.

## Stolen sorry?

E M COURTNEY, QLD

I noticed in the RECORD the church’s response to the Australian government’s

## We need to provide more ways for people to be involved in ministry, as this connects them to the church.

sorry (“Church responds to government’s ‘sorry,’” *News*, March 1). We’ve welcomed the apology as we should. What I am interested in is, is the government—or the church—going to say “sorry” or do anything about the thousands of babies (now adults) who were “removed” from young, unmarried women in Australia?

This terrible practice was still going on as late as 1972, to my knowledge.

These people are “non-people,” as some were numbered only as “M1,” “M5,” etc. They have been trying to get their birth certificates for many years, without success.

## Burning blasphemy?

PAMELA MORGAN, QLD

I am writing about the last article in the “News” section, on Page 6 of RECORD, March 22. The article suggests Moses was on drugs when he saw the burning bush and received the 10 Commandments. I find this statement blasphemous and offensive. It is slanderous to our Lord.

If we believe the Bible is God’s Word and Truth, why would anyone put an article like this in God’s church magazine? Where is our discernment?

We do not want to plant false accusations against our God. Is not the magazine to uplift Him and draw each reader closer to Him?

As editor, is it not your responsibility to the readers to be informative, without slander to anyone, especially God?

**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 masthead (page 2) for contact details.

## Weddings

**Ashmore—Lambert.** Leigh Murray Ashmore, son of John and Maureen Ashmore (Bruce Rock, WA), and Nikki Joanne Lambert, daughter of Tony and Shane Lambert (Perth), were married on 30.3.08 at Livingstone church, Canning Vale. *Tony Knight*

**Borgas—Vogel.** Luke James Borgas, son of Trevor and Anna Borgas (Morisset, NSW) and Kelly Liane Vogel, daughter of Craig and Pauline Vogel (Cooranbong), were married on 9.3.08 in the Morisset Hospital chapel, Morisset. *Bruce Manners*

**Ferris—McMillan.** Adam Kingsley Ferris, son of Ashleigh and Denise Ferris (Westleigh, Sydney, NSW), and Nola Elise McMillan, daughter of Geoffrey and Karen McMillan (Sydney), were married on 29.3.08 at the Cromer Golf Club Chapel, Cromer. *Eric Winter*

**Mathis—Head.** Chad Allan Mathis, son of Edwin and Marlys Mathis (Oregon, USA), and Carmen Anne Head, daughter of Graham and Debbie Head (Bonnells Bay, NSW), were married on 30.3.08 at the Tocal Homestead, Maitland. *Lindsay Sleight*

**Shaw—Campbell.** Adam Warren Shaw, son of Warren and Robyn Shaw (Cooranbong, NSW), and Stacie Lynne Campbell, daughter of David and Lynne Campbell (Newcastle), were married on 30.3.08 at Wallsend church, Newcastle. *Wayne French*

**Steed—Sullivan.** Joshua Robert Steed, son of Pastor Robert and Lois Steed (Melbourne, Vic), and Jessica Caitlin Sullivan, daughter of Stephen Sullivan and Doreen Bramwell, were married on 3.2.08 at Jumbunna Lodge, Launching Place. *Robert Steed*

**Turnham—Hanna.** Myles Arron Turnham, son of Eric and Helen Turnham (Guyra, NSW), and Rachel Kelly Hanna, daughter of Trevor and Julie Hanna (Currumbin Valley, Qld), were married on 2.3.08 at "Pioneer Country," Tweed Heads, NSW. *Linsey Wells, Buell Fogg*

## Obituaries

**Bemrose,** Austin Michael, born 8.7.1925 at Nambour, Qld; died 30.3.08 in the Nioka Centre, Tamworth Base Hospital, NSW. He is survived by his wife, Sheree (Tamworth); and his stepdaughters, Susie Nixon (Tamworth) and Elisabeth Cox (Ipswich, Qld). Austin served in the Australian Navy from 1943 to 1946. He was baptised by Pastor Stilinovic in South Brisbane church and was buried in Kyogle cemetery on 2.4.08. *Frank Cantrill*

**Bone,** Norman Charles Henry, born 26.12.1909 at Greenough Flats, WA; died 22.3.08 in the Fremantle Hospital. He

## Volunteers!

**Dentist—Pacific Yacht Ministries, Vanuatu,** is seeking volunteer dentists for its 2008 season in Vanuatu.

**Health educators—Pacific Yacht Ministries, Vanuatu,** is seeking volunteer health educators for its 2008 season in Vanuatu. The season will run from July 1 to October 31, 2008. Interested applicants should be trained health educators or registered nurses, with an understanding of health education. More information and applications can be found at our website <www.pym.org.au>.

Email:  
<volunteers@adventist.org.au>  
For more positions, check the web on  
<www.adventistvolunteers.org>

+61 2 9847 3275



married Dorothy Bilkie, who predeceased him in 1957. He is survived by his brother, Pastor Henry George Bone (Perth). He was a "darling," loved by all who knew him in the Geraldton church. Christ's return was what he lived for. *Phil Rhodes*

**Buschenhofen,** Christa Marie, born 17.8.1921 in Germany; died 23.3.08 in the Avondale Adventist Aged Care Facility, Cooranbong, NSW. She married Werner Buschenhofen in Germany, and immigrated with their son and daughter to South Australia in 1959. She is predeceased by her husband. She is survived by her children and their spouses, Dr Paul and Eila Buschenhofen (Thailand), and Annette and Karl (Germany); her three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Christa is remembered as a hardworking mother, both inside and outside the home. Her example of faithfulness to God touched all who knew her. *Sid Griffith*

**Chinn,** Melvin (Bill), born 8.8.1936 at Westland, NZ; died 15.1.08 at Christchurch. He is survived by his daughters, Marreigh and Victoria; his grandson, Jake; and his sisters, Valarie Burton, Winsome Holley, Carmen Smart and Heather Coatsworth. Melvin was the only son of Bill and Vera Chinn. *Grant Burton*

**Cook,** Barry David, born 24.02.1955 in Toowoomba, Qld; died 4.10.07 at Toowoomba, following a lingering illness. His funeral was held at Toowoomba Central church on 9.10.07. He is survived by his children, Andrew and Danika; his parents, David and Merlene; and his sister and brother-in-law, Yvonne and Phillip Perrett (all of Toowoomba). His last year was an exhausting year in many ways but we believe God kept him going until he made his peace with Him. For that, we are grateful. *Clifton Maberly*

**Cook,** Carmen Leoness, born 7.12.1918 in

## Positions vacant

▲ **ADRA International Employment Opportunities—ADRA International** is seeking expressions of interest from qualified and experienced professionals considering a career in international development. The ADRA worldwide network implements a range of community development and relief programs, and is continually seeking suitable and interested candidates from around the globe. Greg Young from the Human Resource Bureau at ADRA International will be visiting the offices of the South Pacific Division in Sydney from April 28 to 30, 2008, and would like to make contact with persons interested in ADRA employment opportunities around the world. Please contact Greg at <greg.young@adra.org> to arrange a personal or telephone appointment during his visit. Also submit a current CV with your expression of interest.

For more employment options go to  
[hr.adventistconnect.org](http://hr.adventistconnect.org)



Sydney, NSW; died 12.3.08 at Pukekohe, NZ. She was predeceased by her husband, Ian McDonald Cook, on 11.2.06. She is survived by Jim and Peter Bussau (both of Mildura, Vic). *Grant Burton, Ben Martin*

**Easthope,** Jean (Elsie), born 4.5.1919 at Hawera, NZ; died quietly in her sleep 19.2.08 at Coolool Beach, Qld. She is survived by her brother and sister-in-law, Douglas and Marjorie (Cooranbong); her niece; two nephews and their respective families. Jean attended Avondale College and taught in Tasmania before WWII. She was transferred to Warburton, Vic, then to Longburn College, NZ. She taught English, history and maths. She then worked in the laboratory at Cooranbong Sanitarium. She later moved to Sydney for a career in neurophysiology. *Douglas Easthope*

**Green,** Marjorie Grace (Marg), born 4.11.1921 at Narraburra, Temora, NSW; died 31.3.08 in Canberra, ACT, of a terminal illness. On 9.10.1941, she married Albert Green. She is survived by her husband; her children and their spouses, Laurel and Ian Mooney (Canberra), John and Carmel (Bowral, NSW), Robert and Robyn (Canberra, ACT), Laurie and Di (Canberra), Graham and Pauline (Hall), and Glen and Wendy (Canberra, ACT); her 14 grandchildren; and her seven great-grandchildren. A foundation member of the South Canberra church, Marg endeared herself to all by her warm, loving and caring nature. For years, she used her musical talent in playing for children's Sabbath schools. With her husband and family, we look forward to the great Resurrection morning. *Neil Lawson, John McLean*

**Harvey,** Nereda Evelena (nee Maunder-Lucas), born 26.4.1922 at Hobart, Tas; died 23.3.08 in the Kirralee Nursing Home, Ballarat, Vic. On 20.2.1943, she married Leslie Harvey, who predeceased her in May, 1992. She is survived by her son, Kenneth, and his wife, Jeanne (Pomonal); and her daughter and son-in-law, Janice and Lyle Deppeler (Colac). *Brian Lawty, Mike Browning*

**Keene,** Douglas Leonard, born 23.10.1917 at Northampton, WA; died 8.3.08 in Elanora Villas, Bunbury. On 27.2.1943, he married Alice Secker, who predeceased him in 2005. He is survived by his children, Marilyn Petersen (Bunbury) and Neil (Castle Hill, NSW).

Doug sang wartime service at Tobruk and PNG. He had a strong love of sport and the garden. He became an Adventist in 1961, and was an active member of Mt Lawley, Osborne Park and Bunbury churches over the years. *Robert Kingdon*

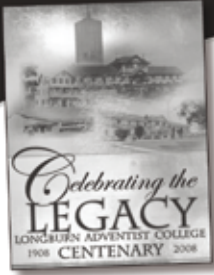
**Little,** Cora Jean (nee Heinicke), born 25.6.1921 at Loxton, SA; died peacefully 25.2.08 in Riverview Lutheran Rest Home, Loxton. On 26.11.1941, she married Douglas Frank Little, who predeceased her on 13.12.1998. She is survived by her children and their spouses, Marie and Lawrence Mann (Loxton), Chester and Jean Little (Adelaide), Janette and Brian Watson (Adelaide), and Yvonne and David Rabe (Singleton, NSW); her eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Cora is also survived by her sister, Esma Rose Marr (Salisbury, SA). Cora loved her Lord and served in the Riverland church, Berri, as a deaconess for many years. She will be remembered for her kind, caring ways, strong faith in God and Christian example. We look forward to being reunited on the great Resurrection day. *Robert Porter, Lagi Limu*

**Logue,** Maurice William Joseph, born 28.8.1914 at Morningside Mills, WA; died 16.2.08 at Busselton. In April 1950, he married Lorna Beecham, and they farmed together in the Harvey and Busselton districts for almost 40 years. He is survived by his wife; his sons, David and Glynn; and his daughter, Kerry (Mitchell). Maurice and his wife retired to the ARV in Busselton, where they were well known for their productive veggie garden. They were both active members of the church, and several community service organisations. A very practical man, sincere, committed Christian and loyal friend. Farewell Maurice, until the Resurrection. *Frank Dyson*

**Rudolph,** Pastor Edward Moses (Ted), born 31.10.1926 at Pawarenga, NZ; died 9.4.06 at Kaitaia. On 16.3.1948, he married Mary Strickland. He was predeceased by Tina Marama on 5.5.1980, as well as by baby Moses and baby Andrew. He is survived by Beulah Mare (Kaitaia); Millie Joo (Maleny, Qld); Mason (Coffs Harbour, NSW); Sarah Ruxton (Coffs Harbour); Heather (Minto); Jacqueline (Minto); Cynthia Bainbridge (NSW) and Mary Rutene (Kaitaia, NZ). His headstone unveiling was held on April



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13. A wonderful husband, father, grandfather and friend, who touched the lives of many. We shall see you on that glorious day.  
*Frank Toa*

**Rundle**, Alex Dylan, born 3.1.07; died 15.3.08 in a tragic accident. He is survived by Crystal Rundle and Luke Gale (Elizabeth, SA). A precious little boy who touched a lot of hearts, Alex was dearly loved and will be sadly missed. His beautiful blue eyes talked. Resting in Jesus and awaiting the Resurrection.  
*Lee Bowditch-Walsh*

**Skelton**, Lorna, born 13.5.1911 at New Lambton, NSW; died 28.3.08 in the Adventist Aged Care Facility, Cooranbong. She was predeceased by her husband, James, on 5.9.06. She is survived by her only daughter and son-in-law, Pamela and Ernest Kessell; her granddaughter and spouse, Michelle and Craig O'Leary; and her three great-grandchildren, Sophie, Brodie and Ashley. She loved to read the Bible until her eyesight failed. Now she awaits the call of Jesus in the Resurrection.  
*Alwyn Gersbach*

**Summerscales**, Norma Gladys (nee Bowman), born 2.5.1925 at Thames, NZ; died 29.3.08 on Norfolk Island. On 23.2.1950, she married Alfred. She was predeceased by her sister, Joyce, and two grandchildren. She is survived by her husband (Bene); her brothers, Gordon (Thames, NZ) and Frank (who died two days later); her four children and their spouses, Karen and Loge (Sweden), Rodney and Kitty (USA), Gary

and Dianne (Norfolk Is) and Gael and Alan (Sydney); her eight grandchildren; and her three great-grandchildren. Norma was a professional nurse, who held many positions within her church and had many other interests and talents, such as music, horticulture, nature and decorating cakes. She was also a wonderful friend and jolly Christian, who gave freely of her time, effort and money. She rests at Kingston, Norfolk Island, awaiting her Master's call to life forever.  
*George Porter*

**Wills**, Thomas Edward, born 4.9.1930 at Bundaberg, Qld; died 24.3.08 in the Calvary Mater Hospital, Newcastle, NSW. On 9.10.1951, he married Margaret Belle at Bundaberg, Qld. He is survived by his wife (Cooranbong, NSW); his children and their spouses, Iva and Lyn (Narara), Loretta and Mark Spruce (West Wallsend), and Janine and James Dawson (Cooranbong); his eight grandchildren; and his three great-grandchildren. Tom was a manager for the Sanitarium in Auckland and Cooranbong, as well as working with his wife as literature evangelists in remote areas of northwest NSW. A loving family man and faithful church member, Tom was prevented by illness from attending church toward the close of his life.  
*Clive Nash, Bert Godfrey*

**Wordsworth**, Velma Francesca (Val), born 8.7.1921 in Brisbane, Qld; died 27.3.08 at Manukau, NZ. She married Melvern John Wordsworth in 1945, who predeceased her. She is survived by her children and their spouses, Warren and

Evie (Pukekohe), and Robyn and Craig Hurren (Thailand).  
*Grant Burton*  
*David Ellis, Gary Ellis,*

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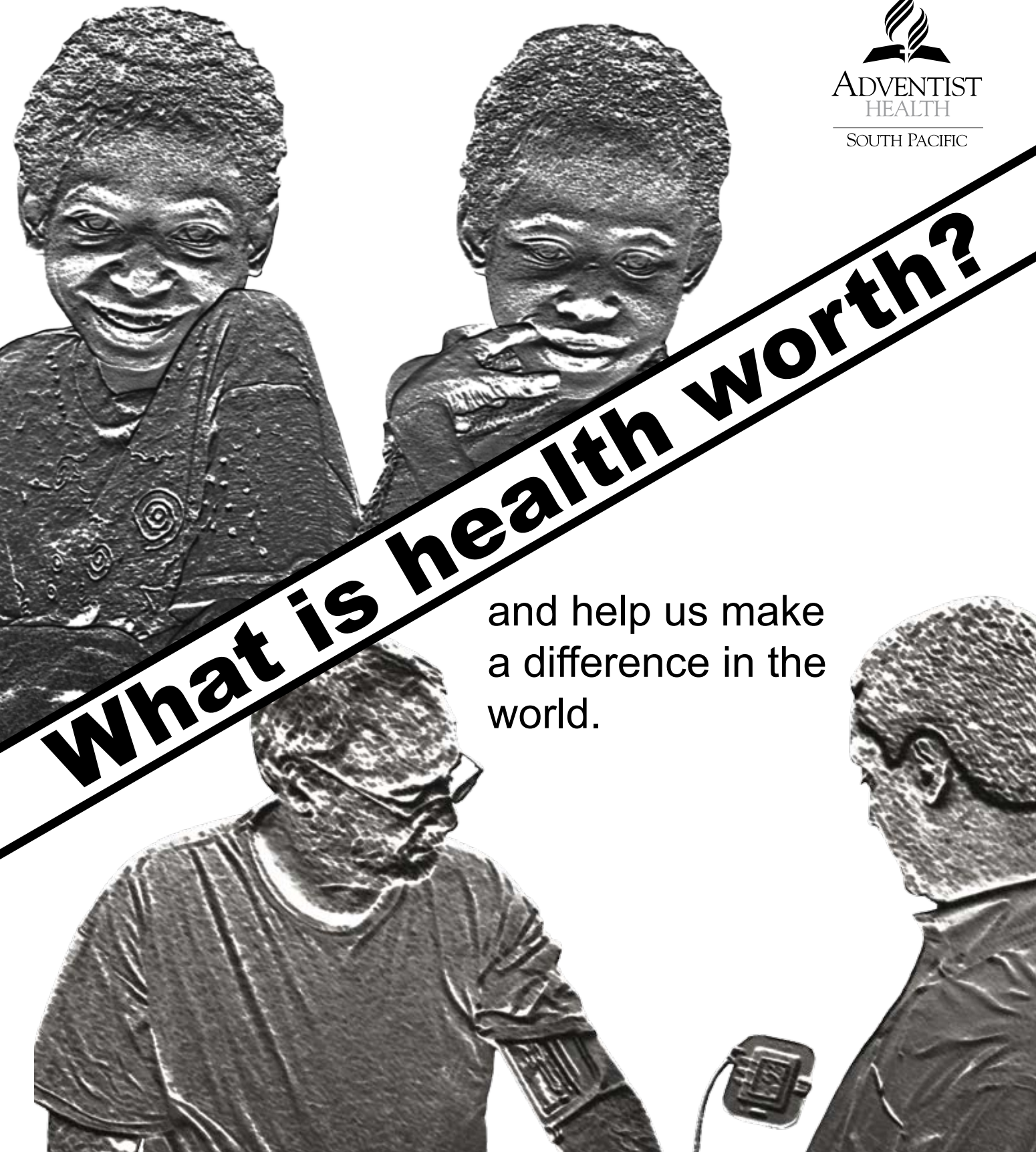
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