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STORIES VS STEREOTYPES

WE ARE MORE THAN A SUM
OF BODY PARTS 3, 16

NEWS

COMMUNITY CONNECTION FOCUS OF
#WERTHECHURCH PROGRAM 4

ADVENTIST RECORD | SEPTEMBER 19, 2020
ISSN 0819-5633





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We would love to be able to share our products with you.

Write to us telling us your favourite Life Health Foods product and we'll send 10 lucky winners (5 x NZ and 5 x AU) a gift of a Life Health Foods chiller bag and some product to try! Competition closes November 1st, 2020.



Contact: infoAU@lhf.net or infoNZ@lhf.net to enter the draw

DELIVERING TO THE PLANT-BASED EATING TREND

The trend to plant-based eating continues to grow, with research showing 42% of Australians and 33%* of New Zealanders are now consciously limiting their meat intake.

Adventist Church-owned Life Health Foods is well placed to support this growing interest, as the leading supplier of plant-based meat alternatives into Australia and NZ.

With a focus on passionately creating innovative plant-based food for all, both locally and around the world, the Life Health Foods team is based in Avondale, Auckland and Central Coast NSW, with a team of more than 300 employed.

FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

The Life Health Foods family of brands is made up of great pioneering stories. From Veggie Delights, dating all the way back to Sanitarium's Nutmeat from 1912, to Bean Supreme establishing NZ-made tofu in the 1980s and Lisa's bringing Hummus to Kiwis 25 years ago, and chef-inspired Naked Cuisine soups and meals; all have a heritage of passion, personal sacrifice and commitment to great food and good health.

That story continues with The Alternative Meat Co, proudly developed and made on the Central Coast, using new technology to produce 100% plant-based, high protein burgers, sausages and mince that looks, cooks and tastes like meat, perfect for everyone, from meat reducers to flexitarians, vegetarians and vegans.

OUR BRANDS OUR PROMISE

You'll find our wide range of plant-based products in your local grocery stores. We also export to many of the Pacific Islands and throughout Asia. We are proud to uphold our values and believe enjoying plant-based eating enables everyone to live healthier, more sustainably.

LATEST NEWS



MOST TRUSTED

Veggie Delights in Australia and Lisa's in NZ were recently awarded the Reader's Digest Most Trusted Vegetarian Food awards for 2020. A big thank-you to all of our loyal customers who continue to support us!



NEW EAT WELL

Naked Kitchen Eat Well range launched in NZ to rave reviews! With extra wellness cooked in, these ready-to-eat meals are good to go when you are. Made with our same care and expertise as the rest of our Naked Kitchen range, try them today.



GET TO KNOW US

All of our latest updates are available on our websites, Instagram and Facebook pages and our newly launched LinkedIn page. Get in touch with us and let us know what you think.



STORIES VERSUS STEREOTYPES

I sat nervously in the dentist's office as he explained the procedure to me.

"It's simple," he said. "I'm going to slice open your gums, cut your four wisdom teeth in half and then pull them out in pieces. Nice and easy."

Nice? EASY? How DARE he use that nonchalant tone with me! I thought. Didn't he care that the anaesthetic might fail? He was totally unphased. I was totally not.

He scribbled some illegible words and ticked a few boxes on my patient forms. Tracing his pen down the page, he stopped and smiled. "Oh! You're a writer?" he remarked, eyes suddenly wide and excited.

"Yeah I, uh—I am . . ." I replied unconfidently, totally sidelined by his sudden enthusiasm. I never know what to write when medical forms ask you for your occupation. Writer? Journalist? Artist? Professional email-er? "But my job is pretty varied most days . . ." I added, trying to hide a bad case of imposter syndrome.

The dentist spun around in his chair and rummaged through his filing cabinet. "Have you published any books?" he asked excitedly, looking over his shoulder.

"No, no books yet," I laughed. "But I've published a lot of articles on faith, and I write a lot of news stories."

"Oh that's fantastic!" he said. "I wish I'd been your age when I was first published. But I've written a few books now, as you can see!"

Thud. A pile of books landed on the desk in front of me. One looked like an encyclopedia, the other four like novels. I was surprised.

"Have a look! Flip through!" he encouraged me. In the space of 30 seconds, my nonchalant dentist had become a little boy in a candy store.

"Oh, thanks!" I said, looking through the big one first—a light blue hard-cover with hundreds of pages, filled top to bottom with diagrams of what looked like war medals. My mouth hung agape, a side-effect of a reaction somewhere between fascination and shock.

"You **WROTE** this?" I marvelled. "It's amazing!" As he thanked me, my mind was desperately trouble-shooting, trying to figure out how to categorise this new acquaintance. *He must be the analytical type*, I reasoned. *An over-achiever. Probably a first-born.*

Just when I thought I had my dentist totally figured out—a 40-something year-old, successful, left-brain dominant Middle Eastern male—I flipped through the other books: a fantasy novel, a satire, a collection of short stories and a book about Australian slang.

Drat! Back to square one. Who *was* this man?

"I'm very impressed!" I said, trying to find words to mask my confusion. I wasn't lying. I added a congratulations and thanked him for the consultation and allowing me to see his books.

"You're welcome, all the best with your writing!" he said. "I'll see you next Thursday at the hospital. It will be an honour to pull out your teeth, fellow writer."

Oh yeah, the teeth thing! I thought. Despite being surrounded by fake-teeth figurines, I'd forgotten all about it. And while I still had no mental category for this new friend, I trusted him. I was a lot less scared.

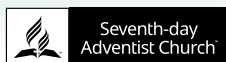
Sharing our stories is powerful. I'm ashamed to say it, but if my dentist hadn't noticed our similar interests and broken the ice that day, I would have walked out of his office with an incredibly shallow understanding of who he is, and reinforced false stereotypes.

In honour of my dentist-appointment-turned-life-lesson, this issue of *Adventist Record* features articles that I hope will demonstrate the incredible power of humble stories to break down the barriers that we, as Adventists, often construct: between generations, denominations and social groups.

In my interview with Pastor Kevin Wilson on page 16, he sums it up perfectly: "[People] are not a sum of body parts or a social media post. They're real stories with real pasts and people need to be reminded of that."

In our interactions with people, may the labels we use to categorise each other—dentist, writer, Adventist, Atheist, Australian, Middle Eastern, male, female, old, young—never get in the way of our ultimate destiny and shared identity as sons and daughters of God. May our stories remain ever-sacred.

MARYELLEN FAIRFAX
ASSISTANT EDITOR
@maryellencreative



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senior consulting editor

glenn townend
senior editor
jarrod stackelroth
assistant editor
maryellen fairfax
copyeditors
tracey bridcutt
kent kingston
melody tan

graphic designer

maryellen fairfax/linden chuang
template designer
theodora pau'u
noticeboard
julie laws
letters
editor@record.net.au
news & photos
news@record.net.au

noticeboard

ads@record.net.au
subscriptions
subscriptions@record.net.au
+ 61 (03) 5965 6300
mailed within australia and nz
\$A60.00; \$NZ90.00
other prices on application
website
record.adventistchurch.com

adventist media

locked bag 1115
wahroonga nsw 2076 australia
+ 61 (02) 9847 2222
cover credit
getty images—agsandrew

SEEKING GOD

Meditation retreats, chanting rituals, time alone in nature. These are ways people try to connect with God. The quest of every honest spiritual seeker is to see and understand God—our ultimate purpose.

King Uzziah, the longest-serving king of Judah (52 years), “set himself to seek God” (2 Chronicles 26:5 ESV). Uzziah was successful in farming, war, building and manufacturing as a blessing from God, but he felt something was still missing. The central focus of the Israelite religion was the temple in Jerusalem—God’s glorious presence was in the Most Holy Place. Uzziah had to see it. However, only priests could go into the temple.

As a proud and successful king, Uzziah went into the Holy Place to offer incense before God. 81 priests apprehended Uzziah. In a rage, he tried to get past and leprosy appeared on his head. In horror, he left the temple and palace and lived in quarantine for the rest of his life.

In the year that King Uzziah died, Isaiah saw the Lord sitting on a throne, the train of His robe filling the temple (Isaiah 6:1). There were six winged angels all around the smoky glory. Isaiah, an average human, knew he was doomed. However, an angel took a coal from the altar and cleansed Isaiah. It was in this experience with God that Isaiah was called to be a prophet.

Uzziah forced himself upon God; Isaiah was invited to see God. Uzziah had the blessings of God; Isaiah had the calling of God. Uzziah saw God in history; Isaiah saw God in glory. It seems that God reveals Himself to each one in appropriate ways. We have to trust God’s personal revelations. We cannot dictate to God, but we can seek God while there is the opportunity, and help

others to seek the God of compassion and forgiveness too (Isaiah 51, 55:6,7).



GLENN TOWNEND
SPD PRESIDENT
●/SPDPresident

COMMUNITY CONNECTION FOCUS OF #WERTHECHURCH PROGRAM

TRACEY BRIDCUTT

Thousands of Seventh-day Adventists from around the South Pacific were connected in a special way through the #weRtheCHURCH program on Friday, August 28.

Hosts of the program—South Pacific Division president Pastor Glenn Townend and Avondale University College theology and ministry student Renée Vaovasa—were broadcasting live, which meant they could interact with the viewers. Not only were many “Happy Sabbaths” exchanged, but the hosts also took the opportunity to ask questions of the viewers who clearly enjoyed the opportunity to connect with the hosts.

An episode of the children’s show *King’s Kids* started the night’s viewing, followed by the #weRtheCHURCH program. Filled with inspiring music, testimonies and stories, the program’s focus was on how Adventists are “Preparing the soil”, based on the first stage of the harvest cycle process to become a disciple-making movement. Whether it’s through prayer ministry, food pantries, health checks and programs, social media or other initiatives, #weRtheCHURCH put the spotlight on a variety of ministry activities where churches in the South Pacific are connecting with people because of Jesus’ love.

Pastor Townend said the program has received much positive feedback, including from leaders at the General Conference. “I was incredibly inspired by the wonderful stories of how churches are reaching out in their communities,” he said. “I also enjoyed having the opportunity to connect and chat with many people through the live format.”

The program was streamed on the #weRtheCHURCH webpage, Adventist Media YouTube and Facebook platforms, and broadcast live on Hope Channel Australia. It was also translated into French by Pastor Eddy Johnson and streamed on Centre Media Adventiste Facebook and YouTube sites, which was appreciated by viewers in French Polynesia and New Caledonia.

A Sabbath afternoon webinar provided an opportunity to hear from some of the people whose stories had featured in the #weRtheCHURCH program. The “Digging Deep” webinar, hosted by Adventist Media’s Kent Kingston and Rachel Lemons Aitken, provided valuable insights and practical tips on local community outreach.

For those who may have missed either the program or the webinar, they can be viewed at the Adventist Church in the South Pacific website: <adventistchurch.com/werthechurch>. On this site you can also watch the programs from the inaugural #weRtheCHURCH weekend event in May.

Organisers are planning the next program for November with a “Sowing the seed” theme. Video stories of 2–3 minutes length are needed. Please send them to <WeRtheChurch@adventist.org.au> by Friday, October 23.



HOSTS PASTOR GLENN TOWNEND AND RENÉE VAOVASA ON THE SET AT ADVENTIST MEDIA.

ANNUAL ADRA APPEAL LOOKS DIFFERENT THIS YEAR

ASHLEY STANTON

For more than 100 years, Adventists have gone door-to-door collecting funds for the ADRA Appeal—fondly known as “Knocktober”—but this year, with lockdowns, border closures and social distancing requirements across Australia, ADRA is transitioning the Appeal online.

“ADRA is investing in new and exciting COVID-safe activities to ensure churches can continue to build community while also raising vital funds for ADRA’s work in Australia and overseas,” said ADRA Australia CEO Denison Grellmann.

While the ADRA Appeal is well known for its door-knocking component, in recent years churches have opted to fundraise by running community events. This year, ADRA Australia is moving these events online.

“We will be providing churches with the resources to help them run their own virtual events, ranging from a concert to a trivia night and even a masterclass,” said Mr Grellmann.

While doorknocking this year is not an option, 2020 has provided an opportunity to reflect on previous years of going door-to-door.

For Arthur Pettifor from Clarkson Adventist Church in Western Australia, 2020 would have been his 29th year going door-to-door.

In previous years, Pathfinder clubs, churches and individuals across Australia personally engaged with their local community, spreading the word about the work of ADRA and the Adventist Church.

“There’s a gentleman I have known for 28 years,” said Mr Pettifor. “He donates \$A50 every year. I make their house my last stop each year as they invite me in and I share a chat and a prayer with them.”

“In 2019 . . . to my great sadness Charlie had passed away. He was 94. His wife apologised for not informing



EZEKIEL HUMPHRIES, NADIA THOMPSON, JAKOBE HUMPHRIES AND CHARLENE LUZUK COLLECTING FOR THE 2018 ADRA APPEAL.

me. She invited me in and offered a cup of tea and a muffin. We had a good chat and shared fond memories. Later on I sent her a ‘Thinking of You’ card. It is uplifting to meet nice people and share a conversation with them during this time.”

Mr Grellmann is confident that the spirit and purpose of the ADRA Appeal will continue even during these uncertain times, raising funds for people in a time when they need it the most.

To run a virtual ADRA Appeal event, visit adra.org.au/hangon to register.

ADVENTIST CHURCH IN FIJI REHABILITATES MEMBERS IN PRISON

RECORD STAFF

The Fiji Corrections Service (FCS) has signed a memorandum of understanding that will allow the Seventh-day Adventist Church to play a more active role in rehabilitating its members back into society.

Approximately 390 of 2500 prisoners in Fiji are members of the Adventist Church, making up 16 per cent of the total prison population, second only to Methodists. This has concerned leaders of the Adventist Church in Fiji, inspiring them to take action.

“I am glad our Missions are supporting with the rehabilitation of our prisoners coming out,” said Trans Pacific Union Mission president Pastor Mavani Kaufononga. “Many of them come out with no place to stay, no job, stripped of [their] dignity. The Church should be there for them.”

Rehabilitation efforts will largely

focus on providing care and community to former inmates when they are released from prison, as well as counselling services.

Fiji Mission personal ministries director Pastor Talemo Ratakele Cakobau said the Church’s ministry will be more effective in partnership with FCS.

“Evidence has shown that [some] inmates have become frontline ministers of the Adventist Church because of the care given to them,” he said. “The memorandum is very significant to us because now we can directly liaise with FCS and provide services.”

FCS commissioner commander Francis Kean said the work of corrections personnel falls in tandem with the work of the Church.



JOINT SYMPOSIUM BETWEEN FCS AND THE ADVENTIST CHURCH IN FIJI ON FEBRUARY 25.

“Religious organisations play an instrumental role in the process of rehabilitation and behaviour change,” he said. “It has a way of counselling without heavy reprimand and this helps the inmates to see the need to change from their wayward ways and become better members of society.”

The memorandum, which came into effect in late July, is the culmination of months of talks and a symposium that was held in February.

Photo credit: Inoke Rabonu/Fiji Sun

NEW CHILD PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS

TRACEY BRIDCUTT

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has responded to recent adjustments to the child protection framework in some Australian states.

The adjustments are the result of recommendations from the Australian Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. One of the recommendations is the introduction of reportable conduct schemes similar to the one that has existed in New South Wales since 2000. Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory have now introduced these schemes and NSW has widened its scheme to include religious bodies and, as such, the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

These reportable conduct schemes now require churches in the ACT, NSW and Victoria to respond to allegations raised about the conduct of persons they engage. This response involves notifying an external oversight agency of the allegations, investigating the

allegations, making a finding and recommendations, and taking appropriate action.

At the conclusion of the investigation the church is then required to notify the oversight agency of the outcome.

"It is important to note that alleged conduct could be recent or historical and can involve children in any context not just in a church," Adsafes project manager Murray Chapman said.

"It should be remembered that despite these recent adjustments it has been Seventh-day Adventist Church policy for some years now that child-related alleged conduct by employees and volunteers in the Church be investigated."

Other adjustments include adding



ADSAFE'S MISSION IS TO SAFEGUARD, EDUCATE AND EMPOWER CHURCH COMMUNITIES IN THE AREA OF CHILD PROTECTION.

persons in religious ministry to the list of mandatory reporters. This includes church ministers as well as volunteers providing services to children such as elders, deacons and Sabbath school leaders. Mandatory reporters are required by law to report suspected child abuse to government authorities.

For more state-specific information view the Practice Updates on the Adsafes website: <adsafe.org.au/safeguarding/policies>.

A banner for the 'Live His Calling' event. It features a close-up of an open book with warm, golden light emanating from its pages. The background is a soft-focus image of a person's face.

Live His Calling

Sharing hope through literature

OCTOBER
9-11, 2020

Literature Ministry Online Summit
literature.adventistchurch.com/summit

Literature Ministry

AVONDALE HOMECOMING TRANSITIONS ONLINE

BRENTON STACEY

Alumni featured more personally and prominently as Avondale University College presented its 40th annual Homecoming entirely online for the first time over the weekend of August 21–22.

A livestream enabled measurement of engagement this year—with 6500 users reached, 1400 post clicks and 1500 reactions, comments and shares. It is the most popular post on the Avondale Alumni Facebook page.

Alumni were comfortable using the ubiquitous Zoom videoconferencing platform to connect with their classmates in honour year reunions on Sabbath. Campfire Songs with Peter Dixon followed in the evening, with the livestream continuing a more than 40-year tradition of the guitarist performing on campus. Earlier in the day, alumni watched the Homecoming worship service, produced by Avondale College Seventh-day Adventist Church, on YouTube. The service featured a message

from Chancellor Pastor Glenn Townend entitled “Church: Dealing with disruption” and an item from the Avondale Virtual Singers.

Other content included a digital Homecoming magazine and, in a well-received initiative, interviews recorded on Zoom with award and citation recipients.

To read a full list of awards and citations for this year, please read the full article at <record.adventistchurch.com>. To watch Homecoming 2020 content or register your interest for Homecoming 2021, please visit <avondale.edu.au/homecoming>.



132 BAPTISED IN PNG DURING COVID LOCKDOWNS

SIMON DOPI/RECORD STAFF

Despite COVID-19 restrictions, Morata 1 Seventh-day Adventist Church in Port Moresby (PNG) baptised 132 individuals, following a two-week evangelistic meeting running from July 26 to August 8.

The meeting, themed “Our Great Hope: Jesus is Coming”, was presented by guest speaker Pastor Sunny Mayanifa, a lay evangelist in Eastern Highlands Simbu Mission.

At the end of the meeting, six pastors—Pastor Mayanifa, Central Papua Conference secretary Pastor Rex Koi, Moresby Northwest district director Pastor Aki Pawa, June Valley senior church pastor Whanti Gani, retired pastor John Marape and Morata 1 senior church pastor Ger-shom Luke—baptised the candidates.

Lockdown requirements in Port Moresby did not stop people from attending the meeting. The church enforced social

distancing measures, mask wearing and hand washing during the meeting as per instructions from the National Pandemic Response controller David Manning.

Pastor Luke said Morata 1 plans to have another mass baptism in November.

“We want to increase church membership. The church is planning discipleship making in small groups,” he said.

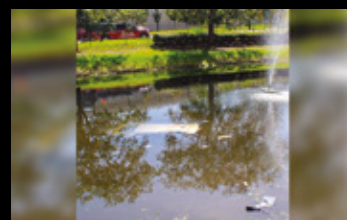


NEWS GRABS



WILDFIRES FORCE EVACUATIONS

Adventist institutions in northern California—including Pacific Union College and St Helena Hospital—had to be evacuated on August 21 due to wildfires resulting from wild weather and thousands of lightning strikes. So far, the fires have burned more than 20,300 ha and more than 60,000 residents have been evacuated. —Adventist Review



LIFEGUARD ON DUTY

AdventHealth employees Michael Ciurea and Jeffrey Brownlow were driving to Ponce Inlet beach in Florida, USA, when they saw an elderly man trapped in his car, submerged in a pond. They swam across, unlocked the door, unbuckled him and carried him to safety. After two weeks in hospital, the man returned home. —AdventHealth News



LAY LEADER DIES

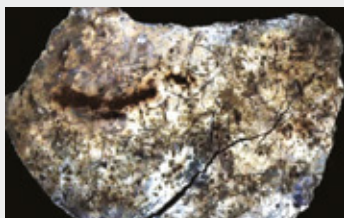
Tom Duffy (40), a firefighting pilot and Adventist lay leader, was killed on August 24 in a helicopter crash while fighting a wildfire in Mount Hood National Forest. Montana Conference president Elden Ramirez paid tribute to Tom's dedicated service to the Adventist Church and community leadership. —GleanerNow

HOT TOPICS



IDENTITY IN ISOLATION

Melbourne's Jewish population is being asked to document their COVID-19 experiences in a digital archive. Led by Monash University's Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation, researchers are interested in how the disruptions to Jewish religious and cultural life have affected a sense of individual and communal identity and wellbeing. —*Medianet*



OLD CHRISTIAN CHALICE

Pieces of a 1400-year-old lead chalice covered in Christian symbols and etchings have been found in the rubble of a 6th Century church at Vindolanda Roman Fort near Hexham, UK. It is the oldest artefact of its kind ever found in Britain. Vindolanda's director of Excavations, Dr Andrew Birtley, said it was the "wow factor" of rare finds. —*BBC*



DEATH IS NOT THE END

Chadwick Boseman, who acted as King T'Challa in the iconic *Black Panther* movie, died at age 43 on August 28 after a four-year battle with colon cancer. According to multiple reports, he was baptised into the Baptist Church as a child and often professed his Christian beliefs, quoting Bible verses during interviews and speeches. —*Christian Post*

FAITH FM APPOINTS NEW SPEAKER AND HOST

RECORD STAFF

Australian Adventist radio ministry Faith FM has appointed Pastor Robbie Berghan to its team. Pastor Berghan will be a speaker and host, and will serve on the administration team as the content and promotions manager.

Pastor Berghan brings a wide range of experience to the role, having a background in the tech space as a software engineer and managing director.

Since entering ministry around 15 years ago he has served as a church pastor on three continents, and has worked extensively in public evangelism and media. Most recently he and his wife Rebeka, and their son Arris, have lived in Tasmania where he served as the pastor of the Glenorchy and Margate churches, and the associate communications director for the Tasmanian Conference.

In taking on this new role, Pastor Berghan said he is inspired by a statement from one of his favourite ministry handbooks: "New methods must be introduced. God's people must awake to the necessities of the time in which they are living" (*Evangelism*, p70).

"Since I accepted Christ as my Saviour at the age of 23, I have felt that I have been called to share ancient truths, using modern methods, to change lives," Pastor Berghan said. "And this appointment to Faith FM aligns perfectly with my personal calling. We have an amazing asset with Faith FM. On the back of thousands of hours donated by volunteers and the financial support of listeners and members, we have a network that has incredible potential to reach Australia."

In discussing the future of Faith FM and what he hopes to contribute to the station, Pastor Berghan said he is excited to be working with the rest of

the team on building a very intentional strategy to nurture the listener in their journey with Christ from broadcast to baptism.

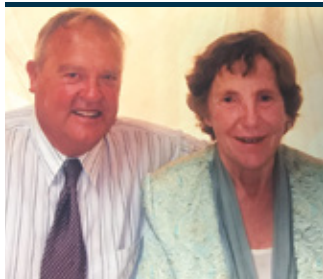
"We are developing some very intentional programming that we believe will greatly aid in listener engagement," he said. "Connecting our listeners with meaningful content is important, but Christian experience grows best when we are in community. And so we want to be very deliberate in helping people in their journey to connect with local communities of faith."

One of the first steps in this new strategy will be the launch of a new weekly podcast-styled show hosted by Pastor Berghan, called "The Faith Experiment".

"Sometimes for people, faith is something that's really hard to grasp, let alone to put into practice," he said. "With this podcast it's my goal to first help unravel this thing we call faith, in all its shapes and forms, and then I want to look at ways to test, to experiment and to put faith into practice. I'm looking forward to connecting with listeners as we learn and experiment together with faith." The show will be aired weekly on Mondays at 9am.



ROBBIE, REBEKA AND ARRIS BERGHAN.



60 YEARS OF SERVICE

Dorothy Davis was born and raised on her family farm in Weerite, Victoria, where she still lives today. Her father, Joseph Stewart, was a founding member of Camperdown Adventist Church and was its treasurer from 1926 until his death in 1958. Dot, as she was affectionately known, married Ian Davis in 1969 and took on the role of Camperdown church treasurer in 1960. She continued in this role for the next 60 years. Following the death of Ian in March, Dot made the decision to allow someone else to take up the challenge. Camperdown church would like to thank Dot for her commitment and amazing example of dedicated service. —Stephen Piez



A CREATIVE BREAK

Nunawading Christian College Primary (Victoria) ran a Creative Arts Festival Day in August as a way of focusing on student well-being during remote learning in Stage 3 and Stage 4 restrictions. Students enjoyed participating in a range of activities by following demonstrations from specialist teachers, including painting trees with coffee, folding origami fish, learning choreographed movements to worship songs, practising Chinese calligraphy, and making healthy fruit balls and rice paper rolls. Students and parents said they enjoyed having a break from the unnatural pressures of remote learning. —IntraVic



A PICTURESQUE BAPTISM

A picturesque rainbow appeared in the sky at a beach in Ballina (NSW), where Isaac Outerbridge was baptised in the early morning of August 1. His family and a small number of church members registered to attend the special day due to COVID restrictions. Isaac was welcomed into the fellowship of Lismore Seventh-day Adventist Church later that day, where he shared his testimony during the church service. Lismore youth were involved in sharing God's Word with Isaac and inspired him to attend the ARISE Bible college at the beginning of the year. Isaac's message can be heard on YouTube by searching "Lismore SDA Church" and finding the August 1 video. —Sherree Merritt



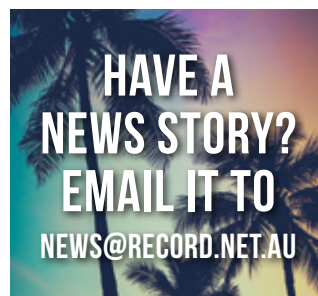
SETTING UP SHOP

Every Wednesday and Thursday afternoon, Armidale Seventh-day Adventist Church (NSW) is a flurry of activity. On Wednesdays, church volunteers set up their weekly Food Blessings ministry, stacking aisles of packaged foods on shelves ready for customers on Thursday. The food is heavily discounted, with a free bag of fruit and vegetables and a loaf of bread for each visitor. On Thursdays at 1pm, the doors open to lines of people. Since opening in September 2017, the ministry has helped struggling farmers, victims and firefighters of the NSW 2019 bushfires, Ezidi refugees from Iraq, as well as pensioners, students, people with disabilities and their carers. —NNSW News



COUNTDOWN TO ETERNITY

Following a two-week evangelistic meeting, 37 people were baptised into the Busanim Creek Seventh-day Adventist Church in Lae, Papua New Guinea, on Sabbath, August 29. The meeting, themed "Countdown to Eternity", was presented by guest speaker Pastor Burges Smacker, director of Advent Herald Ministries, from August 16 to 29. Morobe Mission youth director Pastor Micah Akui and former Mile Church pastor Vai Kovia helped baptise the 37 candidates. —Joe Philip



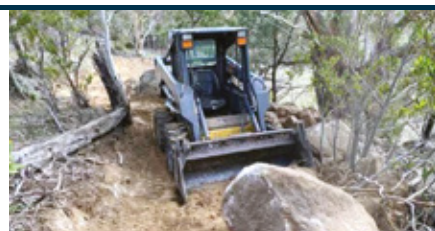
BETIKAMA CELEBRATES

Betikama Adventist College (Solomon Islands) celebrated the baptism of 19 students at the conclusion of Adventist Education Week in August. A total of 69 students have been baptised this year. The staff have acknowledged God's leading and expressed their commitment to preparing young men and women not only for this life but for eternity. —Mele Vaihola, TPUM



BAPTISM AT NAVESAU

Forty students from Navesau Adventist High School (Fiji) were baptised on Sabbath, August 15, in the Wainibuka River, following a two-week evangelistic series conducted by school chaplain Pastor Leone Uluitoga. TPUM president Pastor Maveni Kaufononga was the guest speaker at the baptism, which was witnessed by parents, staff and students. —Record staff



AAV, THE PLACE TO BE!

During the height of COVID-19, the team at the Adventist Alpine Village (AAV) in Jindabyne, NSW, constructed a new "Mountain Bike Supa Flow" trail on the property. Manager Stan Carter hopes the trail—which is great for biking or walking and has breathtaking views—will encourage community involvement, just like their pump track and disc golf facilities have in the past. —SNSW News

Social justice: The practical component of the gospel

COVID-19 has turned our world upside down. At times like these, we look to our leaders for advice, wisdom and direction. Earlier this year, Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced a nation-wide lockdown that would restrict any movement that wasn't considered "essential". Can you guess what made it on the list of essential items? Puzzles. To quote the PM: "I can assure you that over the next few months, we're going to consider those jigsaw puzzles absolutely essential."

There are many different interpretations of the word "essential". Whilst I mightn't rate puzzles as highly as the Morrison family, I do enjoy a good puzzle! I recall spending three months tirelessly working on a 1000-piece superhero puzzle, only to realise at the end, that I was one piece short! There is something so satisfying about laying down the final piece and seeing everything come together to create a complete picture. An incomplete puzzle is like a bucket with a hole in the bottom. It's OK, it may serve some purpose, but it's not finished. And it's difficult to ignore the gap. The same can be said for a gospel message that doesn't address social justice.

One could summarise social justice as a "concept of fair and just relations between the individual and society".¹ Biblical references to the word "justice" mean "to make right". But my favourite description of social justice is from the former vice-president of World Vision, Adam Taylor, who wrote, "Social justice is about creating Kingdom space in the here and now, giving witness to the ultimate just society yet to come."²

Some Adventists believe the Church should stop wasting precious time and resources on social justice issues, and focus on "spreading the gospel" instead. Spreading the gospel is imperative—Jesus commanded His disciples to "Go into the world and preach the good news to all creation" (Mark 16:15). The "good news" is great news, the best you'll ever hear—so share it far and wide! But like a game of Chinese Whispers, failure to pay close attention to a message may result in a jumbled sentence that loses its original meaning.

IS THE CHURCH MIRRORING JESUS?

In 2017, McCrindle released a report that explored the state of Christianity in Australia.³ According to the report, 9 out of 10 Australians knew at least a few things about the life of Jesus. And the attribute of Jesus that Australians connected with the most was love.

The report revealed that perceptions of Christians and Christianity are negatively influenced by the actions and behaviours of Christians in society. In the group of

non-Christian participants surveyed, they discovered that "in spite of doubts towards Jesus, they more positively connected to Jesus than the church". Some even expressed that they felt "there is a disparity between the church and the Jesus that the church claims to represent."⁴

How could this be? If Jesus is at the centre of our message and is the cornerstone of the church, why is it when they see us (the church) they are not seeing Jesus?

THE MISSING PUZZLE PIECE

Jesus is the gospel message. His words and actions reveal that Jesus is a "practice what you preach" type of Man. Jesus paved the way. He walked the walk, so if we want to share the complete gospel message, so must we.

After all, the Bible doesn't say:

"... Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the Kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you told me about your delicious dinner, and prayed that I could find some food . . . I was a stranger and you called me a 'brother in Christ' but never visited me . . . I was sick and you pointed me to the direction of the hospital, and drove off in your car, leaving me to walk by myself. I was in prison and you forgot all about me" (read Matthew 25:31-46 for the correct version).



YOU CAN HAVE SOCIAL JUSTICE WITHOUT THE GOSPEL, BUT YOU CAN'T HAVE THE GOSPEL WITHOUT SOCIAL JUSTICE

The world is desperately craving hope, and we have a message that can give people all that their souls need. The offering of spiritual bread is what sets us apart from the crowd, but physical bread is also essential.

It's recorded in the book of Matthew that Jesus spent three days healing and preaching to large crowds near the Sea of Galilee. Before He left, Jesus said, "I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. I don't want to send them away hungry, or they may collapse on the way" (Matthew 15:32). Even after "spiritually feeding" the crowds, Jesus met their physical needs, and so must we. Otherwise, others will.

According to a 2019 Global Attitudes survey⁵, 79 per cent of Australians believe that it's unnecessary to have a belief in God in order to be a moral person and have good values. Furthermore, Australia's top five most reputable charities in 2020, according to *Fundraising and Philanthropy* magazine, have no religious affiliation at all.⁶ Yet, they are standing up to "rebuke the oppressor, defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow" (Isaiah 1:17), and they're doing it for humanity. So why, then, aren't we doing it for Jesus?

FREEDOM FOUND IN A PRACTICAL GOSPEL

I run the Social JustUs podcast with my friend Mel. In Episode 8, we interviewed a young lady named Manemma*. Manemma is a school teacher from Hyderabad, who left India for the first time ever to speak at an event in Australia run by Dignity Freedom Network (DFN).

Manemma was quite reserved at first, but once we started speaking about her role as a teacher, her face lit up! She's so passionate about educating children so they can have brighter futures. Manemma wasn't always going to be a teacher. At 12, her family planned to dedicate her as a Jogini. Joginis are young girls who are dedicated to the temple goddess and forced into a life of sexual slavery, where any man in their villages can use them whenever they want, wherever they want and for no money. The practice is heartbreaking and evil. Understandably, many Jogini's develop alcoholism to numb their pain. It's a life-long sentence, and they often have a number of children. Their daughters usually grow up to be Joginis themselves, as it's seen as their "karma" or "destiny", and their sons will grow up trapped in bonded labour.

As I spoke with this beautiful, passionate teacher, I couldn't help but wonder what life would have been like for her if it hadn't been for DFN convincing her parents to allow Manemma to live in their nurturing shelter for at-risk girls, attending one of their schools—the very school that she would teach at 10 years later.

As a Christian organisation working in India, DFN don't shout Bible passages on the streets of New Delhi, but they definitely show the love of Jesus with those on the

margins, every single day.

Social justice is the practical component of the gospel message. Jesus was the ultimate social justice Advocate, and He paved the way for you and I to be advocates too. As the world rallies together to fight against injustice, will we be on the forefront?

**Name changed for privacy*



1. "Social Justice", *Wikipedia* <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_justice>.
2. Adam Taylor, "What does social justice really mean", *World Vision* (February 20, 2020) <<https://www.worldvision.org/blog/social-justice-really-mean>>.
3. McCrindle, "Faith and Belief in Australia" (2017) <https://mccrindle.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Faith-and-Belief-in-Australia-Report_McCrindle_2017.pdf>
4. *Ibid*, p 37, 45.
5. Christine Tamir, "The global God divide", *Pew Research Centre* (July 20, 2020) <<https://www.pewresearch.org/global/2020/07/20/the-global-god-divide/>>.
6. "Australia's most reputable charity revealed", *Fundraising and Philanthropy* (February 19, 2020) <<https://www.fpmagazine.com.au/australias-most-reputable-charity-revealed-373019/>>

MICHAELA JONES

MICHAELA WORKS IN MELBOURNE AS THE NATIONAL ACQUISITION COORDINATOR FOR MAKE-A-WISH AUSTRALIA. SHE ALSO HOSTS THE SOCIAL JUSTUS PODCAST WITH MELISSA TRACINA <[SOCIALJUSTUSPODCAST.COM](https://socialjustuspodcast.com)>.

THE TEN:

ESSENTIAL LEADERSHIP QUALITIES FOUND IN BIBLICAL LEADERS



NOAH: FAITH

Taking a leap of blind faith, Noah wasn't afraid of looking foolish in front of a crowd. He was obedient to God's command to build a huge boat, despite the fact that it had never rained before on earth. And thanks to his leadership, he almost single-handedly saved the entire human race!

JOSEPH: A POSITIVE ATTITUDE

Enduring a series of unfortunate events—being sold into slavery, falsely accused of rape and left to rot in a dingy prison for 14 years—Joseph kept a positive attitude. Through his struggles, he allowed God to teach and shape him into the leader that Egypt needed.

MOSES: PATIENCE

Doing any single task for 40 years takes a lot of grit and patience, let alone leading millions of complaining people through a desert. Moses' ability to lead the Israelites calmly and confidently was thanks to his close and personal relationship with God.

JOSHUA: COURAGE THROUGH LEARNING

When Moses died, the Lord promised to be with Joshua "just as he was with Moses" and asked him to be "strong and courageous". Joshua had some big shoes to fill, but thanks to God's guidance and observing Moses' leadership closely while he was alive, he was able to lead the Israelites into the promised land.

DAVID: VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Being crowned future king by the prophet Samuel when he was just a boy, David was destined to one day lead the Israelites. Believing this gave him the courage to march into battle and defeat Goliath despite how crazy it looked. He knew that God wouldn't let him die.

DANIEL: INTEGRITY

Despite multiple tests and threats to his faith in God—the king's diet, a golden statue, a lions' den—Daniel demonstrated time and time again that no matter the political or social consequences, it is always better to have integrity and serve the King of Kings than any earthly king.

JOHN THE BAPTIST: TELLING IT LIKE IT IS

John the Baptist wasn't afraid to tell the truth, calling the Pharisees and religious leaders "a brood of vipers". By being brutally honest, John set an important precedent that Jesus continued throughout His ministry: that the gospel wasn't about appearing righteous. Rather, it was good news for the unrighteous.

JESUS: SERVANT LEADERSHIP

During His time on earth, Jesus demonstrated a leadership style that captivated crowds. By genuinely loving others, healing their diseases and ministering to their needs, it was Jesus' service that made people follow Him. This was perhaps demonstrated best when He washed His disciples' feet.

PAUL: PASSION

True leaders are passionate about the cause they support, and Paul is a fantastic example of this. Through his prolific writings, he helped transform the beliefs and culture of the modern world. And thanks to his interpretation of the gospel, millions have found eternal life thanks to his words.

PETER: RECOVERING FROM FAILURE

Despite denying Jesus three times and totally misunderstanding what the kingdom of heaven actually was, after Jesus' ascension and being asked to "feed my sheep", he became one of the most influential leaders in early Christendom.



Ruth Hodge
Writer, storyteller.

Photo credit: Maddy Voinea (bluekino.com.au)

WORDS AS THERAPY

Based between Newcastle and Port Macquarie on Australia's sunny east-coast, Ruth Hodge is a professional counsellor, writer, wordsmith and "sanctified-sass distributor" who is passionate about sharing Jesus through storytelling.

"I share God through focusing on the human struggles we all have, always told within the context of my life experiences," she says. "The death of my mother, the realisation of deep-seated trauma, the lessons learned from a trip to the grocery store—all of these are object lessons of God's great, unending love."

As a counsellor, Ruth considers writing to be a form of therapy, and a self-soothing practice.

"My main motto is not to worry about what comes out," she explains. "Just get it out. Once it's on the page (or the screen), the thoughts are there to look at, challenge, and ultimately to shape into the best expression of loving and thoughtful truth."

Beginning to write during her travels overseas, what started as a hobby not only transformed Ruth's faith journey but also her professional one.

"I wasn't always a Christian. I left the Church aged 16, and during my university years and time living abroad in France and England, I finally came back. [My blog] was a place for adventure recounts, poignant thoughts, a plethora of poetic reflections. In 2015, it became a place for me to share

Jesus. It's been that place ever since. My writing has now become a main source of income for me. So now, professionally, I am privileged to be able to write anytime and anywhere."

Ruth says her relationship with writing has developed over time, influencing and influenced by her relationship with God.

"I was initially put off by creative writing," she says. "In high school, creativity was 'assessed' and while I came up with good story concepts, I could never finish them. As the years have gone by, I've learned that true creative writing does not require an ending. The Bible itself has no ending, really. It speaks more so of a new beginning! I want my writing to reflect that."

"It's as though in my creative practice I give myself grace to simply say what I need to get out of my head. In the privacy of early drafts, I am heard by my Maker. That brings me closer to Him. I also feel as I share with an audience of more than God Himself, others in their comments or responses often challenge me, deepen my thoughts and overall continue the conversation that has really only just begun."

To read Ruth's writing, you can follow her on Instagram @strewthrewth, visit her blog <strewthrewth.blogspot.com> or website <wordswithruth.co>.

MARYELLEN FAIRFAX
ASSISTANT EDITOR, ADVENTIST RECORD

LIVING HIS WORD

WITH GARY WEBSTER

BETHABARA AND THE WORLD'S GREAT NEED

The world desperately needs revived Spirit-filled church members. From His baptism, Christ was filled with the Holy Spirit and thus equipped for mission. His baptism reveals how we too are to be filled with the Spirit for mission.

READ Luke 3:21,22; 4:1,14,15; Acts 1:8.

Firstly, by being baptised He was signifying His acceptance of that to which baptism points—His death to take away sin and His resurrection for new life. Through our baptism of faith in His death and resurrection, we too receive the Spirit.

READ Romans 6:1-6; Colossians 2:11-13; John 7:37-39; Acts 2:38.

Secondly, just as His turning from His own will in obedient submission to the will of God resulted in the Spirit coming on Him, so the Spirit comes on us when we turn from all known sin and are obedient to God.

READ Matthew 3:15; Acts 2:38; 5:32.

Finally, His earnest prayer rent the heavens and brought the Spirit on Him. So too does earnest and sincere personal and corporate prayer bring the Spirit on us. Since God is longing to fill each of us with His Spirit, let us fulfil the conditions on which this promise is to be received.

READ Luke 3:21,22; 11:13; Acts 1:4,13,14; 2:1-4; 4:31.



RUINS OF ANCIENT CHAPELS IN JORDAN ON THE JORDAN RIVER AT THE SITE BELIEVED TO BE BETHABARA WHERE JESUS WAS BAPTISED.

The lesser controversy:

DRUMS IN CHURCH

Drums in church. These words have provoked everything from mild disagreements to bitter schisms. Conscious of the cultural divisions, I will attempt to offer a biblically-based perspective on the instrument. This perspective is informed by my experience as a professional drummer and one who has played in many churches over the past 13 years. The article begins with a brief history of the drums.¹

THE MODERN DRUM SET

The drum set is not one instrument; it is a collection of instruments. The drum set consists of cymbals made from metal blends and drums made from wood over which a synthetic or animal skin is stretched. The drums as we know them—thought of conceptually as one instrument—only came about in the early 1900s. The drum set's inception was made possible when the German-American Ludwig brothers popularised the first commercially successful pedals that drummers operate with their feet. Before this point, drums and cymbals were played separately by different musicians. Individually, these instruments date back to ancient times.

DRUMS AND CYMBALS IN THE BIBLE

Drums and cymbals are mentioned many times in the Bible. The ancient biblical drums were timbrels and tambourines. A timbrel is a wooden

frame drum with an animal skin stretched over it. A tambourine adds metal jingles to the wooden frame. Exodus 15:20 and Psalm 81:23 tell us that these drums were struck with sticks and beat with hands. Psalm 150:54 indicates that cymbals in Bible times were clashed against each other.

A common use for drums and cymbals in the Bible was worship. Here are a few texts that highlight this:

Exodus 15:20,21*

Then Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took the timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances. And Miriam answered them: "Sing to the Lord, For He has triumphed gloriously! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea!"

1 Samuel 10:5

After that you shall come to the hill of God where the Philistine garrison is. And it will happen, when you have come there to the city, that you will meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place with a stringed instrument, a tambourine, a flute, and a harp before them; and they will be prophesying.

2 Samuel 6:5

Then David and all the house of

Israel played music before the Lord on all kinds of instruments of fir wood, on harps, on stringed instruments, on tambourines, on sistrams, and on cymbals.

1 Chronicles 13:8

Then David and all Israel played music before God with all their might, with singing, on harps, on stringed instruments, on tambourines, on cymbals, and with trumpets.

1 Chronicles 15:28

Thus all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the Lord with shouting and with the sound of the horn, with trumpets and with cymbals, making music with stringed instruments and harps.

1 Chronicles 25:1

Moreover David and the captains of the army separated for the service some of the sons of Asaph, of Heman, and of Jeduthun, who should prophesy with harps, stringed instruments, and cymbals.

2 Chronicles 5:12-14

... and the Levites who were the singers, all those of Asaph and Heman and Jeduthun, with their sons and their brethren, stood at the east end of the altar, clothed in white linen, having cymbals, stringed instruments and harps, and with them one hundred and twenty priests



sounding with trumpets—indeed it came to pass, when the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the Lord, and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the Lord . . .

2 Chronicles 29:25

And he stationed the Levites in the house of the Lord with cymbals, with stringed instruments, and with harps, according to the commandment of David, of Gad the king's seer, and of Nathan the prophet; for thus was the commandment of the Lord by His prophets.

Ezra 3:10

When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the Lord, the priests stood in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, to praise the Lord, according to the ordinance of David king of Israel.

Nehemiah 12:27

Now at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought out the Levites in all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem to celebrate the dedication with gladness, both with thanksgivings and singing, with cymbals and stringed instruments and harps.

Psalms 68:25

The singers went before, the players on instruments followed after; Among them were the maidens playing timbrels.

Psalms 81:1,2

Sing aloud to God our strength; Make a joyful shout to the God of Jacob.

Raise a song and strike the timbrel, The pleasant harp with the lute.

Psalms 149:3

Let them praise His name with the dance; Let them sing praises to Him with the timbrel and harp.

Psalms 150:4,5

Praise Him with the timbrel and dance;

Praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes!

Praise Him with loud cymbals;

Praise Him with clashing cymbals!

Jeremiah 31:4

Again I will build you, and you shall be rebuilt, O virgin of Israel! You shall again be adorned with your tambourines, And shall go forth in the dances of those who rejoice.

THE REAL REASON FOR THE CONTROVERSY

If drums are biblical, why do people condemn them? In my experience, the following three reasons are most common.

1. Bad experience

The drums can easily be played badly; they can be played too loudly, out of time, or with too many fills and flourishes. An unskilled drummer can disrupt the musical worship experience of churchgoers. For some, one such bad experience can be enough to condemn the instrument. Even so, other instruments heard in church can be played badly in the same manner. There is no inherent problem with the instrument; the defect lies in the player's ability. The skilled drummer can tastefully accompany even most hymns.

2. Bad association

Many Adventists associate the drums with music that leads people astray from God. Certainly the drums can be used to worship Satan. But so can the organ, the guitar or the piano. The Bible shows that the wicked use exactly the same instruments as the righteous.⁵ What distinguishes the use of an instrument is the heart of the player. Is he or she playing with the intention of worshipping God?

3. Condemning any music in which drums are used as a matter of principle

Holding such an opinion is a matter of taste not Scripture. Unlike the Bible,

taste changes, music changes and musical instruments change. I dare say that many of us would describe ancient Israelite music—music used to worship God—as a dissonant jangling and clanking. One of the reasons for this is that the Western method of tuning that divides the octave into equal intervals was only widely adopted in the 18th century.⁶ Biblical music would have sounded "out of tune". Likewise, it is doubtful that the Israelites would have appreciated our hymns, songs or modern instruments.

CONCLUSION

There can be no doubt that the use of drums and cymbals in worship is found in the Bible. The many passages I have cited prove this. I would urge those who condemn the drum set to not place culture and musical taste above Scripture. I would urge drummers who play badly to get lessons. Instead of throwing rocks at a particular instrument, our focus should be on making music that glorifies God and is presented before Him with skill.

**All Bible passages are quoted from the NKJV.*

1. This article uses the terms "drums" and "drum set" interchangeably.
2. "Then Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took the timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances" (Exodus 15:20).
3. "Raise a song and strike the timbrel, The pleasant harp with the lute" (Psalms 81:2).
4. "Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with clashing cymbals!" (Psalms 150:5).
5. Job's discourse on the wicked describes the wicked using the same instruments the Israelites used in worship: "They [the wicked] sing to the tambourine and harp, And rejoice to the sound of the flute" (Job 21:12).
6. Encyclopaedia Britannica, "Equal temperament" <<https://www.britannica.com/art/equal-temperament>>.

DANIEL FABER

DANIEL FABER HOLDS A BACHELOR OF MUSIC WITH FIRST CLASS HONOURS AND IS ALSO A GRADUATE LAWYER. HIS DRUMMING HAS BEEN HEARD ON NATIONAL RADIO AND TELEVISION.

MAKING CHAI TO MAKE DISCIPLES



For many Adventists, sharing the gospel message is a challenge. First, there's the barrier of living in a post-truth world. In Western countries especially, a collective, piecemeal approach to truth-getting means it's becoming harder to argue or uphold an objective moral truth, especially when this truth may seem inconvenient, is not easily explained or requires behavioural change.

Second, there's the barrier of being a "Seventh-day Adventist". Although we hold a beautiful, evidence-based worldview and promote an attractive lifestyle, even just the word "Christian" or "Adventist" can conjure up negative—or even cult-like—images in secular minds.

Third, there is the barrier of attention. Although in theory social media and digital platforms are making it easier than ever to share the gospel, algorithms, content oversaturation and an attention economy paradigm are making it increasingly difficult to

be seen online, let alone get meaningful engagement.

In this confusing cultural environment, many Adventists have found themselves unsure of whether to share their faith full throttle at the risk of scaring off potential seekers, or to hold back and water down the gospel, or to even share it at all. And fear of rejection, burnout and lack of engagement are all common experiences.

And yet, drowning out this sea of discouraged churchgoers, are people—Christians, Adventists—whose peaceful presence is comforting and whose words attract, inspire and convert. There are pastors, creatives and laypeople who seem to overcome the barriers to faith-sharing so effortlessly. So, what makes these people different? What's their secret?

Recently, I had the privilege of interviewing Kevin Wilson, an associate pastor from Oceanside Seventh-day Adventist Church in California, USA, to ask this very question. His rapidly growing TikTok platform (@crossculturechristian) has more than 120,000 followers and attracts people

from all faiths and walks of life. And his strategy is simple: he makes videos about making chai and shares Jesus in the process. And people love it. Fascinated by his success and engagement, I had to find out more.

What's the story behind your brand, "Cross Culture Christian"?

In the past 30 years, I've moved so much. I have been to about 13 different countries and lived in four—I was born in Sri Lanka, was in Lebanon for a bit, then Oman and now the United States. I'm what they call a "third culture kid", spending significant parts of my development in different parts of the world. It really affects your idea of home, relationships, spirituality. So that cross-cultural side of my heritage has been a consistent thing for me, hence the name. But another constant throughout my cross-cultural experience has been my relationship with Jesus. I'm literally a cross-culture Christian—from different cultures, following Christ in the process. But it also has this sense that the cross is the ultimate bridge-builder between these cultures as well. So, the name itself has several different meanings.

Most of your recent videos are about making or drinking chai—why chai?

Chai is such an important beverage in my culture. Growing up, my earlier and fondest memories are around my dad making chai for us in the mornings. When I moved to the States by myself at 18, I wanted to hold onto routines and symbols from my heritage as much as I could. I really felt disoriented and out of place. Chai became a “feast of attention” for me. It grounds me; the whole practice from start to finish I really look forward to. A lot of my friends know that I make it, so they’d ask for it. But it wasn’t until about six months ago that this whole thing kind of blew up.

Tell me about your TikTok—why do you think people love chai so much?

Six months ago, I posted a video of my chai-making process to TikTok and it blew up. In a month I went from 200 to 20,000 followers. My most watched video now has about a million views. So I started making more videos of my chai-making process and people loved it. I didn’t talk about Jesus, God or anything. It was just me making chai. But in my TikTok bio it said “Disciple. Pastor. Husband.”, so people knew I was Christian.

In the videos I was just being sarcastic and dumb. I’d poke fun at Starbucks and their chai-tea lattes. It was hilarious but I was just being who I am. I wasn’t trying to manufacture a persona. I had people commenting and saying stuff like, “I wish you were my youth pastor, my brother, friend. You’re so encouraging!”. I didn’t plan on being any of this stuff. I was like, “Wait, this is insane,” because I realised that a lot of my followers and people saying this stuff were secular, non-Adventists, atheists, non-Christians.

Why do you think you’ve been able to achieve so much genuine engagement, especially when people aren’t always receptive to Christian content online?

Well, I thought that this whole thing blew up because it was about chai, and it is, but over time it has become so much more. People need a place where they feel seen and heard, a place where they feel comfortable to listen and soak in positivity. I like what one author calls it: a “non-anxious presence”.

I made a video about chai and racism that went viral. It was about crushing the spices in chai—spices are meant to be crushed but people aren’t. And I didn’t say all this stuff despite my belief system but *because* of it. People were shocked that it came from a Christian, which is sobering from a reputation standpoint.

You see, there’s a Christian TikTok nook, and Christian TikTok for me—even as a pastor—can be very discouraging because there’s this rhetoric, “I know the truth and everything there is to know about reality and you have to believe my version of truth, and if you don’t you’ll burn in hell.” So, a lot of my followers come to me and say, “Wait, you’re a Christian on TikTok but I like it here . . . why is that?” It’s because I don’t preach that message.

Some Adventists reading this or watching your videos may accuse you of “watering down the gospel” in order to be popular. What would you say to them?

I’m expecting these criticisms, but there are two quotes from Ellen White in the *Ministry of Healing* (MHH73.4, MHH 74.4) where she talks about “Christ’s method alone”. I don’t think Jesus went around ministering to people with an expectation that He needed to make people believers. That wasn’t His motivation for ministry. His motivation was just straight up people. He was genuinely interested in them. And as a result, people were enamoured by Him, begging Him for more, and they followed Him.

A lot of people use these quotes by Ellen White to justify this thing called “friendship evangelism”, which I have some issues with. You’re attaching an agenda. You’re not making friendship the goal. Something else is the goal,

HOW TO

SHARE YOUR FAITH MORE EFFECTIVELY

- 1 Find something you’re passionate about and share it with others.



- 2 Be authentically you. People can spot a fake from a mile away.

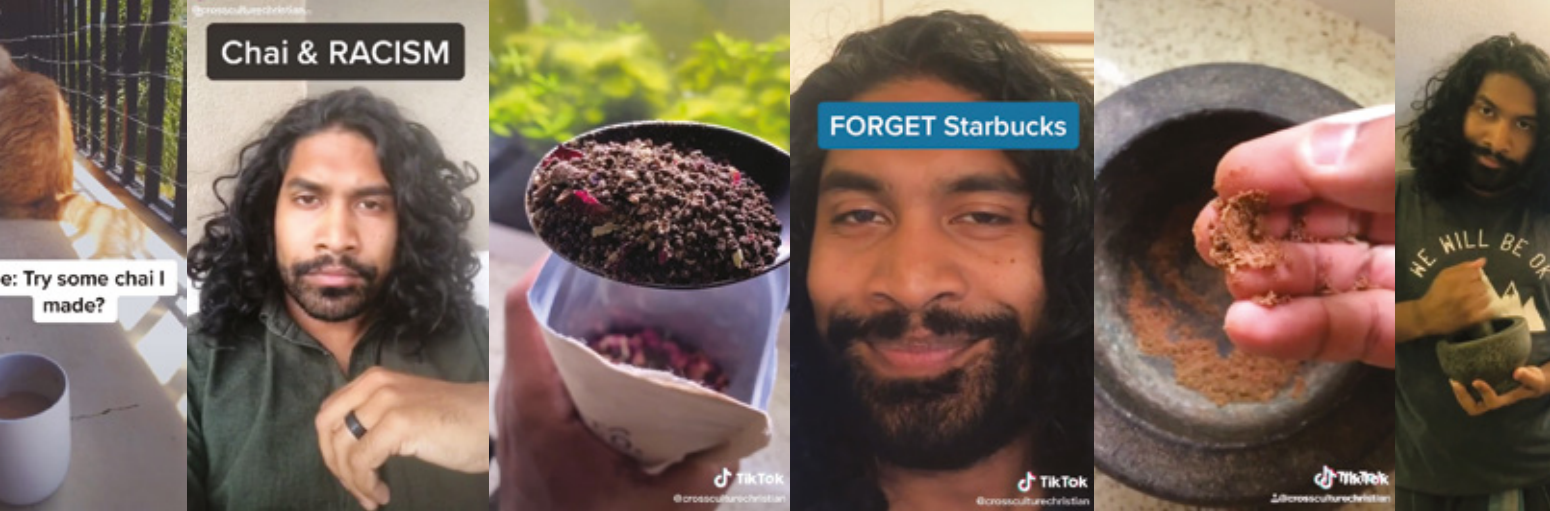


- 3 Intentionally practice being a non-anxious presence.



- 4 Show genuine interest in people. Treat their stories as sacred.





and in the process, you're distorting the beauty of friendship. It's hard for a lot of people—bless their hearts—who think the way to deal with that culture is to be straight up, honest, bold, obvious, overt about your faith, but right now we need to play the long game. I'm not doing it to convert them. I'm doing it because I love it and I want to hear their stories. They're not a sum of body parts or a social media post. They're real stories with real pasts and people need to be reminded of that.

What advice do you have for people who want to reach people and share their faith—either in person or online—and be genuine about it?

I usually tell them they have a story. I tell them to dig deep and spend some time thinking about who they are. What makes them tick? What makes them go? What are they really interested in or passionate about? We've come to a place where the best argument for Adventism has to be—must be—the authentic, loved and lived experience of human beings. But in order to showcase and share that love with people, you need to find something you love and go for it. For me, it's chai.

Evangelism is simply showing up where God has already shown up. The Holy Spirit is amongst us. And if He is, then are we so narrow-minded to think that He will only work on people who have already accepted Jesus Christ? What is our theology? God is working amongst people that you have no idea about. This should liberate you

as a person to share your faith.

Previously, you mentioned the importance of being a “non-anxious presence”. How do you do this when social media is a place that seems to breed anxiety?

We live in an ecosystem—an attention economy—that doesn't prioritise our spiritual, emotional or physical formation, let alone in the way of Jesus. That's not even on the radar. I'm talking from a corporation's perspective here—Facebook, Instagram. They're not as interested in the person you become as much as they are in getting you to watch their stuff. I think the way of Jesus—if you look at what He did in the Gospels—He was calm and collected, even from an atheist's perspective. He wasn't reactive or agitated by Rome or the empire. He had a mission, truth and moved forward.

A core part of being an Adventist is to reflect that non-anxious presence in your life. The way you do that in my experience is to spend time with Jesus and reflect on Scripture. Reflection is an act of resistance and a protest against the attention economy. When you pause, you are squaring up against the attention-sucking forces out there. The world needs more of that right now, more evidence of that. If people see you—a Christian, Adventist—agitated, reactive, angry or mean all the time, then why would they ever want to turn to Christianity?

Are there any other thoughts or messages you'd like to challenge us with as we close?

One thing I really want to reiterate

is that today, more than ever before, we need to see evidence of something higher in the lived experiences of people. Gone are the days when we can expect people to change just because they have the right information. The right information does not lead to the right formation. Just because you teach people how to live the truth won't change them. They will change because they want to change, catalysed by your care, compassion and love. Rather than starting from a place of superiority, ask yourself: “What if I saw people as stories?” Be genuinely curious about people. Being curious and compassionate will not compromise who you are or what you believe. That's the very least of what you can do.

If you are really threatened by “the other” impacting your belief system simply because you're open to learning from them, either a) you've made an idol out of your theology, or b) you've misunderstood the incarnation of Jesus altogether. The incarnation of God as Jesus Christ of Nazareth is the ultimate display of becoming a servant to “the other”, even and especially if they are “in the wrong”. The least we can do as Christians is to listen, be open and learn from people. That's the bottom line, that's ground zero.

To connect with Kevin, you can follow him on TikTok, Instagram or YouTube @crossculturechristian, or visit his website <crossculturechristian.com/>.

MARYELLEN FAIRFAX
ASSISTANT EDITOR, ADVENTIST RECORD



LOOKING AFTER YOUR MENTAL HEALTH?

When you're feeling physically unwell, looking after yourself is straightforward. You take time off work to rest and recuperate. But if you are mentally exhausted or struggling, the options aren't as clear. With one in five Australians and Kiwis affected by mental illness, ensuring you know the signs that something isn't right is more important than ever.

WHAT ARE THE WARNING SIGNS?

It can be hard to put your hand up and say "I need help", which is why keeping an eye on the key signs that someone (or you) might be struggling is so important. Some warning signs are recurring physical symptoms like headaches or stomach aches, or realising your moods are often low.

With friends or family, you might see changes in their behaviours such as withdrawing from social situations.

WHAT ARE SOME PRACTICAL TIPS I CAN TRY TO HELP SUPPORT MY MENTAL HEALTH?

Be kind to yourself—eat well, sleep well and exercise. Stay socially connected and find that special thing that keeps you going. Go for a walk outside, a dip in the ocean, whatever will make you feel recharged.

Food matters too! Make sure you're eating a balanced diet full of fruits and veggies. Here are three more food tips:

1. Include foods rich in omega-3 fatty acids.

The type of fats you eat can have a profound effect on your brain function. The cells that transmit signals in the brain are unusually rich in omega-3 fats, meaning this fat is really important. Try linseeds, walnuts or omega-3 enriched eggs.

2. Drink plenty of water.

Aim for at least eight glasses daily. Adequate water is needed to keep brain cells functioning optimally.

3. Get friendly with fermented foods. Healthy gut, healthy mind.

Fermented foods containing probiotics help to reduce stress. Fermented foods include yoghurt with active cultures, kefir, tempeh and sauerkraut.



Sesame ramen noodles

Often described as "soul in a bowl", this Japanese broth with fresh veggies, noodles and tofu is a great pick-me-up. It takes just 15 minutes to make and will easily become a weeknight favourite.

Find this recipe and hundreds more at:

Australia: sanitarium.com.au/recipes
New Zealand: sanitarium.co.nz/recipes



TIPS TO SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH



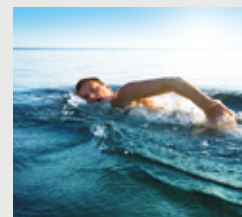
HAVE A GOOD BREAKFAST

It will refuel your brain, lift your mood and lower stress levels. Breakfast is brain food!



EAT FOODS RICH IN B VITAMINS

Vitamin B12, and folate in particular, can assist with low mood and depression. These vitamins can be found in wholegrain breads and high-fibre breakfast cereals, green leafy vegetables, soy beans and other legumes, sunflower seeds, and low-fat dairy or B12-fortified soy milk.



ACTIVATE YOURSELF

Go for a walk outside or take a dip in the ocean, whatever will make you feel recharged. Walk daily to boost your self-esteem, distract yourself from negative thought processes and help you sleep better.





After a year in Antioch the Holy Spirit speaks to the Christians, telling them to set apart Paul and Barnabas for the work God has called them to do. The Christians fast and pray before laying hands on the two men and sending them off. God sends Paul and Barnabas as messengers of His grace. They go first to Cyprus and witness to the proconsul. When Elymas the sorcerer tries to turn the proconsul against the faith, Paul tells him he will lose his sight for a while.



A large rectangular maze with a black and white line drawing of a person in a long robe at the top left and a book with a cross at the bottom right. The maze contains various letters and words.

Letters and words found in the maze:

- Top left: H, O, Y, L, S, P, I, R, S
- Top center: P, E, T, A, P, A, L
- Top right: O, R, A, B, T, R, A, S, S, B
- Middle: S, T, I, R, A, L, S, A, S, W, O, C, L, E, D
- Bottom: S, P, A, L, S, B



“The _____ said, ‘_____ for me _____ and _____ for the _____ to which I have _____ them’” Acts 13:2

JOY UNSPEAKABLE

I would like to comment on "Old Time Adventism" (August 15).

I too can recall sermons from the past. I remember in 1947 being told during a sermon on Daniel 2, "The Lord will come very soon because Europe will never arise from the ashes."

I remember a "health sermon" in 1949 wherein the pastor condemned each condiment in turn with the phrase "what must it do brethren, what must it do". When he ran out of condiments, the sermon was over. Then of course in the early '60s there were sermons regarding American politics. We were told many times, this will be the last American president, the Sunday laws are almost upon us and we can expect persecution shortly after. However, an assassin's bullet ruined that theory and then there was more than one sermon telling us the Lord could see His people were not yet ready to face the test.

In 1968 a new pastor gave us a sermon dealing with music, in which he urged us to never listen to music written in a minor key. He assured us all minor music was of the devil and major keys were a gift from God although often corrupted. The '70s brought sermons urging us to perfect our characters; again diet was brought to the fore in this idea. When we were perfect, we could expect to see the Lord's return.

I ask the question, where was the gospel in all of the above? I cannot remember ever hearing that Christ died to save sinners of whom I am chief (1 Timothy 1:15). However, in 1980 someone rediscovered the gospel just as it was rediscovered in 1888. Because of that discovery, "joy unspeakable" broke out in the pews and that joy, praise and thanksgiving comes down to this day. May it continue to do so until the "day of the Lord dawns".

Peter Williams, Qld



PULL BACK THE VEIL

Powerful words in "Be like Jesus. Be less nice." (August 15)—the veil of "nice", the veil of moralistic therapeutic deism, the veil of cultural Christianity. What a personal challenge to truly have the Spirit live in us, to do the deep abiding work. Really well written and appreciate this so much!

Martin van Rensburg, via Facebook

RUFFLED FEATHERS

Re: "Be like Jesus. Be less nice" (August 15).

Jesus used the skill of being assertive well. He ruffled feathers but incredibly He also showed great compassion. But what really goes unnoticed was His attention was never aimed at people. He was focused

on the circumstances. If you read, you will find He always spoke with respect to a person's identity.

Donna Moss, via Facebook

#RECORDLIVE

Editor's note: The following comments were left on a Live Adventist Record Facebook interview with Trans Pacific Union Mission (TPUM) president Pastor Mavani Kaufononga (August 26). Pastor Kaufononga shared exciting news about the TPUM harvest programs, how they evolved their programs to cope with COVID-19, how discipleship is being passed on to young people and new members this year, and the Union's strategies for soul winning.

The interviews usually

take place at 4pm AEST, are about 45 minutes long and cover a diverse range of topics and guests. We are now uploading the content to our YouTube channel so they can be viewed by those who do not have Facebook. Although interviews are livestreamed, they can also be viewed later. Please jump on and join the conversations.

Excellent and inspiring session and thank you Pastor Mavani for the wonderful work that is happening in the TPUM area. May God continue to bless you and your team as you lead God's people.

Teera Pita

Watching all the way from Vanuatu. In Vanuatu

we are so fortunate to access Hope Channel sermons every Sabbath recently.

Wilz Cent

The Rennell and Bellona Province, Solomon Islands, had a first-ever big baptism [during this year's TPUM Harvest program].

Newman Tagoseeha

NOTE: Views in "Have your say" do not necessarily represent those of the editors or the denomination. Comments should be less than 250 words, and writers must include their name, address and phone number. All comments are edited to meet space and literary requirements, but the author's original meaning will not be changed. Not all comments received are published.

Obituaries

BEHRENS, Milton, born 2.2.1930 in Albany, WA; died 13.8.20 in Murwillumbah, NSW. On 6.12.1957 he married Phyllis. Milton is survived by his wife; his children, Jillian and Peter Brown (Murwillumbah), Cheryl and Mark Mackay (ACT), Geoffrey and Heather (Murwillumbah, NSW); brother, Vernon (Murwillumbah); five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Milton was known for his love of God's nature, from the love of birds to wildflowers, so it wasn't surprising that he joined Pathfinders when his children were of age. His love of music also had him involved in the audio section of church and the recording of sermons.

Craville Tooley, Steve Teale



CURNUCK, Maureen, born 16.11.1946 in England; died 27.7.20 in Gold Coast University Hospital following a motor vehicle accident. She was predeceased by her husband, Harold; her son, Stephen and brother, Roy. Maureen is survived by her son, Bruce and daughter-in-law, Beth; grandchildren, Josiah, Isaac, Ireland and Cherith (all of USA); and brother, Ted. Maureen was, until her recent accident, the leader and well-respected matriarch of the Coffs Coast Church Company.

Abel Iorgulescu, Bob Manners, Luke Reeves

DYDULA, Ludwik, born 8.6.1934; died 25.7.20. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; son, Paul and Vivien; daughter, Annette and Jake; and grandchildren, Jasmine, Melissa, Isabella and Sofia. Ludwik loved God, family, church, music and food. Now awaiting the day when we sit in the presence of the Lord forever.

Trevor Mawer

HUGHES, Lynette Jean (Kilpatrick), born 1.1.1945; died 17.3.20. On 11.4.1966 she married Allan. Lynette is survived by her husband; three children; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Greg Campling

NICHOLLS, Eileen Maud (Adams), born 26.4.1931 in Melbourne, Vic; died 5.6.20 in Box Hill Hospital. On 11.5.1954 she married John, who predeceased her in 2010. She was also predeceased by her brother, Billy Adams. Eileen is survived

by sons, Ken (Melbourne) and Stephen (Mildura); daughter, Ruth Jones (Box Hill); grandchildren, Jonathan, Jason and Kristen Alicastro; great-granddaughter, Sienna (all of Mildura); and siblings, Norman Adams (Black Creek, NSW), Iris Landa (Riverside, California) and Janet Zeuschner (Bonnells Bay, NSW). Eileen was a woman of faith, and believed in a loving God. She believed in the certainty of the gospel and looked forward to the second coming of Jesus. Eileen's faith and her church fellowship were enduring pillars in her life.

Malcolm Reid, Lorelli Bow

OTTO, Stephen Andrew, born 17.11.1958 in Ayr, Qld; died 16.6.20 in Ayr Hospital after a two year battle with cancer. Stephen is survived by his wife, Deanna; children, Kirsty and Melissa; his four grandchildren; his parents, Allen and Sylvia; and his siblings, Susan, Kevin and Leanne. Stephen loved God and was an active member of his local church. Throughout his illness his hope, trust and faith was in God and his Redeemer Jesus. He was greatly loved by his family and is sadly missed, but sleeps awaiting resurrection morning. How we long for that day, even so, come Lord Jesus, Come.

Esava Koro

REYNOLDS, Muriel Colleen, born 23.8.1923; died 30.4.20 in Wyong, NSW. Muriel is survived by her sons, Dennis and Johnny; daughter, Carol; grandchildren, Benjamin, Melissa, Michelle, Emily, Alison and Hannah; and brother, Ray. Muriel, a committed Christian, enjoyed reading and discussing the Bible's messages on living the spirit-filled Christian life. She also found joy in studying the Bible's prophetic messages about end-time events and longed for the time when Jesus would return. Muriel was an avid reader of informative books encouraging spiritual growth and the sharing of Christianity with others.

David Hay



RICHARDS, Kitty, born 1.1.1938 in the Gibson Desert; died 13.4.20. She was married to Paddy who predeceased her. Kitty was also predeceased by her sons, Edward, Colin and Graham. She is survived by her son, Bruce, and extended family. She lived a traditional nomadic life until she was about 15. In

the mid-1950s she came into the Wiluna Aboriginal Mission. She responded to the call of Jesus and was baptised at the Mission. Kitty, along with her husband Paddy, worked on various stations. Kitty loved her Lord and was a loyal and faithful member of Wiluna Church. She enjoyed attending Karalundi Camp. Sharon Anderson lovingly cared for her in her final years at Bondini. We look forward to seeing Kitty's smile and the twinkle in her eye again when Jesus comes.

Robyne Brim, Don Fehlberg



SLADE, Eric, born 6.4.1927 in Wagga Wagga, NSW; died 6.8.20 in Adventist

Care, Rossmoyne, WA. On 22.11.1959 he married Joyce Doyle. Eric is survived by his children, Gray and Annette (Perth), Cheryl and Don Piercey (Esperance), and Peter and Cheryl (Perth); eight grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. Eric was a quiet achiever who had many practical skills. His skills as a builder, brick layer and plumber were used to support his family, and he was always willing to assist others and his church with those skills. He had a love for music and singing which he encouraged in his family. Eric maintained a resolute trust in Jesus Christ and His Word throughout all the joys and challenges of life. He died in the confidence of a resurrection to eternal life by his Saviour Jesus.

Roger Millist, John Piercey



TAYLOR, Pastor Walter Frederick, born 30.11.1917 in Costerfield, Vic; died 16.7.20 in Kings Langley, NSW. On 5.9.1940 he married Edna (nee Forster), who predeceased him in 1997. Wal is survived by his daughter, Val and Allan Hillier (Sydney); grandchildren, Fleur Llewelyn (Melbourne, Vic) and Dwight Hillier (Sydney, NSW); his great-grandchildren, Teagan, Zara, Hamish and Joshua; and his sister, Jean Toepfer (Coooranbong). Wal served the Church in literature evangelism and ABC management. His ordination was a serious lifetime commitment. His overwhelming passion was sharing the love of Jesus. Edna was an outstanding support as they served in ministry in Vic, NSW, Qld and at the Trans Tasman Union Conference in Sydney as well as at the Sanitarium Health Food as

a company chaplain. Wal was a positive, happy, generous person who loved people, giving practical help and cheer wherever he could.

Eric Greenwell, David McKibben

WALTERS, Richard, born 14.4.1940 in Ilkeston, UK; died 15.8.20 in Williamstown, Vic. On 7.1.1957 he married Kaye. Richard is survived by his wife (Taylors Hill); daughter, Michelle and Mick; son, Mark and Park (all of Taylors Hill); and grandchildren, Angelic, William, Catherine and Alisha (all of Taylors Hill). Richard will be loved always and he will be missed. His smile and gentle nature, his love for his Lord and for his family shone forth. Looking forward to Jesus' soon return.

Malcolm Reid, Barry Eales



WRANKMORE, Daphne (nee Noonan), born 21.6.1931 in Beverley, WA; died 29.7.20 in Adventist Care, Rossmoyne. On 7.8.1954 she married Henry (Harry), who predeceased her in 2019. Daphne is survived by her children, Lynette Snyder (Perth), Marie Alford (Sunshine Coast, Qld), Helen Dyson (Perth, WA), Peter (Gosford, NSW), Alan (Bunbury, WA) and Trevor (Boston, USA); 10 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and sisters, Isobel and Verna (both of Perth). Daphne was a resourceful homemaker and mother who provided generously for her family and many others through her cooking, sewing and knitting skills. She loved children and was involved in children's ministry and Pathfinders throughout her life. She found in Jesus her comfort and support.

Roger Millist

ADVERTISING

SIGNS OF THE TIMES AND RECORD ON CD

The SPD's Christian Services for the Blind and Hearing Impaired produces a monthly audio compendium of articles from *Record*, *Adventist World* and *Signs of the Times*, along with the Sabbath school lessons, for the vision impaired. If you or someone you know could benefit from this service, write or email Christian Services including your details and postal address. Email <CSFBHI@adventistmedia.org.au> or write to CSFBHI, Locked Bag 1115, Wahroonga NSW 2076. For the legally blind in Australia and New Zealand,

CSFBHI also has a large library of Christian and denominational books available. If you know someone who could use this service, suggest it to them. We're ready to help.

ABSOLUTE CARE FUNERALS

The Adventist family owned and operated business, caring for you from Sydney to Newcastle and Wollongong. Contact Arne Neirinckx, who understands our Adventist philosophy. Contact us

on 1300 982 803 or 0408 458 452 or <arne@absolutecarefunerals.com.au> even if you have already paid for your funeral.

ALLROUND TRAVEL

International & Group Travel Specialists. Great programs in 2021—to be advertised late September. Contact: Anita E at <alltrav@bigpond.net.au>.

NEXT ISSUE: ADVENTIST RECORD, OCTOBER 3

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POSITIONS VACANT

BIBLE WORKER

HAMILTON, NEW ZEALAND

We are looking for a God-led Bible worker to provide support to the Hillcrest International Seventh-day Adventist Church plant, situated on the Waikato University campus in Hamilton, NZ. The successful applicant would ideally be able to integrate into the diverse culture of the community and relate to different nationalities in a confident manner. A theological qualification and experience or an excellent grasp of biblical doctrine is highly desirable, for the successful applicant will also have the opportunity to provide preaching support to the Hillcrest church plant. Register your expression of interest to Daniel McKibben <danielmckibben@adventist.org.nz>.

FINANCIAL OFFICER/GENERAL SECRETARY

NORTHERN AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE, TOWNSVILLE, QLD

The Northern Australian Conference Appointments Committee is seeking expressions of interest for the position of chief financial officer/general secretary (CFO/GS) for the Northern Australian Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The CFO/GS works in partnership with the Conference president in meeting and delivering the strategic plan of the Conference. The CFO part of the role is responsible for financial oversight and management of financial resources and assets of the Conference, including management of finance, retail, property management, campground and delivery of capital works. The GS part of the role is responsible for governance and legislative compliance, including Adsafe, Human Resources (HR), Work Health and Safety (WHS), policies, minutes, and Conference office manager. The role is supported by a competent office team. Expressions of interest should be addressed to the chairman of the Northern Australian Conference Appointments Committee, Pastor Jorge Munoz, and sent to <AUCPresident@adventist.org.au>.

Applications close September 30, 2020 at 5pm (AEST).

GRAPHIC DESIGNER (MATERNITY LEAVE COVER)

ADVENTIST MEDIA, WAHROONGA, NSW

Adventist Media is looking for a full-time or part-time graphic designer to join the editorial team to fill a maternity relief role for 12 months, with the ability to start in January 2021. In this role you will be preparing designs for both print and digital production, with the main focus on the design and layout of magazines produced by Adventist Media. The successful applicant will have tertiary qualifications in graphic design or a related discipline, previous experience in a similar role, an advanced level of skill and knowledge of Adobe Creative Suite especially InDesign, Photoshop and Illustrator, high level organisational skills, including the ability to prioritise tasks in order to meet strict deadlines, a high standard of attention to detail,

excellent communication and interpersonal skills with the ability to work with people at all levels. For more information on the position visit <employment.adventistchurch.com>. To apply, please send your resume and portfolio to Tracey Bridcutt <traceybridcutt@adventist-media.org.au>. **Applications close October 31, 2020.**

COOK/CHEF

STUARTS POINT CONVENTION CENTRE & YARRAHAPINNI YOUTH CENTRE

This is a live-in role and the successful applicant will have the option to take residence in the house at the Youth Centre. An exciting opportunity exists for an experienced cook/chef at Stuarts Point Convention Centre and Yarrahapinni Adventist Youth Centre. Our facilities, located on the mid-north coast of NSW, cater for a range of guests with groups ranging from 30 people up to several hundred. We host groups from school-aged children, church group families, ministerial teams and celebratory functions. You must have a passion for healthy cuisine and skill in preparing and cooking vegetarian and kosher meals for all age groups. We are offering an attractive package for the right applicant for an initial 12-month period with the possibility of extending the role to a more permanent arrangement. For further information or to apply, please call (02) 4944 3285 or send your resume along with references and other relevant documentation to <glennhoussenlog@adventist.org.au>. **Applications close September 31, 2020.**

DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY OPERATIONS AND STRATEGY

ADVENTIST TECHNOLOGY, SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION, WAHROONGA, NSW

The Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Limited is seeking a highly talented technology leader to transform the Church's digital, information governance, information and communication technology (ICT) strategies and capabilities, in order to achieve the Church's mission and improve its operational effectiveness. This will be achieved by partnering with key Church leadership, technology customers and the resources of Adventist Technology. As director of technology operations and strategy, you will be adept at strategic planning and implementation within technology and business, possess leadership and interpersonal skills and be a change agent assisting the Church with digital transformation. This full-time senior management role will report to the CFO and be based at the Division head office in Wahroonga, NSW. For full selection criteria please go to <employment.adventistchurch.com>. To apply, please email a cover letter, your CV, three work-related referees and the contact details of your Adventist church pastor, to <hr@adventist.org.au> (Attn: HR Manager, People Services, South Pacific Division). The appointing body reserves the right to fill this position at its discretion and close applications early. **Applications close October 31, 2020.**

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