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## Avondale announces three-year renewal plan <sup>5</sup>

PNG membership exceeds  
400,000 for the first time <sup>7</sup>

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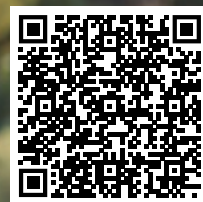




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EDITOR'S NOTE:

## The biggest thing in our lives?

Danelle Stothers  
Assistant editor

“

There is a golden thread of voluntary loving labour by church members running through all these historical records.

I'll be the first to admit that I have never really taken an interest in history. In high school it was a subject that was compulsory for four years and then gladly dropped for something I found more interesting. That all changed this year when it was announced that we would be celebrating 125 years since *Record* magazine began. To celebrate this impressive milestone we have been reviewing old issues and sharing our findings in *Record* this year. As one of the *Record* team tasked with authoring these Record Rewind articles, I began my journey into the depths of the *Record* archives.

Starting in January 1898, I spent many weeks browsing through the online archives, reading page after page of content. It was not always an easy read—writing styles have changed A LOT in the past 125 years and many words are no longer used or have different meanings in today's context. Some weeks this was a task that I had to endure, other weeks I couldn't wait to read more.

Somewhere along the way I discovered that I was actually really interested in the stories of these early pioneers of the Adventist Church in the South Pacific. What changed my interest? Their sheer enthusiasm, extreme sacrifice and unwavering dedication to their faith. Page after page I joined them in their mission: establishing a sanitarium in Sydney, losing brave workers in the mission fields, establishing healthy cafes and educational institutions and door-knocking to sell literature. I couldn't help but be proud of the people who came before us and feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude to them.

Let me share a few quotes from my research through the *Record* archives which might help paint a picture of their experiences:

"As we consider who shall have first place in our hearts now, and in our plans for the future, let us pray that the sacrificial spirit of our Advent pioneers will be paramount in our own souls. Here is an excerpt from a letter written by Ellen G White . . . dated April 16, 1852: "We were still crippled by poverty, and compelled to exercise the most rigid economy and self-denial . . . Butter is so high that we do not purchase it, neither can we afford potatoes. We use sauce in the place of butter, and turnips for potatoes. Our first meals were taken on a fireboard placed upon two empty flour barrels. We are willing to endure privations if the work of God can be advanced."—John Loor (*Record*, April 10, 1967).

"In the early days we had no institutions of any sort or any real estate the worth of a dwelling-house [in the South Pacific]. Now we have large institutions in different conferences and many properties. In the beginning, when anything was needed it had to be contributed or made by someone free of cost. There was no money to pay for it."—Pastor Harry Mitchell (*Record*, June 21, 1948).

"The co-ordinated work of the ministers and laymen in the distribution of the papers which we printed was so blessed of God that the work grew. Men and women read themselves into the truth. Twelve people joined the church as a result of reading one tract stuck on the iron fence around the Exhibition Building. . . There is a golden thread of voluntary loving labour by church members running through all these historical records."—Pastor Herbert White (*Record*, July 4, 1960).

One quote in particular jumped out at me and has been on my mind since reading it. In *Record's* special Jubilee edition (July 4, 1960), a quote was published from 88-year-old WJ McGowan who was involved in the early days of the Advent message in Australia and New Zealand. He said, "Every Adventist loved to talk about the message of Christ's second coming. It was the biggest thing in their lives."

Reading this really challenged me and caused me to reflect on my own involvement in the mission of the Adventist Church. In our calling as Christians, and as we continue the work of those who came before, who sacrificed so much to get us to the point we are at today, could I say that I have the same zeal? How about you?





INSIGHT:

## Fuelling a thriving Adventist movement

Sven Östring  
Director of mission and strategy,  
South Pacific Division

Our vision is to be a thriving Adventist movement, living our hope in Jesus and transforming the Pacific. That is what we believe God's preferred future for us is. Historically, we have always understood ourselves to be a prophetic, missional end-time movement, and as we look forward into the future, the thought of being a movement that changes the world still captures our hearts and imaginations.

There are many powerful ways that we can fuel a thriving Adventist movement in the South Pacific.

The first key is to keep our eyes focused on Jesus. There are so many dark places in our lives, in the world and at times even in the church which can absorb us, but becoming preoccupied with darkness will never fuel a movement. We need to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus. Jesus is inspiring, amazing, startling, shocking, powerful, compassionate, gracious and life-transforming. He is the most amazing Person I have ever met, and He is not only amazing—Jesus is truly God. Doesn't it only make sense to turn our eyes away from the world and focus on Him?

The second key is to accept and pursue the promise that Jesus gave us before He returned to heaven. He told His disciples to wait for the promise, the presence, the baptism and the filling of the Holy Spirit. We can fuel a thriving Adventist movement by spiritually hungering and thirsting for the Holy Spirit as the living water that will quench our deepest spiritual thirst and the people all around us.

The third key is telling powerful and inspiring mission stories. Jesus' favourite way to explain to people what His kingdom was like was to tell stories. Then, within a few decades of Him telling those stories on the shores of Galilee, the Holy Spirit inspired the Bible writers to pick up their ancient pens and write the stories which we find in Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Acts.

Jesus is still inviting us to keep our eyes fixed on Him, to ask for the gift of the Holy Spirit and to tell mission stories. In October, we're celebrating Adventist Heritage Month and have created an Adventist Heritage devotional. You can register for it at <heritage.adventistchurch.com>. We invite you to soak yourself and your family in mission stories throughout October. When you do this, you will be fuelling a thriving movement of people who living our hope in Jesus and transforming the Pacific.

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Avondale University students on the Lake Macquarie campus.

## Avondale announces three-year renewal plan

📍 Cooranbong, NSW | Brenton Stacey

Student engagement and a strong sense of mission are central to a three-year plan to sustain and strengthen Avondale University's legacy of preparing graduates with a greater vision of world needs.

The renewal plan provides "a fresh focus on our mission as a Seventh-day Adventist university in the South Pacific and beyond", said vice-chancellor and president Professor Kerri-Lee Krause. And it responds to priorities of the 2023 Australian Universities Accord, which place increasing responsibility on universities for supporting their students to succeed.

Strategically, the plan restructures the executive team to bolster academic and wellbeing services across the student journey.

A new deputy vice-chancellor academic role will replace the roles of provost and executive dean to oversee academic and wellbeing support services, including orientation and transition, career advice and counselling.

A newly configured portfolio—students and engagement—will take responsibility for the student experience by enhancing the quality of each stage of the student journey, from pre-enrolment as future students to post-graduation as alumni. It will consolidate existing student life functions such as chaplaincy, communication, events and residential life with marketing

services and recruitment to provide a "seamless transition experience for students as they move into the university".

A re-investment in full-time residential leadership roles will "foster the holistic student experience that makes Avondale so unique in the sector". Spirituality will remain a core focus, with chaplaincy building an even stronger partnership with the pastoral team from Avondale University Church. Providing an integrated approach to student engagement within a single portfolio with senior executive leadership means the role of director, student life services, becomes redundant.

Implementing the plan "has been a matter of earnest prayer and careful consideration among our executive team", said Professor Krause. "Our students are our top priority and their experience must be one where they are nurtured, supported and inspired with a greater vision of world needs."

Professor Krause acknowledged the challenges of change, thanking the community for their support. "Change can be unsettling, but our focus remains on Christ-centred higher education," she said.

Questions about the plan can be emailed to <vc@avondale.edu.au> where they will be treated as confidential and addressed as appropriate.



Years 3 and 4 primary kids learning about making healthy choices through "The Inside Story" program with Healthy Harold.

## Sanitarium funds health education for Aussie kids

📍 Berkeley Vale, NSW | Record Staff

Sanitarium has invested \$A200,000 in a partnership with not-for-profit organisation Life Ed and its much-loved mascot, Healthy Harold, to bring health education to the next generation. "The Inside Story", a health module designed to empower children to make healthy choices, is expected to engage more than 100,000 kids in its first three years.

Sanitarium has also given an additional \$A125,000 to Life Ed, enabling at least 10,000 more children from underprivileged areas to access health education. The module provides information on sustaining a balanced diet, which not only supports the body, but it is also critical for a range

of positive outcomes including mental wellbeing, learning and development.

The initiative addresses recent research from Sanitarium Health Food Company which found that 44 per cent of parents are concerned their young children can't make healthy food choices.

The curriculum-aligned module is specifically designed for years 3 and 4 children to learn about the interconnectedness of body systems and how they impact physical health and wellbeing. Using innovative technology including augmented reality to bring this to life, the module is now available in schools around the country.



Baptism in Guadalcanal Plains.

## SIM reports more than 500 baptisms in July

📍 **Honiara, Solomon Islands** | Juliana Muniz

The Solomon Islands Mission (SIM) has reported a significant increase in baptisms during its “I Will Go to My Neighbour” initiative. Launched at the start of the year, the initiative culminated in July at the Mission’s annual Pentecostal harvest, with 536 baptisms recorded—an addition to the 846 baptisms recorded in the first half of 2023.

The “I Will Go to My Neighbour” emphasis encouraged churches across SIM to participate, reaching out to their neighbours in various ways. The initiative aimed to introduce people to biblical truth, showing them the love of Jesus and leading them toward making a spiritual commitment.

A combined three-week media evangelism event in July, live-streamed via Hope Channel TV, TTV1-2, Hope Channel Facebook page and Hope Radio—reached all churches across the country with internet and TV access. Pastors Irving Vagha, Eddie Richardson and Mockson

Wale were the featured speakers.

Commenting on the baptisms, SIM president Pastor David Filo said, “There must be great rejoicing in heaven as each individual chose the Lord through the waters of baptism.

“The results from July alone bear testimony to the combined efforts of the churches, institutions and individuals within the Mission. It’s heartening to see the church rallying efforts, gifts, talents and resources for the work of God.”

More evangelism programs are currently underway, particularly in areas without internet or TV access. “We anticipate many more dedicating their lives to God,” said Pastor Filo.

He expressed gratitude to all involved, from the SIM team to Hope Channel volunteers and local church leaders. Quoting Revelation 22:12, Pastor Filo urged everyone to “continue their service to God, as the time draws near for Jesus’ return”.



Sydney Adventist Portuguese-speaking church members.

## A home away from home: Sydney Portuguese-speaking Adventist church turns 40

📍 **Ashfield, NSW** | Marcelo Bussacarini/Juliana Muniz

The Seventh-day Adventist Portuguese-speaking church in Sydney (NSW) celebrated its 40th anniversary on July 21.

The event, held at the church’s base in Ashfield, brought together more than 230 people, including current and former church members, friends from the community and Portuguese-speaking community leaders.

Featuring a documentary recounting the church’s history, the celebration reflected on the enduring importance of the church in the Portuguese-speaking community and its commitment to outreach and community initiatives. As a result of the special program, one person requested baptism and four others expressed interest in studying the Bible.

Sydney Portuguese was established by Portuguese-speaking immigrants who, far from their homeland, gathered to hold worship services in their native language and share their faith. Although initially composed of Portuguese immigrants, it

also had representation from Brazilians, Angolans and Mozambicans.

Today, the congregation has 140 baptised members in its official records. However, their special programs and small groups are attended annually by around 350 people, according to local leaders.

Church elder Marcelo Bussacarini has been in Australia for 15 years and explained the significant role Sydney Portuguese plays in the lives of those far from their home country. “More than providing spiritual nourishment, the Sydney Portuguese community becomes a true family, welcoming and caring for each individual with affection and empathy,” he said.

“When I arrived [in Australia], I faced emotional and adaptation challenges. Leaving friends and family behind in Brazil was painful. However, upon encountering the church in Sydney, I found a welcoming refuge that filled my heart.”

Watch the documentary with English subtitles on <bit.ly/docoIASD>.





Since 2020 more than 6000 new churches have started in Papua New Guinea.

## PNG membership exceeds 400,000 for the first time

Port Moresby, PNG | Tracey Bridcutt

The number of members in the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Papua New Guinea has exceeded 400,000 for the first time.

South Pacific Division (SPD) associate officer Eva Ing noted the “exciting news” when reporting the June 2023 membership statistics to the General Conference.

SPD discipleship strategy leader Pastor Danny Philip said the growth was the result of a deep commitment by members to get involved and share their faith. Since 2020 more than 6000 new churches have started in PNG.

“I am so happy that the Church is growing in PNG; a lot of people have been involved,” Pastor Philip said.

“Our lay people have been at the forefront of it, taking the church into their own homes, having worship together, sharing lunch, then giving Bible studies. One lady has started eight churches in the Western Highlands Mission.”

Pastor Philip said a key factor for church growth is members having a strong personal commitment to Jesus, including daily devotions, personal prayer and Bible reading, and applying it in their lives.

“The second factor is training new people who are coming into the church. The church should be a training school—how to read the Bible and study with other people, how to share your faith and how to keep people engaged. It doesn’t have to be sophisticated. Sharing your personal experience with Jesus is a powerful method. No-one will argue with you.

“We want to encourage the involvement of every Adventist as part of the movement, using whatever spiritual gifts that God has given you for His service. Imagine what the Adventist Church would look like if every member brought in just one person in a year. Just one. There would be double the membership. That’s qualitative and quantitative kingdom growth. The Lord will work in miraculous ways, and He will bless their efforts.”

With planning well underway for the 2024 “PNG for Christ” evangelistic campaign (April 24–May 12), the Adventist Church in PNG is looking forward to continued growth.

“You can see people’s energy has been ignited,” Pastor Philip said. “People want to be involved and are looking at what they can do to support the campaign. They also recognise that PNG for Christ is not a one-off event, it’s happening everywhere. We’re looking forward to more disciple-making in our Division.”

## making headlines

### Disaster training

ADRA Europe organised seven Disaster Simulation Workshops at the TED Pathfinder Camporee in Hungary in July. More than 170 participants experienced disaster scenarios, requiring quick decision-making and teamwork in aiding “affected communities”. The workshops emphasised unity, compassion and commitment in the face of adversity. —TED



### From lettuce to church

A Brazilian Adventist family purchased land for a future church, funding it by cultivating lettuce over 12 years and tithing profits from every third harvest. Their efforts bore fruit as the land was paid off, and a church now stands on the site. —SAD

### Explore Adventist beliefs

The General Conference Biblical Research Institute (BRI) and Andrews University have partnered to publish a book for general and classroom readers that theologically examines each of the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s fundamental beliefs. Titled *God with Us: An Introduction to Adventist Theology*, the book is designed and promoted beyond the classroom for the general readership of the Church. —ANN

### 114 and blessed

The second oldest person in the United States recently celebrated her 114th birthday, attributing her long life to the grace of God. Elizabeth Francis still lives in her own home and is the seventh oldest person on the planet. When asked for life advice by a visitor, Mrs Francis replied, “If the good Lord give it to you, use it! Speak your mind, don’t bite your tongue!” —Vision Christian Media



## A growing university

Pacific Adventist University (PAU) recently welcomed 16 new employees to its team in response to the growth of the university. The new employees will be working in a variety of roles, including teaching, administration and student support. The new employees come from a variety of backgrounds, countries and experiences—ranging from Kenya, Philippines, Myanmar, Fiji, Tonga, as well as from Papua New Guinea. Along with ongoing restructuring, the university is on track with its 10-year strategic plan, which focuses on growing not only in size but also improving the quality of education. “These new employees will help us continue to provide our students with the high quality education they deserve,” said PAU vice-chancellor Professor Lohi Matainaho. —**Kym Piez**



## Serving where He leads

Cambridge church in New Zealand was filled for the ordination of their pastor, Harvey Gangadeen, on August 19. Pastor Gangadeen also ministers at the Tirau and Matamata churches. The ceremony was attended by members from various congregations where Pastor Gangadeen has previously served or been a member, including Acts, Rotorua, Murupara and Henderson churches. Called to ministry at the age of 19 in Trinidad, Pastor Gangadeen initially resisted the call but reconsidered two decades later after moving to New Zealand. After graduating in ministry and theology from Avondale University, he was called to serve in North New Zealand. His wife, Belinda, serves as a teacher at Hamilton Adventist School. “Ours is a family journey,” said Pastor Gangadeen. “Through it all, I have sensed and felt God’s presence and it is my privilege to serve where He leads.” —**Plugin**



## Refreshed faith

Year 2 theology students from Fulton Adventist University College conducted a special program at the Dubalevu church in rural Nadroga on August 12. Themed “See as God Sees”, the event featured worship songs, special messages and testimonies emphasising the importance of the gospel. Dubalevu head elder Sikeli Naitau said the gathering demonstrated the potential of young theologians in refreshing faith communities. “Many in the congregation were deeply moved by the shared testimonies that showcased God’s guiding hand in our lives,” he said. —**Lepani Dakai**



## Infrastructure funding

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has received more than K700,000 from the Papua New Guinea government for infrastructure development. On August 4, Kumul Minerals Holding Limited board director Dr Kaul Gena presented two cheques to Kenton Ghona, PNGUM CFO, for projects at the Togoba Adventist Primary School and the University of Technology Adventist Residential College. The funding will be made through the PNG Union Mission. —**Jacqueline Wari**





## From dream to reality

Far North Queensland has become the newest region in Australia to enhance its Faith FM presence with a new studio and radio show.

Coinciding with the recent Northern Australian Conference (NAC) Big Camp, the Townsville studio was officially opened on Sunday, June 25. Located within the Conference office, the studio was mostly funded by Adventist World Radio (AWR) but built entirely by outgoing NAC president Pastor Darren Slade.

"We have always had a dream in the NAC to have a studio up here so that we can add to Faith FM's national content," said Pastor Slade. "Once AWR got involved and gave us a grant, that dream became reality."

With the assistance of Faith FM producer Brad Martin and content and promotions manager Pastor Robbie Berghan, the NAC team launched their first piece of content as the studio opened. "Talk from the Top" will now air every Tuesday afternoon and aims to share inspiring stories and testimonies from the top of Australia that impact people's lives.

Pastor Slade said there was a very positive feeling about the Townsville studio from local church members and is hopeful the excitement for creating content will spread across the NAC.

"We have 54,000 listeners across our territory," he said. "What we do in this studio is the most significant thing we are doing to reach our community, more than anything else we're doing from this office." —**Maritza Brunt**

## have news to share?

Send info and photos to <news@record.net.au>



## 25 baptised

Bidwill Seventh-day Adventist Church in Sydney (NSW) recently celebrated the baptism of 25 individuals, following a four-week evangelistic program. The church, led by Pastor Mele Tangikina Lolohea, hosted the evangelistic series from July 28 to August 19. Guest speaker Pastor Pelikani 'Esau directed the program, focusing on the Ten Commandments. Attracting attendees from across Sydney, the series was also live-streamed online. On the final day, the program welcomed Greater Sydney Conference president Pastor Alban Matohiti as a guest speaker. He urged the baptismal candidates to maintain their spiritual commitment. Following Pastor Matohiti's appeal, the 25 candidates were baptised by Pastors 'Esau and Lolohea, witnessed by families, friends and church members. —**Anahea Halatokoua**



## Sign of the times

Castle Hill Adventist Church in Sydney, Australia, had a special unveiling ceremony in July for their new digital church sign. With shared branding for the church and adjoining Hills Adventist College, church members are excited about sharing church ministries and encouraging messages with the community. "The Castle Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church is privileged to have a new electronic sign to invite our community to church events and promote our Sabbath services," said senior pastor Pablo Lillo. "It's been a real joy working with Hills Adventist College in purchasing the sign. The symbiotic relationship between church and school is so important to us as we reach the unchurched together." For more details about church signage and other branded resources go to <identity.adventistchurch.com>. —**Danelle Stothers**



# The case that shocked a nation (1980–1985)

One of the biggest cases to have ever challenged the public's trust in the justice system of Australia is the case of Seventh-day Adventist mother Lindy Chamberlain. It was a case which would go down in legal records as "the case of the century" (*Adventist Record*, July 23, 1983).

Without any evidence of a weapon, a motive, the child's body, a witness, a confession of guilt, or any tangible condemning evidence, Lindy Chamberlain was charged and convicted for the murder of her eight-week-old child, Azaria, on October 29, 1982. Upon appeal to the Federal Court in 1983, and later the High Court in 1984, Lindy Chamberlain's appeals were rejected, and her life-sentence for murder maintained. Her husband, Michael Chamberlain, was a pastor of the Seventh-day Adventist Church at the time and was convicted of being an accessory after the fact and was given an 18-month suspended sentence.

Shockwaves of disbelief and incredulity reverberated across Australia and the Adventist Church when the finding of guilt was announced, with many people refusing to accept the guilty charges against Lindy to be true. More than 131,000 signatures were gained in a petition demanding a full judicial inquiry into the Chamberlain case and the immediate release of Lindy Chamberlain (*The Canberra Times*, May 4, 1984). The organiser of this petition, Guy Boyd, viewed this case as a threat to the judicial system in Australia, and "the worst case in Australia's judicial history—without the slightest doubt" (*Record*, October 15, 1983).

In principle, the Australian justice systems maintains the presumption of innocence. This requires that the accused individual is to be considered and treated as innocent until the prosecution proves "beyond a reasonable doubt" that the individual was responsible for the crime. But in the circumstances of Lindy Chamberlain's case, this principle was simply ignored. "It is incomprehensible that a person could be convicted of murder without a motive having been established and without the question being settled as to how, when, and where the body could have been disposed of. By no stretch of the imagination can it be said that the verdict was 'beyond all reasonable doubt'" (*Record*, November 27, 1982).

Every detail of evidence which pointed towards Lindy's innocence was taken by the prosecution to instead be evidence of guilt. How could the justice system get it so wrong? How could they look at the evidence (or lack thereof) before them and accuse Lindy of the heinous crime of murdering her own child? Australian author and lawyer, John Bryson, pointed out the extent of the court's failings by observing



that, "This was not the first time a prosecution was successful without the production of a body, or without a weapon, or without eyewitnesses, or without proving a motive. But here the prosecution was without every one of those evidentiary advantages" (*Record*, July 23, 1983). The justice system failed Lindy Chamberlain that day, and a great miscarriage of justice was witnessed by the whole Australian population.

The Chamberlain case not only challenged the efficacy of the Australian judicial system, but it also put the beliefs of the Adventist Church in Australia under great scrutiny. Few Australians during this time had any knowledge of the doctrines and practices of the Adventist Church, and rumours ran rife. Some of the opinions and rumours which were spread included that child sacrifice was part of Adventist doctrine, that Adventist couples did not desire children, and that clairvoyants were more trustworthy than Adventist ministers. Cynicism towards Christianity grew exponentially in the eyes of the public. After all, the testimony of a pastor, Michael Chamberlain, was discredited by the court and considered unreliable (Stuart Tipple, "Chamberlain legal case", *Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists*).

In response to this widespread cynicism, the Church maintained a conservatively neutral but consistently supportive position towards the Chamberlains and attempted to dispel these rumours by encouraging church members to show the world their compassion. "Whatever other factors may be involved, through this tragic circumstance God is giving His church the opportunity to show the world that the Adventist



family has compassion" (*Record*, July 30, 1983).

The Church wasn't without its critics, however, for not taking a more active stance in the case. A significant proportion of Adventists held the view that the Church should have been more active in supporting the Chamberlains by advocating for a judicial inquiry into the case (*Record*, April 13, 1985). Yet because of the Church's calm response, the Seventh-day Adventist Church was held in high esteem by prominent legal experts for its conduct towards the case: "'You have consistently upheld law and order, you operate according to Christian principles and don't overreact to trying circumstances'" (*Record*, December 24, 1983). Maintaining this calm response provided an assurance to the Chamberlains that hope was not all lost.

As well as the horrific loss of her child, Lindy endured accusations and demonisation from the media, becoming the most hated woman in Australia, as well as separation from her family, and the seemingly hopeless situation of no clear legal recourse beyond the High Court's rejection of appeal. Yet throughout all of this, Lindy relied wholeheartedly on God. She refused to let the trials and hardships overcome her. Like Joseph in the Bible who endured false imprisonment, Lindy

remained steadfast in her faith. She remained kind, considerate and loving and was "more concerned about the welfare of others than her own plight" (*Record*, November 19, 1983). According to the warden of the Berrimah jail, Lindy was "always gentle and understanding" and had "won the hearts of everybody in this place" (*Record*, November 19, 1983). Many of the staff and prisoners at Darwin's Berrimah jail did not believe Lindy killed her eight-week-old baby, with one prisoner saying, "She did not kill that baby . . . and we all know it" (*Record*, November 19, 1983).

Lindy served three years in prison before being released on the discovery of new evidence, and in September 1988 both her and her husband were acquitted, and the convictions overturned.

Throughout all this, Lindy was able to draw upon God to endure the incomprehensible hardships she faced. Today she is an author and inspirational speaker, sharing on topics like forgiveness, how to deal with stress and grief, the responsibilities of lawyers and the media to maintain the truth, and finding faith in hard times. If there is one thing we can take away from Lindy's story, may it be the dependability of God to give hope, strength and comfort throughout every trial we face.

# Australasian Record

and Advent World Survey



Publication of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Australasian Division

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## Pacific Adventist College Opened

R. H. BAIRD, Communication Director, PNGUM

The Pacific Adventist University in Papua New Guinea was opened on Monday, February 13, 1984. People came from all over PNG and the South Pacific to be part of this momentous occasion and to share in the realisation of a dream. Representing the Education Department of the General Conference, Pastor Babcock said: "We see the school as being a place where God could teach and educate, where the wisdom of Jesus was a vital part of the curriculum."



Michael Somare, Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, declares the college open.  
Photos: R. Baird





# PATHFINDER HONOURS

## you may **not** know about...

### Pigeon Training Honour

In this honour you get to hatch and raise two pairs of pigeons. You can either train them as homing pigeons to return to their loft from a distance of 40km away, or you can prepare them as show pigeons to be exhibited in a fair or show.

### Lichens, Liverworts and Mosses Honour

Learn about the various kinds of lichens, liverworts and mosses, and discover ways moss has played a significant part in the economy. As part of this honour, you get to make a moss garden in a small terrarium from different kinds of lichens and mosses.

### Pinewood Derby Honour

This honour teaches you about the different components and requirements for building a pinewood derby car. It also provides the opportunity to design and build a pinewood derby car from a basic kit, and to participate in a derby event using the car you built.

### Canoe Building Honour

The Canoe Building Honour teaches you how to build a canoe from scratch. After choosing a tree and seeing it felled, you must shape the log into a canoe by hollowing out the inside. You can make paddles, seats, poles, decking or even a sail for the canoe if desired.

### Wilderness Living Honour

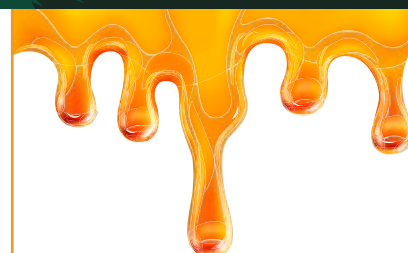
This honour involves two weekend campouts where one learns three ways to collect and purify water to drink, as well as identify, prepare and eat 10 varieties of wild plants. Pathfinders must also demonstrate the skills of stalking and concealment and prepare a shelter.

### Duct Tape Honour

This honour provides the opportunity to create five items out of duct tape, such as a wallet, basket, piece of clothing, flower arrangement or toy. As a final challenge, you must build a boat out of duct tape which will support a 2kg sack of flour without it getting wet.

### Artificial Intelligence Honour

The Artificial Intelligence Honour will teach you all about artificial intelligence, what it is, the history of its development, and how it is used in the real world. You will also learn about the importance and benefits of artificial intelligence for society.



### Maple Sugar Honour

In this honour, you will learn how to identify the sugar maple from its bark and leaf, understand how the maple tree produces sweet sap, and how maple syrup is made from this sap. Pathfinders will also get to taste pure maple syrup or maple sugar. Yum!

### Christian Grooming and Manners Honour

For all the single ladies and gents out there, this one is of interest as it will educate you in the scriptural guidelines for handling dating and sexuality. It will also teach conversational skills, posture, table manners, proper grooming and taking care of your appearance.

### Parade Floats Honour

This honour will allow you to design, build and decorate a float for a parade for your Pathfinder group. You will then get to be part of a float parade and sing or hand out pamphlets as appropriate to passers-by.





# Age no barrier to sharing the gospel

**D**iana Kross is proof that age is no barrier to sharing the gospel.

This dynamic 87-year-old is the force behind a mission project that is making a significant impact.

For the past decade, Mrs Kross has been collecting Bibles for distribution in the Pacific islands. To date she has collected more than 1000 Bibles.

Living in the Noosa coast area of Queensland, Mrs Kross sources the Bibles by visiting local second-hand shops. Some she receives for free, while others require a nominal fee ranging from 50 cents to \$2 per Bible. Over the years she has collected new leather-bound editions, children's Bibles and study Bibles in various translations.

Her inspiration for starting the project was the World Changers Bibles initiative, which has distributed thousands of Bibles to young people in the South Pacific. Mrs Kross initially worked with Clinton Jackson, a science teacher from Brisbane Adventist College, who used to travel to the Solomon Islands doing missionary work.

She then enlisted the help of her son, Dr Nick Kross, who visits the Pacific islands in his leadership role at the South Pacific Division (SPD). Dr Kross is delighted to be able to distribute the Bibles and he finds that the recipients are "so appreciative of these valuable gifts".



"There's power in the Word of God, regardless if it is new or a second-hand Bible," Dr Kross said.

"Everyone can do something to make a difference in the lives of others," he added. "My mum has found her ministry in second-hand shops and is serving the Pacific from sunny Queensland.

"She also recites the Lord's Prayer and her favourite psalm—Psalm 23—daily. These passages are her inspirational ministry texts."

Anyone with Bibles at home or who is willing to collect them from local op-shops is asked to bring them to the SPD office at 148 Fox Valley Rd, Warrongarra. Staff at the Division office will then distribute the Bibles to many families across the Pacific, making a lasting impact on their lives.

**Tracey Bridcutt,**

Communication director, South Pacific Division.

# faith for a better life



**"You have to believe in yourself and it's not up to me to change you —it's up to you to change yourself."**

*—Brett Wason Deshong*





**P**arties, drinking, drugs and breaking into homes—Brett Wason Deshong and Murphy Morris were addicted to the dopamine hit, yet were facing depression and anxiety, before finding peace within the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Their troubled youth, in their opinion, was a direct result of “hanging in the wrong circle” during high school and as their grades slipped and their motivation to learn turned cold, they turned to substance abuse and Brett turned to stealing.

Breaking into people’s homes, his mentality at the time was “I have no job . . . man if I want something I will get it myself.

“I was wagging school and stealing a lot . . . I did a lot of breaking and entering and it was just bad,” he said.

“I don’t even like talking about it because it makes me feel bad. Murphy one time asked me ‘Why do you steal? These people work for this stuff and when you go in there, people see a black person in their house and that makes us all look bad.’

“At the time I was like ‘nah, that’s their fault for leaving the door unlocked’ but after a while it really started to kick in.”

Brett knew what he was doing was wrong. He knew he had to stop but he grew so dependent on the feeling drugs, alcohol and stealing gave him, it felt impossible to change.

It wasn’t until he began looking for love that he realised it was time for a new direction.

“I was looking for a relationship, romance really, and then I began having all these dreams of my family and friends dying in front of me—even one of Murphy dying,” he said.

“Man, I cried in my dream and so much that when I woke up I was still crying and all I thought was *I’m going to lose my brothers* and for me, God came to me and said ‘Why do you need a relationship when you already have a relationship with Murphy and you can have a relationship with Me?’

“That’s the moment I decided to give my heart to God.”

When talking to Murphy about his dreams and his experience with God, Murphy was shocked. He knew if Brett was talking about religion this much, he had to be serious about it and that was the moment they both decided to make the big change.

“Growing up, I had talked about God but more about other people’s experiences with Him and just religion in general. . . one day Brett started talking about Jesus and to see another brother even mention religion and diving into it opened my eyes, so I followed him for the journey,” he said.

They decided to go to church and see what it was like and although their first time felt silly, they persisted, determined to change their lives around.

Walking into the church, shielding their anxiety and uncertainty with their nervous giggles and cheeky commentary during a regular Bible study, they stood up and demanded change within themselves.

“It was a tough time for us and there were a lot of emotions, but I guess we had each other and we could keep each other accountable,” Murphy said.

“When we came to church, it was all new, but we had watched videos online, so we had a little glimpse of what to expect.

“It felt kind of silly at first. We thought *how could something this simple have such a drastic change in our lives* and gradually we kept coming and we could start seeing the shift in our lives. It was the best decision I have ever made, and I have never looked back.”

That was September 2022 and since then, the duo have changed drastically, turning away from substance abuse and crime for good.

Brett and Murphy were baptised recently and are now studying ministry through Mamarapha College, Perth, WA, with aspirations to become ministers within the Church.

Murphy has also taken up a position as a chaplain at Cairns Adventist College in Gordonvale every Friday, supporting and teaching young people, something he never thought he would do in his life.

“I never liked kids but throughout my journey I guess my heart has softened,” he said. “I really love children now and just everyone in general. Sometimes it’s the little things in life that have the biggest impact—it’s beautiful.”

Mareeba Seventh-day Adventist Church senior pastor Sean Tavai has watched the duo flourish and become a major part of the church community.

“I have watched them come so far and so quickly,” he said.

“Their growth is just a whole other level and what has contributed to their keenness is wanting to give this walk of life a shot.

“They are always asking when the Bible study is or when they can start preaching and that sort of thing.”

Looking back at where they were only 11 months ago, so much has changed in Brett and Murphy’s lives, filling their days with positivity and happiness—something they never knew existed.

They encourage anyone who may be in a rough patch in life to seek help, whether it be in good people or the church.

“I get to meet so many beautiful people and this journey has really changed my perspective on life,” Brett said.

“I get to go on lots of camps and be a part of events and activities that I couldn’t originally go on because I never knew it existed and now, they do exist in my life, I feel a lot happier.

“The advice I would give to anyone, in the simplest form I can put it, you have to believe in yourself and it’s not up to me to change you, it’s up to you to change yourself.

“Nobody could change me (as a teenager) but there was a lot of good advice that helped me think about change.”

The Seventh-day Adventist Church is open to anyone, particularly youth who wish to get involved and channel their creativity and make new friends.

“Our young people are crazy creative and talented and we as their elders tend to forget that and I truly advise young people to express their talents,” Pastor Sean said.

“I want to help create those opportunities for them to do that and get behind them and support them and influence them in a positive way.”

**Ellie Fink**

Journalist, *The Express*. This article has been reprinted from *The Express* newspaper with permission. *The Express* covers the Far North Queensland region.

# A sanctuary of care

Every parent hopes and dreams their children will grow up to live an independent, meaningful life and learn skills that will help them achieve their goals so they can truly thrive and fulfil their destiny. Yet for parents of children who have special needs, this dream can feel like just that, a dream that seems far away and out of reach. Yooroonga Adventist Residential Care provides the foundations to make this dream a reality. Yooroonga is an Indigenous Australian word meaning "my home" and the facility provides accommodation for people aged 18-63 who are registered for participation in the National Disability Scheme and who currently have allocated 24/7 care.

"We want our residents to really feel safe and secure knowing that this is their home for life or for as long as they choose," said Jenna Morgan, manager of Yooroonga.

Yooroonga's villas have been built to Specialist Disability Accommodation design standards, giving potential residents the assurance that they will be able to move with ease with wheelchairs and mobility devices and be physically supported in bathrooms with handrails and seating.

Young people at Yooroonga have the opportunity to be part of a small, caring community set amongst lush gardens and conveniently located next door to the Adventist Retirement Village and close to Victoria Point Shopping Centre.

One such resident is Charlotte.

Charlotte is non-verbal and has lived at Yooroonga for almost two years. She arrived at Yooroonga almost by accident. "We weren't looking for accommodation [for Charlotte]," said Samantha, Charlotte's mother. "We came to visit her friend [Amber] next door and we saw just how settled she was. We asked Charlotte where she wanted to

live. She used her eye gaze communication device to tell us she wanted to live with her friends."

Samantha never expected that Charlotte would live independently. "When she was a little girl I used to lie awake worrying where she would end up if I die. If only I could've told my younger self not to worry. Never in my wildest dreams did I ever imagine something as wonderful as Yooroonga would be available."

Samantha has seen changes in her daughter since she began living independently. "Charlotte's carers all coming to her has made a huge difference to her routine. She is eating better and her bowel movements are better. She is more comfortable and she has a better social life. She shares her carer between houses so this has provided a bigger safety net for her."

Amber's mother Cathy shares that



living at  
Yooroonga has

had a similar impact on Amber.

"It has helped Amber to grow and flourish as a young adult; she loves her support workers and going out into the community. She is now living her best life."

Cathy shares how Yooroonga has helped them as well. "It has also helped me to finally help myself and get the health care I desperately needed to overcome anxiety and complex PTSD from living in a 24/7 behavioural battlefield for 21 years, mostly on my own. This is still ongoing and a work in progress."

While it is hard for family members to trust the care of their loved ones, Cathy and Samantha both agree it has been a great decision. "This was the



hardest decision I have ever made," said Cathy. "Years ago I would have said that I would never put Amber into living in independent care. It took a lot of convincing, but I couldn't be happier. I think not letting go earlier has been detrimental to my own mental health and wellbeing."

"Our main fears came about by not being able to closely supervise her support workers," said Samantha. "Accountability and not being on site. But it hasn't been an issue at all."

"I was worried she would end up in a house with people where she would be frightened because she is non-verbal and she would not be able to say she was scared or something wasn't right."

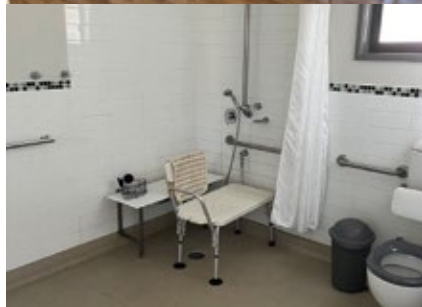
Jesse's mother and brother are both living at Yooroonga. Norelle had an acquired brain injury and Jake was living in an independent supported living house. The family looked for somewhere they could be together before someone recommended Yooroonga. "Mum went to a Seventh-day Adventist school so we already had a connection with Adventism and when I told my nanna and aunty about it, they definitely agreed it would be good for Mum to be at Yooroonga," said Jesse.

Jake had gone into care when Norelle got sick but now they can live together.

"It's a great place to live," said Jesse. "It is located in a good spot; has great management; good service; is always well-maintained. It's just a nice, quiet location in a gated community which gives you peace of mind. It just feels like a good environment."

Jake and Norelle enjoy living at Yooroonga and Jesse couldn't see them living anywhere else. "Initially Mum was a bit shocked moving in, but over the next few weeks we really watched her settle in and really feel at home in a comfortable setting. Jake walks around like he owns the joint. It's really great to see him being so comfortable too and making it like his own home as well. They are definitely comfortable and enjoy the location."

Yet Yooroonga faces some challenges. "Members know the church runs retirement living facilities but many don't know about our facility," shares Ms Morgan. "There are still vacancies here and we need more people to consider



Yooroonga as an affordable Adventist option for independent living."

Samantha can see the difference Yooroonga is making in Charlotte's life. "Oh my goodness, we dread to think [what would happen if Yooroonga no longer existed]. Charlotte would have to move back home where she would be less social. It would take away her independence and happiness. For her it would be a change in her quality of life."

For those who are wrestling with the idea of bringing their family member to Yooroonga, Samantha says, "They are in a safe, caring environment where everyone looks out for each other. I'd tell them not to be afraid cause your child will bloom given the independence."

"Everyone I bring there can't believe the quality of the place. Such a warm, welcoming environment."

Cathy agrees. To her Yooroonga means "peace, family, security, love, compassion and care".

Ms Morgan is grateful for the amazing facility established at Redlands through the generosity of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and many of its members, including many of the retired residents living in the village next door. According to Ms Morgan, they supported the facility to get started and have continued their support.

"I'm reminded of my favourite verse on how God calls us to live our lives," said Ms Morgan.

He has shown you, O man, what is good;

And what does the LORD require of you

But to do justly,

To love mercy,

And to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8, NKJV).

*Yooroonga ARC is a not-for-profit organisation in Queensland, Australia, run solely by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. To find out more <[adventistresidentialcareyooroonga.com.au/](http://adventistresidentialcareyooroonga.com.au/)>.*

**Jarrod Stackelroth / Jenna Morgan**



# A spring in your step with *phytonutrients*

We know fruit and veggies are really good for us and are packed with vitamins, minerals and antioxidants. But have you heard of phytonutrients?

Pronounced fight-o-nutrients, it literally means plant nutrient. These are the natural compounds that give plant foods their vibrant colours, tastes and smells. They're also big on health benefits and may even be considered "essential for life" as we can't make them in our body.

There are more than 5000 phytonutrients and scientists are just beginning to unlock the full therapeutic potential of these powerful plant compounds.

## What are some of their health benefits?

- **Blueberries** have the phytonutrient anthocyanin that may help with memory
- **Tomatoes** are rich in the phytonutrient lycopene. This not only gives tomatoes their red colour, but research shows it may help fight heart disease and prostate cancer
- **Ginger** has the phytonutrient gingerol that has been linked to helping hypertension
- **Oranges** have the phytonutrient hesperidin that has been associated with a reduced risk of stroke
- **Onions and apples** contain the phytonutrient quercetin that may help with inflammation, and
- **Sweet potatoes (kumara)** are orange thanks to the phytonutrient beta-carotene, which the body converts into vitamin A to help support good vision and healthy skin

This list is just the start. These natural disease-fighting nutrients are part of the reason that eating a plant-based diet is so healthy and has been linked to providing more energy, a better complexion, being slimmer and healthier.



## Whole foods vs supplements

It's important to remember that we can't get all 5000+ phytonutrients from a supplement—whole food is the only way to go. No single supplement tablet can replace the complex mixtures of hundreds of phytonutrients within the whole food.

To bump up the phytonutrients in your diet aim to eat a rainbow of vegetables and fruit. This way you'll gain benefits from a wide range of phytonutrients. We are talking common fruit and veggies. There's no need for exotic "super foods" that can break the budget. Sticking with colourful, in-season produce will help you to bring the price down even further.

## So, what should you add to your trolley?

- red, orange and yellow vegetables and fruit such as tomatoes, carrots, capsicums, pumpkin, sweet potatoes (kumara), melons, citrus fruits and berries
- dark green leafy vegetables such as spinach, kale, bok choy, broccoli and cos lettuce
- white veggies like garlic, onions and leeks.
- And don't forget those wholegrains, legumes, nuts and seeds, which all contribute those life-giving phytonutrients

For more information and research references, you can read the full article at [<sanitarium.com>](https://sanitarium.com).



## Eat well. Live well.

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plus health and wellness tips delivered  
straight to your inbox monthly.



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# Conversations

## Overflow with love

What a wonderful letter in *Conversations* (July 15), “Jesus gives us rest.” I often harp on about the Sabbath to my dear ones (who don’t keep it holy). How much better it would be to rave on about the great Lord of the Sabbath and overflow with the love and mercy that Jesus showed!

Keeping the day “holy” like Jesus did might be more persuasive.

Now there’s a challenge!!

**Darlene D**, *via email*

## Addressing doubt

I refer to an article “World refugee day: are we willing to help?” in the *Adventist Record* (June 17). As a relative newcomer to a local Adventist church, I was warned it is a cult.

I have not found this to be so.

However, in a comment made about refugees, I was confused as to what is meant. And I quote, “Could God be giving Christians, and Adventists an opportunity here?”

Does this actually mean that Adventists aren’t Christians? I am sure this was not what was meant but it created doubt in my mind and I would like to see it addressed.

**Elaine**, *via letter*

*Editor’s note:* Whether it’s right or wrong, I have noticed Adventist authors use this phrase quite a bit. I believe it is intended to speak more broadly of Christians and then more specifically as an Adventist to Adventists—not that they are separate groups, but a subset of the same group. All Christians are called to reach out to those less fortunate and as Adventists, we consider ourselves Christian and therefore called to that same standard.

## Shocking images

I’m just emailing to let you know my disappointment concerning two photographs in the July 29 issue.

On page 8 there is a photograph of a person displaying the “devil horns” sign.

On page 15 there is a photograph of idolatry, with [the profile person] kissing a trophy.

We are exposed to this daily in the world, but to view these images in an Adventist publication is shocking, and I believe the Lord would find these images repugnant, more so in a magazine professing to represent His remnant Church.

Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns.

**David Hrstich**, *via email*

## Equally beloved

I want to raise my concerns about the article “An Adventist theology of Listening—and responding” (August 5).

[The author] is correct when he reminds us that our Indigenous brothers and sisters are marginalised and disadvantaged, as, sadly are many other groups in our fractured society.

But the danger of deepening the already existing racial divide by empowering and recognising one particular group of Australians in our constitution is a fraught issue that must be carefully considered in this debate.

Former Australian prime minister John Howard highlighted this danger very clearly in a recent piece in *The Australian* newspaper.

We are all God’s equally beloved children. With no disrespect I believe that our Australian culture and our constitution should also reflect this equality.

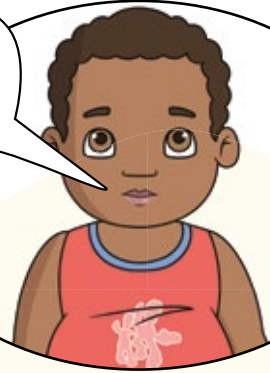
Instead of a thinly veiled nod in our official church paper to support the “Yes” vote, we should be encouraged to prayerfully search our own hearts, and vote as our conscience dictates.

**Judy**, *NSW*

# Hello Kids!

## Kids' Space

We reveal  
God's love by  
serving others.



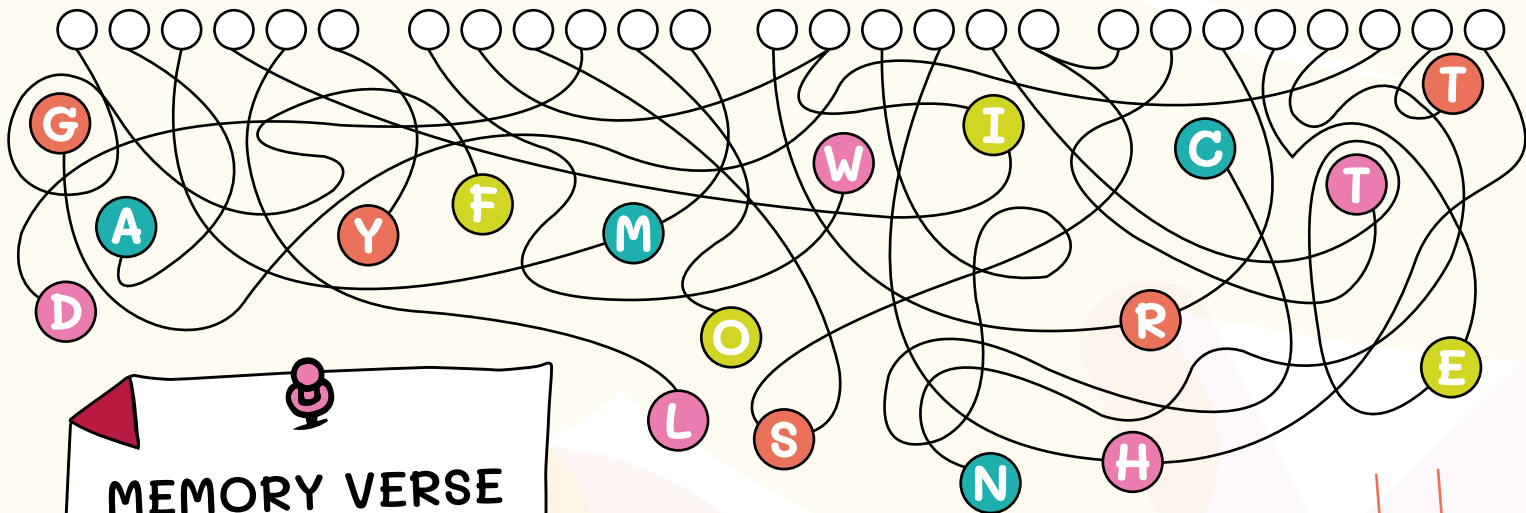
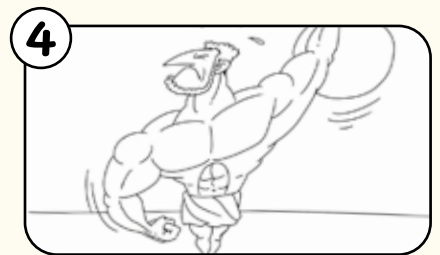
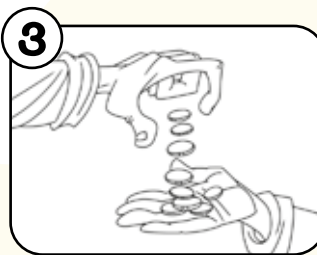
## The Wisest Man on Earth

One night God spoke to Solomon in a dream and promised He would give Solomon anything he wanted. Solomon wanted most of all to know the difference between right and wrong, and to understand how to serve his people wisely. We need this too, to be effective in our service to others.

Follow the lines and collect the letters.  
What did Solomon ask God for?

What would you choose?

## Help Solomon make the right choice

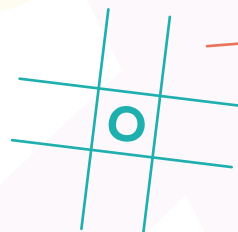


### MEMORY VERSE

"Choose my instruction  
instead of silver, knowledge  
rather than choice gold, for  
wisdom is more precious  
than rubies, and nothing you  
desire can compare with  
her" (Proverbs 8:10, 11).



### NOUGHTS O AND X CROSSES





## Obituaries

**ARRELL**, Daphne Valda (nee McLain), born 6.11.1931 in Brisbane, Qld; died 29.7.23 in Adventist Retirement Village, Victoria Point. On 17.11.1960 she married Keith. She was predeceased by her daughter, Kaye Burke. She is survived by her husband; son, Grant and Lauren (Kingaroy); and grandchildren. Daphne was a gracious Christian lady who cared for others. She was devoted to her family. We look forward to the resurrection morning.

RE Possingham, Neil Tyler



**AUNGER**, Norman William, born 12.7.1917 in Loxton, SA; died 9.3.23 in Adelaide. He was married to Valerie, who predeceased him in 2001. Norm is survived by daughters, Lynette and Keith Sandy, and Dianne Hass (all of Adelaide); grandchildren, Anthony, Keryn, Leona, Daryl, Tanya, Amy; nine great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren.

William Moala

**BRITTAI**, Valmai Elizabeth, born 26.10.1925 in Warrnambool, Vic; died 23.7.23 in Opal Healthcare, Warrnambool. On 30.11.1953 she married Jack. Val was one in a million. She was a faithful servant of the Lord and an incredible mentor at making disciples through her love for God and her gifted hands in arts and crafts. Val worked at the Fletcher Jones factory for 28 years where she was well respected for her kindness and leadership. She was a patriarch of the Warrnambool church. Val loved God, served Him faithfully and was loved by everyone.

Landry Patii



**CLARK**, Molly Mae, born 25.5.1939 in Huonville, Tas; died Barrington Lodge, New Town. She is survived by her husband, Leo (Hobart); and children, Melinda, (Hobart), Nigel (Norseman, WA), and Christine (Hobart, Tas). She was loved by all. The beautiful thing about love is that it can never be taken away, even when the person we love is no longer here.

David Cherry

**DAWSON**, Walter Maxwell, born 11.12.1930 in Bendigo, Vic; died 29.7.23 in Adventist Retirement Village, Redland Bay, Qld. On 30.12.1953 he married Mary Stitz, who predeceased him in 2010. Wal is survived by his children, Delinda (Brisbane) and Grant (Sunshine Coast). He was a husband, father, leader and educator. He served the church in Fiji, Kiribati and his homeland, touching the lives of hundreds of young people for Christ. He was well known for his playing of the harmonica. A good man who did the best he could.

Bob Possingham, Neil Tyler



**ELLISON**, Thomas Henry, born 3.10.1928 in Vava'u, Tonga; died 21.7.23 in Cooranbong. In 1951 he married Ethel Powell in Auckland, NZ, who predeceased him in 1995. In 1996 he married Joan Wren, who predeceased him in October 2015. Tom is survived by his children, Michael (Brisbane, Qld), Helen and David Hutchins (Palmerston North, NZ) and Robert and Annette (Gold Coast, Qld); five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. For some 30 years he was employed by the Sanitarium Health Food Company and later for 13 years as manager of the Victoria Point Retirement Village. Tom was committed to his church, holding many roles including senior elder and Pathfinder director. He loved his family and was kind, generous, hospitable and strong of faith.

Roger Nixon, Rob Ellison



**EVANS**, Peter Matthew, born 3.5.1952 in Goulburn, NSW; died 23.7.23 in QEII Hospital, Brisbane, Qld. He is survived by his wife, Lydia (Beenleigh); five children; five stepchildren; and 21 grandchildren. Peter was baptised by Pastor Walter Flamenco in 2011 at Edens Landing church. He loved his church family and his particular ministry was to welcome all the visitors to church. It would have brought tears of joy to Peter could he have seen the amazing turnout to the funeral of so many people who loved him. He was a kind and gentle soul who was a blessing to his family, at church and wherever he worked, including the railway. We look forward to meeting him again when Jesus returns.

Graeme May



**FERGUSON**, Graham Maxwell, born 29.12.1948 in Kerang, Vic; died 3.7.22 in Blacktown, NSW. In 1978 he married Dulce Rickards, his devoted wife and best friend. He is survived by his wife (Glenhaven); his siblings, George (Mt Isa, Qld); Heather (Sydney, NSW); Joy and David Stackelroth (Adelaide, SA), Glenda and Wayne Piez (Melbourne, Vic); Sandra and Fred Medloby (Beerburum, Qld); and his 12 nieces and nephews and their children. Graham was the first born to Anne and Max Ferguson, who spent a number of years at Fulton College, Fiji, with Graham and his siblings. After studying at Avondale College, Graham entered the building industry in Sydney, NSW, attending Kellyville church for 44 years where he was involved in many areas, but particularly using his voice and harmonica in worship. His interest in cars and model aircraft led him to mix with many non-Christians who regarded him as a man of great integrity and a Christian gentleman. Graham was very committed to his Saviour and is deeply missed.

Martin Vukmanic, Aubree Harrington

**FRANKE**, Barrett Leslie (Barry), born 3.2.1936; died 10.7.23 in Manjimup, WA. He was predeceased by his wife, Lil in 2020. He is survived by his children, Stephen (Manjimup), Greg (Donnybrook), Raylene Kanny (Manjimup) and Coralie Hiscox (Bunbury); 14 grandchildren; and 36 great-grandchildren. He is asleep waiting for his loving Jesus' return.

Ross Craig

**McCOY**, Erna, born 26.5.1929 on Ambryn Island, New Hebrides; died 4.7.23 at Avondale House, Cooranbong, NSW. She was predeceased by her sister, Hilda; and brother, Bruno. Erna is survived by her nephews, Raymond and Terance Grube. She was the daughter of William Grube, a German plantation owner, and later adopted by Walter McCoy, Norfolk Island. She was a student at the Australasian Missionary College from 1951 to 1957, preceptress at Fulton College, Fiji from 1958 to 1984 and the director of food services at Pacific Adventist College from 1984 until 2006.

Laurie Draper, Allen Sonter, Ray Wilkinson

**McCUTCHEON**, Sandra (nee Fell), born 18.12.1945 in Scone, NSW; died 25.6.23 in Royal North Shore Hospital, Sydney. On 20.1.1973 she married Alan. She is survived by her daughters, Ellen and Bronwyn; and their partners, Kim and Petra. Sandra was a deaconess at Epping church and was an active volunteer in church activities and ministry in the area.

Nigel Ackland



**PRICE**, Patricia Fay (nee Gallop), born 30.8.1938 in Albany, WA; died 28.5.23 in Hervey Bay, Qld. She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Pastor Bruce on 2.5.15. Patricia is survived by her children, Pastor David and Lyn (Wauchope, NSW), Kymmarie Tempest (Hervey Bay, Qld), Craig and Jennifer (Wahroonga, NSW) and Dean and Trish (Innisfail, Qld); and 10 grandchildren. Fay was an amazing mother and friend to many and dearly loved her grandchildren. Her gentle humour and caring ways will be missed.

David Price

**SCHICK**, Judith Mary (nee Bishop), born 10.10.1940 in Neutral Bay, NSW; died 15.3.23 in Lord Howe Island. She was predeceased by her husband, Raymond on 5.10.22 and her daughter, Linda Bateman on 31.8.16. Judy is survived by her sons, Jack and Malcolm (Lord Howe Island); grandchildren, Ruby and Anna (Sydney), Jodie Bateman and Matthew Bateman (Kariang); daughter-in-law Cindy (Lord Howe Island); and son-in-law, Calvin Bateman (Kariang). Judy was a devoted wife to Ray, caring for him at home in his later years. When not fussing over Ray and cooking, she spent her time devising craft activities for Sabbath school. She loved her time teaching the little children craft and did so up to her dying day.

John Wells



**TAYLOR**, Molly (nee Bethel), born 31.7.1944 in Cherokee Sound, The Bahamas; died 2.8.23 in Perth, WA. On 3.8.1962 she married Archie, who predeceased her in 1979. Molly is survived by her son, Andrew (Katoomba, NSW); and grandson, Archie. She grew up in The Bahamas and from an early age learnt of God's love for her and continued to grow in her relationship with

Jesus and her understanding of the Bible throughout her life. In 1972 she emigrated to Perth. She was a valued receptionist and clerk, recognised for her attention to detail. In 2008 she was baptised and joined the Adventist Church following an evangelistic series conducted by Pastor Gary Webster. An avid Bible student, she eagerly looked forward to the second coming of Jesus.

Roger Millist, Gervais Cangy,  
Nicola Warchol

**VYSMA**, Heino Ernest, born 28.4.1934 in Surabaya, Indonesia; died 20.7.23 in Melody Park, Qld. In 1961 he married Judith Allum. He was predeceased by Judith in 2022 and brother Alfred in 1978. Heino is survived by children, Karenne and Terry Leach, Sharlene and Ron Williams, and Sondra and Aaron Ford; grandchildren, Caitlin, Madison, Troy, Jesse and Indiana; and sisters, Helene Zaska and Jeanette Turner. Heino and Judith ministered in Victoria and South Queensland Conferences for some 26 years, pastoring several country and city churches. They lived their later lives in the Gold Coast area where they enjoyed their involvement in their local Gold Coast Central Church. In 2007, Heino underwent

major brain surgery and has since suffered with ongoing minor strokes and seizures. During his last years, Heino has been well cared for by the staff at Melody Park.

Barry Oliver



**WARREN**, Yvonne Dawn, born 14.3.1932 in Wagga Wagga, NSW; died 26.7.23 in Wagga Wagga. On

1.11.1959 she married Stan. Yvonne is survived by her husband (Wagga); daughters, Stephanie (Wagga), Vanessa (Harden) and Margo (Brisbane, Qld); son, Richard (Wagga, NSW); brother, Geoffrey (Melbourne, Vic); and three granddaughters, Rachael, Emily and Hannah. Yvonne attended primary and high schools in Wagga. She began to play the organ in church at 12 and continued to do so for over 60 years. She and Warren were committed members of the Wagga church. She will be remembered for her practical, down-to-earth way of living, her skills of organising and planning, but especially her commitment and care for her family. She treasured her faith and clung to her Saviour's promise of eternal life.

Trafford Fischer, Ray Eaton, Roger Afele

## Advertisements

**MELODY PARK RETIREMENT RESORT** has two and three-bedroom units for sale, immediate occupancy or pending refurbishment, duplex or freestanding, all with single garages. Phone Rhonda +61 7 5557 1777 for inspection. <arplus.org.au/retirement-living/units-for-sale/>.

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**BOOLAROO CHURCH** celebrates 100 years of God's leading on Sabbath, October 21. All past and present Boolaroo members are invited to come and praise God for His blessings over the past century. Sabbath School: 9:30am, Divine Service: 11am. Lunch is provided. Afternoon program: 2pm that will feature testimonies, music and a visual presentation. For catering purposes and/or to contribute

photos, contact Patrice: 0412 491 944. Email <patricewinter@hotmail.com>.

**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.

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**BOWRAL SDA CHURCH** Celebrating centennial anniversary, October 6-7, 2023. All previous pastors and church members are invited to join us for this special event. Any historical contributions are appreciated. Please contact Pastor Evonn Reyno <evonnreyno@adventist.org.au>

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## Positions Vacant

### CATERING SUPERVISOR/COOK—CAMP HOWQUA HOWQUA, VIC

Camp Howqua is seeking a full-time catering supervisor/cook to be part of our team, working in a spacious, modern commercial kitchen. Camp Howqua is a busy, 200-bed facility catering mainly for school groups during the week and seminar, family and youth groups on weekends. We are seeking someone with appropriate trade qualifications and/or extensive experience in fresh, high volume quality cooking, proven ability to plan menus with experience and skill in catering for vegetarian and diverse special dietary requirements while working within a budget, staff supervisory experience, strong customer focus with good interpersonal and communication skills, strong work ethic with the ability to work unsupervised as well as within a close team and the right to work in Australia. We pay very competitive rates commensurate with skills, qualifications and experience. For more information, visit the South Pacific Division's employment website <adventistemployment.org.au>.

### IT SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR, ADVENTIST TECHNOLOGY—SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION WAHROONGA, NSW

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### LOCAL CHURCH ACCOUNT SUPPORT—SOUTH QUEENSLAND CONFERENCE BRISBANE, QLD

This full-time position will involve a variety of duties, including resolving various queries, providing training and assistance to treasurers on the new tithes and offerings online reporting system (ACAS), processing church treasury reports and month-end journals and reconciliations. Relevant experience in bookkeeping or account support roles is highly desirable. Church treasury experience is not essential, as training will be provided as needed. For further information, a position profile is also available on request. Please forward all written applications, including a detailed resume with references, to Susan Hensley, HR Manager, Seventh-day Adventist Church (SQC) Limited. Email <sqc\_hr@adventist.org.au>. Only those with a legal right to currently work in Australia may apply. The administration of the South Queensland Conference reserves the right to make an appointment to this position. **Applications close September 25, 2023.**

## Position Vacant (Volunteer)

### ADRA AUSTRALIA BOARD MEMBERS

ADRA Australia is the official humanitarian agency of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Through our global network, our reach extends into more than 120 countries. We exist to restore relationships so that people thrive in a world not only created but also living in God's image. We work to inspire and collaborate with others to responsibly facilitate transformational development and relief projects overseas and in Australia. Are you passionate about making a difference? We are seeking ADRA Board members who are Seventh-day Adventist Church members from diverse groups, and areas of expertise including fundraising, international development, First Nations community development, and people and culture. Four board meetings held annually; three in Sydney and one in Melbourne. If this is for you, please submit any inquiries and/or application to Michael Worker, General Secretary, Australian Union Conference at <MichaelWorker@adventist.org.au>. **Applications close October 13, 2023.**



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