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When God goes silent

Where to find encouragement ¹⁴

TPUM launches Hope Channel Tuvalu ⁶

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IMPACT Magazine

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COOK ISLANDER KIDS ARE WEET-BIX KIDS

A tiny island in the South Pacific with a population of just over 400 residents is home to the first Sanitarium School Breakfast Club in the Cook Islands. Over 100 students at Anu's early school are now the recipients of a nutritious breakfast at school.

The school breakfast is run every Monday, Wednesday and Friday by local Adventist church members. The impact of a regular, simple breakfast has been felt throughout the island community.

The Anu Adventist church, bolstered by the support of local elders and Mission President Eric Tolofon, secured a grant from Sanitarium to launch the breakfast program including Weet-Bix™ and So Good™.

Teacher Tasegali Epikoleku noticed a big improvement in her students after the program began:

"In class, the children are awake! With full bellies they are more engaged in learning, more focused and more connected to their peers and teachers. Since Breakfast Club, we've seen an increase in test skills, particularly numeracy. The breakfast keeps them going right through to home time."

Throughout the South Pacific Sanitarium supports the Pacific countries of Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Cook Islands, Tonga and Western Samoa. "We work with the local Adventist Churches and other communities on the islands, the programs promote health, education and building awareness of healthy living and making habits. Sanitarium products are provided in combination with each island's Church Mission, community events and activities," said Paul Ross, Business Manager, International.

"Sanitarium's support has not only assured that these young minds are well nourished but has also empowered the community to take charge of their children's well-being," Glenn Townsend, President, South Pacific Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and Member of the Sanitarium Board.

The Facts

Recent findings revealed Cook Island children were starting their school days hungry, tired and lagging in their expected physical development compared to peers elsewhere.

OUR IMPACT in Australia



Over **5.6 Million** meals donated to charity partners in Australia (including 1.6 million served to Breakfast Clubs).



IMPACT

CHANGING LIVES EVERY DAY THROUGH WHOLE PERSON HEALTH

Sanitarium
The Health Food Company

NOVEMBER 2023

"Thank you for saving my life"



Mary Ann

Vitality Works
Sanitarium Workplace Health

Sanitarium
The Health Food Company

Sanitarium
The Health Food Company

Vitality Works
Sanitarium Workplace Health

life
health
foods

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EDITOR'S NOTE:

Glenn Townend
South Pacific Division president

“

Setting time aside to pray and reflect on Scripture or your place in the universe will add value to life.

The pace of life is faster. Transport is faster. Communication is faster. This means we should have more time to rest but the opposite is happening. There is a war for our attention and yet we do not seem to be able to focus. Best-selling author and journalist Johann Hari, in his 2022 published book *Stolen Focus: Why You Can't Pay Attention*, examines several factors for the pace increase and lack of attention. These factors include digital accessibility—everything you need is at your fingertips—poor diet, pollution, societal expectations. People are crying out for rest but don't know how to break the cycle.

Jesus promises rest and a time to reflect: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28 NIV).

"This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says: 'In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it'" (Isaiah 30:15 NIV).

Do we want the rest that Jesus gives? Jesus has conquered earth's major challenges of evil and death (1 Corinthians 15:5-58). Jesus gives forgiveness and life (John 10:10; 1 John 1:9). The by-product of that life is rest. Rest that can be incorporated into your life's routine. Here are some of the ways that we may be able to find rest.

Rest each day. Our bodies have rhythms—times when we are more alert and times when we are more relaxed. As much as possible pay attention to these rhythms. There are times when you can focus more easily—do the important things then. Do the less important things at the other times. Setting time aside to pray and reflect on Scripture or your place in the universe will add value to life (Joshua 1:8; Psalm 143:5). My grandfather used to take a 20-minute nap early afternoons when he was weary. You can sometimes find me flat on my back on my office floor for the same period. Adding variety to your day—talk to someone without your mobile device with you—can give you a break and rest.

Rest in sleep. Sleep specialists suggest we need between 7 and 9 hours sleep each day for optimal wellbeing. To enjoy sleep more, we should have a regular bedtime, avoid late and big meals before sleep, avoid stimulants before sleep, exercise during the day so you are tired, and use water inside and outside the body—it helps us to rest and relax. (Information from ELIA Wellness Discover Whole-Person Health: <eliawellness.com/programs>)

Rest each week. God gave humans the gift of the Sabbath—it's the highlight of the seven-day weekly cycle (Genesis 2:2,3; Mark 2:27,28). This is a day to stop working and doing the regular things that captivate your attention and focus on God, community, family, friends and the natural environment (Exodus 20:8-11). I'm so pleased that there are many in our Church sharing the Sabbath Gift on social media, with brochures and books this year: <sabbathgift.info>. As a Church we want to be known as people who value rest: we are human beings not human doings. Being means taking time to stop and explore and enjoy all that is around us.

Rest each month. Have an extra day each month to enjoy an activity that you do not usually do—gardening, cycling, motorbiking, hang gliding, deep sea-diving, camping, fishing, painting, playing music, serving at an aged care home or soup kitchen . . . or just taking it easy.

Rest each year. Plan at least one holiday or vacation each year to get away from the usual places, work and routine. Visit new places or spend time with people you like but rarely see. Come back with photos and a story to tell—however it may be difficult to get someone to listen because they have too much to do!

Ask Jesus how we can incorporate rest into our lives. He has given us power, love and self-control to be able to do it (2 Timothy 1:7).



INSIGHT:

A gentle answer

Eddie Tupa'i
New Zealand Pacific Union president

Many years ago, my grandpa's (Mum's dad) elder brother angrily visited Grandpa with the intention of killing him because my grandpa had become a Seventh-day Adventist. Yes, a very dramatic occurrence in my family history. Spoiler alert—my grand uncle did not use his bush knife on Grandpa. In fact, Grandpa convinced angry uncle to also become a Seventh-day Adventist!

During the late 1920s, Sanika Afa'ese (my grandpa) was a government teacher in Samoa. One day, in 1930, he found discarded pages of a *Signs of the Times* magazine. He was drawn to the article titled, "Why I became a Seventh-day Adventist". The questions that flooded his mind after reading the article began a life-changing journey.

In his search for answers, Sanika discovered an Adventist church with warm fellowship and Bible teaching that addressed his many queries. Soon after, he made the momentous decisions to be baptised and to leave government employment to teach at the burgeoning Vailoa Adventist School. It was during this time that big brother, Fepulea'i, learned that his younger brother had forsaken their family religion.

Fepulea'i personally took on the task of restoring family honour by paying his brother, who lived on the island of Upolu, an ill-intended visit. On arrival he made clear to Grandpa the purpose of his visit and the intended outcome he had in mind. Grandpa ever so gently requested—and was granted—an opportunity to share why he had become an Adventist. After a week of loving fellowship, intensive Bible study and inspiring Sabbath worship, Fepulea'i apologised to Grandpa for his evil intentions. Fepulea'i returned home and became one of the first three people to be baptised as Seventh-day Adventists on the big island of Savaii.

Grandpa became a pastor, church planter and evangelist.

Pastor Sanika Afa'ese was one of the pioneer Samoan pastors for Adventist ministry in Samoa, American Samoa, New Zealand, Hawaii, San Francisco and San Diego. I'm so grateful that he received his brother with bold gentleness, conviction and love.

"A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger"—Proverbs 15:1.

Record Live
with Jarrod and Zanita

As seen on Facebook, YouTube and Twitter, Record Live now has a podcast. Just search Record Live Podcast on your favourite podcasting platform to hear an interesting interview every week.



TOP: GC communications director Pastor Williams Costa Jr, teaching on communication and mission. ABOVE: Three of the SPD representatives (Pastor Wayne Boehm, Henrique Felix and Jarrod Stackelroth) among other attendees. [Photos by Jimmy Botha and Tor Tjeransen / AME (CC BY 4.0)].

Adventist communicators find ‘purpose’ at GAIN Europe

📍 Budva, Montenegro | Jarrod Stackelroth

Representatives from the South Pacific Division (SPD) joined about 300 Adventist communications, media and IT professionals along with personal ministries personnel in Budva, Montenegro, for the Global Adventist Internet Network Europe (GAIN Europe) conference, held October 20–24.

GAIN Europe is a joint program run by the Trans European (TED) and Inter European (EUD) divisions and this year there were representatives from the General Conference, *Adventist Review*, Euro Asian Division (ESD), North American Division and four representatives from the SPD.

“Almost everyone that was at GAIN last year was here too, but more people came [this year],” said Paulo Macedo, EUD communication director. “We had a huge representation from other divisions—ESD, NAD, SPD and also from the GC. Even more important were [those who joined us from] personal ministries and Adventist Mission. Our topic ‘purpose’ was to find common ground for mission together.”

Representatives from the SPD took part in the meetings, with all four members of the delegation contributing at least one workshop in the streams, and participating in important networking and content sharing opportunities.

“Attending GAIN Europe was a very

enriching experience,” said North New South Wales Conference communications coordinator Henrique Felix, who presented on the *Kingdom Come* documentary trilogy. “Getting to share a little of what we do here and learn from Adventist communicators in Europe and other continents was incredibly motivating. It strengthened our sense of purpose and gave us the assurance that, despite the challenges, as a global Church we are working together for the second coming of Jesus.”

The theme of the conference was “Purpose” and this was really brought home by some communicators sharing testimonies on how their work helped them find purpose along with the daily devotionals featuring the Division and GC leaders sharing their faith journey.

The GAIN Europe network have collaborated on a few media projects in the past few years with the themes of uncertainty, happiness and fatherhood.

An update was given on the current network project that shares the theme of purpose. Documentary films, short clips and a book are all being developed in conjunction with this theme.

Attendees were offered workshop streams they could attend, such as institutional communication, film-making, IT, media and mission, and social media.



SNZC president Pastor Ben Martin and secretary/CFO Michael Jones (R-L).

Pastor Ben Martin reappointed SNZC president

📍 Christchurch, New Zealand | Michael Jones

Pastor Ben Martin was reappointed to his role as South New Zealand Conference (SNZC) president at the 68th SNZC Constituency Meeting, held October 27–29.

Commenting on his reappointment, Pastor Martin said, “I am really looking forward to working with all our churches this quadrennium as we continue to see our vision of being a movement of growing disciples who know, live and serve Jesus become a growing reality.”

Held at Ilam Seventh-day Adventist Church in Christchurch, the session gathered 190 delegates together for a weekend filled with worship, baptisms

and fellowship, where delegates received reports on the past four years and made appointments and decisions for the future of SNZC.

Commenting on the meetings, Pastor Martin noted, “There was a wonderful spirit from start to finish this weekend. No matter how difficult some of the decisions were, I saw God’s hand in these meetings.

“We are grateful to all of the delegates who travelled from near and far to participate in the decision-making and vision casting for our Conference, and for their passion in seeing God’s work done in this area of the world,” he concluded.



Around 30 people attended the classes each day.

SQC Big Camp features sign language workshops

📍 **Dakabin, Qld** | Zanita Fletcher

This year's South Queensland Conference (SQC) Big Camp saw an inspiring initiative to help those with hearing loss feel more included.

Christian Services for the Blind and Hearing Impaired (CSFBHI) coordinator Coralie Schofield collaborated with Noosa Christian College teacher Janaya Lewis to coordinate a series of sign language workshops that drew an enthusiastic crowd of participants. They employed the help of Just Auslan, a professional sign language tutoring group to take the workshops.

"The response was overwhelming," Mrs Schofield noted. Fifteen individuals pre-registered, but an additional 22 joined on the day, resulting in more than 30 attendees daily, with some arriving early for extra practice.

In addition to the workshops, this year's SQC Big Camp program also incorporated accessibility elements. The main programs were live-streamed and captions were available. Assistive listening

technology was also available for the hard of hearing, and both Sabbaths (September 23 and 30) had an Auslan interpreter in person as well as on the live-stream. One teenager travelled 11 hours to be at camp after learning there would be interpreters.

According to Mrs Schofield, sign language is becoming a "more and more needed skill as hearing loss is no longer limited to the elderly, with statistics reflecting a concerning increase in younger individuals affected". She noted that factors like earphones and noise pollution are contributing to this issue.

The workshops introduced participants to the basics of sign language, empowering them to communicate effectively. With a mere 2000-3000 words making up 80 per cent of most daily communication in English-spoken countries, learning Auslan is an achievable goal.

Local churches can contact CSFBHI for accessibility options via their website or email <csfbhi@adventistmedia.org.au>.



The cake cutting performed by Pastor Kaufononga and guests.

Hope Channel Tuvalu to reach more than 5000

📍 **Funafuti, Tuvalu** | John Tausere/Juliana Muniz

The Trans Pacific Union Mission (TPUM) has reached another milestone in its media ministry efforts with the launch of Hope Channel Tuvalu on October 25—the latest addition to Hope Channel's 80-plus channel network worldwide.

Officiating the launch, TPUM president Pastor Mavani Kaufononga emphasised the slogan "Television that Changes Lives!"

The new channel, a collaborative effort between TPUM and Tuvalu.TV, will broadcast free-to-air across Funafuti, reaching a potential population of more than 5000. There are plans for the Tuvalu.TV digital platform to expand next year to the other outer islands of Tuvalu, where Hope TV will also be available.

To celebrate the launch, the event included a cake cutting performed by Pastor Kaufononga and guests Governor-General Reverend Tofiga Vaevalu Falani and his wife Tangira Falani; Acting Justice, Communication and Foreign Affairs Minister Saaga Talu; and Tuvalu Adventist district pastor Vaguna Satupa.

TPUM communications and media coordinator John Tausere explained the two-phased approach for this initiative.

"Phase one, completed with today's launch, facilitates the broadcast of Hope Channel's international content directly from the satellite feed to the island," he said. "The next phase, planned for 2024, aims to establish a local studio in Tuvalu to produce shows in the Tuvaluan language and context."

Expressing his optimism, Pastor Kaufononga said, "The mission of the Church is to share the everlasting gospel globally. Hope Channel Tuvalu is a significant step towards reaching every household and every family in the region, echoing the larger mission of the Church."

Hope Channel International president Pastor Derek Morris welcomed Tuvalu. TV into the network. In a video message, he said, "We are excited for you to use evangelistic media to reach your country for Christ", adding that the global network will be praying for them.



Pastor Norman Hurlow giving the call to action.

A Great Appointment with Adventist pioneers in Australia

📍 Cooranbong, NSW | Megantha Kiruwi

Reflecting on Ellen White's journey to Australia, the Great Appointment 2.0 returned to more than 500 screens on Sabbath, October 21.

The event was live-streamed from Avondale University in Cooranbong (NSW) and featured a drama, interviews, Kahoot quizzes and a Pathfinder honour.

Most of the viewership was in Australia, with an international presence spanning the United States, New Zealand, Canada, Fiji and various parts of Europe.

Last year, the heritage drama looked back at the Great Disappointment of 1844 and how that shaped the Seventh-day Adventist movement. Once again written by theology student Hadassah Liebke, the performances followed the stories of early Adventist pioneers in Australia and each pioneer's great faith.

Hosted by local students Olivia Morton and Megantha Kiruwi, the Great Appointment 2.0 sought to inspire young people watching to share the same faith as the early pioneers. The hosts interviewed several Avondale students who shared the impact of Adventism and heritage in their personal lives and facilitated the Kahoot quizzes based on the scenes from the drama.

Ms Morton, studying at Avondale University, said, "I think what we do at the Great Appointment—through our drama, Kahoots and everything—engages many kids and young people who would probably not engage with our heritage otherwise. Even if they're joining without intending to learn about Ellen White and our heritage, they're walking away having learned about it."

Laela Nauluvula completed the Pathfinder honour with her club in Canberra (ACT). The 16-year-old shared that "The Great Appointment was a really good way to learn about the Seventh-day Adventist history in Australia. Watching the drama was fun and presented Ellen White's timeline in an easy-to-understand way. The Kahoots were a great way to break it up and encourage younger kids to focus for longer."

The Great Appointment series is an initiative of the South Pacific Division Heritage Department. According to David Jones, director of Adventist Heritage, this year's program was designed to connect and empower the Church's young people. "We have a great story to tell and in the busyness of life, we don't tell our story that gives us our roots," he said.

making headlines

New app for kids

The Children's Ministries Department of the General Conference has launched the "Armor of God Kids" app, a digital tool designed to guide children globally through the principles of the armour of God found in Ephesians 6. Providing a faith-building journey through a captivating adventure featuring siblings Anya and Aidan in a refugee camp, the app is now available for download.—ANN



Small church, big blessings

After a gospel outreach program, the 15-20 member Northwood Adventist Church (US) more than doubled its membership, welcoming 54 new members through baptism. Church pastor Kojo Twumasi described his congregation as "small yet determined", having met the physical and spiritual needs of the community. "As a result, the Lord blessed us with 54 new souls (all non-Adventist)," he said.—*Columbia Union Visitor*

Powering progress

Montemorelos University, an Adventist institution in Mexico, has implemented a sustainable initiative of installing 869 solar panels as part of its Green Campus master development plan. The project incurred no additional costs, as a long-term financing arrangement was established, ultimately allowing for daily savings of 500 kW.—IAD

Bach to the coop

The New Zealand Symphony Orchestra played Chook Symphony No. 1 for thousands of free-range chickens at Bostock Brothers' farm (NZ), where classical music has been used for years to calm the poultry, with the composition's creation involving testing various instruments and sounds for optimal chicken response.—*The Daily Aus*



Giving their best

Around 390 Pathfinders, Adventurers, directors and counsellors from across the Cook Islands Mission (CIM) gathered in Aitutaki for the third CIM Camporee, held October 5-9. Attendees were from clubs representing Atiu, Rarotonga and the host island of Aitutaki. Themed "Giving Our Best", the event started with an opening ceremony held at Orongo Park. It also featured outdoor activities, honours, awards, worship and a fair. The highlight of the program was the baptism of seven Pathfinders on the Sabbath. Guest speaker Dr Nick Kross encouraged and challenged all Pathfinders and Adventurers to "Know, Grow and Go for Jesus". Around 30 other young campers answered Dr Kross's appeal, wanting to receive Bible studies and be baptized. —Eric Toleafoa



The power of pink

Doctors, nurses and staff at Sydney Adventist Hospital marked Breast Cancer Awareness Month at a special event on October 11. Wearing various shades of pink, they gathered on the front lawn of the hospital where they were invited to fill out an acknowledgment poster to recognise someone in their life who has been affected by the disease, and to also pledge to get a breast screen by the end of October. The event was part of a campaign being run by the hospital throughout the month titled "Feel, Act, Know". The aim is to educate women to be aware of changes in their bodies, so they can take charge of their breast health and make regular screening a priority. By the end of the event, more than 50 attendees pledged to get checked by the end of October. —Alexandra Ristway



Gold strike!

A gold medal and a winning ratio in a division one competition headlined Avondale University's push at the 2023 UniSport Nationals, held September 23-29. The medal came in men's basketball, with the Avondale Eagles scoring a one-point win—58-57—over Victoria University in the final. Members of other Eagles teams supported the basketballers in the final, showing the strength of the team's spirit. "Because we're a smaller university, we're a lot more connected," said co-captain Tahliana Tikoicina. —Brenton Stacey



Campers connect

More than 3500 people attended Watson Park in Dakabin (Qld) from September 15-23 for the second South Queensland Conference (SQC) Big Camp since COVID-19. This year marked the 125th anniversary of the first Australian camp meeting held in the Queensland suburb of Woolloongabba in October 1898. The theme for this year's camp was "Connect" and campers had the opportunity to connect through various activities and workshops. —Zanita Fletcher/Megantha Kiruwi



Cricketer's reflections

Australian cricketing great Glenn McGrath shared his heartfelt reflections on grief and loss at the annual San Memorial Service, held on October 7 at Wahroonga Seventh-day Adventist Church (Sydney, NSW).

The service is dedicated to remembering the lives of patients who have passed away at Sydney Adventist Hospital. It serves as a meaningful opportunity for family and friends to come together to honour, remember and celebrate their loved ones.

Mr McGrath, renowned for his exceptional cricket career and for his charity, the McGrath Foundation, spoke of the personal tragedies that have touched his life. In 2008, he endured the devastating loss of his wife Jane. More recently, he faced the grief of losing some of his cricket family—his mentor and “hero” Rod Marsh, and team-mates Shane Warne and Andrew Symonds. And in May, his father Kevin passed away.

Mr McGrath encouraged those who have experienced loss to share stories about their loved ones and the positive impact they've had on their life.

Mr McGrath concluded his message with a quote from Mark Twain: “Twenty years from now, you'll have more regrets from the things you didn't do than from the things you did.”

Themed “Honouring Story”, the memorial service was organised by the San's Spiritual Care Services team and sponsored by the San Foundation. —**Tracey Bridcutt**

have news to share?

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



Start of a new chapter

After 23 years of service, Pastor Aokuso Vaimoli has retired from full-time ministry. Pastor Vaimoli trained as a minister at Fulton College, graduating in 2000 and starting in ministry in the Samoan Mission, at the Saleaumua and Saleapaga churches before transferring to Satomai, Saleimoa and Sapulu churches. After six years of ministry, the North New Zealand Conference called Pastor Vaimoli to lead the Hutt Valley Samoan church in Wellington, where he served for three years. In the past 13 years, he has served in six of the Auckland Samoan congregations. Pastor Vaimoli will relocate to Wellington for this next phase of life and ministry with his wife Fau. —**Plugin**



40 years of service and community

Springwood Adventist Church's community group (Qld) recently celebrated its 40th anniversary. Founded by Kaye Fairall, the group has brought people from diverse backgrounds together every Tuesday at Ivan Lovell Hall since 1983. Led by Betty Jones since 2017, the gatherings also feature a variety of programs, including guest speakers, bus trips, workshops and games. Attracting members of the community, half of the participants are not directly affiliated with the church. According to church and group member Kristiina Somerville, the group is also dedicated to community service. They provide financial support to the community through sales events that, so far, have raised funds for various charities. Donations have also been directed to farmers affected by the drought. —**Kristiina Somerville/Sonya Goltz**

Hope amidst disaster (2005–2010)

Tsunami relief

This time period began on a sad note, following the 9.1 magnitude undersea earthquake on Boxing Day (December 26) 2004, which triggered a series of tsunamis. At the time of printing, it was estimated that at least 165,000 people died in the disaster, with more than 525,000 injured, 1.6 million displaced and more than 1 million homeless (*Record*, February 5, 2005). The final statistics revealed that around 275,000 people were killed in 14 countries across two continents, with an economic loss valued up to \$US9.9 billion in terms of infrastructure and development.¹

Throughout January 2005, ADRA was working tirelessly to support the post-tsunami recovery, with a headquarters being set up in Bangkok, Thailand. Approximately \$A1.3 million was donated in the three weeks following the disaster to ADRA alone to support the response efforts. "Within days of the disaster, hundreds of volunteers and tonnes of medical supplies, food and water were being deployed across the region" (*Record*, January 29, 2005).

Not only did ADRA aid in providing immediate relief in the wake of the disaster, but they also wrote proposals to international donors for longer-term funding to help re-establish the region (*Record*, January 29, 2005). "Responding to disasters such as the tsunami is what ADRA is all about, particularly in the rehabilitation phase. The devastation is so extensive that it will require the full participation of all aid agencies and governments, working together to adequately meet all the needs" (*Record*, February 5, 2005).

Adrift at sea

Between February 16 and March 12, 2005, the principal of Kauma Adventist High School in the Kiribati Mission–Tekemau Ribabaita—was lost at sea. For 24 days, Tekemau was stuck adrift on the open ocean, surviving on a few bottles of water and a whole lot of prayer, until he was finally rescued (*Record*, April 16, 2005).

Tekemau had been travelling from Aranuka to Abemama in an aluminium dinghy when disaster struck. He had just dropped off three passengers at Aranuka for a funeral and was making the two-hour journey back to Abemama across open ocean when he saw some birds circling in the air above the water. He recognised this behaviour to mean fish were feeding near the surface, so he changed course and headed in the direction of the birds to try his luck catching something. It was only after he had veered off course that he realised he had a serious problem—water was filling the bottom of the boat.

Without a radio on board, Tekemau turned on the electronic locator beacon (emergency transmitter) and began shovelling water, hoping that someone would respond to his signal for help. Within minutes, the rear of the boat was submerged. Suddenly the boat flipped over backwards! The weight of the water, the engine and Tekemau at the back of the boat shovelling water, all proved too much. All the heavy items from the boat, including the main engine, sank to the



ocean floor. Tekemau clung to the underside of the boat, trying to figure out what to do next.

This was not the first time Tekemau had been lost at sea. Just three years earlier, he had spent more than four weeks at sea with two others before being found 300 nautical miles from his home island. Due to this past experience, Tekemau knew he had a chance of survival if the boat could just stay afloat. He turned the boat right side up and assessed his situation. He had his emergency transmitter, fishing gear, a compass, life jackets, two buckets, no food and 10 litres of water. It wasn't a lot to keep him going.

"Bailing the water out of the boat was my first priority. It took only 10 minutes to empty the boat of most of the water, but it filled again within half-an-hour. For the next week, I slept for half-hour spells before bailing the boat out again—10 minutes bailing and 30 minutes sleeping" (*Record*, April 16, 2005).

Prayer became the lifeline which Tekemau relied upon. After earnest prayer, God revealed to Tekemau where the leak in the boat was coming from, and he was able to partially plug the hole, giving him one hour's rest between his bailing duties.

On another instance while bailing water, Tekemau's main water bottle was polluted with saltwater, leaving him without any drinkable water. He prayed for rain, preparing a rain-catchment set-up for when God answered his prayers. His prayers were answered, and he collected enough water for the remainder of his ordeal.

Tekemau also prayed to God on the fourth Friday he was stuck at sea, asking God to shorten his time adrift. At gam that next Sabbath morning, Tekemau caught a glimpse of a white ship on the horizon which came to his rescue.

During his entire time at sea, Tekemau only ate four meals, yet when he was rescued, the ship's crew were amazed that he was still strong and fit after being at sea 24 days. He credited everything to his faith in God and prayer.

Black Saturday bushfires

"A billow of smoke had blacked out our sun on Saturday afternoon, showering us with ash, leaves and bark, and filling our homes, clothes and valley with the biting smell of smoke"
— Nathan Brown (*Record*, February 28, 2009).

On Sabbath, February 7, 2009, Australia experienced its worst ever bushfire disaster—the Black Saturday bushfires of Victoria. The Black Saturday bushfires claimed the lives of 173 people, with another 414 people injured, 450,000 hectares burned,

and 3500 buildings and homes destroyed.² At the time, these bushfires were described as "the worst disaster in Victoria's history" (*Record*, February 28, 2009). The bushfires followed years of drought and weeks of heatwave conditions, with Black Saturday being the hottest day ever recorded in the Melbourne region.

Pastor Chester Stanley released a statement to the media expressing his grief: "I was stunned by the viciousness, speed and scope of the fires, and join all Australians in mourning the terrible loss of life." He reflected on the experiences of those living in Victoria and their shared horror at the situation: "I am sure there is not a single person in Victoria who does not feel impacted by the current situation and the devastation caused by the bushfires" (*Record*, February 28, 2009).

Sadly, Adventists and friends of Adventists were among those who lost their lives in the fires. Several other Adventist families lost their homes. Adventist schools and churches around Australia offered prayers and donations for the firefighters, families, communities and individuals affected. The Sanitarium Health Food Company delivered Weet-Bix, So Good and Up&Go to emergency centres operated by the Salvation Army and Red Cross in Whittlesea, Yea and other fire-affected areas (*Record*, February 28, 2009).

The bushfires had lasting impacts for months and years across much of Victoria. Black Saturday continues to be remembered as a solemn and devastating day.

1. <https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/media/3767/tsunami-stats-facts.pdf>
2. 'Black Saturday 2009', Country Fire Authority (Website, 20 September 2023) < <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/about-us/history-major-fires/major-fires/black-saturday-2009> >.



Phil Hyland, Jeff Courtney and Tom Smith (left to right) load Sanitarium products for delivery to the Whittlesea relief centre for bushfire survivors in Victoria.

The 10

people who were visited by *angels*

Dive into the fascinating stories of 10 people from the Bible who were unexpectedly visited by angels, and discover how these encounters shaped their journeys in some pretty interesting ways.



Hagar

Genesis 16: An angel found Hagar by a spring and instructed her to return to Sarai, promising her descendants too numerous to count.

Abraham

Genesis 18: As Abraham rested by his tent, three visitors appeared to inform Abraham and Sarah of the forthcoming birth of their son, Isaac.

Lot

Genesis 19: Lot was visited by two angels who warned him of the impending destruction of Sodom, guiding him and his family out of the city to safety.

Gideon

Judges 6: Gideon received a visit from an angel who assured him of God's presence and guided him in leading Israel to victory over the Midianites.

Samson's parents

Judges 13: The parents of Samson were visited by an angel who foretold the birth of their son, instructing them to raise him as a Nazirite.

Zechariah

Luke 1: Zechariah, a priest, encountered the angel Gabriel while serving in the temple. The angel announced the birth of John the Baptist, Zechariah's son, despite his and Elizabeth's old age.

Mary

Luke 1: The young Mary received a visit from the same angel, Gabriel, who informed her of the miraculous conception of Jesus.

Philip

Acts 8:26–40: Philip was guided by an angel to encounter an Ethiopian eunuch on a desert road. Philip shared the gospel with the eunuch, who embraced Christianity through baptism.

Cornelius

Acts 10:1–8: Roman centurion named Cornelius received a visit from an angel who instructed him to send for the apostle Peter.

Peter

Acts 12: While imprisoned, the apostle Peter was visited by an angel who miraculously freed him from his chains and led him out of the heavily guarded prison.

Community welcome packs



Members of Avondale Memorial church have embraced Jesus' command to "love your neighbour" in an inspiring way.

With many new families moving to Cooranbong (NSW) amidst a local development boom, the church has come up with a way to connect with them through community welcome baskets.

Church members create and distribute the baskets to new residents of the Watagan estate, many of whom have no ties with the church. Within the welcome baskets are household food items like sugar, salt and other staples.

In groups, the church members have been knocking on doors, forming connections, introducing themselves as members of the local Adventist church and extending a warm welcome to the newcomers.

Associate pastor Leticia Moreno believes this is a practical way of showing Jesus to a community that may otherwise not know Him. "We are not preaching or doing evangelistic campaigns. We are simply doing good," she shares.

Pastor Moreno says the responses have been overwhelmingly positive. "We have even had people say, 'We were so touched by this gesture that we will consider going to your church.'"

"I also got a phone call from someone who wanted to thank our church for the community welcome basket that they received. I prayed over the phone with him and he said they want to come and visit our church."

According to Pastor Moreno, the pandemic has left many people in the community feeling disconnected. "Many have expressed that they don't have a financial need but that connecting with people has been good," she says.

This experience has also been positive for the church members, as it has nurtured intergenerational connections between the young and old, providing opportunities for young people to receive mentorship in ministry.

Pastor Moreno shares that it "encourages children to be involved and gives people within the church a sense of purpose as to why we gather. We are the church when we are connected.

"When we do things like this and serve the community without strings attached and show God's love practically, those who have been antagonistic in the past have a reason to be interested in church."

Megantha Kiruwi

communication content officer, North New South Wales Conference.





**WHEN
GOD**
goes silent

Teenage me had worked up the courage to begin texting a girl I was interested in. Things were going well, with the messages and conversation between us flowing. We shared funny anecdotes, stories from our days and prehistoric emojis like =), XD and even <3. Then one day it just stopped.

I had responded to one of her messages and hadn't heard back. I thought maybe she left her phone somewhere, or was doing something really important, but as the hours passed, I began to get worried. I held out hope and when the day came to an end, I went to sleep thinking of how excited I would be when I woke up in the morning and she had responded. There was evening, and there was morning. No text.

Oh no. What if I said something that offended her? I looked back and nothing seemed to stand out. Maybe it was one of those weird network things and my text got clogged up and stuck, unable to be delivered. If I send another text, maybe it'll push it through (or at least change the subject) so I texted "Good morning!". Nothing. All day.

Days passed and I thought I must have totally blown it. The following weekend I saw her at an event. She came up and said "Hi!", and when I asked what was going on, she simply replied, "Oh sorry, I ran out of credit."

I was so relieved to find out that's all it was. She didn't have another way to tell me that's what happened, but I filled that silence with all kinds of thoughts and worries. Silence can be a struggle. Even more so when we are dealing with God's silence. I think of those times when I have been leaning into God, seeking Him in my moments of darkness and hurt, searching for His wisdom or comfort. Whatever the prayer, feeling silence is an immense challenge.

Now let me reassure you for a moment—just because I'm a pastor, it doesn't mean I have a special line of communication with God that others don't have. I have the same struggles. We can all feel this same difficulty, and unfortunately, this is the space where a lot of people leave their faith. They are not sure what to do with the silence or even the quiet voice of God. I don't have all the answers for dealing with this Divine silence, but I have reflections to share that have helped in my journey.

Just because God is silent, it does not mean that He is distant.

"The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged" (Deuteronomy 31:8).

We see this many times in Scripture that God promises to never leave His people. He hasn't gone anywhere. He is with you in the midst of the place you are in, even if it feels hard.

Secondly, just because God is silent it does not mean He's not working.

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

In all things, God is working. All things. Even silent seasons. He may not be telling you the details, but we can trust that He is working. In our canon of scripture, we have a time of silence called the intertestamental period. The space between the Old and New Testaments. History was still happening, but there were no prophets speaking, no scriptures came out of that time. But what broke the silence? John the Baptist's birth. The forerunner

to make the way for Jesus. The clearest we have ever seen God. He was working in the silence preparing the world for Jesus, and He is working in the moments we feel like He is silent now. What is He preparing in your life?

I personally believe God can use silence as a beautiful and gentle teacher. In a world of constant noise, information and communication overload, perhaps God can use silence to make us pause and think more deeply on what He has taught us. We have to adjust our pace of communication to His. So here's what that has looked like in my life.

Take time to look back in godly reflection

I love the words of Malachi (which is actually the last book of the Old Testament right before the silence of the intertestamental period). "Remember the law of my servant Moses, the decrees and laws I gave him at Horeb for all Israel" (Malachi 4:4).

This is an encouragement to look back on the words and actions of God in history but I believe also in our lives. Some questions you might want to reflect on: Where has God brought you and your community? What has He taught you? What does His Word say? Have I lost focus on something He pointed me to in the past?

Take time to look inwards, re-examine our hearts

There is a powerful prayer in Psalm 139:23,24: "Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

While you wait on God's voice, maybe this is a moment to invite Him in to search your heart and do the kind of renovation and leading only He can do. Some questions you might want to reflect on would be: Are there things we need to let go of? To lay down at His feet? To change? To lean more into? Am I living in the present with God right now? Am I looking for the ways He is moving?

Take time to look forward to what God has for you

I like to think of this as a microwave generation. We love to have everything instantly. I recently bought a microwave meal and was frustrated when I read the front of the box and it said it would be ready in 90 seconds, but then when I went to make it the instruction said it would take 2 minutes in the microwave. Ridiculous! But also does 30 seconds really make a big difference in my life? Maybe we need to relearn the skill of waiting. To learn to be okay with waiting on God and keeping hope in His plan.

Where is your hope today? What are you waiting for in faithful expectation?

Silence is hard but let me leave you with one final verse to give you encouragement if you are facing a season of silence and waiting: "For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him" (Psalm 62:5).

Joshua Stothers

associate pastor and chaplain at Castle Hill church and Hills Adventist College, Sydney, NSW.

Discovery Bible Reading

a simple method to reach new people



When Discovery Bible Reading was introduced to Papua New Guinea, we did not realise how it would impact our churches, nor how this simple process would be used by the Holy Spirit to empower members and pastors to share faith, help new people find the truth about Jesus and result in the planting of many new churches. I have seen how effective it is and continue to facilitate Discovery Bible Reading groups—and find it is the best method for sharing the Bible’s message.

In the Pacific we love to witness to our friends and communities, in our language groups, villages, towns and cities. We look for the best ways to do this—using Bible studies, cottage meetings, visitor and welcome days in our churches, together with evangelistic meetings. Most of these are the methods pastors and some of the elders can use, to cover many topics to influence people to accept our beliefs and join the Adventist Church.

However, these methods often given little opportunity for questions to be explored and answered, with the messages of truth not really reaching into the hearts and minds of the people. Sometimes preachers speak from a stage for weeks with little or no personal interaction. In contrast, I was especially fascinated when Discovery Bible Reading was introduced to us in 2018.



Discovery Bible Reading allows people to read the Bible for themselves, ask questions, and find answers as they read and discuss. It reminds me of the story of the Ethiopian eunuch in Acts 8:26-40. Philip was taken by an angel to the desert road leading from Jerusalem to Gaza. There he met this important treasury official from Ethiopia—a eunuch. He had been to Jerusalem to worship and on his return was reading Isaiah’s prophecy of “the suffering servant”:

“He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before the shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken away from the earth” (Acts 8:32, 33; cf. Isaiah 53:7, 8).



In reading this prophecy he discovered something new and surprising—and something he did not understand. Was Isaiah writing of himself, or someone else? Philip ran to the chariot, asking, “Do you understand what you are reading?” (Acts 8:30), and the Ethiopian invited him onto the chariot. Together they explored the scriptures—like a Discovery Bible Reading in which the group, after reading the story ask: (1) What is new? (2) What surprises us? and (3) What do we not understand?

“Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told [the Ethiopian] the good news about Jesus” (Acts 8:35). Philip led him to see that on the cross Jesus gave His life for all humanity. He is the Lamb!

Convicted and convinced, the Ethiopian was challenged by the next question of Discovery Bible Reading: (4) What will we obey or apply to our lives? and he requested baptism. “Why shouldn’t I be baptised?” he asked (Acts 8:36).

This is what Discovery Bible Reading is all about. It allows people to read for themselves to discover truths. It challenges people to think—and participate, ask questions, seek answers and make lasting decisions. As with the Ethiopian eunuch, Discovery Bible Reading leads people to rejoice in the truth they discover about Jesus, the Lamb of God. And every Discovery Bible Reading group has the potential to lead others to rejoice in the truth about God.

The final question encourages each participant to be a disciple-maker: (5) What will we share with another this week? And it is well known that the Ethiopian took the gospel to his people, creating the first missionary movement in Africa.

Discovery Bible Reading is a new and fresh method of discipling new people to be rooted in Jesus Christ, and one that has a perpetual significance. Many churches have been planted as the result of this method of making disciples. A new permanent church building in Port Moresby, our national capital, has been named “Discovery Bible Reading Church”—the result of this method. It is very effective, and although many in Papua New Guinea are still yet to embrace Discovery Bible Reading, the outcome we are seeing right now is exhilarating. God is at work, the Holy Spirit is bringing change to people’s

lives, many members are sharing faith this way, people are being baptised, new churches are being built and people are worshipping God on His Sabbath.

Today this method is being used across the Pacific. I was serving in the Madang Manus Mission when I first learned about Discovery Bible Reading and immediately began to use it and to teach others to do as well. Now in the New Britain New Ireland Mission as a chaplain, I am using it on university and institutional campuses, and in local churches. When first introduced many thought it would take away from the pastor or minister being the main teacher or preacher and break the church. But today we benefit from Discovery Bible Reading groups, which are growing into new church plants with more members added to the Church.

So here is my challenge to all leaders, pastors, elders and members of the Adventist Church in the Pacific. Don’t settle with just doing what we have always done in the past, with just one person talking for the whole duration of a Bible study—which can also result in disputes and disagreements when people want to defend their beliefs and their churches.

Rather, let people discover for themselves. Times have changed. Many in our churches and communities are well educated. Give them the opportunity to give their honest thoughts on the text, ask questions and discuss the text together to absorb its truths. Discovery Bible Reading is a simple, any-one-can-do-it, no cost process in which people discover and receive the gospel and Bible truths themselves. And when they discover the truth themselves, they experience genuine lasting change.

The book Movement: Cultivating and Multiplying Disciple-making Movements, written by Garry Laukei, and available from Adventist Book Centres and online, details more about what Pastor Laukei has learned.

Garry Laukei

chaplain at the University of Natural Resources and Environment, Correctional Institutional Services, and Kerevat School of Excellence in Rabaul, East New Britain Province.

The haystack journey

"Yummm." I leant back in my chair, stretching my hands in the air. "That was delicious!" I wiped leftover corn chip crumbs and tomato juice from my cheeks. "I think I could eat haystacks every day for the rest of my life," I exclaimed to my husband who was similarly satisfied from our haystack feast.

We looked at each other for a moment. "Do you really think you could?" he asked. I paused for a moment. Took a deep breath. "Yep, want to try?" I grinned across the table.

In this moment, May 10, 2020, the haystack challenge was born. We promptly drove to Aldi and stocked up on beans (all the varieties!), corn chips (all the shapes!), cheese, sour cream, tomatoes, cucumbers, lettuce, avocados and red onions. The lady at the checkout would have probably thought we were having a Mexican party, but due to it being the start of COVID restrictions she probably just thought we were panic buying food like everyone else.

We got home and began making different structures and shapes stacking all the ingredients together as they didn't fit in our pantry. This brought us an amusing activity to help some COVID lockdown hours go by.

The months rolled by and day by day we both thoroughly looked forward to our haystack dinner. The ground rules were that we would eat haystacks once per day until we got

tired of eating them. But our love only grew stronger each day. Sometimes we even had it for breakfast we were so keen!

Along the journey people started giving us more ideas and recommendations and our haystack combinations became even more creative. From grated carrot in the bean mix to broccoli stalks in homemade pesto for toppings, it was a fun and wild ride on a thorough exploration of this most exquisite and wholesome meal.

How long did we last? Well, on December 10, 2020, we made the tough decision to eat our last haystack (for the challenge). With COVID restrictions lifting and plans to spend weeks in the bush and road-tripping the east coast, logistics and convenience won that decision.

Seven months. Seven precious months consuming our favourite meal day in and day out. 2020 is remembered for a lot of reasons. But the only thing I can remember now, all these years later, is the common feeling of sitting down to a nutritious, scrumptious mouth-watering feast of haystacks. What a year! What a memory!

When life gave us lemons, we didn't make lemonade—we made hummus for our haystacks!

I think Jesus made us with a creative and humorous streak. Sometimes we need to lean in more with our hearts (and stomachs) rather



than with our heads so much.

Even now some people still ask me about our haystack challenge. Many ask, "Do you still like eating haystacks?" And my answer is . . . "Does the sun rise in the east?"

Anna Lindbeck

musician and traveller
from Queensland, Australia.



Conversations

Past, present, Parr

Would love to be there with you in celebrating 125 years of the *Record* by the Signs Publishing Company (News, November 4). My journey with *Record* started in 1968 when I started an apprenticeship in hand composition at the Signs. Robert Henry Parr was editor—my journey and experience was indeed a happy one.

As technology changed in the printing industry, I moved into the art department once again working on *Record* in page up and layout. This is where a friendship was created working with Pastor Robert Parr.

His desk was flooded with work but when I needed the pages to continue work, he knew exactly where they were after a final proofread by him.

His cheeky, humourish nature was forthcoming and I confidently replied in a similar fashion. This relationship continued for many years. Pastor Parr even married Julie and I in 1974 in the Warburton church.

My time at the Signs Publishing Company was indeed a very happy experience; one I remember fondly. Changes came when I joined Sanitarium retail and later as a company representative, but that is another journey in itself.

Looking back at *Record*, it would have been awesome if James Rabe,

Alan Holman, Derek Walsh, Graeme Brown, Jean Bedford, Norma Norris and Pearl McRorie could all be with you in Wahroonga on this special anniversary. All have contributed to the success of *Record*.

May the future journey for *Record* be as strong as the past, and may the team have a strong purpose to continue such a strong legacy.

Terry Atkins, via Facebook

Sharing beyond pews

Love this! Great article, Juliana (“We need to do better”, October 7). I wholeheartedly agree that communications needs to have a much more prominent role in the Church organisation, in all levels! While personally sharing the good news is amazing, corporately sharing the good news can have a much wider impact on our local communities. It's time to get serious and use the tools we have been given in this age to reach the people where they are. There is so much good news to share, why keep it to ourselves!

Jasmine Flamenco, via Facebook

Amen, not applause

I refer to “Secular spectacle” (Conversations, October 21). This will be a contentious issue, typically along the conservative/liberal divide!

I play a solo instrument and have often played in church and other spiritual events. I play less frequently in secular situations, but when I do, it is always satisfying to receive plenty of applause. It feeds the natural desire for approbation and praise. Which performer doesn't want that?

When I play in religious settings however, I feel very uncomfortable if there is applause. I cringe! I do not play for applause. I play as a contribution to worship in praise of God, not of me! My prayer always is that my music will uplift the hearers. To avoid awkwardness, I let the congregation know beforehand (in the announcements or before I play) to please not clap, but if the music is uplifting, just say Amen! In settings where I have played before, the hearers already know.

I also cringe when a speaker is applauded for delivering an inspiring sermon. Why not clap after an uplifting prayer? For both, a heartfelt Amen seems an appropriate response.

While we need to be aware of changing expectations and practices in society, I believe that we also need to be careful that the values and practices of the world don't sully our pure worship of a holy God.

Rod Cooke, NSW



Sunny rainbow salad with veggie sausages

👤 Serves 6 🕒 Prep 15 🍳 Cook 10

It's BBQ time! This vibrant salad made with Veggie Delights Veggie Sausages is quick and easy to prepare. It's sure to be a crowd pleaser at your next event or for when you're asked to bring-a-plate.

Ingredients

- 1 packet Veggie Delights Veggie Sausages
- 4 medium zucchini, ribboned or spiralised
- 4 carrots, ribboned or spiralised
- 2 tbsp Spanish onion, finely chopped
- 1x 400g tin chickpeas, rinsed and drained
- 250g cherry tomatoes, cut into halves
- ½ cup walnuts, roughly chopped
- ½ cup fresh parsley leaves, finely chopped
- ½ cup fresh mint leaves, finely chopped
- ¼ cup fresh dill leaves, finely chopped

Dressing

- ¼ cup (62mL) fresh orange juice
- 1 tsp maple syrup
- 30mL lemon juice
- 2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil

Method

1. Heat BBQ grill on medium heat, cook Veggie Delights Veggie Sausages according to packet instructions, turning frequently.
2. Remove from BBQ and slice into pieces.
3. Whisk together ingredients for dressing in a small bowl.
4. In a large bowl toss together zucchinis, carrots, onion, chickpeas, tomatoes, walnuts, herbs and sausages.
5. Drizzle with dressing, toss again and serve.

Nutritional Information (per serving)

ENERGY	CALORIES	PROTEIN	FAT	SATURATES	CARBOHYDRATE
2020kJ	322	15g	19g	2g	18g
SUGARS	FIBRE	CALCIUM	SODIUM	IRON	POTASSIUM
9g	8g	104mg	373mg	4mg	687mg



Recipe of the Week



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Hello Kids!



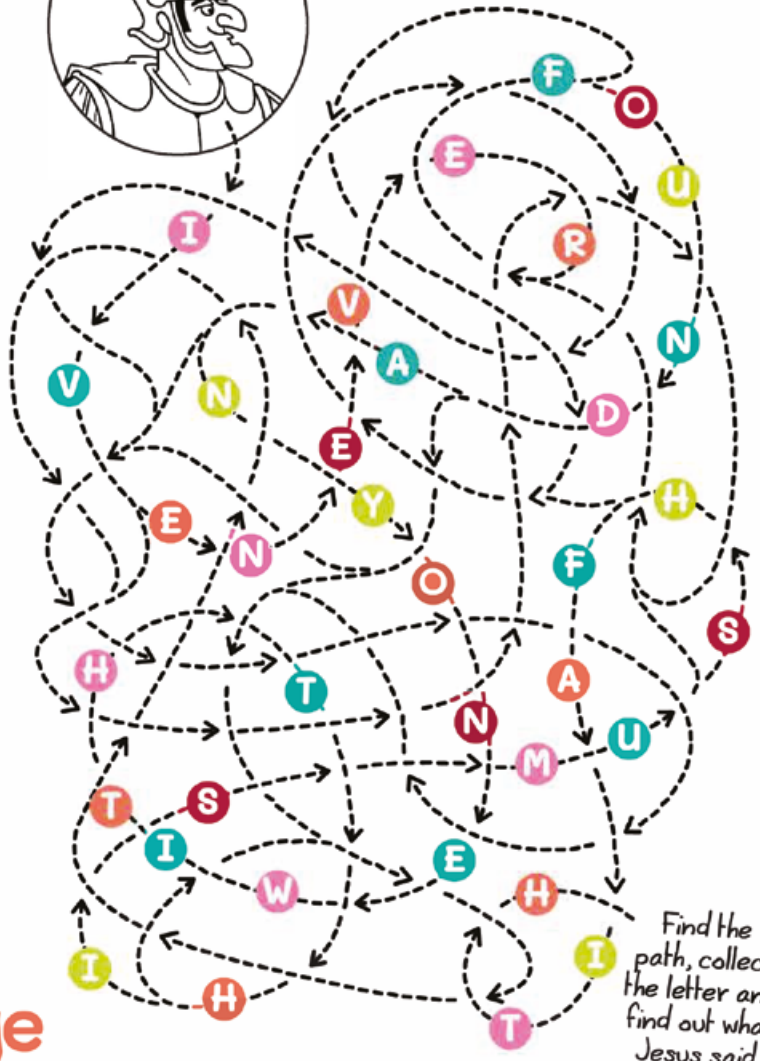
The Faith of the Centurion

A Roman centurion had a servant who was sick and at the point of death, who was highly valued by him. When the centurion heard about Jesus, he sent a message to Jesus asking Him to come and heal his servant. When Jesus was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends, saying to him, "Lord, don't go to any trouble for me! I am not good enough for you to come into my house. And I am certainly not worthy to come to you. Just say the word, and my servant will get well". When Jesus heard this, He was so surprised that He turned and said to the crowd following Him,

“ _____

 _____!”

The officer's friends returned and found the servant well.



Find the path, collect the letter and find out what Jesus said.

Test Your Knowledge

1. What Jesus does in this story is a _____
2. What town did Jesus enter? _____
3. What was the title of the man who came asking Jesus for help? _____
4. At the end of the story the servant was _____
5. The chapter of the Bible the story is found in _____
6. Who in the story was ill? _____
7. Who was following Jesus? _____
8. The Jewish Elders told Jesus the Centurion built their _____

MEMORY VERSE

“Now if you will faithfully obey me, you will be my very own people...”
 (Exodus 19:5 CEV).

Obituaries



EISZELE, Joan Mary (nee Dadson), born 3.2.1930 in Launceston, Tas; died 26.9.23 in Sydney,

NSW. She was predeceased by her husband, George. Joan is survived by her children, Georgina Lockington-Milsom, Harvey, Annette Donoghue and Lanna Tran; and grandchildren, James Lockington and Caitlin. She will be remembered for her practical faith and her extensive volunteer work with refugees for which she received an OAM.

David Cherry



FAKES, Mary Blyth (nee Cunningham), born 22.12.1924 in Kurri Kurri, NSW; died 20.7.23 in

Whiddon Aged Care, Redhead. In 1951 she married Keith, who predeceased her in 2014. Mary is survived by her children, Robyn and Brad; grandchildren, Rebecca and Daniel; and four great-grandchildren, Chloe, Cooper, Alexis and Elijah (all of Whitebridge). Mary was a highly regarded nurse, skilled midwife and devoted mother to her children. Mary's strong faith in

God helped her through many hard times in life. Her inspirational service as deacon, among other roles at Swansea church, made her a pillar in the house of God. She now sleeps in Jesus in the hope of the resurrection.

Fred Chileshe



IRVINE, Harold Thomas (Bill), born 20.1.1927 in McKees Hill (near Lismore), NSW; died 26.5.23 at

Melody Park, Nerang, Qld. Bill is survived by his wife, Joan; children, Ian, Colin, Joanne and Geoff and their spouses; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren. Bill worked as a teacher and then headmaster. He then went into teacher training at Avondale College (now University) and Longburn College. This was followed by a move into administration where he undertook roles as the director of education at the Central Pacific Union Mission (now Trans Pacific Union) and then associate education director at the Australasian Division (now South Pacific Division). He will be remembered with appreciation and respect by his church community.

Stephen Bewes



NOO POKURA, Tungane Pastor, born 23.2.1936 in Rarotonga, Cook Islands; died

16.10.23 in Auckland, NZ. He married Nukutau Pokura (nee Mataio), who predeceased him in September 2016. He was also predeceased by his children, Tutai Mareva in 2003 and Jane in 2017. He is survived by his children, Ruth, Porter Joel, Caroline Dorothy and Nukutau; grandchildren; great-grandchildren; and in-laws. Pastor Pokura attended Fulton College in 1963. He served as department leader for JMV, Stewardship, Sabbath School and LA. He is credited with building and renovating churches all over the Cook Islands and was instrumental in the establishment of the prison ministry services on Rarotonga. Later he became the first Cook Islander to take up the post of Mission secretary until his retirement in 2001.

John Browne, Maika Peehikuru
Paora Teaukura



SCHRIEVER, Marilyn Elizabeth (nee Wilson), born 14.8.1945; died 26.9.23 in Knox

Private Hospital, Vic. In 1963 she was predeceased by her sibling, Raymond in a tragic accident while at Avondale College. Marilyn is survived by her husband, John (Croydon); children, Darren and Ange, Brett and Trish; grandchildren, Abbey and James, Zac, Caleb, Dylan and Mya; and her siblings, Annette and Brendan. Marilyn's generous hospitality and fierce determination combined to enrich the lives of all she touched. She was a successful business woman, valued friend and caring mum and grandma. She looked forward to reuniting with her brother and her family, when together they meet their Saviour.

Ian Howie



TASSONE, Pastor Frank, born 3.8.1934 in Mildura, Vic; died 7.5.23 in Wahroonga, NSW. On 29.12.1957

he married Alona Mitchell. Frank is survived by his wife; and daughters, Julie (Wahroonga) and Maria (Deloraine, Tas). Frank and Alona joined the church in Mildura in 1957 and Frank was ordained into ministry in 1983 to oversee the first Italian church in Guildford, NSW. This ministry included time spent at Fairfield,

Carols

▼ AT THE SAN ▼

Sunday 10 December 2023



FROM 4PM

Family Activities | Food Stalls | Santa Photos
7PM Kids Concert 7:30PM Main Carols Concert

sah.org.au/san-carols





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Concord, Rockhampton, Bundaberg and other churches. Whilst in Rockhampton he guided the establishment of the Capricorn Adventist Retirement Village at Yeppoon, Qld. He is honoured with Tassone Boulevard named after him. Frank was active serving his Lord in his later years, designing easy-to-use Bible studies for schools, lay preachers and elders. He never stopped helping others and now he is resting until the resurrection.

Alban Matohiti



VAUGHAN, Eunice May (nee Steicke), born 20.8.1931 in Mount Barker, WA; died 3.8.23 in Cooranbong, NSW. She was predeceased by her husband, John in 2018. Eunice is survived by her children, Coralie Watkins (Lennox Head), Jennifer Davidson

(Wye), Gregory (Bundaberg, Qld), Desmond (Bonnells Bay, NSW); Desiree Szeszeran, (Cooranbong) and Raelene Lamplough (Cooranbong); 14 grandchildren; and 27 great-grandchildren. Eunice passed peacefully in the home of her daughter after a long battle with cancer. She was much loved by her children and their families.

Steven Magaitis

Advertisements

MISSIONARIES LUNCH, 1PM DECEMBER 9, KRESSVILLE ACTIVITIES CENTRE

Current and ex-missionaries, descendants and friends are invited. Please prepare a short talk on a significant person in your time in the mission field. Enquiries to Warren Martin 0428 727 384.

AVONDALE FAMILY FUNERALS

As committed Adventists, we build strong relationships with families and offer respectful and compassionate cremation and burial services at your cemetery of choice from Sydney to Newcastle. Contact Mark Windus on 0411 797 854 or <director@avondalefamilyfunerals.com.au> <avondalefamilyfunerals.com.au>.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON ON AUDIO CD

Christian Services for the Blind produces an audio CD of the Sabbath school lesson quarterly for those with vision impairment. If you or someone you know could benefit from this free service please contact us. Phone: +61 (0)2 9847 2296. Email <csfbhi@adventistmedia.org.au>. Post to Christian Services for the Blind, Locked Bag 1115, Wahroonga NSW 2076.

Positions Vacant

CEO—ADVENTIST AVIATION SERVICES GOROKA, PNG

Adventist Aviation Services PNG are seeking applicants for the position of chief executive officer to direct the overall operations of Adventist Aviation Services thereby exercising full operational control of the organisation on behalf of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Papua New Guinea. Applicants who are active Seventh-day Adventists, mission oriented, professional, hard-working and adventurous, with commercial aptitude for business management, are encouraged to apply. For more information, please visit <adventistemployment.org.au>. All applications, including your CV, three work-related referees and a reference from your church pastor, must be forwarded to: Human Resources, Seventh-day Adventist Church (Pacific) Limited, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga NSW 2076 Australia or email <hr@adventist.org.au>. **Applications close January 24, 2024.**

SPD INTERNAL AUDITOR—CORPORATE SERVICES WAHROONGA, NSW

The South Pacific Division (SPD) is seeking expressions of interest from qualified and experienced internal auditing professionals to support the work of the Church in this full-time internal auditor role. For full details please visit <adventistemployment.org.au> or email <hr@adventist.org.au>. To apply, please email a cover letter addressing the selection criteria, your CV, three work-related referees and the contact details of your Adventist church pastor to <hr@adventist.org.au>. Early 2024 start. **Applications close November 21 or once an appointment is made.**

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT—SPD ADMINISTRATION WAHROONGA, NSW

The South Pacific Division (SPD) is seeking a highly skilled and capable administrative assistant who is committed to furthering God's mission and eager to support the work of our administration team. Working in a collaborative office, this full-time role will support the work of the associate officer and secretariat and be based at the Division head office. In addition to providing exceptional office administrative support, the role will also assist in compiling minutes, statistics and research, manage outlook calendars, reconcile lists and policies, and help with special events and projects as needed. The applicant must have current unrestricted work rights in Australia. Early January 2024 start. Full selection criteria at <adventistemployment.org.au>. To apply, please email a cover letter addressing the selection criteria, your CV, three work-related referees and the contact details of your Adventist church pastor to, <hr@adventist.org.au>. The appointing body reserves the right to fill this position at its discretion and close applications early. Only those who have the legal right to work in Australia will be considered. **Applications close November 26.**



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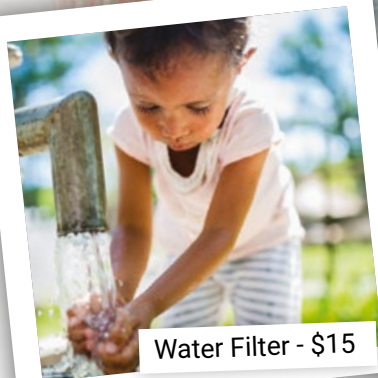
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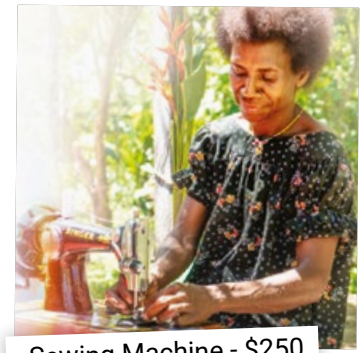
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