

Sanitarium back on the shelves

RECORD

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Camp-meeting attracts 50,000 in PNG

In this issue

Adventists react to pope's Sunday call

Signs opens a prison door

Beware the Jabbok blessing

Leaders under training at Avondale

NOW IT'S YOUR MOVE!

A woman was travelling by train to the city. She was upset. Angry. Devastated. She was going to the city to finalise her divorce.

At the station someone was handing out *Signs of the Times* magazines. She took one and, as she held it, she suddenly realised God was still there, and still there for her. And she hadn't even opened the magazine yet! (If only *Signs* always had that kind of impact.)

There's a story behind this story. This woman had grown up a Seventh-day Adventist and, at church, had often seen *Signs* magazines lying about. As she grew older she chose a different path—one that took her away from the church and from God.

Now at her lowest point, the *Signs* handed to her at the station was a welcome reminder God did care.

The person who told me this story says the woman now has her children in Sabbath school and is finding her way back to church. It's another story illustrating how *Signs* changes lives.

Discovery Centre

Most people find God in a meaningful way through a number of Christian contacts (the best being friendship). And when *Signs* is used, because it is often only one among several of those contacts, we often don't hear about it.

But there is one area where we can be specific—the number who respond to Discover course home-study materials advertised in each issue.

Last year the Discovery Centre received 809 applications for correspondence courses from people who

clipped a response form from *Signs*. But note this: of those who applied for home-study materials through *Signs*, 18 are now baptised members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Changing lives at home

There have been magazines on the market for teenage girls (often the magazines were meant for their older sisters, but that doesn't mean they didn't read them). These magazines often promote values that are unacceptable in a Christian home—they're amoral or even immoral.

Currently the magazine industry is going through a new phase, with a rush in the market as several publishers compete over magazines aimed at teenage boys. And these magazines have the same value problems.

So many parents tell me they are thankful to have *Signs* lying around the house. They tell me their teenagers read them (not every word, mind you). They say they appreciate the magazine reinforcing values important to them as parents. We've tried to respond to this need by adding a couple of new elements that should appeal more to youth.

There is a mission field in our own homes.

No need to be ashamed

Recently I met with the head of Quest Australia, the group coordinating Christian witness during the Sydney Olympics (watch for a report in an upcoming *RECORD*, and, yes, *Signs* will be at the Sydney Olympics). He was impressed, particularly with most Christian groups planning to produce material confirming faith rather than reaching the sec-

ular mind. He saw *Signs* providing a different outreach.

Pastor Larry Laredo, from the Greater Sydney Conference, presented a brief proposal concerning *Signs* to a group of Sydney church leaders meeting with Quest.

"They were impressed," says Pastor Laredo. "None of them had seen it before; several made positive comments."

We're fortunate *Signs* is proving attractive to a wide variety of people. It's a witness tool that can attract interest. A tool the Lord can use to change lives.

Your move

At its most basic, *Signs* is only pictures and words on paper. We're never more gratified than when God chooses to take those pictures and words and move hearts, to change lives. That can't happen unless people actually receive the magazine.

You see, there's no value in drawing material together, laying it out onto pages, and printing it if the magazine just ends up stockpiled in a warehouse somewhere. *Signs* is working, but it can only continue to work if it's out there for people to see.

That's why your support, your subscriptions and sponsorship is needed. Last week you saw the magazine when the *Signs* replaced the *RECORD*. This week you need to know *Signs* can only continue with your subscriptions and sponsorship.

Now it's your move!



Bruce Mannors

Next week

An analysis of the pope's statement concerning Sunday worship.

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South Pacific Division
ACN 000 003 930

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Vol 103 No 30

Cover Photo: L. Dunstan



Manuscripts Should be sent to The Editor, *RECORD*, Signs Publishing Company, Warburton, Victoria 3799. Manuscripts or computer disks will only be returned if accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.
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Subscriptions South Pacific Division, \$A40.00 \$NZ73.00. All other regions, \$A70.00. Air mail rates on application. Order from Signs Publishing Company, Warburton, Victoria 3799, Australia. Printed weekly by Signs Publishing Company.

"LET ME HARMONISE THE CREW"

b y N o e l D e e d

A crucial factor in Australia 2's win of the America's Cup in 1983 was its crew. John Bertrand, the skipper, devoted many pages of his book (*Born to Win*) to this factor.

His formula for winning was this: "Give me a boat that will make us equal, and then let me harmonise the crew."

Bertrand wanted "men who would go to the wall for each other, inspiring, covering, supporting, helping out everywhere, each backing up the others, watching each other through the difficult areas, each ready to jump in and help, to slave away at whatever was necessary."

Imagine if that were the spirit and character of the Adventist Church today! It sounds like the early church.

The four key elements that went into his crew's preparation present a model for church members. This is particularly so with the church about to face a challenge far more daunting than the America's Cup, and it does have a purpose far more vital and exalted.

1. Team spirit and unity

Not surprisingly, Bertrand believed that without team spirit and unity, and a feeling of solid camaraderie among the crew, there was no point in going to Newport.

This is what he felt his ill-fated 1974 cup attempt on *Southern Cross* lacked. That failure etched into his very being the need for a close-knit crew.

Through church history, the times of greatest advance have been characterised by close-knit harmony. Paul strongly urged "(the church in all its various parts [to be] closely) joined and firmly knit together . . . working properly . . . grow[ing] to full maturity . . . building itself up in love" (Ephesians 4:16, Amplified).

In Paul's day the world saw a group of men and women united in devotion to their risen Lord. Many

joined this unconquerable fellowship. Those who knew their backgrounds and former divisions could not help but praise God for the power they saw at work in this united team.

2. Belief in their cause

Bertrand's biggest obstacle to team confidence was the America's Cup history—there had been no other winner in 132 years. You can't expect to win unless you believe you can. The crew needed an explicit belief that they could fight and win!

By neutralising America's reputation as an invincible opponent, and using the power of the mind as the



key to winning, Bertrand built team confidence. The crew developed boldness, courage and tenacity when it was most needed.

God builds His church crew's confidence, neutralising the opponent's reputation by assuring it that the devil is *already* a conquered foe (Romans 8:31-37), and building confidence through Bible truth as it transforms and renews the mind for living in victory (Romans 12:2).

3. Visualising success

"You cannot go anywhere, if you have not first imagined yourself there," said Bertrand. In his experience, people achieve that which they imagine themselves achieving. That which you have "never even dreamed of is that which you will never attain."

Bertrand was a strong believer in the visualisation of success.

Regular, disciplined and Spirit-led Bible study will provide the church crew with a positive mental visualisation of Jesus, who is our victory. This victory is a dwelling place, a promised land, prepared by God for His people who simply dare to enter in by faith and trust (Psalm 37:3-5; Galatians 2:20).

4. Total involvement

Bertrand impressed upon his crew that he wanted everyone totally involved, contributing and crucial to the effort. He learned this in 1978 when sailing with rival veteran American skipper Dennis Conner.

Conner involved everyone in all the aspects of a race. He would shout questions and seek opinions of this one or that. This technique had the effect of making people feel important. Someone with a routine task suddenly found himself involved with the master. This produced a tight team spirit.

How well are church leaders involving every member? Paul demonstrated that church unity and strength depends on *all* acting their part. In his well-known church-body model (1 Corinthians 12:12-27), he majors on each member's importance and points out that each has a place and function. Each is absolutely necessary. It's too easy to overlook the quiet, less talented and less attractive—but it's uns Scriptural, and weakens team morale.

On to victory

Bertrand's focus and ideas for crew harmony succeeded; victory was theirs.

We, as God's crew in His church, can achieve continuing and ultimate victory from lifting our game on member (crew) attitudes, discipline and cohesion.

See you at the victory ceremony! **R**

Noel Deed writes from Cape Paterson, Victoria.

Did you hear...?

■... About the stop-smoking program at Caboolture (Qld) church mentioned on "60 Minutes"?

Church communication secretary **Fran Craig** sent a letter to the program. This is what appeared on the screen:

"Praise God! In just a few minutes you have been able to alert Australia to something we have been working on for 37 years. We hope your story will be the beginning of the end of tobacco."

■... Which Adventist church joined in Australia's annual Biggest Tea Party on June 23?

Members of the Tumbulgarum (NSW) church provided morning tea for those involved in the church's long-running craft program, and raised \$A290 for cancer research in the process.

Clippings

■ Dear Adventist Discovery Centre...

"Thanks for letting me study the Bible through the Here's Life course. Went to Woollahra church for the first time yesterday; really enjoyed it. The people made me feel very welcome. Can't wait to go back next week." — **Christina**

People near you need Discover lessons. See your local church personal ministries leader.

■ 1, 2, 3...

1,281,314

Sales (in \$A) by literature evangelists working in the South Pacific Division during the 1997-98 financial year. A 7 per cent increase from the last financial year. — **ANZLE Dispatch**

Church calendar

■ **August 15** Avondale College Offering

40 sign up at "Last Days" program



Forty people, one from Kenya, signed up for the introductory course in literature evangelism after attending a "Last Day Issues" program in Brisbane, July 4.

"That's the most I've seen sign up at once in 16 years of literature ministry," says program organiser John Brereton (pictured). Mr Brereton is also the Northern Area literature evangelism manager.



Some 2000 people joined Adventist Media Centre evangelist Pastor Geoffrey Youlden, literature evangelists (LEs), South Queensland Conference president Pastor Chester Stanley and South Pacific

Division publishing director Pastor Bruce Campbell (whose department sponsored the program) at the Sleeman Sports Complex Theatre.

"The complex management had never seen such a crowd before," says Mr Brereton. "People sat on the stairs between the seats; about 100 crammed into a sound room."

"It's a testimony to the dedication of our members who were prepared to sit in the most awkward spots to be part of the program."

Four LEs shared experiences from their literature ministry work during the program. These were followed by a call from Pastor Campbell to join the literature ministry.

"Our literature ministry is certainly alive and well," says Mr Brereton.

New Pathfinder program trialled

A new Pathfinder program is being trialled for 12 months in 34 clubs across Australia and New Zealand. "Young people are looking for something more meaningful, challenging, fun and definitely not like school," says Trans-Australian Union Conference youth director Pastor Andrew Kingston



(pictured), who chairs a subcommittee of the South Pacific Division

Youth Ministries Committee developing the program. Based on an activity model, the program will be evaluated after the initial trial, then trialled again for

12 months. The program will be launched in 2000.

NA youth earn Duke's award



Four youth received the Duke of Edinburgh Award at the Northern Australian Conference Pathfinder fair on June 21. Jason Carter, Christie Krogdahl, Koveve Mataa and Johanna Wells earned the award by canoeing the Whitsunday Passage, completing

Bronze Star or Bronze Medallion lifesaving awards, and learning bare-bow archery (partly taught by three-times world champion Gisela Johnston). A fifth youth, Leon Carter, received the Bridge Award II. The awards were presented by former Trans-Tasman Union Conference youth director Pastor Bob Possingham.

Rotary donates \$25,000 to SAH

The Rotary Club of Lindfield (NSW) donated \$A25,000 for extensions to Jacaranda Lodge recently. The club presented their cheque to Sydney Adventist Hospital chief executive officer Ian Grice at a dinner on June 23. Rotary clubs have raised \$A45,000 since the launch

100th SQld camp

Adventists will be reading the Bible through completely at the 100th South Queensland Conference camp-meeting from September 17 to 26.

The Bible reading will run 24 hours a day and be associated with a display of old and interesting Bibles. The camp theme is "Experiencing the Power of God's Word."

"The first camp-meeting was very evangelistic," says conference president Pastor Chester Stanley (pictured). "The meetings were advertised in the community—trams

had advertising draped along their sides. We feel it would be appropriate to make this camp-meeting, 100 years later, just as evangelistic."

The conference is advertising the camp-meeting in the community. The main speaker is Adventist Media Centre evangelist Pastor Geoffrey Youlden.

"We think it's fitting for the centenary celebration of our first camp-meeting that our speaker is an Australian."

Other centenary features include the finals of a Bible quiz (heats are being held in churches and schools), a Pathfinder fair, art competition (first prize is \$A400), Sanitarium breakfast and historical display.—*Focus*

of a fundraising campaign earlier this year.



Pacific islands

Sopas offers first nursing diploma

From 1999, Sopas Adventist College of Nursing, and another church-based school, will offer the first diploma of nursing in Papua New Guinea (PNG). The college, in affiliation with Pacific Adventist University, started developing its own curriculum three years ago. It has now been approved by the PNG Nursing Council and government Health Department. Teaching and accommodation facilities at Sopas Adventist Hospital, where the college is based, will be expanded.

Solomon SDAs receive medals

Seven Adventists have been recognised by the Solomon Islands government for outstanding service to country and church during the 20th anniversary independence celebrations in Honiara. Pastor Wilfred Bili received the gold Cross of Solomon Islands (CSI); Sata Pitu and Pastors Wilfred Liligeto, Nathan Rore and Lawrence Tanabose received the silver CSI; while Tosasai Buka and Margaret Fa'ana received the bronze CSI.

Women pack health resort

Women had to be accommodated in the luggage room of the Warburton Health Resort (Vic), such was demand for a reservation at the first Victorian Conference Women's Ministries retreat held at the resort.

The July 17-19 retreat provided a range of activities and lectures that helped women relax and learn. The theme? "Women fulfilling their potential—with style."

"Many women don't feel good about themselves," says Victorian Conference women's ministries director and retreat organiser Susanna Weber (pictured with one of the speakers, Esther Rudenberg). "Some arrived stressed out. The retreat was to help them overcome this feeling."

"Our most popular workshop was 'Families in Crisis'! We think [as a church] we don't have problems; this gave the women a forum where they could discuss their marriage concerns, wayward teenagers or family splits with others and get the tools to work with. We hope they've gone home and put what they learned into practice."

"But the purpose wasn't just to be crammed full of knowledge: It's a time-out—and a time for a bit of pampering."

Along with lectures by Christian counsellors, nutritionists and social workers, the 160 women who attended enjoyed the therapeutic services offered by the resort. A number of non-Adventists attended.

A sacred concert, featuring a costumed Asian chorale and singers from Fiji, raised more than \$A800 for a Yarra Valley women's refuge.—*Lee Dunstan*



Briefly

■ **India:** Asian Aid sponsors eight of the 13 medical laboratory technology



and nursing students who graduated from the Giffard Memorial Hospital in June.

■ **Papua New Guinea:** Sixty-two teachers and

volunteers from the Bougainville Mission attended a training program at the Kepesia Adventist School, July 6-10. There is a shortage of trained teachers in the mission because of the island's nine-year civil war.

■ **Bolivia:** The Bolivia Adventist University scored among the top three in a government evaluation of 26 universities recently.—*ANN*

BEWARE THE JABBOK BLESSING

EXPERIENCE the Power of His Word

by W A Townsend

thousands of people from around the world are heading off to a remote spot in Israel where they hope to receive the "Jabbok Blessing." They're going to a ford in the Jabbok, a Palestinian stream, where Jacob received his life-changing blessing.

Other Christians, in many countries, will tomorrow night sleep on the cold, hard earth, under the stars, with a stone for a pillow so they can dream of a ladder stretching between them and heaven—the dream God gave to Jacob.

Some are obsessed with the notion that you have to repeat the unusual aspects of a particular experience recorded in the Bible before you can have God's special blessing. People are doing some strange things these days—even stranger than the above imagined scenarios.

There are those who fall over backwards in a kind of fainting trance, others roll around the floor in what appears as a fit of delirium, while others laugh uncontrollably—some even bark. Still others claim to have hot flushes creep over them.

All this, they assure us, is part of receiving the Spirit and being filled with the Spirit. Ours is not to judge them, but we can ask if these are Bible requirements and to be expected as part of having a Holy Spirit experience.

The original Pentecost experience—as recounted in Acts 2—was indeed dramatic. A violent wind from heaven filled the house where the waiting 120 people were assembled. All were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in languages they hadn't learned, but which were the languages of the people to whom they witnessed.

This launched the Christian church, and that's where the emphasis was—not on the personal, emotional experience of those present. Have you witnessed the launching of a ship or been present at the opening of a building? There are special events that are part of the occasion, but they don't continue throughout the life of the ship or the building. We expect the ship or the building to last, but not the opening events.

Pentecost launched the Christian church and opened the doors of the gospel to the world. It was a *historic* occasion, not the beginning of an *experiential requirement* for all believers of all time.

The international church was launched, a church of many nations and many languages. This was a once-only event; it was surely of much greater importance than any personal ecstatic feelings that may have been associated with it. Thus it is with the Holy Spirit today.

On the day of Pentecost, there were the *specific items* and the *general truths*. There isn't the slightest hint in Scripture that we should ape the specifics of the occasion. It's the general that counts.

Here are those general truths direct from the Bible's record of the Christian church's launching:

1. "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ" (Acts 2:36).*

2. "Repent and be baptised, *every one of you*, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.



And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (verse 38, emphasis added).

3. "The promise is for you and your children and for *all who are far off*—for *all* whom the Lord our God will call" (verse 39, emphasis added).

These general truths put the Holy Spirit into the practical present, not leaving Him in the historical setting of dramatic specifics from a once-only day.

Any of us who may hanker after dramatic demonstrations in connection with the receiving of the Holy Spirit would do well to read the original promises of the Holy Spirit spoken by Jesus and recorded in John 14:15-18 and John 16:7-15. There's nothing there to suggest spectacular demonstrations or hot, fuzzy feelings.

From references to the Holy Spirit in the Bible, these truths stand out:

1. The very first time Scripture mentions the Holy Spirit it is "hovering over the waters" (Genesis 1:2). "Hovering" suggests a seeing, caring, quiet Spirit.

2. The second reference is: "My Spirit will not contend with man for ever" (Genesis 6:3). Clearly the Holy Spirit plays an active role in redemption; a beautiful work of strength and quietness.

3. In the New Testament the first mention of the Spirit reveals Him involved in the mystery and miracle of the incarnation; again a quiet, deliberate outworking of God's redemptive plan (Matthew 1:18, 21).

4. The Spirit of God comes to His Son in the form of a dove at His baptism (Matthew 3:16). The connection between baptism and the quiet recep-

tion of the Holy Spirit is clear.

5. The Spirit is *given* to the child of God as "a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come" (2 Corinthians 5:5). God's gifts are acts of His grace; grace is gentle and quiet.

6. The Holy Spirit is God's gracious messenger of love to every believer, not something to be wrenched from an unwilling God by arduous pleading and agonising, but freely "poured . . . into our hearts" (Romans 5:5).

7. Every true believer in Christ has the Spirit, for "if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ" (Romans 8:9). Could anything be plainer?

8. Every true believer can be quietly confident in the present, and equally confident of the future because of the ministry of the Holy Spirit in his or her heart, for "you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory" (Ephesians 1:13, 14). What could be more clear or more positive than that?

A hymn writer of long ago felt the desire of many a Christian of today: "I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies, / No sudden rendering of the vale of clay, / No angel visitant, no op'ning skies; / But take the dimness of my soul away."

The Holy Spirit takes away the dimness of our souls when we claim Him by faith rather than by expecting him to come as a reward for experiencing some kind of emotional experience.

From time to time we all need to remind ourselves of Paul's words of spiritual wisdom: "We live by faith, not by sight" (2 Corinthians 5:7). Let's live every day in the Spirit. That's God's way for His children. **R**

**All Bible quotations are from the NIV.*

W A Townend, a retired church administrator, lectures in the theology department at Avondale College, NSW.

SIGNS OPENS A PRISON DOOR

by Lee Dunstan

Alf is a true-blue, gritty Aussie from Innisfail, in far-north Queensland. He produces his own Christian music radio show and, being a talker, can use any interaction to witness.

Alf, like some others, used to think that *Signs of the Times* had lost its way, that it wasn't as religious as before and wouldn't be much good for witnessing. Until one day . . .

Alf, with a friend from Cairns church, visits prisons on Sabbath afternoons. They talk to the prisoners and like to leave something to read.

Alf carries a set of Bible-prophecy illustrated aids to give on-the-spot Bible studies, but he pondered what else they might take.

"The prisoners will read anything," he says. "But you give them something heavy-religious and they won't take it! We wanted a magazine that wasn't Bible-bashing.

"We'd heard some older people say how the *Signs* wasn't as spiritual as it used to be, and I wasn't 100 per cent convinced myself. But being a church-sponsored and produced paper, we decided to give *Signs* a go.

"One day I came to a prisoner and told him who I was and where I was from."

"I believe that Jesus is coming soon," the prisoner said through the door.

That surprised Alf, so he asked him if he'd like to hear some more about end-time prophecies. Alf took his illustrated aids, opening with Nebuchadnezzar's image of Daniel 2, and explained how the first great kingdom—Babylon—was represented by the golden head.

"And the silver chest is Medo-Persia!" the prisoner interrupted. Alf was taken aback. "Are you, perchance, a Seventh-day Adventist?"

"Well, no. I read it in this magazine. Wanna see it?" And he slid an August '97 *Signs of the Times* under his prison door.

Alf was amazed.

"Can you fill in some of the



Alf Morville visits prisons with Signs. Once sceptical, he's now convinced of their worth.

prophecy gaps for me?" the prisoner asked. "For example, what can you tell me about the darkening of the sun and the moon turning red . . . ?"

Alf explained what he could and promised to come back.

"I don't know where he got that *Signs*, but obviously someone sent it to the prison. . . . There's value in *Signs*, and we will continue to use them."

Alf's story is one of many similar stories of how, when used correctly, *Signs* builds bridges and can change lives. Each month hundreds of *Signs* go into prisons in Australia and New Zealand. And there are plenty of alternative ministries—the outback, shopping-centre racks, liteboxes, literature evangelists who use *Signs*.

If you'd like to know exactly what your *Signs* are doing, why not try the old-fashioned *Signs* round? Pastor Gilberto Diaz and his Blue Mountains (NSW) churches give away 99 *Signs* this way. Pastor Diaz has more than a score of Bible studies—with some attending church—as a result.

Signs Ministry Coordinator Pastor Des Hills reports that 15 out of every 100 people will accept *Signs* into their homes. Loren Pratt, a pastor in northern Queensland, claims that he has four or five baptisms a year as a direct result of his *Signs* round.

Signs really does change lives. **R**

Lee Dunstan is the senior assistant editor of the RECORD and Signs of the Times.

ADVENTIST EDUCATION: *efficient* OR NOT?

by Bruce R. Youlden

*W*hile there's much we can be proud of, an honest appraisal of the efficiency of our educational system suggests that appropriate reorganisation and structural reforms are urgently needed. Current practice must be reshaped to meet changing needs and expectations of the 21st century.

If the educational ministry of the church is to live up to its potential

Does the present organisational structure and operational practice enhance or inhibit the performance of our schools?

and fulfil its stated mission, then any area of operational practice that inhibits that objective must be addressed. We need to be mature enough to act in spite of the cost and discomfort.

Given the widespread sense of urgency and the will to objectively address the issues by senior administrators, the window of opportunity must be grasped without delay.

Operational concerns

Several operational concerns have emerged over the years to create the context and need for change. Some concerns arise from the fact that we have decentralised some areas of responsibility that should be centralised for the common good of the

entire system, while we have centralised other areas of authority that should be decentralised to the local school.

1. Systemic fragmentation

There has been a growing frustration and a level of impatience in waiting for "the system" to respond to emerging trends and issues confronting school communities. While such change has crept up slowly and silently, the lack of systemic response and the failure to provide definitive positions has led, in many instances, to a degree of fragmentation.

For instance, one operational outcome has been policy making at the local level rather than adopting a system-wide approach. While efforts at these levels are well-intentioned, wide variations have occurred because of local or sectional interests. A by-product is confusion within the constituency as to the mission and goals of Adventist education.

2. Duplication and redundancy

The hierarchical and multi-tiered administrative structure, coupled with a nonspecialist approach to administration, has led to considerable duplication in the development of educational and management initiatives at all levels.

There is often no clear point of authority for decision-making. Difficult decisions are often passed on or simply stall; committees are multiplied unnecessarily; administrative parameters and jurisdiction are sometimes unclear; time delays are often costly in terms of lost opportunities; local schools feel they are forced to reinvent the wheel; and professional initiatives and enter-

prise within the supporting constituency are often squandered. Moreover, the generalist approach to administration often fails to optimise the benefits that might be expected of a systematic approach to education.

3. Lack of empowerment

On the other hand, we have centralised some aspects of authority that should be delegated to local school boards. While school boards have been given responsibility to operate their respective schools, they're often not empowered in major areas of operation—such as finance.

This approach has several downsides. It reduces school accountability and community responsibility for the operation of the school; it leads to decisions that are too far removed to be effective or that fail to reflect local priorities; it leads to an inefficient use of human and financial resources; and it lowers the morale of board personnel, educational leaders and teachers.

4. Shifting priorities

The system has focused more on the needs of administrative personnel than the needs of the system as a whole. It's time to shift priorities from supporting advanced post-graduate degrees to the undergraduate training of teachers in areas of short supply. More resources might be also directed toward curricula development and the in-service training of teaching staff.

Operational propositions

Recognising the above concerns, a number of propositions relating to management structure, quality assurance outcomes and the appointment

process are being examined by the Education System Review Committee.

1. System management structure

The present organisational structure and operational practice could be streamlined and simplified to ensure greater efficiency and definition of roles, as well as reducing overheads in harmony with industry standards. Specialist areas common to the entire field should be placed within a central office of education, while responsibilities associated with supervision and operational practice should be decentralised to a reconfigured conference Board of Education and school Board of Management.

2. Administrative specialisation

There should be greater administrative specialisation at central and regional levels. All administrators at both levels need to carry a specialised portfolio that might be accessed by the entire field.

Job descriptions would need to be revised with in-built accountability mechanisms to assess effectiveness. For example, such specialty areas might include: school planning; development and review; personnel development, review and appraisal; curriculum and instruction; systems financial adviser; government, public relations and marketing; counselling and student special services.

All administrators at central and regional levels need to carry a specialised portfolio that can be accessed by all. Job descriptions would need to be revised with in-built accountability mechanisms to assess effectiveness.

3. Conference Boards of Education

The conference (regional) Boards of Education should be given appropriate executive powers in relation to the leadership, management and financial supervision of schools, with the education director serving as the chief executive officer.

Appointees to the respective Boards of Education need to bring a high level of expertise and breadth of experience to ensure responsible

and informed management, as well as appropriate representation.

4. School Boards of Management

Responsibility for the operation and financial viability of schools need to be transferred from local conferences to school boards. The school board would be accountable then to the conference or regional Board of Education.

School boards would also be required to develop a vision and long-term strategic plan, and to ensure that the school operates in harmony with the mission of the church. The expertise and experience of the appointed members and church representatives will enhance the boards' efficiency and effectiveness.

5. School planning and development

A five-year strategic planning management process should be introduced into all schools in order to give purposeful direction to the school community. The process is likely to link all staff firmly to each other and to their leaders, and it will provide an effective process to ensure that the vision and dreams of the school community are translated into action. An annual school review and development process that focuses on the effectiveness and quality of school outcomes needs to complement the present school accreditation program.

6. Professional development and appraisal

A personnel performance, planning and review process should be introduced, first for all executive staff. The program should seek to: (a) enhance the skills and effectiveness of principals and executive staff holding positions of special responsibility in schools; and (b) provide a forum for constructive feedback about performance and achieve-

ment.

Such a program would be also of considerable benefit to teachers. It could be coupled with a structured system and school-supported process of self-evaluation, shared reflection and collaborative planning to assist teachers in their professional development, and to enhance quality teaching and learning within the context of a school's strategic master plan.

7. Appointment process

Appointments and reappointments of education directors would be best professionally researched and determined by an appointments committee rather than by a session nominating committee. The directors should be expected to participate in an annual performance review and appraisal process developed for the system.

The present approach to staffing schools by a central committee would undergo some revisions to allow for appropriate discussions between all parties in relation to a prospective appointment.

Conclusion

The potential of Adventist education remains largely untapped. Given the wide expertise and experience of so many within the system, it isn't difficult to imagine what might be accomplished if human resources at all levels are

utilised more efficiently and effectively. The next article, "Adventist education: Affordable or not?" will examine how our limited financial resources might be used more efficiently in furthering the goals and mission of Adventist education. **R**

Bruce R Youlden is the associate director of the Department of Education for the South Pacific Division.



SANITARIUM BACK ON THE SHELVES

After what may have been the most extensive testing on recalled product ever done in Australia, Sanitarium Health Food Company liquid products were placed back on the shelves on July 17. A letter threatening to contaminate these products



Sanitarium CEO Bob Smith.

led to more than 300,000 packets being recalled, inspected and tested. Any with a hint of tampering were laboratory tested.

"There was no evidence that any of the product had been contaminated," says Sanitarium's chief

executive officer, Bob Smith.

All the recalled product has been destroyed, at an estimated cost of more than \$A1 million.

Sanitarium is now attempting to regain market share. Mr Smith reports an enthusiastic response from retailers to the announcement that they were back in the market.

"We have 53 per cent of the [soya milk] market. Taking our product off the shelves took a big chunk out of

that category."

During the crisis, Sanitarium received more than 12,000 phone calls, most of them encouraging and supportive, asking when the product would be back on the shelf.

"We've had key people in the industry write to us, giving support," says Mr Smith. "We even had communication from some of our strongest competitors, giving encouragement."

He speaks highly of the police and health authorities the company worked with through this crisis. He says they acted promptly and were professional with their advice.

He thanked the media for their help in reporting the incident, which helped with the quick recovery of stock. He praised them for their careful reporting of the incident, which has given the police the best opportunity to catch the perpetrator.

"Our product may be back on the shelves," says Mr Smith, "but we haven't finished the process yet. Our back-to-market team will continue to work through specific strategies to regain our market position. Our emergency response team will contin-

ue to monitor the situation and is planning to review the whole process."

The best estimates are that it will take 12 months to recover their market share.

"Optimistically, we believe we can do it in less," he says, "but the evidence is that it will take up to 12 months."

He praises the team around him who have put in long hours and helped make "hard decisions." "And we've needed more than our own wisdom to help us through the situation," he adds.

On a personal note, he has found this time testing, and emotionally demanding. Some of those demands have come from having to be the spokesperson for the media and currently being featured in television commercials as Sanitarium products are placed back on the shelves.

"These things weren't in my job description," he says with a laugh.

He does have a message for church members: "Keep drinking So Good and Up & Go."—*Bruce Manners*

Leaders under training at Avondale College

Some 51 graduate students participated in the first intensive session of Avondale College's new Master of Arts (Leadership and Management) program during July. Students studied on the college campus after studying distance components since March.

The part-time program, coordinated by Dr Peter Morey, was developed after consulting church leaders and employers.

"It wasn't dreamed up by ivory-tower academics," says college vice-president Dr Gil Valentine. "The program's designed to train church leaders and managers, and is tailored for busy people already in those positions."

The program can be taken in one of three areas; business, health or educational leadership. It requires



Graduate studies coordinator Dr Peter Morey ensures students have the handouts for his class in organisational behaviour.

participation in four study sessions over four years, although students may finish earlier with a Graduate Diploma or a Graduate Certificate.

Subjects offered in the first session

include studies in organisational behaviour, the theology, theory and practice of leadership, and communication for leadership.

Twenty-five of the 51 students are leaders in the South Pacific area. Others come from education and hospital backgrounds. Avondale has a contract with the South Pacific Division (SPD) to offer a set number of places for church employees, but others can also enrol.

"Having a mix of students will make the program more enriching," says Dr Valentine.

The program will be taught by staff from overseas, from universities within Australia, and from the college. Lecturers for the first session included SPD secretary Dr Barry Oliver, Pacific Union College professor of communication James Chase, and Dr Morey.

CAMP-MEETING ATTRACTS 50,000 IN PNG

More than 50,000 people attended a camp-meeting at Keiya, near Goroka, in Papua New Guinea's (PNG) Eastern Highlands Province during the first week of July. Some 1700 people were baptised.

Present were General Conference president Pastor Robert Folkenberg, his wife, Anita, and PNG Governor-General Sir Silas Atopare.

Two adults and an infant were killed while travelling to the week-long camp-meeting; seven babies were born.

President visits government leaders

Prior to attending the camp-meeting, Pastor Folkenberg attended an official government reception in Port Moresby, given in his honour by the speaker of the PNG parliament, John Pundari. Mr Pundari is an Adventist.

A delegation of government officials met Pastor Folkenberg on his arrival at Port Moresby's Jackson Airport. The delegation included Central Province governor Ted Diro and Member of Parliament Kilroy Genia. Papua New Guinea Union



Sir Silas Atopare (left) shares his testimony at the camp-meeting. "I'm an Adventist and will be an Adventist until Jesus comes." Pastor Robert Folkenberg (right) was guest speaker.

Mission (PNGUM) president Pastor Wilson Stephen, and Central Papua Mission secretary Pastor Simon Vetali were among the more than 3000 church members who also attended.

In their speeches of welcome the government dignitaries reiterated



A section of the 1700 who were baptised at the camp-meeting.

their country's support for ongoing church involvement in PNG, without which "the government would not be able to do a lot of things they are supposed to do," said Mr Genia.

Mr Diro called the church's contribution "profound," and thanked Pastor Folkenberg for choosing to visit his country. In reply Pastor Folkenberg said it was in order to uphold the "glorious truth of the assurance of salvation in Jesus" that he'd chosen to come to PNG.

Pastor Folkenberg later spoke to government leaders and members of

Adventists respond to PNG tidal-wave disaster

The Adventist Church helped with relief and rescue work after a series tidal-waves struck the northern Papua New Guinea (PNG) coast near Aitape, West Sepik Province, on July 17. An earth tremor off the coast caused the three tidal-waves.

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)-PNG director Royden Howie and three volunteers (nurses Natasha Miller from Sydney and Eila Buschenhofen, and engineer Chris Jensen from Melbourne) arrived in Aitape on July 20 to provide clean water for the survivors (all wells were contaminated with salt water). ADRA-South Pacific gave \$A20,000.

A team from Sopas Adventist Hospital (including student doctors Jonathan Burge and Jonathan Wheeler from New Zealand, and

three nurses) arrived by mission plane on July 21 to provide medical treatment.

And a group of Adventist Community Service members helped at four care centres in the area.

The death toll stood at 1500 on July 26, with 2000 people still unaccounted for.

The worst hit area was a 25-30 kilometre stretch of coast west of Aitape that included six large villages (Nimis, Wapano, Warapu, Arup, Malol and Telislambu) along an isthmus of land beside the Sissano lagoon.

"Catholic mission priests and workers carried out the first relief and rescue work," reports South Pacific Division (SPD) communication director Pastor Ray Coombe. "But their efforts were hampered by

a lack of vehicles—most had been commandeered by the media."

All five Adventists in Aitape (a Global Mission project area) survived the disaster. However, one child was fatally cut across the stomach with a sheet of metal. Some 30 people studying in a baptismal class also survived.

A group of Adventists from Vanimo were planning to spend the weekend in Aitape, but postponed the trip because of transportation problems.

ADRA-South Pacific has established an appeal fund. Donations can be sent directly to ADRA, or placed in church offering plates, marked "Aitape Disaster Fund."

The SPD sent a message of condolence and support to the PNG government.

ADVENTISTS REACT TO POPE'S SUNDAY OBSERVANCE LETTER

the parliament. He called for the church to "impact lives for the better," saying "as Adventists better themselves, they better PNG."

Speaking to the Governor-General, Pastor Folkenberg indicated the interest of the Adventist Church in his country. He said church members all over the world were praying for PNG: "We are grateful for an opportunity to serve and worship in this community," he said.

In his response Sir Silas, also an Adventist, commended churches for their role in bringing faith into social action. He observed that "wherever Adventists prosper, health and happiness become part of that community's lifestyle."

Following the meeting at Parliament House, Pastor Folkenberg flew with Sir Silas in the Prime Minister's plane to Goroka, where thousands more Adventists lined the streets for a motorcade.

1700 baptised at camp-meeting

On Sabbath, July 11, Pastor Folkenberg preached on the theme "Righteousness by Faith." Later he participated in the baptism of the 1700 people in the nearby Asaro River.

"I learned a great deal about the importance of priority development in the life of a Christian," says Pastor Folkenberg. "We were privileged to be with people who place the development of their Christian faith at the highest level in their lives."

There are 60,000 Adventists living in the Eastern Highlands Simbu Mission district, with 100,000 attending church regularly on Sabbath.

It has been several years since Adventists in PNG had camp-meeting. Managing the more than 50,000 who attended was a massive task, one largely organised by church members. A temporary police outpost was established at the entrance. Members, as well as a nearby mission of another denomination, helped provide food for some who ran out during the week.

Both the camp-meeting and president's visit received extensive media coverage throughout PNG.—*Lee Dunstan*

The Adventist Church has reacted to the pope's apostolic letter calling for greater commitment to Sunday observance and church attendance, issued on July 7.

While noting with interest the call to increased spirituality, and the acknowledged impact of the secular world on religious practice, Adventist Church leaders addressed issues raised by the letter.

General Conference public affairs and religious liberty director Pastor John Graz says the pope's call for church attendance is understandable in the light of increasing secularism, "but we can't agree that Sunday is to be the day of Christian worship."

"It's intriguing that the document begins with the biblical account of Creation and quotes Genesis extensively, even the text 'God blessed

the seventh day and sanctified it,' but calls for Sunday worship," says Biblical Research Institute associate director Pastor Angel Rodriguez. "We wish to remain true to biblical authority and remember the seventh-day Sabbath as the day of rest and worship."

In the letter the pope says the day of worship was "moved," to become "the weekly Easter."

"This idea lacks scriptural support," says Pastor Rodriguez, "and breaks the link between Creation and redemption. As a church we follow the example of Christ, who observed the seventh-day Sabbath throughout His life and rested in the tomb during the Sabbath."

An analysis of the pope's letter will appear next week in RECORD.—*Jonathan Gallagher/ANN*

c h i l d r e n

Jesus heals the crippled man

Puzzle number: 30

Special Bible passage to read for this week: **Mark 2**

Begin at the start and trace the words of a text from Mark 2. The path never goes in a diagonal direction.

The text:

.....
.....
.....
.....

Name Age

Address

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Start ➤ W Z R E P T G H U T
H T U S U S V W X Y
E N J E S S R I R Q
J K L M N A O E F P
D E F G H W T H A I
X Y Z A B H H T I C
S D I A S E T U V W
J T K L M N O P Q R
F O T H E P A G H I
Finish ➤ N X Y Z A B R C D E
E S T U V W A L Y T
V P Q R S R U N N I
I H I J I K O L M C
G F E G N F Y N O S
R O R A S E D C B A

“ *Away with negative ideas! Let's promote positive attitudes toward mission and service.* ”

Healthy in the city

STEVE PARKER, SA

It's easy to take Ellen White's advice about moving to the country without considering the historical, cultural and geographic context within which she was writing—just as we would the Bible.

In Australia, rural areas have higher rates of suicide, health problems etc than those in the city. Can anyone supply statistical evidence that living in the country is actually better than living in the city in terms of physical and mental health?

Taking the easy way

PETER COUSINS, NSW

I'm glad that Pastor Robert Folkenberg had the opportunity of speaking for the Adventist Church in Iraq (“Adventists emphasise neutrality in Iraq,” July 11). But the title could have been “The Adventist Church, nice guy of the Christian world. . . .” What did we say? Who did we speak for?

If we were caught in the nexus of the Holocaust or the Apartheid system, what would we want the church to say or do? Does being politically neutral mean we stand by while another child of God is raped, brutalised and/or killed?

Living as an Adventist Christian in South Africa demonstrated to me a fixation on neutrality and the vacuum of moral courage. Four years on from independence Adventists still struggle, on an organisational level, to work together as brothers and sisters in Christ. Our church leaders need our constant prayers for courage as they speak on behalf of the millions in and outside the church.

Don't hesitate

LEON POWRIE, PNG

In the editorial “Open letter to the division president” (July 11), Brenton Stacey speaks about the difficulty of

getting church people to work in Papua New Guinea (PNG). Is it because the so-called sensitive things happening in PNG are aired and the positive facts about working in PNG are ignored? Or are church people today bombarded with so much worldly propaganda that they lose sight of the gospel commission to serve?

To those who hesitate at taking up positions in PNG, I'm glad I'm working here. My work is fulfilling, challenging, creative and rewarding.

There are still great opportunities for service and rewarding challenges in PNG, as well as other parts of the world, for the dedicated, skilled and creative Christian who has a true sense of mission, who desires a fulfilling life experience and is prepared to love as Jesus loved. Away with negative ideas! Let's promote positive attitudes toward mission and service.

Reassessing education

J RUSSELL, QLD

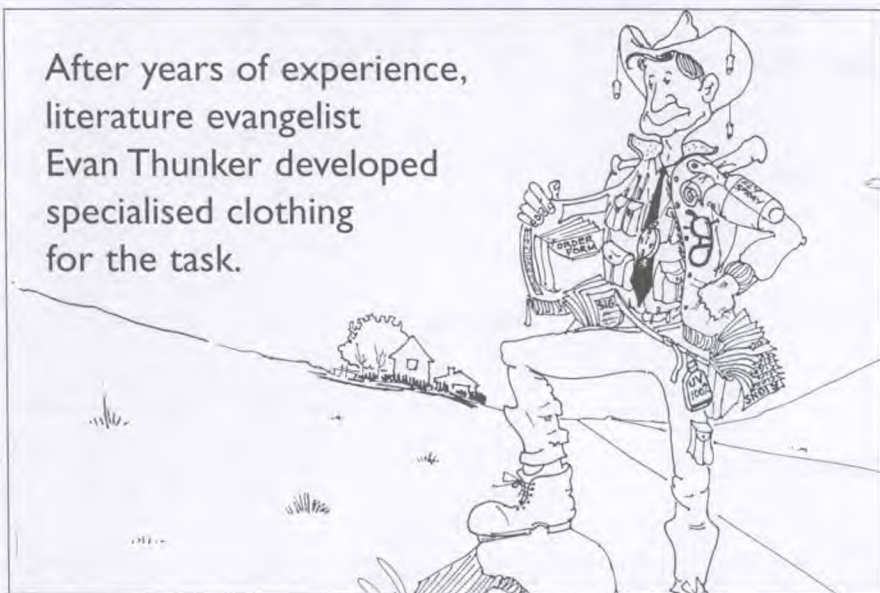
Concerning the current reassessment of Adventist education, it seems the main educational beatitude is: Blessed is the church that has not a church school. Seeing the retention rate for keeping youth in the church is about the same for church and state school attendance, why bother?

We can only hope that in reassessing Adventist education the church will advocate and facilitate:

- Turning weak church schools into Christian schools or closing them
- Introducing home schooling where appropriate, with expert materials and support
- Providing a program, with tutorial and pastoral care, for students in state schools, the home and church
- Being as drastic in the necessary steps for change as the Sanitarium Health Food Company and Sydney Adventist Hospital have been.

Clogden's world

After years of experience, literature evangelist Evan Thunker developed specialised clothing for the task.



Mail: RECORD Editor, Signs Publishing Company, Warburton Victoria 3799 **Fax:** (03) 5966 9019. **E-mail:** 74617.726@compuserve.com Views in Letters do not necessarily represent those of the editors or the denomination. Letters should be less than 250 words, and writers must include their name, address and phone number. All letters are edited to meet space and literary requirements, but the author's original meaning will not be changed. Not all letters received are published.

"To hear Cheri Peters story is to be forever changed . . ."

Randy Maxwell

Miracle from the Streets

by Cheri Peters

What would it take to rescue an abused, illiterate, unloved bar-room dancer from the streets and turn her into a leader who would inspire others to help "throwaway" kids find meaning and purpose in their lives? What Cheri needed was love. Unconditional love. But how could she find it? Read the incredible story of one woman's encounter with the power of true love, and how that love is changing lives today. It will change your life.

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Appreciation

Butcher. Flo Butcher and her family wish to sincerely thank all their kind friends for the cards and messages of love and sympathy they received at the time of the passing of her loved husband, Lyn. Kindly accept this as a personal acknowledgment of your sympathy and kindness.

Watson. Lorna Watson, with Shirley, Mervyn, Brian and Jean and their families, wish to sincerely thank all their friends and relatives for the messages of love and sympathy during their recent sad and sudden loss of dear Keith.

Anniversaries

Bryan. Blannin Bryan and Beryl Stocken were married at Woollahra church, NSW, on 5.8.48 by Pastor Maxwell. Blannin and Beryl have three children, David, Rodney and Colleen; and seven grandchildren. Blannin proposed to Beryl at little Manly beach, Sydney, NSW, and even now they still visit the area regularly. There will be a special luncheon on 8.8.98. S A Kerr

Dell. On 27.6.98 the family of William and Daisy Dell (nee Potter) celebrated 50 years of marriage at their son's home in Warburton. The marriage took place on 5.7.48, in the Methodist church, Yarraville, Vic. They were married by Pastor Llewellyn Jones. Both Daisy and Bill worked at the Signs Publishing Company for 18 years. On retiring, they moved to Grovedale and attend the Geelong church.



Weddings

Fayers—Rudiger. Daniel Anthony Fayers, son of Tony Fayers (Prestons, NSW) and Elizabeth Morris (Ballina, NSW), and Elizabeth Margaret Rudiger, daughter of David Rudiger (Whyalla, SA) and Linda Hovan (Rivett, ACT), were married on 19.4.98 in the Waitara Seventh-day Adventist church, NSW. Bruce Price, Adrian Ebens

Gletzmänn—Holton. Julian Gletzmänn, son of Alfred and Maureen Gletzmänn (Bayswater, Vic), and Sheryl Holton, daughter of Bob and Beryl Holton (Warburton, Vic), were married on 4.1.98 in the Warburton Seventh-day Adventist church. Ray Southon

Positions vacant

▲ **Product managers—Sanitarium Health Food Company** requires the services of personnel to develop and implement marketing programs as well as developing new product and category initiatives. Important functions would include developing and managing product budgets and sales forecasts, preparing sales and marketing strategies, budgets and plans. Closing date: September 11, 1998. **Further information** and application details may be obtained from the Human Resources Manager, Sanitarium Health Food Company, Locked Bag 7, Central Coast Mail Centre, NSW 2252; e-mail: <andrew.colquhoun@sanitarium.com.au>

▲ **Television/Video producer—Adventist Media Centre** is seeking the services of a full-time Producer responsible for producing our television and video productions. Applicants should have at least five years experience as a producer. In addition, the applicant should have good communication skills as well as some experience in directing, editing, writing or as a camera operator. Closing date: September 30, 1998. **Application details** and employment conditions may be obtained from the General Manager, Adventist Media Centre, phone (02) 9487 1844, fax (02) 9487 1659.

▲ **Print marketing manager—Signs Publishing Company** is seeking expressions of interest for a Print Marketing Manager to be involved in the marketing, sales and coordination of printed products, both within the church and outside. Applicants must have a proven record in sales, be self-motivated and will have, or be willing to learn, job planning and estimating. Knowledge of the printing industry is an advantage.

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Further information and application details may be obtained from Dale Williams, Signs Publishing Company, phone (03) 5966 9111; fax (03) 5966 9019; e-mail <74617@compuserve.com> or send a résumé to Signs Publishing Company, Warburton Vic 3799. Compuserve 70304,1477 (D Williams).

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Murnain—Hughes. Scott Andrew Murnain, second son of Rev Geoff and Judy Murnain (Port Macquarie, NSW), and Kerry Joanne, second daughter of Keith and Winsonne Hughes (Cooran-bong), were married on 23.5.98 in the Avondale College church. Frank Cantrill, Geoff Murnain

Rice—Madden. Damien Rice, son of Leigh and Barbara Rice (Hobart, Tas), and Leisha Madden, daughter of Don and Denzel Madden (Gosford, NSW), were married on 29.6.98 at Terrigal on the Central Coast, NSW. Barry Oliver

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Sherar—Bogas. Malcolm Sherar, son of Max and Sylvia Sherar, and Hannah Bogas, daughter of Karl and Ingeborg Bogas, were married on 3.5.98 at Yarra Glen, Vic. Rob Steed, Paul Bogas

Tinworth—Pavey. Robin Tinworth, son of Don and Shirley Tinworth (Preston, Vic), and Lisa Pavey, daughter of Charles Griffiths (Katherine, NT) and Ian and Shirley Pavey (North Ringwood, Vic), were married on 7.6.98 at Linley Estate Receptions, Montrose, Vic. Morrie Krieg

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Obituaries

House, Gerald Melville, born 20.8.22 in Melbourne, Vic; died 11.5.98 in Hornsby Hospital, NSW. He is survived by his wife, Dolly (St Ives, NSW); and his daughter and son-in-law, Barry and Virginia French (Sydney).

Eric Greenwell, Rod Anderson

Younger, Edna (nee Abbott), born 8.1.07; died 18.5.98 in Perth, WA. She was predeceased by her brothers, John, Bob and Dave. She is survived by her sister, Phyllis Sandover (Rossmyne, WA), also her daughter, Beverley Kidd (Denmark); her nieces, Connie, Beryl, Glenda, Neroli and Winsome; her nephew, Tim; and her grandsons, Gary and Ray Kidd (Perth).

Ian Royce

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Contact Pastor Eric White, Coordinator Volunteer Services, South Pacific Division, Locked Bag 2014, Wabroonga NSW 2076. Phone (02) 9847 3333 or fax (02) 9489 0943. E-mail address: ewwhite@adventist.org.au

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