

RECORD



A new partnership between Adventist churches in Australia and Mongolia has been initiated by the Australian Union Conference. In a country of some 2.5 million traditionally nomadic people who have until recently been under a Communist regime, there are currently 400 Adventists. Mission Mongolia is a project that aims to link them with "sister churches" in Australia to help spread the gospel.

Mongolia: The final frontier?

Kellie Hancock

Adventists in Australia have an opportunity to participate in what could be termed the final frontier of missions, thanks to a new initiative of the Australian Union Conference (AUC). The Mission Mongolia project aims to establish a supportive relationship between Australian churches and the young, growing church in Mongolia.

Project coordinator Pastor Graeme Christian, the Ministerial Association secretary for the AUC, says, "Mongolia is a land of opportunity—a place where the message of the soon return of Jesus is basically unknown. Under Communism every religion was outlawed, so people basically have no understanding of God. Yet they are open and interested in learning."

Some 2.5 million people live in Mongolia, a traditionally nomadic country. In 1990 the country had no Adventist presence until Brad Jolly and his family were placed in Mongolia by Adventist Frontier Missions. The first baptism from their work took place in 1993, when three young women were baptised. Sometime later Mr Jolly contracted cancer and died, so his wife and children returned to the United States.

Some 29 Adventists were in Mongolia when the current president of the Mongolia Mission, Pastor Dale Tunnell, arrived from the US in 1999. Today some 400 Adventists—comprising mainly educated young people—worship in Mongolian churches.

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*Help
preserve
our history*

The rambling rose that's PNG

Toward the end of 2002, I spent almost three weeks in Papua New Guinea (PNG) doing a series of interviews, news reports and chasing up material for future stories. These will be trickled-fed to *RECORD*, *Pacific Record* and *Signs of the Times* readers over the next few months.

The interviews ranged from grassroots to the highest echelons of civil and ecclesiastical government, as well as national and expatriate volunteers, ministerial and institutional employees. The first report appeared on January 25 from Pacific Adventist University (PAU), near Port Moresby, of the first graduation in the university's new church.

The church in PNG is like the rambling rosebush in my garden: it's laden with new growth. . . it appears in good condition. . . but get up close and you discover it's a victim of its own growth.

Of course, it's impossible to make a comprehensive and entirely accurate assessment in what amounted to a whistle-stop encounter. For that I apologise to those who live and work there, and have a greater understanding. But I'll try.

Wherever I went, I most commonly encountered enthusiasm for the task. In the new administration of the Papua New Guinea Union Mission (Pastor Thomas Davai), the outgoing vice-chancellor of PAU (Dr Harold Peters) and the continuing administration of ADRA-PNG (Michelle Abel). In a father-son volunteer team Albie and Albert Piper, from Stanthorpe, Qld, who were working 12-hour days plastering the PAU church. In the literature and Adventist Book Centre ministry (Brian Brunton and Doug Oaklands) and among national workers such as literature ministry professionals

Nialele Pokaiou and Aaron Gaffin (a 26-year veteran), and in laymen David Gorua and Willy, a pressman who established and nurtured a "hand" church near Lae.

I found this same enthusiasm among the staff and students at PAU where, for example, I spent time discussing the unique problems (but not dissimilar to elsewhere) of being a female theology major with Alice Nathan, a third-year undergraduate.

I spoke with a nursing student who'd become convinced of the truth of Adventism after two years at PAU. She'd come to the university on a government scholarship, not realising it was a Seventh-day

Adventist institution until she'd arrived. Although the fees were steep, she determined to finish so she could contribute to her community and newfound faith.

Such enthusiasm translates into energy, and energy into activity, so it's no surprise that the church is growing at a rapid rate. It's almost a picture of the apostolic church, with thousands baptised in a day—but not every day.

The church in PNG is like the rambling rosebush in my garden: it's laden with new growth leaping high into the air and billowing low to the lawn; and it's covered in beautiful, fragrant blossoms. At a distance it appears in good condition, but get up close and you discover it's a victim of its own growth. The weight of the new growth and masses of flowers mean it is unable to support its own weight in parts, and branches have cracked and torn away

from the stock so that its extremities are lacking nourishment, and the leaves, when the heat is on, are withering.

My second assessment of the church in PNG is that it is a victim of its own success. The Law of Big Numbers comes into play and—with as much as 20 per cent of the country attending the hundreds of churches scattered around the country each Sabbath—the infrastructure groans under the weight of providing adequate pastoral care and broader leadership.

Another problem PNG faces is a decline in purchasing power, due to the kina's nosedive. That's a domestic problem as it relates to imported goods and services. But for those of us who live in Australia and New Zealand, it means the multiplication of offering dollars. For an expatriate volunteer, money goes further. And it means material donations are of more value.

Every analogy has its limits, so at the risk of taking this one too far, the PNG rose needs one of two things. We either prune it—which is already happening naturally as I write, with pastors, teachers and volunteers being terminated for lack of money—or we support it better.

We in the homeland—*RECORD* readers individually—need to prop up the tangle of juvenile shoots until the growing season is over and the plant has opportunity to consolidate, to be pruned carefully and appropriately so that its future is assured.



Lee Dunstan



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

- **New staff for NZPUC** • **Prayer day nominated for women** • **Quake hits Solomon Islands**
- **Students develop sewing skills** • **Adventist online club** • **"Miracle lady" baptised** • **and more**

—Compiled by Kellie Hancock—

- **Pastor Kendell Cobbin** (pictured) has been called to the **New Zealand Pacific Union Conference** as **director of the Department of Church Development** to replace Pastor Colin Renfrew. Pastor Cobbin—previously ministering in Launceston, Tas—brings to his new post a passion for equipping church members to reach their neighbours and friends and is well equipped to forward the NZPUC's passion from maintenance to mission and from theory to relationship.



- **Lanelle Cobbin** (pictured) has responded to a call from the **New Zealand Pacific Union Conference** (NZPUC) to be the **curriculum development specialist** for the NZPUC Education Department as well as **children's ministries coordinator**. Mrs Cobbin is a curriculum specialist and has a keen interest in the intentional development of children's faith and values. She has, up until now, been the creative writer for the South Pacific Division's new Pathfinder curriculum.



keen interest in the intentional development of children's faith and values. She has, up until now, been the creative writer for the South Pacific Division's new Pathfinder curriculum.

- The first Sabbath in March has been designated as the **International Women's Day of Prayer** (IWDP) in the **Adventist Church**. **March 1** was selected because the first Friday in March is traditionally the World Day of Prayer. The purpose of IWDP is to provide a focal point for women to unite with God and one another in prayer and to **strengthen spiritual bonds**.

Adventist outreach program awarded

On Australia Day, organisers of the Road to Bethlehem (RTB) program were presented with a Community Achievement Award from the City of Whitehorse, Melbourne, Victoria. On presenting the award, Whitehorse Mayor Robert Chong said, "RTB brings the real story of Christmas to the community to remind people that 'peace and goodwill' are more than just words. Their committee supports strong community values and support systems."



The annual walk-through dramatisation of Jesus' birth has been embraced by the local and wider Melbourne and Victorian community, with many attendees reporting that it is now a part of their family's annual Christmas tradition.

RTB continues to be the largest Adventist outreach event in Victoria, attracting more than 12,000 visitors to the Nunawading Adventist Convention Ground, December 16-19, 2002.

Pictured at the awards presentation are (left to right): Arthur and Wilma Fairall; Erroll Peterson, RTB committee chairman; Mayor Robert Chong; and Des and Jenny Bennett. —Rachael Dunne

Communities around the world turn this month into a springboard for unveiling women's contributions to home, church and society.

- **Papaarua Adventist College**, Rarotonga, Cook Islands, received **seven sewing machines** after a request was made in **RECORD** (Noticeboard, July 6, 2002). "I don't know who sent them," says **Bill Miller**, "but we'd like to thank the **RECORD**, the South Pacific Division's volunteer department and the fly'n'build team that brought them out. A new door of



opportunity has opened for these students with the skills they will learn on these machines."

- The Trans-Pacific Union Mission will replace four **water tanks damaged** during an **earthquake** in the **Solomon Islands**, January 20. The tanks are located on the church's compound in the capital, Honiara. "We ran out of the office as it swayed and creaked," says **Pastor Hennie Murray**, secretary for the Eastern Solomon Islands Mission. "We thought the quake would never stop." The earthquake measured 7.3 on the Richter scale. —Brenton Stacey

- Adventist Media will run **TV advertisements** that offer a free viewing of Search 6, *Search for a New World*, in the **Melbourne** and **Gippsland** areas from February 22 to March 2, and in the **Sydney** and **Wollongong** areas March 1-9.

- A **new online forum** specifically for Adventists from Australia and New Zealand has been launched at **<www.chubadventist.com>**. Club Adventist is an online community of Adventists from around the world. The site facilitates discussion on current events, healthy lifestyle, the lighter side of life, Bible and theology, what Adventists believe, prayer requests and the sharing of personal experiences. All age groups and interest areas are catered for with forums for "Adventist Singles," "Young Ones" and "Distinguished Sages!"

● A convention for **Adventist singles** will be held at **Jindabyne**, NSW, in December this year. For details see Noticeboard in this issue of RECORD.

● **Melbourne**, Vic, has a new radio station called **Light FM 89.9**. With a slogan of "Good friends, great music and a message of hope," it provides listeners with news, music and other programs from a Christian perspective. According to Light FM's general manager, **Jeff Miller**, Melbourne now joins the capital cities of Sydney, Perth, Adelaide, Brisbane and Hobart in having a **full-time Christian radio station**.

● An **interactive Bible course**, broadcast throughout **Brazil** on 2100 radio stations, including Radio Novo Tempo, a Seventh-

day Adventist-operated network with locations across South America, was one of the supporting media features preparing 5000 congregations for a mega evangelistic program called "Week of Harvest." Held in December last year, the evangelistic campaign drew the attention of several million people from all over South America. Broadcast on both television and radio in Spanish and Portuguese, the satellite media event featured **Alejandro Bullon**, a prominent Adventist evangelist.—ANN

● Shine Television, **New Zealand's first national Christian TV channel** has begun transmitting on SKY Digital Channel 99 and also on UHF Channel 56 in Christchurch, South New Zealand. CEO Denis Delaney says that Shine Television's mission is to provide a **Christian lifestyle** channel that upholds **traditional values**—and in so doing become a market leader in New Zealand television.—Assist News

● **British** religious schools, charities and organisations **could face legal action** if they refuse to employ atheists or sack staff who become satanists under proposed government regulations. The laws, based on a European Union directive to be implemented by December, **ban discrimination in the workplace on grounds of religion, belief or sexual orientation**. The Christian Institute says **the laws restrict religious organisations from employing solely practising believers**. Christian groups are angry that the laws exempt political parties, with the Labour Party able to continue employing party members only. "While the Vegetarian Society can refuse to employ meat-eaters and the RSPCA can sack an executive found to have invested in the fur trade, churches which employ Christians could now face legal action for doing so," the institute said.—*news.telegraph.co.uk*

Days and offerings

March 1—Women's Day of Prayer

March 8—Adventist World Radio Offering

Off the record

● Hospital staff at Port Macquarie, NSW, say **May Atkinson** (pictured) is a "**miracle lady**." She was in **hospital** several times last year while receiving Bible studies. In intensive care one



time, doctors advised her to call her relatives together. "But I told the Lord I **wanted to be baptised**," she says. She was

anointed and despite doing poorly for some time, **she is back home** (with the use of oxygen). And she was one of 10 **recently baptised**.—Bob Donaldson

● An **Underground group** (aged from eight to 12 years) in **Canberra**, ACT, was **above ground** recently **visiting the children's ward** of the Canberra Hospital. They gave out hand-made, get-well cards and pencils, took in books and did puzzles with the patients. Reports are that the sick kids, staff and parents appreciated the visit. In the words of the Underground group, "It was awesome."

● Former Brisbane Adventist College student **David Harman** (pictured) was recognised for academic excellence by the **Golden Key International Honour Society**. He was



granted membership in the society, which is **given by invitation only to the best university students worldwide**.

He was also granted a certificate of academic excellence from Griffith University, Qld.

Internet ark to set sail; crew wanted

The search is on to find 12 "ordinary" people to play Moses, Jezebel, St Paul and nine other Bible characters in the world's first Internet reality game show. Created by the UK's leading Christian web magazine <www.shippoffools.com>, The Ark, a 3D world with the look and feel of a computer game, will set sail on Easter Sunday, April 20. For 40 days and 40 nights, 12 biblical heroes and villains, played by contestants in their own homes, will spend up to two hours each day battling it out in front of a worldwide web audience for the right to step onto Mount Ararat—and claim a handsome cash prize.

The Divine Dozen will play games, complete tasks, overcome crises, discuss big issues of the day and argue over whose turn it is to muck out the gorillas.

"If you have dreams weird enough to be Daniel, or reckon you're more of an earth mother, like Eve, we want to hear from you." The closing date for applications is February 28.—Steve Goddard/Assist News

AUC initiates Mongolian mission project

(Continued from page 1)

Eight Mongolian towns have already been selected for evangelistic programs to be run in a partnership between the AUC and Mongolia Mission this year. Some are small rural communities, others are provincial centres, and the capital of Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar, is a large city of 1.5 million people. In each case, the mission has selected towns where they will already have two young people working as missionaries.

Apart from evangelism there are other ways of supporting the Mongolians. Pastor Christian says that the “many needs provide many opportunities.” Some ways Australian Adventists can work alongside their Mongolian counterparts include:

Building teams—to help build churches for new and existing companies.

Training of missionaries—there is only one ordained Adventist minister in Mongolia, “and he is not Mongolian!” says Pastor Christian. The church is pastored by missionaries, most of whom have been Adventists for less than two years.

Health care—health interests the Mongolians. Teams of health professionals (doctors, nurses, dentists etc) can provide health checks and lectures for the community, and training for local health-care providers, as an adjunct to evangelistic campaigns.

Music—Mongolians love music, which would be a drawcard to any program.

STORM Co teams—The church in Mongolia is entirely led by young people. Visits from Australian youth teams would

help to nurture and encourage the local leadership.

Pastor Chester Stanley, the AUC president, recently travelled to Mongolia with Pastor Christian to assess the needs and possibilities of setting up “sister-type” relationships between Adventist churches in Australia and new and existing church companies in Mongolia. “In this kind of initiative, there is a mutual exchange of blessings,” he explains.

“First, we want to help the church in Mongolia to grow and become established. With only 400 members in the country, the need for support is urgent.”

He also believes that those who participate from Australia will come home “abundantly blessed with a bigger picture of the church and with bonds and links with our believers there that will enrich their lives immeasurably.”

“Public evangelism in Australia is tough work,” Pastor Stanley frankly admits. “We are committed to it, but sometimes the results are meagre and to go somewhere where you attract a large audience and see people responding to the gospel of Jesus Christ is an invaluable experience for a pastor and his team.”

The Mission Mongolia initiative has been endorsed by the AUC executive, and finances to help pastors run evangelistic programs in Mongolia have been budgeted for in 2003. “While AUC has made a significant financial commitment to this initiative,” says Pastor Stanley, “we also believe groups or individuals who may not be able to travel to Mongolia themselves will be able to provide financial support for



The Adventist Church in Mongolia is young—both in length of time it has existed and in the age of members. Pictured are two members who attend one of the companies in Mongolia.

those who do.”

In explaining why the AUC feels it is important to have their own specific mission focus, apart from the already existing programs and initiatives in place, Pastor Christian says, “I believe Adventists in Australia are eager to make a difference—to have a significant part in the spread of the gospel, and be part of pioneering work in new areas. Mission Mongolia enables churches in Australia to take on their own project and see it through to completion to make a kingdom difference in the lives of the Mongolian people.” He concludes, “Mongolia is real pioneer territory, and the people are friendly and open to the Adventist message.”

For further information contact your local conference president or ministerial secretary, or Pastor Graeme Christian, AUC ministerial secretary on email: <gchristian@adventist.org.au>, or phone: (03) 9259 2312.

World health report focuses on lifestyle issues

The World Health Organisation (WHO) states in its 2002 report that bad habits, such as smoking, drinking and overeating are becoming overly common and suggests that the world would be healthier if countries took a stand against these issues. Dr Allan Handsides, Adventist Health director for the General Conference, explains, “When WHO comes out and says that lifestyle is a major issue, it’s an echo of what the church has been saying for more than 150 years.”

The report also states that one-third of the world’s deaths are from malnourishment, unsafe sex, high blood pressure, tobacco consumption, alcohol consumption, unsafe water, sanitation and hygiene; iron deficiency; indoor smoke from solid fuels; high cholesterol and obesity. Dr Handsides says, “We need to broaden our frontiers of health and realise that it’s not just what we eat. It’s how we behave and exercise—all of these aspects of life are part of our lifestyle.” —Wendi Rogers/ANN

Adventist Media: Its mission and ethos*



Calvyn Townend, Adventist Media

Adventist Media has a mission-oriented byline: "Connecting with people." As we have communicated this with church members, they have responded favourably. This basic charter is spelled out in our Mission, Vision, Values and Strategy statements.

Our Mission: Adventist Media is a ministry resource unit of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the South Pacific, connecting people in the community with the life-changing teachings of Jesus.

Our Vision is to serve God creatively using fresh, relevant metaphors and symbols that convey meaning, direction, purpose and hope, encouraging people to connect with Jesus.

Our Values include creativity, personal responsibility, cultural sensitivity, professional excellence, quality production and Seventh-day Adventist lifestyle and teachings.

Highlights from 2002

During 2002 we pursued a number of initiatives to give substance to our purposes. We began a process to clarify position descriptions and put in place a regular "360-evaluation" process for all staff. We actively pursued opportunities to rent out our facilities and equipment and have a number of compatible external clients who use our production facilities. We increased the range of our products and developed a new department to coordinate dispatch and distribution.

Responding to marketplace changes we purchased equipment that has enabled us to author and produce DVDs. We trialled a new series of 30-second radio advertisements featuring "Taking Charge of Your Life." During three weeks last November on one Sydney FM station, almost 100

people requested an audio cassette.

We established a new job description to define an important function within the Discovery Centre. Sue Robinson, our Media Ministry Coordinator, is in regular contact with pastors and churches, supporting them in their video and satellite evangelistic programs. During 2002 this process was developed in support of the "Taking Charge of Your Life" series. In 2003 it will especially support "Taking Charge of Your Future" and other outreach series.

Lorelley Malletin, working with three other part-time operators, has been able to have the names of television respondees to the churches within a couple of days. Church members then deliver videos as requested for free home viewing.

In Australia we have featured a television commercial that offers free home viewing of number six of the video series *The Search*. Many people have been baptised and hundreds are still being visited each week.

In New Zealand we have had good success using the *Who Is Jesus?* video as the first contact. Several thousand have received a free home viewing and many have gone on to request *The Search*.

Chasing Utopia is now available on four DVDs. Early reports from a cafe experiment in Melbourne suggest that it does connect with secular Australians. There is also considerable interest in *Chasing Utopia* from other divisions.

The new Australianised "Focus on

Prophecy" correspondence course is bringing an excellent response from students.

Our production team produce videos and satellite programs. They particularly enjoyed producing REZ10 and were blessed by the level of participation and favourable response of so many young people.

Looking ahead through 2003

In 2003, in cooperation with the Australian Union Conference, the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference and the conferences, we have Pastor Peter Jack functioning as an inter-union evangelist using the "Taking Charge of Your Life," "Living Your Dreams" and "Taking Charge of Your Future" (TCYF) series. At the same time will develop the TCYF series from three modules to a 24 module program, which will give participants exposure to the main teachings of the Bible with a vision of having them to decide for Christ and church fellowship.

As the result of Pastor John Gate's (Discovery Centre director) "hobby," we are negotiating to launch a new-style Dial-a-Prayer service that will encourage further contact with those who use the service. South Pacific Division (SPD) Prayer Ministries director, Joy Butler, is coordinating prayers.

David Gibbons, marketing director, is investigating and pursuing several opportunities to place programs on cable television in both Australia and New Zealand. Our web site is being redeveloped. It will include several correspondence courses, a product shopping basket, a video and DVD library, daily devotional and other outreach initiatives.

In all our productions we serve as a facilitator for church entities and departments. These productions are specifically targeted to fulfil strategies identified by the SPD Strategic Planning Committee. In cooperation with Adventist Health we will produce an eight-module series—"Taking Charge of Your Health." It is planned that this series will be released by satellite in September, and churches can use it any time after the release date.

Your help needed to preserve church history

Brenton Stacey

Don't throw it out!" That is the message from Rose-lee Power, the supervisor of the Heritage Room at Avondale College, NSW.

The Heritage Room, located in the library at the college, contains architectural plans, works of art, artefacts, audiovisual material, books, documents and magazines—all with some connection to members or entities of the church in the South Pacific Division. "Although the collection is not complete, it is proving valuable to researchers," says Ms Power.

A seemingly insignificant item, such as an advertisement, an article from a newspaper, a bookmark or a ticket to a mission meeting, may complete the jigsaw puzzle. "I always say, 'If you're going to throw it out, tell me about it first,'" says Ms Power.

Avondale established the Heritage Room in 1973 and appointed Keith Clouten, a former head librarian, as its custodian. His

plan was for the collection to contain:

1. Adventist "Australiana"—ideally one copy of every piece of literature ever published by the church in the South Pacific Division (SPD).
2. Rare Adventist publications.
3. Manuscripts, letters, papers and photographs relating to the church in the SPD and its entities.
4. Archives from Avondale College, and
5. Reference aids

An AUSTRALASIAN RECORD article, "Lest we forget," in November of 1973, pleaded for the preservation of material before more was lost. "The early settlers of Australia paid little attention to conservation. 'If it moves, shoot it. If it doesn't, chop it down,'" wrote Pastor Keith Parmenter, the then SPD secretary. "Are Adventists as careless about preserving their heritage?"

Ms Power says some are and some are not. "The Heritage Room consisted of only a couple of filing cabinets, some open shelving and two rows of compactus shelving when I started in 1996," she says. "Today we have seven filing cabinets, three bays of open shelving, six glass display cases, seven rows of compactus shelving and four plan cabinets."

Ms Power's favourite items include: transfers from the late 1800s recorded by the Adventist church in North Fitzroy, Vic; minutes from the Adventist church in Margate, Tas; two pieces of wood from the *Bounty*; 8-millimetre film footage of early church leaders; reports of how missionaries escaped danger during World War II; the Fulton College yearbook, *Mai Veikilai*; an incomplete set of LPs broadcast on radio in



Supervisor Rose-lee Power (left) and visitor Beryl Doney with photographs from the Heritage Room.

New South Wales—"The list goes on."

The 750 document boxes containing cards, certificates, diaries, letters, minutes, notes and papers "provide a personal view of the history of the church." The audio-visual collection gives it "a human face."

Staff members from the college library and some students maintain the Heritage Room on a part-time basis. They and Ms Power have entered all the details of the architectural plans, the cassette tapes, the films, the LPs and the videotapes into a database. But they have entered only 5 per cent of the documents and have still to enter the details of the photographs. "It is taking hours, but we're always discovering new items."

Access to the Heritage Room is by appointment only. Contact Ms Power by phoning (02) 4980 2133 or emailing rose.power@avondale.edu.au

"We have a lot to be proud of," says Ms Power. "So, let's preserve what we can for the next generation."

(Continued from page 6)

In cooperation with the Stewardship Department and Satellite Ministries we will produce a series based on the presentations at the Stewardship Congress in Lae. These will be transmitted by satellite.

In cooperation with the Youth Department we will produce and transmit REZ10.2 by satellite in August.

As a team, Adventist Media staff are committed to our mission. For major projects we hire a number of professional contractors and sense they share our purpose to communicate the gospel. Our continuing purpose is to produce programs with professional excellence that will enhance the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and connect with the people of the South Pacific and beyond.

**This is the first of a series of mission and ethos statements by South Pacific Division institutions.*

US president appears in Adventist religious liberty video

Accepting an invitation from attorney James Standish, director for legislative affairs for the Adventist Church, President George Bush of the United States has contributed a segment to the annual *Liberty* magazine religious liberty video.

In the video the president talks about the principles of religious freedom and his appreciation for the Seventh-day Adventist Church. "The Adventist Church has enriched America—your individual churches are providing hope and inspiration to countless Americans every week," President Bush said.—*Adventist World Affairs*

Empowering the church

by Bruce Manners



The thing that makes the president of the Victorian Conference excited about his conference is its potential. And

Pastor Denis Hankinson is talking not only about the people who make up the church in Victoria, but the potential of those still to be reached outside the church.

"There are so many people who need to hear," he says. "The big challenge we have is to share our message effectively and to understand fully what it means to be under the lordship of Christ.

"I think the key is realising that we're not a business. We have a spiritual calling and our endeavour is about prayer, about Bible study and helping people in their spiritual journey. It's exciting to be part of a people of hope, a people with a special message.

"When I was a kid and Dad was the evangelist, Adventists were called 'calamity howlers.' Now we can genuinely hold our heads up as the people of hope in a world of hopelessness."

Pastor Hankinson has been president of the Victorian Conference for two years, but remembers, four or five years ago, being excited by a special session called to consider the mission of the church.

"They had a committee with all types of feedback from laity and pastors. It centred on Ephesians 4 where it says that we are all called to one hope. This signals to me that we are living in really exciting times!

"Global Mission has identified Melbourne as the city with the lowest number of Adventists per population in Australia. How to reach out to them all is a tremendous challenge."

He has followed up suggestions that came from that special session, particularly the core principal of "empowering the local church, putting ownership back into the local church and

trusting the Holy Spirit."

He explains how this is being applied, with the conference administration now working with churches in the matter of pastoral staffing. This, he says, has led to more trust and ownership, more accountability and responsibility.

A percentage of tithe also goes back to the churches for evangelism. This can be used in whatever projects the church chooses.

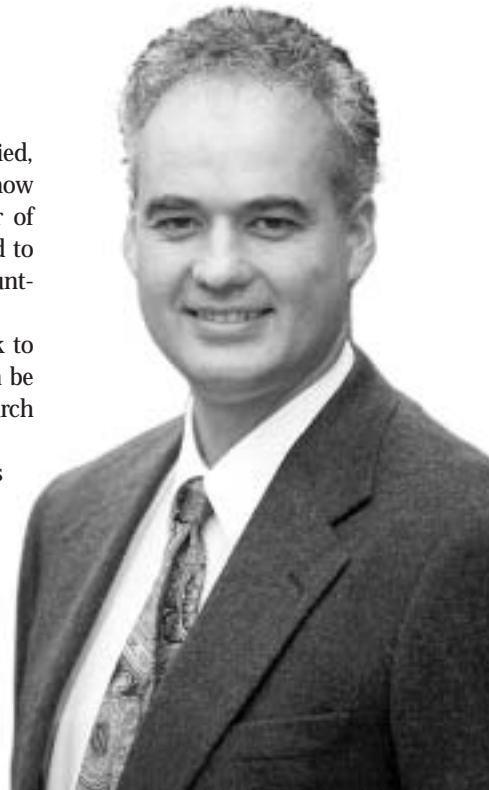
"We consider resourcing our pastors and therefore our churches our number one priority," says Pastor Hankinson. "And as a part of that process, several who are departmental leaders also run churches, with two of them planting new churches. This has given increased credibility to our department resources as well as providing effective mentoring situations for young pastors."

He gives the example of what is happening at Gilson College in the north-western suburbs of Melbourne. The ministerial secretary for the conference, Pastor Glenn Townend, is the pastor of the church based in the school, and he has as assistant, the school chaplain. Currently their church meets fortnightly.

"Here we have a school that almost closed not long ago and is now booming. I was there recently, on a Sabbath, and they had more than 100 attending, about a third of whom are non-Adventists. There were about 20 teenagers attending, more than half of them non-Adventists from the school. This is really exciting."

On the other side of the city, at Heritage College, the church has bought an extra 12 acres of land because it is in a strong growth area, with a new house being completed every 58 minutes!

"We're now putting in a full-time pastor to work with the school and the church in



that area, and to develop a viable program. They've only just started, but they're starting well."

He also talks about churches where the "demographics are going the wrong way." In these places effective ministry is just to hold ground.

In several of these places he sees an important development of "tent-making" (bi-vocational) ministry, where the conference supports a church member who leads and pastors the church while still employed part time.

"In a sense they are neither full-time professionals or volunteers, but in our smaller country areas they are able to lead and be there every Sabbath."

He talks of Eric Swift, in Portland, as an example of this type of leadership. Portland is a town with eight church members, mostly over the age of 60. Mr Swift has started a church plant in the town or, as Mr Swift prefers to call it, a repot. Conference-wide, the plan is to have

eight people working in a bi-vocational way this year because it is a “particularly effective way of evangelistically pastoring small, country churches.”

Pastor Hankinson sees that another important challenge is attempting to develop a viable Adventist organisation and message for “our new generation.” He talks about “cross-cultural ministry” between various generations—the message must be stated in a way that’s relevant to those generations.

To illustrate his point he talks about tithe. Currently, the conference is doing quite well with a 10 per cent increase in tithe in the past two years. He believes that the majority of church members are “tithe faithful,” but not in the traditional sense. Only those in the over-55 age bracket tend to pay tithe in the traditional way.

“We’ve sat down with churches and discovered that if everyone in the church was tithe faithful there would be scarcely a church where tithe would not double, if not triple. Think about the potential for evangelism!”

When asked about his vision or goal for Victoria in five years time he begins by saying what he does not want to see.

“My hope for the future is that we will not look back and say, ‘Nothing has happened.’

“Basically, I’d like to see an empowered laity, living the reality of Ephesians 4, with our church members full of Jesus’ love, using their Holy Spirit—given gifts to run the church while the conference plays a supportive role.”

And he believes it can happen because the best thing about his conference is the “real sense of unity that is seen in the churches in Victoria through understanding and tolerance of the many diverse ways of sharing our special message. Unity in diversity, not unity in uniformity is, I believe, a key to sharing our truth with a diverse Victorian community.

“I hear churches celebrating their strengths and not criticising others’ differences. That’s living hope.” ®

Bruce Manners is the editor of the *RECORD*. This is one of a series of interviews with conference presidents of Australia.

What kind of religion?

by Jeff Crocombe

In her commentary on Matthew 6:25 in *Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*, Ellen White writes:
“Recommend your religion to [your children] by its pleasantness.

Let the law of kindness be on your lips” (page 98).

The idea is echoed in another book,

Passing on the Torch, by Roger Dudley.

Subtitled “How to pass spiritual values on to your children and teens,”

Dudley takes as his foundation this idea:

“Making a child religious is not necessarily the same thing as making him a good person.”

Commonsense should tell us there are many kinds of religions, many ways of being religious—not all of them healthy.

Consider the Crusades where Christians slaughtered

Muslims and Jews during the Middle Ages.

Think of the conflicts in Northern Ireland

where Protestants and Catholics wage war

in the name of religion.

Look at the nightly news as Jew and Muslim wage war in Palestine.

Remember the fiery aftermath of Waco

where the followers of David Koresh’s brand of religion were burned to death.

Pause for a moment to remember those killed

by Muslim extremists in the past few months.

Not so long ago, in Australia,

Christian churches were closely involved with government policies on the forced integration of Aborigines into Western, European culture.

This included the removal of children.

Being religious means nothing in and of itself.

The question must not be, “Are you religious?”

but, “How are you religious?”

What effect does your religious belief

have on your relationship with others?

What messages do your family and friends

pick up from you about religion?

Narrow-mindedness?

An unwillingness to listen?

Hypocrisy?

A lack of love?

“Recommend your religion to [your children] by its pleasantness.

Let the law of kindness be on your lips.”

Some things don’t change.

And some advice is still good

100 years after it has been given. ®

Jeff Crocombe is completing a PhD in hermeneutics at the University of Queensland, Brisbane.

Including children in worship

by Janet Rieger

Include children in the worship service?

Not something else to do! As worship leader, must I put even more into the Sabbath morning worship service?

Don't I already have to meet the spiritual needs of many different groups of people—the retirees, the singles, the new believers, the grieving, the intellectuals?

The children have Sabbath school, don't they? And what about the parents—isn't it their job to care for the spiritual needs of their children?

Yes, yes and yes. It is the parents' responsibility but it's ours too. And we can do it—without a lot of effort, without a lot of change, without reverting to mere entertainment. We can minister to the children in our congregations. We can include them in the Sabbath-morning worship service. And if we want a congregation to worship with when we're old and grey, we'd better do it—and do it now.

The past

"What are your memories of Sabbath-morning worship services when you were a preschooler?" I asked the elderly woman.

A long pause.

"I can remember only two things. I remember feeling pain—painful ears from the too-tight elastic holding on my Panama hat. And I remember feeling excited, the excitement of exploring the depths of a large purse—the purse of the lady sitting next to me!"

"Really? Nothing else?"

"Nothing."



"And what about when you were a school-aged girl?"

"Ah, yes! I can recall the times our Sabbath school class went up the front of church during the worship service. Once we visited a nearby church to present a program. We sang together. I can even remember what we sang: 'Take time to be holy,' it was. We each read a Bible text.

"At my small church I remember being asked to play the foot-pedal organ sometimes. I could play only the easy hymns, but the church members told me it was great."

For young children, it is their feelings about church that are the most memorable part of their experience. For older children it is participation that counts.

The future

Include children in the worship service? Why should we do that?

Jesus commissioned us to do it. When the disciples tried to hold the children back from Jesus, He was indignant. "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them," He said, "for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."¹

Children are an integral part of the church family. Inclusiveness convinces them that they are valued and needed. Recently a 13-year-old expressed her perception of the membership of a large institutional church.

"Nobody would miss us if we didn't come to church," she claimed.

Children want to be included. Children between the ages of six and eleven are focused outward on the world. They want to participate fully in worship. They want to

understand. This will not last forever. During their teenage years their focus will shift to themselves and the world of their peers. If they don't have the opportunity to become fully participating worshippers during the ages of six to eleven years, they're unlikely to do so until they are grown-ups.²

Children develop attitudes of genuine worship. If there's nothing in a service that children can understand, they are just spectators, filling in time, trying to keep still and quiet until they can go home.

Involvement teaches children how to worship God. If children know the hymns being sung, if they understand the words of the prayer, if they receive help to find the texts in the Bible, they can worship God meaningfully.

Children need to hear the gospel message from their church pastor. Every day children face situations as challenging to them as those faced by adults. They need to hear of God's love and forgiveness. They need to learn how to cope with the temptations and difficulties they encounter. They need to know the pastor understands so they can trust *their* pastor for spiritual guidance.

Include children in the worship service? How can we do that without a lot of effort?

Children bring energy and enthusiasm to doing something exciting for Jesus. They want to be where the action is. They need to be recognised as young disciples. Their gifts and talents were given by God to be used in His service and they need to practise using them when they are young.

Children can welcome worshippers. Distributing bulletins and welcoming others to worship helps children realise that this is their church, and youthful, smiling faces are an encouragement to older members. Children learn by watching others, so roster them with experienced grown-ups.

Children can lead in worship. By reading the Scriptures, leading in prayer and providing music in a worship service, children have the opportunity to worship God with the talents He's given them. Teachers and parents are usually willing to help children prepare.

Children are imaginative and creative. They enjoy preparing special artwork for the noticeboard, used for a bulletin cover or on a PowerPoint display to illustrate the pastor's sermon. They could make decorations for the front of the church too.

Today's children have grown up with technology. Children can help with the overhead projector, computers and web-pages, data projectors and VCRs.

Include children in the worship service? How can we do that without making a lot of change?

Worship through singing. Including songs for every age group ensures that everyone has the opportunity to praise God meaningfully. If you have a group of singers to lead the singing, include a representative from each age group.

Worship through prayer: I once asked a group of mothers how we could make the worship service more child-friendly. Without hesitation one said, "Shorten the prayers and finish at 12 o'clock." However, I've noticed that when three, four or more children pray other children will listen. Maybe it's because they identify with the thoughts expressed in the prayers of their peers.

Worship through reading His Word. Using a reliable version and explaining the context of the passage and any difficult words before the Scripture is read, will help children and those new to Bible study understand.

Worship through listening to the sermon. If the sermon features situations children encounter and uses the language and stories children recognise, the sermon still, usually, addresses issues grown-ups continue to struggle with. Grown-ups can remember their childhood experiences and adapt children's realities to their adult situations, but children can't adapt what is said about adult realities to their own situations because they've never been grown-ups.³

Church bulletins for children. These can be

a separate bulletin or an insert or page in the adult bulletin. The pastor in one church gives the children's ministries leader an outline of his sermon some days before he preaches and she prepares activities to help the children understand the sermon. The kids bulletin can also include notices about their programs, news items of interest to children and birthday or get-well greetings from the church.

Include children in the worship service? How can we do that without reverting to mere entertainment?

Study the spiritual needs of your congregation. Talk to the children, as well as the youth and the grown-ups. Be well informed about what is happening in their lives.

Decide on your theme and objectives. Choose a topic relevant to their lives today. One example is: "Forgiveness: How to receive God's forgiveness and how to practise forgiveness toward others."

Use visual resources to illustrate your theme. Include responsive readings from the Bible. Use overhead transparencies or PowerPoint presentations of pictures, charts or newspaper cuttings. Try an object lesson, a short excerpt from a video, a tableau. And there are many more.⁴

Don't underestimate the visual! Some educational researchers say that 83 per cent of what we learn is by seeing. We only remember 11 per cent of what we hear. After three days, we've forgotten all but 10 per cent of a lecture or sermon.

We can't improve on Jesus' methods of

*teaching.*⁵ People of all ages could understand His teaching. He reached grown-ups and children with good stories, illustrations and humour. You can too!

Select Bible stories and Jesus' parables that illustrate your chosen topic. Look for well-written children's books that contain the Bible stories you've chosen in children's language, and use them for mime or spoken drama.

Encourage congregational response. Prepare effective questions to help children and others discover the spiritual reality in the Bible story. Pose some deeper questions for the grown-ups.

Build the service to a climax. At this point, all worshippers should have the opportunity to make a commitment appropriate to the theme of the service. An example is: "I will ask forgiveness of someone today and I'll tell my family how I feel about being forgiven and being reconciled."

The commitment

Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." Will you? ®

References

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3. Ibid.
4. Robbie Castleman, *Parenting in the Pew*, InterVarsityPress, Illinois, 1993.
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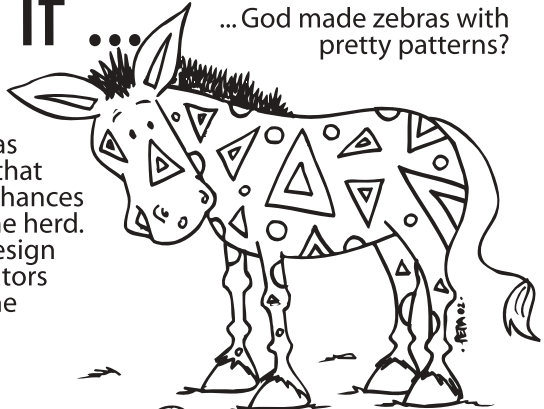
Janet Rieger is children's ministries director for the South Pacific Division.

Just for children

What if ...

God gave zebras special stripes that increase their chances of survival in the herd. Their special design confuses predators and protects the zebra.

... God made zebras with pretty patterns?



Peta Taylor

Young or old earth?

George Tasker, Vic

Regarding "More on old or young earth" (Letters, January 18): if God created the sun, moon and stars on the fourth day, then why did God create light on the first? Most have heard of Einstein's equation $E=mc^2$, which essentially says that any matter potentially can be converted to energy (light). Likewise, it is possible to convert energy (light) into mass. Then, all matter has a quantum mechanical wavelength. It is possible for two gamma rays of appropriate energy to interact, disappear, and two material particles—an electron and a positron—to take their place. The energy of the gamma rays and the resultant mass of the two particles are obedient to the above formula. If the two particles interacted again, two gamma rays come from the interaction. Energy became mass and mass became energy.

We live in an electromagnetic universe: everything we see, do and feel is based around the electromagnetic spectrum. So, what was created on the first day? I believe the electromagnetic spectrum, because without it, there would be no matter.

If God created the electromagnetic spectrum on the first day, then most likely the earth didn't exist before then—at least not in its current physical form. This gives me a reason to be comfortable with the concept that the earth did not exist prior to the first day, but I invite others to present their own propositions.

Graham Will, NNZ

One of the January 18 letters describes how the island of Surtsey appeared to age or mature much faster than many expected. This conclusion was reached by biologists who studied the colonisation of the island by plants and other organisms. But a soil scientist would have come to a very different conclusion.

The soil would tell that it was a very young island, similar to Rangitoto Island in Auckland Harbour. The volcanic eruption that formed this island was before recorded history and the island is now completely covered in forest. However soil development has barely begun, being little more

than some organic matter on top of the original scoria.

Not far away are older basaltic volcanoes where the rock weathering and soil formation have been in action for much longer periods and have resulted in deep, well-developed soils. Soils are formed by chemical and physical processes that proceed at rates determined by the climate, vegetation and type of rock. I feel that those studying (and arguing about) the age of the earth ought to give more attention to soils, which to date seems to have been largely ignored. They tell an interesting and independent story.

Digital schools rule!

Andy Matthes, NSW

I was delighted to read that Nunawading Adventist College has produced a multimedia CD to accompany its annual school magazine ("School magazine goes digital," January 18).

At our Port Macquarie Adventist School, the graduating Year 6 students worked with a parent to likewise produce a package of school memories—a colour magazine with a CD that brings many events of the year to life.

The school, which has 27 computers

The matter of the age of our earth is of considerable interest to Adventists.

Alan A Jones

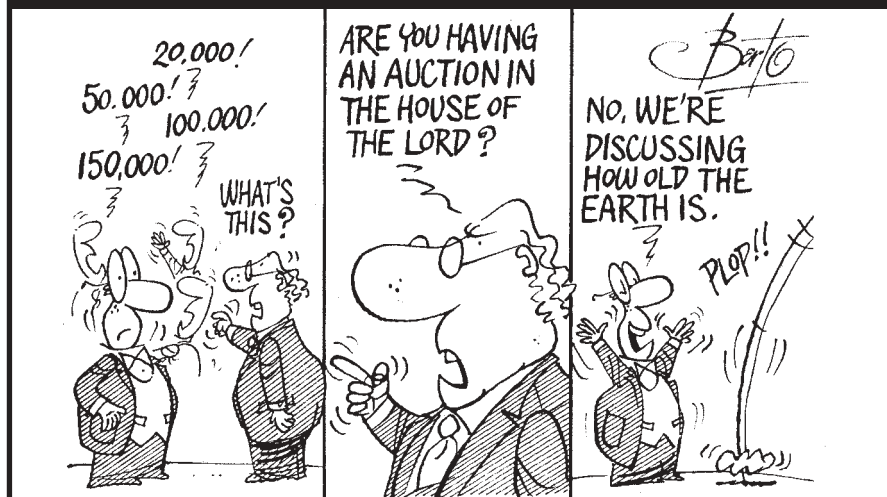
It is obvious that the matter of the age of our earth is of considerable interest to Adventists, and it also has important implications. But as letters may not be the best place to deal comprehensively with this, I suggest inviting the submission of papers from RECORD readers, then publishing two or three of differing views. Or, second, have another Sabbath school Bible-study guide devoted to the issue, but include scientific material and upgrade the biblical from the previous Sabbath school series, which ignored many of the scientific aspects.

connected across four classrooms, also sends a "virtual" tour of the school on CD with its prospectus, which contains vision of various aspects of the school and classrooms in action. (It can be viewed on the school's web site at <www.portadventschool.nsw.edu.au>.)

It would be great to hear what other Adventist schools are doing in respect to IT activities.

Note: Views in Letters do not necessarily represent those of the editors or the denomination. Letters should be less than 250 words, and writers must include their name, address and phone number. All letters are edited to meet space and literary requirements, but the author's original meaning will not be changed. Not all letters received are published. See masthead (page 2) for contact details.

Just a coincidence



Anniversaries

Barlass. Noel and Betty (nee Counihan) were married 17.12.47 at Sydenham (now St Martins) SDA church, Christchurch, SNZ, by Pastor F L Taylor. A small family gathering was held to celebrate the occasion.

Cowley. Ted and Edna (nee Smyth) were married on 28.12.42 in the Townsville SDA church, Qld. Most of their married life was spent in the Mackay area. They celebrated their 60th anniversary at the



Caloundra Retirement Village. On this special occasion they received congratulatory messages from their five children, 12 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and many friends scattered throughout Australia and New Zealand

Hunt, John and Margaret were married in Nottingham, England, on 7.1.53. They migrated to Australia in 1959 and Margaret worked at the South Pacific Division office until her retirement in 1991. John was a company director for a textile importer. They are both active members of the Esk (Qld) church. They enjoyed the congratulations and love of their families and friends as they celebrated their 50th anniversary on 7.1.03.

Kemp, Alfred and Daphne (nee Mitchell) celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with a luncheon on 15.12.02 at the Mullumbimby church hall, where they have been members for the past 53



years. They were married in the Avondale church, Cooranbong, NSW, on 16.12.42 by Pastor T C Lawson. Mullumbimby church members and friends from the surrounding area were present to congratulate the couple. The celebration was planned by their family. Sandra Currie and Anita, and John and Chris (all of Brisbane, Qld). Daph and Alf now live in retirement at the Adventist Retirement Village, Victoria Point, Qld.

McFarlane, Milton and Betty (nee Hunt) celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on 15.12.02 at the Cafe Renaissance in Cooranbong, NSW. They were married in the old Avondale Village church, Cooranbong, on 15.12.52 by the late Pastor A F J Kranz. Six of the original wedding party were present, along with another 15 relatives and friends. It was a day of memories that was enjoyed by all.

Nilsson, Bud (Rodney) and Shirley (nee Wright) were married on 3.11.52 in the Avondale Village church by college principal Dr W G Murdoch. A surprise 50th anniversary party was held in the Waihi church hall on 3.11.02. Friends and relatives from as far away as Sydney and the South Island packed the hall to overflowing. Their daughters, Carol and Dianne; son, Stuart, and his wife, Michelle; their four grandchildren; and the best man at their wedding, Rex Ussher, were all there to celebrate with them. Bud worked for Sanitarium as an engineer for 23 years, and 15 years with the state school system, working mainly as a metalwork teacher. Bud has also served at his local church as elder and Pathfinder director; and Shirley has been deeply involved in church music.

Piper, Athol and Kathleen (nee Kent) were united in marriage in the Wairoa SDA church, NSW, on 11.11.42 by Pastor A H Piper, father of the groom. On 11.11.02 they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in the Victoria SDA church in British Columbia. The Pipers have three children, Haydn, born in Sydney



Adventist Hospital, NSW, in 1946, and Lawrence and Frances, both born in California in 1952 and 1958 respectively. They send greetings to family and friends in Australia.

Robins, John and Verna were married in Adelaide on 20.12.52. On 14.12.02 they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at Barossa Valley SDA church, SA, with their church family to make it a memorable occasion.

Stanley, John and Lorna (nee Willis) celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary twice; first with West Australian family and friends in October and two months later in the east with more family and friends in the Cooranbong area. They were



married on 7.10.42 in the Bickley SDA church, WA. Although John kept up his trade as a dental mechanic throughout his working life, most of their years were spent as farmers in WA; they also served at Karalundi for three years and have now retired in Merredin. Their four sons, Mick, Russel, Glenn, Lester and spouses; 11 grandchildren and spouses; and six great-grandchildren wish them happiness and good health for the future.

Trim, John and Mary (nee Buckingham) celebrated their golden anniversary on the night of 4.1.03 at their current home in Grantham, England. They were married in Melbourne, Vic, on Boxing Day, 1952, having met at Avondale. They have served the church in Australia, NZ, India, England and Thailand and praise God for their years of happiness, five children and six grandchildren. Their son, David, and his wife, Wendy; granddaughter, Genevieve; and daughter, Heather, joined them for their celebration, along with other family members and friends. Their children, Jenelle Quick, Elisabeth Rudenko and Geoffrey, together with their families, sent messages of love and congratulations.

Appreciation

Willis. Oscar and Pat, Peter and Cass, Allan and Susanne and their families would like to thank their Adventist friends for their sympathy and cards following the loss of their dear sister, Ruby Willis.

Retirement

● **Peter Harper,** South New South Wales Conference (26 years).

Weddings

Anderson—Taylor. Richard George Anderson, father of Marvin and Aloma, and Lynette Kathleen Louise Taylor (nee Roennfeldt), mother of Christina, Sandra, Ray and Colin, were married on 19.1.03 in the Lilydale Adventist church, Vic.

Ray Roennfeldt

Close—Woodroffe. Trevor Close and Lynette Woodroffe were married on 29.12.02 in the Echuca Adventist church, Vic.

Lyman Ritchie

Drury—Williams. Daniel Mark Drury, son of Lyle and Christine Drury (Cooranbong, NSW), and Nichole Lee Williams, daughter of Jeffery and Annette Williams (Bonnells Bay), were married on 12.1.03 at St Patrick's church, Nulkaba.

Jim Beamish

Rowland—Digby. Duane Rowland, son of Lynette Rowland (Canberra, ACT), and Kate Digby, daughter of Brian and Carol Digby (North Ringwood, Vic), were married on 19.1.03 at Lyrebird Falls Receptions, Kallista.

Morrie Krieg

Webb—Ulrich. Brendan Michael Ashley Webb, son of Robert and Lucille Webb (Kendenup, WA), and Sheree Lauren Ulrich, daughter of Shane Ulrich and Helen Freeman (Thornlie), were married on 5.1.03 in the Esperance Adventist church.

Malcolm Reid, Calvin Redman

Weber—Malloy. Karl Damien Weber, son of Pastor Lynn and Susanna Weber (presently pastoring in Perth, WA, but from Northland, NZ), and Florah

Julianne Malloy, daughter of Ronald and Ana Malloy (Auckland), were married on 22.12.02 in Auckland Regional Botanical Gardens, Manurewa, Auckland.

Lynn Samuel Weber

White—Jaroslowski. Heath White, son of Malcolm and Lina White (Ayr, North Qld), and Camilla Jaroslowski, daughter of Richard and Dorota Jaroslowski (Helensvale, Qld), were married on 12.1.03 at Tamborine Gardens Wedding Chapel, North Tamborine.

Eric White

Obituaries

Bellchambers, Raymond Collins, born 2.11.1918 at Gawler, SA; died 14.12.01 in Gawler Community Hospital. He was predeceased by his son, Linray, in 1970. On 17.12.41 he married Valma Antwis. He is survived by his wife (Willaston); his children, Trevor (Gawler) and June Hancock (Maitland). A respected leader and member of the Gawler church, Ray really wished to survive the ravages of cancer until his 60th anniversary on 17.12.01 but went to his rest on 14.12.01. He expressed his longing for the Second Coming and the restitution of all things.

Will Grobler, John Duffy

Bone, Ron Walter, born 11.9.1918 at Geraldton, WA; died 21.12.02 at Geraldton. On 19.11.41 he married Jean Eaton. He is survived by his wife; his children and their spouses, Ken and Margaret, Sandra and John (all of Perth), Glenice and Morrie (Salmon Gums) and Teena and Klaas (Geraldton); his 13 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. Ron served in the Australian Army during World War II and on his discharge he returned home to Geraldton. He gave his heart to the Lord and was baptised many years ago.

Ray Giblett, Ted McQueen

Currie, Ronald James (Roy), born 21.9.1925; died 20.12.02 at Te Awamutu, NNZ. He is survived by his wife, Ethel; his children, Ron, Gary, Bev, Tanya, Dion, Justin, Heidi, Johann, Nadia and Whitney; and his five grandchildren. Roy was a person who enjoyed life and had a good sense of humour. He will be sadly missed by his family and friends.

Danny Milenkov, Jake Ormsby

Dayble, Robert George, born 5.11.1922 at Murtoa, Vic; died 20.12.02 in Pindara Hospital, Southport, Qld. On 21.12.46 he married Daphne Clark. He is survived by his wife; and his children, Diann Saunders, William (both of Albury NSW) and Bruce (Fitzroy Falls). Bob suffered for many years from respiratory problems caused by mine work as a POW in Japan. Despite his horrific war experiences, Bob came to know and love his Lord. His cheerful disposition will be sadly missed by family, friends and his church family.

Alan Saunders, Ian Johnston

Dickins, Eldelyn Florence Dickins (Lyn), born 30.8.1926 in Melbourne, Vic; died 20.12.02 in Melbourne. She was pre-

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deceased by her son, Raymond. In 1950 she married Roy. She is survived by her husband, Roy (MacLeod); and daughter, Sheryllyn Gray (Melbourne). Lyn was the adopted daughter of the late Reubin (former electrical engineer at the Signs) and Florence Bottrill, formerly of Warburton.

*Merv Sparrowhawk
Eddie Piez, James Kent*

Duence, Rex, born 19.7.1922 at Inverell, NSW; died 21.11.02 at Bayside Aged Care Facility, Bonnells Bay. On 29.8.49 he married Lorine Sprengel. He is survived by his wife; his children and their spouses, Garry and Michele, Narelle and Calvin Bowman; and his four grandchildren. Rex served in the Australian Army during World War II and gave faithful service in his work and to his church. He will be deeply missed by his family.

David Judd, Alwyn Salom

Edwards, Dulcie May, born 16.2.1924 at Goolwa, WA; died 27.10.02 at Canberra, ACT. She was predeceased by her son, Rodney. On 7.12.43 she married Jim. She is survived by her husband (Whyalla, SA), her children and their spouses, Lorraine and Bob McCarthy (Roma, Qld), Kaylene and Lother Lofler (Canberra, ACT), Michelle and Kevin Head (Whyalla, SA) and Robert and Debbie (Mackay, Qld). Dulcie started attending church over three years ago through the influence of her cousin, Mervyn Watson. She was rebaptised on 19.1.02 at Whyalla having left the church for almost 60 years.

Don Fehlberg

Johnson, Marjorie (Marge) Amy, born 26.2.1913 in WA; died 16.12.02 at Sherwin Lodge, Rossmoyne. She was predeceased by her husband, Bob; also her son, Mervyn, in February 2002. She is survived by her children, Robert (Denmark) and Glenda Johnson; her five grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren. Marge lived the life that counted; she loved all those she met and was always willing to share the blessed hope in Jesus.

Pat Downey, Larry Laredo

Moorhead, Hamilton Basil (Ham), born 3.5.1914 at Carlton, Vic; died after a brief illness 15.12.02 in hospital at Stanthorpe, Qld. He is survived by his wife, Lorna (nee Anderson); his children and their spouses, Julie and Tony Marini, and Katrina and Russell Smith. Ham was baptised into the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1951. He was a Christian gentleman and will be greatly missed by his family and many friends.

Victor Torrens

Richardson, Jesse (nee Snider), born 30.12.1910 at Mount Carbine, Qld; died 7.12.02 at Cairns. She was predeceased by her husband, Dick, in 1967; also her children, Darryl in 1976, Leonard in 1979, Robert in 1977, Ernie in 2001, and Gethel in 1995. She is survived by her children, May (Alma) Franks (Cairns), Alton (Koah), Adaline (Ravenshoe) and Christopher (Cairns). In 1931, three months after their marriage, Jesse and Dick spent eight years in Papua New Guinea as the first Aboriginal missionaries. After returning to Australia they lived at Monamona Mission. Kevin Robinson

Volunteers needed

Youth Pastor—Parkridge, Qld—to help foster a youth-ministry program. Undergraduates/college students with teens and leadership experience welcome to apply. Living allowance, insurance and accommodation provided. Term: 11 months, commencing asap.

ESL Teachers—New Dimension Foreign Language School, China. Schools at various locations in China seeking soul-winning volunteers to teach conversational English. Must be a native English speaker in excellent health. Term: 12 months, commencing asap. Round-trip airfare reimbursed after one year of service.

Youth Pastor—Springvale Spanish Church, Vic. Single person aged between 20-30 preferred. Living allowance, meals and accommodation provided. Term: 12 months, commencing July 1, 2003.

Computer Support—Saleve Adventist University, France. Must have experience working with network, XP and Windows 98/2000. Must also speak French. Term: 10 months, commencing September 1, 2003.

Home Study Supervisor—Nepal—to teach and supervise two students, a 2nd and 6th grader. Must have at least two years of college experience and love children. Term: 10 months, commencing September 1, 2003.

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Email: volunteers@adventist.org.au
Internet: volunteers.gc.adventist.org



Royal, Benjamin Michael, born 21.1.1981 at Kogarah, NSW; died as the result of a car accident 11.12.02 at Mangrove Mountain, NSW. He was a lovable, considerate person who lit up the room when he entered. His parents, Michael and Debbie, will greatly miss their affectionate son, as will his grandparents, Doug and Colleen Williams and Beulah Royal, who are respected members of the Kanwal Adventist church.

Len Barnard, Chris Manthay

Sergeant, Heather Caroline, born 6.12.1935 at Hamilton, NNZ; died 15.12.02 at Tauranga, after a long illness. In 1954 she married Raymond Grinter. He and their daughter, Sandra Grinter, both died in a motor accident in 1976. In 1979 she married John Sergeant. She is survived by her husband (Tauranga); and her daughters and spouses, Wendy and Chris Read (USA), and Jill and Ross Saunders (Christchurch, SNZ). Heather strongly believed in the soon coming of Jesus and was always actively involved in sharing the gospel with others.

John Veld, Grant Burton

Smith, Mavis Joyce (nee Jackson), born 18.7.1919 in Wellington, NNZ; died 24.8.02 in Adelaide, SA. In 1945 she married Harold. She is survived by her children, Denise Campbell (Adelaide) and Lyndon (Sydney, NSW); her siblings, Mervyn Jackson (Perth, WA), Audrey Jackson (Bonnells Bay, NSW) and Yvonne Douglass (Cooranbong). Joyce served the church in many voluntary capacities, including welfare leader, until ill health prevented her.

Will Grobler

Stidolph, Ronald Graham, born 18.11.1938; died 17.12.02 at Tenterfield, NSW. On 7.10.74 he married Cheryl Wren. He is survived by his wife; his daughter, Kayleen; and his two grandchildren. Ron will be remembered for the many kind deeds in helping oth-

ers. He is sadly missed by his family, many other relatives and friends.

*Harold Grosse
Bob Possingham, Geof Hovey*

Stonham, John Albert Edward, born 8.12.1916 at "Ganoo" Station, NSW; died 13.12.02 in Hollywood Hospital, Perth, WA. On 30.6.48 he married Noel. He is survived by his wife (Swan View); his children, John, Les, Ruth and Peter (all of WA); his 15 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. John had a wry smile and a cheeky grin that won our hearts and warmed us within. He will always be remembered as Midland church's RECORD man.

*Eddie Hastie
Pat Downey, Lynn Burton*

Tomkins, Janette May (nee Horwood), born 4.2.1944 at Strathfield, NSW; died 12.10.02 at home in Wellington, NNZ. She is survived by her husband, Reg; her children, Elizabeth, Nyree and Brett (all of Wellington); her parents, Tom and Dorothy Horwood; her brother, Mathew; and her sister, Lorraine (all of Sydney, NSW). Janette shared her talent of teaching and financial management with the Lower Hutt church for many years and was highly regarded for her talent and efficiency.

Ken Curtis

Waddell, Violet Mary (nee Kennett), born 9.1.1915 at Worcester, England; died 16.9.02 at Willaston, SA. In 1934 she married John, who predeceased her on 10.9.86. She was also predeceased by her daughter, on 27.7.97. She is survived by her children, Grace Rowland (Willaston), David and Tom (both of Brisbane, Qld), Robert (Melbourne, Vic) and Helen Gray (Willaston, SA). Vi was a much loved, wonderful lady, with a beautiful smile who rarely complained. She died loving her Lord.

Will Grobler

Positions vacant

▲ **Group Product Manager—Sanitarium Health Food Company** is seeking a Group Product Manager for Beverages based at their head office in Berkeley Vale, NSW. The successful applicant will be a professional marketer with strong strategic ability; have proven team leadership, development skills and formal qualifications in marketing/commerce, with at least five years proven ability in FMCG product management. **Applications in writing** (including current CV) should be forwarded to the Corporate Human Resources, Sanitarium Health Food Company, Locked Bag 7, Central Coast Mail Centre NSW 2252 or email <humanresources@sanitarium.com.au> no later than February 28, 2003.

▲ **Workers in the Outback—Western Australian Conference.** Have you ever considered visiting, living in, or working in the Outback? Many roles are available: builders/carpenters, electricians, nurses, project directors, accountants, mechanics, plumbers, health workers, farmers, secretaries, administrators, doctors, ministers, teachers, shopkeepers. If you are even vaguely interested, and would be willing to have your name on a register for potential Outback work/service, please send details of yourself and dependent family (with work résumé and reference from your local pastor) to Pastor Gordon Smith, Aboriginal Ministries coordinator for WA, PO Box 134, Gosnells WA 6990; phone (08) 9398 7222; 0429 379 237.

Advertisements

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Bus driver wanted—northern suburbs Melbourne, for Ironbark Christian School. Approximately three hours per day. Must have heavy-duty driver's licence. Please phone Celia Moncrief on (03) 9436 1785 BH asap.

Adventist Singles Convention—Adventist Alpine Village, Jindabyne NSW—December 30, 2003, to January 4, 2004. Great fellowship, dynamic speakers, spiritual renewal, fun activities, special New Year's Eve celebration.

Angus Gowans—the new manager of Camp Howqua, is seeking people for the following positions for the camp: farm-hand/maintenance person and catering personnel. Positions need to be filled by the end of March. Please contact Bill Truscott on (03) 9259 2100 or 0416 031 434 for further information.

Notice of session—Victorian Conference. Notice is hereby given that a special session of the Victorian Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church will be held at the Gilson College auditorium, 450 Taylors Road, Taylors Hill, Vic. The session will be held from 12.30 pm to 4.30 pm on Sunday, March 16, 2003. Delegates from the churches will be appointed in accordance with the constitution of the Victorian Conference. The business of the session will be to make a decision concerning the future of the Nunawading estate.

Tony Campbell, Secretary

Hope Haven Women's Refuge—the Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 6, at 7 pm. Venue: church hall, SDA Retirement Village, Alstonville. Chaired by Pastor Roger Nixon. All members and interested parties welcome. Please come and help select the new executive and management committee. A main agenda item will be the new constitution.

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