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## RUN WITH ENDURANCE

AN IRONWOMAN'S JOURNEY OF FAITH 14

NEWS

ADRA ACTIVE IN COMMUNITIES HIT BY  
CYCLONE DEBBIE 8

ADVENTIST RECORD | APRIL 29, 2017  
ISSN 0819-5633



# FORGIVE TO LIVE

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# STANDING IN THE GAP AGAINST MENTAL ILLNESS

This is not how I planned to write this editorial. I planned to remind you of the devastating impact mental health issues have on our community, even within our Church. I was going to share some stats, like how one in four Australians suffers from a mental health problem.\* Then I was going to share some tips on how to live with and support someone struggling with these issues. Maybe I'll finish that article some day. But it feels right to do it this way. This story is my heart's cry.

My wife suffered severe ongoing abuse as a child. It left her with scars—scars that are not always visible to the curious eye but to one who has “known” her, they are there—under the surface, marking her soul, blistering her skin, bleeding internally. As one who loves her, who is “one” with her, her scars become my scars. They are left to me to heal, to bind up: to comfort her and hold her as she cries, to bear the brunt of her anger when the pain gets too much for her to contain or suppress.

I am not complaining. She has endured and experienced far more pain than I ever will. And so I endure. For her, for myself, for our marriage, a rock battered by the storms of life, strong in the tempests of travail.

I realise how hard it can be to support someone who suffers from a mental illness, whatever the cause. I've felt the loneliness, the shared despair, the irrational fights and the internal conflict to hold onto control, to carry the burden of someone who is struggling to carry themselves. It is an isolating existence. You feel a duty not to damage or dishearten the sufferer any further. Often, you don't even realise they are in another season of difficulty—how long they've been struggling and how tough it has been—until they crack. You respect their wishes so you don't share their affliction with anyone. You try to carry it yourself—until it becomes too heavy to bear.

If you find yourself on a journey like this, with a loved one suffering from mental illness, make sure you look after yourself so you can continue to help them.

The problem sits in the back of my mind. It makes me less productive—some days I sit at work, still upset, still processing what is happening to the woman I love.

The pressure builds. You feel like you're walking on eggshells. You feel that if you put a foot wrong, if you react in the wrong way, or say or do the wrong thing, it will be your fault that they suffer, your fault that their carefully constructed peace crumbles. Maybe you even feel like it's your fault they are suffering because you haven't been able to help or heal them.

It's not your fault. But you can't carry the burden alone. Talk to a close friend or family member, a pastor or counsellor, and make sure you have the support you need. Don't blame yourself. Stick by them.

This is a mental and physical battle that must be fought on those fronts, but it is also a spiritual one.

I love my wife deeply, and I pray for God to help me to love her more, to help my love heal the love that has been marred, corrupted. And yet it is a long process. Often the one you love—be they a spouse, a parent, a child—will withdraw and want to isolate themselves from community—from

church, school, work, friends. Medication or counselling will not work overnight and sometimes will only work for a season. You have to be prepared to be there for the long haul. They may push you away and pick irrational fights. You may not understand their reactions to seemingly normal situations. That's okay.

Keep praying and never lose heart. It's what they need and what God wants. He can and is willing to bring hope and healing to you and your loved ones (sometimes in unexpected ways), to fight the powers of darkness that threaten to overwhelm, and break the chains of affliction and the strongholds of despair that the enemy has set up in our lives. After all, Jesus came to heal the broken-hearted and set the captives free. What they need is for you to be there: to hold them and to love them; to support and encourage them, hopefully to strengthen them to seek the help they need; and to walk with them on their journey.

\*If you or someone you love is suffering from mental health issues, please seek support and professional help.

## KEEP PRAYING AND NEVER LOSE HEART

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## BEING A DISCIPLE

"A disciple is someone who in every way is becoming more like Jesus" is the definition of a disciple of Jesus that the South Pacific Division Discipleship Ministry Team is using in their ministry. I like the definition as everyone fits—we are all on a journey. We are all working to deal with our temper or to have courage to share our faith or grow our prayer life or spend more time with family. We all have blind spots so "every way" is needed. Other disciples (for me, my wife and children) can gently point them out and encourage us to work on them.

Ruth was a follower of the one true God. In my daily Bible study I have just finished reading the book of Ruth. Ruth, although a Moabite, took a courageous stand to become an Israelite as she followed her mother-in-law Naomi. She committed her everything with no way back (Ruth 1:16,17).

My adult children encouraged me to listen to a song by Chris Tomlin about real discipleship. The lyrics of "I Will Follow" are worth reflecting on:

Where you go, I'll go  
Where you stay, I'll stay  
When you move, I'll move  
I will follow

All your ways are good  
All your ways are sure  
I will trust in you alone  
Higher than my side  
High above my life

I will trust in you alone  
Where you go, I'll go  
Where you stay, I'll stay  
When you move, I'll move  
I will follow you

Who you love, I'll love  
How you serve I'll serve  
If this life I lose, I will follow you  
Light unto the world  
Light unto my life

I will live for you alone  
You're the one I seek knowing I will find  
All I need in you alone,  
in you alone

Can you commit to being Jesus' disciple?

GLENN TOWNEND  
SPD PRESIDENT

f /SPDpresident



## BOOK REPRINT AFTER ONLY FEW MONTHS

NATHAN BROWN

An Avondale seminarian's book describing the local church as the future of Seventh-day Adventism has had its second print run only two months after launching.

*Mission Shift: Multiplying Disciples in Your Community* by Avondale Seminary head Dr Kayle de Waal has been well received by Adventist Church leaders, ministers and local churches. As it should be, because Dr de Waal issues this challenge to local churches: biblically reinvent or become irrelevant.

The five largest conferences of the Adventist Church in Australia have purchased bulk copies of *Mission Shift* to distribute to each of their ministers. And the South Pacific Division's Discipleship Ministries Team, which supported the publication of the book, is distributing it to church leaders and ministers in Papua New



Guinea and the Pacific.

The president of the Church in the South Pacific, Pastor Glenn Townend, is encouraging all Church leaders, ministers and members to read *Mission Shift*. "Our lay leadership, our pastoral leadership and now others need to think about why we are doing church," he said during the launch of the book.

*Mission Shift* is available from Adventist Book Centres in Australia and New Zealand. For more information and to download discussion questions, visit <[www.kayledewaal.com](http://www.kayledewaal.com)>.

## RETREAT INSPIRES SPIRITUAL LEADERS AT PAU

RECORD STAFF/THOMAS DAVAI

One hundred spiritual leaders from Pacific Adventist University (PAU) Church attended a spiritual retreat at the end of March organised by campus pastors.

While participants spent the weekend worshipping together, the program also included training sessions for elders, deacons/deaconesses and various church departmental workers.

Spiritual Services director, Pastor Obed Yamasombi, and his support elder, Pastor Wally Kapi, drew up the program and various topics were covered.

As part of the emphasis on discipleship, every student leader was encouraged to make someone a disciple. The theme for PAU is "Arise and Go: PAU for Christ".

Pastor Thomas Davai, director of Student Services, said the number



ATTENDEES AT THE RETREAT.

one goal they have for their students is to experience Jesus and the hope is that spiritual programs like the retreat have the power to enhance academic, social and community service activities.

"The students . . . were overwhelmed with the training program, and realised how important it is to perform well in the church and to lead someone to Jesus Christ," he said.

PAU now plans to run one of these programs annually.

## REMOTE VILLAGE CHIEFS PRAISE MEDICAL MISSION TEAM

GEORGE KAOLA

Atoifi Adventist Medical Team recently conducted a health evangelism program on the Ontong Java (Solomon Islands) and Tasman (Papua New Guinea) atolls. The team visited the two main villages of Ontong Java—Luaniua and Pelau—and crossed the border to Tasman Atoll, which is two hours from Ontong Java by boat.

Team leader Rose Kaola said the medical needs at Luaniua village are huge because of the large population and the lack of a clinic or even a qualified nurse.

"We managed to save three children with severe diarrhoea and pneumonia and a 25-year-old with very high blood pressure," she said. "Most children had pneumonia and there were a few cases of children with suspected trachoma (a bacterial infection affecting the eyes), but unfortunately their parents could not bring them over to Honiara because they had nowhere to stay."

The island's health leader, Mr Tutu'ai, reported that in 2016 about 10 children died at Luaniua village alone.

"One contributing factor is we Ontong Javanese still have a strong belief that most sickness and death are a result of anger from our deceased relative and not because we broke the laws

of health, so we continue to break the health laws," he said.

The team provided general outpatient care and conducted health expos during the day, while in the evenings they led out in devotions and health awareness talks, and held open discussions. Large numbers attended the evening programs.

"This is the first time we ever saw and heard such a program on our island," said one villager.

"This program is not only benefiting our physical health but spiritual as well," said Chris Alengu from Pelau.

During the farewell party for the team in Tasman Atoll, Council of Elders team leader Kennedy and House of Chiefs representative Gibson Tahea requested the team to return.

Pastor George Vann from the Solomon Islands Mission, who accompanied the team, appreciated the warm hospitality they received while in Ontong Java and Tasman Atoll.

"I want to thank our God in heaven for making this program a success and



demonstrating the miracles we witnessed with our transport from Honiara, the blown-up projector, the weather and healing of the very sick children. To God be the glory," he said.

The team thanked their sponsors for responding to the voice of the Holy Spirit in supporting their mission to Ontong Java Atoll.

The team also received a freewill offering from Maranatha Seventh-day Adventist Church in Honiara to help pay for the mission trip.

## ADVENTIST CHURCH UPDATES COPYRIGHT INFORMATION

JARROD STACKELROTH

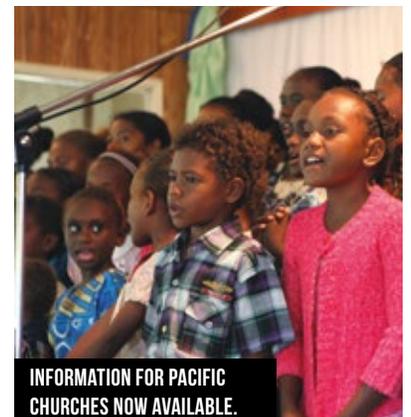
Churches around the Pacific now have access to copyright compliance information after the South Pacific Division (SPD) updated the copyright information on their website.

A new section has been added to the website, first compiled in March 2016, specifically for Pacific Island nations to access their own regional information. Copyright information for churches in Australia and New Zealand has been updated as well as Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal listings. "The information is provided as a guideline, per geographic area,

for church boards and worship teams in Australia, New Zealand and now the South Pacific Islands that integrate the display of lyrics during song and divine services," said Ian Heunis, SPD assistant corporate services secretary.

The page also has a section on frequently asked questions relative to the Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal and four different sets of PowerPoint files for public domain hymns (for Australia and New Zealand).

"The digital age has created a situation that is detrimental to the owners as the protection of the royalty income



INFORMATION FOR PACIFIC CHURCHES NOW AVAILABLE.

is less defined," said Mr Heunis. "In short, copyright laws and reporting are there to ensure that recognition is given where it is due."

## FELLOWSHIP A HIGHLIGHT AT PASTORAL INTERNS CAMP

MARTIZA BRUNT

Around 30 ministerial interns from across Australia recently gathered at the Adventist Alpine Village (Jindabyne, NSW) for the 2017 AUC Interns Camp.

Hosted by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Australia (AUC), the camp is held every two years for ministry and theology graduates who have been called to serve in pastoral roles in either a church (minister) or school (chaplain).

"Interns Camp is a vital part of our plan to equip, empower and support our new ministers," said AUC ministerial secretary Pastor Brendan Pratt, who organised the five-day camp. "It is a time for our interns to be spiritually refreshed while also being resourced for a lifetime of pastoral ministry. We address the challenges and celebrate the joys of ministry in a prayerful, supportive, encouraging environment."

"The AUC pays significant attention to interns because they represent the

early years of the life of a pastor," added AUC president Pastor Jorge Munoz. "These years are vital for the development of a pastor."

Spouses of interns were also encouraged to attend the camp, and special sessions were held for these Partners in Ministry by Amanda Bews, wife of Pastor Brendan Pratt, and Doris Faber, wife of Pastor Mike Faber.

As well as daily presentations and panel discussions, the interns were kept active with a 20km bike ride on one afternoon and an 8km walk on Sabbath afternoon. Worship and fellowship were also key highlights of the



week, with the Alpine Village providing great food and an atmosphere to relax from the pressures of pastoral life.

"Interns Camp presented an incredible opportunity to sit with the leaders of our Church and glean wisdom and encouragement to go back home and shine brighter than before," said An-nalise Lindsay, an intern from the South Queensland Conference.

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## SHORT LETTERS GET WORLDWIDE STUDY

BRENTON STACEY

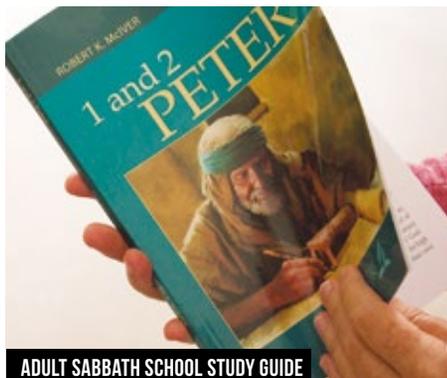
An Avondale academic's research for a worldwide study of two Bible books recasts an impetuous disciple as a loving leader of the early Christian church.

Associate Professor Robert McIver is the principal contributor of content for the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide this quarter and author of a companion book, examining 1 and 2 Peter.

Professor McIver enjoyed the challenge of studying the letters partly because few other academics have—more is written about Peter, one of the closest confidants of Jesus, than any other disciple but much less about his letters.

"I discovered there's wonderful theology in Peter's letters, as well as helpful practical advice on Christian living," said Professor McIver, who is director of the Spirituality and Worship Research Centre at Avondale. The college of higher education supported Professor McIver during his research, which included time at Tyn-dale House, a centre for biblical research based in Cambridge, England.

Professor McIver said he now has a greater respect for Peter as a thinker and for Jesus as a Teacher. "1 and 2 Peter



ADULT SABBATH SCHOOL STUDY GUIDE

are not the words of an unsophisticated, poorly educated fisherman," he said. "They're the words of one who has been with the Master."

The lessons in the guide, called "Feed My Sheep", provide a daily comment on the text and questions for meditation and discussion. The book considers the historical, social and literary context of the text and the practical application of the theology of the text.

Members of the more than 78,000 Seventh-day Adventist churches worldwide began using the guide and the book on March 25 and will continue using the resources until the end of the quarter (June 23).

## FORMER PM JOINS SAN CYCLE TEAM

TRACEY BRIDCUTT

Former Australian prime minister Tony Abbott joined the Sydney Adventist Hospital's team of cyclists riding in the 2017 Bobbin Head Cycle Classic on Sunday, March 26.

The challenging event, which included a choice of four rides through scenic Kuring-gai Chase National Park and Bobbin Head, raised funds for various local Rotary clubs and Lifeline.

The San cyclists' team included hospital general manager Brett Goods (captain), Mr Abbott and various San medical, nursing and administrative staff and supporters, including Andrew Featherstone, Samantha Holmes, David Blyth, doctors Saurabh Gupta, Ross Grant and Jim Sullivan, Rita Richter, Chinh Cap Lien,



TONY ABBOTT WITH MEMBERS OF THE SAN TEAM.

Catherine Bernard, Jade Berg, Jim Crews, Scott Lovell, Stephen Mitchell, Ewan Layton, Chris Starrett, Liz Reynolds, Andrew Reynolds and Ben Uprichard.

Hospital staff also volunteered at two medical support stations and provided physiotherapy.

The San team raised more than \$A1600 for the event that altogether raised over \$A100,000.

## NEWS GRABS

### FIRST BAPTISMS OF DEAF

Following the work of Deaf Bible worker Janvier Nkurikiye, who works under the auspices of the Gospel Outreach supporting ministry, 25 Deaf people as well as two others have been baptised at the Kamenge Adventist church, Burundi. They are the first Deaf to join the denomination in the country. —ANN

### STRANGE BEDFELLOWS

The management of Walla Walla General Hospital will be transferred later this year from Adventist Health to the Catholic-owned Providence Health & Services network. While the change in operations is not technically a sale, Providence will provide \$US14 million over 24 years to a dedicated Adventist Health community wellness fund. —Union-Bulletin

### TOUGH ISSUE

World leaders of the Adventist Church have voted a statement on transgender issues that upholds the Bible's gender binary of male and female but recognises that, due to the effects of sin, an individual's biological sex and gender identity may be misaligned. The statement "strongly cautions against" gender reassignment surgery. —ANN

## HOT TOPICS

### NOT SO SWEET

Documents provided under freedom-of-information requests reveal Coca-Cola's strategy of funding journalism conferences in US universities has been successful in encouraging news reports that emphasise the importance of physical activity in reducing obesity, rather than cutting down on sugary drinks. —*BMJ*

### OCCUPY NAENAE

Around 500 people participated in a weekend protest camp in Naenae, north-east of Wellington, New Zealand, calling for the government to improve its lagging social housing program. The campers squatted on housing department land and were led by St David's Anglican church, which has itself built two homes for low-income families. —*The Hutt News*

### HOLD THE APOCALYPSE

Papua New Guinea's (PNG) electoral commissioner has reassured concerned Christians that his announcement of 666 election writs has no connection with the number of the beast mentioned in the book of Revelation. PNG has 111 electorates and six copies of the writ must be prepared for each electorate. —*ABC*

## ADRA ACTIVE IN COMMUNITIES HIT BY CYCLONE DEBBIE AS CLEAN-UP CONTINUES

KENT KINGSTON/MARITZA BRUNT

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) volunteers and local Adventist church members are continuing to provide support to flood-ravaged communities in Queensland and north New South Wales, after Category 4 Cyclone Debbie made landfall in the final days of March.

Northern Australian Conference ADRA director Charlene Luzuk was in Ayr when the cyclone hit and went out with her team, including Graham Robbins, an Ayr church member, ADRA volunteer and former firefighter, and Ayr pastor Esava Koro, to assess the damage and see where ADRA could assist.

Adventist churches such as Murwillumbah and Kingscliff were flooded and Tweed Valley Adventist College also suffered flooding on campus. However, church members were still active in helping others in their communities.

In the early stages of the relief effort in NSW, evacuation centre staff in Kingscliff not only housed almost 200 people in need, they also took on the responsibility of catering for 150 people staying in the evacuation centre, as well as providing a transport service to motels for accommodated evacuees. The Lismore Evacuation Centre was also hard at work, led by ADRA emergency management volunteer Chris Markey. They accommodated about 200 evacuees and even received a visit from NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian and other politicians.

In Northern Queensland, ADRA staff and volunteers helped residents with clean-up efforts by removing fallen trees and branches with chainsaws.

"With your help it has only taken a few hours to get all the trees chopped and carted out," said Bowen resident Geoff Davey. "Thank God for ADRA! I will never forget what you have done."

Adventist church members pledged their support for ADRA and pitched in wherever they could.

"Our churches have been very active, particularly Lismore, Kyogle, Murwillumbah, Kingscliff and The Vine church plant," said ADRA Australia program



PASTOR ESAVA KORO, CHARLENE LUZUK AND GRAHAM ROBBINS.

officer Tracy Hamilton.

"While there is a lot of pain and suffering in the Murwillumbah and Lismore communities at the moment, an opportunity has been created for the members of those local churches to demonstrate in a very powerful and practical way the message of the gospel," said NNSW Conference general secretary Paul Geelan. "One man in the Murwillumbah area was helped by the local church and later disclosed that he is a former Seventh-day Adventist and had 'just witnessed the most powerful sermon he has ever heard'."

Volunteers from Adventist churches in Bowen and Mackay have been hard at work, while ADRA staff and volunteers have reached out to all Adventist churches in the affected areas of the South Queensland Conference.

"We want to let them know that ADRA Australia is here to assist," said South Queensland Conference ADRA director Irena Larking. "There is still more clean-up to be done, but with God's Spirit leading and His faithful providence, I know that we will all come out of this together."

Meanwhile, in New Zealand, ADRA partnered with local Adventist churches and Sanitarium Health and Wellbeing to deliver food, clothing and other supplies to families affected by disastrous floods in Edgecumbe on the North Island.

See [record.adventistchurch.com](http://record.adventistchurch.com) for more details.

# FLASHPOINT



## COMMISSIONING ALINA

Friends, family and more than 100 young adults from across the South Queensland Conference (SQC) gathered to witness the commissioning of Alina van Rensburg at Mt Gravatt church on Friday, March 17. Originally a physiotherapist, Pastor van Rensburg moved to Avondale College in 2010 to study a graduate diploma in Ministry and Theology. After graduation, she was called to SQC as a chaplain for Brisbane Adventist College, and is currently serving as the Tertiary and Young Adult director for the Conference. "To be publicly affirmed in my ministry, alongside my husband Martin, was incredibly special," she said. "I feel privileged to serve in such a supportive Church."—*Record staff*



## TECHNOLOGICAL TALENT

Two 2016 Blue Hills College (NSW) graduates recently had their technology projects displayed in Sydney, chosen from more than 10,000 students from across New South Wales. Damon Lemke showcased his technology project—a hollow body electric jazz guitar—at the Shape 2016: Showcase of HSC Technology Projects at the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney last month. Both Damon's project and that of Mitchell Nabbe were also selected for display in the Sydney InTech 2017 exhibition, to be held in June. "On behalf of all the Blue Hills College community, I would like to congratulate Damon and Mitchell on their outstanding achievements," said school principal Carel Neuhoff.—*Carel Neuhoff/Record staff*



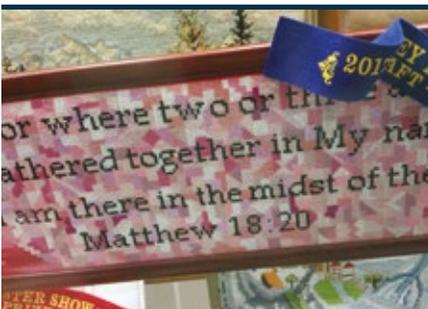
## "BE THE SERMON"

Global Youth Day (March 18) inspired four youth ministries from Kukum church (Honiara, Solomon Islands) to "Be the Sermon". The young people engaged in a variety of community service and witnessing activities, including visiting sick patients and helping with clean-up at the National Referral Hospital, offering free breakfast and Bible story pamphlets in the church car park, visiting and helping families in a remote and disadvantaged part of Honiara, and conducting Bible studies. "This event has set the standard for youth ministries this year," said Kukum church youth coordinator Bobby Darlton Walakulu.—*Lynton Filla*



## CLASS OF THEIR OWN

A group of students from the Strathfield Adventist High School (Sydney, NSW) leaving class of 1960 are unique and special: a remnant of the class have kept in touch and have spent some special times together, with some even travelling from Canada and England. In March, 18 students from this class reunited in Sydney and spent time together, cruising Sydney Harbour and exploring some interesting venues. These ex-students have had varied careers and lives, but the shared memories reflect a bond and gratitude for the dedication of their teachers and the education that prepared them for their life journeys. The group is hoping to reassemble in 2020 for their 60-year reunion.—*Frances Clark*



## ADVENTIST WINS AT SYDNEY EASTER SHOW

Jenny Shea, Hurstville church (Sydney) member and an original tapestry contributor at the Sydney Royal Easter Show, has won 13 prizes over the past 11 years. Although she contributes a Bible verse every year and has won runner-up prizes with these verses in the past, this year, for the first time, Jenny took out first prize for her presentation of Matthew 18:20, "For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them." The win was particularly emotional for Jenny as she had to celebrate without her partner of 12 years, Keith, who passed away in March.—*Malcolm Rea*



## SUPER PRAISE FOR PRIMARY

Avondale (NSW) Primary's SWOMP (Super Week Of Mega Praise) was once again a massive success. Each morning, speaker Karlie Fraser dressed and spoke as a Bible character to demonstrate how "We are God's Treasure". The students gathered together to sing songs, be a part of the Manna Mania Quiz and think about how special they are to God. On the Friday, Years 4-6 were given commitment cards to fill in, resulting in 93 students wanting to join a Bible study group and 86 requesting to be baptised.—*Colin Chuang*



## FIRST BAPTISMS

The Harvest Fellowship Group, a church plant at Horsley Park (NSW), recently celebrated their first ever baptisms, with four people giving their lives to God. The group has been worshipping at the Horsley Park Community Hall since October 2015, and have witnessed many blessings from God along the way. "We pray and hope that all newly formed church plants may be blessed by this witness as we see God's hand at the end of earth's history," said church lay leader Jim Tyrokomos. "This is the time to sow and let the Lord reap."—*IntraSyd*



## LUNCH IS SERVED

Members of Veiquawawa church (Suva, Fiji) recently developed a new outreach initiative that has been implemented in the local community. Lunch packs are being put together by church members and distributed to school children around the poorer Navasa settlement area. "We praise God and especially thank our members for being a blessing to many families through this ministry," said church communications director Timaima Volau.—*Record staff*



# RACISM IS ATHEISM

Among many of the major political stories of the past couple of years, one of the recurring and none-too-subtle undertones has been racism. That much of this has come coupled with a kind of politicised Christian conservatism is deeply disturbing. And that it seems to find proponents and supporters in our Church even more so.

As we understand it today, the concept of race was largely a creation and servant of European colonisation that grew from the 15th to the early 20th centuries to cover about 85 per cent of the world. And, of course, there were theologians ready to offer ideological support to these imperial projects in conjunction with their missionary endeavours.<sup>1</sup> This was the rationale for occupation, slavery and exploitation of many kinds. As such, racism is one of the foundations on which the modern world was built and continues to colonise our societies, our politics, our attitudes and even our faith in ways that are deep-seated, persistent, insidious and—it seems—increasingly overt.

But it is one of the most pernicious

aspects of white privilege that the dynamics of race can be so often ignored—by white people. My race is not something I am forced to factor in to my everyday life. That Christians are not raising louder voices against the tide of racism in our societies also demonstrates our theological blind spots: “What is invisible to white Christians and their theologians is inescapable to black people.”<sup>2</sup>

If we actually believe in Creation—God making human beings in His image—and Incarnation—God identifying as one of the poor, the refugees, the oppressed, the murdered and making a way of salvation for all people—we must listen, learn and speak or risk losing our faith.

Writing in the context of racial prejudice—as one who marched with Martin Luther King Jr in the 1960s—Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel argued that prejudice is atheism, “a treacherous denial of the existence of God”. In other words, prejudice negates any pretence of trying to believe in a God who claims to have made all people in His image. Heschel continues, “Racial

or religious bigotry must be recognised for what it is: Satanism, blasphemy. . . . Prayer and prejudice cannot dwell in the same heart. Worship without compassion is worse than self-deception; it is an abomination.”<sup>3</sup>

When stated in such blunt terms the theological and moral urgency of the tasks of combating and overcoming racism cannot be ignored. It is as big and complicated as how we act and react politically and in our communities, and how our Church and its programs are structured, led, and accessible and welcoming to all. It’s as difficult and awkward as how we learn to listen better to people who are different and how we respond to that racist joke or social media post a friend makes.

Citing the transformation that a proper understanding of the gospel brings—as Paul set it out (Galatians 3:28)—Ellen White also recognised the positive call to listen, to act and to care (and, no, to say our objection is to differences of religion does not let us squirm out of our responsibility): “Whatever the difference in religious belief, a call from suffering humanity must be heard and answered. . . . They have been bought with a price, and they are as precious in His sight as we are. They are members of God’s great household, and Christians as His stewards are responsible for them.”<sup>4</sup>

Racism might be the most common atheism among Christians today. When we dismiss, devalue, exclude, marginalise and oppress others, we deny our shared Creator and Saviour. This sobering realisation must change how we listen and speak, “like” and post, vote and worship, think and work.

1. For more on this theological history, see Willie James Jennings, *The Christian Imagination: Theology and the Origins of Race*, Yale University Press, 2010.

2. James Cone, *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*, Orbis Books, 2011, page 159.

3. Abraham Joshua Heschel, *The Insecurity of Freedom: Essays on Human Existence*, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1966, pages 86–7.

4. Ellen White, *Christ’s Object Lessons*, pages 386–7.

**NATHAN BROWN, BOOK EDITOR, ADVENTIST MEDIA.**



# THE TEN

## ...cool things you may not have known about Adventist Record

**1** Only two of our team members work full-time on Adventist Record, but it usually takes an average of about seven people to write and design our fortnightly issues.

**2** Anyone can write for Adventist Record—we're always looking for content, no matter your age, profession or gender! We've had 18 new feature writers across the seven issues we've produced so far this year, not including our own staff members.

**3** In January, we adopted four team mascots into the office—goldfish named Ducati, Mr Tumnus, Huckleberry Finn and Ryan Gosling. Unfortunately, they died overnight.\*

**4** Adventist Record's longest-serving editor was a female: Anna L. Hindson (1907-1922; 1924-1933).

**5** We're placing more of an emphasis this year on being active in the digital space. Adventist Record has a new website, along with 2500 Facebook fans and 11,000 Twitter followers.

**6** Adventist Record has been running since 1828, which means next year is our 120th birthday! Gifts in the form of books, sweet treats and Mexican walking fish are accepted!\*

**7** Don't know how to write? Our team can provide news writing, social media and communication workshops for your school, church or conference. One of our aims this year is to continue to provide help and mentoring to develop Adventist writers so they can powerfully and effectively share their faith.

**8** If you were to tally the number of books our team has read over the course of our lifetimes, it would be well over 10,000 books. #nerds

**9** We love sharing stories and testimonies of how God is working in people's lives. But one of our favourites stories is where God worked through Adventist Record to inspire a baptism! For the full story, check out our video, to be played in local churches next Sabbath.

**10** Without you, Adventist Record wouldn't exist. It's true. Your generosity in giving and commitment to reading this magazine is what keeps us going. Thank you.

*\*Adventist Record is good at many things, but keeping fish alive doesn't appear to be one of them. Any advice is welcome.*

Next Sabbath's offering (May 6) is for the Record

## YOUNG ADVENTIST HONOURED FOR FIGHTING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

For the second consecutive year, a Seventh-day Adventist young person was announced as a winner for the South Pacific region of the 2017 Commonwealth Youth Awards for Excellence in Development Work.

Jacqueline Joseph, the CEO and co-founder of a youth-led organisation in Papua New Guinea (PNG) that uses sport as a tool to end gender-based violence, was presented with the award at a ceremony in London in March.

The annual award acknowledges young leaders under 30 who have demonstrated initiative in spearheading projects that will contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals—a set of 17 global targets that governments have committed to achieve by 2030. Selected from more than 200 nominations, Ms Joseph was one of 17 finalists chosen from the 52 Commonwealth nations for the annual award.

“Receiving this award is a great honour, as it recognises the hard work and dedication of all the people who have been involved in Equal Playing Field (EPF), and more importantly God’s faithfulness and leading,” said Ms Joseph, a member of Vai Memorial Seventh-day Adventist Church in Port Moresby. “I feel privileged to represent the Pacific region, and want to recognise the many other young people around the world who are leading initiatives that are bringing about positive change. Social change never happens in isolation.”

On March 15, Commonwealth Secretary-General Patricia Scotland

presented the four regional finalists with their awards and praised them for their efforts to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals.

“With our Commonwealth Youth Awards we honour exceptional individuals whose practical sense of purpose is uplifting, and whose passion inspires us,” she said. “I encourage anyone who thinks they can’t make a difference to follow the example of these youth leaders who are working in imaginative ways to make our world safer, and our societies fairer and more inclusive.”

Ms Joseph’s dedication and leadership in EPF has seen the organisation grow as a movement for change for young people and by young people themselves. The organisation is inspiring many in PNG to address the issue of gender-based violence, and is giving staff and volunteers a renewed sense of hope that together, change is possible. Since EPF’s establishment in 2011, Ms Joseph has helped design school programs to teach thousands of young people in Port Moresby and Bougainville about respectful and healthy relationships.

“These eight-week programs for 13–15-year-olds have fostered frank and open discussions and proven to be an effective model of working with young people to prevent violence against women and children,” Ms Joseph said. “But more importantly, we have seen how the attitudes and behaviours that allow violence against women and girls to occur, have been changing and contributing to the

building of stronger, safer, happier communities in PNG. For the first time,

I am seeing children at an early age begin to question and challenge social norms on the value of women. For the first time, I see an emphasis on respect in relationships.

“We want conversations about

preventing gender-based violence, and creating respectful and healthy relationships to continue. And as Christians, I believe that we have an important role to play in doing more to change attitudes to gender-based inequalities. We are well positioned through our education and health systems, and I hope we can lead even more discussions about healthy relationships and preventing and addressing gender inequalities in our communities.”

Whether it be through EPF, her church or local community, Ms Joseph has a vision to achieve lasting change in PNG and beyond. In 2016, she was also recognised by the International Youth Foundation in Costa Rica, and later awarded in the Young Achievers category of the Westpac Outstanding Women (WOW) Awards in PNG for her work in leadership and contribution to her community.

While her achievements have taken her many places, Ms Joseph is quick to praise God’s continuous guidance. “I have found how critical it is to live in His presence every single day, because He really is the strength and victory that the world is searching for.”

For more information on Equal Playing Field, go to <https://equalplayingfield.global>.

**SONJA KAMA** WRITES FROM CANBERRA, ACT.



# A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A... PASTORAL INTERN

**NAME:** Rose Andrykanus

**JOB:** Intern/Associate Pastor

**WHERE:** Melbourne, Vic

## WHAT'S YOUR JOB?

I'm the new Intern at Lilydale Seventh-day Adventist Church in Melbourne. Internship is a two year program for ministry and theology graduates working in a local church or school. We have core competencies and skills that we need to focus on and build up in the first two years of ministry, such as visitations, preaching and Bible studies. After your two years of internship, you move to a licensed minister position for a few years, and then after that comes commissioning/ordination.

## WHAT'S A TYPICAL DAY FOR YOU?

Every day is different but there will always be some kind of meeting—whether that be a visitation with a church member, a Bible study, a board or elders' meeting, or a catch-up with my mentor. Plus lots of phone calls and emails, and if it's a week where I'm preaching, then there will be a lot of sermon prep—reading and researching—in my day. Pastoral work isn't a 9 to 5 job.

## BIGGEST LESSON YOU'VE LEARNED?

Probably that ministry is about people, and people come in all different temperaments, from all different backgrounds! One of the most valuable things you can do in ministry is just be able to sit and listen to someone and hear their story. Often what you see on the surface isn't a true reflection of what is happening underneath.

## BEST PART ABOUT YOUR JOB?

Meeting people. I love seeing the passion that others have for Jesus, especially when it's young people. I just see so much potential in our young people to go out and share the gospel! I feel like I don't even have to do the work—they can do it, we just need to empower them. What makes me truly happy is seeing older

people supporting and empowering young people who are passionate about sharing God's Word. That's something really beautiful, and I'm so grateful to be able to be a part of that.

## WHAT'S ONE CHALLENGE YOU FACE?

Because I'm such a structured person, one of the biggest challenges for me was getting used to the irregularity of a pastor's life! It really threw me off at the start—you have to work around people and be very flexible. This can also be a challenge in finding time for yourself. Sometimes you get messages from church members at all hours of the night and early morning, and so you really need to work on learning to prioritise—is this something that needs to be dealt with straight away, or can it wait?

## ANY ADVICE FOR FUTURE PASTORAL INTERNS?

Be humble. Don't come out of college thinking you know everything because you'll realise pretty quickly that you don't! Ask lots of questions, remember that your mentors are there to help you and, most importantly, that everyone in your ministry circle is on your side. From your senior pastor all the way up to the president of the union, everyone is there to support you. If you come into ministry with that mindset and attitude, you'll do all right.



Competing in ironman events requires a mix of training, determination, endurance . . . and a little bit of crazy. Just like Christian faith maybe?

# *RUN WITH* **ENDURANCE**



**T**HE FASTER YOU GET TO THE finish line, the faster you can stop moving!" With other athletes heaving and spewing up their entire stomach contents around me—as we collectively shuffled forward, trying to get to that glorious finish line—these were the thoughts running through my head during the marathon portion of Ironman Cairns last year.

Never before during an ironman had I contemplated pulling out of a race like I did that day. Never once during a race had I thought, *"That's it! I'm taking up knitting."* I was hurting. My feet were blistered and burning. I'd had enough and just wanted it all to end. But there was no way I was giving up. No way!

An iron distance triathlon consists of a 3.8km open water swim, a 180km cycle and a 42.2km run—because running a marathon isn't hard enough, right? It's one of the most gruelling one-day sporting events on the planet. It challenges you to your very core. It requires tenacity, perseverance, consistency, a little bit of crazy and a level of sacrifice most people don't understand. To complete an ironman requires a fighting spirit and a never-give-up attitude. But when you come across that finish line to the words—"You. Are. An. IRONMAN!"—it's worth it.

I first started competing in triathlons about six years ago. I have always been a runner so I thought triathlons would be something fun to do. I bought a bike during the Boxing Day sales one year and started training. Fast forward six years and I've now competed in countless events ranging from sprint and Olympic distance triathlons to half and full iron distance events. I have completed four ironman events so far, and am currently in training for ironman number five. That's a lot of training and a lot of—"Sorry, I can't. I have to be up at 5am tomorrow. Because, you know, training!"

From the outside, the sacrifice and the huge amount of time spent in training might seem bizarre and ridiculous—"Why would you do that?" It's a road not many people choose to travel.

But here's what I've learnt on my journey so far. It's a bit like our Christian faith and waiting for the second coming.

"Let us run this race with endurance that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith" (Hebrews 12:1,2).

### 1. RUN

To run requires effort. It's impossible to train for and to finish a marathon or an ironman without daily effort and determination, and without a laser-sharp focus on the goal of crossing that finishing line. Effort is also required to run the race of faith—to stay motivated and focused on the ultimate prize, especially in a time when it would be much easier to give up the fight and follow the crowd. So get up and run! Run with energy towards the ultimate prize—"Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it" (1 Corinthians 9:24).

### 2. RACE

Athletes typically compete against each other in a race, and at the end, there is only one winner—one athlete who gets to stand on that coveted top spot on the podium. The difference between this and an endurance event like a marathon or ironman, particularly for the mid-to-back-end age-group athletes, is that the race is not so much about racing others as it is about racing against yourself—against your own mind and thoughts. Buy into the negative thoughts that creep in and the race is over. Learn to overcome them and you will get to that finish line.

In a similar way, the race of faith is an individual journey, and ultimately you are racing against yourself—your own mind, thoughts and temptations. It's easy to buy into the negativity and to stop. The easy way out is to quit. But when negativity starts to sneak in, and it will—and when all you want to do is to give up—remember, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13).

So stay strong. Don't quit. Don't stop. Because that finish line is just

around the corner.

### 3. ENDURANCE

Endurance demands persistence and perseverance. It requires mental and physical strength—it's not easy to keep going when your body and mind are screaming "Stop!" You have to be prepared to be in it for the long haul—it's not a sprint!

Endurance also requires consistency. You have to be consistent in daily training because it's impossible to complete an endurance event like an ironman without training. That's the thing about this sport—if you don't do the training don't expect to get to the finish line (and let's be honest, you'll only have yourself to blame). In an ironman you also have to be consistent during the race—you have to pace yourself and to focus on your own race rather than getting distracted by what other competitors might be doing.

The race of faith is similar in that to reach the end you have to be prepared to be in it for the long haul—it's not a sprint. You have to be persistent and you have to persevere. This requires daily training—prayer, worship and meditation on the Word. Knowing why you started (why you first believed) and focusing on your goal and the prize ahead will help you to maintain focus and perseverance—even when everyone else around you doubts.

Is it easy waiting for the second coming? Is it easy to believe in something this world constantly doubts and mocks? Is it easy to be the odd one out? Is it easy to make the sacrifices required to stay true and faithful? Believe me, I know how hard it can be. It's much easier to stop believing, to follow the world and to give into temptation—but at what cost?

We are so close to that finish line. Don't stop! Don't give up! Because when all is said and done—it will be worth it.

**MARGARET MIELCZAREK**, FEATURES WRITER AND DEPUTY EDITOR AT AUSTRALIAN TRIATHLETE MAGAZINE. SHE IS A PASSIONATE TRIATHLETE AND WRITES FROM MELBOURNE, VICTORIA.



# FREEDOM OF SPEECH UNDER ATTACK

by Michael Worker

**A**USTRALIANS HAVE ALWAYS believed in a “fair go” and in the right to hold differing points of view. Now, it would seem, this is only the case if what you believe is in agreement with certain lobby groups and activists. If you have a differing opinion or belief, your right to express these views is under attack.

In the past two months, there has been a significant escalation in the pressure being exerted on individuals and groups in Australia who believe in retaining the current definition of marriage. Vast segments of the Australian media and many large businesses have become vocal supporters of legalising same-sex marriage (SSM).

## RECENT ESCALATIONS

One recent example is the *Until We Belong* campaign, led by Airbnb, calling on Australians to wear a specially designed “acceptance ring” (pictured right) until same-sex marriage is legalised.<sup>1</sup> Regardless of what you believe about the definition of marriage—even with the current climate challenging the biblical perspective—the truth is there is an even more con-

cerning agenda. Now is not the time to be alarmist but neither is it the time to be naïve. The more concerning agenda is that our right to retain free speech and freedom of religion is also under attack.<sup>2</sup>

The motivation and agenda of certain groups that are driving a culture of “equality” and “diversity” has been laid bare in recent weeks. These groups who claim they are calling for “tolerance” and “equality” are certainly demonstrating intolerance and being bullies when it comes to those who disagree with them.<sup>3</sup> Thus, Australian culture is being transformed. Many in Australia have failed to understand the genuine concern of Christians, including many Seventh-day Adventists, and have just written us off as “bigots” and “haters”.

There is significant momentum behind those who want to silence others who do not support their points of view. After sustained abuse and threats, this has been recognised by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission giving permission to the Lachlan Macquarie Institute and the Australian Christian Lobby to keep their board members’ names private.<sup>4</sup> The recent escalation started when the Bible Society released a short video where Liberal MPs Andrew Hastie and Tim Wilson endeavoured to have a respectful conversation about marriage over a beer.<sup>5</sup> While as Seventh-day



Adventists we do not endorse using beer to promote the Bible or the Bible Society, the response of the activists is deeply concerning. According to *The Australian* newspaper, “Tim Wilson and Andrew Hastie, the Liberal MPs whose same-sex marriage debate ‘over a Coopers beer’ was at the centre of the boycott of the Adelaide brewery, both criticised the need for the removal of names from the public register because of threats.

“Mr Hastie, who opposes same-sex marriage, said ‘freedom of conscience, speech and association are being suppressed and dissent is silenced. Australians should be deeply concerned by these developments. If this is the pattern now, what will happen if SSM is legislated? What will happen to individuals, religious institutions, charities and schools who don’t share in the new morality?’

“Mr Wilson, who campaigns for same-sex marriage and freedom of speech, said: ‘I utterly condemn the necessity for the need for this action. Freedom means freedom for everyone, including people of faith and also those who have been discriminated by them. This case is another reminder of the need for respectful dialogue.’”<sup>6</sup>

Then, under the banner of “Pride in Diversity”, social media activists targeted IBM executive Mark Allaby and Macquarie University academic Steve Chavura.<sup>7</sup> This is the second time that Mr Allaby has experienced such pressure, after being forced out of a senior role at PriceWaterhouseCoopers for the same reason in 2016.

In 2015, Archbishop Porteous of the Catholic Church in Tasmania, was targeted<sup>8</sup> and in September 2016 a gathering of religious and community leaders who wished to discuss “traditional marriage” had to be secretly re-

located due to harassment and threats being made against the staff of the hotel where the event was to be held.<sup>9</sup>

SSM lobby groups have overreached in the past few weeks as they have relentlessly pursued their agenda. The Australian community is starting to see it for what it is. As the Anglican Archbishop of Sydney, Glenn Davies, recently said, “There is only one upside from the recent attacks and unprecedented abuse directed at an academic and the directors of Christian organisations: people are beginning to wake up and take notice. They are starting to understand that the campaign for same-sex marriage is not sailing on a raft of rainbows but on a barge of bullies.”<sup>10</sup>

This phenomenon is not just taking place in Australia, and it is not just surrounding the discussions about SSM. As we have seen through the introduction of SSM in countries such as Canada, the UK and the US, there is a desire to “silence the dissenters”. Submissions to the 2017 Select Committee on the Exposure Draft of the Marriage Amendment (Same-Sex Marriage) Bill would indicate there are groups who would like to move Australia from having “Freedom of Religion” to “Freedom from Religion”.<sup>11</sup>

## OUR ROLE

Seventh-day Adventists have always held a strong belief in freedom of speech, freedom of conscience and freedom of religion, with the Church’s first public affairs and religious liberty action taken by J N Andrews in 1864. In 1893, the Church launched the International Religious Liberty Association, which continues to operate today, and in 1901 the General Conference Department of Religious Liberty was created.

The debate in Australia at this time

is about more than love and marriage—the deeper push is to restrict our rights to freedom of speech, freedom of conscience and freedom of religion. It’s time for the Church to stand up for these rights.

*Next month the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Australia will be speaking to this issue in more detail.*

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/firms-ring-in-campaign-for-marriage-equality/news-story/0539ca1821754e570cd16a08dc7b6586>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/opinion/columnists/debate-on-freedom-of-speech-exits-churches-for-new-life-in-pubs/news-story/28de61b4f1817c89e44b-05b275351ec0>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/rendezview/lgbt-activists-want-equality-and-free-speech-except-for-christians/news-story/d4a0a40598dec140892e170d-ca09808e>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/safety-fears-force-board-security-at-charities/news-story/2b1b9ec518c20348a045236cfd413000>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/business/coopers-accused-of-homophobia-after-teaming-up-with-bible-society/news-story/60fd163b751624ce94109c53959a93a2>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/nationalaffairs/safety-fearsforceboardsecurityatcharities/newsstory/2b1b9ec-518c20348a045236cfd413000>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/higher-education/gay-rights-activist-michael-barnett-turns-on-christian-academic/news-story/ba36cfd3c967370371f8b9ed-b3f69dec>

<sup>8</sup> [www.catholicweekly.com.au/anti-discrimination-proceedings-dropped-but-archbishop-porteous-disappointed](http://www.catholicweekly.com.au/anti-discrimination-proceedings-dropped-but-archbishop-porteous-disappointed)

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.skynews.com.au/news/national/national/2016/09/17/christian--no--campaign-event-forced-to-fold.html>

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/anglican-archbishop-glenn-davies-slams-same-sex-marriage-activists/news-story/dfc1fa6fe3f1c58a5b-165f247cd35884>

<sup>11</sup> [http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Same\\_Sex\\_Marriage/SameSexMarriage/Report](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Same_Sex_Marriage/SameSexMarriage/Report)

**MICHAEL WORKER IS CHAIR OF THE AUSTRALIAN UNION CONFERENCE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM STEERING COMMITTEE AND GREATER SYDNEY CONFERENCE PRESIDENT.**

The Australian Liberal Party has committed to a national plebiscite about same-sex marriage (SSM) so that the Australian people can share their views. This action has been opposed through the Senate by the Federal Opposition. SSM lobby groups also continue to oppose a national plebiscite on marriage. Polling data published by the Marriage Alliance, an independent alliance of individuals and organisations supporting the current definition of marriage, would suggest that there is a very soft middle group of voters who broadly favour changing marriage but whose support completely falls away if the campaign is seen as part of a broader change to devaluing gender and particularly if linked to programs like Safe Schools.



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# IS CHOCOLATE A HEALTH FOOD?

We're at that time of year when well-meaning friends and family contribute to filling our homes with chocolate. Depending on your perspective, this is either a welcome or unwelcome development. Sure, chocolate is delicious, but isn't it also unhealthy? While we shouldn't be racing to replace the broccoli on our dinner plate with a big block of chocolate, in the appropriate amount, chocolate can happily be part of a balanced diet. Here are our top tips for getting the most out of your chocolate choices:

## 1. GO DARK.

Cocoa, the key ingredient in chocolate, is a rich source of antioxidants. It's also a source of other minerals like magnesium, iron and chromium. Many dark chocolates will list what percentage of cocoa they contain, so to get the most bang for your buck, aim for the highest percentage for the most antioxidants and minerals in the smallest package.

## 2. SKIP THE FILLINGS.

While good quality dark chocolate is packed with antioxidants, the same cannot be said for those gooey fillings, which are basically just a hit of refined sugar. Whether it's caramel, strawberry or any other flavoured filling, you're better off skipping these and going for plain dark chocolate or for a change, dark chocolate with nuts.

## 3. SUITABLE SERVES.

Just because a good quality dark chocolate is high in antioxidants doesn't mean we should be eating a whole block every day. Milk chocolate is lower in the good stuff and high in refined sugar and fat, and even high quality dark chocolate is still energy dense, so stick to the moderation rule.

So what's the takeaway? To get the most out of your chocolate pick a dark chocolate with a high cocoa content and savour a few squares rather than downing a whole block.

## FUN FACTS ABOUT CHOCOLATE



### FAKE CHOCOLATE

To qualify as "real" chocolate, a chocolate needs to contain cocoa solids or what's known as cocoa liquor. White chocolate only uses the cocoa butter.



### WORTH MORE THAN ITS WEIGHT IN GOLD

In Mayan civilisation, cocoa beans were used as currency and considered to be worth more than gold. Just like modern day currency, production was controlled to ensure the value remained consistent.



### SWISS CHOCOLATE

The Swiss don't have a reputation for just making some of the tastiest chocolate in the world, they love to eat it as well. The average per person consumption in Switzerland is 11kg a year.

**Sanitarium**  
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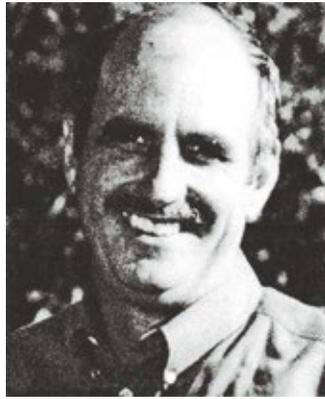
## ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS

**G**raham Barnett was born in Kingaroy, Queensland, on February 4, 1945. After completing his teacher training at Avondale College in 1968, he married Jan Elizabeth Durbridge before entering the organised work of the Church at the beginning of 1969. In 1973 daughter Liesl was born followed by her sister Piari in 1975.

Graham's first posting was to a teaching position at Wanganui in North New Zealand followed by two years as principal of the boarding junior high school at Paglum in the Western Highlands of Papua New Guinea (PNG).

From the beginning of 1974 he was supervisor of the 100 schools in the primary (elementary) education program for the Papua New Guinea Union Mission, most of which were difficult to access in that mountainous country with few roads. He was also a relief pilot in the PNG aviation program. At the beginning of 1980, Graham and his family returned to Australia where he became principal of Toowoomba Adventist School, remaining in Queensland until he was called to work in Western Australia from the beginning of 1988.

For several years in Western Australia Graham was both the director of education and youth director—in terms of workload an almost impossible combination of roles. Furthermore, if such a person had a ministerial background the teacher workforce did not see him as much of a professional support. If in such a combined role one had an educational back-



ground he could relate to the young people but there were gaps there in his preparation for the youth role too. Either way, when holding this blended office one worked seven days a week and right through the summer with the camping program. It must have been exhausting and hard on the family. Graham handled the workload with his usual aplomb but was enormously relieved when in 1995 the youth leader role was passed on to someone else. Clearly he worked well under pressure.

In 1993 Graham completed an MA degree in educational administration with the La Sierra University extension campus program sponsored by the South Pacific Division.

In 1997 the family returned to PNG where Graham headed up a teacher training program at Pacific Adventist University (PAU), and his wife did some teaching there too.

Tragically, Graham suffered serious burns to more than 80 per cent of his body on October 2, 1998, while refuelling generators providing temporary electricity for the Education Department at PAU. Initially treated at Port Moresby General Hospital, he was subsequently evacuated by aerial ambulance to Australia where he struggled for three-and-a-half weeks before losing the battle for his life on October 28.

Graham was one of the "good guys" and we miss him still!

**DR LESTER DEVINE, DIRECTOR EMERITUS OF THE ELLEN G WHITE/ADVENTIST RESEARCH CENTRE.**

## LIVING HIS WORD WITH WAYNE BOEHM

### LESSONS FROM THE FALL

After reading the amazing record of Creation, the language, tone and message found in Genesis 3 take a dramatic turn as an adversary is introduced.

#### What do we learn about the serpent from Genesis 3:1-5?

- Revelation 12:9 and 20:2 identify the serpent.
- Satan speaks elsewhere in Scripture — **Job 1, Matthew 4**
- Jesus identifies Satan, aka the serpent, as the "father of lies". — **John 8:44**

#### What do you see in the interaction between Adam and Eve with the serpent?

- Satan came to Eve, probably in an unexpected form.
- Satan planted a seed of doubt concerning God's character. — **Genesis 3:1,4,5**
- Satan narrowed Eve's vision by focusing her attention on God's one prohibition. — **Genesis 2:16**
- God in Genesis 1 and 2 defined what was good and bad. After listening to the serpent, Eve now determines and defines what is good for herself. Eve now looked at the fruit and "saw it was good for food, pleasing to the eye and desirable for gaining knowledge". — **Genesis 3:6**

#### —Genesis 3:6

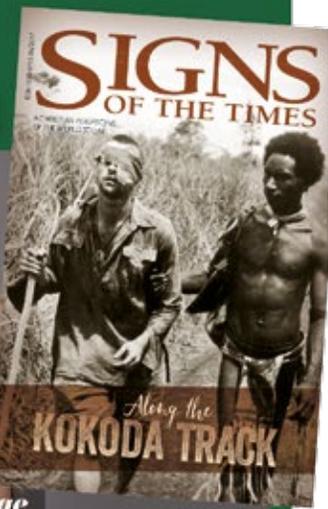
Eve now not only questions the character of God but assumes an identity separate from God in redefining what is good and evil.

#### Lessons we can learn

- Remember we were formed by God to live in His image. — **Genesis 1:26**
- Choose to live daily in His presence by His words. — **Romans 12:1**
- Study carefully the character of God. — **Psalms 145**
- Trust Him. — **Psalms 62:8**
- Identify the enemy by knowing God. Do not be deceived by Satan's cunning ways. — **James 1:13-16**
- Be self-controlled and alert. — **1 Peter 5:8**

The Bible gives a final clue to help us avoid failures of the past: "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith" (Hebrews 12:2). Or as Ellen White urges in her classic *Steps to Christ*, "let self be lost in Him".

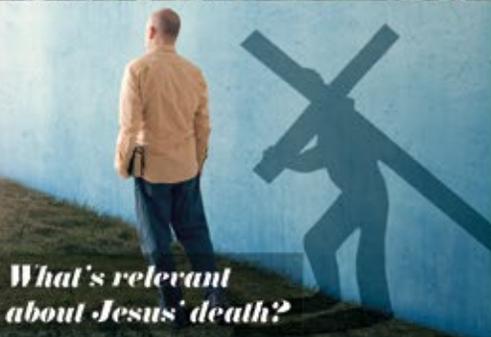
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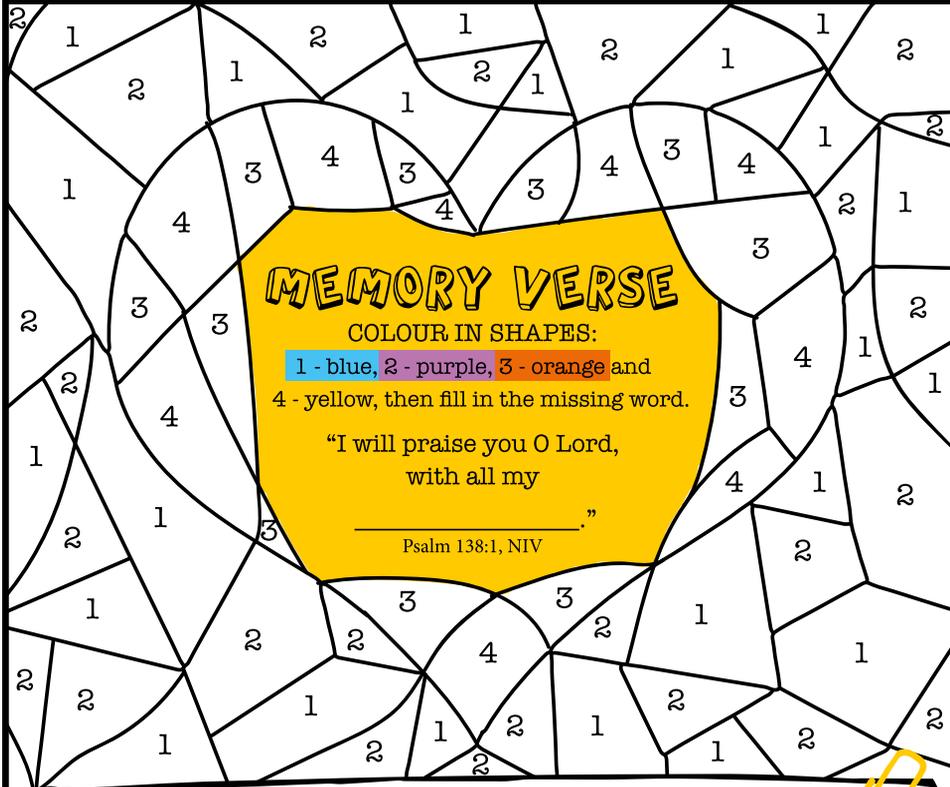
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ELLA KIDS\*

# KIDS SPACE



## MEMORY VERSE

COLOUR IN SHAPES:

1 - blue, 2 - purple, 3 - orange and 4 - yellow, then fill in the missing word.

"I will praise you O Lord,  
with all my \_\_\_\_\_."

Psalm 138:1, NIV

## BITTER WATERS MADE SWEET:

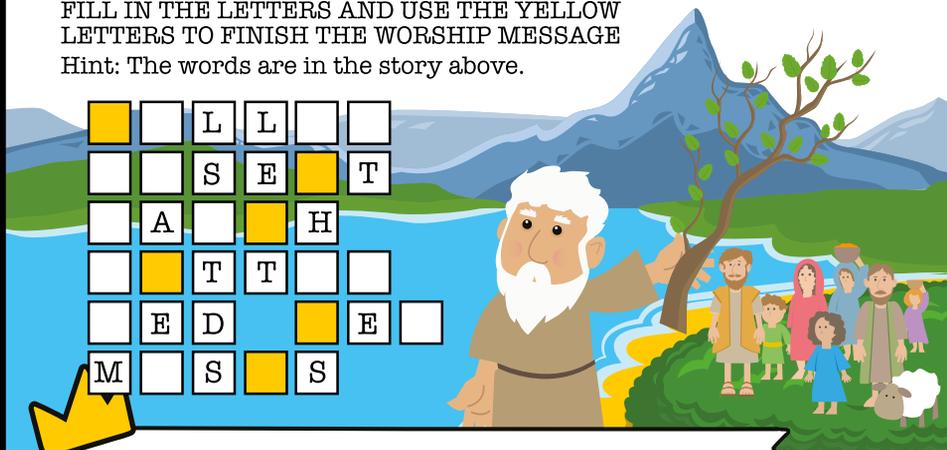
From the Red Sea the pillar of cloud leads the Israelites into the desert. Their water supply exhausted, they rejoice when they arrive at the springs of Marah. Finding the water bitter, they complain to Moses, who cries to God for help. God instructs Moses to throw a piece of wood into the water, and the water is made sweet.

## SOLVE THE PUZZLE

FILL IN THE LETTERS AND USE THE YELLOW LETTERS TO FINISH THE WORSHIP MESSAGE

Hint: The words are in the story above.

■	■	L	L	■	■
■	■	S	E	■	T
■	A	■	■	H	■
■	■	T	T	■	■
■	E	D	■	E	■
M	■	S	■	S	■



## WORSHIP MESSAGE

We worship God with joyful ■■■■■ .

\* hello in Awabakal (New South Wales)



### COULD WE BE DOING MORE?

“Crossing cultures” (March 18) is disappointing as it was the perfect opportunity to take a bold stance on an antiquated topic. It’s time to call out harmful views regardless of cultural, religious or historical context. Racism is never “appropriate” and should never be justified.

Even as a highly esteemed

prophetess, Ellen White failed to take a stand and rather advises people to avoid “controversy” and “humiliation”.

If we insist on taking moral advice from historical documents and figures, maybe we should try to find those who courageously faced injustices in order to make social change.

Delena, via website

### 500 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

I hope we haven’t forgotten that October 31, 2017 is the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation.

The protest of Christians against the corruption and false doctrines of the established church changed European church culture forever. This established that section of Christianity classified as Protestants. Many sub-branches of this movement grew up around various biblical truths as they were re-discovered: justification by faith, baptism by full immersion, church governance, seventh-day Sabbath, etc.

The foundation of the Protestant Reformation was “the Bible and the Bible only” as the rule of faith and practice, as opposed to the worthless husks of superstitious rites and the vagaries of human traditions. Historians estimate that between 50 and 150 million people had their faith sealed with their own blood, as the established church sought to re-establish its authority as the divine interpreter of truth.

The ensuing persecutions caused many Christians to

flee to the “New World” where a Protestant nation was established with two major tenets—a church without a pope and a country without a king, i.e. Protestantism and democracy. These are still the two pillars of the American constitution.

As a legacy of those who went before us we must never forget that true Christianity receives the Word of God as the great treasure house of inspired truth and the test of all inspiration. As Adventists, we must never forget our Protestant legacy and the inspired counsel that, despite appearances, nothing has changed or will change in the future. The three angels’ messages still remain the rationale for our existence.

Ross Chadwick, NSW

### LITERARY DEVICES

Yes, it’s a very real danger, “Creeping conformity” (Have your say, March 18).

But “talking to the deceased person” in these instances is not “fashionable spiritualistic practice”. It’s simply a literary device orators and poets have used from time immemorial.

It’s called apostrophising: addressing an absent or imaginary person as if they were present, or some inanimate thing (a cloud, a rock, whatever) as if it were a living entity. The very fact that one writer says “Til a better day my friend” and the other, “may you rest peacefully until (resurrection day)” shows that they do indeed believe Michael is asleep in Jesus until that glorious day.

May they continue enriching your pages with such arresting figures of speech. And vale, Michael Chamberlain, “until that glad morning when you will hear your Saviour’s voice”.

Joy Cornell, NZ

### STOP THE SLANG

For some time now I have been wanting to bring this unacceptable “PC nerd language” to *Adventist Record’s* attention—eg. “hashtag” and many more teenage SMS practices—that they are expecting readers to know what they mean.

Well, I am qualified in nine trades, as an aircraft pilot, a JP, honorary member of the Engineering Institute, and at

age 75 am still going to uni to attempt electrical engineering.

Part of the course is compulsory communication skills “B” to Oxford standards.

I speak four languages, yet refuse to learn slang! And I cannot see why *Adventist Record* allows this to be printed. I do NOT even know what they mean.

Yes, I am on the computer daily and have not suffered any backward fall onto my head to cause cranial damage to slow me up.

I hope you can write the magazine to cater for the over 18s.

Thanks for reading and taking note.

Dr Ferdinand van Bockel, Qld

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

## Anniversaries



**ANDREWS.**  
Pastor Kingsley and Jeanette (nee Blanchard)

were married by Pastor Reg Burns at Rendelsham church, SA, on 20.12.1956. Kingsley and Jeanette spent their working lives ministering in various capacities in SA, WA and Victoria before retiring in Lilydale (Vic). They were blessed with four children: Bronwyn (and Trevor Rowe), John (and Jenny Andrews), Janet (and Richard Shirley) and Leonie (and David Savage), and 12 grandchildren. They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at a small surprise party surrounded by their immediate family at Broadbeach (Qld), where they enjoyed time reminiscing and reflecting with gratitude on their life experiences shared in a strong and loving relationship.



**JACKSON.**  
Raymond Bruce and Heather Alvina (nee Ball)

were married on 19.3.1957 at the Papanui church, Christchurch,

New Zealand. They recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. The officiating minister was Pastor Alfred Ball, father of the bride. Bruce worked 17 years at the Sanitarium Health Food Company in New Zealand (both islands) before serving 25 years in the Australasian Division Office at Wahroonga (Sydney), mainly as investment manager. He retired in 1996.



**MITCHELL.**  
Graham and Joyce (nee Cummings)

were married on 24.10.1956 in the "old" Hamilton (NSW) church by the late Pastor Harold Hollingsworth. On 24.10.16 the couple celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary. They rejoice in having two daughters Jennifer (Brinsmead) and Neroli (Cooper), four grandsons and nine great-grandchildren.

## Weddings



**KRAA – TOWNEND.**  
Elliott Kraa, son of Doug and Karen Kraa

(Lane Cove, NSW), and Megan Townend, daughter of Glenn and Pamela Townend (Lisarow), were married at the Forest Chapel in Terrigal on 12.3.17. They will set up their home in Thornleigh.

*Glenn Townend*



**SMITH – ROWE.**  
Jared Lachlan Smith, son of Dr Adrian and Cindy

Smith (Port Macquarie, NSW), and Kylie Nicole Rowe, daughter of Pastor Trevor and Bronwyn Rowe (Melbourne, Vic), were married on 19.12.16 in the Murwillumbah church, NSW. Prior to their transfer at the end of 2016, Jared was associate pastor of Kingscliff church and Kylie a secondary teacher at Tweed Valley Adventist College. They have established their new home on the Central Coast, where Jared is pastor of Forresters Beach church and Kylie

is employed at Avondale School.  
*Trevor Rowe*

## Obituaries

**BROWN,** Patricia (Pat) Beth (nee Dyason), born 2.4.1928 in Grafton, NSW; died 3.3.17 in Busselton, WA. She married Ron Brown in 1947. She was predeceased by her husband in 2003. Pat is survived by her children Murray and Christine (Perth), Leanne (Busselton), Cheryl Mazure and Steve (Busselton), Raelene and Rodney Hort (Carmel); nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Pat spent her childhood in Parramatta, NSW, and later moved with Ron to WA. Her faith in God was strong.

*Clark Riggins*



**CAMERON,** Anne Elizabeth, born 11.4.1931 in

Christchurch, NZ; died 1.3.17 in Pindara Private Hospital, Gold Coast, Qld. She was predeceased by her elder sister Margaret Wright. She is survived by her husband Phil; son and

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### Departmental assistant

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**Applications close May 15, 2017.**

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## WHO WILL YOU MEET?

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2007 | 1997 | 1987 | 1977 | 1967 | 1957 | 1947



ALUMNI

HOMECOMING2017

daughter-in-law Peter and Janelle. Anne was the daughter of Pastor George and Christine Engelbrecht. As a child, she lived with her missionary parents in Aore, Vanuatu. Later, after attending Avondale, she held conference and Sanitarium Health Food Company positions. In their retirement, Phil and Anne lived in Tasmania where Phil was project manager of certain conference facilities. Her younger sister, Jan Mitchell, lives in Sydney. Anne was a beautiful, faith-filled, caring and hospitable person.

*Mike Collum, Bruce Roberts*



**FOWLER, Juanita** (June) Mary (nee Thomas), born 19.4.1929 in Geraldton, WA; died 26.1.17. She was predeceased by her husband Vernon Roy on 25.11.1995. She is survived by her children Peter (Perth), Desmond (Leeman), Linda Webster (Karratha), Kelvin (Yarloop) and Stuart (Central Coast, NSW); 13 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. June lived most of her life on farming properties and in

isolation from a church family. She was faithful in her beliefs and uncompromisingly lived her life as an example to her children of her faith and hope in Jesus. After Vern's death she travelled to Broome for three months each year to support the church and also spent time as a volunteer at Adventist schools and orphanages in Zimbabwe, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Mongolia. An awesome mother, Anne's passion to serve God in practical ways involving children is the legacy she leaves.

*Peter Fowler*



**HOBMAN, Margaret** (Peggy), born 4.8.1928 in Napier, NZ; died 9.2.17 in Palmerston North Hospital. She married Trevor Hobman in 1951. She is survived by her husband; son Russell and daughter-in-law Sue; grandchildren David and Rachael; and seven great-grandchildren.

*Anton van Wyk*

**PERCOVICH, Olga**, born 20.10.1921 in Visignano, Istria (now Croatia); died 23.2.17 in AdventCare,

Nunawading, Vic. She was predeceased by her husband Ivan and children Marcella and Luciano. She is survived by her daughter Silvana (WA), daughter-in-law Helga (St Andrews, Vic); eight grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren. Olga was an active homemaker, making her own clothes and caring for a large vegetable garden. She faithfully read her Bible and regularly attended church.

*Lindy Sperring*



**PLAHN, Gladys** May (nee Passmore), born 26.1.1923 in Mt Morgan, Qld; died 4.7.16 in John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle. She was predeceased by her husband Claude in 1993. She is survived by her four children: Beverly and Hedley Mickan, Gloria and Stan Starkey, Wayne, Stephen and Jacki; 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. Gladys, a founding member of the Yeppoon church, loved her church, family, friends and her well-tended flower garden.

*Lew Parker*



**WARDER, Stephen** Gregory, born 5.5.1924 in Devonport, Auckland, NZ; died 14.2.17 in Auckland Hospital. He is survived by his wife Stella; daughters Julie (Napier) and Diane (Auckland); and grandchildren

Ethan and Connor. An electrician by trade, Stephen was an adventurous and courteous man. He travelled much of the world, including Antarctica and the Bible lands. He loved boats, photography, nature and Bible prophecy.

*William Iererua*

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**BACK TO GEELONG**, celebrating 120 years: Sabbath, November 4, 2017 @ Geelong Church, 6-10 Little Myers St, starting 9:30am. Worship, reminisce, reconnect, lunch provided. RSVP Marion 0409527540, October 1st, or Facebook.



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