



## MEMORY GEMS

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VERSES IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC 11

### NEWS

ADVENTIST SCHOOLS TO INVEST  
MORE IN STUDENT WELLBEING 10

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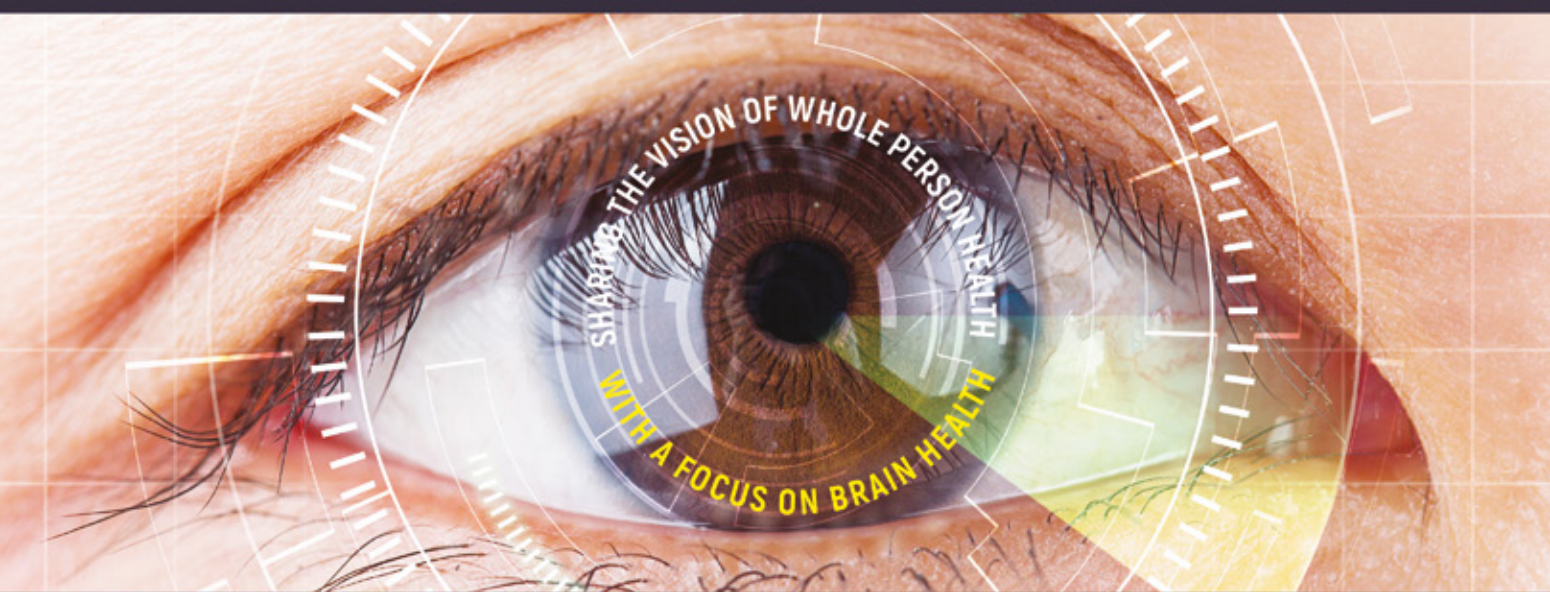
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## TRAUMA AND THE CHURCH (PART 1)

The Bible is a trauma narrative. And that matters. But first we need to understand trauma.

In my sheltered and utopian worldview as a child, I lived under the false impression that church members surely don't suffer things like trauma. Yet trauma is an ever-present reality in the world we live. Loved ones die, jobs are lost, mental health issues are on the rise (see p 10) and other sad things happen to many of us. These aren't always traumatic, but a trauma response can develop in the wake of these events. It disrupts the life of the sufferer, leaving them feeling out of control and exposed to abnormal feelings and outcomes. Extreme situations—of abuse, sexual and physical; a natural disaster; or unexpected tragedy—can also lead to trauma.

The American Psychological Association describes trauma as an “emotional response to a terrible event”. A trauma victim's immediate response is often shock or denial but there are many long-term impacts, ranging from flashbacks and strained relationships to chronic health problems and addictions.

The fallout from traumatic events is often undiagnosed and not dealt with properly. That means there are droves of people who have underlying trauma in their lives.

Christian author Dr Dan Allender, himself a survivor of sexual abuse and a professor of counselling psychology, remarks that church is unfortunately not often a place we can bring our trauma. “Harm and heartache are an inevitable part of the human experience, but all too often we lack the tools to care for our wounds well, and the trauma leaves a lasting mark on our body, mind and soul.”

Much of the human story deals with trauma and its themes. Religions are always trying to answer the problem of pain and where evil fits.

Yet trauma survivors and those seeking healing don't always need answers as much as a place to be heard and company on their healing journey. That's why it is significant that the Bible is a trauma narrative.

Stories throughout human history have often centred on loss and pain. From the tragedies of the Greeks and Shakespeare, right down to present day true crime novels

and celebrity biographies, it seems pain and problems are almost universal as a narrative vehicle.

While many stories contain traumatic events, trauma narratives have three specific elements: the trauma event itself; the specific ongoing effects and fallout, both psychological and physiological; and subsequent recovery attempts and re-establishment of the survivor's life and identity.

The Bible fits this narrative framework.

The fall is the first major traumatic event. Humans make a fateful choice and rip themselves from their created roles to experience separation from the divine, loneliness and heartache, and ultimately death.

The fallout from this trauma is immediately apparent when Cain kills Abel and, from there, physiologically and psychologically, man declines. God begins the recovery with Abraham, yet human choices lead to more traumas: slavery, war, rejection of God and exile. These are Israel's—and indeed humanity's—moments of fallout.

The ultimate recovery and restoration mission, Jesus' incarnation, leads to the end of the story. Humankind is restored to the original plan, with heaven and earth remade, and God and man ultimately reconciled.

The Bible doesn't shy away from the gritty, nasty, difficult stories, but the thread that ties them all together is God's redemptive power.

And that should be a model for the Church to follow. If the central text of our faith contains all the elements of a trauma narrative, then our churches should be places where it's safe to explore, question and support these narratives. Dr Allender says, “The church is by far the most significant place where the body of Christ has the opportunity to begin to deal with trauma.”

The Church is not called to be a community without suffering, but instead a community that embraces those suffering and loves them sacrificially, practising compassion and empathetic listening.

**JARROD STACKELROTH**  
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### THE FALL IS THE FIRST MAJOR TRAUMATIC EVENT.

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## BLIND SPOTS

We recently discovered a very significant blind spot. Our Bible School is staffed 7am to 2pm Monday to Thursday. Out of hours, all calls go to an answering machine. However, we decided we needed a better arrangement for receiving calls when the Bible School staff were going to be away.

So we investigated using a call centre in Christchurch. The more we looked, the better it seemed. The decision was made, scripts were prepared and the centre was engaged.

What happened next took us by surprise. Our response rate went up 70 per cent. We'd been missing a huge number of calls.

This was significant and showed how blind we had been to something so obvious. I ask myself, do we have the same lack of sight in other areas?

I think one of the challenges in our churches is "people blindness". People can come into our church and we don't really see them. They might be visitors who get missed by the welcome party. Or they could be members who attend irregularly or have stopped going to church. And very few seem to notice.

Often we spend our time with friends or are busy with Sabbath duties. I'm not saying there is anything wrong with that. But are there those in our church who don't fit into a friendship group? Those who don't experience a sense of belonging or drop off our radar because we're busy?

In a recent General Conference survey it was revealed that nearly half of those who had left the Church reported no-one had contacted them from their local church. It also showed nearly 60 per cent would likely return if invited. Another piece of research shows the best retention strategy is relational—having at least six meaningful friendships.

With our Bible School we were blind to how many we were missing. I wonder what else is being missed.



**BRAD KEMP**  
NZPUC PRESIDENT

## NEWS

### CONFERENCE RUNS LEADERS LIFE GROUPS

JARROD STACKELROTH

The Discipleship and Young Adult Departments of the South Queensland Conference (SQC) joined together recently to hold a "Leaders Life Group" for small group and Sabbath School leaders.

"Life groups/Sabbath School groups are the heartbeat of our Church," said Alina van Rensburg, young adult ministry director for SQC. "They provide opportunities to connect, build authentic relationships, share in acts of service and mission, dig deeper into the Word and grow together."

The Leaders Life Group was an opportunity for those already leading out in small groups and those hoping to lead in the future to come together to eat, share and be trained in leadership areas.

"If we want to see our Church come alive and become the movement we long to see, Spirit-filled life groups/Sabbath School groups must be at the centre. We want to provide opportunities for leaders to gather



**BIBLE READING GROUP.**

and grow together so that each of us can become disciples who multiply disciples," she said.

Leaders are equipped and resourced and have the opportunity to connect with other leaders. The program started in 2017 as a pilot series. This year's group met fortnightly over six weeks. Leaders could attend in person or online via Zoom.

"During our three sessions together, it was incredible to have so many of our leaders gathered together, being inspired, challenged, sharing life and getting into the Word," Pastor van Rensburg said.

### FUNDRAISER CONCERT CELEBRATES MISSION

VANIA CHEW

More than \$A6400 was raised at a recent fundraising event at Hoxton Park Seventh-day Adventist Church, Sydney.

The event involved a cultural concert and several auctions as well as the sale of food and drinks.

It was held to raise funds for the first Hindi-speaking Seventh-day Adventist church in Nadi, Fiji.

"I am absolutely blown away by the support of our church family," said Carol Boehm, coordinator of Adventist Volunteer Service.

On behalf of the organising team, she expressed gratitude to all who supported and fundraised for the new church.

"The team has a new determination to finish the building of this church since we owe its completion



**CAROL BOEHM AND ROSE MIRANDA**  
FROM ADVENTIST VOLUNTEER SERVICE.

to so many who sacrificially gave."

Greater Sydney Conference president Pastor Terry Johnson was MC on the night. He said it was a true privilege to be there.

"There's nothing better than bringing so many different cultures together to celebrate mission in a way that's relevant to each culture," he said.

## NZ EDUCATORS ARE RE-ALIGNED

GEOFF BEISSNER

Adventist educators and chaplains in New Zealand celebrated a successful biennial conference over the weekend of June 8–10.

More than 160 delegates attended the three-day Primary and Secondary Adventist Educators and Chaplains Conference at the Holiday Inn in Auckland. Highlights included presentations by the keynote speakers: Pastor Adam Ramdin, youth director of the North UK Conference, and Avondale lecturers Paul Bogacs and Dr Peter Kilgour.

The conference theme was based on the word “Re-align” and emphasised the importance of constantly re-examining the direction, values and

practice in Adventist education. With a current emphasis on discipleship and wellbeing, this was considered particularly important.

During the weekend, the chaplains from each school underwent training in mental health first aid and received certification from the Manukau District Health Board. This brief but comprehensive training included specific instruction in recognising and dealing with students who exhibit complex social or behavioural patterns that challenge school routines.

New Plymouth church pastor Bruce Mason said this information would truly enrich his ministry at the local Adventist school.

Tamar Aiono, assistant principal of Longburn Adventist College, summarised the general feeling that this had been the most valuable conference of its type in recent times. Mr Bogacs’ presentations were particularly affirming and empowering of teachers, she said.

Teangi Glasgow, from Balmoral



TEACHERS FROM ALL OVER NZ ATTENDED.



ADAM RAMDIN, DR PETER KILGOUR AND PAUL BOGACS.

Seventh-day Adventist School, was thrilled with Dr Kilgour’s practical approach. She said Pastor Ramdin was also very practical in his presentations on the purpose and distinctive direction of Adventist Education.

There were additional presentations on AdSAFE (Ann Wooldridge) and the LiveMore Project (Geraldine Pryzbylko).

Dan Carrasco, associate director of Education for the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference and overall coordinator of the program, re-emphasised the importance of conferences such as this in promoting a unified vision and purpose for the ministry of teaching in this region.

## NEW CEO FOR ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE APPOINTED

TRACEY BRIDCUTT

The South Pacific Division Executive Committee has appointed Brett Goods the new CEO for Adventist HealthCare.

Adventist HealthCare Limited (AHCL) chairperson Pastor Glenn Townend said the decision was made following a lengthy and thorough consideration of local and international applicants with the expertise, knowledge and leadership capacity to complement the skills, passion and

commitment of the Sydney Adventist Hospital and San Day Surgery health-care practitioners and teams.

“With over 25 years of senior management and executive roles in the private hospital sector, Brett is an enthusiastic Christian leader with vision and a broad range of abilities to support that vision,” Pastor Townend said. “He looks forward to working with clinicians, leaders and teams across Adventist HealthCare, who have constantly evolved to meet community needs since 1903.”

Mr Goods graduated from the San/Avondale College in 1986, and went on to serve as nursing unit manager of the cardiac surgical ward, assistant director of nursing and director of perioperative services. After leaving the San in 2002, he worked in a

range of roles including director of perioperative services at St Vincents and Mater Health, at Health Care Australia as CEO/director of nursing at Toronto Private Hospital and CEO at Mayo Private Hospital and Community Nursing Services, Taree. He has completed a number of leadership and management programs, including an advanced diploma in business management through New England University.

Mr Goods was appointed general manager of the San in April 2014 and has been serving as acting CEO of Adventist HealthCare since late 2017.

“We look forward to the leadership Brett will provide and pray for God’s continued blessing on him and Adventist HealthCare,” Pastor Townend said.



BRETT GOODS.

## NEW EDITOR APPOINTED FOR SIGNS MAGAZINE

### RECORD STAFF

Following the departure of long-serving editor Lee Dunstan (see *Record*, June 2), associate editor Kent Kingston is stepping up to head *Signs of the Times* magazine.

Mr Kingston has worked at Adventist Media since late 2009, notably producing the *Record InFocus* TV program and helping prepare *Adventist Record* each fortnight as an assistant editor.

"It's an awesome responsibility, especially when you realise the place of *Signs* in Church history," he said. Arriving in Sydney in 1885, Henry Scott—one of the first Adventist missionaries to the South Pacific region—was a printer who helped produce the first Australian edition of *Bible Echo and Signs of the Times* less than a year later. Literature ministry was part of the Adventist outreach strategy from the very beginning.

Mr Dunstan led *Signs* for 26 years and was a tireless promoter of the magazine and associated evangelistic products, appearing regularly at Big Camp events around Australia and New Zealand. *Signs* has been recognised with a number of awards from the Australasian Religious Press Association in that time. Mr Dunstan will continue his work as coordinator of Christian Services for the Blind and Hearing Impaired on a part-time basis.

Joining the *Signs* team late last year, Mr Kingston is keen

to see the magazine be a genuinely evangelistic product.

"It's easy to slide into 'Adventese'," he said, "Adventists writing in Adventist jargon for Adventist readers. That's not what *Signs* should be. We need writers who are in touch with the culture, who are familiar with today's issues and can bring the truths of the Bible to bear in language the everyday person will understand."

A redesigned *Signs* will launch in September.

"I really want church members to catch a fresh vision of what *Signs* can be," Mr Kingston said. "At its best, it's part of a genuine friendship that you are growing with your unbelieving friend, neighbour or relative. It's an evangelistic tool that can preach clearly and appropriately when you don't have the words."





## FIRST DISTRICT ABC SET UP IN ADVENTIST HEARTLAND

RUSSELL WORUBA

The Bisiatabu District of Central Papua Conference (CPC) opened a new Adventist Book Centre (ABC) on June 5 at the new District office.

A short devotion taken by general secretary Pastor Rex Koi and singing by the Bisiatabu Primary School students supplemented the keynote address from CPC's chief financial officer and ABC manager Max Lassah.

To signify the importance of the publishing work, Mr Lassah highlighted God's providential leading in the publishing ministry through Adventist history.

The literature work in PNG began in

1989. The first ABC opened at Ela Beach in 1996 and another shop was later added at Boroko.

The new Bisiatabu District ABC is the first shop outside of Port Moresby. The ABC is self-sustaining, operating on the margins it makes from sales without financial support from the Conference.

During the opening ceremony, National Capital District director, Pastor Gibson Lohia, offered the dedicatory prayer for the new ABC room, the bookshop assistant Cathy Boski and the District director Pastor Miller Kuso.

As Conference president Pastor Kove Tau cut the ribbon to officially open the shop, he announced the Conference's plan to set up similar ABCs in other districts such as Korela.

Mission workers, students, members and the public also attended the celebrations.

Bisiatabu is the site of Papua New Guinea's first Seventh-day Adventist mission station, set up in 1908. This year marks 110 years of Adventism at the site.



PASTOR KOVE TAU CUTS RIBBON.

## MP OPENS ADVENTIST MUSIC FESTIVAL

VANIA CHEW/VANUATU MISSION

A Vanuatu MP postponed important appointments to attend and officially open the 7th Adventist Music Festival of Efate earlier this month.

The annual gospel singing event was initiated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 2012 to celebrate the Adventist movement in Vanuatu.

Internal Affairs Minister Andrew Solomon Napuat said the program was special because it promoted original songs from singing groups. "I believe in the process of composing songs, artists dig deeper into the Bible and as they do it, it changes them and will change the people who listen to them sing," he said.

More than 40 groups were scheduled to sing their original compositions at the music festival. The theme was "Gospel in Every Act", meaning that the gospel of



MR ANDREW SOLOMON NPUAT (FRONT ROW, SECOND FROM LEFT) AND OTHER SPECIAL GUESTS.

Jesus can be shared anywhere, anytime when people use the talents God has blessed them with.

Mr Napuat said he planned to attend the remaining evenings of the festival with his family and would encourage his fellow MPs to attend.

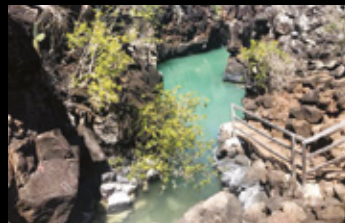
For those unable to attend, the festival was livestreamed on Facebook.

## NEWS GRABS



### GOOD MORNING

Adventist young people in Chisinau, Moldova, recently decided to hold a Week of Prayer with an unusual twist. Wanting to destroy the stereotype that it's hard for young people to wake up early, they held the meetings in local parks at half past six every morning, engaging in prayer and Bible study. —Dan Fedorov



### CREATION CENTRE

A large incentive project for scientific research will soon become a reality in the Galapagos Archipelago, 1200 kilometres off the coast of Ecuador. Construction on the Creationist Centre, maintained by the Adventist Church through its institutions, will begin in August. The building will also include some administrative rooms for Loma Linda Adventist College and new headquarters for the Central Adventist Church. —ANN



### PASS IT ON

A recent congress in the Philippines challenged the more than 16,000 young people who attended to step away from gadgets and to seek opportunities to make new friends and learn new skills while deepening their relationships with God. —SAD

## HOT TOPICS



### CASE DENIED

An Iranian man has been denied a visa to stay in Australia after authorities claimed his conversion to Christianity was “not genuine”. The decision was based on a phone call with the man’s former reverend, who confirmed the man’s attendance to church had dropped off significantly. However, the reverend did also note the drop in attendance coincided with the man moving to another suburb. —ABC



### NO-GO ZONES

NSW Parliament has passed a bill that creates “safe access zones” of 150 metres around all NSW abortion facilities. This new law makes it an offence for people to communicate with women in these zones, even if they are offering material support in the spirit of charity and kindness. —Australian Christian Lobby.



### CROSS DEBATE

German Christians are debating whether Bavaria’s new law honours or hijacks a symbol of their faith. It states a visible cross should be placed on every service building as a reminder of Bavaria’s cultural influence. “If the cross is only seen as a cultural symbol, it has not been understood,” said Cardinal Reinhard Marx. —Christianity Today.

## NEW VIDEOS TO GENERATE DISCUSSION ON ACTS

TRACEY BRIDCUTT

The South Pacific Division has created a new series of video clips to provide insights and generate conversations on the Sabbath School Bible Study Guides.

The 13 videos are each aligned to a weekly topic from next quarter’s (Q3) lessons, which are centred on the Book of Acts. There are two presenters for each video, including South Pacific Division president Glenn Townsend and his wife Pam, husband and wife pastors Roy and Jinha Kim (Melbourne City church, Vic), and pastors Leighton Heise and Brock Goodall (Central Coast, NSW).

This is the second video series of its type, with first quarter’s stewardship series receiving plenty of positive feedback.

“Sabbath School teachers wrote to us and said it gave them some fresh concepts to unpack followed by discussions and interactions,” Discipleship Ministries Team (DMT) stewardship leader Christina Hawkins said.

“In many churches the videos were shown and used as an anchor point before Scripture reading and discussion—at times projected for the whole church to see, while other times shown in the classes themselves on laptops or tablets.”

The videos were posted on a number of social media platforms, including the General Conference’s Facebook page, and received thousands of views from around the world. They were also screened on *Adventist Review TV*.

“The Book of Acts is the most studied book in Sabbath School in the history of having a Sabbath School pamphlet,”



PASTOR YONG SHIN CHEE AND WIFE NADIA ARE AMONG THE PRESENTERS.

SPD president Glenn Townsend said. “Why? I don’t really know, but I think it is because, as a Church, we desire to be filled with the Holy Spirit like the early church and be the last day disciple-making movement.

“I am very excited that the SPD has put together these short videos to help stimulate discussion on this vital topic that can help fulfil our purpose.”

The videos shed a spotlight on Paul’s journey and the early Christian church, disciple-making and multiplying churches, building relationships and using Jesus’ simple methods to share our faith.

Pastor Yong Shin Chee (Wantirna church, Vic), one of the presenters, reflects, “Even though Paul’s world was very different to ours, there is much we can learn from his missionary journeys and there are certainly many similarities and lessons that we can apply to our approach today.”

Produced by Adventist Media, the videos are available at <disciple.org.au> and <disciple.org.nz> and can be downloaded from <vimeo.com/spddiscipleship>.



VIDEO EDITOR NICK LINDSAY WITH PASTOR GLENN AND PAM TOWNEND.





## CHILDREN'S SABBATH

Aranui Samoan Seventh-day Adventist Church (NZ) recently held a special children's Sabbath, where 40 Aranui kids invited 37 school and neighbourhood friends and extended families. The Aranui kids shared the gospel through music, singing and a dramatisation of three Bible characters: Moses, Joseph and Samuel. The day ended with a celebratory food feast, and gift parcels and tokens of appreciation were handed out to visiting children and parents. This child-led Sabbath proved to be a great way to bring together families, and seeing the Aranui children share their passion for Jesus was a great blessing as well. — *Vineta Aiolupotea*



## COMMUNITY SERVICE

The young people of Perth (WA) came together for a youth rally followed by an afternoon of community service activities on Sabbath, May 5. About 200 youth attended the rally, where they were encouraged by South Pacific Division president Pastor Glenn Townsend to serve others out of love. Following the rally, the youth participated in a variety of community service activities, including making sandwiches for the homeless, collecting non-perishable food for the needy, providing music for the residents of a nursing home, assembling birthing kits and making care packs for deployed military personnel. At the end of the day the youth met up again to share stories and enjoy dinner together. — *Tracey Bridcutt*



## CAMERON'S ORDINATION

Pastor Cameron Hooper was ordained at the recent Western Australia Big Camp. Previously a high school teacher, Pastor Hooper graduated from Avondale College in 2012 with a Graduate Diploma in Ministry and Theology. He commenced his internship in Bunbury (WA) and was called to the Albany district in 2016. His ministry involves being a member of the youth advisory committee, and serving on the appointments committee for the WA Conference. Pastor Hooper's dedication prayer during the ordination service was offered by Pastor Clark Riggins, while Conference president Pastor Steve Goods read the charge and the welcome to ministry. — *Douw Venter*



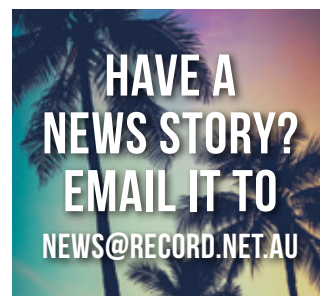
## DISCIPLING IN TUVALU

April 14 was a special day for church members at Funafuti Adventist Church (Tuvalu). Six Adventurers and two teachers were inducted into the club, while two members were ordained as new church elders by Pastor Faafetai Matai, Trans Pacific Union Mission youth director. Pastor Matai challenged the church members to remember Jesus' call to make disciples, and all those in attendance received a copy of Dr Peter Roennfeldt's book *Following Jesus*. At the conclusion of the program, six new church planting projects were outlined to be implemented in the next 12 months, while 21 people committed to discipleship. — *TPUM*



## NEW TRUCK BLESSED

Fulton College, Fiji, had a small dedicatory service for a new truck on May 16. Pastor Osea Raitila, Fulton College chaplain, led out in the service. The new vehicle replaces the old truck that was brought over to the Sabeto campus from the old college in Tailevu. It will be used for normal services as well as for transporting students and staff and for outreach programs in and around the college community. "We want to thank the TPUM president and chair of the Fulton College Board, Pastor Mavani Kaufononga, and his TPUM officers for assisting the college to purchase this new truck," said Fulton College principal Dr Glynn Galo. — *Pete Navosailagi. — Author*



## A VEGETARIAN TASTER

At a biennial health expo held recently in the small country town of Taumaranui (New Zealand), members of the local Adventist Church promoted plant-based foods. Around 150 members of the public took great delight in sampling a variety of bean and legume dishes, and went away with the recipes and other handouts. Many people also expressed interest in follow-up cooking classes. — *Dy Smith*



## MORE CHAPLAINS FOR CARLISLE

Carlisle Adventist Christian College in Mackay (Qld) is one of 17 schools to benefit from the Federal Government's funding for the National School Chaplaincy Program. A Commonwealth-funded initiative to support the emotional wellbeing of students and the school community through the provision of pastoral care, the program has been renewed until 2022, with the Government making an investment of \$A247 million. — *Maritza Brunt*



## 27 PATHFINDERS BAPTISED

More than 250 Pathfinders from around Malekula, Vanuatu, attended a Pathfinder camp at Espigles Bay, May 8–12, with the theme "Discipleship our Mission; Jesus our Example". Pathfinders enjoyed canoe racing, tug of war and knot tying. They were also blessed with powerful messages by Macsell James. On the Sabbath, 27 Pathfinders gave their lives to Christ in the waters of baptism. — *Pete Navosailagi*

ADVENTIST SCHOOLS TO INVEST MORE IN *STUDENT WELLBEING*

Challenging survey results are encouraging Seventh-day Adventist schools in Australia to invest more in the wellbeing of students.

Adventist Schools Australia (ASA) has, over the past three years, tracked the wellbeing of staff members and students through its school improvement surveys. "We're finding that, just like those elsewhere, many of our students are not experiencing a strong sense of wellbeing," said associate national director Jacques Calais. "So we're doing something about it."

Exacerbated by issues such as family breakdown, globalisation and ubiquitous access to mobile internet, adolescents tend to feel more isolated and anxious about the future and suffer more from depression and stress, said Dr Peter Beamish, senior lecturer in the Discipline of Education at Avondale College of Higher Education and developer of a wellbeing profiler.

He has received responses to an online survey from about 300 Year 9 students from six Adventist schools in Queensland, Victoria and New South Wales. The findings show that one-third of the students need help managing depression and stress and more than half need help managing anxiety.

Dr Beamish shared the findings during his keynote at an ASA-sponsored "Designed to Thrive" wellbeing symposium at Avondale's Lake Macquarie (NSW) campus, May 22.

"Even in Adventist schools, despite the best intention of the schools, our students need more help to maintain high levels of wellbeing," said Dr Beamish.

ASA established a Wellbeing Reference Group this past year, comprising directors of education at Adventist Church conferences, teachers, counsellors, Dr Beamish and Dr Darren Morton, lead researcher in the



Lifestyle Research Centre at Avondale. The group initiated the symposium.

Almost 90 educators attended. The administrators, principals, teachers, chaplains and counsellors listened to keynotes, presented case studies of wellbeing initiatives in schools, discussed implications and implementation, and contributed to a plenary during which they recommended a way forward.

"We seek to build strong communities of faith and learning, but for this to occur, we've got to meet three core elements: belonging, believing and becoming," said ASA director Dr Daryl Murdoch. "For students to belong, their wellbeing must be front and centre."

The educators developed a comprehensive list of recommendations, including an audit of wellbeing resources available to Adventist schools, an increase in the number of wellbeing units offered as part of Avondale's Master of Education and the employment of a curriculum officer to develop wellbeing resources.

Consensus seemed to be for a system-wide approach to encourage the sharing of resources, such as the Adventist Church in the South Pacific's *Live More Project*, and a whole-of-

school model. Both are urgent, said Benton Craig of Avondale School.

As head of secondary, Mr Craig has helped introduce changes to improve the wellbeing of students. The school is using Northpine Christian College's (Qld) year-long, gender specific and Bible-based *Challenge: The Next Step* program to further develop respect, resilience and responsibility in Year 9 students. It pairs the same year advisor with students as they move from Years 7 to 12 and there are plans to introduce male and female advisors for each year level. It has increased time in roll call for more worship and wellbeing activities. He hopes the recommendations "will propel us into a better space and allow us to take the reins a little with wellbeing".

The recommendations will move through the Wellbeing Reference Group to the National Education Council in August.

"We take seriously the statement Jesus makes: 'I came so you can have life to the full,'" said Dr Beamish. "We believe that's what we should be giving our students."

**BRENTON STACEY** PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER,  
AVONDALE COLLEGE OF HIGHER EDUCATION.



# THE TEN

## Most popular Bible verses by country

### 1. JOSHUA 1:9—AUST, NZ, VANUATU, NEW CALEDONIA

This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

### 2. PROVERBS 3:5,6—PAPUA NEW GUINEA, COOK ISLANDS

Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

### 3. COLOSSIANS 3:16—SAMOA

Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts.

### 4. 2 CHRONICLES 7:14—FIJI

Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and restore their land.

### 5. HEBREWS 13:16—TONGA

And don't forget to do good and to share with those in need. These are the sacrifices that please God.

### 6. COLOSSIANS 3:17—SOLOMON ISLANDS

And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.

### 7. EPHESIANS 4:29—FRENCH POLYNESIA

Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them.

### 8. ACTS 2:38—KIRIBATI

Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

### 9. ACTS 1:8 \*

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

### 10. REVELATION 22:17 \*

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." Let anyone who hears this say, "Come." Let anyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who desires drink freely from the water of life.

*This information was sourced from the YouVersion Bible app and represents the favourite verses from the countries over the past 365 days. \*Bible verses provided by the South Pacific Division's Discipleship Ministries Team.*

# not having the answers

A friend of mine recently went to a much-anticipated job interview. The job seemed to be tailor-made for her. She would be able to speak her native language, she had the required qualifications and it was just 15 minutes' walk from home. When we caught up for dinner that evening, she was still bubbling over with excitement!

As far as she knew, the interview had gone well. The interviewer had been impressed with my friend's experience but had let her know that this was just the start of the process. If successful, my friend would go through the next round of interviews, this time with a panel of four or five people.

At dinner, my friend jumped every time the phone rang or when she heard the "ping" of a text message. As the hours passed, she looked more and more despondent and wondered out loud why she hadn't been contacted yet.

I laughed at her impatience. Expecting a call only hours after the initial job interview seemed a bit too optimistic!

My friend then explained she had never had to wait for a potential employer to contact her before. Her first job had been a volunteer position that required no waiting list. Subsequent jobs had been offered to her almost immediately—her employers had either needed someone desperately or decided straight away that she was the right candidate. Waiting was something new for her.

We saw each other again later that week and by now her impatience was palpable. Why hadn't the employer called her yet? Why couldn't God tell her right now whether or not this was the job for her?

Part of me grinned at her impatience. The other part was empathetic. After all, how often am I impatient with God? How often do I expect answers straight away or for my desires to be fulfilled immediately?

I told her to be patient. To trust that God had good plans for her and wanted the best for her, even if this job wasn't the right fit. To rest assured that He can see the full picture when we have only the merest glimpse.

Today I find myself repeating many of the assurances I told my friend. My mum is currently in intensive care and I don't know whether she will survive. My phone is currently on 24/7 in case the hospital calls. I've forgotten what it's like to sleep through an entire night. And every day I prepare myself for the worst.

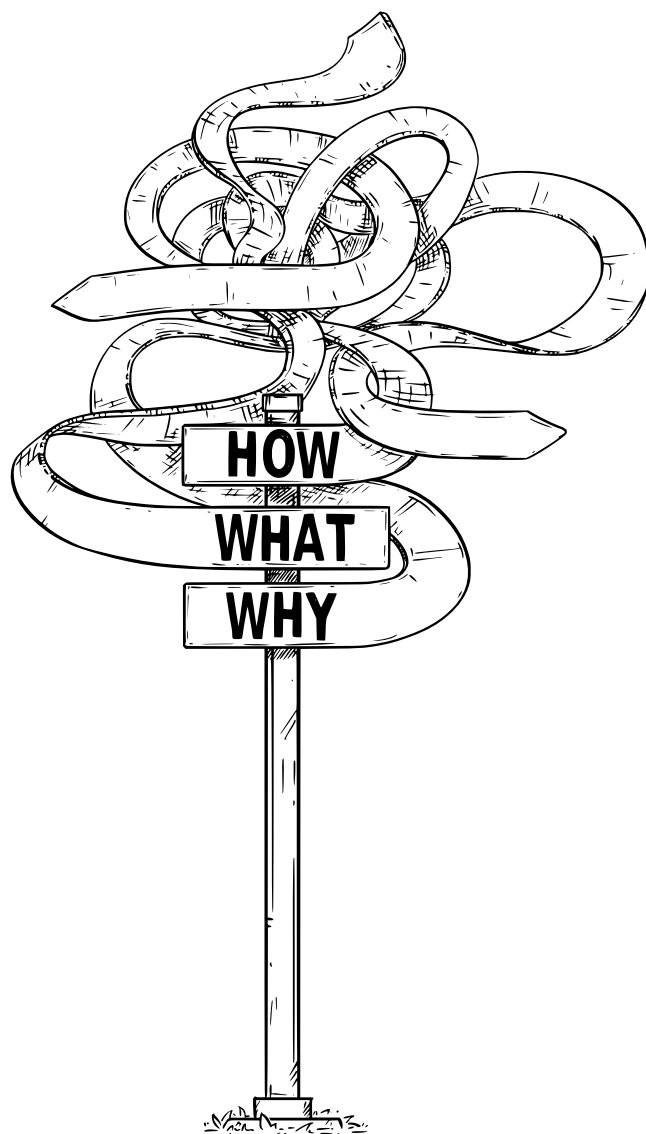
Not having the answers is difficult. I like to know how things will pan out. Even as a child, I would turn to the

end of a particularly dramatic book just to make sure that I would like the ending. (Yes, I'm one of those people).

But this I do know—God is faithful. He has brought my friend and me through so much in our pasts. We need to trust Him more with our futures.

As renowned preacher Billy Graham once said, "I've read the last page of the Bible. It's all going to turn out alright."

**I VANIA CHEW** ASSISTANT EDITOR AND PRODUCER FOR AT THE TABLE.







my  
story

JONATHAN CUSTODIO

## THE LOST SPEAKERS

**D**uring Big Camp this year, I could not find my Bluetooth speakers. I thought I had placed them in the equipment backpack I took to Christchurch (NZ), but halfway through camp I realised the speakers were not there. I knew there was a chance I could have left them at home, so I thought I should not come to any conclusions until I returned to Nelson.

However, the fact that the speakers were missing bothered me. I searched my luggage, room and vehicles several times. I went back to places where I had been and asked people about them. No-one had seen them. When I spoke to the security personnel, Pastor Siaosi offered to pray for me. At the end of the prayer, he assured me that the Lord would return the speakers if that was His desire. It was a blessing to have someone pray for me, and I chose to trust God in that matter.

On that same night, I had a dream. In the dream, I saw a suitcase in my room back at home, and then I saw one of the pockets of the suitcase. Then I heard a voice saying, "The

speakers are in there." I woke up so impressed! *Did God just give me a clear answer to our prayer?* But what if the speakers were not where I had seen them in the dream? Would I get discouraged and disappointed at God? On that day, I chose to trust God—that He would do the best for me whether I found the speakers or not. I had peace of mind for the rest of the camp week.

When I returned to Nelson, I did not go straight to check my suitcase to see if the speakers were there. Instead, I went on a prayer walk, thanking God for Big Camp and for what He was going to do that year. Only when I had finished and returned home did I check the bag and, to my joy, the Bluetooth speakers were exactly where I had seen them in my dream.

While this was a fine example of my forgetfulness, it's also an encouragement to all of us that God answers prayers. He cares for our great and small needs. Trust in Him.

**JONATHAN CUSTODIO** PASTOR, NELSON  
CHURCH, SOUTH NEW ZEALAND.

## DIGGING IN HIS WORD

WITH GARY WEBSTER

### HEALTH AND THE ANCIENT SUMERIANS

Scholars have noted marked similarities between the Sumerian King List (a 4000-year-old cuneiform tablet) and accounts in Genesis. For example, both mention the story of a great flood, eight generations (Genesis) or eight kings (Sumerian King List) who each lived for many years before the flood, and that the lifespan of humans (Genesis) and kings (Sumerian King List) was much shorter after the flood.

**READ** Genesis 6–9.

Aside from giving further evidence for the historical accuracy of the Bible, it raises the question as to why humans lived so long before the flood compared to those living after the flood. Diet seems to hold the answer. Man's original, God-given diet was clearly a plant-based one, and in light of the discoveries of medical science showing the benefits of such a diet, we can now understand why.

**READ** Genesis 1:29.

Given the flood destroyed vegetation, it was only after the flood God permitted humans to eat flesh. Aside from sacrificing to God, this was the main reason God sent seven of the clean animals and only two of the unclean animals into the ark. The benefits to health of eating a plant-based diet are further brought to light in the account of Daniel and his friends. **READ** Genesis 9:2–4; 7:2,3,8,9; Deuteronomy 14:3–20; Daniel 1:5–21.

Why not decide today to care for your body as God's temple by following His principles of health that are outlined in the Bible?

## BECOMING HUMAN

### *The nature of humanity*

Man and woman were made in the image of God with individuality, the power and freedom to think and to do. Though created free beings, each is an indivisible unity of body, mind and spirit, dependent upon God for life and breath and all else. When our first parents disobeyed God, they denied their dependence upon Him and fell from their high position. The image of God in them was marred and they became subject to death. Their descendants share this fallen nature and its consequences. They are born with weaknesses and tendencies to evil. But God in Christ reconciled the world to Himself and by His Spirit restores in penitent mortals the image of their Maker. Created for the glory of God, they are called to love Him and one another, and to care for their environment. (Genesis 1:26-28; 2:7, 15; 3; Psalms 8:4-8; 51:5, 10; 58:3; Jeremiah 17:9; Acts 17:24-28; Romans 5:12-17; 2 Corinthians 5:19, 20; Ephesians 2:3; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; 1 John 3:4; 4:7, 8, 11, 20.)

**H**ave you ever failed someone you love? Wondered why it's so hard to keep your promises?

We have all experienced this at one point or another. We long to do what we know is right, and yet so often do the exact opposite!

We hurt the people who we care about the most, reinforce our own insecurities by failed promises and, in so doing, consolidate the cycle of brokenness that was passed on to us.

Is this what it means to be human? Because if it is, then it's a pretty dreary outlook. Or is the longing of our souls to do the right thing a fairer indication of what it means to be human?

### THE CRAVING

Faithfulness. The receding mirage

that attracts us, yet eludes us, sometimes our entire lives. It's what we long for. It's why we engage in relationships, start families, become friends and even, believe it or not, go to work. It's the fundamental longing of every human heart.

In the biblical book of Proverbs, the wise man makes a profound observation about human nature. He says, "what is desired in a man is steadfast love, and a poor man is better than a liar" (Proverbs 19:22 ESV).

The idea in this proverb is, of course, that fidelity is far more valuable, and even "desirable", than riches. It's true that you can in fact be very well off, and yet be a total jerk. Solomon says that it's also true that we can be the poorest person in the

world, and yet, if we are true to our word, an invaluable asset to any man.

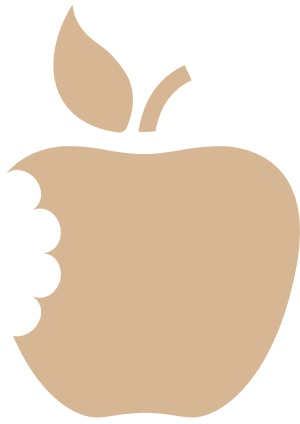
Fidelity. This is your craving and mine. Faithfulness. Integrity. Love!

### THE PROBLEM

So what's the problem with us? Why is it that what we all long for somehow manages to elude us?

To thoroughly understand the answer to this question would take more space than we have available here. However, if you read the book of Genesis and pay attention to the overarching themes it introduces, you will discover the story the Bible is consistently telling is something like this: a story of a deception about God's character, leading to a misconception of His nature, causing us to doubt His





word and mistrust His heart. Through that deception humanity (as a whole) finds itself buying into a different picture of God. We align our lives with that faulty picture.

Our choices simply reflect our heart; and if our heart is distrusting, we will naturally become self-dependent, self-willed and self-absorbed. From Adam and Eve, down through all of the biblical story, and even throughout our own stories, this is exactly what we see. Human nature—bent on seeing things our way, believing things our way and doing things our way. We are insecure, and through our insecurity we hurt other people, deepening their insecurities and strengthening our brokenness.

As we think through the course of our own lives we may feel like this situation is kind of hopeless. The cycle continues from generation to generation, repeating itself constantly in our own life experiences, feeling impossible to break out of.

If you're a Christian reading this, you probably think you know the answer to the problem; and it could be that you do. If you're not, it's quite likely that you already know what a Christian would say is the solution. The gospel—right?

### THE GOSPEL SOLUTION

Then what is this sometimes mysterious antidote—the gospel? I can almost hear someone saying: “the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. Duh!”

That's a good answer, a great

answer, even a biblical answer. But . . . it's only a useful answer if we understand the context—the big picture story of the Bible.

Sometimes we oversimplify things. In and of itself that's not a bad thing, but today let's tease out this concept of the gospel a little more than that definition does.

The gospel—the good news, the glad tidings, the message of peace and goodwill, is this: that God is exactly the kind of person He says He is. The “everlasting gospel” is the always-good news that God is who He is!

Now obviously that is demonstrated by the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus; but those things are only “good news” when given a context of conflict (and this happens to be your context and mine). We happen to be in a conflict with the God of the universe. And this, I would like to suggest to you, makes the gospel particularly good news to us today, given our nature and the context of the conflicting principles that wage war in our heads.

Think about it for a minute. Humanity craves faithfulness. Ever since Adam and Eve were first deceived we have all been operating under the subconscious assumption that God is not faithful. God, in response, cannot coerce us into believing that He is faithful. That would not help at all. Instead, He has to prove it to be true by means of demonstration. There's no other way. And what better way to convince us that He can indeed be trusted, than to voluntarily lay down His life as payment for all the pain that we have inflicted upon ourselves and others? In Jesus, we see the faithfulness of God. Faithfulness that every single one of us craves, demonstrated for all the universe to see.

### TWO CONTRASTING NATURES

Human nature is to distrust, to

break trust, to defend self and to hurt anyone who presents as a threat to me, myself and I.

God's nature (as demonstrated in Jesus) is to believe in us, to keep trust, to sacrifice self and to absorb our pain into Himself so that we might be healed.

C S Lewis once observed, “Creatures are not born with desires unless satisfaction for those desires exists.”

You and I desire faithfulness. We desire integrity, love and true friendship. God is those things. He is the satisfaction of all our desires.

All that remains is for us to both believe the truth about God, allowing this to awaken dependence and trust in our hearts, and to choose to identify with His nature (in place of our own), allowing self-sacrifice and faithfulness into our lives.

Do you realise it's entirely possible to be exactly the kind of person you crave to be? But the challenge today is not so much about what we do. The challenge is about how we perceive God. To believe He is absolutely trustworthy to the point where it is a subconscious action for us to depend on Him. As we begin to perceive God as He really is, our hearts will become more and more sensitive to do right, and we will be more and more able to trust Him, and have this total dependence. Then, and only then, have we discovered what it really means to be human.

This is the single biggest secret in our world today—a truth that is revealed in our very own dissatisfied nature.



DAVID BROWN

Child of God. Student of His heart. One of the voices at [www.austabletalk.com.au](http://www.austabletalk.com.au)

# WHEN A SCAMMER MET A TELE-EVANGELIST

Good afternoon Madam, my name is Clark and I am calling you from the Telstra Technical Department. The reason for my call today is to inform you that some malicious software has been loaded onto your computer. This is the reason it is running slow . . ."

I'm sure you're familiar with the rest of the conversation. The caller wants you to turn your computer on, to follow their instructions and become another "catch" for unscrupulous operators to either gain access to your files or persuade you to give them your credit card or bank account details.

About 18 months ago, after enduring such calls both at home and at work for many years, it finally dawned on me that hanging up on such callers was wasting golden opportunities to try and reach these people for Christ.

Overnight my practice changed. I started viewing each caller through spiritual eyes as candidates for God's kingdom. They were no longer annoying, time-wasting, pesky people. Now they were people whom God specifically sent my way for me to speak to about eternal matters.

I've tried different tactics over the ensuing months. They centred around pleading with the caller to stop hurting people, to return to the values they had grown up with (ie, honest principles), and to leave this disreputable work and seek honest employment. One man got up from his chair and walked out of the room without a word to his colleagues. I know this because another man I was talking to referred to this person and what he had done. My heart leapt with joy as I realised the Holy Spirit had gotten through and this man had listened and obeyed His promptings.

But, over time, those in charge of such call centres conditioned their employees to resist such pleadings. The girls were the hardest to reach. They were very cold. Realising this form of appeal wasn't working anymore, I prayed for God to give me a new direction.

The answer came from my prayer group. We decided to start praying the "Jabez" prayer (1 Chronicles 4:10). After a few weeks it finally dawned on me that whenever I engaged with a scam caller, I should seek God's blessings for that person just as I was seeking them for myself. So I started.

When the next call came through, while the caller was giving his opening address, I was praying silently that God would keep him on the line as long as was necessary. As soon as the caller asked me to turn my



computer on I started praying out loud. I opened with “Lord God Almighty” rather than “Father in Heaven”, as I had no idea if the caller had a Christian background, but I was sure he would recognise the word “God”. I prayed that God would bless him and his family, that his needs would be provided for, and that he would be a blessing in his community and seek to do good to others. I continued until I had nothing left to pray. When I finished, the man was very subdued and thanked me repeatedly for praying for him. He didn’t want to hang up. We chatted for a while.

Several girls I have prayed with stayed on the other end of the phone longer than I’ve ever had girls stay on before. One even waited until I’d finished praying before hanging up— a definite improvement on previous calls.

One man who engaged me in conversation revealed that he was a Muslim. He didn’t want to be doing this “job” but he needed the money. We had a great conversation and I encouraged him to leave the room where he was working and not come back. I also told him I’d continue praying for him.

Now such callers no longer interrupt my day in a negative way. In fact my prayer now is that God will send more calls my way! This is mission and I am doing it from the comfort of my house. Not many opportunities like these are available to us. I often wonder what would happen to the scammer industry if every Christian who owned a phone in Australia became a missionary to these people who invade our houses to try and steal from us? If every Christian became a channel of prayer for individuals like these, I wonder what the eternal results would be? Can you see yourself praying for God to bless these people? To seek good for them? This is not the sort of missionary endeavour where you will see great results. You will be working with people on an individual basis and then usually only a one-off call. I keep a list now so I can see when names are repeated. One poor girl phoned me three times in one day. I ended up asking her why she was running away from God!

Results for this endeavour will probably only be known in heaven. I look forward to being surrounded by a great crowd of people whose voices I recognise because they once tried to hurt me and I had the very great privilege of praying for God’s blessing on them. Do you want to join me? Let’s be tele-missionaries together.

**I** DIANA TANNER ATTENDS NORTH PERTH CHURCH, WA.





## SHOULD YOU GO GLUTEN-FREE?

Chances are you've heard of "gluten-free" before. It's become a buzzword in the world of diets even though only 1 in 70 Aussies and Kiwis have been diagnosed with coeliac disease and must stick to a gluten-free diet.

But what does this mean for those of us who aren't gluten intolerant? Should we be cutting gluten out of our diets, too? First, the facts.

### WHAT IS GLUTEN?

It's a naturally occurring protein found in wheat, rye, barley, triticale and oats. It's the stuff that makes bread fluffy, and is commonly used as a stabiliser to prolong the shelf-life of a product.

### DO I NEED TO GO GLUTEN-FREE?

People diagnosed with coeliac disease must follow a strict gluten-free diet for life. Exposure to gluten can cause many uncomfortable symptoms and can compromise nutrient absorption, causing deficiencies like anaemia and osteoporosis. If you think you'd benefit from a gluten-free diet, it's best to consult

a medical doctor before making any major dietary changes.

### IS IT HEALTHY TO GO GLUTEN-FREE?

Not necessarily. Many people who don't need to eat gluten-free food do so because they perceive it to be "trendy" and "healthy". There's no evidence to suggest a gluten-free diet is healthy for those without coeliac disease.

### HOW CAN I EAT GLUTEN-FREE?

The good news is that it's becoming easier to maintain a gluten-free diet. There are more menu options out there than ever before, and awareness of coeliac disease is growing.

There are plenty of wholesome grains that are naturally gluten-free, including sorghum, corn, rice, quinoa and buckwheat. Fresh fruits, veggies, legumes, dairy foods, nuts, seeds, fats and oils are also all naturally gluten-free.

Visit [santarium.com.au](http://santarium.com.au) or [santarium.co.nz](http://santarium.co.nz) for more great ways to improve your health.



### Buckwheat tabbouli

A quick and easy gluten-free dish that's as versatile as it is tasty. High in fibre and a source of iron, it's great as a side salad, a sandwich filler or a satisfying snack on its own.

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## GIVE THESE GLUTEN-FREE GRAINS A GO!



### QUINOA

1. 1 cup of rinsed quinoa + 2 cups of water.
2. Simmer covered for 12 mins. Remove from heat and cover to steam for 10 mins.
3. High protein and gluten free.
4. Try in a spiced quinoa porridge!



### BUCKWHEAT

1. 1 cup of rinsed buckwheat + 2 cups of water.
2. Simmer covered for 20 mins. Remove from heat and cover to steam for 10 mins.
3. Helps control blood pressure.
4. Try making buckwheat risotto!

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## ANSWER TO PRAYER

"Tragedy at sea" (Have your say, June 2) could well have been titled "Answer to prayer". Clarence O'Neil and family knelt on the deck of the *Wahine* and prayed for God's help. One of the girls prayed out loud to God to stop the wind and God stopped it. The papers reported "Had not the wind stopped when it did, many more lives would have been lost."

I knew both Clarence and his deceased brother Lance in Christchurch.

Their lives are both a miracle to how the Holy Spirit can change the roughest and toughest of us. The proprietor of The Black Horse Hotel in Lincoln Road, Christchurch, asked me back in 1980 was it true that the O'Neil brothers had found God. I informed her yes, they had, and now worked for the Church. She was amazed, another miracle.

The following was burnt into my memory as told by her. When Lance and Clarence used to enter the bar, men fled out the windows and the back door for not only did they want a drink but a fight and good fighters they were. The only good thing—they always paid for damages. Both men's lives bear witness that to God, nothing is impossible. Both have a story to tell. Great to read Clarence is still sharing his.

Athol Briden, NSW

## MYOB METHOD

I liked the title of the editorial "Church Clothes Anxiety" (May 19). I searched my *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* and could not find this aberration.

I simply call it an activity of the "church police" (several of whom I have met in Adventism)—the clothes police, the food police, the thought police, etc.

I propose we take on board the acronym MYOB [Mind your own business].

This policing is nothing new and has been around a long time as Ellen White reminds us (EV 272):

"There are many who try to correct the life of others by attacking what they consider are wrong habits. They go to those whom they think are in error and point out their defects. They say, "You don't dress as you should." . . . but they do not seek to fasten the mind to the truth. Those who seek to correct others should

present the attractions of Jesus. They should talk of His love and compassion, present His example and sacrifice, reveal His Spirit and they need not touch the subject of dress at all. There is no need to make the dress question the main point of your religion."

Let's allow the Spirit to do His work.

Steve Cinzio, Qld

## BIBLE READING

I would like to add my support to the call for "Bible reading groups" (Editorial, June 2). We have been running one of these at our church for quite a few years now, and it is a great blessing.

Its beauty is in its simplicity. There is no preparation required by us—we just turn up and read the Bible together!

That means anyone can organise it—even you.

Of course, it is good if everyone uses the same Bible translation so people

can follow along with the reader (we take turns at doing this).

In addition, I recommend using Bibles that do not have chapter or verse numbers in the text—so that you can experience the Bible as it was first written and read, rather than reading verse by verse (chapter and verse numbers were introduced later).

And, most importantly, start and finish with prayer. It is the Holy Spirit that leads a Bible reading group—He prepares us for each meeting and leads us in ways that continue to amaze me.

David Petrie, NSW

## UNITY AND AUTHORITY

The entire premise for "Church Unity and Biblical Authority" (*Adventist World*, May) is that our moral and spiritual obligations to God and our moral and spiritual obligations to the Church are one and the same.

This raised many ques-

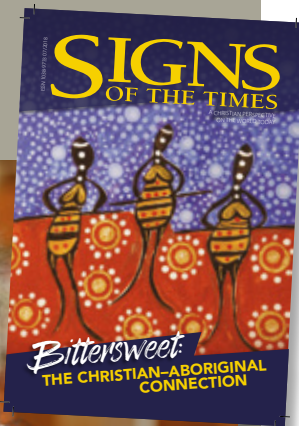
tions in my mind, the most pertinent relating to the gospel message of personal salvation—when I am answering to God on judgment day, will a response of "Well, I submitted to the worldwide Church and its decisions" cut it?

I think not, and so I will humbly continue with my privately held convictions, independent opinions, use of conscience and support for diversity while still seeking harmony with the Church. They are not mutually exclusive approaches.

Roger Meany, 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.

THIS  
MONTH IN



*Real Aboriginal, real Christian?*



*The trouble with sharing*



*The end of the world: not a movie*



*Green beans, garlic and chilli*

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HI KIDS!

# KIDS SPACE

## SHEEP AND GOATS

When Jesus comes in all His glory, He will divide people into two categories that He refers to as "sheep" and "goats". He will tell the "sheep" to come to heaven with Him and enjoy what He has been preparing for them since Creation. He tells them why they are going with Him—because they cared for the needy and suffering, demonstrating His love in their hearts while they were here. Those who cared only for themselves, the goats, will be cast into outer darkness.



## SEPARATE THE SHEEP AND THE GOATS

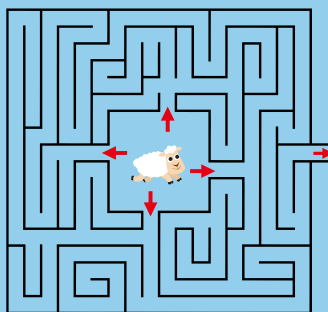
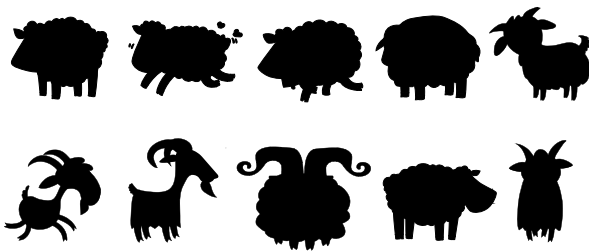
AND FINISH THE  
COMMUNITY  
MESSAGE  
BELOW

## COMMUNITY MESSAGE

\_\_\_\_\_ of those  
(SHEEP)  
in need is like taking care of \_\_\_\_\_  
(GOATS)

## WHAT DOESN'T FIT?

CIRCLE THE  
SHEEP OR GOAT  
THAT DOESN'T FIT



Help baby  
lamb find  
mummy  
sheep



## MEMORY VERSE

"Whatever you did for one of  
the least of these brothers of  
mine, you did for me"

Matthew 25:40 (NIV)



## Anniversary



**WHEELER.** Colleen and Neville celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on 31.5.18. They are loving and generous parents to Steven and Sharon, Coral and Patrick, and David. They have four grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Colleen and Neville continue to serve their church and residential communities as strong role models and faithful witnesses to the Lord's salvation and imminent return. The couple's friends also extend their prayers, congratulations and appreciation for this wonderful couple. It's a special time for Neville as he also celebrates his 80th birthday.

## Wedding

**ROBEL-LAWMAN.** Joshua Robel, son of Raymond and Kimberly Robel, and Monica Lawman, daughter of Justin and Wendy Lawman (Canberra, ACT), were married on 5.1.18 in The Forest Chapel, Gosford, NSW. Joshua and Monica plan to live in Toronto where Monica will finish her studies as a registered nurse and Joshua works as a draftsman.

*Justin Lawman*

## Obituaries



**DAVEY,** Pastor Eric Gregory, born 7.1.1941 in Adelaide, SA; died 27.3.18 in Hahndorf.

He is survived by his wife Maxine (Hahndorf); children Kathryn and Linton Graffin, (Burleigh Heads, Qld), Gregory and Allan Kewdale (Perth, WA), Kerylie (Hahndorf, SA), Craig (Kalorama, Vic), Lee and Lisa (Niddrie); and grandchildren Amelie, Charlotte, Emma and Jay. Eric will be best remembered for his 20 years of leadership at ATSIM (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministries) where he was eventually appointed the national director. He played a major role in the re-establishment of Karalundi in 1986 and the establishment of Mamarapha College in 1997. In retirement he was instrumental in developing a strong Aboriginal ministry in SA.

*Jan Pollok, David Butcher, Steve Piez, Darren Garlett, John Beck, Ken Vogel, Eric Hoare, Eddie Hastie, Don Fehlberg.*

**GOTTS,** Robert (Bob), born 9.3.1929 in Brunswick, Vic; died

18.5.18 in Nepean Hospital, NSW. He is survived by his wife Joan (Winmalee); children Robert (Canberra, ACT), Geoffery (Wonga Beach, Qld) and Lorelie (Narara, NSW); eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. After graduating from Avondale College, Bob taught in church schools in Mackay (Qld) and the Cook Islands. He then worked for the Education Department in Papua New Guinea for almost 20 years before returning to teach in Australia. His main passions were photography and collecting butterflies. He became a recognised world authority on PNG and South Pacific butterflies and authored and published a book on them in 2010.

*Malcolm Allen*

**LUCKEY,** Nora (nee Handley), born 8.10.1925 in West Pennant Hills, NSW; died 18.5.18 in West Pennant Hills. She was predeceased by her eight brothers and sisters, and her husband George (1977). She is survived by her daughters Ann Sheen, Jill Fenimore and Jean Carter (all of Sydney); four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Nora was one of the founding members of Thornleigh church and faithfully attended there for 77 years until later being confined to her home. Her life was one that revolved around an interest in her church and a love for her family.

*Barry Wright*

## ADVERTISING

### MT DRUITT ANNIVERSARY

Mount Druitt is celebrating 30 years on July 14, starting at 9:30am at 55 Hythe Street, Mount Druitt. All past members and pastors are invited to come and celebrate. To assist in catering, book by emailing us: <mtdruittsda@gmail.com>. RSVP by June 30.

### CONSTITUENCY MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 29th constituency meeting of the Greater Sydney Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church will be held in the auditorium of Mountain View Adventist College, 41 Doonside Road, Doonside, August 25-26, 2018. The program will commence on Sabbath, August 25 at 3pm with a praise and inspirational program including the closing of Sabbath. The seating of delegates and the constituency meeting, to include the presentation of administration and departmental reports and financial statements for the years

2014 to 2017, will commence at 7pm and will continue on Sunday, August 26. The officers, executive committee, appointments committee, nominating committee and constitution committee of the Conference for the next quadrennium will be elected at this constituency meeting.

*A Raethel, general secretary*

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add-on Greece and Turkey Tour—December 2018. For itineraries contact Lea-Anne and Colville Smith 0417017892 or <contact@faithtours.com.au> Faith. Fun. Fellowship. Affordable. <faith-tours.com.au>.

## Finally...

*Rejoice always. - Paul*

**NEXT ISSUE: ADVENTIST RECORD, JULY 7**

## POSITIONS VACANT

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT—SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION (SPD) OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH WAHROONGA, NSW

The SPD is seeking a highly suitable candidate to support the function and operation of the presidential office, including undertaking designated research and special projects. This part-time support role will report directly to the Division president and be based at the head office in Wahroonga, NSW. For full selection criteria please visit the South Pacific Division's Human Resources website at <adventistemployment.org.au>. To apply, please send a cover letter, your CV, three work-related referees and the contact details of your Adventist church pastor, to: Human Resources, Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Ltd, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga, NSW 2076 Australia; email <hr@adventist.org.au> or fax (02) 9489 0943. **Applications close July 2, 2018.**

### ACCOUNTANT—PACIFIC LTD, SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION, WAHROONGA, NSW

The Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Ltd is seeking applications from suitable candidates committed to serving the Church as a professional accountant with expertise in maintaining accurate financial records, preparing financial reports for management and being a genuine team player. This full-time role will report directly to the Division senior accountant and be based at the head office in Wahroonga, NSW. For full selection criteria please visit the South Pacific Division's Human Resources website <adventistemployment.org.au>. To apply, please send a cover letter, your CV, three work-related referees and the contact details of your Adventist church pastor, to: Human Resources, Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Ltd, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga NSW 2076 Australia; email <hr@adventist.org.au> or fax (02) 9489 0943. **Applications close July 4, 2018.**

FOR MORE AVAILABLE POSITIONS VISIT:  
**ADVENTISTEMPLOYMENT.ORG.AU**

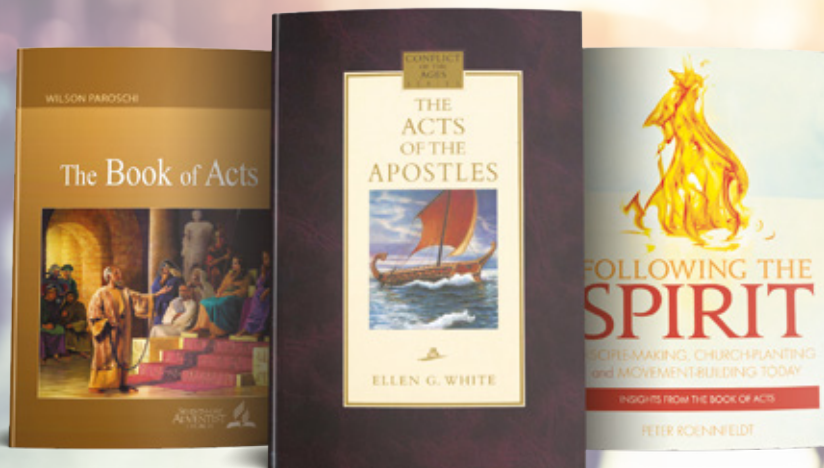
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