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Edited by Jarrod Stockenrath

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CLIMATE CRISIS?

Finally, in early March, we heard that there were no active bushfires remaining in NSW. After six months of burning across a number of states, destroying lives, wildlife and businesses, the fires have been extinguished and much-needed rain has arrived.

The devastation wrought by Australia's bushfires this fire season was unprecedented. The unrelenting smoke haze created haunting red skies and toxic air quality like we've never experienced before.

It was a wild summer.

The fires were politicised and the media went into a climate change frenzy. As human nature often does, now that the danger is not as immediate, people seem to be "cooling off" on the idea of climate change.

The next frenzy is coronavirus. Disasters keep coming and people keep getting flustered.

Back to climate change. It has been interesting to see the growth of urgency and commentary on the widespread, wholesale changes that people say need to happen. There's a strong sense of injustice about people acting selfishly and placing profit and pleasure before others, their wellbeing and the environment.

These are all things our Christian faith speaks against: pillaging the earth, taking advantage of the vulnerable, placing profit before people. Our faith community has a strong prophetic voice, and for a long time we have looked for signs that the world might be ending—signs that many in the community might say are being fulfilled in this day and age.

In fact, we should feel some sense of solidarity with our brothers and sisters who are campaigning for the climate; and relate to their frustration at the apathetic response. They may be asking themselves: *Why does it take such unmitigated disaster for people to be interested in change?*

We could ask ourselves the same question. Where has our urgency gone? We believe the planet is being destroyed, that many are living beyond their means and worshipping at the wrong altars. We want to see wholesale change. We want the Bridegroom to return but are our lamps full or are we asleep at midnight?

There are two points I want to make here. One is a

marketable difference that we have over the doomsday predictions. At the centre of our message is hope.

We believe that no matter how bad things get, the hope that we have is greater than our anxiety, stronger than calamity. God is the ultimate Victor and has a greater plan and purpose for our lives than existentialism or nihilism. Let me make this clear: I'm not saying that we should therefore abandon the world to its destruction, only working for our own salvation and shutting out those who may believe differently. In fact, the climate crisis provides us with a great opportunity to work alongside others to care for God's creation, and perhaps point them to our Creator.

The second, and perhaps more challenging lesson that this scenario teaches us, is that while there is a lot of noise about climate change, few people are uncomfortable enough to change their habits. They rant and rail against big business, the developing world or coal power, but refuse to stop eating meat or have their own livelihood and comfort impacted.

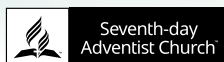
In a similar way, our old urgency about Christ's return has waned, and those of us who do still emphasise that part of the message often seem alarmist or out-of-touch with other realities.

There has been a lot of talk about those who are leaving the Church, but are we who remain modelling what living in hope and expectancy actually looks like? Are we living like we believe everyone needs to know Jesus or do we act like the message of Jesus, while it may be true, will interrupt our comfort?

At the end of the day, if we call ourselves Adventist, whatever we believe about climate change, we should love God, love others and care for God's creation.

The same outpouring of prayer and support that motivated us to give to help those affected by the bushfires should be the same energy we pour into the communities around us that don't know Jesus.

JARROD STACKELROTH
SENIOR EDITOR
@JStackelroth



South Pacific

abn 59 093 117 689
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senior consulting editor

glenn townend
senior editor
jarrod stackelroth
assistant editors
maryellen fairfax
copyeditors
tracey bridcutt
kent kingston
melody tan

graphic designer

linden chuang
template designer
theodora pau'u
noticeboard
julie laws
letters
editor@record.net.au
news & photos
news@record.net.au

noticeboard

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+ 61 (03) 5965 6300
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website
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adventist media

locked bag 1115
wahroonga nsw 2076 australia
+ 61 (02) 9847 2222
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PANIC STATIONS!

My wife Pam and I received a text message from our daughter Megan, who lives in Sydney, early one evening recently.

She was shopping and sent a picture of an aisle that had no food at all. She had gone to buy a few groceries, but the shelves were almost empty. This prompted Pam and I to go to our local supermarket to buy a few items and check it out.

Our local supermarket seemed to be stocked at normal levels—although there were no hand sanitiser bottles or face masks. As texts and pictures between family continued, we were alerted that there was a run on toilet paper. So we made our way to the toilet paper aisle. Sure enough, there was one plastic grouping of eight toilet rolls left. As we meandered toward it, with no intention of buying it, a preschool-aged boy raced past Pam and I and grabbed the toilet paper. With a smile on his face, he ran back past us to his mum, yelling, “I got it. I got the last one!”

Why this panic buying? I can’t explain it but most believe it is linked to people’s fear of getting the coronavirus—COVID19. The sanitiser and masks make sense, but why toilet paper? Diarrhoea is not a symptom. Did some people think all toilet paper is made in China? (It is not.) And why the stock-piling of food? Australia does have some cases of coronavirus, and people have died, but we have a very good health system.

I value caution and good health habits, but buying all the toilet paper? How is this going to help?

Human hearts are filled with fear as they look on what is happening in the world (Luke 21:26). It reminds me that fear can bring panic and panic can change the world situation quickly. Jesus is right—we need to be prepared for unexpected crises

before He returns—perhaps even the loss of toilet paper!



GLENN TOWNEND
SPD PRESIDENT
/SPDpresident

ABC MANAGERS NETWORK AND LEARN

JARROD STACKELROTH

Adventist Book Centre (ABC) managers from all over the Pacific came together in Victoria’s Yarra Valley from February 21–24 for sales and marketing training and fellowship.

“ABC managers from a diverse range of cultures are united in their vision of using Adventist literature to make a positive impact on people in their communities,” said Tim McTernan, Adventist Media’s marketing and sales manager.

On Sabbath morning, the managers travelled to North Fitzroy church (Melbourne), one of the first Adventist congregations in the South Pacific Division and a place where Ellen White preached.

Sunday was filled with presentations of new

products from Signs Publishing and Pacific Press (PP) in North America, with PP representative Doug Church sharing some unique methods that some American ABCs are trying.

Monday was a highlight for Signs staff and ABC managers, as the annual “kilo sale” took place in the Signs warehouse, with the managers filling up pallets with some of the written-off stock, which is charged by weight.



MAX LASSAH, CENTRAL PAPUA CONFERENCE CFO, CARRYING A BOX OF BOOKS DURING THE “KILO SALE”.

HISTORIC ORDINATION IN TUVALU

TRACEY BRIDCUTT

An historic ordination was held at Funafuti Seventh-day Adventist Church in Tuvalu on Sabbath, February 22.

The ordination of minister Vaguna Satupa made history—the first ever ordination of a Tuvaluan citizen. The church was packed with family, friends and members of the community, including one person who travelled from New Zealand for the special occasion. The ordination was conducted by Pastor Bob Larsen, secretary for the Trans Pacific Union Mission (TPUM).

Tuvalu has at least 11 inhabited islands, with three having an Adventist presence. For seven years, Pastor Satupa has served on Niutao, an isolated island with no airstrip and only a monthly boat service. Funafuti is being cared for by Pastor George

Vann, a Solomon Islander who is also the district director, while Fijian Bible worker Patemo Lobau is serving on Vaitupu.

“For many years we have been sending missionaries from other Pacific islands to look after the work in Tuvalu,” said TPUM president Pastor Maveni Kaufononga. “Now that we have a Tuvaluan-ordained pastor, someone who understands the local culture and context, it will help us with our goal to reach the unreached islands.”



NEWLY-ORDAINED PASTOR VAGUNA SATUPA WITH HIS WIFE, SUNIA, FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

MUMS AT THE TABLE MAGAZINE CEASES PUBLICATION

MELODY TAN/RECORD STAFF

The Adventist Media-produced *Mums At The Table* magazine will cease publication with the April/May 2020 issue due to a lack of donor funding. Other aspects of the multimedia ministry have not been affected by the decision.

"It wasn't an easy decision to make, to herald the end of what I've come to affectionately call 'my second-born'," said Melody Tan, editor of the magazine since its launch in September 2017.

In August last year, the magazine converted from a monthly to a bi-monthly publication to address the funding issues and introduced a small subscription fee from the December 2019/January 2020 edition to help meet costs.

"Sadly, however, a few months on, we've crunched the numbers, looked at the data and come to the sad conclusion that in order to ensure the viability of all the different aspects of *Mums At The Table*, we are unable to sustain the cost of printing and

distributing a magazine."

Expert parenting advice and content will still be available on the *Mums At The Table* website. The *Mums At The Table* TV show will continue to be produced and be available on free-to-air television in New Zealand, as well as online, thanks to some funding from Hope Channel New Zealand.

Ms Tan said the ministry's focus will now be on the final phase of the *Mums At The Table* strategic goal: a partnership program to connect mums from its thriving digital community with local Adventist churches.

"We have some 5000 mums in our Facebook group and more than 6000 mums on our mailing list. One thing many of these mums have been crying out for is friendship and support," said Ms Tan.

"And our Adventist churches, with their playgroups, Adventurers, Pathfinders and other family-friendly



FIRST PUBLISHED IN SEPTEMBER 2017, THE MAGAZINE RAN FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS.

events, are the perfect place for them."

Magazine subscribers will receive refund information in early April, after the April/May issue has been dispatched. There will be an option for subscribers to continue to support the ministry by donating their refund.

Mums At The Table is a multimedia ministry of Adventist Media. Churches and mums interested in being a part of the ministry can contact <hello@MumsAtTheTable.com>. To become a donor or be on the mailing list, go to <MumsAtTheTable.com>.

LITERATURE EVANGELISM IN ADELAIDE REAPS HARVEST

RITA PINZONE/RECORD STAFF

Literature Evangelists (LEs) from Adelaide, South Australia, knocked on doors to distribute personal invitations to Pastor Doug Batchelor's recent evangelistic series "Preparing for Christ's Return".

Church members from around Adelaide joined the LEs, volunteering their time to letterbox in suburbs close to where the conference was held. Brighton Seventh-day Adventist Church provided accommodation and evening meals to LEs and volunteers.

During their door-knocking, LEs sold many health and spiritual books and gave away more than 3800 pieces of literature. Approximately 70 people accepted prayers, some of whom expressed a desire for follow-up visitation and enrolment in Discovery correspondence courses.

Literature Ministries coordinator Brenton Lowe from Adventist Media joined the LE group in Adelaide to assist with training. While working with Rita Pinzone, one of the senior leaders, a woman showed interest in the books.

"After a while, she recognised one of the books and made the connection with another distributor, Mathew Panozzo," said Ms Pinzone. "The positive impact Mathew had made in building a long-term customer

relationship with her [meant] she was thrilled to receive prayer and free health and spiritual literature."

In addition, the woman asked to join a local church's Depression Recovery Program.

A highlight from the week was the bonding that Jump Start and regular LE teams were able to have.

"Jump Start LEs sell books for cash at the door. They move quickly and cover a lot of area. Regular LEs usually spend more time building long-term relationships, taking people further on the discipleship journey," said Mr Lowe.

The LEs grew closer as they prayed and worked to promote Pastor Batchelor's event door to door.



LITERATURE EVANGELISTS WITH PASTOR DOUG BATCHELOR.

NEW RESOURCES MEET DESPERATE NEED FOR BIBLES IN THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

MARYELLEN FAIRFAX

Discovering Jesus: Stories of His life, His teachings and His first followers is a new resource produced by the South Pacific Division's (SPD) Discipleship Ministries Team (DMT) to meet the desperate need for more Bibles in the Pacific Islands.

Partnering with Signs Publishing and Tyndale Publishing, which licensed use of the New Living Translation for the booklets, the resource contains the books of Mark, John and Acts.

"We proposed Mark as the starting point because it's the biography of Jesus, [then] John because it's a collection of Jesus' teachings, and then Acts because it's the story of His first followers and introduces the concept of church," said SPD DMT stewardship specialist Christina Hawkins.

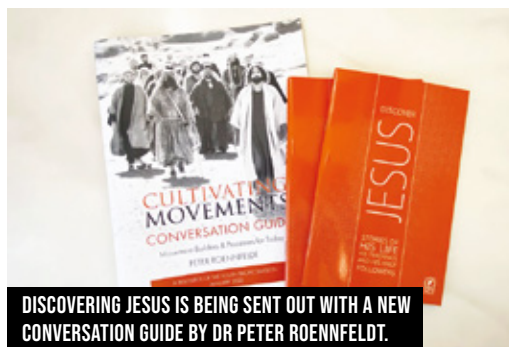
Thanks to funding approved by the SPD last financial year, 250,000 copies of *Discovering Jesus* have been printed

to be distributed in time for the "Papua New Guinea for Christ" campaign in May, but more Bibles are always needed.

The need is due to an explosive growth in Adventism across the Pacific, combined with the fact that Bibles in the Pacific cost, on average, more than one week's income.

"I was liaising with missions on allocations for World Changer Bibles in 2019 on behalf of the youth department and saw the distress at the inadequate number of Bibles across the Pacific Islands, and the desperate need," said Mrs Hawkins.

Arising out of a shared vision between Mrs Hawkins, SPD DMT leader and Sabbath school specialist Dr Leigh Rice, Signs Publishing book editor Nathan Brown, and retired pastor and renowned author Dr



DISCOVERING JESUS IS BEING SENT OUT WITH A NEW CONVERSATION GUIDE BY DR PETER ROENNfeldt.

Peter Roennfeldt, the team hopes the resource will also be used for Discovery Bible Reading (DBR) activities.

In addition to Papua New Guinea for Christ and DBR groups, *Discovering Jesus* is intended for tourism evangelism in the Cook Islands and Fiji, for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministries (ATSIM) in Australia, and in Western Australia for reaching Muslims.

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MOTO HEADS TO SOUTH PACIFIC, REACHES MILESTONE

BRENTON STACEY

A service learning initiative offering teacher-education students at Avondale professional experience in another culture chalked up its 21st trip in February. And, for the first time, a Pacific island country was the destination.

Twenty-four students visited Tonga to complete one of their two-week placements at Beulah College, Beulah Primary School and Hilliard Memorial School. The Nuku'alofa-based Seventh-day Adventist schools hosted the students from February 5-25.

Prior to the placements, Ministry of Teaching Overseas (MOTO) coordinator Dr Jason Hinze said both the schools and the students would benefit from the experience. He encouraged the students to contribute to all areas of campus life, including agricultural programs, social activities and worship services.

"Taking our teachers into another culture and context destabilises their initial understanding of what makes quality teaching. They begin questioning what they once took for granted," he said.

MOTO is leaving a legacy. Almost 350 students have participated in a trip since 2007—India, Cambodia and Nepal being previous destinations—while Dr Hinze has raised almost \$A350,000 to build schools, feed orphans and pay teachers in the countries through the "1% Club", a group of alumni and friends of Avondale

who donate at least one per cent of their wages for mission.

A senior lecturer in the School of Education, Dr Hinze received a Faculty of Education, Business and Science Excellence Award this past year for "innovation in work integrated learning or community engagement".

The MOTO acknowledgment came also in a public note of thanks from education dean Associate Professor Kevin Petrie: "These trips leave an indelible mark on the life of the students and the communities they spend time with."

That mark includes a better sense of teaching not just as a career, but as a ministry. "A lot of our teachers are studying at Avondale because they want to use their God-given gifts," said Dr Hinze. "MOTO is an opportunity to do this. And they love it! They return inspired to serve even more. Teachers with that mentality will last the distance in our schools."



MORE THAN 20 STUDENTS COMPLETED A PLACEMENT IN TONGA IN FEBRUARY.



NEWS GRABS



ADVENTIST OR CATHOLIC?

An Adventist pastor in Italy has signed the Ecumenical Charter of the Council of the Christian Churches of Bologna, which declares that the church is "one, holy, catholic and apostolic". The Inter-European Division (EUD) and Italian Union Conference (IUC) have released statements distancing themselves from the document. —ANN



YOUTH MINISTRY INNOVATION

The South England Conference held a Youth Leadership Conference (January 24-26), which challenged 90 leaders toward "innovative development". The event created dialogue around the lack of youth leadership in local churches, and a platform to provide specialist training and share local church experiences.

—Adventist Review



CORONAVIRUS CRISIS

The Italian Union of Churches Conference asked Adventist churches in five regions of northern Italy to close on February 29 to halt the rapid spread of coronavirus across the country. Public events such as soccer games, church services and concerts have been cancelled, and more than 3000 people have been infected. —Adventist Today

HOT TOPICS



DYING FOR FAITH

More than 75 per cent of North Koreans who are persecuted, die for their faith, according to a study by The Database Centre for North Korean Human Rights (NKDB). Interviewing 11,730 North Korean defectors who escaped to South Korea, nearly 100 per cent said there is no religious freedom in the country. —*Believers Portal*



MENTAL HEALTH TAX

Australians may face a new Medicare levy thanks to insufficient mental health services nationwide. With suicide and mental illness costing the national economy a conservative \$A500 million per day, the new tax could save the economy billions each year. Meanwhile, critics suggest a tax will not be enough to address systemic failure. —*The New Daily*



BIBLE VERSES REMOVED

Letcher Central High School in Kentucky (USA) has removed a Bible verse from the wall in its athletic locker room following a complaint from atheist group on campus, "Freedom From Religion Foundation". The verse read, "But the Lord is with me like a mighty warrior" (Jeremiah 20:11). The wall has now been painted a plain light grey. —*Christian Headlines*

WOMEN IN MINISTRY AFFIRMED AND UPLIFTED

TRACEY BRIDCUTT

Women working in ministry around the South Pacific Division (SPD) have taken part in a special time of inspiration, affirmation, empowerment and connection.

The SPD hosted the Women in Ministry Conference 2020 on the Gold Coast (Qld), February 24–26, attended by 132 delegates from around the South Pacific. The last conference of its kind was held 10 years ago.

"Held" was the theme of the conference: "a time to connect, reflect and experience once again what it is to be held by God and each other". Guest speakers included Dr Kendra Haloviak Valentine, professor of New Testament Studies in the HMS Richards Divinity School at La Sierra University, and Pastor Esther Knott, associate director for the Northern American Division Ministerial Association and director of the MA in Pastoral Ministry program at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University.

The conference began with video messages from SPD president Pastor Glenn Townend and the four Union presidents. It ended with farewell messages from women pastors from around the world. Highlights included an *agape* feast, panel discussions and morning reflections led by Lanelle Cobbin, who has a long career in children's ministry.

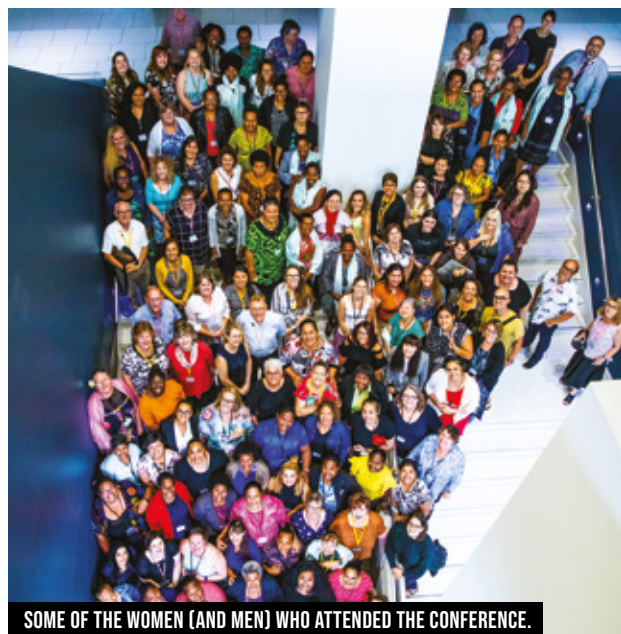
"It was an excellent conference and I trust that women will go home and spread the blessings," said SPD women in ministry leader Dr Danijela Schubert. "What we set out to do we achieved."

Tonga Mission volunteer prayer coordinator Silia Tupou enjoyed the opportunity to make connections with

other delegates. "I'm really enjoying this conference where I can get to meet more women in ministry who will also help and support me," she said.

For Kim Parmenter, who is in her second year as a pastor at the Haven campus church on the Central Coast (NSW), the conference provided her with reassurance.

"I guess being new to ministry, something that has stood out so blatantly is just how few women there are," she said. "And to be able to see a whole room of women who are doing the same thing as me, you feel like *I'm not actually alone in this* and there are others who are in the same boat and who have the same struggles. I just think that's really exciting—to get that reassurance that it's a shared collective, not just me in my church on my own."



SOME OF THE WOMEN (AND MEN) WHO ATTENDED THE CONFERENCE.

Photo: Charmaine Patel

Phalguni James, Adventist Health director for Vanuatu Mission, said, "Just seeing all these women and feeling that I'm not alone, and we are a team and there's support," she said. "I can feel that warmth of being held by God and saying we do care and you're valued, and this conference is really making me feel like I'm valued."



GROWING CLUBS

Aranui Samoan Seventh-day Adventist Church (NZ) celebrated a historic milestone on February 14 when families gathered at their church to open their first Adventurer and Pathfinder club. The opening was officiated by Aranui church pastor, Faafetai Taefu Mata'i, and district directors Rose and Mike Proud. Starting out as a church plant, the group has grown to include a large number of children and teens. A total of 16 Pathfinders and 12 Adventurers (not including leaders and class teachers) are registered for this year's activities. The groups are looking forward to participating in wider conference events. — *Faafetai Mata'i*



CHIP GOES NORTH

Alice Springs Seventh-day Adventist Church (NT) attracted lots of community members to their Complete Health Improvement Program (CHIP), held in a venue donated by an enthusiastic non-Adventist participant, in October 2019. With help from South Pacific Division health ministries specialist Pamela Townend and Australian CHIP coordinator Sharon Stevenson, an average of 18 participants attended each session—with two sessions running every week for four weeks. Alice Springs hopes to run the program four times this year, and to help more local church members become certified CHIP facilitators. — *Top News*



BAC INNOVATION AWARD

Brisbane Adventist College (BAC) support service manager, Anthony Wyatt, has won the 2019 Education Innovation Award for South Queensland Adventist Schools. He won the award thanks to his innovative "Bus Manager" technology, a cloud-based system that allows BAC to manage their buses, routes, students, parents and staff through digital mobile technology. The new system allows users to monitor a large fleet of buses in real time and respond immediately if an issue occurs. Parents, staff and students can log in daily to track the bus rolls and progress, and it has added significantly to the safety of the fleet. — *BAC*



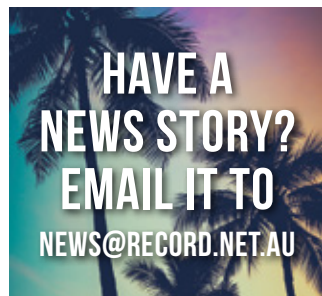
TRAFFIC LIGHT HEALTH

Pacific Adventist University (PAU) hosted a health and wellness retreat at their Koiari Park campus in Port Moresby (PNG) for the week of January 26–February 2. Presentations were given by Eden Elisan from the Adventist Medical Centre in the Philippines, exploring the temptation and dangers of "artificial food" and the importance of nourishing the body with "natural colours". Attendees were challenged to consider and categorise their meal choices as "traffic lights": green for healthy, yellow for less healthy and red for unhealthy. The fun and interactive workshops were a chance for attendees to be inspired to improve their diet and embrace a healthy lifestyle. — *PAU Facebook*



TOUCH FOOTBALL AND GOD

Hundreds of youth and young adults gathered at the Harvest Centre in Rotorua (NZ) on the weekend of February 22–23 for a youth rally. The program included inspiring worship, video testimonies and a sermon by Pastor Keli Pepa. The next day, a touch football tournament was held at the Westbrook Fields nearby, with more than 30 teams competing. Team captains were challenged to lead their team in a time of worship between games. — *Willie Ilerua*



PUBLISHING FOR A PURPOSE

Tyndale Publishing—who publish the World Changer Bibles—visited the South Pacific Division (SPD) offices on February 18. So far, the SPD has sourced over 344,000 New Living Translation Bibles for youth, students and new members who attend the "Papua New Guinea for Christ" evangelistic campaign in May. Tyndale was started by a partnership between their founders Ken Taylor and Billy Graham. — *Christina Hawkins*



MEALTIME ON MILTON

More than 70 community members gathered in Mackay (Qld) in December 2019 for a "Mealtime on Milton" Christmas feast. The ministry kicks off for its third year in 2020, continuing to serve meals, provide laundry services and offer free haircuts by Hair Aid Australia to those in need. In 2019, the ministry served 909 meals to community members and about 700 takeaway meals were sent home with attendees. — *Top News*



TEACHING STUDENTS TO PRAY

Sydney Adventist School Auburn introduced a new initiative during the month of February called "Give Him 5", which aimed to teach students to give God five minutes of their time each day in prayer. This was launched in light of the perilous circumstances facing Australia so far this year, as an outlet for students to express their emotions and think of others in this ever-changing world. — *Jo Medbury*

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A... **REMOTE AREA PASTOR**

NAME: DON FEHLBERG
JOB: REMOTE AREA SENIOR
PASTOR FOR ATSIM
MINISTRIES.
WHERE: AUC, MELBOURNE,
VIC.



Photo: Murray Hunter

WHAT'S YOUR OFFICIAL JOB TITLE?

I'm the "Remote Area Senior Pastor for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministries (ATSIM)" of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Australia (AUC). AUC tailored my job description to fit me, really. I'm also the Mamarapha College (WA) liaison officer, which means I help students with applications and help coordinate ABSTUDY (Commonwealth Government living allowances). I'm also the ATSIM evangelist.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN THIS POSITION, AND WHERE ARE YOU BASED?

We're based in Melbourne, but we travel all the time. We've been doing this full time and working with the AUC since 2004. Previous to that, we were looking after an Aboriginal church in Port Augusta, SA.

WHAT'S THE BEST THING ABOUT YOUR JOB?

Visiting the people, definitely. It's a wonderful thing to be able to visit people. You become part of their lives and we really enjoy that. They have become like family to us. We know so

many [people]; we've been involved with their baptisms, funerals, baby dedications, even with weddings and just the ups and downs of their lives. I have folk ring me up from all over Australia. And every day there are phone calls to pray for people, so we do a lot of praying over the phone.

WHAT DOES A TYPICAL DAY FOR YOU LOOK LIKE?

Typical doesn't happen so often. We spend a lot of time itinerating around Western Australia, Northern Territory and South Australia. I guess a typical day is when we're on itinerary visiting in communities, and catching up with church members and our many contacts. We've gotten to know hundreds and hundreds of contacts over the years. Sometimes we'll spend a day or two in one place, and sometimes if I'm running a series of meetings, I might spend a week or two in a community.

My wife and I travel together. She does most of the driving and while she's driving, I can do work. I ring up where we've got a service, prepare sermons, do emails, take calls. One

trip in 2019, we were away just over four months, from March to August. Sometimes I'm the only one who visits these people because there are no other pastors who call on remote areas. We also work with remote area local pastors to encourage and resource them, and I'll visit with them when it's possible.

HOW DID GOD LEAD YOU TO THIS JOB; WHAT'S YOUR "WHY"?

Going way back, I roomed with an Indigenous man at Avondale College for 12 months. He was from Dubbo and we got on famously. I'd met him previously when I was visiting Dubbo for my externship. A local pastor was studying with him, and I went along to the Bible study and he said he was thinking about coming to Avondale. I said that he should come and room with me, but I never thought more about it. Then the next year, out of the blue, he turned up at Avondale and said he wanted to room with me.

At Avondale, I was the president of Avondale Students Aerial Outreach (ASAO) society for 2.5 years. We organised teams to fly out to western

New South Wales. I've had a love for people of other races for many years.

ARE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE MORE OPEN TO THE GOSPEL THAN WESTERNERS?

Absolutely, no question about it. Around 80 per cent of Indigenous people claim to be Christian—you don't have to prove to them that Jesus is their Saviour. They may not be committed to Him or follow Him, but they have respect for Him. It's interesting when you're praying with a family, they will call everyone around. If you're talking with a lady, she'll call her husband and children. The teenagers will take off their hats and have a prayer. It's quite a different atmosphere than in a Western community.

DOES DREAMTIME SPIRITUALITY STILL INFLUENCE ABORIGINAL CHRISTIANS?

The dreamtime is still alive; there are stories and so on, some of them tie in with Bible stories. I'm not aware of any dreamtime second coming, but it's interesting that many Aboriginal people I know have had dreams about the second coming. I believe that dreams are very much a means that God communicates to the Aboriginal people. When you struggle with literacy and can't read so well, God uses means you can understand.

WHAT'S THE BIGGEST LESSON YOU'VE LEARNED?

I guess one of the things that I've learned is that there are people scattered all over this vast land who are open to God's last day message. When you first start, you think there might be some in places you've heard about

like Jigalong or Willuna or Kempsey, but there are communities scattered all over the place who will respond to the call of Jesus. It's just a matter of getting out.

WHAT'S ONE CHALLENGE YOU'VE FACED?

The personal challenge we face at the moment is that my wife has been diagnosed with cancer. She was first diagnosed eight years ago, and she's been doing very well, but it seems to have arisen a bit again. She's following a regime, but it's a bit harder to do on the road.

Apart from that, the biggest challenge is just to get to everybody, all our contacts, in a year. That's the enormity of the area, the work and the interest. There are places we could go that we haven't visited yet. We could go and the door is open; they've said to come and visit—it's not as though we're scratching our heads wondering what to do next. In one trip last year, we visited 70 different towns and communities and ministered to them.

HOW DO YOU SHARE JESUS IN YOUR JOB?

As the pastor, many people come and tell me they want to change their ways. And that's why they want to come to Mamarapha because they want to learn more about Jesus and the Bible. So then we pray with them and we encourage them in their walk with Jesus and to be willing to make that commitment.

WHAT'S SOMETHING THAT WOULD SURPRISE PEOPLE ABOUT YOUR JOB?

The huge distances that we cover. Like the Kimberley in WA is [twice the size of Victoria], and it's a long way from Perth. The distances are huge, and the challenges are huge in being able to get to all of these places.

I also think that many people would be surprised with the simplicity of how the people live in contrast to how people live in Sydney, for example. Most of them have homes, but often only filled with basic possessions.

Some communities are more than eight hours travel to the nearest town, so you don't go for a bottle of milk. Major communities have a one-stop shop, but smaller outstations don't.

There is a surprising lack of fresh fruit and vegetables, because a truck only comes once a fortnight to stock them. And they're incredibly expensive. We have folk who say, "we would like to eat healthy, but we just can't." It's a major challenge in closing the gap. Even baked beans are two or three times the price you'd pay in Sydney.

YOUR WORK MIGHT SEEM LARGER-THAN-LIFE. DO YOU EVER GET EXHAUSTED BY YOUR JOB?

We do get exhausted sometimes. We're getting older so we don't bounce quite like we used to. But overall we're pretty good. We enjoy what we're doing, visiting the people and connecting with them and running evangelistic programs and seeing folk coming to Mamarapha College. On the last trip we signed up 47 students—so that's exciting. We go from one exciting event to the next, we can hardly catch our breath sometimes.

WHAT GOALS DO YOU HAVE FOR THE FUTURE?

We'd really like to see what's been established, maintained, and for it to grow and develop further. One of my dreams is to get some circuit-riding pastors who could look after the remote areas. Our pastor in Broome at the moment looks after the Kimberley as well, but it is a big challenge to have two churches and then to have an area that is thousands of kilometres away. But if we had a circuit-riding preacher who could travel around and come by every couple of months and meet with members, that would grow it even faster. Considering that we only visit some of these places once a year, the Lord has blessed wonderfully. Just imagine if someone was to visit five or six times a year! People would respond. They're hungry for the gospel, and we want to give it to them.



steam puddings for Christ

Over the past 31 years, Allan Foote, a retired pastor from New Zealand, has cooked and sold more than 36,000 steam puddings, raising funds for local church initiatives and the wider community.

"None of [my steam puddings] have ever been baked to make money for myself," said Pastor Foote. "It's all for community work."

Pastor Foote made 72 steam puddings in one day and sold them at this year's North New Zealand Big Camp at Tui Ridge, with funds going towards a church in the southern highlands of Papua New Guinea, where he was the district pastor from 1971 to 1976.

"About \$NZ450 will go into the church account . . . [to] help provide the church with lesson pamphlets and other things they need," he said.

Pastor Foote sells the steam puddings for \$NZ7 each, and says it costs about half that amount for the ingredients.

"I only charge the cost of the ingredients, cooking gas and the labels. I don't charge any of the profits I could if I had a business. I just want to be reimbursed for the ingredients, and the rest goes to charity," explained Pastor Foote.

Made from a recipe passed down from Pastor Foote's mother, the steam puddings are vegan, tasty and very popular with the community. In addition to the regular puddings, he also makes muffin-sized puddings and occasionally chocolate or raspberry lamingtons, with puddings being requested and purchased all year round.

"They're just so popular," said Pastor Foote. "I can't sell enough of them. There are no eggs or animal products or anything, and I mix all the fruit myself."

Affectionally known as the "pudding



pastor", Pastor Foote's puddings have travelled as far as Hong Kong, Canada and Australia, helping others to raise funds for ministry too.

"I have only given my recipe to three people—to the Norfolk Island Pathfinders to fundraise, to a church in Hamilton and to a lady in Wellington who was struggling to raise funds for her family. The Salvation Army has also bought 300 puddings and on-sold them to help pay for a new church."

Through selling steam puddings, Pastor Foote helped a young person complete high school, provided food to food banks, supported women's refuges and used funds to throw parties in children's hospital wards.

"We had a call from Longburn College (NZ) to say that a boy from Wellington couldn't graduate because he still owed \$NZ1000. I found out on Thursday, bought the ingredients on Friday, sorted and weighed and mixed them on Sunday, baked 312 puddings on Monday, and they were all sold by the evening," explained Pastor Foote.

"The next morning I sent him the \$1000 in the mail and he graduated."

Pastor Foote strategically calls his puddings "steam fruit puddings" rather than "Christmas puddings" to increase his reach and community influence.

He also attaches a Bible verse sticker to every pudding he sells: "Oh taste and see that the Lord is good" (Psalm 34:8).

At 77 years old, Pastor Foote is well retired now, but remains very active and involved in the community.

"I'm running on Michelins now, I got rid of the cheap tyres," he laughed. "I'm based in Rotorua (NZ) and I regularly preach at four different churches nearby, and I volunteer a lot on the chaplaincy team at the hospital. I'm also the president of my local Rotary club."

Despite the potential to turn his fruit pudding ministry into a business, Pastor Foote maintains a strong ministerial attitude.

"I'm a pastor, retired, I get my pension. I don't want any of that money to go into my own pocket. I love it [as a ministry] because people out there are getting to know why I do this. I don't preach to the people, but I demonstrate what I consider the attitude the Lord would have to people in need. I'll find out in the kingdom the people who have been blessed by them."

MARYELLEN FAIRFAX,
ASSISTANT EDITOR, ADVENTIST RECORD.

ASTRONOMICAL



Does it ever keep you awake at night, the fact that you were placed on this earth for a specific reason? Have you ever really let it sink in that we live in the exact time period we do, in this beautiful country, placed with the family we were, with a specific purpose and set of talents?

While thoughts like these turn and spiral around my head, keeping me awake, this blue planet we call home also turns. It turns slowly and methodically, an unworried, unhurried perfect puzzle piece in the galaxy—every star, planet and moon placed perfectly.

When I say perfectly placed, I literally mean perfectly placed. During creation God didn't just haphazardly throw Earth into this solar system and call it a day. He purposely and intentionally designed our universe, finely tuning everything so that life could exist and thrive in this world.

The Anthropic Principle is based on the observation that the universe appears to be geared towards providing and supporting an environment suitable for human life. Christians already know this to be true; Genesis 1:1 foundationally declares that, at the beginning of time, God formed the heavens and the earth. He wasn't afraid to get His hands dirty, physically forming Earth's sphere, lovingly and purposely placing our planet into space and setting it spinning just right. And He did so with human life in mind; with you and I in mind.

Astronomy provides for us some of the biggest, greatest and most fascinating examples in all creation of our Creator God's indescribable power and deliberate character. David wrote in Psalm 19:1 "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork."

Space, visually and physically, is a testament to God's astronomical power and glory. He designed everything about our world so carefully with the sole purpose that life would survive and thrive. God made Earth's orbit a perfect circle around the sun, for should it be elliptical even by the smallest degree, our oceans and water supplies would freeze over or evaporate. Mercury spins 59 times more slowly than Earth so that its sunny side reaches up to 465 degrees Celsius and the side that faces away from the sun reaches minus 180 degrees! In contrast, Earth rotates every 24 hours, keeping temperatures manageable and giving us reasonably measured days and nights.

With God's power He could have easily sneezed galaxies into existence, rinsed His hands of all accountability and become a spectator. Instead, God chose intimacy. Everything He did and does has purpose, including our lives. He somehow keeps track of all the stars in the sky and at the same time knows when I'm lying awake in my bed worrying about finding my place in this world. This is when the God of the universe sings a lullaby over me (Zephaniah 3:17) and before I fall asleep I catch a glimpse of the stars through a gap in my curtain, twinkling, "I love you".

"Astronomical" is the eighth episode in Waymaker. TV's What Do You Think? series, which will air over the coming months.

NATALIA MELVILLE

FREELANCE ARTIST AND WRITER WITH A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN FILM AND TV PRODUCTION.

DO WE NEED TO BE GREEN TO BE SAVED?



Climate change would appear to be the major concern many people are focused on at this time. All around the world we are experiencing catastrophic bushfires, cyclones, floods, earthquakes and other natural disasters. People—especially young people—are protesting and becoming politically involved. *Time* magazine recently announced that 16-year-old Swedish girl, Greta Thunberg, was the 2019 “Person of the Year”. Greta has become the figurehead of the global “school strike for climate” campaign and she wants world leaders to stop “failing us” on the environment because “we are in the beginning of a mass extinction”.¹

If people are led to panic because they believe “mass extinction” is coming upon the world, then they will also be led to believe that extreme measures should be taken to save our planet.

Measures like a “Sunday Law”? Pope Francis is a fan of Greta. “God bless you, continue to work, continue. Go on, go ahead,” he told her recently.²

As Seventh-day Adventists, I feel that we have not embraced a God-given opportunity to tell the world the real reason why our world is falling apart.

Though I believe Greta has zeal without knowledge, she does have passion and commitment to speak up for what she believes is truth. How we need such commitment to speak with passion for what we know is God’s truth.

ONE MAN’S SOLUTION

Elon Musk is held by some to be an innovative and forward thinker. This man has a mission to save the world and he has a two-fold solution:

1. To enable humanity to become an interplanetary species, by allowing us to colonise and inhabit other planets—starting with Mars.
2. To reduce the effect of climate change by transitioning to renewable energy.

“To fulfil the first objective, Musk created the company SpaceX, which

has as its stated goal to colonise Mars. And for achieving the second, he runs Tesla, which aims to accelerate the world's transition to renewable energy—namely with electric transport . . . individuals like Elon Musk genuinely believe that ideas like these are the solution to what they perceive as mankind's greatest threat," according to an email from *Audio Verse*.³

Some of my tennis friends have a far-left-green worldview. They believe the solution to catastrophic climate change is simple: do away with fossil fuel and go solar. OK, let's stretch the mind and imagine this scenario: Every Aussie and Kiwi agrees to dig a very big hole. We then bury our cars, gas/electric stoves, air conditioners, heaters etc. Having taken this first step, we then "go solar". Would that really lower emissions enough to save our world? I have run many evangelistic missions to India and have come to see that unless major polluters like India, Indonesia and China joined us and took the same action, nothing would change. I do believe that man's greed is contributing to climate change.

What does God say about climate change? God has spoken through His Word and through His prophet for the last days, Ellen White. He has drawn back the curtain to reveal who is really to blame for all the chaos that we are witnessing around the world.

THE INSPIRED PERSPECTIVE

"The restraining Spirit of God is even now being withdrawn from the world. Hurricanes, storms, tempests, fire and flood, disasters by sea and land, follow each other in quick succession. Science seeks to explain all these. The signs thickening around us, telling of the near approach of the Son of God, are attributed to any other than the true cause" (*Testimonies to the Church* 6, 408).

In the book of Job we have a clear insight as to why natural disasters occur. When God allowed Satan "to afflict Job, how quickly flocks and herds, servants, houses, children, were swept away, one trouble succeeding

another as in a moment. It is God that shields His creatures and hedges them in from the power of the destroyer" (*Great Controversy*, 589).

Even if all the politicians of the world were to agree to immediately mothball all coal-fired power stations and go solar and green, would natural disasters cease? Christians should not fall for fake news and fake solutions: only our Creator God has the solution to the chaos this world is experiencing.

How thankful we should be that God has revealed to His people the stupendous truths of the past and future through the Bible and books like *The Great Controversy* (GC). Why is our world facing such a massive increase of "calamities by sea and by land"? The answer is that God is removing His protective care from a world that does not want Him in their lives. This is just as it was in the days of Noah and Sodom and Gomorrah.

"But the Christian world have shown contempt for the law of Jehovah; and the Lord will do just what He has declared that He would—He will withdraw His blessings from the earth and remove His protecting care from those who are rebelling against His law . . . he [Satan] will bring disease and disaster, until populous cities are reduced to ruin and desolation. Even now he is at work. In accidents and calamities by sea and by land, in great conflagrations, in fierce tornadoes and terrific hailstorms, in tempests, floods, cyclones, tidal waves, and earthquakes, in every place and in a thousand forms, Satan is exercising his power. He sweeps away the ripening harvest, and famine and distress follow . . . These visitations are to become more and more frequent and disastrous." (*Great Controversy* 589,590).

The chapter in GC, "The Impending Conflict", is a must-read for all who want to know why our climate is changing and who is to blame. This amazing chapter also reveals how that Satan will persuade the people that Sabbath-keepers are causing all the natural disasters: "It will be declared that men are offending God by the violation of the Sunday Sabbath; that

this sin has brought calamities which will not cease until Sunday observance shall be strictly enforced" (*Great Controversy*, 590). It should not come as a surprise to us that the Pope is working tirelessly to persuade mankind to cease from working (and playing) on Sunday for the good of the family and the environment. A Sunday Law is coming just as we were warned so long ago.

THE TRUE SOLUTION

So what is the solution? Elon Musk is right—the only solution is for humanity to become an interplanetary species, for us to leave this planet. But the only way that will happen is when Jesus comes again. It's called the blessed hope!

Our world is facing a stupendous crisis. For all of us it will indeed be a time of trouble such as we have never before faced. But for Christians who love the Lord and believe in His promises, it is not a time to fear. Our confidence lies not in science, technology, innovation, legislation or political power—our hope resides in the Lord.

Scientists and environmental activists are anticipating an increase in catastrophic events, and their predictions are in accord with God's prophetic Word. The earth is groaning because of sin and the workings of Satan in these last days. Let us pray that we may have Christ's love for perishing souls—and let us pray for holy boldness to tell all who will listen the real reason why our climate is changing.

1. National Public Radio (USA): Transcript Greta Thunberg's speech at the United Nations Action Summit, September 23, 2019. <www.npr.org/2019/09/23/763452863/transcript-greta-thunbergs-speech-at-the-u-n-climate-action-summit>.

2. *Rome Reports*, "Pope Francis Meets Greta Thunberg, a 16-Year Old Fighting Against Climate Change". April 17, 2019. <www.romereports.com/en/2019/04/17/pope-francis-meets-greta-thunberg-a-16-year-old-fighting-against-climate-change/>.

3. Audio Verse email 27/3/2019.

ROGER KERR
NOWRA ADVENTIST CHURCH, NEW SOUTH WALES.



what to make of the **CLIMATE CONTROVERSY**

Adventist keyboard warriors articulate increasingly polarised positions on climate change.

"The climate has always been changing," says one contingent. "Who are we to think we can change God's creation through carbon taxes? Angry leftists are part of a conspiracy for coercive government control, which will take away our religious freedom just as the Bible has predicted."

Those on the other side see climate change as the number-one global issue requiring a significant response from all of society. "This is a moral issue," they say, "grounded in equality for future generations, justice for the oppressed and biblical stewardship of Creation."

I'm going to suggest a resolution that embraces some of the thinking and values of each side.

I am quite familiar with the various claims and counter-arguments in the field of climate science. I have read widely on the topic, completed a PhD in a related field (in water engineering) and currently work in public utility strategy driven by energy and climate constraints.

There is a well-established scientific consensus that human-caused greenhouse gas emissions have been the major contributor to a one degree Celsius rise in global surface temperatures since pre-industrial times. The planet is on track to warm further, increasing risks in a number of areas and affecting human wellbeing.

It is well-documented how this reality has been cleverly obfuscated by industry lobby groups with vested interests. And, on the other side, there are those who would like

to exploit public consciousness regarding environmental concerns to increase their power. Understandably the issues have become confused in the minds of many conservatives (including Christians) who value personal freedoms over government control.

And this is where things legitimately get controversial: the debate over what should be done about climate change.

There's a spectrum of views between doing nothing and totally changing everything. Those who wish to do nothing tend to question the science, while those who wish to change everything may exaggerate the science. Thus an otherwise mature scientific understanding has become polarised, politicised and confused in politics, media and social media.

I see a lot of Adventists falling for the pseudo-science claims of right-wing "freedom" advocates. I guess this is because right-wing values regarding personal freedom seem to align with our eschatological worldview. We too are wary of government-imposed restrictions on freedom. Not because we don't care about the environment, but because we value religious freedom.

But here's the thing: our biblical worldview doesn't require that global warming is either a hoax or true. The earth "waxing old like a garment" and humans destroying the earth are biblical themes consistent with human-caused global warming.

There are minor branches of climate science that explore paleoclimate (distant past) records through an evolutionary lens. As Bible-believers we need not embrace evolutionary timescales. But modern-day observations of a warming planet and future projections of further warming are based on direct observations and the laws of physics, standing independent of evolutionary assumptions.

Most keyboard warriors do not understand atmospheric physics well enough to be able to articulate how carbon emissions influence climate. They accept science-sounding conclusions that resonate with their pre-existing ideology and reject those that don't align. Most of us don't actually know what carbon dioxide does to infra-red radiation. (Incidentally, greenhouse gases contribute to a finely tuned habitable planet—evidence for Intelligent Design.)

Those who value personal freedoms tend to gravitate toward arguments that downplay the role of carbon in attenuating climate. Those who value natural ecology tend to resonate with arguments that emphasise the role of carbon in modulating climate.

In the absence of inspired counsel to guide our understanding of atmospheric physics, and in the absence of rigorous scientific understanding amongst most of us, I'm going to suggest a pragmatic epistemology for deciding what to think and say about climate science.

If we push right-wing conspiracy theories on global warming being a hoax we'll lose credibility with progressives. Pragmatically, this is risky for us as Adventists, at a time when the whole world needs the everlasting gospel—the most sustainable answer to environmental problems.

The time is coming, and now is, when climate and weather disasters get nastier, and the world points the finger at anthropogenic (human caused) global warming being a significant factor. Those who voice uncertainty and doubt regarding the science are blamed for delaying action. Do we want our ability to speak hope and wisdom into this messy and hopeless situation to be clouded by the memory of us having spoken against the scientific understanding of anthropogenic global warming?

We don't gain anything by proclaiming scepticism regarding the science. Fossil fuel interests may thank us, but is that worth the effort? We don't lose anything by being silent if we aren't convinced about the science. But it's a lose-lose scenario to voice worn-out and oft-debunked sceptical talking points.

Sure, sound a warning against centralised government control; against the intertwining of religion and politics. But please reconsider the sanity of speaking against the science. Pushing the right-wing view on climate change being a hoax is shooting ourselves in the foot, even in the very small chance that this discourse has some credibility.

But before we decide, on the other hand, to make global warming the big moral issue for our times, it would be good to put the issue in context.

We've been blessed with several decades of relative peace since the two world wars. Most of the nearly eight billion people alive today have not experienced the reality of multilateral armed conflict upending global stability. Bible-believing Adventists are aware that this time of peace and safety is not going to last for long. There will soon be much bigger issues to be concerned about than global warming.

There are multiple major global problems: financial crises, social unrest, climate change, resource scarcity, pollution, armed conflict, religious oppression, nuclear threats, natural disasters, disease . . . The Bible gives forewarning about problems such as these getting worse just before the return of Jesus.

This does not mean that we should not care about environmental issues, including climate change. We should, and do care. However, the solutions need to be broader and deeper than government policy to control carbon emissions.

The single biggest threat to civilisation's sustainability is sin, which inevitably brings death. Adventists have the answer to that: Jesus. He came to pardon us and is coming back to take us to a perfectly sustainable future. Let's present Jesus as the ultimate solution to the very real problems this world faces; but also let's not voice half-baked scepticism regarding the science of something we neither fully understand nor have any reasonable basis to reject.

DANIEL LIVINGSTON

ATTENDS WARNERS BAY ADVENTIST CHURCH (NSW) WITH HIS WIFE AND TWO YOUNG CHILDREN. HE HAS A PHD IN ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING AND IS CURRENTLY WORKING ACROSS WATER, ENERGY, CLIMATE AND SUSTAINABILITY.



Red Capsicum Frittata

Less fussy than an omelette, more elegant than scrambled eggs. Packed with the goodness of different veggies, this red capsicum frittata recipe is the answer to a quick and easy mid-week meal.

Find this recipe and hundreds more at:

Australia: sanitarium.com.au/recipes
New Zealand: sanitarium.co.nz/recipes



SUPPLEMENTS OR FOOD? HOW TO GET NUTRIENTS

There's no doubt a healthy diet is the best way to get all the nutrients we need, but the reality is, most of us fall far short of eating five serves of fruit and veggies a day.

So, should we consider supplements to fill the gaps in our diets? We ask Sanitarium Health Food Company dietitian Angela Saunders:

"Supplements are not intended to be a substitute for food. When you eat whole plant foods, you're actually getting many more nutrients than a tablet can provide. In addition to essential vitamins and minerals, whole foods are also packed with fibre and thousands of other protective bioactive compounds, like antioxidants and phytonutrients.

"These nutrients are essential for our bodies to function. They help us grow, help prevent disease and are vital for good health. The type and amount of nutrients you need will vary depending on your sex, age and whether you're pregnant or breastfeeding.

"However, you don't need to get too hung up on counting the amount of nutrients you are consuming each day. Instead, we recommend focusing on eating a variety of healthy foods from the core food groups to ensure you are getting all the nutrients you need."

FOOD SOURCES OF FIVE IMPORTANT NUTRIENTS

Calcium: Calcium-fortified, plant-based milk and products; calcium-set tofu; legumes (soybeans, navy beans, chickpeas, kidney beans); sesame seeds and tahini; green leafy vegetables (broccoli, kale, bok choy, cabbage); almonds; calcium-fortified breakfast cereals; dried figs; dairy and dairy products.

Iron: Tempeh; wholegrains; legumes (lentils, soybeans, kidney beans); green leafy vegetables; iron-fortified breakfast cereals; dried fruits (apricots, dates, figs); nuts; seeds.

Vitamin D: Vitamin D-fortified milk and plant-based milk; fortified margarines; vitamin D mushrooms; eggs; fortified juice.

Zinc: Wholegrains; tofu; tempeh; legumes; nuts (cashews, pinenuts, pecans, Brazil nuts, almonds); seeds (pumpkin seeds, sunflower seeds); dairy products.

Iodine: Seaweed; eggs; bread; iodised table salt.

COMMONLY RECOMMENDED



VITAMIN B12

It helps your body produce blood cells, supports immunity and normal mental function. It is found almost exclusively in animal-based foods. If you limit your intake of these foods, you may need to include B12-fortified foods and/or a supplement.



VITAMIN D

It helps maintain strong bones and muscles. Vitamin D comes from the sun with only a small amount available from food. If you have little safe sun exposure, your health professional may recommend a supplement.



FOLIC ACID

Recommended to be taken before pregnancy and three months after conception to help prevent neural tube defects. Also, be sure to eat foods fortified with folic acid as well as foods naturally rich in folate such as green leafy veggies, legumes, avocado, beets, eggs and citrus fruits.



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WINSOME MESSAGE

Reading "Apostles' Vision Cast For SPD Leaders" (January 25) reminded me of Marian De Berg's *Stories From Sunnyside*. We bought one and after reading it we bought another for lending. What Sister Ellen White and her fellow pioneers did at Cooranbong, NSW, is a model for evangelism. I have been told that when the Adventists decided to set up in Cooranbong the police warned them that "there is nothing too hot or too heavy for these people to carry off in the night". The people were desperate and stole to survive. The sick and injured just had to suffer.

Stories From Sunnyside tells what happened when a very winsome people came with a very winsome message. In five years their desperate neighbours had been turned into ardent friends. I like this way of witnessing because it avoids the problems of more confrontational methods—I am among friends with whom I have some influence.

Milton Wainwright, NZ

RAISING QUESTIONS

I was reading "SAH Raises \$20,000 For Bushfire Relief" (February 15).

I have a question regarding the article.

Firstly, terrific effort and for a much-needed cause. However . . . can I ask why the money raised was not donated to ADRA?

I was totally surprised and bewildered as ADRA is on the ground and the money is going to meet the needs of those directly impacted by those devastating fires.

Especially when there is much controversy over the funds donated to the Red Cross.

Kerry Markham, via email

Reply:

Thanks for the opportunity to answer these very valid questions, and we do appreciate support for the bushfire crisis fundraising by the hospital and San Day Surgery Hornsby.

We are very proud that we have been able to donate more than \$A25,500

to the Red Cross Bush Fire Appeal as a result of this most recent specific campaign.

We are equally very pleased that this is actually a complement to the regular staff donations to ADRA via our Workplace Giving Program, which provides a structure for ongoing deductions from payroll.

ADRA is among the three highest recipients of regular staff donations via the program. This is in addition to staff support for specific campaigns, including Open Heart International.

Other regular recipients of staff generosity include Captivating (International Children's Care—Australia), the farmer supporting Buy a Bale scheme, the hospital's Caring for Our Colleagues Fund, the Australasian Research Institute and the hospital's San Foundation.

Facilitating and showing our support for other charities that respond to crises is a great way to underline how Adventist HealthCare values being a part of our

community and support our team members, including those who are amongst the many volunteers for the Rural Fire Service.

We look forward to being able to continue to provide wide support for all institutions who share our principles of caring for our community.

Brett Goods, CEO SAH

CONTINUALLY PRAY

Thank you and Errol Webster for the perceptive article "Why are so many leaving the church?" (February 15). We have mourned this loss of our youth for years and sought to discover where we have gotten things wrong.

Enough of the *mea culpa*. Of course we should nurture, encourage and love our members, in particular our youth. Of course there are places where we could improve. But each week our pastors and youth leaders faithfully prepare and present Jesus as our Saviour. But our youth spend a few hours at most at church and

church activities and most of the rest of the week in the secular world. Even home influence is limited. By mid-primary school the bigger influence on children are their school and neighbourhood friends.

The world, as the author so masterfully pointed out, is increasingly a place where the basic premises of Christianity are not only ignored but mocked. We must continually pray that the Holy Spirit will accompany our youth continually and prompt the need for what is missing. Perhaps our greatest contribution is to be the kind of people they would like to be.

Bill Johnson, NSW

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.

OLSEM WANNEM, KIDS?

Kids Space

Serving those in need. Be the sermon!



REFUGEES, HOMELESS, STRANGERS

March 21 is Global Youth Day. This is when our Church, all over the world, is focused on helping others. In the Bible, God speaks often of the poor and needy. He commands us to give generously to the less fortunate and to speak up on their behalf. The Bible tells us that generosity yields an amazing crop! When we refresh others through giving, we are refreshed ourselves. God's Word is clear that we are called to help those less fortunate. It may be a simple encouraging word, a smile or an act of kindness. Or maybe God may call you to take up the cause of the needy by defending their rights.

How can you make a difference in the world?

Start at the line nearest each child, follow it up to the shapes and fill in the blanks.

Helping the

& refugee with
food & clothing

Visiting the

with food or
flowers

Visiting a

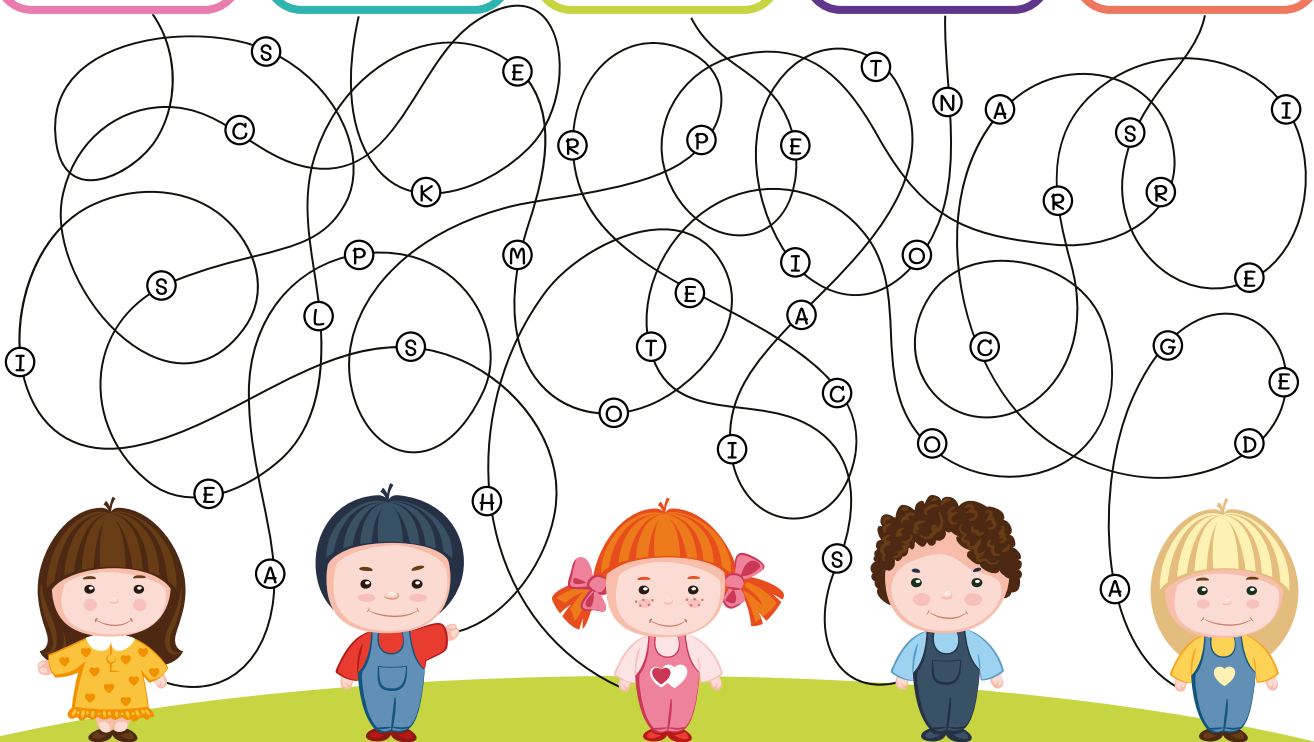
home with a
smile or song

Acts of

by thanking a
firefighter or
police officer

Sharing your

with others to
inspire them



Memory Verse : "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'" Luke 10:27 (NIV)

*Olsem Wannem is Bislama for 'how are you?' (Vanuatu)



Go to <http://thetuis.tv/> and find out the latest adventures from the Tui family.

Obituaries



ACKLAND, Barbara Elaine, born 24.4.1937 in Melbourne, Vic; died 23.1.20 in Toronto, NSW. On 11.3.1959 she married William. Barbara is survived by her husband (Cooranbong); sons; Darren and Judy (Coomababah, Qld) and Pastor Nigel and Sandy (Sydney, NSW); grandchildren, Declan, Toby and Tori; and siblings, Glenn, Lorraine and Janine (all of Melbourne, Vic). Barbara passed away in hospital after a long illness. Her husband Bill greatly mourns the loss of his wife of nearly 61 years. A large congregation attended her funeral where Bill stated he then realised he had been living with an angel these many years. Barbara's extended family greatly grieved her passing. She was well prepared to meet her Saviour on that wonderful resurrection day. A life that blessed others for nearly 83 years.

Steven Magaitis

CATTS, Pamela June, born 21.7.1956 on the Central Coast, NSW; died 6.2.20 in Toronto Private Hospital. Her husband Ronald Churchill Catts, predeceased her as did her youngest daughter, Alyssa. She is survived by her children, Stanley (Lake Macquarie) and Deanne Reynolds (Macksville). Pam loved her Lord and was generous in strongly supporting several Adventist charities and projects. She was a faithful and dedicated Seventh-day Adventist Christian.

Roger Nixon

DEVER, Terrance Allison; born 11.5.1928 in Warburton, Vic; died 13.4.19 in Brisbane, Qld. On 5.4.1950 he married Valarie Higgins. He married Dorothy Dawson in 1982. He was predeceased by son Andrew and brother Phillip. Terry is survived by his wife, Dorothy; sons, Paul (Canberra, ACT) and Lee (Slacks Creek, Qld); daughter, Louise Corke (Gold Coast); step-children Judith, Rodney and Donald; grandchildren; great-grandchildren; and brother Don. Terry worked for Sanitarium Health Food all his working life in Brisbane, Christchurch for 16 years, then back to Brisbane retail from where he retired. Terry was involved with cat enthusiast organisations. He was always committed to the churches he attended, the last one being Edens Landing in Queensland.

Ernst William



FARMER, Thelma Ivy Joyce (nee Cook), born 18.3.1935 in Toowoomba, Qld; died 1.2.20. She is survived by her husband, Doug; four children; four step-daughters; 17 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren. Thelma's funeral service was held at Virgo Funeral's home chapel, Kingaroy. She was laid to rest in Taabinga Lawn Cemetery. All the family have happy memories to remember her by.

Leathan Fitzpatrick



HAMPSON, Yvonne May, born 6.10.1936 in Lismore, NSW; died 6.2.20 in Nerang, Qld. She was predeceased by her brothers, Douglas and Kelson. She was the eldest of nine children and is survived by her siblings, Cynthia Brown, Coral Frost, Lynette Kay, Cheryl Anderson, Wayne and Steven Hampson; 16 nieces; nine nephews; 13 great nieces; and 20 great nephews. Vonnice, as she was affectionately known, had numerous interests which included playing the piano, Pathfinders, cooking, embroidery and sewing. She was an active member of the Church and was well known by Queensland church members, having served as a personal assistant to Pastors Reg Harris, Bob Possingham and Max Van Dyk, in the Conference office across 26 years. Her trust in God and her bright personality endeared her to everyone she came in contact with.

Vern Parmenter

HANSEN, Wendy Jean (nee Eames), born 27.5.1958 in Albury, NSW; died 4.10.19 in Epworth Eastern Hospital, Box Hill, Vic. She was married to Ashley. She is survived by her husband (Kilsyth); daughter, Tara Hansen Ratu and Sav; and son, Scott and Amber (Toowoomba, Qld). Wendy was well loved, but her incredible angelic voice wowed and blessed many as she unselfishly shared her gift. Wendy's love of music, God and people will be treasured in the hearts of those who knew her. She will be greatly missed by her family, church and community whom she touched with beautiful music, kindness and compassion. We await the return of her Lord to see her once again and to celebrate eternity together.

Quinten Liebrandt



HAWKEN, Elizabeth Ann (Betty) (nee Goldsworthy), born 2.8.1947 in Ayr, Qld; died 30.1.20 in Whitsunday. On 7.7.1968 she married Selwyn. She is survived by her husband (Whitsunday); sons, David (Maryborough) and Daren (Greenbank); daughters, Trisha Dance (Proserpine) and Tracy McNicol (Midge Point); 13 grandchildren; and siblings, Phyllis Magateli (Ayr), Ian (Home Hill), Allan (Ayr) and David (Townsville). Betty conducted Sabbath school for ex-Mona Mona families at Palm Island, was government nurse on Badu Island, Torres Strait, ran children's Sabbath school at Proserpine and faithfully supported the church. She was a much-loved teacher aid at Cannonvale State School for many years. Betty was firstly brought along to Ayr church by her grandmother. After 26 years battling dementia she can now rest in the hope of her coming Saviour.

Esava Kovo

JENSEN, Peter Martin, born 25.8.1943 in Sydney, NSW; died 17.12.19 in St Vincent's Hospice, Sydney. Peter is survived by his sons, Karl, David and Daniel (all of Sydney, NSW); two grandchildren; sister, Carol Giovanetti (Port Macquarie); and long-term partner Carol Bogart. Peter studied theology at Avondale, graduating in 1966. He commenced teaching at Scott's College Sydney in 1967, and was Head of English for the next 22 years. During this time Peter obtained a Dip.Ed degree and also a MA in English Literature. Peter had a long and distinguished career in education, both with the Board of Studies and Yeshiva College.

Adrian Fleming

SANDY, Janese Lesley, born 14.10.1953 in Millicent, SA; died 13.10.19 in Royal Adelaide Hospital. Jan is survived by her brother, Keith and Lynn (Adelaide); sisters, Noreen and Cedric Till (Mt Gambier), Barbara Snider (Adelaide), Joy and Darcy Malycha (Mildura, Vic) and Elia and Lindsay Adams (Powelltown). Jan passed away after two strokes, one day short of her 66th birthday. She was loved by all her nieces and nephews. Jan was a people person, who reached out to all around her—children, elderly in hospital and residents of aged care homes. She also served at Meals on Wheels for nearly 20 years. She was a faithful church member and

loved the outdoors and animals. She was a musician and played a number of instruments. She shared her love for Jesus with neighbours and friends and now awaits the resurrection.

Brenton Wilkinson



SWANNELL, Wendy Joy (nee Peet), born 3.7.1940 in Hobart, Tas; died 4.1.20 in Brisbane, Qld. On 4.1.1961 she married Dr Raymond Swannell. Wendy is survived by her husband (Hervey Bay); children, Susan and Neil Kelly (Switzerland), Michael and Alison (Brisbane, Qld), David and Cindy-Lee (Brisbane), and Andrea and Kelvin O'Halloran (Brisbane); grandchildren, Georgia, Liam, James, Jack, Emma, Sarah, Leighton, Caitlin and Siobhan; and siblings Heather Peet (Busseton, WA), David Peet (Tammin) and Marilyn Baldock (Sydney, NSW). Wendy coordinated the development of the Pink Lady volunteers at Auckland Adventist Hospital. At the South Pacific Division she worked in ACA Health, and while in Brisbane was receptionist at the Brisbane Adventist Medical Centre. But her organisational skills were best reserved for managing the household of her delightful and much-loved children.

Percy Harrold, Mark Goldsmith



WRIGHT, Graham Wayne, born 11.12.1944 in Johnsonville, NZ; died 13.2.20 in Sydney Adventist Hospital after a two-year battle with a rare untreatable form of cancer. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Lois; son, Craig and Nicole (Sunshine Coast, Qld); daughters, Debbie and Angelina (both of Sydney); six grandchildren; brother, Peter and sister, Wendy (NZ). Graham worked for Sanitarium Health Food in Cooranbong. He was then appointed CFO of Sydney Adventist Hospital. He was involved in a massive building development and in establishing the nurse training program as an Avondale-based tertiary course. Later he was appointed as a director of HCF. After leaving the hospital's employ, he worked as financial consultant to many medical institutions and aged care bodies and served on many of their boards. He also sat on a number of Seventh-day Adventist boards relating to medical, aged care and education ministries. Graham was heavily involved in his home church, first Wahroonga and then Fox Valley, where his

financial acumen was highly valued.

Garth Bainbridge

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Adventist Heritage tour to Battle Creek and Andrews available prior to General Conference. Tour and accommodation package available in downtown Indianapolis. Walk to the GC meetings. Visit <lawsondiscovery.com>; telephone: (07) 3272 2167.

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Pr Harold Alomia is Lead Pastor at the College View Church on the campus of Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska. His years of international ministry have shaped his passion for thoughtful, meaningful worship in the local congregation. He is eager to see people embrace worship as the reaction and response to God's calling in our lives.



Dr Fred Hardinge is a health and nutrition specialist that has focused his ministry on church/community based health outreach. He is the Associate Director of the Health Ministries Department at the General Conference, Maryland U.S. With over 30 years experience in public health education, Fred is dedicated to serving others with his ministry.



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POSITIONS VACANT

INVESTMENT AND FINANCIAL SERVICES MANAGER**WAHROONGA, NSW**

The Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Limited is seeking expressions of interest from suitable candidates for this senior management role to run the Division Financial Services (DFS). DFS manages, within Australia and New Zealand, the Division investment program, the lending of funds to denominational organisations and other financial/banking services. The Investment and Financial Services manager is responsible for investment decisions, banking relationships, monitoring and managing total denomination loan exposures and providing financial services to more than 1000 clients. Candidates should have experience at a senior level in either the finance sector or in financial management. Qualifications in either business or investment management are essential. Based at the Division head office in Wahroonga NSW, this full-time role reports directly to the Division chief financial officer and will commence in August/September 2020. For full selection criteria please visit the Division's human resources website <adventistemployment.org.au/spd-vacancies>. To apply, please send a cover letter addressing the selection criteria, 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>. Fax: 02 9489 0943. The appointing body reserves the right to fill this position at its discretion and close applications early. Only those who have the legal right to work in Australia may apply. **Applications close April 6, 2020.**

DIVISION PROPERTY TRUST MANAGER**WAHROONGA, NSW**

The South Pacific Division (SPD) Limited has an exciting opportunity for an experienced individual in the area of property or commerce, with strong commercial acumen, to strategically manage the property holdings of the SPD with the goal of delivering on the future needs of the Church and continually maximise the portfolio's value and benefits to advance the wider mission of the Church. Based at the Division head office in Wahroonga NSW, this full-time role will report directly to the chief financial officer and will oversee the property portfolios of the Division and manage key development and expansion projects. The ideal candidate will be highly self-motivated, well organised, with excellent attention to detail and great communication and people skills. For full selection criteria please visit the Division's Human Resources website <adventistemployment.org.au/spd-vacancies>. 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>. Fax 02 9489 0943. The appointing body reserves the right to fill this position at its discretion and close applications early. Only those who have the legal right to work in Australia may apply. **Applications close March 31, 2020.**

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DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT, AVONDALE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**COORANBONG, NSW**

Reporting to the vice chancellor, this position will focus on providing strategic leadership, practical expertise and operational support to the communications, marketing, event management, promotion and fundraising functions in the service of the Avondale University College community. Avondale University College is a Seventh-day Adventist organisation driven by its mission and values. For full selection criteria and details, please visit <avondale.edu.au/about/employment>. Applications addressing the selection criteria, with contact details of at least three referees, should be emailed to <employment@avondale.edu.au>. **Applications close March 31, 2020.**

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