

SEPT 25  
2010

# IntraVic

How can anyone put his faith in Christ if he's never even heard about Him? How can he hear about Him if no one tells?

Romans 10:14 (Clear Word)



## Who We Are...

Look at the Past...

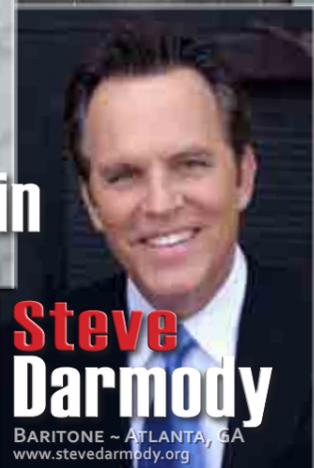
...Move to the future



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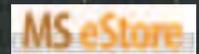
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SATURDAY  
@ 3:30 pm**

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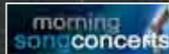


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This month we are taking a brief look at the past. October 1, 2010 is the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the adoption of the name Seventh-Day Adventist Church and as such, is an important milestone in our heritage.

Why spend time looking at the past – sure it is perhaps interesting, but is it relevant to where we, as a church, are today or to our goals and mission? To paraphrase Woodrow Wilson's words, a (church) which does not remember what it was yesterday, does not know what it is today nor what it is trying to do... Ours is a rich legacy, rich but forgotten. Pastor Reg Brown, in his book 'Beginnings Down Under' suggests that looking at that forgotten past gives us a better understanding of our ultimate destiny; that we receive guidance on how to get there as we remember the vision, dedication and sacrifice of our pioneers.

It is our prayer that as you read a little of the early church in Melbourne, as you take a look at some of our local churches' histories and as you delve deeper into what it means to be a Seventh-Day Adventist, a spark of passion from a previous era will ignite a fire within your own heart.

*In this issue...*

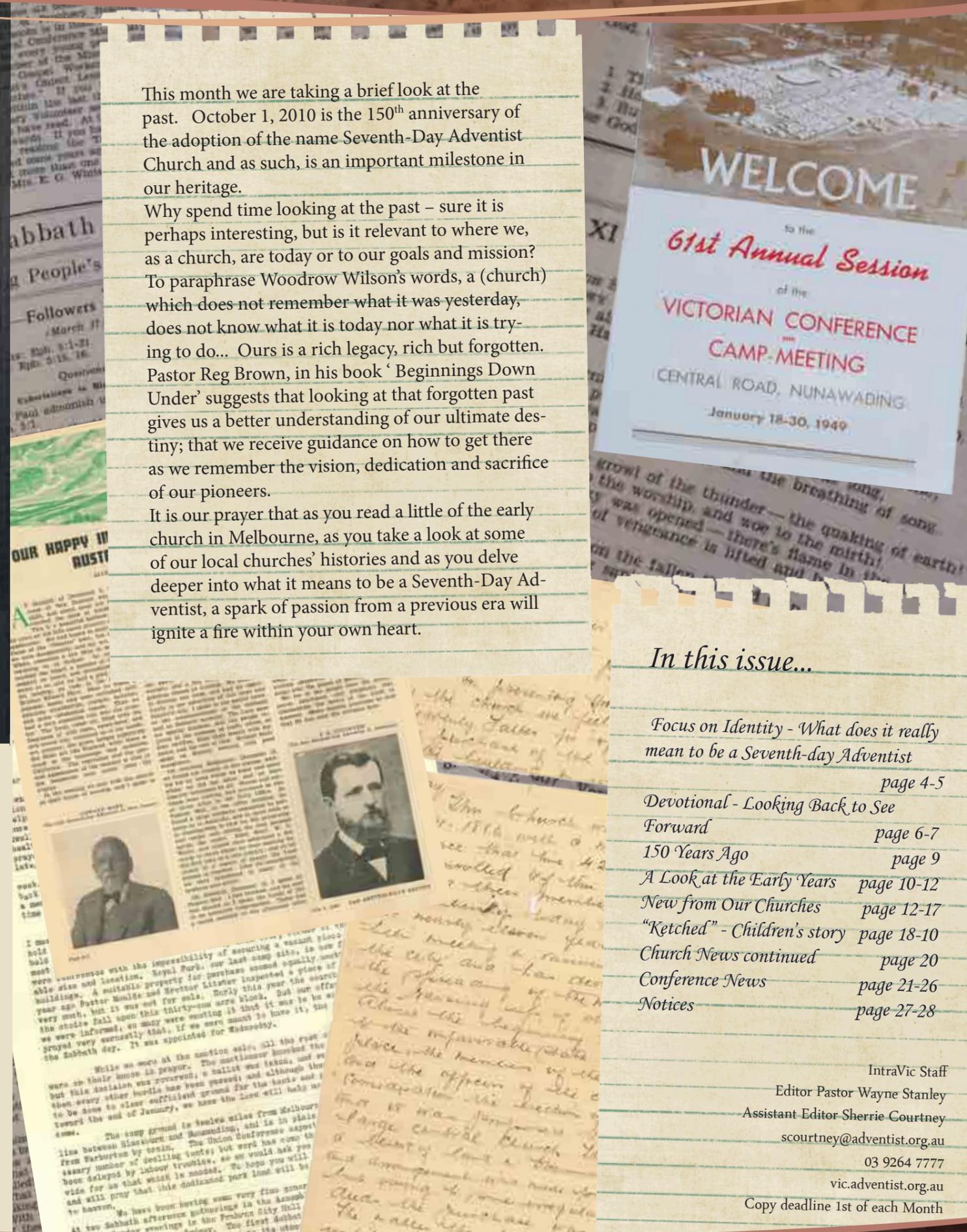
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*This will be a really inspirational Sabbath afternoon/evening program. The Conference President will share with us at the beginning of the program and then the three singers will provide a gospel music feast.*

*A Second Session is planned at 7:00pm if there is enough interest.*

*We are asking each of you to come prepared with a generous offering/donation to assist with the cost (we are suggesting \$15-\$20 per person – just think what it would cost to attend a concert of this nature somewhere else in Melbourne).*

*This will be a trial by the Conference. If there is a positive response we will be able to plan for this kind of concert on a more regular basis – if not one each year maybe every second year.*



OUR HAPPY IN AUST...



IntraVic Staff

Editor Pastor Wayne Stanley

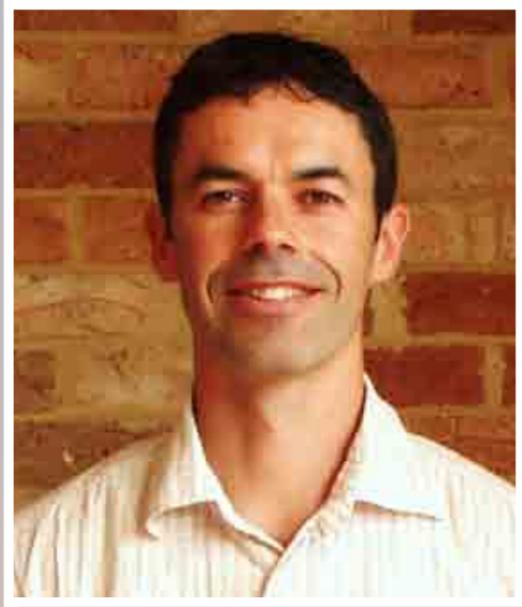
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*In this article, Pastor Anthony Macpherson, minister for Plenty Valley and Croydon Churches, takes a deeper look at our church identity.*

*“To be a Seventh-day Adventist is to be someone who is called by God to live out the most ancient orientated and the most future focused faith...”*

Our world is changing rapidly. A decade or so ago commentators spoke of a vast cultural shift from the modern era in which reason, science and objectivity reigned, to a post-modern era characterised by competing interpretations of the world, none of which would or could claim cultural supremacy. Christian thinkers struggled to know how to respond. One of them, theologian Robert E. Webber, wrote a stimulating book called *Ancient-Future Faith*.

### ANCIENT-FUTURE FAITH

In his book, Webber argued that the way forward is through recovering the riches of the past. He suggested that churches needed to return to the classical Christianity which predated the splitting of the church into Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant divisions. Here he said was an ‘ancient’ (faithful to the past) and ‘future’ (viable and forward looking) faith, necessary for the new world we inhabit.

Webber’s book is a great read and full of insight. There is much to learn from the past. Regrettably, many people, Adventists included, live lives focused only on their immediate concerns. This leaves us ignorant and under-resourced when facing contemporary challenges.

There is no virtue in being unaware and ill-informed about Christian history. As Adventists we should understand our own denominational history, and equally important we should understand the wider history of Christianity.

While we may not agree with everything the post-apostolic church did, nevertheless, they made

important contributions to our faith. They preserved and passed on the canon of Scripture. They battled paganism, gnosticism and many other heresies. They held to the high morality of scripture amid the permissiveness of the Greco-Roman culture. Many laid down their lives as martyrs. It is true that eventually elements of pagan philosophy entered Christian thought and this requires us to be discerning, but we mustn’t forget that God was at work then, as surely as He still is today.

### NOT FAR ENOUGH

While Webber’s book is a catalyst for searching the past in order to engage the future, I believe we need to look back further than the post-apostolic church, with its ensuing classical Christian paradigm, and forward beyond our dawning post-Christian era.

Such a long range perspective lies at the heart of what Seventh-day Adventist Christianity is all about. To be a Seventh-day Adventist is to be someone who is called by God to live out the most ancient orientated and the most future focused faith. This reality is encoded in our very name, Seventh-day Adventist, and narratively expressed in the over arching story that we call the Great Controversy.

### IT’S ALL IN THE NAME

The name Seventh-day Adventist points both ways in time. The ‘Seventh-day’ points us back to the very beginning, to creation itself and behind that to the Creator. Here are our true origins. No person can understand the purpose of life without understanding the true nature of creation, based in the true identity of the Creator.

Marriage, sexuality, vocation, conditional immorality, the image of God, human stewardship of the environment, and Sabbath are all found in Genesis. The whole of the Bible is built on this foundation. Going back to our pioneers, Wesley, Luther, or to church fathers is important but it is not far enough back. Going back to Malachi, Elijah or Moses is not enough either.

We have to start in the right place, with God our Maker.

Additionally, the ‘Seventh-day’ located in the heart of the Ten Commandments, points us back to the Creator-lawgiver who is the ground and basis for right and wrong. The ‘Seventh-day’ grounds us in our ancient origins and in the deepest layer of moral reality.

The second part of our name, ‘Adventist’, points to the first and second advents of Jesus Christ. While we have traditionally emphasised the second advent it is important that we emphasise both. There are many reasons for this. Firstly, one advent is incomplete without the other. Secondly, the entire future is built on the first advent of Jesus. His atoning death and liberating resurrection are the only basis for a renewal of creation. In Christ’s first advent is found forgiveness, adoption, justification, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. Yet for this wonderful work of Christ to be universalised requires the completing work of Christ’s second coming. The ‘Adventist’ part of our name refers to all elements of eschatology connected with both advents. It includes the final message of warning expressed in the three angels of Revelation 14, the glorious return of Jesus, the great resurrection of all the dead, the millennium, the final end of sin and Satan, and the creation of a new heaven and earth. This is a future focus outside man’s field of vision and beyond his wildest hopes or speculations.

While the ‘Seventh-day’ grounds us in foundational reality, ‘Adventist’ lifts us into a glorious hope transcending fallen history. It sounds the high note of assurance, anticipation and celebration.

*“Our name points both ways in time...”*

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

# Devotional...

## Looking back to see forward

**"It's a left here," my wife said with a wry grin. "...You can see the road turning!"**

**And she was right. The GPS *did* show the road ahead turning left and its cultured British voice had quite clearly stated that we should turn that way in 20 metres. There was just one problem: immediately to our left was a sheer drop over a cliff... I was almost certain our sedan could not navigate it!**

**While our GPS worked very well in the city, touring the Watagan Ranges near our home had confused it. The hopeful blue triangle, representing our car on the electronic display, had jolted and skittered over the screen as the satellites, in geosynchronous orbit above us, tried to track our path. Normally we were able to explore with impunity, confident the device could locate us and direct us home. This time I was slightly worried. I hadn't been keeping track of where we were going and, amongst tall trees with darkness imminent, one dirt road looked much like any other. Put simply – we were lost!**

Remember what the Lord has done for you these past forty years  
Deuteronomy 8:2

God knows how important it is to remember where we have come from and what He has done for us in the past.

During their years of wandering, He constantly asked the Israelites to remember Him; to remember His commandments, to remember the fact that He had saved them from a life of slavery in Egypt. He even gave them feast days designed specifically to help remember.

The newly freed Hebrew nation however, seemed to have an astonishingly bad memory. Time and again they forgot about God, wishing instead, that they had not been rescued but were in fact still in Egypt.<sup>1</sup>

I never could understand how they were so forgetful. Hadn't they seen miracles enough to remove all doubt God himself was with them? Can you picture in your mind's eye what sights the escaping Hebrew population would have seen during their flight from Egypt? The incredible country-wide plagues which could selectively spare their own territory, the blood filled waterways and the first-born of each unprotected family dying. Or the Red Sea parting before a mighty wind and being led by a column of fire through the desert night. Then there was the presence of God himself as a mountain range trembled with divine thunder.

But at the foot of that same mountain, beneath the very presence of God, the Hebrews decided to make a golden calf to worship and follow.<sup>2</sup>

How easy it is to shake our heads at their foolishness, but are we any better at remembering God ourselves? As a young lad, God was, in my view, just for church; out the door... out of mind. How often in our daily lives do we forget about God?

Recent research suggests memory is perhaps more ephemeral and transient than we think and certain cues such as a particular perfume or piece of music can trigger previously forgotten memories. God gave His people cues in the form of memorials. In one instance He asked one man from each of the twelve tribes to take a stone and build a memorial to His miraculous action on their behalf and to the covenant He made with them. Thus, when the next generation asked about the

1 Exodus 16:3

2 Exodus 32:4

stones they would remember God and teach their young about Him<sup>3</sup>

We have many such memorials which reflect our own lives and what is important to us. Ask anyone what they would save first in a house fire and most often it would be the family photo album. My mother has kept a hand written diary for decades. Now, for some, the internet has taken over, with web-logs and blogs, full of details about their lives, stored forever – an electronic memorial to themselves.

Yet we seem to neglect much needed memorials to God, reminding us of what He has done. I'm not saying we should be making piles of stones in our backyards! But perhaps there are other ways to remember. I know a lady who treasures her mother's Bible. With her mother now gone, she can still read the verses lovingly inscribed in the front cover. With the Bible, those verses are a memorial to her mother's faith and God's love in her life. A prayer group I am in uses a journal, faithfully recording what has been brought to God in prayer. From time to time we can look back on it and see how He has answered. Without it we might forget, in the busyness of the week, exactly what we previously prayed for, missing where He has intervened. It is a memorial in our lives of God's actions on our behalf.

Personally, my favourite memorial to God is the Sabbath – since Creation, it has stood as a memorial in time, a memorial to God's greatest desire to be remembered as our Creator, marking that creation with a day of rest in Him (Ex. 20:8).

I am telling you these things so you won't lose heart and give up... So that when this happens to you, you'll remember...  
John 16:1-4

Jesus asked the disciples to remember the words he had spoken to them. Difficult times were coming and He encouraged them to remember so they would not lose faith. This is why it is so important for us to remember what God has done. Acknowledging His actions and love for us in the past will give us guidance through hard times and confidence in Him for the future. It will bolster us in our faith.

So what memorials to God do you have in your life? Where can you look back and see His leading so you can then move forward with confidence?

Lastly, whenever God asks His people to remember Him, He is speaking to them as a community of faith, the tribes of Israel, the assembled disciples. We are not only to remember how God has moved in our individual lives, but also how he has acted on behalf of us as a church community. Try asking founding members of your church how it came about and I guarantee you will hear miraculous stories. These stories are our memorials to God's actions, and are precious!

Just as night fell, the persistent GPS eventually located us on that hillside in the Watagan Ranges and directed us to the correct road. It was a great relief to know I would soon be home and I offered up a prayer of thanks.

Although their journey through the desert was long, God never forgot His people, eventually delivering them to the Promised Land. I am grateful that when my memory fails and I forget God, He doesn't forget me.

**Because He has never forgotten us in the past we can trust Him not to forget us in the future. He is the True GPS; the only One who can safely guide us home.**

*So... Remembering God in your past, live your life with confidence!*

JUSTIN BONE  
CHAPLAIN NCC  
YOUTH PASTOR WANTIRNA CHURCH

3 Joshua 4:6,7



### STORY OF STORIES

The other element that makes Seventh-day Adventist Christianity the most ancient and future faith is the grand narrative we call the Great Controversy.

Here is a story that reaches back before the creation of star, planet, man or angel. In the dim recesses of time God covenanted with Himself to make a cosmos modelled on His own triune love and populated with beings made in His image. This covenant included guaranteeing the cosmos, even in the event of a rebellion, through God's faithful self-sacrificing love. Redemption was built into creation from the beginning. The Great Controversy encompasses the creation and fall of a beautiful angel and his organised rebellion against the government of God. It traces the conflict through to Christ's successful redemptive work and on to the very end of all things. No story reaches as far back or as far forward as this.

### A CAUTIONARY WORD

Having said this let me say that Adventists are no more inherently significant than any other group. The only difference is that we bear a name which expresses the ancient truth of God and the future triumph of Christ. I am as fragile, limited and fallen as the next person, but I possess knowledge of the biggest story in the cosmos. The story of redemption and the Great Controversy is about the greatness of Christ, not about me. This realisation should lead to humility. I worry about triumphalist Adventists who think truth means superiority over others. God forbid... No! God, His truth, His story is crucial, defining and supreme, not we Seventh-day Adventists.

Let us contemplate the depth of our ancient-future faith. Let us invite others to look back farther than today's shopping list to the Creator. Let us invite others to look beyond tomorrow's weather forecast to our returning Saviour and King. This is the identity of the 'Seventh-day Adventist', the truly ancient-future faith.

Anthony MacPherson  
Pastor of Plenty Valley Church  
and Croydon Church

*"There is no virtue in being ill-informed. As Adventists we should understand our own heritage... Equally important, we should understand the wider history of Christianity."*



## 150 Years Ago....

On October 1, 1860, a group of Sabbath-keeping Adventists met in the Second Meeting House in Battle Creek, Michigan (pictured front page) to organise the fledgling church's publishing work. As part of that process, the name 'Seventh-day Adventist' was chosen, not only for the soon-to-be-incorporated publishing house, but also for use and identification of the local churches.

Even though the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists was not to be formalised for a further three years, the first of October 2010 commemorates an important milestone in Adventist heritage – the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the adoption of our name.

Today the church has more than 16 million adult members and is the 12<sup>th</sup> largest religious body in the world. It operates universities, schools, hospitals, medical clinics, publishing houses and media centres with a missionary presence in over 200 countries. Perhaps our forefathers did not envisage such growth, but they laid down firm foundations.

Dr Barry Oliver, president of the church in the South Pacific, says, "Incorporating two major doctrinal beliefs in our denomination's name, 'Seventh-day Adventist' identifies who we are as a world church family. I hope each church member, congregation, and institution in our region will reflect seriously on what it means to be Seventh-day Adventist in today's world." Regarding why Adventists are being invited to commemorate the anniversary, James Nix, Director of the Ellen G. White Estate and chair of the 150SDA Committee, recently observed, "Names identify persons and organizations." He went on to explain that this anniversary should be more than just a time for cake, candles, and balloons. It should be a time of reflection. A time to ask yourself what difference does being a Seventh-day Adventist make in your own "life, family, business, and neighbourhood? If your local church or school closed, what difference would that make to you or your community? If one of our institutions closed, what would be lost in terms of the church's mission?" And this should lead on to perhaps a more important question: "How can I, my church, or local Seventh-day Adventist institution more effectively carry out our church's God-given calling?"

Remembering the past can be God-driven, providing us comfort and encouragement. If the Israelites had truly remembered the past as they wandered the wilderness, when the going got tough, they may have been less likely to long for the flesh pots of Egypt and more likely to trust their God. If we too, remember God's leading in our lives, then we can venture forth with courage, trusting in His strength.

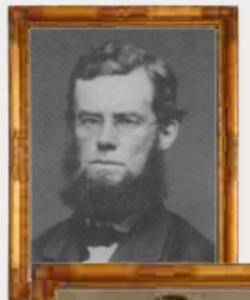
If they had truly remembered their origins then they would have known where they were going, and if we recall our origins, the passion which burned in our forefather's hearts, perhaps we too would be more sure of our purpose here and what we should do about it.

So remember the past, our Adventist Church history. Recall our predecessors' zeal and make it your own. Think over your own history, remember your first love for the Lord and reignite the passion.

Then go forward into your life, a freshly armed and determined pioneer for your God.



SECOND MEETING HOUSE, BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN



JOHN ANDREWS



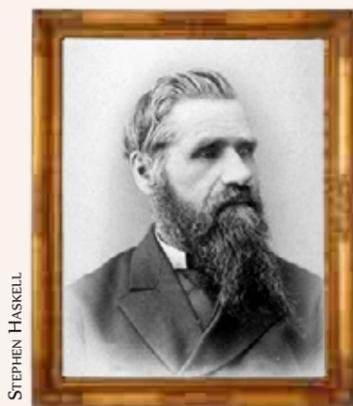
URIAH SMITH



JAMES WHITE

# The Early Years...

FROM SMALL BEGINNINGS, THE FIRE FLARED BRIGHTLY...



STEPHEN HASKELL

In 1875, founding church leader, Ellen White had a vision where she saw missionary work beginning in overseas countries. She was unable to recall the names of the countries, except for one – Australia. This vision began its fulfilment some years later, when in June 1885 seven missionaries and their families arrived in Melbourne to commence the work of the Seventh-day Adventist church in Australia. The group was under the direction of Stephen Haskell, who had been the Californian Conference president. He asked two evangelists, Elders John Corliss and Mendel Israel, and their families, to join him and spearhead the missionary group. Henry Scott, a printer from the Signs of the Times staff, and a colporteur by the name of William Arnold made up the rest of the group. This outreach took place a mere 25 years after the anniversary which our church is celebrating next

Within 20 years of the church being founded in America, missionaries were planning outreach in Australia

month; the early church was very much in its infancy.

The group immediately started with visitation as the main thrust of their work. Homes which had been sent publications from the Californian Tract and Missionary Society, such as Signs of the Times, were contacted and although the response was not overwhelming, at least two families responded, including Henry Stockton and his family.

During Melbourne's bleak winter months, the missionaries stood near the Exhibition Gardens and railway stations handing out Signs of the Times to passersby. They left literature in reading rooms and on board ships in port. Within six weeks of arriving a series of meetings was conducted in Temperance Hall, Richmond. It was successful but costly, so John Corliss purchased a tent and chairs to seat 220 people, launching a second campaign in North Fitzroy during October. The warmer weather and the novelty of a tent attracted more people and the meetings continued nearly every night for six weeks.

Twelve months after arriving in Australia, the seven committed members had swelled their numbers to ninety five.

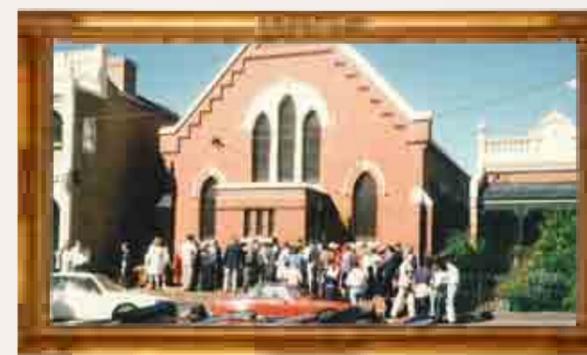
People came from other suburbs to these programs and by the end of a the second series of tent meetings in January the following year, the Melbourne church was formed with a foundation membership of 28. A further 17 soon joined and within a year of the missionaries arrival the membership had grown to 95.



HENRY STOCKTON

The work quickly expanded to other cities. Colporteurs served as the vanguard for public evangelists and by June 1888 the Australian Conference was formed with four churches in Adelaide, Hobart, Melbourne and Ballarat, with many smaller groups scattered through the countryside, such as in Geelong, Castlemaine, Trentham and Daylseyford.

So, following the Tent meetings of the summer of 1885, the early work in Melbourne was based from North Fitzroy, however it was a further ten years before church members had a building to call their own, dedicated on September 13, 1896, as the North Fitzroy Church. Mrs E G White preached there on at least three occasions.



From the start a strong emphasis was given to the publishing and literature ministry. The monthly paper, "Bible Echo and Signs of the Times" commenced publication on a regular basis in Melbourne in January 1886. It was printed in rented facilities but by July 1889 their own building at Best St North Fitzroy was ready for use. The ground floor was for printing and the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor for weekly church services but within three years the total area was needed for the rapidly expanding publishing work. No longer monthly, the "Bible Echo and Signs of the Times" was being published weekly and other papers and full size books were also being printed.

So remember this small handful of dedicated people; people so consumed with the fire of their love for the Lord, they set a blaze burning that was to spread across Australia, to New Zealand, New Guinea and the Solomon Islands. From seven missionaries and their four children in 1885, there is now is a membership of approximately half a million people claiming to be Seventh-day Adventist, within the South Pacific Division.

What will it take to rekindle or further fuel that fire in your heart, so that you too, burn brightly for your God?

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



TEMPERANCE HALL



ORIGINAL ECHO PUBLISHING HOUSE

## MILDURA CHURCH

Mildura Seventh-day Adventist Church formed over 90 years ago. Meetings were held in the rear of Risbey's Chamber's, Deakin Avenue, Mildura. The first church building in Orange Avenue was dedicated in 1943. A new church was built in Deakin Avenue in 1955 and a newer church built beside it in 1975. The current building is packed with 200 worshippers each Sabbath and plans for our next move are in the making.

The church community celebrated their 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary in November last year, with friends coming from around Australia to commemorate their history of God's leading.



## RINGWOOD CHURCH

In the early 1920's there was no Seventh-day Adventist church between Mont Albert and Warburton. A few small groups of believers met in homes and halls in the outer eastern suburbs and in 1925, the conference president, Pr Allum, formed these groups into one company at Ringwood.



Meeting in Bond Street from 1939, Ringwood church continued to grow, even establishing a small school which operated behind the church from 1952 – 1962. In 1950, several families who lived in the Nunawading and Blackburn areas left Ringwood church to establish the Nunawading church and eventually the school was transferred to Nunawading. In 1959 Ringwood gave birth to the Croydon church and again in 1972, to the Vermont church. But growth was still such that members realised a great need for larger premises and eventually, after overcoming a number of difficulties, the current church was dedicated in 1977.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

COBURG CAMP MEETING 1909



SITE OF FIRST SCHOOL, ST KILDA RD

### The Early Years

History records that the growth in church membership was quite phenomenal in the early period, with the work spreading to the country areas of Geelong, Ballarat, Castlemaine, Kyneton, Daylesford and into other suburbs of Melbourne such as Brighton, Coburg, Moreland, Prahran and Hawthorn. The church was also becoming established in other states and New Zealand. Over the first twelve years approximately 100 missionaries with their wives and children, came from the USA to assist this work in Australia. Ellen White arrived in Australia in 1891, six years after the General Conference sent Steven Haskell and his group of missionaries at her urging. She stayed until 1900, and with her encouragement, a Bible training school was opened in Melbourne, which was to become Avondale College.

In 1894, the first camp meeting was held in Brighton, the campground being located an easy ten minute walk east of the train station. It was here on 4th January 1894 the Australian Conference was joined with the New Zealand Conference to form the Australasian Union Conference with Willie White as the first president.



FIRST S.S. HELD IN THIS HOME 1895



MRS WHITE'S GRAND DAUGHTER WITH MRS JUDD, IN 1985 AT THE WHITE'S MELBOURNE HOME

Special thanks to Pastors Eddie Piez and Reg Brown and Mrs Yvonne Taylor for their contributions.

### SPOTSWOOD CHURCH

In the year following the camp meeting, Brighton, Hawthorn and Williamstown churches began. The Williamstown congregation met in the Freemason's Hall until amalgamating with the Yarraville congregation in 1920, moving to the Dispensary Hall in Newport. Newport and Footscray churches combined forces in 1948 and continued to meet in Newport as Spotswood and District Church.

In 1953 they moved to their current premises at Robert Street, Spotswood.



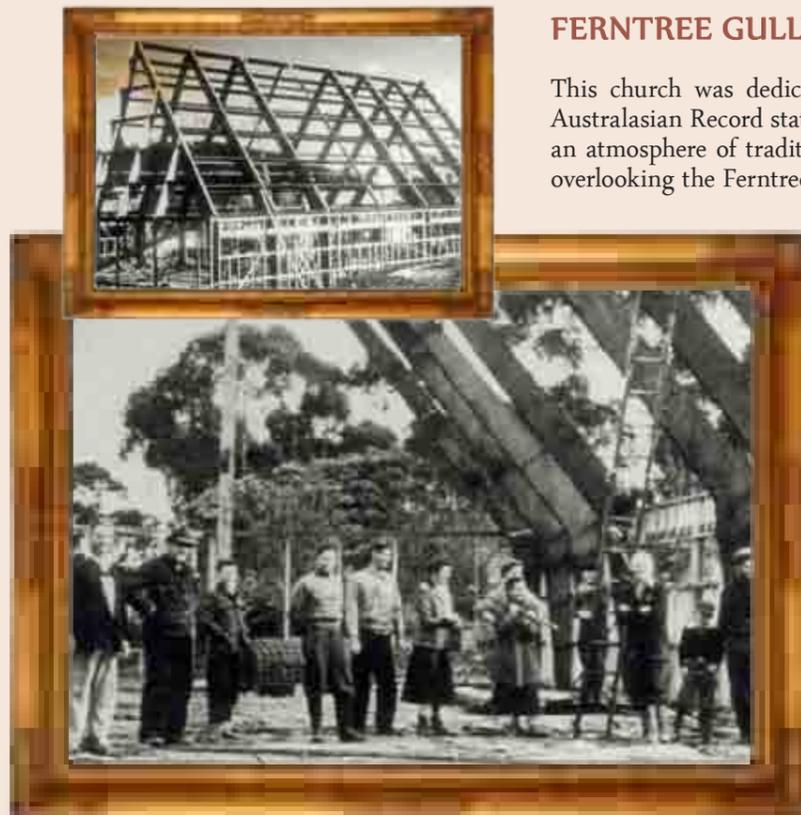
TODAY'S LEADERS YESTERDAY



### FERNTREE GULLY CHURCH

This church was dedicated in October of 1959. An excerpt from the Australasian Record stated "the edifice is a modern structure yet retaining an atmosphere of tradition... This sanctuary stands on the side of a hill overlooking the Ferntree Gully township and we trust it will be a light on the Dandenongs."

At their golden anniversary celebrations last year, church members paid homage to the dedicated pioneers whose foresight had given them this sanctuary where they could meet to praise and worship with the Unseen Guest each Sabbath. It is their prayer that it continue to be a light on the Dandenongs.



### DANDENONG/CASEY CHURCH

In 1920, when Mrs Eden was told that her bricklayer would not be coming to work the following morning – a Saturday – his reason sparked an interest which ultimately saw her and her four children baptised and meeting with the bricklayer, Mr Oliver, in his family home each Sabbath for worship. As their numbers grew, the church members in Dandenong began meeting in Temperance Hall, opposite the old fire station. Land was donated on which to build their own church, but with the depression years, the dream faded. Numbers dropped, the war began and the church's doors were reluctantly closed. Remaining members amalgamating with the Springvale church but after the war, as more people moved to the area, the church reopened the doors of the Memorial Hall for regular worship.

Determined not to have to sweep up cigarette butts and clear out discarded beer bottles before Sabbath School each week, plans were again made to procure their own building, however it was a further 10 years before the site for the church was purchased. Physically and financially, the members felt stretched beyond their limit, but continued to give from their meagre store. Many sacrificed their Sundays, some their week days, to assist with the task and finally the church was finished.

Three years ago, Dandenong Church honoured the pioneering spirit of their church's founders further, purchasing more land to their south east in the fast-growing Casey region of Melbourne. With the Conference's blessing the 200+ attendees rented a school hall to meet in until their new complex is completed and exchanged the name Dandenong for Casey. Like their predecessors, their path has not been smooth. Hurdles have included a recent visit to the Victorian Supreme Court and the new building is taking much longer than first envisioned but Casey members know they serve a mighty God and His desires will be done in His own time.

The Casey Seventh-day Adventist Church has a wonderful appreciation of its past and an exciting vision for the future. They pray that they can continue making a difference in the surrounding community.

### 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

#### ARARAT CHURCH

While the Ararat Seventh-day Adventist Church recently celebrated the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the official dedication of its current building, the story goes further back than 30 years. Previous to the air conditioned brick structure that currently stands proudly on the hill, Ararat and Stawell worshipers gathered together in what was affectionately called the Tin shed!



The Tin Shed

Needless to say, the current building was well worth celebrating. It was built using voluntary labour guided by the experience of Milan Milosevic. Every Sunday the corner of Moore and Albert Streets was a hive of activity and on July 19, 1980 it was officially opened by Pastor Ken Lowe (President, Victorian Conference) and Pastor Claude Judd (President Trans-Australian Union).

Our current conference president, Pastor Wayne Stanley, made special arrangements to attend the event and the Lord blessed the worshipers through his address.

The day continued into lunch and afternoon fellowship with the many visitors who came to catch up with old friends.

“Even more than the building, the Ararat church has become a friendly

home for my family and me,” says Ararat’s minister, Ben Townson. “I thank them for their welcoming Christ-like faith. May God Bless Ararat and its surrounds with an abundant harvest when He returns.”



On Sabbath 17<sup>th</sup> July 2010 all the old stories came out. There was the old pedal-powered organ which guaranteed a Sabbath workout, the hot-house effect during summer and the “careful you don’t get your tongue stuck to the frost” syndrome in winter. They also remembered competing against the noise of the rain on the tin roof.

### Destroying your Enemies

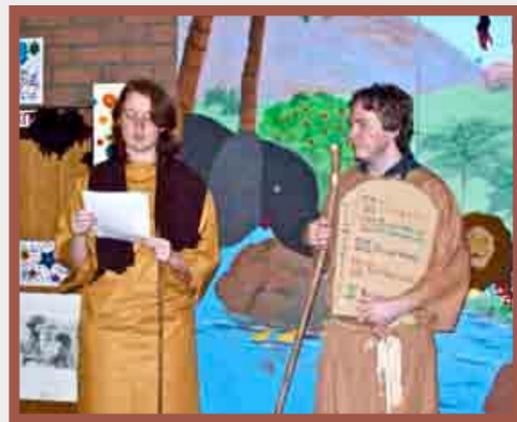
#### FERNTREE GULLY CHURCH

Sabbath 7<sup>th</sup> August was a ‘high day’ for the children of Ferntree Gully Church. They had their second very own special church service run by the Youth division and directed by Sherae Wilson.

“The Youth really stepped up to this challenge with both Kids’ Church programs,” said Sherae. “I couldn’t be prouder of them.” The 10 Commandments and the Tabernacle were brought to life in a play written mainly by Grace Wilson. Andrew Wegener told a story about a snake on a pole and then the kids were taken through an interactive recount of the Golden Calf. They had a ball creating ephods, painting the Ark of the Covenant, making tabernacle curtains and cooking unleavened bread then eating it at the Table of Showbread.

The older ‘Kid’s are very impressed with the dedication and commitment of their Youth and sincerely affirm and thank them for their ministry in our church.

Elayne Stanford



### 60 Years Young

#### NUNAWADING CHURCH

Nunawading Church recently celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, sharing the day with visitors from around Victoria and interstate.

Pr Wayne Stanley led the Sabbath School lesson study before the morning service celebration, which consisted of a mixture of old and new, both in music and word. The children charmed the congregation with their rousing interpretations of ‘My God is So Big’ and ‘Awesome God’. There were stirring testimonies, special items and delightful congregational music. Presentations were made to Elsie Pitches, a founding member, and Wallace Hanson, a founding Building Committee member



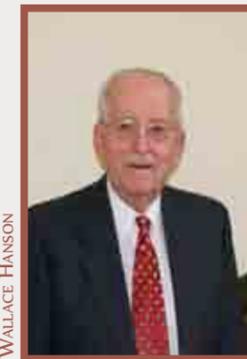
and the sermon was presented by Pr Malcolm Allen. Following an enjoyable lunch together, the celebration continued with an afternoon program of reminiscence;



photos in abundance to be looked at on screen, or in close up detail in the hall.

The day concluded with celebration cake and hot drinks. Elsie cut the cake, and Pr Trevor Rowe spoke a few closing words, pointing his listeners toward the future.

Mrs Sutton, Church



WALLACE HANSON



Elsie Pitches

### Spoiling the Wise Ones

#### RINGWOOD CHURCH

A rich mix of beautiful music, professionally presented by the Youth, and an afternoon tea menu fit for royalty was served at Ringwood Church on the afternoon of Sabbath July 17.

This was the day chosen by the Women of Spirit team at Ringwood Church to spoil the “Wise Ones” of our church community; those who are perhaps too frail to get out too often, but who would really appreciate the warmth of getting together for a short time. So many people, both male and female, got involved in the day and enjoyed making a difference to our more senior members and friends. They sang and played, they served and mingled, they cooked and did dishes; and judging from



the response, this would be welcomed as a regular feature of church life.

Susie Potts

## ADLife in Kyneton

### CASTLEMAINE, BENDIGO & GREENVALE CHURCHES

Church members have joined forces to support a lay-driven initiative, the ADLife Community Centre in Kyneton, and they are brimming with ideas and enthusiasm.

A Diabetes seminar was planned for early September, facilitated by Dr Waldrip, with quite a few members of the community showing interest, however due to the floods this has been rescheduled for early October.

On Wednesday evenings, a prayer and Bible study group meet at the ADLife Centre. October will also see them host a Prophecy Seminar presented by Pr Graham Sutherland and expected to run through to the end of November. Tomorrow they are involved in National Vegetarian Week, offering breakfast, health checks, a vegetarian BBQ and cooking demonstrations and recipes that substantially lower the risk of many common diseases. Monday they will host another free vegetarian breakfast, and a

further cooking demonstration in the evening. Following on from this, personal invitations to all those indicating an interest will be extended for a Stress Management Seminar later in the week with Pr Chris Stanley, and a weekly Community Breakfast will continue and if there is enough interest, a Recipe Club. They are also thinking as far ahead as Christmas, with a special service, followed by a Christmas lunch for community members who would usually spend the day on their own.



## Putting our Health Message 'Out There'

### CASTLEMAINE & MARYBOROUGH

Blustery weather did not deter the ADLife team as they manned their stall at the Castlemaine Town Hall for a Health Expo.

Many diverse aspects of the health scene in Australia were on show: crystals, healing stones, tarot readings, reiki, kinesiology, aura photos, light senders, flexible insoles, Buddhas, psychics...

The proceedings started with a general chanting session - the Castlemaine and Greenvale church members gathered together, joined hands and prayed for the Holy Spirit to come. While Tibetan bells and chants broke through the general hum of conversation throughout the day, whenever the team had a lull in customers at their stall, they humbly bowed in prayer.



PAULINE SUTHERLAND HAVING A HEALTH CHECK

Of the many volunteers that arrived to assist, only six could fit in the stall at a time so the others prayed earnestly for those few, that their efforts would bring God glory. Their stall was the only one offering its

services for free and was the only Christian oriented stall at the Expo. 76 people took advantage of the Health Age and Diabetes Risk Assessments and blood pressure checks on offer. Information from Signs of the Times was offered to complement their chosen health and lifestyle change, while many extra 'Signs' were taken as well as recipe sheets, tracts and correspondence courses. Their free tastings of non alcoholic wines were well received in this area of boutique wineries.

Significant interest in the ADLife Centre was generated with contacts requesting follow up in the following areas: Quit smoking (8); weight management (29), fitness tips (25), stress management (19), good nutrition (22), vegetarian cooking classes (15), alcohol/drug free living (2), improving family life (6) and strengthening spiritual values (15).

"At the end of the expo, some ladies from Maryborough approached us to see if we would run a similar project there," Eva Griffiths tells us. "It was a first for Maryborough and organisers are hoping to make it an annual event. We were very well accepted and invited back. We did about 80 health checks that time too."



EVA (FAR L IN HER BOOTH) WITH HER HELPERS

## Food Handling with Confidence!

### MACEDON RANGES CHURCH

The Victorian State Government Health Department requires that groups who serve food to others need to have people who hold a Level 1 certificate in Safe Food Handling.

That being the case, our church at Macedon Ranges arranged to hold this course and advertised it in the newspapers of 10 local towns in the Macedon Ranges Shire.

All the newspapers accepted our article which also included our church service times, address and radio station frequency.

The response was fantastic, 26 people registered for the course of which 17 were from other faiths and groups. Sibilla Johnson, Health Director for the Victorian Conference, presented the course in August and the atmosphere was fantastic, with those attending saying it was very informative and helpful. As there is still further interest, another presentation is planned for October.

This was indeed a wonderful way to reach out to the

communities in Macedon Ranges area. The participants were very happy and grateful. *Bosilka Lipkovich*



SIBILLA JOHNSON AND PARTICIPANTS OF THE TRAINING COURSE.

## On Handing Out Books

### SEDDON CHURCH

Last month we told the story of Mrs Radmila Molnar who had given away over 27,000 copies of Steps to Christ. Here is a letter from one of the many whose lives she touched. It was emailed later the same day of the encounter in March 2009.

"...While walking out of Flinders Street Station in Melbourne, I walked past a thin, small elderly lady, giving out books on a subject I didn't know at the time, and I was touched by such a sight; such a small, frail looking lady giving her time to giving out free books, in the sun on a reasonably hot day... I was not personally offered a book, and unsuccessfully tried to read the title. I walked down the street with the group of students I was with at the time (we were placed in a group to do a school project) and I had walked halfway down Flinders Street when I finally organised my thoughts and decided to go back and get this book she was giving. I grabbed the book, and read the title - Steps to Christ.

I am not Christian of any variety, I am in fact Jewish. I have never been 'religious' but rather spiritual, and I've never had extreme opinions of Christianity. But I was touched by what this woman did. She stood there, giving books free of charge, with no intention other than to help people and I was very touched by the organisation she

May Radmila's story inspire you to do your bit for the Lord, what ever that bit be. No matter how basic or simple you may think it, with the help of the Holy Spirit - who knows how far its effects will reach...

served, since they simply wanted the same. And she was the epitome of such sacrifice that people should aspire to... (Please) pass on my thanks for being an inspiration to me and for, unknowingly touching me so deeply, for which I am eternally grateful."(name supplied)



INSTRUCTOR



# "Ketched"

A story from 1928

Esther Shaw ran up to her room and locked the door before she opened her mother's letter. It had not always been easy to screen the letters from observation. So often one of the girls ran in before she had finished the letter; many times Lola Reid, her roommate, had watched her with questioning eyes. She had learned to be very careful of them after a time. Hungry as she always was for the dear home news, she usually waited till she was secure from interruption.

"I'm a little - beast!" she said, as she reached the end of the letter. "And mother is dear - dear. I oughtn't to mind a bit."

She glanced through the letter again with shining eyes. It was full of loving plans for the coming vacation. Esther's heart was tender as she read. But she put it down at last with a sigh.

"If only mother wouldn't say **ketched**," she said to herself, "I'd be perfectly happy, I believe."

After a moment she put the letter away with the others. There were many of them, Mother was a faithful correspondent. And the letters were full of the little home happenings so dear to the exile's heart. Even the news that Roy had **ketched** two linnets was welcome.

"You've had a letter," Lola cried when she came in. "I know it by your eyes. They are all soft and shining after you've heard from home."

"Yes, smiled Esther, "I had a letter from mother - the dearest letter, full of vacation plans and home news. My brother Roy has caught two linnets, beautiful singers. By and by they will be eating out of his hand. And the bossy cow has a little speckled calf to show me when I go home."

"Lucky girl!" sighed Lola, "with a farm waiting to welcome you. I've always loved country life, though I've never had any of it - just trips now and then."

"I like it," said Esther. "I can hardly wait to get home and see them all. It will seem strange at first to be at home. But after a day or so, I'll forget I've ever been away. "How are you going to spend your vacation, Lola?"

"The first two or three weeks we're going touring in the machine. I don't know what will come afterward. But good times of some sort. Mother is perfectly

wonderful. She gets up the nicest things. And they are always to please me - like this automobile trip, because I love the country so. I wish I lived on a farm, as you do."

The girls went on chatting about their planned vacations for some time. But that night, long after Lola was asleep, Esther lay wide-eyed, worrying. She would so dearly like to invite her friend to spend part of the vacation at the farm. Mother, father, all would like it, and they would make Lola royally welcome. Yet her parents could barely afford to send her to this school, not like other families, and conscious of this, though the words had trembled on her lips, thoughts of her mother had stopped them spilling out. Esther reddened in the darkness about the unworthy feelings. She hated herself for them. "If-only-mother-would-not-say-ketched" was her last waking thought.

There were many other things besides **ketched** that troubled Esther, but after a few days at home, away from the fancy school where such things were so much emphasised, a sweeter viewpoint came to her and she found she did not mind them so much. Roy took her to see the linnets he had **ketched** and she laughed in sheer delight, scarcely hearing or heeding the unlovely word.

And so Esther soon fell back into the way of farm life. She worked in the fields with her brothers, and in the evenings after they had gone to bed, there were quiet chats with Mother and Father. Lola's name came up often.

"She must be a dear girl," said mother. "Why didn't you ask her to come an' stop with us a spell, daughter, seein' she loves the country so, an' all?"

"Well, they had this automobile trip planned," she answered evasively. "So she couldn't have come very well."

"But after it was over she could most likely come," persisted the mother. "An' we all would of admired to have her. She'd be a sight o' company for you, too, child." In spite of her repeated reassurances that she was most content at home on the farm, that she was not lonely for company, Mother continued to lament that Lola had not been invited and Esther felt more and more wretched.

"I've a s'prise for you," Mother said one day. "I got a letter off by the postman when he come. You kept puttin' it off writ'n to Mrs Reid, so I up an' writ myself. I asked 'em all to visit."

Esther hugged the mother and kissed her eager face, but after she had gone happily away, Esther sat and thought it all out. "If only she hadn't asked the mother and father as well... I don't think I can bear it." While ashamed of her mother's country ways, she loved her dearly, and was afraid others would look down on her. When the time of the expected arrival came they instead received the letter Mrs Shaw had written, undelivered. "I was dependin' on 'em gettin' here by now. I've baked nearly everything I knowed how to. Now it'll be wasted, like as not," said the disappointed mother.

"If you think the food will go to waste," said Roy, "why don't you ask to supper those people whose car is broken down? They've been tinkering for hours, and we are the nearest house." He had spoken in jest, but Mother's eyes lit up with hospitable joy.

"Fetch them up!" she cried as she began bustling around her kitchen.

Roy was not gone long, returning with the three strangers. Mrs

Shaw and Esther were waiting on the porch. As they approached, Esther stiffened. "Mother!" she exclaimed. "That is... that's Lola!"

They both ran down the steps to visit their guests, Esther's mind working rapidly - no one was going to belittle her mother!

After hasty introductions they all walked back to the house.

"I am so glad to find 'twas you," said Mother. "An' to think I'd writ you's a letter invitin' y'all to com an' here y'are gettin' **ketched** almost at our very door!"

"This is the best luck we could o' had," Lola's mother laughed. "And it's the third time we got **ketched** on this trip too!" Esther thought Mrs Reid was more courteous than she had ever imagined possible, deliberately using that word, but the next words undeceived her.

"I says to Loly this mornin', says I, 'We ain't had a bit o' luck on this trip.' An' all the time this good luck was waitin' around the corner. It's the funniest thing I ever heard tell of..."

Extract from The Youth's Instructor February 1928, Vol 76, No 8

Can you think of any stories Jesus told that talk about worrying too much about how things look, or about riches not being everything?

*It is good to have money  
And the things that money can buy,  
But it's good, too, to check up once  
in a while  
And make sure you haven't lost  
The things that money can't buy.  
—Selected.*



## When the Spirit Calls...

### SPOTSWOOD CHURCH



Do you ever sit through an appeal for commitment, where no one responds, and wonder what is the point? Church members at Spotswood have been left in no doubt this year – an appeal can sometimes be the catalyst the Holy Spirit has been waiting to use, bringing people to decision time.

When Jennilyn Magdato was baptised in April, an appeal made at the time has

Bobby Pineda also joined the group. He had grown up at Spotswood church, but drifted away. Praise the Lord he came to realise how empty life was 'in the world' and answered God's call to come back to Him. The church was filled to capacity and more, as about 200 friends and relatives of the candidates came to witness and celebrate their decisions; with a normal seating capacity of 100, there were no spare seats. Isles were full, the space around the rostrum utilised and the foyer was standing room only!

And that is not all – there is also a number of others who have responded to baptismal appeals and are presently being prepared through Bible study and discussion.

How about you – have you made a public declaration for your Saviour?

*Tini Rimoni*

*Minister, Preston and Spotswood Churches*



CHANELLE DUBE



resulted in a number of decisions for baptism and re-baptism. Jennilyn's story was reported in the June issue of IntraVic; a Yr 11 student with a deep commitment to sharing her faith. In May, Michael and Karla Hudson, of Anglican heritage, made their commitment to follow the Lord through baptism. Their spiritual journey has been nurtured and guided by numerous people including Evanlina Butler from Spotswood Church and Ian and Maria Watson from Northpoint. The Hudson's interest had been growing over a number of years as they attended various health and Biblical seminars, including Mark Finley's Discoveries Series in 2007 and became involved in Northpoint through their small group ministry. The day of their baptism was a special celebration, coinciding with their own wedding anniversary. Five more people who had responded to earlier appeals followed through in July. In spite of their earlier baptisms, Delores Dube did not develop a close relationship with God and her daughter Lorraine felt she had been too young, not fully understanding the implications. So both recommitted themselves through baptism, together with daughter/younger sister, Chantelle. Ishmael Rugube was in a similar situation. He had been baptised when young, out of obligation – this time he knew what he was doing and was fully committed.

## WATCH THIS SPACE... just waiting for your story...

Has God done something really wonderful in your life and you just want to share it?

Is His Spirit moving in your church to achieve great things?

Victorian Conference Communications would love to have the opportunity to help you share the good news of how God is at work in our community.

Send in your stories and help us fill the blank spaces like this with inspirational Church News.

SCOURTNEY@ADVENTIST.ORG.AU  
PO BOX 215 NUNAWADING 3131  
03 9264 7777

## Seussical the Musical

### LILYDALE ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Young and old alike were delighted at Lilydale Adventist Academy's presentation of the musical "Seussical". This colourful and quirky musical features an adaptation of the famous books of Dr Seuss featuring a number of his famous characters such as 'The Cat in the Hat' and 'Horton the Elephant'. Academy Principal Ben Thomas said "Musicals are a great tradition that give students identity and ownership within the school culture. With each production, I am amazed at the commitment and dedication of the students to produce such professional and thoroughly entertaining presentations"



## Congratulations

### THE PRATT FAMILY

Associate Pastor for Northpoint Church, Greg Pratt and his wife, Chantelle, welcomed little Jayden Callum Pratt to their family mid afternoon on Friday, July 30. Congratulations to you both as you enjoy this precious gift from the Lord.

*May the Lord bless you and keep you as you care for this precious little one.*



## The Canberra Trek

### SCHOOLS COMBINE EDUCATION PROGRAM

Yr 6 students at all our schools look forward each year to the annual trek to the Nation's capital. Due to the logistics involved schools are divided into two groups, each going to Canberra on different weeks. This year Gilson and Henderson Colleges teamed up with Edinburgh Adventist Primary, while Heritage and Nunawading Colleges combined for the second group. Throughout this educational tour of Canberra students visited many of the attractions Canberra has on offer, including an almost deserted Parliament House due to the election.



## Constituency Meeting Addresses Social Concerns.

### AUSTRALIAN UNION CONFERENCE

The Australian Union Conference held their quinquennial constituency meeting from September 5-8 in Melbourne. Twenty-two delegates from the Victorian Conference joined a further 152 delegates from the other eight local Conferences from across Australia to consider the lengthy agenda. This was truly a national event where the Seventh-day Adventist Church conducted its business that set the direction for the next five years.

Further to the agenda as determined by the constitution, this constituency meeting intentionally pushed the door ajar on three social issues through introductory overviews. These issues are relevant to all in the wider community, of which we are a part. Our membership is not immune from them, despite our beliefs and values that make a clear stand in regards to them.

**Alcohol:** More and more research is revealing the devastating impact of alcohol on both young and old, along with the cost in health care and productivity. Pr Kevin Price, Director of Adventist Health Ministries coordinated

this agenda item. Guest present, Shane Varcoe, Director of the Delgano Institute, challenged delegates and concluded that total abstinence was the most appropriate stance to take in regard to alcohol. An action was taken by the delegates that had application to both the Church and the wider community.

**Violence against women and girls:** The Seventh-day Adventist Church has taken the *ENDitNOW* initiative that has global implications but has application even in our own Australian context. Mrs Erna Johnson, Director of Women's Ministries (SPD), and Mr Jonathan Duffy,

CEO of ADRA Australia, combined their efforts to clarify the issue and bring the attention of delegates to the *ENDitNOW* campaign. An action was taken by the delegates that had application to both the Church and the wider community.

**Protection of children:** From an early age children are being sexualised through advertising and other media confrontation, often intentionally and sometimes through carelessness. They are neither emotionally nor morally ready to deal with premature sexualisation. Pr David Robertson, Director of Safe Place Services, coordinated this segment and Maggie Hamilton, author of a number of books including *What's Happening To Our Girls?* and *What's Happening To Our Boys?*, challenged delegates with the reality of the Australian situation. An action was taken by the delegates that had application to both the Church and the wider community. **At one point in the program delegates worked in small groups to discuss matters that will impact on the Australian church. The themes included:**

- How might the Church more effectively retain her young people?
- How might the Church reclaim former members?
- How might the Church effectively reach the secular Australian to make them disciples of Jesus and thus fully involved members of the Seventh-day Adventist church?
- How might the church have a higher profile in the wider community while maintaining our focus and priorities on our reason for being?
- How might the Church be structured for the Australian context so as to be more effective and efficient in



fulfilling our purposes and yet still maintain the integrity of our worldwide Church structure?

Many positive ideas were generated that will be placed before the new AUC Executive Committee in the course of their direction setting activity.

The spirit of the meetings were summed up in the words of a Victorian couple after close of the constituency meeting: "We believe God has been amongst us over the last few days. And we have learned so much about our Church and what is being done and being planned. We return home with confidence that God is with the Seventh-day Adventist Church, its work and its leaders. We hope we can help our fellow church members catch a glimpse of what we have experienced as we tell them all about it."

Ken Vogel  
General Secretary  
Australian Union Conference

The delegates voted the following personnel into leadership of the Australian Union Conference for the following five years:

President:	Pr Chester Stanley	Youth Ministries – Director:	
General Secretary:	Pr Ken Vogel		Pr Tony Knight
Chief Financial Officer:	Mr Kingsley Wood	Education – Director:	Dr Daryl Murdoch
Ministerial Association - Secretary:		Education – Assoc. Director:	Mr Lyndon Chapman
	Pr Graeme Christian		
ATSIM – Director:	Mr Steve Piez	Safe Place Services – Director:	
ATSIM – Assoc. Director:			Pr David Robertson
	Pr Don Fehlberg	Safe Place Services – Assoc. Director:	Mr Dallas O'Connor
Sabbath School & Personal Ministries – Director:	Pr Roger Govender		

## Combined Schools Day of Worship

Our four metropolitan secondary schools came together for their annual Combined Schools Day of Worship in August.

Students from each of the schools participated in the program, putting together music, drama, testimonies and DVD's highlighting activities at their schools.

As he addressed them, Pr David Riley (Casey Church) gave a lesson in Maths. Drawing from knowledge gained in earlier days of the horse racing industry, David demonstrated the risk a gambler takes each time he places money on a bet. After explaining the probability of winning a bet, he then showed the probability of Jesus being the Messiah as predicted in Old Testament prophecy. With 100% of the prophecies fulfilled, David declared Jesus to be a 'sure bet', asking students to take 'a risk' on Jesus and come forward to show their commitment. Without hesitation over 150 students responded.

"This result is directly attributable to working of the Holy Spirit through the wonderful ministry of our Chaplains and Staff," says Fiona Thomas, one of the

coordinators. "To see this generation of students (church and unchurched) unashamedly standing up for Jesus says that we are achieving our aim of educating students 'now and for eternity.'"



## Weet-Bix Billy Cart Grand Prix

### LILYDALE ADVENTIST ACADEMY

The 2010 Weet-bix Billy cart Grand Prix was again an outstanding success. With over 500 participants and 3000 spectators the event ran smoothly. Special guests included the Federal Member for Casey, Tony Smith and State Member David Hodegett, as well as up-and-coming V8 Supercar driver Tony D'Albarto. A special thanks from event organisers goes to Lantrak, who, as reported last month, donated time and expertise to build an all weather 150 space car park for the school, in time for this event.



"This was in no doubt an answer to prayer," says David Jones, Event Coordinator. "We are continually surprised by the impact and reach of the Weet-Bix Billy Cart Grand Prix - the community interest exceeds all our expectations. Our support from Sanitarium is also greatly appreciated and we know that each participant went home feeling good about being part of a team and being physically challenged." Planning for next years event is well underway already.



PHOTOS BY DAVID GIBBONS

DAVID GIBBONS & PETER LYNCH JOINED IN

## Meet the Principal

### LILYDALE ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Ben Thomas is the principal at LAA. We asked him what he believes is the Mission of SDA Schools, what his vision is and what he loves most about his school.

SDA schools have a twofold purpose in providing for students. This involves our 'Core Business': providing a quality well rounded education in line with best practice and satisfying government requirements. It also includes our 'Core Mission': encouraging students into a saving relationship with Jesus. My vision for Lilydale Adventist Academy includes achieving excellence in both areas.

I believe the mission of any organisation rests on the individual members comprising that organisation. 'Mission' can be defined as an aim or task that somebody believes it is his or her duty to carry out or to which he or she attaches special importance and devotes special care. This definition places personal value on the special significance of 'mission' for the individual working in our Adventist School System. With such an attitude teachers and staff will model a spiritual and professional life that

encourages each student to accept Jesus Christ as Saviour and Friend. Students are taught to accept the concept of service as a principle of life; to be sensitive to the needs of people; and to become contributing members in their home, church, and community. I love our school's 'cultural tone'. LAA has a long history of caring for its students. I continue to be amazed by the high level of care and attention shown by LAA staff to our students and their families. There are many positive aspects about LAA. It is truly a great school.



As a year 12 student with only 69 days till (Nov 16<sup>th</sup>) my last exam (not that anyone is counting) and the idea that next year a new routine has to be formed, one outside the school grounds is staring us in the face. It is only now that you can look back at school and actually see what part it plays in your life.

For me the hardest thing about leaving is going to be leaving the teachers. One of the things that I see that makes our school unique is the fact that many of the teachers actually care about 'you', it's not just about how you are doing in their subject. When talking to friends that go to other schools, they



cannot comprehend that you can just go and talk to the teachers at lunch, that they will help you out of class times and that you could possibly have a conversation with them that is not about school. Teachers in some respect just feel like friends, and the old image that people have that they are just

out to make our lives hard is totally not true from my experience. When you feel valued as an individual it makes you to want to strive to be all that you can be and do the best that you can.

It's great to see teachers take an interest in different things within the school such as Choir and SRC; Also putting their time into activities for the students such as this year the creation of a mini BMX track at school, then going to the effort to be there at lunch times so kids can use it. For myself I felt very supported by teachers as in many areas of my life, when I got baptised, when I preach and when I started a mentoring program with the primary school, they have given us, or should I say me as I can't speak on the behalf of others, the opportunity to grow.

As my time at school comes to an end I can only hope that teachers realise that they are appreciated and do impact our lives, and also Thank You. I know there are many memories that I will take with me as I leave.

Yonina Moffatt,  
Lilydale Adventist Academy

## Lilydale Adventist Academy Building Program Update

Last year LAA successfully applied for BER funding for a new languages centre. The \$1.3 million has been well spent renovating the old Girls Dorm transforming it into a double language classroom, with office and storage space, tutorial room for senior students as well as two classrooms for senior English. Staff and students will be able to use the centre as soon as the final touches are in place including the internal fitout of cupboards and interactive whiteboards, and undercover walkways leading up to the building.



## Duane Haora Reporting in CONFERENCE EVANGELISM

In recent months I have been conducting training programs in churches throughout Gippsland, focusing on evangelism & outreach to their immediate communities.

Each church received 6 practical lectures, one per fortnight, outlining:

1. Revival (Personal revival leading to church revival)
2. How to get Bible studies
3. How to prepare for Bible studies
4. How to give Bible studies
5. Public evangelism
6. Follow-up & Nurture

The response has been positive & rewarding. From there we, as a church, plan & prepare for a campaign in a designated town. As has been mentioned a few months back, these programs run for three nights. The theme is "Current Events Coming Our Way", with the first night being on the the "Past" (Daniel 2), the second on the "Present" (Mathew 24 Signs of the Times) and concluding with the "Future" (Second Coming).

So far, Warragul Church has facilitated 2 programs. The first, in Neerim South, resulted in finding four people interested in serious Bible study. The second was in Noojee, where there is a population of 140. We now have one contact there, a lady who works in the local pub and has a keen interest in learning more of the Scriptures. At Rosedale, Traralgon Church conducted their first campaign and have met a gentleman so eager to know

## Community Fathers' Day program HERITAGE COLLEGE

The year 5 and 6 students distributed little gifts to the Fathers in the community directly around their school as they do every year.

This year the parcels consisted of chocolates with a special Fathers' Day message and the students went from door to door, handing over gifts to any Dads who answered to their knocking.

Well prepared, having already considered what they will say while still in the classroom, the students enjoy this activity and get fantastic feedback from the community.

The kids usually enjoy this activity and prepare what they need to say beforehand in the classrooms.



more, he is already attending church.

In mid November, there are plans for Traralgon to run another program in Heyfield while Bayles is gearing up for their first program in October, in Koo Wee Rup.

I'm really excited to be working alongside the church members as they really focus, reaching out to the communities here in the Gippsland region - little communities which are so often neglected. The results may not look like much but with persistence & prayer I believe that God has His people everywhere (including bar maids!) who will respond to the simple gospel. There are up to 100 such communities surrounding the bigger ones and our vision is to reach each one with the good news that Jesus is coming soon, that it's time to get ready for the greatest, grandest event the world has ever seen.

On behalf of the churches involved, it's an honour to be a part of God's plan and we ask that those who read this article will keep us in your thoughts and prayers.



GIRLS FROM THE 6E CLASS  
RAMNIQUE AND MARGERITA WITH MR THA IEM

## Alphabet Ark

### NUNAWADING CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

The primary school recently trialled an innovative promotional program of preschool adventures. 150 preschoolers and their parents, with more than 90% of these being from the community, attended this event, titled Alphabet Ark.



There were 26 activities – one for each letter of the alphabet. The highlight was the animal Ark with Mr and Mrs Noah greeting the children and inviting them into the Ark to pet the animals.

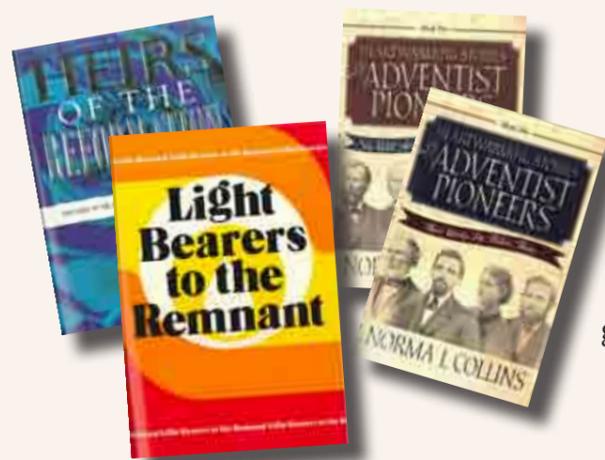
The day was an enormous success, many parents indicating they had not previously been aware our school existed, and were very impressed with our College. Here is what one parent told us the next day:

*"I just wanted to send an enormous thank you and congratulations on the Alphabet Ark day. My 3 year old son and his friend had an absolutely fantastic time, as did we adults! I was so impressed with the organization involved and how smoothly the day ran, never easy with so many pre-schoolers (and such bad weather!). The staff and students were so polite, friendly and helpful; we felt very much at home, and the children took to everyone immediately, despite both usually being a little shy.*

*"The activities were well targeted to the age bracket. Our team leader, Jenny made sure all the children were involved and had a great time, as did our helper Caitlyn, who could not have been more lovely.*

*"The attention to detail in providing morning tea, show bags and photo's of the pony rides was really appreciated too. We found our children were so happy and comfortable that both were willing to participate in things they usually find outside their comfort zone, my son had his first pony ride and his friend patted his first calf!*

*"The fact that this is given freely to the community shows a wonderful spirit within the school and shows a warmth and care that has left a lasting impression with my family." S.J.*



## The Adventist Book Centre

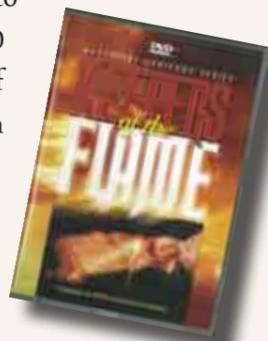
- located at the Victorian Conference Office, Central Road

Nunawading - is open Monday to

Thursday 9-5 and Friday 9-12:30

Come and browse our selection of books and DVD's that cover church history, or check out our range of gifts, music, health foods and much more.

Tina Gilchrist



## ADS AND NOTICES

### Trust Services

Do you need your will made or amended?

Steve Whitson is available by appointment, during office hours, in the evenings and the first Sunday of each month

Call him to make an appointment.

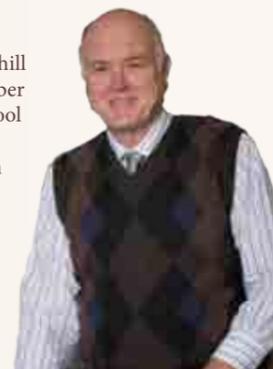
03 9264 7725 or

0423 784 000

Steve will be in Nhill & Horsham October 9 and Warrnambool

October 16 as well as Mildura in November 7&8

for appointments



### Women's Leadership Certificate

October 16 8:30 - 6:30  
October 17 9:30 - 4:00  
Cost \$10 including resource CD and two meals

Lift up Jesus Christ!  
Discover and realise  
your leadership  
and ministry potential  
within your home,  
church and community

RSVP October 11 by  
phone or email  
spotts@adventist.  
org.au  
03 9264 7701

Women's Ministries  
Victorian Conference  
9264 7701

## Position Available

A person is required to fulfil the role of Stock Controller/Data Entry Clerk for the Pacific Islands. This job would involve keeping track of and ordering stock for ABCs in Samoa, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, New Caledonia and Fiji.

This is a part time position of approximately 24 hours per week, based in the Publishing Department of the SPD at Signs Publishing Company, Warburton.

Skill required: Excellent data entry skills, knowledge of Microsoft Office, excellent communication skills.

eMail or post your CV to John Brereton, PO Box 201, Warburton, Victoria 3799 or email JohnBrereton@adventist.org.au

### SUNSET TIMES

Bairnsdale time is 10 minutes EARLIER & at Hamilton the time is 12 minutes LATER

Sabbath	Opening	Closing
<b>Sept 24,25</b>	<b>6.18</b>	<b>6.19</b>
<b>Oct 1,2</b>	<b>6.24</b>	<b>6.25</b>
<b>Oct 8,9</b>	<b>7.30</b>	<b>7.31</b>
<b>Oct 15,16</b>	<b>7.37</b>	<b>7.38</b>
<b>Oct 22,23</b>	<b>7.44</b>	<b>7.45</b>

### East Prahran Church...

Continues its study of the New Testament. October's topic, Christ In Hebrews, will be presented on Sabbath, October 2 by Pr Peter Roennfeldt at 11am. (At 10am, Leonard Chu will discuss the Sabbath School lesson.) The morning's program will conclude with a fellowship lunch.

### Nunawading Church...

Announces a change in worship times for October. Still meeting at the Central Road address, the first service (classic style) will begin at 9am, Sabbath School at 10:15 and second service (contemporary style) at 11:30. This is part of a trial process and usual worship times will resume on November 6. Contact Pr Trevor Rowe on 0409 011 893 for further detail.

### Social Golf?

Reserve Sunday October 17 for a time of socialising. At Belvoir Park Golf Course, Big Hill (off the Calder Highway), the Ambrose tournament will commence at 9:30. Registration closes October 10. Call Peter Ashworth on 03 5447 9110 for more details or visit <http://bendigo.adventist.org.au>

### Retired Workers Fellowship Program

The RWF Victoria would be happy to have anyone interested join them at their functions. This invitation includes all church members and their non-Adventist friends. Planned for October 6 is a Coach Trip to Werribee Open Range Zoo, and on November 24, they will host a luncheon meeting at Warburton Church Hall. For more information, contact Ken Killoway on 03 9801 8986.

### Road To Bethlehem needs you...

If you would like to help with the physical setup, please contact Pr Rod Anderson on 0439 615 250. If acting is more your scene, Crystal Taylor is the one to contact, on 0407 991 314. Come support us as we bring the Christmas Story to Melbourne.

### Giant Book Sale...

Next scheduled date - October 17. New stock, 70% @ \$3.00. Bibles, EG White, Christian novels, biographies, theology... Funds go to the church Building Fund. 11am-3pm. Nunawading Church Hall, Central Road.

### OFFERING SCHEDULE - OCTOBER

Oct 2	Local Church Budget
Oct 9	Appeal expense
Oct 16	Education/ Camping Ministry
Oct 23	Local Church Budget
Oct 30	Local Church Budget

## BIRTH NOTICES

William Mark Forbes-Wilson born 11th April 2010 to parents Mark & Delle Forbes-Wilson of Mildura



Jarred Andrew Jackson

joined his parents, Dean and Susan of Nunawading Church, on Tuesday July 6, 2010

SATURDAY OCTOBER 2

## CLASSICAL FUNDRAISING CONCERT



PROUD TO BE RAISING FUNDS FOR THE BALOLAVA  
MEDICAL CLINIC IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

Featuring a wide range of instruments including the harp, cello,  
piano and more. Enjoy the brilliant performances and diversity of  
classical music as well as a touch of jazz.

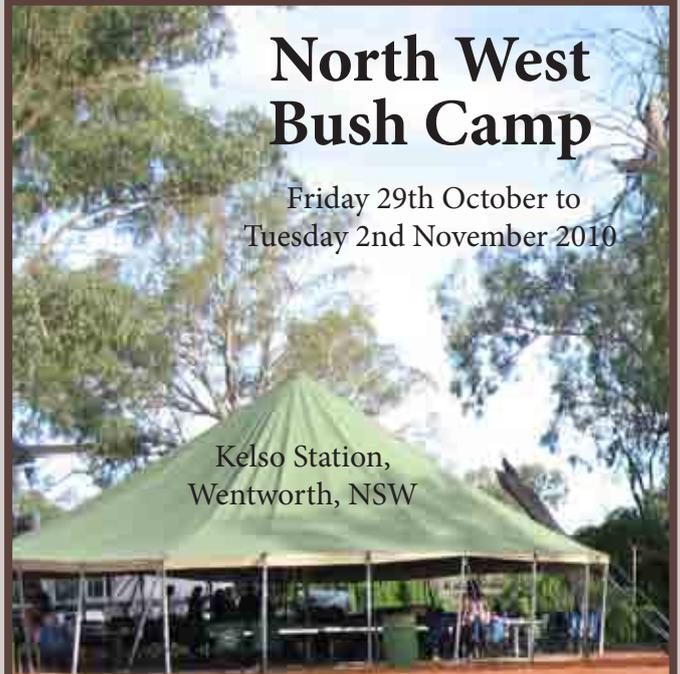
Cakes and refreshments for purchase

**Venue: Wantirna Seventh-day Adventist Church**  
119 Mountain Highway, Wantirna  
**Melway: Map 63 E7**  
**Free Entry - fundraiser collection**

**TIME: SEATED AT 6:20PM**  
**FOR A 6:30 PM START**

## North West Bush Camp

Friday 29th October to  
Tuesday 2nd November 2010



Kelso Station,  
Wentworth, NSW

Guest Speaker - Troy Fitzgerald, Pastor for Youth &  
Evangelism at Walla Walla College Church, Washington.  
Application forms are available on the website at <http://mildura.adventist.org.au>. For enquiries please contact  
Rhonda or Suzanne on 03 5021 3633.

## Big CAMP 2011

Plans for 2011 are well underway. Pastor Stanley, Conference President, is very keen to have more input from our church members at all levels, from planning through to implementing the program. With this in mind, the committee has met and is exploring the possibility of involving our church members to help in the following areas:

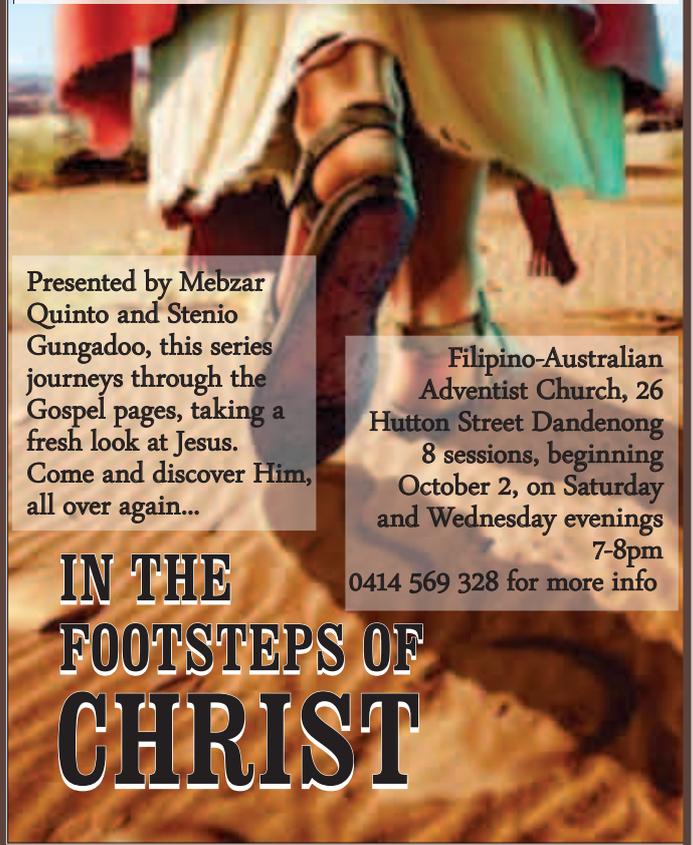
- Construction and demolition
- Kitchen duties
- Running the children's programs
- Assisting with planning the Camp program

*If you are interested in helping in any of these areas, please contact Cveta on 03 9264 7777 to register your interest.*



## What Does Jesus Mean To You?

Is He Still Relevant In Today's World?



Presented by Mebzar Quinto and Stenio Gungadoo, this series journeys through the Gospel pages, taking a fresh look at Jesus. Come and discover Him, all over again...

Filipino-Australian  
Adventist Church, 26  
Hutton Street Dandenong  
8 sessions, beginning  
October 2, on Saturday  
and Wednesday evenings  
7-8pm

0414 569 328 for more info

## IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF CHRIST

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