

FOCUS

SOUTH QUEENSLAND CONFERENCE NEWSLETTER

Young Adult Conference Champions the Local Church

The 2018 Young Adult Conference was hosted at Springwood Church. This was a significant shift from the past two years, when multiple venues had been utilised throughout the weekend. By hosting the entire event in the local church, the message is clear—the Young Adult Conference is more than an event; it is about inspiring and equipping young adults to step up and lead within the local church.

The theme was ‘Dwell’, based on Ephesians 2:22. Alina van Rensburg, South Queensland Young Adult Director says, “Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to dwell within us, to transform us, empower us, anoint us and make us more like Him. This is His promise to us, His Church!”

“We were privileged to have Pastor Nimrod Maua, lead pastor at Avondale College Church, and his wife Renee come and share with us and the Spirit moved powerfully through their message and ministry.”

Kendall Cobbin, Springwood’s senior pastor adds that “some of the strengths of having a South Queensland-wide Young Adult event hosted in the local church were seeing the vitality of this amazing group and appreciating the incredible contribution young adults have to offer in the life of our Church.”

“We loved the welcoming environment enthusiastic young adults created that morning. Having the event in

our Church helped us recognise our need as a Church to continually be adaptable in order to be relevant to today’s young people.

“We were certainly richly blessed and Springwood would do it again in a heartbeat!”

Springwood member Roseanne Peach added, “The buzz that came from filling up our local church with such a diverse mix of Christ’s followers from all over Queensland has energised all of us. The church was beautifully

(Continued on page 2)





PHOTOS BY CHARMAINE PATEL

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decorated and filled with so many new smiling faces. Rather than welcome Young Adults, we had the extra dose of joy being welcomed by them to our own church. The Holy Spirit has been busy—seeing Young Adults worship together was a brilliant reminder that we are part of a dynamic, growing Body of Christ.”

ARTICLE BY ALINA VAN RENSBURG
PHOTOS BY CHARMAINE PATEL



Eidsvold Fellowship Makes History

History was made on Sabbath, 19 May 2018, when the Eidsvold Adventist Fellowship conducted its first church service in this small North Burnett town. The inaugural service was a celebration of the Lord’s Supper as members from Gayndah served their newly found friends in Jesus.

Sponsored by the Gayndah Church, this first meeting had fourteen attendees—eight from the local community and six from Gayndah. “The local Uniting Church members kindly made their church available to us”, reported Heather Medhurst, Gayndah Church elder.

A church service will now be held in Eidsvold every second week, with a Bible Study on the Friday night of the intervening week.

ARTICLE BY HEATHER MEDHURST
 PHOTO BY RAY SWANNELL



Dreamtrack Saddle Up

The morning is still fresh as volunteers meet for a DreamTrack adventure. Introducing something new brings challenges! Will the children like it? Will it be a safe day? Will we even get enough arrive to make it happen?

By 10am the first busload of DreamTrack children arrive and as they walk to the meeting point, the smell of horses in the air triggers signs of nervous excitement in the group. Two more buses arrive making a total of 51 children, all eager to embark on this new adventure at Slickers Horse Riding.

It was great to see children push through their fears, mount their horses and set out on the horse riding trail where they spent the next 2 hours guiding horses over hills and around lakes, all the while taking in the surrounding wildlife. The great team at Slickers went the extra mile so our children could have such an awesome experience.

Our DreamTrack children made lots of great memories from this event, ones they can revisit throughout life to help them push through some of the challenges their journey will throw at them.

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY LUKE STUART



Structured Discipleship Program

On 19 May, members of the Brisbane Asian Company participated in the first ever Structured Discipleship Program (SDP) training. Pastor Simon Siew who developed this easy-to-use discipleship program while Ministerial Secretary of the Southeast Asia Union was the trainer. Having taught this course in 11 countries (including Scotland and China), he is very experienced.

SDP seeks to promote a biblical culture of intentional discipleship. Each new believer or Disciple-in-Training (DIT) is lovingly mentored in a systematic and monitored manner by an assigned Disciple Maker (DM) to become a faithful disciple of the Lord. At a local church level, a Discipling Ministry Coordinator (DMC) promotes and coordinates the Structured Discipleship Program.

We learned that discipleship must be intentional and is imparted in the context of interpersonal relationships. To achieve this a trained mentor (DM) is assigned to help each DIT grow to become a disciple, guided in the process by two important principles—Life Transparency and Life Transference.

A key long-term strategy of SDT is for new converts to become not only disciples but also Disciple Makers. A church that fosters and establishes a culture of intentional discipleship will exhibit greater vitality, love and Christlikeness, providing a catalyst for exponential growth.



Pastor Siew emphasises five L's for Disciples-in-Training: LEARN to be like Jesus, LIVE for Jesus, LOVE like Jesus, LIFT up the name of Jesus and LEAD others to Jesus. There are also five M's for Disciple Makers: MONITOR the spiritual growth of the Disciple-in-Training (DIT), MENTOR the DIT, MODEL to the DIT what a Christian ought to be, MINISTER to the needs and challenges of the DIT and MOBILISE the DIT for service in the Lord's vineyard.

Trainees in the Structured Discipleship Program reported they have become more confident to not only be a good disciple but a disciple maker as well—a great reason to tap into this training if you get a chance.

ARTICLE BY MERI HOHUA AND PHOTO BY CHARMAINE PATEL

First Graduates from Spiritual Carer's Training

A keen group of seven participants already involved in helping people, graduated from the new Spiritual Care Series training course, especially designed for those who care for older people. This series of eight interactive sessions is very engaging, featuring experts in providing

spiritual care to people who are facing the latter chapters in life that typically include many transitions and losses. Over the next few years it is hoped this training will be available in our regional areas as well as the greater Brisbane region.

Feedback from the graduates: "I recommend this to anyone associated with providing care for the elderly. The material is so practical and presenters are among the most experienced in this field," "Requires a time commitment, but well worth the investment," "A wonderful blessing, many things learned and some unlearned. Excellent program!"

ARTICLE BY CHRIS FOOTE AND PHOTO BY CHARMAINE PATEL



Restore and Rejuvenate at Red Hill!

On first sight, newcomers to Red Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church are taken by the charm of this historic little building. Established at the current site in Hammond Street in 1926, the structure is in need of urgent repair. Encouraged by Psalm 96:6 which declares that “strength and beauty are in His sanctuary,” the church members claim this promise and appeal for South Queensland members to support the Conference-wide Offering set down for August 4 this year.

Consider this worthy cause so that Red Hill Church can continue to shine as a centre of influence in this inner-Brisbane area. The building may be old; not so the congregation! A vibrant group of mostly young adults meets each Sabbath to worship in this much loved little edifice under the shepherding of Pastor Wayne Humphries. They also hold fortnightly Friday night Vespers (open to all) and are sharing God’s love with the Red Hill community through Christmas carolling and a recently formed choir.



Red Hill Church members prayerfully seek God’s blessing and your financial support as they step out in faith to finish the work in anticipation of Christ’s return.

ARTICLE BY CUSHLA KAPITZKE AND BRONWYN HUMPHRIES
 PHOTO BY SHERRIE BERNOTH AND SARAH GWYNNE

Publishing Leaders Inspire

Eleven Adventist Churches received an inspiring input on Sabbath 12 May, with a feast of fresh soul-winning stories. Twenty Publishing leaders and some spouses from around the Division had come to Watson Park, for six days of leadership training, 7-13 May and they chose to share the blessings of God with His family on Sabbath. At Watson Park they studied the Bible, methods, motivations and inspiration from Spirit of Prophecy and of course, shared powerful stories and reports as they sang and prayed together for more of the Holy Spirit. All felt refreshed and empowered to push through challenges in these “uncertain” times, believing that God enables the publishing ministry until it has accomplished its purpose.

As they preached their inspiring messages at the churches, a number of listeners expressed interest in learning more and possibly joining the Literature ministry team. These were faithfully followed up by phone call, text and email, inviting them to an information seminar a week later on 20 May. Of the twelve genuinely interested, nine could make it for the information seminar conducted by Sone, Wendy and Andrew.



Praise God, all made a commitment to take the next step to in some capacity become co-workers with God through the printed page. The harvest is indeed ready and we are thankful for answered prayers, the blessing of the Holy Spirit and for those who responded to God’s invitation.

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY SONE MARINER

Home-Based Health Retreat

Resources to establish home-based health retreats are now available. Health retreats are an excellent way of reaching people for Christ through the health message. Barriers are broken down as people's needs are met.

Adrian and Michealle Dorman have been involved in running health retreats for over thirty years. But establishing retreats is often prohibitive, costing millions of dollars. They believe the time is ripe for centres of influence to be established, using a concept of smaller, more affordable home-like retreats. The Dormans have created a website, www.simplyhealth.org to assist in this ministry. It offers online health courses, a FREE manual on how to establish a home health retreat, website creation and much more.

Adrian and Michealle are currently planning to demonstrate how it can be done by setting up a model home-based health retreat in the SE Qld area.

If you know of a property available for sale, one acre plus in size, please contact Adrian on **0478 229 614**.

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY ADRIAN DORMAN



The Extra Mile



Remember the Star Wall in the May FOCUS? That idea has really taken off, but now a growing number of staff have also been receiving Extra Mile Awards, another incentive to say “Thank you” to staff members who go ‘Above & Beyond’ for one of the residents. When these ladies received their awards they added, “We have accepted the awards on behalf of all of our Staff because everyone here at Victoria Point goes the extra mile almost every day.”

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY JENNY GOFFEY



Russell Island Community

Each Sabbath, the Russell Island Group gather in the Community Hall for fellowship, but their connection with the community is not limited to Sabbaths. Every second Thursday night at 5:30pm the Russell Island ADRA team offer a community food pantry, to help meet needs of those struggling financially on the island. More than just a food pantry – it has become a real community hub. Pat Tuialii, Russell Island pastor and project manager for the ADRA Community Pantry and Breakfast Club, opens food distribution with a prayer for both volunteers and the people they serve.



The ageing van used to collect much-needed supplies from Foodbank became too unreliable. ADRA Director, Irena Pule received a call from Pastor Pat seeking funding to update the vehicle. The matter was kept in prayer, trusting God had a solution. When Irena confirmed her next visit to Russell Island that same week, Pastor Pat said that they would have a surprise for her when she arrived. Imagine her joy when she was shown a big, shiny, silver Transit van all ready to go, thanks to some generous funding. What a blessing to



everyone involved! The community food pantry regularly serves 20-30 people, and you can sense their appreciation. Two ladies who had come for assistance for the first time, shared the community spirit they had experienced. This true ministry, demonstrating “disinterested” service, helps people because they need our help. Then through our serving they can catch a glimpse of God’s great love and care for them.

ARTICLE BY IRENA PULE
PHOTOS BY PAT TUIALII AND IRENA PULE

Smiles Make Smiles



A local Early Childhood Centre regularly visits our Adventist Retirement Plus community at Victoria Point creating creating a huge delight for everyone. Resident Jean Crandell-Mundy especially enjoyed their visit in mid-May. Several other residents who were formerly teachers get so much pleasure from the children’s visits. Having them come is such a delight and they bring out the happiest of smiles on the faces of our residents.

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY JENNY GOFFEY

STANTHORPE

DOUBLE CELEBRATION



It is not often that one gets married twice in the same day. For Emma-Jayne and Mitch Croft that was the reality for their very special day on Sunday 29 April.

Before their combined families, friends and Church family they committed their lives to each other in marriage. While nerves abounded the love and respect for each other and for the God-ordained institution of marriage was very evident.

After the kiss, congratulations and almost endless requests for photographs Mitch and Emma-Jayne then returned into the Stanthorpe Church to be “married” again.

This time their “marriage” as husband and wife was to commit to Jesus, eternally bonded with Him through the waters of baptism. This was an exciting and joyous time with many friends and family members staying to witness this commitment by a couple who have been on a journey of discovery, connection and finding Jesus. Overjoyed members from Stanthorpe Church and the Inglewood group rallied around the couple and their family.

It certainly was a day to remember.

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY TREVOR MAWER

YEPPON

WORTH THE WAIT

May 26 was a special day at Yeppoon, with the baptism of two long-term Church attendees. Bert Bickhoff was first introduced to Adventism by his pineapple farming neighbours, Ron



and Viv Hoffman, some 47 years ago. In more recent times, his dear friend Lynelle Brown shared her Adventist faith with him, and following studies with Ray Hobbs, Bert indicated a desire for baptism.

Bert decided to wait while fellow candidate Peggy Daniels completed her studies. Peggy had been raised in an Adventist home on Manus Island in PNG, but had not previously followed through with baptism. Just two weeks before the scheduled date of their baptism last December, Bert suffered a stroke. Now it was Peggy’s turn to be patient. Following six months of rehabilitation, and undeterred from his desire to be baptised, Bert, as well as Peggy, finally made it into the font. Both were warmly welcomed into fellowship at Yeppoon Church, with a special lunch to celebrate. Indeed, “there is more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents.”

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY RAY HOBBS

ROSEWOOD

BAPTISM ON WHEELS



It was happy group of Rosewood church members who gathered at the Georgie Conway Swimming Pool, Leichhardt, Ipswich, on Sabbath afternoon May 26 to witness the baptism of four precious souls; Wayne Kennedy, his wife Heather, Revin Evans and Peter Harris.

The Council owned pool was opened specially for the occasion and was chosen as the venue as it had ramp access and a submersible wheel-chair we could use.

It was Wayne’s desire to be re-united with the church of his childhood, and with his wife Heather has been studying the Bible with Rosewood Church Elder, Darryl Fry. It was a wonderful experience to watch Pastor Jakob Kelava wheel Wayne into the water and baptise him, followed by Heather, Revin and Peter, who came from various different backgrounds.

We wish God’s special blessing on these dear new ‘family members’.

ARTICLE BY MARJORIE ENTERMANN,
PHOTO BY ADRIAN SMYTHE

CLIFTON GROUP

PLANTING A BRANCH



About three years ago, Leon Boughton was impressed to start a church plant in Clifton to evangelise that area, and shared his vision with Pastor Andrew Feaveai of nearby Toowoomba Central Church. Since then God has blessed, with many joining the project including Jump Start Leader Andrew Kochanski. The Clifton and District Church Plant held its first Sabbath program on 2 June 2018 as a Branch Sabbath School of Toowoomba Central Church. Forty people gathered together in the rural town, with beautiful music and a Spirit-filled message by Pastor Andrew, followed by a BYO picnic in the sunshine. All felt that God had indeed blessed.

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY
HEATHER BOUGHTON

IPSWICH

JOY CLUB HIGH TEA



Ipswich had a coming together of generations when local Youth put on a High Tea for Joy Club, a regular fellowship of seniors from Ipswich Church and the community. The fun day included special treats to eat, trivia games, neck massages and manicures while being entertained by the talented youth. This is the second year these youth have connected with older church and community people in this way and the two generations are becoming more acquainted with each other. It is not unusual to hear a senior church member call out hello to a member of our youth by name and vice versa.

Joy Club meets monthly for morning tea and is open to the community. All are welcome. Contact Lyn Goltz on 0418 156 668 for more information.

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY SANDRA HUNT-MASON

CORAL COAST CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

WOW IN BUNDABERG

Engaging and keeping the attention of Kindy to year 6 students while teaching life lessons from the Bible could be a daunting task for some. But not for Pastor Daron Pratt Children's Ministries Director "on loan" from North New South Wales Conference. During our Week of Worship (WOW) Pastor Daron twisted and turned balloons to create incredible creations, while all the time encouraging children to never give up when things get difficult



and to keep on trying no matter the circumstance.

Pastor Daron based his talks on Luke 15:1-7, where Jesus' love for us is illustrated by a shepherd's care for his sheep. When he loses just one, the shepherd goes searching for it. And when he finds it, he carries it home announcing to everyone, "Let's celebrate! I've found my lost sheep". Students learnt that just as the shepherd wanted all the sheep to be safe home in his fold, Jesus wants every one of us to be part of God's family.

ARTICLE BY LEANNE JENSEN
PHOTO BY JULIE HANNA

NOOSA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

BILLY CART GRAND PRIX



On Sunday 29 July, Noosa Christian College will hold its Billy Cart Grand Prix and Fête—an annual fundraiser that hosts a Celebrity Race. This year, the Noosa Mayor, Mr Tony Wellington will be racing Ms Sandy Bolton MP and Mr Marty Hunt MP along with the Salt FM radio team while being pushed by the school's very fit teachers and students.

Medals and trophies are awarded for all races and Channel 7 covers the event. Like to join in the fun with a team? NCC has billy carts on hand with races from Pre-Prep to Open. Other fun things you can do include a footy shoot-out, Dunk-a-Teacher, a rock climbing wall, rides including the giant slide, market stalls, farmyard animals, a classic car display, competitions, displays, an auction and entertainment. Please come along for a family fun day out while helping raise money for the College.

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY DALE BERGMAN

NORTHPINE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

GIRLS WRITE UP



On May 11, Year 10 students Emily Denton and Zoe Blunt attended the annual "Girls Write Up" workshop run by The Stella Prize and sponsored by the State Library of Queensland. This young women writers' festival for teens teaches empowerment through writing and sharing stories, and featured some of Australia's greatest authors. Targeting social issues and roadblocks to upcoming authors it taught girls how to tackle the issues of a flawed industry.

Two of the speakers were Lorin Elizabeth, a masterful poet and Nayuka Gorrie, an Aboriginal author. Lorin led discussion about political views and the disadvantages she has experienced. Students related to the awkward experiences of being a teenage girl and learnt about composing engaging and

heartfelt poetry. Nayuka spoke up about her experiences of being silenced by racism and how she handled them, inspiring students who witnessed first-hand her tenacity to overcome hardship and challenges.

Zoe Blunt said, “One workshop opened pathways in my creative writing abilities, as I learned about the importance of researching and including different ethnicities and backstories. I will not forget the engaging and thoughtful lessons of these workshops. I was both empowered and inspired by the day.”

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY
ZOE BLUNT & CAITLIN ARNOLD

OPEN NIGHT



Northpine’s 2018 Open Night was a great experience. Parents and families were able to talk with teachers and see what the school had to offer in both Primary and Secondary levels with exhibits from different departments. Challenge class had their mountain bikes on display, promoting Northpine’s on-site mountain bike track. Outdoor Education displayed their canoes, used on camps and in Northpine’s reservoir. Visual Art displayed student art, Industrial Technology showed off their 3D printers and the Music and Drama departments gave performances through the evening. In Home Economics, Year 10 made and served international street food as part of an assessment. The Library also held a Book Fair, plus a visit by Clifford the Big Red Dog.

Other activities included Street Science Brisbane’s exhibit, in which children

could make glow-in-the-dark slime, and a petting zoo with chickens, ducks, goats, sheep and guinea pigs. Then, in the Performing Arts Centre, a mini-concert featuring Northpine’s Mozart Strings, the Viva Voce Choir, the Middle School Chapel Band, Prep and Year 1 classes

Overall, it was a most enjoyable night. New families requested almost 60 enrolment packs and well over 1000 people were in attendance.

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY
ANDREW SCHNELL

IPSWICH ADVENTIST SCHOOL

CELEBRATING UNDER 8’S WEEK



What does a rubber chicken, a parachute and shaving cream have in common? “Under 8’s Week” of course! On Wednesday, 23 May, IAS students from Kindy to Year 3, along with our Preschool guests from Brassall Child Care Centre enjoyed a morning of fun-filled activities based around the theme ‘Amazing Animal Friends.’

Student leaders from Years 4–6 led small class groups around the school from activity to activity and finished together with Simultaneous Storytime in the Library reading the story ‘Hickory Dickory Dash’. Students enjoyed activities such as Sheep Shearing (shaving cream), Clucking Chickens (tossing rubber chickens), Sensational Seals (parachute) and Monkey Maze (obstacle course).

The following day, activities were replicated for Brassall Bears Playgroup who meet in the Kindy classroom each Thursday morning. It was a fantastic two days celebrating all that is special about children under the age of eight.

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY NADIA GOLTZ

BRISBANE ADVENTIST COLLEGE

SO PROUD OF OUR STUDENTS!



Following a Week of Worship initiative of collecting blankets and toiletries for the homeless, our Primary Student Representative Council (PSRC) held a bake sale with lots of wonderful tasty treats donated by parents, raising \$635 to buy needed items to donate to Orange Sky Laundry at www.orangeskylaundry.com.au an aid organisation who provide services to homeless people such as washing their clothes or providing hot showers.

When the PSRC team fronted up at the local BIG W along with Chaplain, Pastor JP and teacher Mrs Harnett to purchase the items, Daniel the store manager was so impressed with them that he donated another \$150 towards our project.

It was a great experience for our students to not only get engaged in acts of service but to see how their kindness multiplies in unexpected ways.

#thisiswhywloveBAC
#thisismyschool #thisisBAC

ARTICLE BY LYN BENNETT
PHOTO BY JP MARTINEZ



2018 adventist singles Rally



with guest speaker
Dr Dwane Jackson

* by special request

saturday **4** August 10:00am - 4:00pm
GARDEN CITY
ADVENTIST HALL

57 Bleasby Road, Eight Mile Plains

* combined lunch, so please bring food to contribute

Adventist Relationship Ministries



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the Association of Adventist Counsellors
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Sabbath Seminar Series

the caregiver's SHADOW

...we all have a dark side

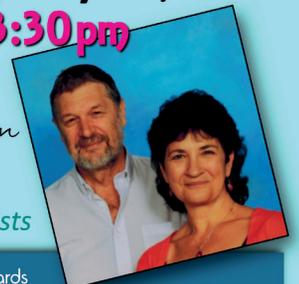


Saturday, July 28, 2018
9:15am - 3:30pm

Presenters:

Greg & Meryem Brown

Local Christian Therapists



As we seek to journey with others towards greater maturity and wholeness, how well are we travelling ourselves in managing the complexities & multi-layered reality of our personhood?

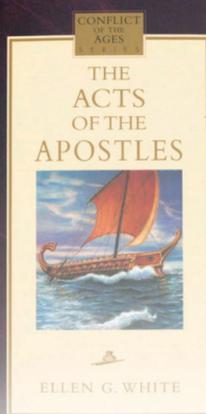
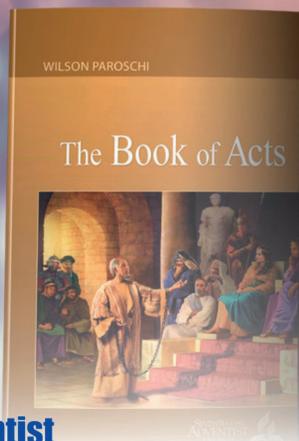
Can I say there is a healthy relationship between all the outer and inner parts of the community of selves that is me? ...the professional and personal me? ...the public and private me?

One essential pathway to such understanding is to explore the shadow. In this seminar, the goal of this journey explores the integration, not condemnation, of the caregiver's dark side, and a gentle encounter with the shadow. Key elements of shadow-work will be introduced, with a particular emphasis on self-reflection and the importance of professional/peer supervision as pathways to integration.

Fee: (Incl GST) if booked & paid by *Tuesday, 10 July (* \$5 late surcharge per person from 11 July) ■ AAC Members or "Friends of AAC" \$50.00 ■ Non-AAC Members \$65.00 ■ Accompanying spouse \$30 ■ Participation Certificate for PD provided ■ Morning tea & Vegetarian lunch included

VENUE: CITY NORTH BAPTIST CHURCH, 52 Yiada Street, Kedron BOOK now & INFO at: WWW.JUSTRELATIONSHIPS.ORG

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Visit us at your local ABC Store or online at www.sqbooks.com.au



Food Safety Training

Sunday, 23rd September 2018

Register here: <http://sq.adventist.org.au/ministries/health/>

Tickets are \$20 per participant payable at time of registration.

If your local church is sponsoring you, please contact us before you register online.

Participants will need to:

- Complete the assigned homework
- Attend a lecture on 23/09/2018 at Northpine Christian College from 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm (includes exam)
- Sit an exam (mainly short answers) following lecture

All enquiries: please contact Hayley by email to sqhealth@adventist.org.au or call 3218 7777.

Registration closes 24th August 2018

No late applications accepted. Limited places.



ADVENTIST CHURCH in South Queensland

HEALTH MINISTRIES

Visit us on Facebook at **Adventists South Queensland** and Instagram at **adventist_sqc**

Attention FOCUS Contributors

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ADVENTIST CHURCH *in South Queensland*

LEARN MORE. LIVE MORE. LOVE MORE.™