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FOCUS

SOUTH QUEENSLAND CONFERENCE NEWSLETTER

BEING SAFE IS NO ACCIDENT

Another Big Camp is now well and truly over. As I look at our photos and videos posted on our Seventh-day Adventist Church (South Queensland Conference) Facebook page, my emotions are a little ambivalent. There is a lingering sense of nostalgia, which I'm sure many can relate to, which is why everyone looks forward to camp each year.

So much planning happens behind the scenes for months prior to Big Camp officially opening. In the final two weeks before Camp, work load and pressure ramps up tremendously as everyone struggles to tie up loose ends and make the event as perfect as possible for our church members and visitors.

Safety planning for Big Camp began this year in April, not just safety planning for the event as a whole, but assisting our divisions with planning their individual programs and events. Each year, the South Queensland Conference churches are becoming better at managing safety, making it an integral part of event planning to ensure the safety of our staff, volunteers, participants and visitors. When I look at the posted photos and videos, I feel a strong sense of delight and pride in the people who make up our organisation. The beautiful outcomes of our ministries in "shaping for mission" as we reach out to our communities is what makes me love my job. What a privilege I have to be a part of this mission by facilitating our departments and divisions via Risk Management and Safety! Creating safe environments for our ministries so that they can provide spiritual encouragement to existing members, support and growth to new members or visitors; providing active and fun activities for all age groups; bringing health, happiness and closeness; this is what pulls at the strings of my heart and brings a smile to my face.

Galatians 5:13 says "You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love" (NIV). I believe that having safety vision and foresight is where the act of love begins when running programs and events, and I am pleased to have the capacity to support and serve our workers as they prepare for their mission work.

I would like to thank our staff (including our pastors, Watson Park team and office staff), as well as volunteers, for the time and effort they placed over days, weeks and months prior to Big Camp in planning and accomplishing their safe environments, programs and events so that our members and visitors could experience a spiritual awakening and be blessed during this time together.

I would also like to thank our Big Camp attendees who abided by the safety regulations set out by the South Queensland Conference (including security personnel) and followed instructions given, understanding that God tells us to love and care for one another (Philippians 2:4, Romans 12:10, John 13:34-35) and that we must also love and care for ourselves (Ephesians 5:29, Proverbs 19:8, Mark 12:31, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

And so, at a close, I would like to leave you with the final words from Proverbs 27:12, which, I hope, will remain in your hearts and minds as you go back to your local church ministries: "A prudent person foresees danger and takes precautions. The simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the consequences" (NLT).

Until we meet again next year at camp, God bless!

ASHLEY BAKAY, COMPLIANCE MANAGER

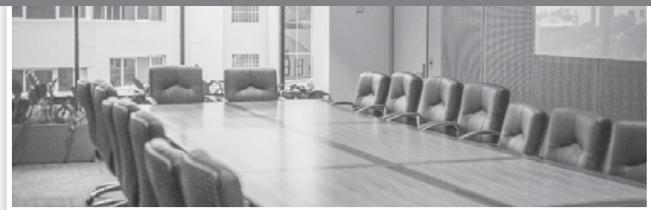
HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BOARDROOM

Committee Highlights

The following are some of the highlights and decisions that were made by the Executive Committee and the Board of Seventh-day Adventist Church (South Queensland Conference) Limited during August meetings.

The Executive Committee:

- Received a report from the President regarding the AUC Presidents' tour of South America (Brazil and Peru). Key points were:
 - Brazil Publishing Company—carries half the world's budget for publishing and devoted to mission. Employs more than 600 staff.
 - Novo Tempo (New Times) Media Centre—500 employees. Call centre, set designer / builders. Attribute 20,000 baptisms to the Centre. Runs 24 / 7 and carries a full range of programming.
 - Adventist Hospital Manaus—it's all about mission. The Hospital planted a church in the city and it is filled twice every Sabbath. Doctors invite patients to attend their church.
 - All schools have Novo Tempo playing in reception, missionary book of year on counter, lots of mission advertising.
- The President also reported on an initiative coming out of the Mission to the Cities think tank held earlier this year at Avondale College. Over the weekend of March 16-18, 2018, the South Queensland Conference will stage a special weekend to inspire, motivate, and empower church leaders in ways we can become more effective—shaping for mission. The weekend will be open to those delegated from their local church, current and potential leaders. We are keen that this be seen as an intergenerational weekend and that our many talented young adult leaders are an integral part of the weekend. We want people to leave this weekend saying, "We can do that", or "We can try that in our local church." Presenters for the weekend are:
 - Gary Krause—Mission to the Cities Director from the General Conference.
 - Glenn Townend—South Pacific Division President.
 - David Jameson—lead pastor of Church in the Valley, Canada.
- Received a report from the General Secretary highlighting the trends of the Australian Union Conference Biennial census survey during 2008-17. The report highlight-



ed the disparity between "official" membership numbers and actual attendance numbers, which according to the census data are around 60 per cent of recorded membership numbers.

- Recognise the Inglewood group as a congregation in the sisterhood of churches of the South Queensland Conference with the status of a group.
- Approved the request of the Bay Islands Group for Company status, and to accept the recommendation of the group that they be known as the "Bay Islands Seventh-day Adventist Company".
- Recorded that on May 25, 2017, the Australian Union Conference approved the successful completion of the second year of internship for Raymond Hobbs and recommended that he be issued with a Ministerial Licence.
- Recorded the following call and acceptance to the Conference: Rob Ellison, Secretary Treasurer, Northern Australian Conference to Business Manager Gold Coast Christian College /South Queensland Conference Financial Projects (*composite position*).
- Approved sponsorship for the following Avondale College theology student for 2018 and first semester 2019 —Graeme May.
- Received a report from the General Secretary relating to South Queensland Conference ongoing Partner in Mission relationship with the Vanuatu Mission. Key points:
 - Post Ex-Cyclone Pam (2015), South Queensland Conference raised \$222,000 to provide cyclone rated pre-fabricated church buildings thanks to the work of Mr Peter Koolik. Successful rebuild of churches with over 42 new building (ADRA donated 12).
 - Five South Queensland Conference pastors sent to resource Vanuatu's Layman's Training Institute, June 29 – August 26, 2017 (Mark Pearce, Mark Turner, Kendall Cobbin, Greg Pratt, Andrew Feaveai).
 - General Secretary visited the new church buildings and officiated at the graduation of the Laymen's Training Institute.
- Approved the adoption of the Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Interim Internal Redress Scheme as outlined by the Australian Union Conference.
- Received an interim tithe report for the six-month period ending June 30, 2017. It was noted that to date total tithe received was 1.87 per cent behind the same period last year.

COLIN RENFREW, GENERAL SECRETARY



GETTING IN SHAPE FOR MISSION!

Thanks to your generous support of our conference-wide offering on August 4, we are able to resource new members of our church in South Queensland Conference to share their faith and grow more disciples of Jesus by placing a discipleship toolkit in their hands when they are baptised or are received into our church family through profession of faith.

As we continue to shape for mission and pray for 400 newly baptised disciples as a conference, these kits will effectively place the best discipleship and personal ministry resources available into the hands of these new members, allowing them to grow more disciples and effectively creating a multiplying discipleship movement throughout our conference. The resources our new members will receive include; Ideas booklets, connect cards, *Studying Together* by Mark Finley, Bible-study guides, *Steps to Christ* and more. It is presented in a hard case and it is a resource that will not just sit on a shelf but can be used again and again as a discipleship tool kit.

So why are we doing this? Because we want to ensure every single disciple that is baptised is not just another statistic and number that will fall through the cracks of church membership; and we want to be intentional about ensuring

every new member of our church here in South Queensland is equipped, resourced, inspired and empowered to go and share their love of Jesus in their everyday ordinary life with their friends, family neighbours, work friends and whomever they meet and share life with.

Thanks again for your generosity and for your desire to support our new members on their discipleship journey. It is exciting as we shape together for mission and ensure we are all reaching out and connecting with our community with the love of Jesus.

Important Notes:

- Discipleship Kits will be provided to pastors upon the Conference Discipleship and Personal Ministry department being informed of the upcoming baptism(s).
- If you would like to purchase a pack for your personal discipleship journey and to assist you in your personal ministry, then visit disciple.org.au and choose the pack that will work best for you.

PASTOR GREG PRATT



Triple AAA Score

Roma—Women's Ministry—September 9

Once again God was leading! Thank you, AAA, for allowing us to minister and encourage a group of people who needed to hear a message of hope. First Thessalonians 5:11 says, "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." Thanks to AAA, Mandy, Sharon, Libby, Kasey and Pattie were able to build strength by allowing the Holy Spirit to deliver God's message through them.

AAA Pilot's Log—Goondiwindi, Sabbath Morning, August 12

An early rise and a check of the weather and we were away. Low fog hung over our home, but we lifted up our voices in prayer and left the fog for God to handle. At the airport we were welcomed with blue skies, no wind or fog! Praise be to God for answering our prayers. We departed Archerfield for Goondiwindi at 7.25 am, with high hopes for a great day, but 100 feet above the runway we had a bird strike to the left wing. A small dent, so not much damage was done and it did not affect the ability of the plane, and we soon arrived at Goondiwindi to be welcomed by senior elder Peter and his helpers. It was good to catch up with them again.

On to church to meet up with the rest of Gods family, where Col Brighton led out with Sabbath school, and Liamon Eg-lentals led the main worship service. While there was time between both programs, I went up front and told the folks what AAA had been doing since we had last met. There were about 20 or so at the service, coming from as far away as Inglewood, St George, and Yelarbon. We were also joined by six seasonal workers from Vanuatu who had the back-breaking job of cutting broccoli for the markets; work very few Australians want to do. Moses from Vanuatu approached me after the service and wanted to donate money to AAA—I was blown away. They were here in Australia trying to earn money to support their families back home. He went on to say he wanted to give double what it costs to be a member and he would also talk to the other men with him and encourage them to put a little aside each week to also give. Two of his work mates were not Adventists but Moses told me that they all prayed together before and after work and this had been a real blessing to them all. After a tasty meal supplied by the members, it was time to say our goodbyes. Always a hard thing to do as these beautiful country folk just love us to stay and talk. We arrived back at Archerfield at 4.50 pm, with the sun starting to set on yet another beautiful Sabbath day. I love working with the Lord! Always a blessing.



Goondiwindi—September—Team Member—Laimon Eglentals

It is not often that jet fighters have to be pushed out of the way to allow a small plane of Adventists to go and visit an outback church for Sabbath, but that is what happened during Adventist Aviation Association's latest trip to Goondiwindi. And as soon as we were off the plane and greeted by the local church members who had come to pick us up for church, we watched an F-18 roar back into the sky. But it wasn't the RAAF conducting military operations in the area, instead we had arrived in the middle of the state championships for remote controlled jets that happened to be on during the same weekend.

For the three members going to Goondiwindi church, we were welcomed with country hospitality as Col Brighton led out for Sabbath school and with a report on the fly-and-build he was involved with in Tasmania. The photos of frost in the early morning winter stood in stark contrast to the warm sunshine of a western Queensland winter. Our pilot Mike Grady spoke of some interesting developments for the future of Adventist Aviation with greater coverage by Adventist media to come. And I took the main service on how Jesus changed the world's history. Not just in our salvation and relationship with God, but also in our developments of science, education, literature and social movements led by Christians motivated to follow Christ's words and teachings.



It was then time for a big Sabbath lunch, as we got to spend time with our new friends and meet a number of young men from Vanuatu far from home who were working on the regional farms. After a too-short afternoon, it was time to head back to the airport, interrupt the performing jet fighters once again, and make our way back to the city.

AAA Team Leader's Report—Charleville—August 17

Dr Donald Pitchford led some Sabbath school members from Springwood on a mission trip to Charleville during August. Just a pic of some of the little known mob at Charleville (CTL). For obvious reasons, AAA is looking at increasing resources to this group in 2018. Dr Don was the team leader on the trip and came back excited and humbled. He said he took his team there to be a blessing, but he came back blessed! Bongi (the older gentleman) is the group leader and his wife is the head nurse at Charleville Hospital. She was called in to work and is absent. There are usually about 18 at CTL. Had a most blessed Sabbath in Charleville. It was slow to start and hard to leave. We were all truly blessed.

PASTOR DAVID EDGAR
ADVENTIST AVIATION ASSOCIATION ADMINISTRATOR



Spiritual Carers-in-Training

Twenty enthusiastic recruits began an exciting journey at Big Camp last month with the recently-launched Spiritual Care series. This excellent and intensive eight-session training series is designed to equip volunteers who are working with older people, whether in your local church, your community or in one of our four Adventist Retirement Plus communities.

"We had a rich time of learning together," reports Pastor Chris Foote, facilitator of the training, "as we explored concepts such as the two stories in life, Active Listening and the Impact of Storytelling." Training in Spiritual Care helps volunteers understand the unique spiritual journey as we transition through later stages of life, a time of rich reflection when the wisdom of a life-journey taps into the heart of a loving and embracing God. You may have thought that older age means a withdrawing from active life, but the Spiritual Care series opens windows you probably didn't know existed.



This training will be offered around the conference, but especially in churches located in the catchment area of our four Adventist Retirement Plus communities—Gold Coast, Redland Bay, Caloundra and Capricorn.

PASTOR CHRIS FOOTE
DIRECTOR OF RELATIONSHIP MINISTRIES

BE STILL AND SEE GOD MOVE

The Lord continues to work through our dedicated literature evangelists. The following is a story as related by our Conference Literature Evangelist Coordinator/Director:

I met this elderly lady recently, who invited me into her home because she just felt "compelled" to do so. I had a marvellous visit and while there she told me that she loves God and she reads her little devotion book every day. She shared that she finds it difficult to read nowadays because her eyes aren't as good as they used to be and the little devotional book has small print. I proceeded to show her *Today, Tomorrow and You*. She was most interested and immediately loved the book but she figured she couldn't afford it. After much deliberation, she finally decided she couldn't do without it and bought it because of its wide a range of topics.

I had a prayer and left her with number three of the *Beyond The Search* DVD series and promised to call in the following day to see how she enjoyed it. I did call in the following day and she told me how much she enjoyed the DVD I'd left. It was then that I gave her the rest of the *Beyond The Search* series.

I noticed she had a Bible text mounted on her loungeroom wall, "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10).

I opened the *The Desire Of Ages* where I had been reading that very morning the same text! I continued to read a few

*Be Still
AND KNOW
THAT I Am GOD*

-PSALM 46:10

other portions from the same page. She fell in love with *The Desire Of Ages* and decided to buy it also.

My new friend ended up buying both *Today, Tomorrow and You* and the *The Desire Of Ages*.

I know that God led me to this wonderful soul. She has a big family with 27 grandchildren. They are a close and loving family too.

I left praying, wondering what the Lord had in store for her and her family. May the Lord continue to bless her and people like her who are touched and ministered to by our distinctive Adventist literature.

SONE MARINER



3LMUs + 1LMU = 4LMUs

In the past four years, our Conference Literature Evangelist Coordinator has been able to establish three LMUs (Literature Mission Units) in local churches, with the support of the local pastors, their respective church boards, leaders and facilitators. Each LMU member pledges to personally give out a minimum of five pieces of literature each week; GLOW tracts, *Signs* or any other booklets that may be available.

Meeting people face to face is deliberate personal witness-ing that brings with it unique opportunities and benefits.

Only a few Sabbaths ago, our Conference Literature Evangelist Coordinator was able to establish a fourth LMU at our Toowoomba Central church. After the service, and a com-bined lunch, a training program was held in the church hall.

The group were excited to establish their own local group and are looking forward to encouraging each other as they share experiences and tips of how to approached people and who they have been able to connect with. The group will meet bi-monthly to share experiences and pray.

Ellen White reminds us to, “sell them far and near, scatter them like leaves of autumn . . . from the light given me I know that where there is one canvasser in the field, there should be a hundred.”

A LMU member testified that, when she and her husband went overseas recently, they took with them 700 GLOW tracts and had a wonderful time giving them out every-where to people who wished to receive them.

SONE MARINER

BUNDABERG**MUM'S THE WORD**

When Dr David Feinberg, a psychiatrist by training, took over as CEO of the UCLA Health System in the late 2000s he was taking leadership of a system of hospitals that had some of the worst customer/patient satisfaction scores possible. They were abismably low even for a hospital, a place practically no-one enjoys visiting. However, after just a few months of Dr Feinberg becoming CEO, the hospital scores started to turn around; score by score, month by month, the hospital's satisfaction ratings increased. They increased so much that eventually they would out perform well known luxury hotel chains like the Hilton on customer satisfaction!

How did they do it?

Dr Feinberg's vision was simple: all employees, from cleaners to clinicians, were to treat patients like it was their own mother needing the care. They were to exhibit an abnormal amount of empathy toward their patients, simply by asking themselves the question, "How would I want my Mum treated?" This small, seemingly insignificant edict from the CEO who empowered his staff as he walked the corridors of the hospitals, was enough to turn the UCLA Health System's customer satisfaction response from some of the worst in the country, to the best.

The Apostle Paul, gives his protégé Timothy some similar advice in 1 Timothy 5:1, 2: "Never speak harshly to an older man, but appeal to him respectfully as you would to your own father. Talk to younger men as you would to your own brothers. Treat older women as you would your mother, and treat younger women with all purity as you would your own sisters" (NLT).

Paul's simple advice is to shape for a Christ-centred church; a church with overwhelming member satisfaction; a church where people love to belong; a church that exhibits and enjoys the peace and presence of the Holy Spirit.

So how can we start to turn our church satisfaction around? Where can we find our joy as God's people again? By treating older men with respect, by loving older women as you would your mum and by caring for younger men and women as you would your brother and sister. Maybe then not only would our churches be more joyful places, but places were people would see the heart and hands of God.

ARTICLE BY DAN KEWLEY AND PHOTO BY STOCK

YANDINA**NEDLEY DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY RECOVERY PROGRAM**

Yandina church completed the first eight weeks of its Nedley Depression and Anxiety Recovery program on Sunday, July 9.

As there were a number of church members who had expressed keen interest in registering, the initial program was being conducted for church members only.

Many of the regular church members, who hadn't registered to complete the full program, attended the first half of the Sunday evening programs, which included a recipe presentation followed by Dr Nedley's lecture, via DVD.

Although the overall depression and anxiety program spans 20 weeks—it includes three four-weekly alumni review and encouragement sessions—those who completed the initial eight week training session celebrated by going out for a much enjoyed vegetarian dinner at the end of week nine.

The organising team, which had attended the Nedley Depression and Anxiety Recovery Program training course conducted by Pastor David Haupt, acknowledged the benefits of running the first program, to be conducted by Yandina Church, in house.

The following is a testimony from one of the registered participants:

"I have benefitted from the Depression Recovery program and have incorporated into my daily routine the things that will help me enjoy a lifestyle free of depression. The program is a valuable resource which deals with the physical, mental and spiritual aspects of living a fulfilled life, with the necessary tools to cope with stressors that are part of everyday life."

Interestingly, a number of members, who attended the first half of each weekly program, remarked that Dr Nedley's DVD presentations would also be of significant benefit to all church members.

The fact that depression and anxiety have now become the most prominent and challenging conditions globally, and that there are currently three million sufferers in Australia, there is no doubt that there will be ongoing demand for Dr Nedley's internationally renowned lifestyle changing program.

15,000 "You're Invited" cards have been printed and advertising for the next depression and anxiety program, and an associated diabetes lifestyle program, is scheduled to commence on August 20 when Yandina church runs its annual street stall at the local Town Fair.

God has richly blessed the efforts of the church to date, and has providentially opened a way for its health programs to be promoted to everyone who attends the Yandina weekend markets, which operates across the road from the church and is strongly patronized by local and nearby residents.

Also, due to the increasing incidents in the community of those suffering a mental health condition—in Australia it is estimated that 45% of people will experience a mental health condition in their lifetime—a nearby doctor, has expressed an interest in studying and promoting Dr Nedley's program on depression and anxiety.

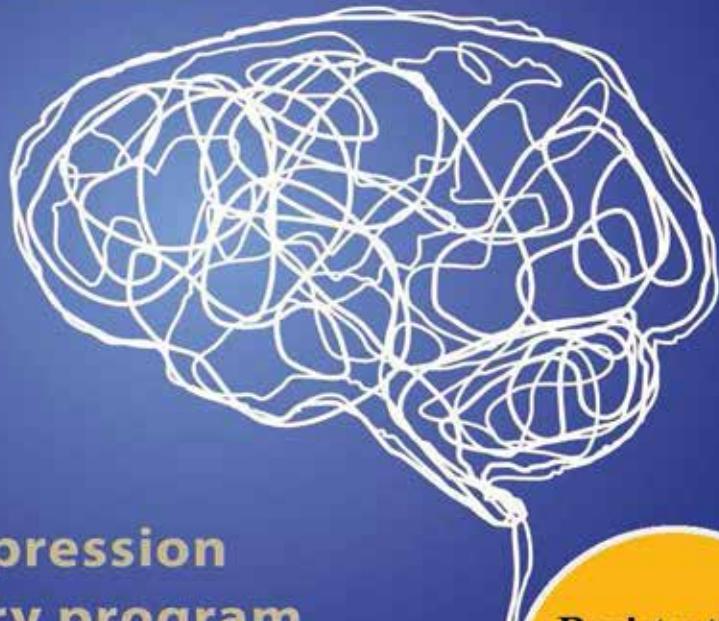
Praise God for the doors He is opening for His Church to help those in need in a rapidly increasing insular and secular society.

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY BRIAN SODEMAN

Training The Trainer Weekend

Associate Director & Facilitator
Training

www.drnedley.com



“The depression recovery program, that really works.”

Registrations close
25th October 2017

Unraveling depression through natural means

“To deal with minds is the greatest work ever committed to men...” (*Mind Character and Personality*, Vol. 1, pg. 4).

Welcome to the Training of the Trainer program!

To be trained as an Associate Director or Facilitator is in fact a choice towards assisting others in their search for wholeness of mind using the Nedley Depression and Anxiety Recovery Program™ by Dr. Neil Nedley. This is a program that has helped thousands of people since its inception in 2004.

REGISTER NOW at:

<https://events.adventist.org.au/Registration/Event/975>



WEEKEND TRAINING PROGRAM

WHERE?

Logan Reserve SDA Church
558 Logan Reserve Road.
Logan Reserve

WHEN?

Friday Nov 24, 7pm
Saturday Nov 25, 9:30am – 6pm
Sunday Nov 26, 9am – 4pm

COST?

Facilitator	\$ 260
Upgrade to Associate Director	\$ 330
Associate Director	\$ 550
License Recertification	
For Ass Director & Facilitator	\$ 50

REGISTER AT:

<https://events.adventist.org.au/Registration/Event/975>

For assistance Ph. Kathy @ 0427276188

GLENVALE**STEP ASIDE SUPERMAN**

Following a visit and presentation by Dr Allan Meyer, the Glenvale Church hopes to launch the "Valiant Man" DVD series in the near future, a ministry course designed to help men live with sexual purity in a sex-obsessed society. "I would love this to become a recurring ministry for us," says Pastor Casey Wolverton, "inspiring not only the men in our congregation, but our community as well. There's a desperate need for this resource, both in and outside our church."

With nearly 80 people in attendance of all ages, Dr Meyer explained how it is really necessary for our society and specifically our churches to restore and fortify the moral and spiritual integrity of men.

In referencing Ephesians 4, Meyers talked of the need for sexual disciplining explaining how we have become alienated from God through ignorance. "If we could help men develop sexual integrity according to Scripture, women and children would have the potential to live in a totally different environment."

Dr Meyers spoke of purity as outlined in the New Testament—having control over our own bodies. He noted a number of issues that make this a real challenge, beginning with the male brain wiring—the eyeball, optic nerve and brain connection and how there needs to be a conscious decision with the responses. He also spoke of the "testosterone engine"; the relentless sexual drive; the influences of secular standards and values; and specifically the impact of pornography.

The Valiant Man is a 10-week course aimed at helping men understand how to live with sexual integrity.

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY CASEY WOLVERTON

LOGAN CITY SAMOAN**THANK YOU!**

Logan City Samoan Church would like to express their appreciation to all churches across the South Queensland Conference for their generous contributions recently. The conference-wide offering allocated to the church will be a tremendous blessing to their ministry, and will enable them to reach and satisfy some of the goals they have set in order to continue spreading God's love.

ARTICLE BY GLENDA FETAUA'I-CRICKTON AND PHOTO BY STOCK

MITCHELTON**REMEMBERING THE REFORMATION!**

It has been 500 years since Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. The revolutionary events and exciting drama of the Reformation will be brought to life in a series of presentations on the Protestant Reformation by Dr Allan Lindsay.

Dr Lindsay, a teacher and educator for more than 40 years, and the Director of the Ellen G White Estate for the South Pacific Division for more than a decade, is coming to our Church here in Mitchelton to present this special series of presentations on the reformers who changed the face of the Church and the Western World.

Invite your friends, family and members of the community to discover and understand just what fuelled the Reformation. It was not the Reformers themselves, but the truths they preached that shook the established church and society. Discover just what these truths re-discovered at the time of the Protestant Reformation were and why they were so life-changing.

- Friday Night: November 3, at 7.00 pm
- Sabbath Service: November 4, at 11.30 am
- Sabbath Afternoon: November 4, at 2.30 pm

ARTICLE BY JOHN STEHN AND PHOTO BY STOCK

LANDSBOROUGH**WE ARE THE HANDS AND WHEELS OF JESUS**

Hayden—centre—at the car sales yard picking up his new vehicle

On her literature evangelism outreach in Beerwah, Michele Hoy (Landsborough Church) met Hayden and Zoe and their five children who were doing it tough. Zoe had lost both legs from a medical procedure and was confined to a wheelchair. Hayden had to give up work to be her full-time carer. However, the family were without a vehicle which made it difficult for shopping and school drop-offs, as well as attending medical appointments. A call was made to the Landsborough Church members and enough money was raised to purchase a good quality second-hand vehicle. The family were grateful for the generosity, love and support they received from the church.

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY CHARLES RUSSELL



I'VE GOT THAT LOVING FEELING!

What would your church do if more than 400 guests turned up on a Sabbath morning? Is it a nightmare or a miracle? Thankfully for Landsborough Church on the Sunshine Coast, they were prepared.

If you turned up to Landsborough Church on Sabbath, August 19, you might have been surprised to see that there was no church service. However, what you will have seen is more than 70 volunteers and members from Landsborough Church in community service for *Loving Landsborough Day* celebration. In February, personal ministries leader Charles Russell received an invitation for our church to participate with a community celebration of 50 years since the naming of the Sunshine Coast. With the opportunity, the church decided to accept the invitation to be involved and planning began. Charles would often share with the church how positive the community planning group was to our presence and involvement in the day.

With the community's trust, the church decided step out in faith and provide community initiatives and activities that would provide an environment for people to share and show Jesus. The day featured an hourly live vegetarian cooking demonstrations with live chef



Jennifer Powrie, gospel music from local artist Anna Beaden, kids craft and activities, a community art gallery held in the church hall, a floral display and creation DVD in the church, health and lifestyle assessments as well as a free café and an Adventist expo booth. More than 400 gift bags were made to share some *Signs* magazines and information about Adventists and our local church, as well as a community bottle of water.

The church was also uniformed for service with brand new "Love Landsborough" community service T-shirts designed for the day, and for the more community service opportunities to follow. On Friday night, the church dedicated their activities and resources to God to bless the community. On Sabbath afternoon, testimonies were shared for an hour at the power of God's leading, with many stories and testimonies shared. A small snapshot of the testimonies of the day featured a 14-year-old teen sharing hope with a man who had lost his wife and blamed God for the loss, to which the teen shared about the love of God and the problem of sin. A former member was invited back home to church through the health and lifestyle assessment and multiple books and magazines were taken and given to the community.

The community group who planned the day were so impressed with the church's activities they actually asked Pastor Lachlan Campbell to be the spokesperson for the community, alongside the local government councillor, in the official opening ceremony of the *Loving Landsborough day*. The day was a success with

more than 350 gift bags given out, more than 400 guests, 32 health and lifestyle assessments and over 400 *Signs* magazines distributed on the day. Landsborough Church has seen God move and has been willing to act with God to be a voice in the community and has enjoyed the blessings of being a church at service. We wish to thank the South Queensland Conference and our local church members and young people for your *Total Member Involvement in Shaping for Mission*.

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY PASTOR LACHLAN CAMPBELL

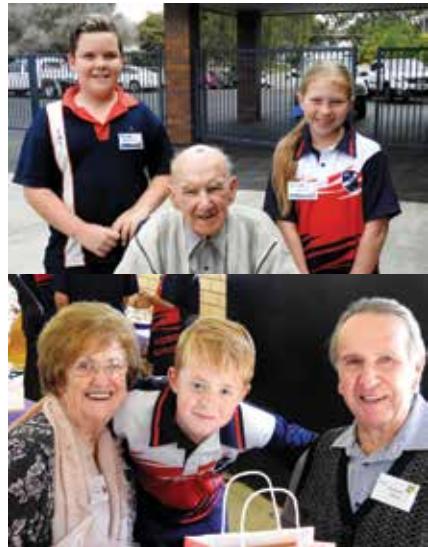
HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



Bradley, Jordan and Liam ready to go door-knocking

As part of the celebration of Father's Day, several Landsborough Church members door-knocked the local area around the church. A small gift was presented to any fathers they met at the door. The gift comprised of a *Signs* magazine, an invitation to attend church, a greeting card and a chocolate treat. It was good to remind the local fathers that they are a very special part of the families who make up the community.

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY CHARLES RUSSELL

IPSWICH ADVENTIST SCHOOL**IAS : CSI**

As Andy Rooney quotes "The best classroom in the world is at the feet of an elderly person".

Ipswich Adventist School students were privileged to participate in a community service initiative in conjunction with the Ipswich Adventist Church JOYclub to celebrate Seniors Week in August.

"A Queensland For All Ages" was the theme and focus for the celebrations where more than 80 guests from the local Brassall community came together to celebrate the valuable contribution of older people.

Students were able to greet guests on arrival, perform musical, creative expression and vocal items, plus gift each guest with a goody bag full of handmade items by the students from each class.

Students were grateful for the opportunity to connect and serve in such a way and had a wonderful time sharing with the guests. We are proud of the students for representing our school so well and showing the "Spirit of IAS" to the greater community in such a positive way.

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY NADIA GOLTZ

**BEST DAY EVER**

Music was the big feature at Ipswich Regional Day on August 5. Congregational singing was accompanied by a 12-piece orchestra made up of a clarinet, flutes, violins, a double bass, trumpets, a cornet, saxophones, a piano accordion and piano. Song leaders were representatives from churches in the area.

Choral items were provided throughout the day by the Ipswich PNG "Wantoks," the Goodna church plant "Lifeswich Choir," and the Rosewood Singers. There was also a vocal solo with instrumental accompaniment.

The "President Brothers"—Pastors Glenn and Brett Townend—led out in the Sabbath school lesson and main service, where "Seeing as Jesus Sees" was illustrated in a way that had the attention and participation of all, including the children, who had previously been treated to a story by Pastor Neil Marks.

After sharing lunch in the spring-like sunshine, it was hard to get folk inside for the afternoon session. Those who came were blessed by illustrated reports of the progress of work in our South Queensland Conference. These consisted of interesting stories and caused some to say this was the "best ever" Ipswich Regional Day.

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY MARJORIE ENTERMANN

BRISBANE ADVENTIST COLLEGE**PASTORS EAT PRINCIPAL'S BREAKFAST!**

The inaugural Brisbane Adventist College Principal's Prayer Breakfast was held for leaders from BAC, our sister school Ipswich Adventist School, and

22 local churches last term. As a College, we share a vision with our local churches about preparing young people for mission and service. They believe in what we're doing and support us annually through offerings. We want to show our gratitude and strengthen our relationship with them in return.

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY LYN BENNETT

SELFLESS ACTS OF SERVICE

Mr Jackson spent his July holidays with Brisbane Adventist College graduates. Why? Because of a project hatched by last year's Year 12 students Jade Crighton, Asha Morgan and Gisreine Nyandwi.

During a 2016 SonShip Trip, they noticed that adolescent girls in remote school districts of the Solomon Islands did not have easy access to sanitary items. This means that they might actually miss several days of school every month, which has a significant impact on their overall education. The Days for Girls project came to fruition last holidays when Jade, Asha and Gisreine returned to the Solomon Islands with SonShip directors Mr and Mrs Jackson, 2007 graduate and medical doctor Rhys Cameron, and 2014 graduate Sania Alamate. The team spent two full weeks on small boats visiting 19 remote islands, running reproductive health talks for teenage boys and girls, and distributing 611 Days for Girls kits (reusable sanitary kits). In the process, they visited Chea village, the home of the first Solomon Island Adventist minister Kata Ragoso, and saw the largest war



canoe in Western Solomon Islands at Bareho village and many other amazing, beautiful sights. The team is now working on a plan to help Batuna Adventist Vocational School set up a microenterprise, producing kits of their own.

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY LYN BENNETT

NORTHPINE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

OXFORD TO HARVARD TO NORTHPINE . . .



In April, 2017, Northpine Christian College Year 11 student Tinashe Sithole submitted a personal statement and essay for admission to the International Oxford and Cambridge Summer Academy for the academic study abroad program, and was selected with four other Australian students and approximately 50 other students from around the world! In July, 2017, she attended Somerville College at the University of Oxford in Oxford City, England, for the two-week program. The focus of her course was law, as she intends on pursuing law once she graduates from school. Other activities included a guided tour of Oxford, watching a Shakespearean theatre performance, witnessing a Quidditch International Olympics match, visiting London and its main attractions, as well as guided tours of Bath, and visiting one of the wonders of the world and the best-known pre-historic monument in Europe, Stonehenge. She was also guid-

ed through museums, Oxford Castle, Windsor Castle, and took a ride on a River Cruise across from Magdalen College, where Oscar Wilde studied, among many other exciting activities.

Two weeks after returning from Oxford, Tinashe heard back from another application she made to Crimson Education to attend the 2018 Harvard Model United Nations Tour, and was given an offer! She is yet to accept the offer, which will give her the opportunity to travel to Boston and attend a course in Law at Harvard University. She will then travel to New York, where she will attend a several-day meeting at the United Nations headquarters. As part of this opportunity, on Wednesday September 13, 2017, Tinashe will be attending the Model United Nations conference held in Brisbane, where she will give a speech on the issue of Child Soldiers in third world countries.

Tinashe Sithole is quite clearly a remarkable young woman. Northpine Christian College is extremely proud of her achievements and confident that she will go far in her future career, whatever path she decides to take. Below is Tinashe's reflection on her astounding achievements this year:

"It was a privilege to be acknowledged by such an elite institution such as Oxford University, home to a variety of historic documents, artefacts and state-of-the-art research facilities, and to be among other young, intelligent and driven individuals. Being given this amazing opportunity has allowed me to be aware of the endless possibilities there are for people like myself who intend to achieve greatness. With my recent acceptance to study at Harvard for a few weeks, as well as being recognised as one of Australia's United Nations Youth Delegates, I hope to influence other motivated individuals who aspire to seek greatness as well as assist others where possible."—Tinashe Sithole, 11A

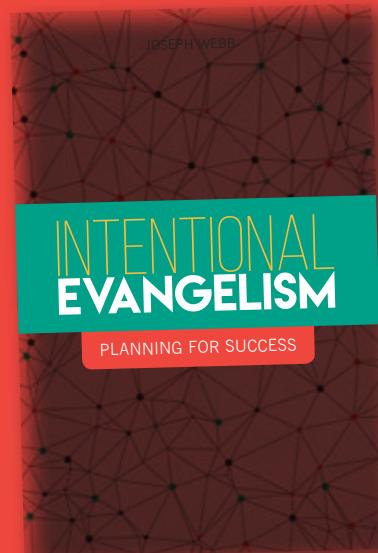
ARTICLE BY CINDY SYKES AND PHOTOS BY ANDREW SCHNELL



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Interested in becoming more intentional in your evangelistic efforts?

Check-out this book by Joe Webb.



ABOUT THE BOOK

Evangelism is the purposeful attempt to lead as many people as we can into God's eternal kingdom. As Dr. Webb was writing the Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide for second quarter 2012, he felt a need for a book that would challenge people to move from studying about evangelism to being intentionally involved.

Although this book suggests many evangelistic activities, and some important dos and don'ts, it is not strictly a "How to do it" manual. It is the author's hope that the reader will discover how he or she can become involved in their local church's evangelism activities.

This book gives very practical ideas, training methods, and warnings of possible dangers about some of the most effective methods to grow a church. Sabbath school holistic small groups, every Sabbath church time as outreach evangelism opportunities, the most successful Bible-study techniques, sequential evangelistic events, strategic planning helps, and how to increase retention and win back inactive members are all thoroughly and helpfully discussed.



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FOR ENQUIRIES CONTACT
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SPIRITUALITY & HEALTH SEMINAR

Join us for an inspirational day of Worship, Praise and Learning with Guest Presenter Dr John Skrzypaszek Director of the Ellen White Research Centre, Theology Lecturer at Avondale College, and European Trained Concert Pianist



Presentations Include:

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The Sabbath and Health – Dr John Skrzypaszek
Spirituality and Mental Health – Pr Neil Marks

18th November 2017
9:30 am – 4:30 pm
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Seventh-day
Adventist Church
25 Sunflower
Street Wynnum,
QLD
BYO Picnic Lunch

Save the Date!

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Celebrate our Anniversary with us

75 years of Christian Education

Anniversary Day – Friday, October 27 – 10.00am
• Historical re-enactment • Plaque unveiling • Student performances
Students and teachers – past and present – will commemorate our school's anniversary on World Teacher's Day

Evening Service – Friday, October 27 – 7.00pm
At Glenvale Seventh-day Adventist Church and Community Centre

Thanksgiving Service – Saturday, October 28 – 10.45am
At Glenvale Seventh-day Adventist Church and Community Centre followed by an alumni gathering and evening community bush dance on the school grounds at 7pm.

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9:15am - 3:30pm
SATURDAY
4 November, 2017

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- an experiential and educational workshop

with

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Expressive Arts Therapist
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\$5 *Early-bird discount

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Vicki has spent her life in creative pursuit, holding a Bachelor of Music, a Masters in Counselling and further post-grad studies in Arts Psychotherapy



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Attention FOCUS Contributors

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