

FOCUS

SOUTH QUEENSLAND CONFERENCE NEWSLETTER

Service Trip to Vanuatu

A group of senior students and their teachers from Noosa Christian College returned recently from a successful 'Overseas Service Trip' to Aore Adventist High School, on a small island in Vanuatu. Service is one of Noosa's key values and helping meet the maintenance needs of an isolated Mission school provides our students with a great opportunity to serve others.

The main project this year was to install a new soakage system for girls' dorm, as the old soakage pit had blocked up (smelling bad!). The ground contained lots of coral rocks, which meant digging trenches using crow bars and picks, which gave some students blisters. Hot weather made the task harder, but our group persisted. Finally, with the assistance of some local students, the task was completed, to the relief of the girls in the dorm and the school's administration.



Another reason an overseas service trip is worthwhile is that it opens Australian students' eyes to different cultural values, and nowhere is this more apparent than in the area of spirituality. Apart from what our students experienced for themselves on Aore, the writer was able to share (after dinner) some stories from the past, where God's power protected early believers in Vanuatu from the very real power of the devil.

A few of our recently enrolled students from non-churched backgrounds opted to participate in Aore's celebration of

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the Lord's Supper one Sabbath, leading them afterwards to ask lots of questions about the Adventist faith, which staff members were happy to answer.

The opportunity for cross cultural connections is another reason that we run such trips and the Noosa students had fun playing games with the village children, making such a nice connection that some said they'd like to return to Vanuatu to live one day!



Supervising adults on the trip included Michael & Jacqueline Taylor, Lachlan & Cathy Campbell, Tony McGuire (a cabinet maker from Tasmania), Danielle (cook) and David Rodgers.

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY DAVID ROGERS (TEAM LEADER)

Glenvale Hosts Toowoomba Ministers



Glenvale SDA Church had the privilege of hosting the Toowoomba Minister's Association for a vegetarian lunch on June 12, coupled with three short presentations highlighting the importance of maintaining spiritual, emotional and

physical health. The 36 Pastors present lead over 30 congregations, and 3000–5000 people collectively. Pr Casey Wolverton, Glenvale senior pastor, spoke about physical health.

Shirley Cherry single-handedly prepared an amazing meal for the 36 church leaders, serving it all with the help of only one other person (Shirley Edser). She is a treasured contributor at Glenvale. Her specialty is a pecan based “meat ball” that melts in the mouth—they loved it! These ministers couldn't believe it wasn't real meat.

“It was a wonderful opportunity to introduce Seventh-day Adventists to the spiritual shepherds of our city,” says Pr Casey. “I believe this is the sort of thing the Holy Spirit is using to establish trust and influence between us and Toowoomba's key spiritual influencers—in preparation for a turbulent future for all who genuinely love the Lord. God calls us to love these men and women—and potentially to lead them in the coming crisis.”

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY CASEY WOLVERTON

Unity and Differences

The apostle Paul wrote to seven different churches: Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Thessalonians. To each one he implores them to maintain unity, when very clearly there seems to be an undercurrent of differences that would drive them apart (see for example Rom 15:5, 1 Cor 1:10, Gal 3:28, Eph 4:13, Phil 2:2, Col 3:14, 1 Thes 3:12).

The fledgling church, only a few decades after the ascension of Jesus, were already finding that differences of opinion threatened the unity for which Jesus himself prayed (John 17). The differences were cultural, theological and generational. The Jews and the Gentiles had differing experiences and backgrounds, and there were differing opinions on theology. Paul addresses that. It appears that some older folk were looking down on Timothy because he was from a younger generation. Paul addresses that too.

Unity was important, because it was essential to the ongoing mission of the church. This was core to Paul's pragmatic approach to the threat of division. As we read scripture and look back into the story 2000 years later, some of his decisions seem contradictory and puzzling. The Jerusalem church council (Acts 15) ruled that Gentiles didn't need to be circumcised when coming to the faith, but the very next chapter he insists that Timothy is circumcised before he joins Paul on a missionary journey (Acts 16:3). Titus continued uncircumcised, and Paul upholds him as an example to the Galatians (Gal 2:3). He writes to the

Corinthians sometime after the Jerusalem council, which had ruled against eating meat offered to idols. Yet when the Corinthians are struggling with that very question Paul makes no reference to the Jerusalem decision (1 Cor 8). Instead, he takes some time to answer the question, essentially saying, "well it depends!" and then explains various possible circumstances.

The differences were there, but Paul prefers to focus on the mission of the church. "I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some" (1 Cor 9:22, NLT). If he could find common ground then he would have opportunity to share the gospel. What really mattered to him was that people accept Jesus as Lord and Saviour of their lives.

Paul addresses the unity question from different angles, but I'm always challenged by his words to the Philippians. The way that they could continue to 'work together with one mind and one purpose' (Phil 2:2) was by having the 'same attitude' (or mind, in the KJV) as Jesus (Phil 2:5). Jesus didn't look after his own interests, but put his own interests aside, leaving his place of privilege in heaven, and coming to earth for the sake of our salvation.

As we focus on Jesus and cultivate his attitude, we too can put our own interests to one side, and stay united despite our differences. And that, for the sake of our mission.

God and Mammon

God and Mammon. You can't serve both, says Jesus (Matt 6: 24 KJV). In saying this Jesus deifies money, in the sense that He recognises that many will treat money as a god. But you can't serve this god and the one true God at the same time.

If it was true in Jesus' time, how true is that statement in our secular, consumer driven society? Many people serve money. They sell themselves to this God 40+ hours a week. The stranglehold of monies reign in life is only broken by one thing—generous giving! Any power money has is in the ability of acquisition. Money can get what it wants; things can be bought and sold. Generous giving breaks this stranglehold. It's unmerited, unconditional, expecting nothing in return. We say to Mammon, "You think you've got power, I'll show you something, I'm just giving!" Giving blasphemes, if you like, the god of Mammon, taking his name in vain. In giving we demonstrate which God we serve.

Let's remember this as we generously give of our time, our tithes, and our offerings. Let's choose to serve God, not Mammon.

ARTICLES BY BRETT TOWNEND, EDITOR



Renew Women's Conference

South Queensland Conference hosted Renew Women's Conference on the weekend of the 24th–26th May. It was an incredible time of worship and preaching of the Word.



Priscilla Mariassouce is the Associate Pastor from Gateway Church in Cooranbong. She describes herself as a follower of Jesus, wife of Zayne, and mother of Hunter. Priscilla is a daughter, sister, and friend, pastor, musician and worship leader. All of these attributes were evident over the weekend as Priscilla opened the Word and challenged the women with a message from Psalm 42 on Friday night. “We are called to be ‘Soul Strong’ women.



We need women of every age present in our community. How do we find this strength?” It is from living our lives seeking after God. How am I ordering my days to make seeking after God a priority? A Soul Strong woman thirsts after God. Am I needing his presence or have I got used to life without him? A Soul Strong woman remembers her own stories of God and she seeks out other women's stories. A Soul Strong woman puts her trust in God and she trusts his Word. She wants him to lead in her life. A Soul Strong woman is honest and open with God. She talks and listens to the King. Finally, a Soul Strong woman hopes in God. He is her resting place and ultimate security.

On Sabbath, Priscilla bought the message of living a life of purpose. Living a life of purpose isn't living a busy life filled with plans, but rather it's a life filled with intention. You have to discipline your purpose. This means that we say yes to things that feed our purpose and no to the things that starve our purpose. Living a life of purpose shows us who Jesus is. It means spending time with him each day and being a woman who chooses this as a priority in life. Don't allow work, home, children, or your own pursuits to replace that.



Be more interested in who Jesus says you are than who the world says you are. This is where you define your purpose. Lastly, defend your purpose. This is following the unique call that God has placed on your life. It helps you respect and recognize that he has placed a different call on your life. This is for the purpose of discipling others and reaching them with the gospel.

Narelle Coyt and the Conference Prayer Team created an amazing prayer area within the meeting focusing on “The Lord's Prayer.” It was an interactive space with three stations that encouraged participants to engage with God in either a group or personal time. This was in conjunction with Priscilla's third message on lessons from “The Lord's Prayer.”

In between meetings there was time for catching up with others at the Renew Café. Samantha Fowler and her team put together a wonderful gathering place for the weekend.

“More than this, it was evident that the Holy Spirit was present in bringing together so many elements,” says Helen Threlfo, coordinator for the event. The name of Jesus was lifted up as women were invited to commit their life to him. They were challenged to use their time wisely and to keep their eye on the prize which is bringing people to a full knowledge of the love of Jesus.

ARTICLE BY HELEN THRELFO
AND PHOTOS BY CHARMAINE PATEL

ADRA Water Project in Timor Leste



It's 2am in the morning. Rain is pounding on the tin roof. Elvira wants to just roll over and fall back to sleep - but nature calls.

She picks her way through the overgrown grass outside the house and ventures as far into the bush as she dares: surely no one will see her here. She tries to go about her business quickly and within minutes she is back in the safety of her home, puddles of rainwater pooling around her feet.

Without a toilet, Elvira, her husband and her son were forced to use the bush around their house in rural Timor Leste for years. "I didn't feel comfortable because people could see," says Elvira. "The dogs and pigs would bring the waste back to the house. It would make us sick."

The battle to stay well was constant. Their nearest water source, the river, was almost half an hour away. Elvira and her son Aniceto would be up early every morning collecting water. Together, they would carry as much water as their bodies could take back home. But even after all their efforts, the water wasn't clean. "When we took water from the river we had to boil it first," Elvira says. "If not, we would get sick."

Elvira's inability to meet the family's basic sanitation needs affected all aspects of their life. Aniceto was often late to school, or would miss school altogether because he was collecting water instead.

"I send my children to school because I want them to have a good future," says Elvira. "But because the water was far away from our house, my children got punished by the teacher for being late."

Life carried on this way for years until ADRA began working in the area.

With help from ADRA, Elvira and her husband now have a new latrine.

They no longer have to use the bush, giving Elvira and her family their dignity back. "I don't feel ashamed anymore," Elvira says.

A water pump was also installed within twenty metres of Elvira's house, saving the family time, restoring their health and ensuring they have a source of income.

"I am happy because we don't need to go far to fetch water. The water is near our house," says Elvira. "We don't get sick when we drink the water because the water is clean."

For Aniceto, this means less time collecting water and more time in school. "Water is close now so I can take a bath and I am not late to school anymore," Aniceto says.

The family garden is now plentiful too.

"Before we couldn't plant vegetables, but now, we have water close by so we can plant vegetables for our food," says Elvira. "Each day we sell some, and we eat some."



Although life for her family has improved, Elvira is concerned for the wellbeing of others in the community. "Many people do not have water like this," she says. "In other places, no one has yet drilled water like what we have here. Some other people also want to have water, but they have no water source."

Elvira's life has been transformed through your help in partnership with ADRA. However, Elvira fears for many others who still struggle with poverty, sickness and lack of dignity.

Your donation by June 30 will bring water and sanitation facilities close to families so they can escape the trap of poverty. Visit adra.org.au/donate or call 1800 242 372 to give.

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY ASHLEY STANTON, ADRA AUSTRALIA COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA COORDINATOR

Pathfinder Training and Big Day Out



Master Guides around the conference recently came together for an intense day of training. Master Guides are young leaders who are equipped to lead in Pathfinders. There was an excellent turn-out of 38 Master Guides, ranging from 16 to 30 years of age.

Training began at 9am on Saturday 8th June and finished at 3:30pm. Throughout the day the Master Guides learnt key skills like teaching in groups, camp skills, storytelling, club leadership and creative resource development.

The Master Guide Big Day Out is a part of the curriculum and training required to be invested in Pathfinder leadership. Generally, takes two years before participants are invested, with a huge amount of time given to the program. Many clubs were represented; Reedy Creek, Riverview, South Brisbane, Springwood Samoa, Park Ridge, combined Albion and Nundah, Kingston Samoan, Logan City Samoan, Logan Reserve and Nambour.

“A huge thank you to those leaders who presented on the day. We have some of the best leaders in the country and I would go far as to say the world. We had an excellent day of laughter and learning,” reports Pr Rick Meale.

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY RICK MEALE

Pathfinder Leadership Award

Once the Master Guides had finished, in rolled the leaders of our pathfinder clubs. The Pathfinder Leadership Award, also known as PLA, is the next step in training after Master Guide. This is necessary so that our clubs have leaders who are trained for the role. Generally, the training is a two to three-year commitment.

The volunteers who embark on this are really dedicated to leading in pathfinders. Some of the Conference church Pastors came and were involved in this training. They can learn so many valuable leadership skills through this program. Some of the practical skills taught include; how to engage young people in nature and outdoors, games, knots and lashings, and drills for marching.

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY RICK MEALE



Adventurer Rally and Fair 2019

This year over 420 children and leaders attend the annual Adventurer Rally and Fair. The theme was adopted from the AUC Pathfinder Camporee—Unstoppable. Over the course of the weekend the campers focused on the Armour of God, from Ephesians chapter 6. After a magnificent march-in parade, our newly formed Adventurer District Directors were introduced, the story from Ephesians was shared, then the Adventurers created their own armour as craft, moving from station to station. The day ended on a march out parade, where the Adventurers retired to return on Sunday.



On Sunday, the Adventurers traversed around three core activities where they bounced, walked through obstacle courses, and played games that made them think through problems. The program ended a little early due to the weather, but an excellent day was enjoyed by all. “I am sure that all slept well that night,” reports Pr Rick Meale.

“A huge thank you goes out to all the District Directors for Pathfinders and Adventurers who contributed significantly to the success of the weekend. These events are impossible without leaders like them. Also, a huge thank you goes out to all the leaders of Adventurers, that give up so much of their personal time to serve in this space. Lives are touched forever as a result. A massive thank-you was extended to Conference Events Coordinator, Anita Thew and her husband Phillip, for supporting this event and making it all come together.” Pastor Willie Strickland was honoured with flowers and chocolate at the weekend for his work in growing Adventurers to where it is today. Adventurer rally and fair was a great success.

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY RICK MEALE

Northern Youth Rally (Lake Monduran)



The annual Northern youth rally at Monduran camp was a great success. This year there were over 70 young people registered to come for the weekend, which began on Friday 31st May and ended on the 2nd of June.

Pr Tim Ah Sam from Emerald and Biloela churches shared worship with the young people who attended. He spoke about taking God seriously and the love that He has poured out on everyone because of that. Excellent music was led by ‘Goose’ and ‘Joombie’ from the Gladstone church. The campers were led up the garden path by Terry, a local at the

Monduran camp site, on a Saturday afternoon walk, which will not be forgotten. Sunday everyone braved the cold temperatures and slid down the slide, canoed in the water and tubed behind ski boats.

Stephen Trow was the canoe instructor, Josh Coulston and Chris Davey drove the boats for a great Sunday for everyone. There were the usual shenanigans from our local Pastors tipping kids out of canoes, as much laughter was had. “Monduran norther youth rally rocked again,” reports Pr Rick Meale, “I must say I have a soft spot for country youth.”

A huge thank you, needs to be given to our northern Pastors who support this event regularly: Pr Tim Ah Sam, Pr David Yeo and Pr Dan Kewley. Their wives also came and gave great support: Ngahuia (Pr Tim’s wife), Donna (Pr David’s wife) and Jaqueline (Pr Dan’s wife). A huge thank is extended to these brave women. “I have come to realise that these camps work best when the Pastors and their families are all in. I witnessed real ministry happen between them all. Thanks to the Pastors,” said Rick.

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY RICK MEALE

ATSIM at Weet-Bix TRYathlon

It will go down as a time that ATSIM in South Queensland will never forget. It all started with a phone call from Simon who is the area leader for ADRA. Simon rang saying, “ADRA have received funding to support the indigenous communities and families whose children want to participate in the Weet Bix Triathlon.” After talking through the needs Indigenous communities have to even entertain the idea, it looked almost impossible to get this off the ground. But the Lord had a plan, He was about to show just how much love He has for struggling families.

After spending time in prayer asking the Lord to provide all the things these children needed to enter the TRY event, Pastor Luke Stuart the South Queensland ATSIM Director, began asking businesses if they could offer support in getting indigenous children to the May, 2019 Weet Bix TRYathlon event.

The Lord opened the doors of 99 Bikes in McGregor. After talking with the store manager about some of the challenges these children face in entering a TRY event, the store manager shared how he also did the Weet Bix TRYathlon when he was a child in NZ, and how much it impacted his life for fitness. 99 Bikes offered to sell the bikes to ATSIM at better than cost pricing, making bikes accessible to all the children wanting to enter the competition. “What an answered prayer!” exclaimed Luke Stuart.

Another prayer was answered when the manager of Zone Sports in Mt Gravatt agreed to sell shoes at half price, and do a special shoe fitting, for all the children entering the triathlon. The store manager also offered continued support for future initiatives in any way possible. The final piece in the equipment puzzle was a pair of swimmers and goggles, and the Lord opened the doors of the Swimwear Shack in Woolloongabba.

The store manager shared their compassion for the children who wanted to attend the event and was willing to help each child by only charging half price for a pair of swimmers and goggles. Swimwear Shack also has a booth at the TRY event, and offered that if any of the children forget to bring their gear they would look after them from their booth at the event. Another answered prayer.

“What a powerful God we serve, bikes, shoes, swimmers and goggles all found at half price. All we needed now was children to attend,” reflected Luke. After connecting with schools and communities, SQ ATSIM received fifty-four application forms from parents applying for entry into the 2019 Weet-Bix TRYathlon.



The event day arrived and it was a rainy and cold day, but nothing could dampen the enthusiasm of the children riding their new bikes, running in their new shoes, or swimming in their new swimmers and goggles. The children felt so proud as they ran into the transition area picking up their gear for each part of the Weet Bix TRYathlon.

“This has been a wonderful opportunity to communicate a loving God to a bunch of children who might never get a chance to attend any church or Sabbath school program,” says Pastor Luke Stuart. “We are looking forward to staying connected with the families of the 54 children who attended the 2019 Weet Bix TRYathlon.”

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY LUKE STUART

Brisbane Adventist College Baptism



Brisbane Adventist College Chaplains, JP Martinez and Annalise Lindsay, were excited to baptise 6 current students and 1 alumni (2018) on Friday evening June 14 during a special vespers Praise night on their College campus. These seven young people come from both faith and non-faith backgrounds, and have been studying with the chaplains at school and with their local pastors for a while now.

The College campus has been an integral part of their spiritual journeys; a place they attend weekly chapel programs, Week of Worship events, Encounter classes, and Bible Studies, all amongst a staff who really care about their student's eternities. Local pastors were present at the event to pray and baptise, and also to celebrate, signifying the strong collaboration network between the Conference-run youth initiatives (Summer Camps/Big Camps), Local Churches (Mentoring/Pathfinders) and School Ministries.



The Chaplains gave an appeal at the end of the praise-filled evening, inviting those who haven't yet made the decision for baptism to give their lives to Jesus, and 11 came forward.

They were all thrilled to give their lives to Jesus publicly in front of their families, as well as their church and College communities. One of the seven said this: "It's overwhelming but also such an amazing experience, I feel like a new person"—Lupita M. Jared Martin, intern minister at Mt Gravatt, was involved in one of the baptisms, as was Pr Steve Ward, from Nambour church.



ARTICLE BY ANNALISE LINDSAY

PHOTOS BY JORDAN MATTHEWS, NICK LAWSON AND TIM LAWSON

WAYMAKER—Adventist Digital Media Launch

Apple. When you hear the word it may conjure up a number of different thoughts; expensive computers, expensive software, expensive phones...android public enemy number one, fruit.

Apple is a brand name. It doesn't really denote an individual product. Our desire is for WAYMAKER to become a household brand name as well!

There's no question that the digital media world is where most of our young people have taken up residence when it comes to communication and information sharing. Our young people consume a huge amount of content online each day.

In a recent report Dr Tracey Sletten of Monash University had this to say about screen time and young adults, "More than one-third of each day, 9.4 hours, is being spent in front of computer, mobile phone and television screens, which equates to about 143 days every year. This is more than the amount of time spent asleep—7.3 hours each day, on average."¹

The Loneran Research data shows that Australian Millennials (usually considered to apply to individuals who reached adulthood around the turn of the 21st century), "...spend more time glued to electronic devices than they do eating, commuting, working and exercising combined and on average."²

Millennials spend 3 hours a day just looking at their phone alone! That amount to 1 day out of every week!

Clearly, for young people, the most popular and familiar way of consuming content is by online delivery, specifically video-on-demand (VOD) and Livestream. In other words, young adults want the control what they watch and when they want to watch it!

So what exactly is WAYMAKER?

It's a media ministry environment—a digital discipling ecosystem—a Christ connecting community. WAYMAKER is the brand name that encompasses all that will become a digital space for relevant, young-adult focussed Christian-living content pointed specifically at our church Millennials and their friends. WAYMAKER will become the environment where young adults may network and connect with other young adults, sharing information, inspiration, ideas and resources.

WAYMAKER is not just another Australian Union Conference (AUC) media initiative—it is the media initiative. It is the method by which we will do much of our communication and information sharing as a church here in Australia.

The Spiritual Perspective of WAYMAKER.

Jesus reminds us in John 14:6, "I am the Way the Truth and the Life." Simply put, Jesus is the Way.

John writes, "All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being."⁴ Simply put, Jesus is our Maker.

The Media Perspective of WAYMAKER.

Waymaker is the way in which we can firstly, empower young people to be involved in creating and curating media content, and secondly, taking that content and using it in such a way as to minister to our church Millennials and their friends.

Those involved in building the WAYMAKER ecosystem are looking for WAYMAKER ambassadors, content creators and content curators! If you are a young person who would love to be part of the WAYMAKER journey we'd really love to give you the chance to take the reins of this ministry and help drive it forward with us.

If you know a young person who you think would love to be involved with WAYMAKER, please advise them to get in touch with us here at the Australian Union Conference:

murrayhunter@adventist.org.au
 paulinelacruz@adventist.org.au

You can also find us online:

WAYMAKER FACEBOOK: facebook.com/
 waymakerministry
 WAYMAKER YOUTUBE: youtube.com/way.makerministry
 WAYMAKER INSTAGRAM: @way.maker
 WAYMAKER EMAIL: hello@waymaker.com.au
 WAYMAKER TV: www.waymaker.tv
 WAYMAKER WEBSITE: www.waymaker.com.au

MURRAY HUNTER
 (MEDIA OFFICER, AUC)

SOUTH BRISBANE CELEBRATING 120 YEARS



Brisbane's oldest church, South Brisbane, commenced in the year 1899, so this year marks the 120th year of its existence. At Queensland's first Camp Meeting a year before Ellen White had a vision about this church, and how the work would expand in Queensland. The church was built in Church Street, Woolloongabba, before moving to its current site at 24 O'Keefe Street, Buranda, in 1963.

With such a significant milestone, the church has set aside Sabbath, August 31, 2019, as the day to celebrate this historical event and God's leading in His church.

Members past and present are invited to come along and reminisce, recognise God's goodness to His people over the years, and acknowledge His sustaining power as we wait for the promised return.

Sabbath School will commence at 9:30am, followed by the church service at 11:00am and light luncheon.

Enquiries to Kathy via the South Brisbane SDA Church website:

southbrisbaneadventist.org

BAKING SALE



South Brisbane church have come up with a recipe for a very fun and successful bake sale and cake auction:

- Take one Saturday evening
- Add lots of church members and friends
- Stir in an abundance of delectable cakes and baked goods
- Season well with quizzes and challenges
- Top with a frenzy of competitive bidding
- Garnish with good natured heckling

The church ran the successful event on Saturday evening May 18th 2019, and raised an impressive \$1,125,050 in the process.

The winner of the precision lamington making challenge was Vanessa Forsythe, whose Chai Cheesecake was voted the People's Choice, while Heloise Otto's Four-Layer Vanilla Cake sold for the highest price of \$100.

ARTICLE BY?

LANDSBOROUGH

ANZAC DAY DAWN SERVICE BREAKFAST



The Landsborough church's catering team was involved in preparing, cooking and serving the community breakfast at the Landsborough School of Arts Memorial Hall following the Anzac Day Dawn Service in

Landsborough. The local RSL provided the food with preparations starting in the early hours of 3.00am. Intrepid volunteers got out of bed very early to help with this important community event.

"It was an excellent opportunity for our church to connect with the community," says Charles Russell (Community Ministries Leader). "Their efforts were very much appreciated by the organisers and attendees."

ARTICLE BY CHARLES RUSSELL
AND PHOTO BY BOB BURNS

REMEMBERING MOTHERS



To celebrate Mother's Day, a group of ladies from the Landsborough Church distributed gifts and flowers to homes in the local area. Sue Dixon (2nd from the right), who coordinated the activity, said it was important to acknowledge and say thank you for the vitally important work that mothers perform in the family and in the community.

ARTICLE BY CHARLES RUSSELL

REMEMBERING OUR VOLUNTEERS



To celebrate National Volunteers Week, members of the Landsborough Seventh-day Adventist Church organised gifts of appreciation for the volunteers at

Morris House Neighbourhood Centre. The church recognises the important work that the volunteers do in helping the disadvantaged members of the community. It regularly donates non-perishable food items to the centre. Ian Hope and Ken Husband received the gifts on behalf of the Centre from Chris and Charles Russell (centre of photo).

ARTICLE BY CHARLES RUSSEL

EDENS LANDING

PRAYER IN THE PARK



Three years ago, following a prophecy seminar outreach held in Beenleigh, QLD, it was decided to form a prayer group with a difference. Wanting to stay in touch with a few interested contacts from the meetings, it was decided to meet together weekly, on neutral ground, in a local park in the scenic Logan River Parklands between 10–11am, to study the Bible and pray.

Since that time there have been 10 regulars (3 of them seekers), and others who have come along to join in. A special A-frame sign designed to capture people's attention and invite them to join us, was strategically placed alongside a busy walking path, which includes free literature for people to grab as they pass by.

Recently, one lady was brave enough to accept the invitation and came over to join in on one of the Bible studies and prayer sessions. She has since been meeting with a husband and wife team (Joan and Bob), at a local cafe, and has indicated an interest in doing further studies.

To date, Prayer in the Park has gone through Jesus' parables, the book of

Acts, Daniel (with calculators and work sheets at the ready), The Gospel of John and his three letters, the Sanctuary, and this year the group are reading through the book of Matthew. Following the completion of a book or series, a celebration vegetarian fellowship lunch together is planned.

Pr Ernst William says, "We want to give God all the Glory for this little group and pray that He may lead more people to come and join us. This August we will have been meeting together for three years. Happy third Birthday!"

ARTICLE BY ERNST WILLIAM

WARWICK

COMMUNITY FOOD VAN



The Warwick Community Van has been like a long-awaited first-time baby. It has been talked about, lovingly anticipated, and dreamt of by members of Warwick church for over eight months. Now it is a reality.

The Community Van, or 'Frankie,' as he is affectionately known, arrived in Warwick in early May and came to Church to meet the Church family on Sabbath the 25th. During a church service that focused on outreach, Frankie was dedicated to service, and Church members sincerely prayed for opportunities to use the van to minister and reach out to the community.

When Church members decided to begin a soup kitchen, they hoped to be able to utilise an existing van here in Warwick. When that fell through, the decision was made to fundraise to buy a van of their own. The local church and the local community got behind the

idea, and a massive garage sale in January raised over \$9,000 dollars. Funds continued to come in steadily until we reached \$12,500. At the same time members prayed that God would lead them to the right van. Several vans were looked at and rejected, until Frankie came along. He seemed just about perfect. However, the asking price was \$22,500 and as other buyers were interested in the van, we only had a couple of days to make a decision.

The seller, touched by our plans to use the van for service, dropped the price to \$20 000. Then a generous donation of \$5000 from a church member put the total within sight. Our local church agreed to lend the van committee the final amount and the purchase was made.

The Warwick Community Van is no longer a dream, or a picture on our logo, but a reality. Church members are excited about the opportunities to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the community. Shire Council members wish to be part of an official dedication; and the local newspaper and a Toowoomba TV station also want to cover an official dedication. So, the local community will be invited to partake not of 'loaves and fishes,' but loaves and soup before the van begins serving those with needs in the Warwick community.

Church members planned to have a trial run on Saturday night following the dedication. However, local church member, Ben Free, who was a loyal supporter of the Community Van, was tragically killed on Sabbath afternoon. Although our church family has been devastated by Ben's death, we are determined, by the grace of God, to continue with the ministry of the food van.

We are so thankful for God's guidance, blessing and providence in making the Community Van a reality. Please pray for the Warwick Church, who despite their grief in tragedy, begin to reach out to those in need.

The church is also planning a VBS in the school holidays. Ben's wife, Winsome, is our Children's Ministry leader so please pray for her and the team leading out for the VBS as well.

ARTICLE BY MARGARET BERNOTH
PHOTOS BY KACEY WEIER

ROMA

SPD PRESIDENT IN ROMA FOR BAPTISM



Pr Glenn Townend, president of the South Pacific Division, and his wife Pamela, visited Roma on the Sabbath of June 1st.

Adventist Aviation flew Glenn and Pam to Roma in a Navajo Chieftain Twin Commuter, under the captaincy of pilot Lester Lewis from Pine Rivers church. It was a nostalgic visit for the Townend's, going back to the church where they served for 3 years in the early days of their ministry. It was in Roma that their two girls were born in the late eighties, and Glenn was ordained to the gospel ministry. Carl Rattray, current minister at Roma, had asked Glenn for a return visit a couple of years ago, and the region came together, with members from the surrounding area joining the Roma folk for a day of worship together.

"What a joy to see the church filled with people from all over the region—Chinchilla, Dulacca, Mitchell, Charleville ... Many new folks but some that we valued 30 years ago. It was a real blessing," reflects Glenn on the special occasion.



Glenn preached a message from Jesus' own mission statement in Luke 4, before officiating at the baptism of Paul Steinhart just outside the main church building. Paul was heartily welcomed into fellowship by the Roma congregation.

ARTICLE BY BRETT TOWNEND
AND PHOTO BY CARL RATTRAY

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL

LACHLAN CAMPBELL ORDAINED AT SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL



Lachlan started fulltime pastoral ministry in the Ipswich area, working with Francis Pule, who with his wife Jennifer, gave an introduction to Lachlan's ministry.

After his internship in Ipswich, eventually Lachlan moved to pastor Landsborough church, before taking a position teaching Bible and Religion at Noosa Christian College, where his wife Cathy is also engaged as a chaplain. Together their ministry has been a blessing to the Sunshine Coast community.

Apart from being gifted as a teacher, Lachlan's innovative approach to ministry has driven him to a strong interest in church planting, and he is currently leading a new plant group called Overflow, who are planning missional initiatives on the Sunshine Coast.

Lachlan was supported on the ordination day by Cathy, his family from Port Macquarie. Pastoral colleagues laid hands on him during the prayer of ordination by Pr Colin Renfrew.

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY BRETT TOWNEND

HERVEY BAY ANCIENT MYSTERIES



The Hervey Bay SDA Church has just recently finished a twenty-four-night program that ran over Sunday and Monday nights for twelve weeks. The Program entitled Ancient Mysteries was presented by Pr Mark Goldsmith and was held at the Community Centre in Hervey Bay.

Over the series we averaged forty-eight people with a maximum of sixty in one night. Ten community people attend the programs, with two of them wanting to know more.

ARTICLE BY KAREN WILLIAM

NORTHPINE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

ANZAC DAY 2019



Northpine Christian College was proud to take part in remembering the sacrifices of Australia's service members on ANZAC Day last week. On Wednesday 24 April, the entire school gathered in the Sports Centre for an ANZAC Ceremony. School Captains and leaders from the Primary and Secondary Schools spoke. A group of students performed a moving version of "I Am Australian". Afterwards, Mr Randall New, Vice President of the Pine Rivers RSL, Kallangur Sub Branch, spoke about how the lessons learned in war by veterans can be applied to everyday life to make better citizens. The ceremony closed with the laying of the wreath and a great rendition of "The Last Post" performed by Rowan Gash on the trumpet.



The following morning, students from Northpine and many other schools in the area gathered on ANZAC Avenue in Kallangur to participate in the ANZAC March. The march began with a line of classic vehicles driven by veterans, and continued with a long line of proud students. Many of them wore their ancestors' war medals. Northpine had a strong showing of students from both Primary and Secondary Schools.

ARTICLE BY ANDREW SCHNELL
PHOTO BY COLIN WILSON

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S TRAINING WEEKEND



Nineteen students had their first training expedition for The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award in the D'Aguiar National Park (formerly Mount Mee State Forest) from Friday 22 March to Sunday 24 March 2019.

Students learned how to navigate through thick bush using a map and compass, carry a full pack all day (some fuller than others!) and to work as a team to achieve the goal together. Some of the highlights were swimming at a beautiful clear, secluded waterhole and waterfall, climbing up very steep hills and scrambling down steep descents, bush-bashing through lantana, crossing the infamous South Branch Creek and just knowing that 'you made it'.

The weather was hot and water was at a premium. Those who arrived at the top of the hill running low on water

could earn a litre of water from the support vehicle by doing push-ups! Saturday night entertainment was cooking damper over the hot coals of an open fire using Mr Hobson's famous recipe.



After the recent wet weather, the waterholes were full and the larger creeks were trickling slowly. The bush comes alive when there is water.

The enthusiasm, energy, positive attitude and the willingness to help others was what made this camp special. Northpine School congratulates all those who completed the expedition, and encourage each one to continue on the Award journey.

The supervisors; Mr Hobson, Mr Wilson, Mrs Coleman, Mr Petrie, Mrs Petrie, and two Gold Awardees Kailee Vardon and Jaeden Vardon, are all highly appreciated for their support and efforts.

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is open to any young person from 14 years and it challenges students to develop in a holistic way.

ARTICLE BY COLIN WILSON
PHOTOS BY ANDREW SCHNELL

DUKE'S SILVER ADVENTURE-SUNSHINE COAST

On the weekend of 17-19 May, thirteen students participated in the first Silver Training Camp for 2019. On Friday morning the group left school for Charlie Moreland Campground in Imbil State Forest, which is near

Kenilworth on the Sunshine Coast. The Silver participants learnt how to use a GPS in relation to their map and compass work which had been completed at Bronze level. The GPS made navigation a little more precise and gave them more confidence of their position on the map. It was a big climb up the hill and then down and across the creek a few times and into camp. A campfire provided a warm central focus point.

The next day it was a big climb over Mt Allan. One group was given the GPS coordinates to find the other group as part of a search and rescue exercise. Students were given the challenging task of managing a mock 'sprained ankle', 'snake bite' and 'broken arm' when they located the missing group. Students hiked down an unmarked track on a spur into Booloumba Creek Campground, where they experienced the deep emerald colour of the clear, cold waters of the creek.

On Sunday morning the group hiked up Booloumba Creek to the beautiful Artists Cascades. Many braved the cold water and sat under the waterfall (a warm spa without the warm!) Students had a lot of fun traversing the creek by rock hopping their way to Frog Falls. They had a quick dip and from here it was a big, steep climb up the spur to the road, requiring good navigation skills to stay on the spur, with the added challenge of some thick vegetation to push through. The weather turned out to be pleasant for walking, with only a few light showers over the weekend. The creeks were flowing well after the recent rains and the water was crisp and clear.

Volunteers for the trip made it all possible: Mr Clayton Forbes, Mrs Luisa Coleman, Miss Kaliesha Coyte, Mr Darryl Hobson and Mr Colin Wilson.

Northpine Christian College is proud to provide students with an opportunity to be part of "The International Duke of Edinburgh Award".

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY COLIN WILSON

OPEN NIGHT 2019



Northpine Christian College held their Annual Open Night on the afternoon of Wednesday 29 May 2019. It was a great way to experience the school in a fun setting with many avenues of discovery and entertainment.

One of the highlights of the evening was that visitors had the opportunity to have a sneak-peek of Northpine's brand new High School building. The Secondary School showed exhibits from all the different subject departments in the new classrooms. Challenge Class had their mountain bikes on display, letting people know about the mountain bike track located on Northpine's property. Similarly, Outdoor Education brought out the canoes, which are used on camps and in Northpine's reservoir. A rock climbing wall was in place for young ones to conquer. Visual Art displayed various student-made art pieces, and Industrial Technology showed off their 3D printers. Throughout the night, visitors watched performances by the Music Department in the new Outdoor Amphitheatre.



New families had the opportunity to take a tour given by current Northpine students. There was a science exhibit and show run by the Northpine's Science Department. A petting zoo was open with chickens, ducks, goats and

sheep. In the undercover basketball court, the Primary School set up booths for each year level, giving parents the opportunity to talk with teachers and learn more about what their students have been studying in class.

The Library was bustling with people purchasing books during the Book Fair, themed "Catch the Reading Wave." The Refresh Northpine Community Church set up their Jumping Castle, and the Chaplains were around to talk about their upcoming STORMCo Trips.

In the Home Economics building, the Year 10 class made international street food as part of an assessment. Visitors walked through and tasted the gourmet dishes and voted on their favourites.

At 6pm, the Performing Arts Centre filled to watch a mini-concert. Northpine's musical groups Mozart Strings and the Viva Voce Choir performed, as well as the Year 1 and Prep classes. The audience was also treated to performance by the Drama Department, who presented a scene from their upcoming production "The Adventures of Huck Finn."



Overall, it was a most enjoyable night. Nearly 40 enrolment packs were requested by prospective families, and well over 1,000 people were in attendance.

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS
BY ANDREW SCHNELL

YEAR 9 SURVIVAL CAMP

“We don’t grow when things are easy, we grow when we face challenges.”
—Joyce Meyer



Equipped with custom-made paddles, dry-bags, canoes and basic supplies, students headed off to Lake Somerset where they embarked on a series of challenges that tested their communication skills, physical endurance and patience.

Preparations began during Term 1, when students began shaping their own paddle for the trip. On the day of departure there was a tangible sense of pride as each student brought their completed paddle and loaded it on the bus. Excitement was running high as clothes and sleeping gear were packed into dry-bags. On arrival at the lake the canoes and gear were unloaded, then each group was given a map and instructions for the challenges that were to be completed. The first was to build a raft to support their entire group and equipment for a voyage to various locations around the lake.



Ideas and suggestions were flying as the groups raced to be the first on the water. Lashings were tied, luggage stowed and after much discussion, the groups were finally underway. Paddles splashed in the sparkling lake as each craft headed off. At each of the

designated grid reference points there was a challenge which on completion provided additional survival items including food and equipment.

For some, the most difficult components of the day were the physical, social and emotional challenges that arose in the process of working together as a team. After a hearty meal of coleslaw and potatoes baked on the fire, students were ready for sleep.



As the sun rose, it was time to prepare for a substantial hike which involved map reading and group challenges at designated checkpoints. Navigation seemed to be more difficult than the terrain, but valuable lessons were learned along the way.

Day three began with a flag painting activity in which each group created an image or slogan to represent their team. These flags were then flown from a mast on their rafts. Following a series of challenges across the water, all students were given a ‘solo’ experience—two hours of quiet reflection during which they wrote into special journals as both a memory and a learning experience.

The final evening involved a series of activities where teams earned points based on their level of achievement as a group. At the end of the night the highest achievement in each activity was announced, followed by the overall winning team. Mrs Sykes’ girls were beaten by a slim margin of just one point by Mr Bastos’ boys, who claimed the prize of a large tin of Milo.

On the final morning, all groups raced a slalom course to the finish line—carrying their nominated team

MVC (most valuable camper) in the centre of their canoe raft. While there were some fine examples of paddling prowess, the credit goes to the girls’ team for one of the most competent and consistent performances, achieved by harmoniously working together (and lots of loud singing).

No doubt there will be many stories told of the experiences and memories of this camp.



Learning and growth happens best through challenge. These Year 9 young men and women showed courage, determination and the ability to creatively overcome obstacles to achieve the success of learning more about themselves, communicating, and working together as a team. It was a memorable experience.

ARTICLE BY LYNDEN CHESTER
PHOTOS BY YEAR 9 TEACHERS



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Paula Davis & Rebecca Fahey

Dr Paula Davis - a clinical counsellor, supervisor & educator specialising in psychological trauma. For many years a senior lecturer in counselling, she also designs and delivers national & international trauma workshops, including in post-war countries. Paula is a regular guest lecturer in Uganda, India and Sri Lanka. She & her husband designed and delivered marriage education in Australia, Africa, Sri Lanka, India & Switzerland. Paula is sensitive to unfairness and injustice at all levels in any society. Her strengths including her ability to inspire hope. She has an unshakable desire to integrate her faith with her teaching, and learning what it means to love well.

Rebecca Fahey - a social worker (MSocWk) with experience in both community engagement in the peak body sector & more recently specialising with children, youth & families at *Relationships Australia NSW*. Using her trauma-informed, strengths-based approach, as well as personal insights and creativity, she designed and implemented group psycho-dynamic programs, incorporating evidence based interventions (incl CBT & DBT), experiential learning, creative play, art based therapy, & emotion coaching techniques

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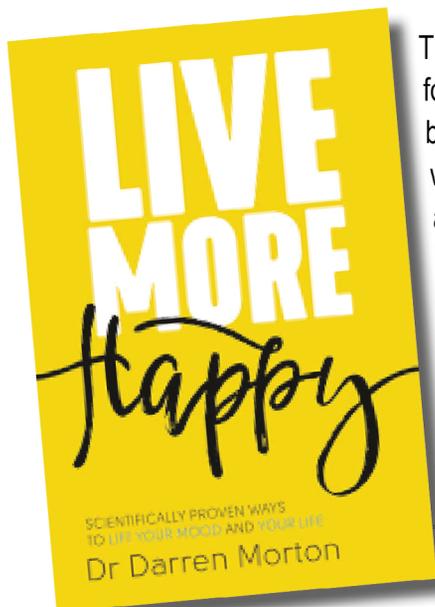


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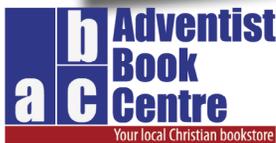
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Enquiries to Kathy:

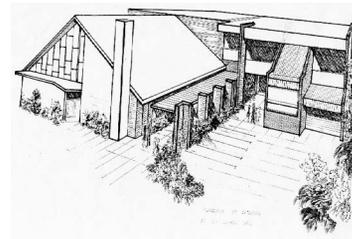
South Brisbane SDA Church

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1899—1963

Church Street, Woolongabba



1963—2019

24 O'Keefe Street, Buranda

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Submissions should reach the FOCUS Editor at sqfocus@adventist.org.au or post to FOCUS Editor, SQC PO Box 577, Spring Hill QLD 4004 NO LATER THAN JUNE 30, 2019.

All copies may be edited and late items may not be printed. Advertisements (1–10 lines) \$25. \$2.50 for each additional line.

Subject to sufficient copy received, the next general issue of FOCUS will be published in July, 2019

President Brett Townend
Editor Brett Townend
Print Signs Publishing

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