

AUSTRALASIAN GOOD TIDINGS

E-NEWS – July/August 2016 #52

Women's Retreat – Busselton WA

25-28 August 2016

In this Issue

Women's Retreat – Busselton WA	1
R.I.P. Brother Robert Tapendo	4
Condolences to the Sulemani and Nehvatal Families.....	8
CONTINENTAL Products, are they Vegetarian?	10
NSW Youth Focus Meeting – August.....	11
Soup Kitchen – Brisbane QLD ...	12
Condolences to the Family of Br Jacques Payet.....	14
Community Health Education (ongoing) - Victoria	17
Wentworthville Cooking Class .	18
Sacred Musical Concert - Queensland.....	20
NSW Youth Focus Meeting - July	21
Church Building Project – Kalkallo, Victoria.....	23
Gorse be gone! by Brigita Szabo.....	24
RLPA News	26
Invitation: AUC Spiritual Conference - "Soul Anchors"	28
Shipping Container sent to Papua New Guinea	29
Coming Events Calendar	31



On the weekend of August 25-28 all the women and young girls in Western Australian Field headed down to Busselton for a “Women's Retreat”, the first to be held in WA. The weekend provided gale-force weather, but not enough to deter us all from attending.

Friday evening after a short opening of Sabbath, we held the first meetings on "How to keep our souls alive" and "How to make family worships alive and interesting". All meetings were held as discussions. We learned from the Psalms what the reasons were that David would often state "I shall not be moved".

Sabbath discussion meetings were titled "Men and Boys" talking about our relationships with the opposite sex and how we can have healthy, valuable relationships with them without it deteriorating into flirtatious or inappropriate relationships.

"Modesty" was the second meeting for Sabbath, and we were divided into groups and given statements from Ellen White about Christian modesty. Then we were given the task of expanding the thoughts about it and sharing what we had learned.

Sabbath afternoon saw the subject of "Dealing with Conflict" being discussed, and we all shared a lot of thoughts surrounding the ideas of how we can prevent conflict in our homes, what steps we can take when conflicts arise and when it is time to be silent and when it is time to speak.

After closing Sabbath, we all got together and a few of the women taught us how to crochet. While we were enjoying learning this dying art, we attempted to watch a video called "Raising the Remnant"; however, the DVD player was against us, and it stopped a quarter of the way through.



Sunday saw two more discussion meetings held on the subjects of "Budgeting" and "Gender Stereotyping, is it Biblical?". We learned the principles of the value of money from the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy and

how we can apply those practically to our lives and homes. Particularly, we learned about what money is given to us for and how we can put it to best use.

We also learned about the roles that the Proverbs 31 woman took on and compared them to gender stereotypical roles of today. We learned that most roles often designated to women or men are interchangeable and each individual household runs according to their needs. We also learned that men and women are individuals and contribute to society based on their individuality.

Sunday afternoon a practical demonstration was held on essential oils and massage. This was a very interesting one, and there was a hands on workshop as part of it.



Overall the time together was very much enjoyed. As this was our first women's retreat there were aspects of the time together that we learned from and would change for next time, but in general it was great to be together as women and encourage each other to be true Christian women and to be an inspiration to others.

~ Reported by Catherine Robles

Photos: Courtesy of Catherine Robles, Daphne Newman and Lidia Voncina

For more photos:

www.sdarm.org.au/?p=12089





R.I.P. Brother Robert Tapendo

Robert Tapendo

27 July 1947 – 28 July 2016



Robert Tapendo was born in Kasoru Village, PNG. Since no one knows the exact date when he was born, at the time he immigrated to Australia they made up a birth date. The official legal birth date found in his passport is 27th July 1947; but it can be safely assumed that when he passed away, he was a lot older than what was stated on his passport.

There is not much known of his early childhood or young life. It is understood that he has family back in his village, and he did keep in close contact with them. Right up to the time when he passed away, his desire was to take the truth to his family and build a church in his own village in PNG.

Seeking better opportunities in life, early in his adulthood, Robert moved to Hanuabada Village in Port Moresby. There he lived with a family who adopted him as their extended family; he inherited many more brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. While living with them, Robert spent many years working in the family business of coffin making. Rumor has it that Robert used to enjoy sleeping in a coffin! He also ran a shop and was a truck driver, navigating the highways of Papua New Guinea. One of the daughters of this family married an Indian gentleman by the name of Danny and moved to Australia.

It was Robert's desire to also move to Australia in order to find a more peaceful place to live. In 1989, Danny and his wife were influential in bringing Robert to Australia. From 1989 to 2004 Robert lived with

them and worked for their company as a delivery man delivering goods for Woolworths. Robert became an Australian Citizen on the 20th July 1998.

All those who knew Robert found him a happy, quiet and easy-going person. Robert had a smile irrespective of what the situation was. He understood the value of family, friendship, love and religion. He loved God with all his heart and was always happy to share his Saviour with those around him. Sometime after Robert moved to Australia, he came in contact with the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement and became a member, attending the church then situated in Auburn.

Young Robert enjoyed playing pool, rugby league and swimming. He was also a very generous person, always willing to give and share whatever he had (and what he didn't have) to help anyone who was in need, whether the need was financial or a place for them to live. Robert was a social person and loved to travel and attend as many conferences and activities as he was physically able to. In September 1999 he travelled to Samoa; then in May 2001 and June 2002 to PNG. The 2002 trip to PNG was a very

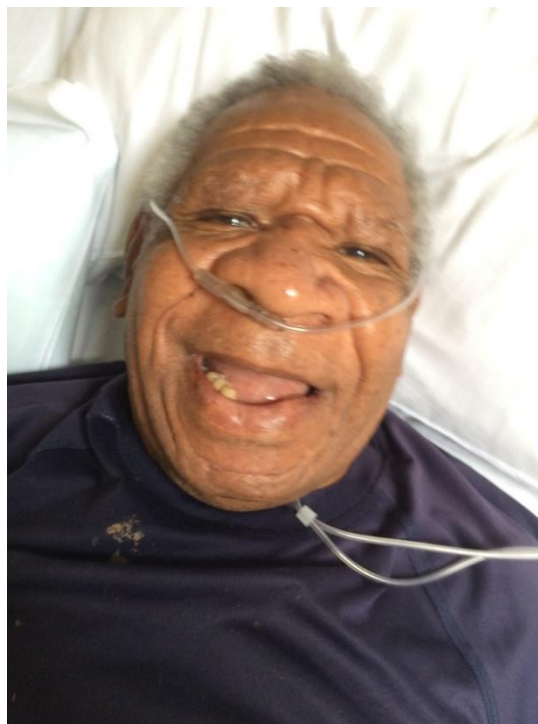


special trip, as he was thrilled to be able to go together with some of the Australian youth to attend a youth camp in Manam Island, PNG. Later in September 2010 he also travelled to Fiji for a youth convention.

Each Sabbath morning, Robert looked forward to coming to church and fellowshiping with his fellow believers at the Schofields Church where he was a member.

Late in his life, Robert suffered a number of strokes and survived them all. This made his life quite hard, but he continued through his struggles and wanted to stay at his residence and still be independent.

During February this year, Robert had problems with his knees and was admitted to Nepean Hospital; sadly, since then his health slowly deteriorated. Not being able to care for himself any longer, a place was secured for him at the Adventist Aged Care in Kings Langley, where he chose to go. Not long after he moved there, he again had some serious health problems and had to be taken to Blacktown Hospital. After returning to Kings Langley, he never fully recovered. On the evening of Thursday, 28th July 2016, Robert fell asleep in Jesus. We thank the staff of the Adventist Aged Care for their continuous care and devotion towards Robert.



A Memorial Service was held at Schofields Function Hall on Sunday 7th August, 2016 at 4:00pm. Some of Robert's family, his neighbors, together with friends, brothers and sisters in Christ, were able to come and farewell Robert.

Brethren Joe Voncina and Larry Ah-Ching took charge of the service. Robert's extended relative, Danny, had his sister read a eulogy.

Opportunity was given to those who would like to share their memories of Robert to come forward. Monica Balarezo, Domenic Polistina, Ivan Ilic, Alan Watkinson, Ray Foese, Angela (an SDA lady who delivered bread to Robert), and Ali (Robert's neighbor) all spoke of the happy times and the experiences they had with Robert.

Reflections by Monica Balarezo:

“And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!’ *Romans 10:15.*

My experience going to Papua New Guinea was easily one of the best, and I believe that one of the reasons for this was because of the beautiful people we befriended. A large group of young people and my family arrived to this beautiful but primitive country in order to have a Youth Convention and to help the people as much as we were able to. Among the people who attended the convention was none other than Br. Robert Tapendo. I remember Br Robert as an enthusiastic and a valuable member of our group who was our translator, guide, who helped us make many connections and contacts that helped forward our work. In his quiet manner, Br Robert demonstrated his love for the truth, and in his eyes one could see his joy and happiness that came with being able to share the message with his own people.

I thank the Lord for the time we had to work together in Papua New Guinea and for the privilege to have known Br. Robert. We all have been given the gift of time with which we must work for others, spreading the Word of God; and when we work together, we can be assured of much greater success as each person takes their share of the load. Br Robert was a great blessing to us on that trip, and I believe that through his work in his home country, many souls have been reached."



An item "When we all get to Heaven" was sung by a combined group; then a photo presentation of Robert's life followed. Brother Larry Ah-Ching took the message of hope.

In conclusion, we sang the hymn "Amazing Grace", and Brother A. C. Sas closed with prayer. All who were present were invited to stay for some light refreshments after the memorial service. It was really nice to be able to meet and talk with some of Robert's family and friends.

The memorial service can be watched on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8dWWKMWYiTs&feature=share>

Robert will be remembered by his big smile. We look forward to that great resurrection morning when our dear brother will be raised again to meet with our Lord and Saviour!

"For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words." 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18.



~ By Lidia Voncina

Condolences to the Sulemani and Nehvatal Families

We extend our sincere condolences to the Sulemani and Nehvatal Families on the loss of their loved one, Zlata Sulemani, who fell asleep on the 9th August 2016.

Zlata Sulemani

21/06/1953 - 09/08/2016

Zlata Sulemani was born in Dolnji Sredani, Croatia on the 21 June 1953. She was the Daughter of Josip and Veronica Nehvatal, and the youngest of six children. Dear sister to Bozena Vatala, Lenka Voncina, Slavko Nehvatal, Maria Voncina, and Vlado Nehvatal.

While Zlata attended Primary School in Croatia, she did not attend the School's Saturday classes, due to her family being Seventh Day Adventist Reformers. The family was ordered to pay small fines, for not attending classes on Sabbath. But still she was able to complete 4 years of schooling.

Zlata had a happy childhood, living on a farm with her family. She had a quiet and obedient temperament. Some of the toys she owned were a doll and a ball. But her favourite toys were the farm animals. She would later tell her grandchildren her toys were baby lambs, chickens, a cow and a cat.

Being the youngest of six, her siblings and parents spoiled her. Zlata still loved helping out in the busy family life. She loved cooking, baking, and sewing clothing for her sisters and other family members.

At 19 years of age Zlata arrived in Sydney, Australia, where she stayed with her sister Bozena. A few years later she would move to Melbourne.

In 1976 Zlata and her sister Bozena decided to visit Melbourne for the dedication of the Keilor Park SDA Reform Church. It was at that time she met a man called Ahmed Sulemani, who had been driving her parents to church every Saturday. When they arrived in Melbourne it was Ahmed who picked up Zlata and her sister Bozena, from Spencer Street Station. They soon developed a friendship, and when Zlata went home to Sydney, they promised to write to each other.

It wasn't too long before she moved to Melbourne to stay with her brother Slavko, and soon after, she became engaged to the love of her life, Ahmed Sulemani. They married in August 1977 and went on to have 3 lovely children: Benjamin, Samuel and Noah Sulemani.

Zlata was a loving mother to her three boys. Her son Samuel fondly remembers making Salama cake with his mum, as well as cooking schnitzels; they had fun together rolling the rice in breadcrumbs. Samuel also has memories of digging in the garden and planting flowers and vegetables together with his mother.

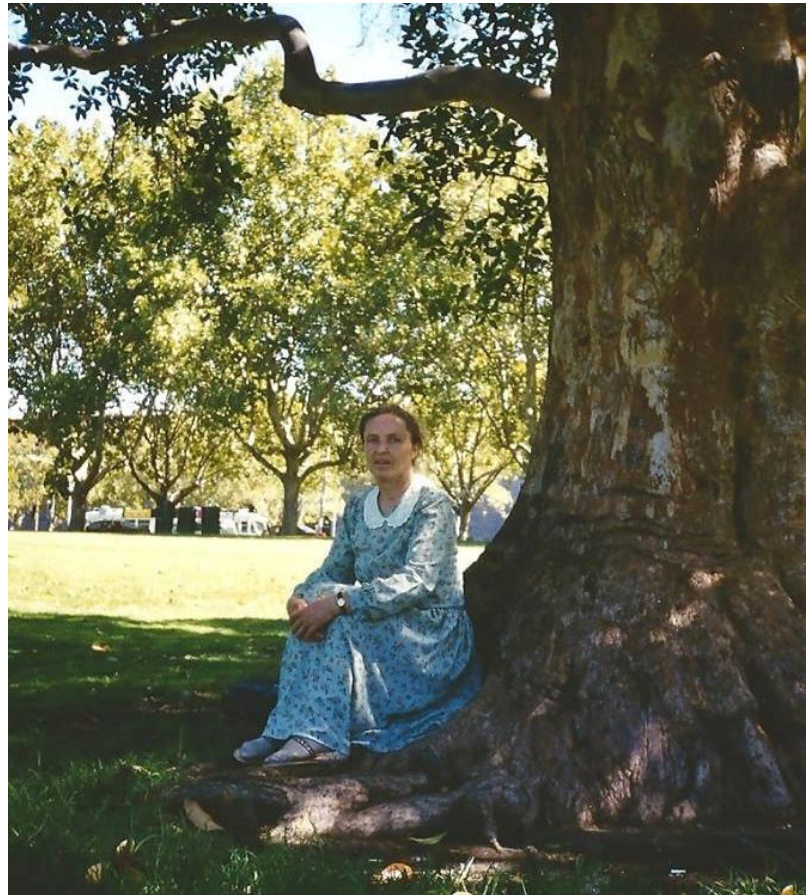


Her youngest son Noah remembers baking cakes with mum, as Zlata loved baking. He also remembers being taught by his mum at 8 years-old to knit woollen socks, which he still keeps to remember her by. She took pride in being a stay-at-home mother until they were all at school.

It was at this time she took the opportunity to do some courses and look for work. She worked in many various jobs: from working at a sewing factory to even working in the area of robotic welding for an engineering company. Her most recent job of nine years was at Airport Doors, making steel and aluminium roller shutters. Zlata enjoyed her work and had great friendships with her co-workers. This was evident in the way she used to talk about work with her family.

As a mother-in-law, Zlata was loving and very welcoming. Together with her sister Bozena, she had a hand in setting up her son Benjamin with his wife Caroline. Their scheming worked, and Zlata soon had her first daughter-in-law. Samuel was the next to be married to his wife Lendija. And Zlata was happy to have two daughters who loved and treasured her. It was a welcome change for Zlata, after raising three boys.

She soon became a Grandmother. She loved and adored her four grandchildren, Laura, Liam, Gabriel and Gabriella, who called her “Baka”. She took the time to play with them and used to bring them food from her garden and other gifts of books, clothes and toys. She wanted them to be happy and healthy. Her grandchildren would often run to her for hugs, when they missed her.



I'm sure many of you would agree that Zlata was a gentle and kind soul. She would never deliberately hurt anyone and was a caring friend to have. She will be greatly missed by all of her family and all those who knew her and remember her dearly.

~ Submitted by the Sulemani and Nehvatal families

CONTINENTAL Products, are they Vegetarian?

It has been brought to my attention that **ALL CONTINENTAL PRODUCTS ARE NOT SUITABLE FOR VEGETARIANS**. A query was made whether "Continental Cup a Soup" was suitable for vegetarians. An email was received in response to that query. The email confirmed that **none of the Continental products are suitable for vegetarians**. After contacting Debby from Unilever, she confirmed that **all their Continental products have either chicken stock, or beef stock**. I then asked why this was not on the label, and the answer I was given was **that they are not obliged to put that information on their labels**. Below is a copy of the email received from Unilever/Continental:

From: **Consumer Relations UANZ** <consumerrelations.uanz@unilever.com>
Date: 18 March 2016 at 12:01
Subject: ABT0663107 - From Continental



Dear

Thank you for contacting Unilever with your enquiry regarding Continental products.

I have checked with our Research & Development team regarding which Continental products are suitable for vegetarians.

They have advised that none of the Continental products are suitable for vegetarians as they contain animal derived ingredients.

We do not make any vegetarian claims for any of our products.

Please contact us again should you need further information.

Yours Sincerely



Debby
Consumer Engagement Centre Consultant
www.unilever.com.au

Aus - 1800 888 997, NZ - 0800 900 028
Unilever Australia & New Zealand
219 North Rocks Road, North Rocks NSW 2151



Privacy Message - In accordance with the privacy laws, we require your permission to contact you again. Your details are available to you on request. They may be used to provide you with information, send out samples for product trial, or to obtain feedback in relation to Unilever products and services only. If you do not wish for us to contact you in the future please reply stating "No" to this email.

ref:_00D90fw8B._500901DqquR:ref

~ Submitted by Lizy Thiel

NSW Youth Focus Meeting – August

Sydney, 6th August 2016



How quickly the days and weeks passed us by like a flash. Minutes turn to hours, hours to days, days to weeks and then to months. We are so thankful that our good Lord has preserved our lives for another month and has made it possible for us to meet together again but in a different way for the month of August. The NSW youth leaders organised an evening of fine Vegan Vegetarian cuisine, dining at the Fountain Vegetarian Restaurant at Bella Vista Sydney. The restaurant specialises in pure vegetarian cuisine suitable for all types of vegetarian diets. Approximately 20 of us were present and enjoyed an evening of socialising and fine dining. We were able to choose from a large variety of 28 entrees, 11 soups, 46 main courses and delicious desserts and beverages. The Fountain Vegetarian restaurant is a great place to have Chinese vegetarian food, and the quality and taste of the food was exceptional.

"....how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" Psalms 133:1.

Thank you leaders once again for a blessed night out and our monthly Focus evening.



Soup Kitchen – Brisbane QLD

Sunday 24th July 2016



Sunday afternoon: Someone gets a call from Sister Monica Balarezo, who received a call from a volunteer soup kitchen she and her family help out. Today, no one turned up except the assistant cook. Fortunately, God had seven of us young people ready to stand in with Monica, Fernando and the assistant cook. It was such a blessing! At 3:00pm, we met up at a hired commercial kitchen, where we set about peeling, chopping, boiling, blending, baking and whizzing up a feast. Three hours later, we loaded everything into a purpose-built, kitted-out van and drove down to the city centre park. When we arrived, there was no time to lose in setting up tables under a gazebo and laying out the food trays that were ready to be served to about 100 people. As we all stood in a line with serving spoons in hand, we eagerly served out pumpkin soup, cauliflower bake in creamy white sauce, quiche and curry (there was much more) and then dessert. So many people in such a short time! In about 30 minutes we were done; and just as quickly as we had arrived, we packed up and headed back to the kitchen to clean up. Another hour or two was enough to have the place and gear shining; and after having a prayer together, it was time to go home for a restful sleep.

While at the kitchen, I heard stories about how this ministry has continued to help people in the Brisbane community. One of those stories was about one guy who drove to Brisbane seeking to start a new and exciting life only to have his van with all his worldly possessions stolen. He was without money and had no place to stay for a long time, and he expressed his heartfelt gratitude for the food, warmth and friends that

the kitchen provided. Another man had been coming every week for a couple of months until one night he spoke to the crew saying he would not be coming anymore. He had been homeless, jobless and helpless, and the kitchen had kept him going during his hardship. He had been attending for the three nights the soup kitchen ran (Saturday, Sunday and Monday) every week until that night. Now, he didn't need to come any more because he had been given a job, he had found a place to stay and life was looking brighter. He too made his grateful thanks to the crew for the wonderful work they were doing for others. For me, it helped me obtain a better view of the people whom God has given us to help. Sure, some take advantage, but for even the few who are truly helped, I thank God for the privilege and blessing I have received to be a part of the giving. I really think now of how good God is to me, and how can I better use His blessing to be a blessing to others?



"And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:" Genesis 12:2.

~ Doug Thirkettle



For more photos: www.sdarm.org.au/?p=11971

Condolences to the Family of Br Jacques Payet



Condolences to the family of Brother Jacques Payet

We would like to extend our condolences to Brother Jacques Payet and his family on the loss of Br. Jacques' uncle, Br Fred Egbert. Brother Jacques together with his uncle Fred were instrumental in starting the work and opening our first church in Seychelles over 20 years ago.

Brother Jacques would like to share how the work was established in the Seychelles:

SDA Reform Movement - Seychelles

Matthew 24:14 *"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."*

My name is Jacques and I was born in the Seychelles. Seychelles is made up of 115 Islands spread out within the vast blue waters of the Indian Ocean, south of India and east of Africa.

I grew up in the Advent faith and was baptised in the Adventist church at the age of fourteen. I was raised by my lovely, God-fearing parents and received good Christian teaching throughout my early years.

My early Christian experience, however, was one of rebellion and resistance to the Spirit of God. Some unwise decisions in my choice of friends led to my stale and faithless early Christian walk.

I moved to Australia in 1986 and met my wife while attending Carmel College. Michelle and I married on the 12 of April 1992. We have been blessed with four lovely children: Amariah, Charmaine, Emma and Isaac. We now reside in West Australia and are members of Guildford Church in Perth.

It was during the third year of our married life that we came to hear of the Reformation message. We were at the time living in the Seychelles and working for my father's company. My mother-in-law, Sister Maureen Parkes, came for a visit from Australia and, while in the Seychelles, zealously shared the Reformation Message with us.

Those of you who know this dear Sister today would agree with me when I say that she speaks her conviction from the heart. She was no different back then. During the course of her stay with us, I was moved to study the Word for myself, something I had not quite achieved before. I was studying, however, to prove her sayings and testimonies wrong and, if I may add, prayerfully doing so too.

I remember one night after one of my studies, about 2:00am, feeling exhausted and drained, saying to myself, I truly cannot fault or find error with her testimonies. The more I searched and read, the more convicted I became that I needed Christ more than anything. In the days that followed, the Lord opened my mind and understanding to the Sanctuary message and the Health message. I felt so humbled by the work of my Saviour in my behalf and began sharing the messages to my Adventist brothers and sisters. However, my letters and publications were rejected.

Sister Maureen had also been sharing the Reformation message to some close Adventist friends of ours, including my uncle, an ex-Adventist Bible Worker. Br Fred Egbert had resigned from the gospel work some years before over some fundamental points. He felt that Bible truth was being compromised and attempted for many years to encourage the ministry to teach the truth. His warnings went unheeded.

As we went out sharing, we were met with opposition and ridicule. We decided it was time to spend time apart to consider our position in regards to the will of God for us.

I encouraged a number of interested souls to meet at our place on an assigned weekend for a special retreat. The Lord encouraged us as we reviewed the platform of truth. At the end of the spiritual retreat, we made the decision to meet together on a weekly basis, while still determined to reach out to our Adventist brethren.

We acquired numerous copies of the Sabbath Bible Lessons and would faithfully study the lessons each day and share our findings at Prayer Meetings. The Sabbath day was usually full of praise, and our studies would be Christ centred.



Left photo: The birth place of the Reform Movement in the Seychelles.

In the weeks that followed, we received copies of “The Good Way Series” from Perth and made a decision to study these during our Sabbath afternoon meetings. The Lord blessed our gatherings as we continued in our weekly gathering to seek His perfect will for us.

Sometime in June of 1995, we decided it was time to get help and wrote to the GC requesting assistance. Brother Sureshkumar and Brother Doss made their way to the Seychelles in the month of August of the same year. I was at the time in Australia visiting my wife who had just given birth to our eldest daughter, Amariah.

During their visit, they reviewed the foundation of truth with the brethren and baptized and organised the little group according to gospel order.

Right photo: Visiting with my family the group in Seychelles 2008 –

Br Fred Egbert is the 5th from the left



Time is too short to speak of the challenges we faced as we assembled together for worship. The enemy of truth was at war with the little group. We were met with opposition every step of the way. But, oh! How much I praise God for fighting in our behalf. The bolder and stronger the opposition, the more evident and real were the mercies of God toward us. I will praise His name forever and ever for His bountiful graces.



Above photo: Group of believers in Seychelles today!

Please keep the little church in Seychelles in your prayers. With Br Fred's recent passing, the church needs assistance and direction. Pray that God may continue to work on hearts and that its membership may be dedicated, consecrated and ready to be of service always.

Yours in the Blessed Hope,

Br Jacques S Payet

Since Br Jacques Payet arrived in Seychelles, two souls expressed the desire to make a public confession of the power of Christ in their lives. "Man's necessity is God's opportunity" *Youth Instructor* 1903 p. 8.



Community Health Education (ongoing) - Victoria



Reminder that cooking demonstrations in Victoria are ongoing. Each month there are two events:

- In Sunbury on the 2nd Thursday of the month
- In Shepparton on the 4th Wednesday of the month

Look out for more information on these programs in future issues of Good Tidings e-newsletters!

Please keep these on-going educational programs in your prayers.

~ Lidia Voncina



Wentworthville Cooking Class

July 19 2016

On Tuesday night, July 19th Wentworthville Church held another cooking class in Wentworthville Community Centre, and the theme was, "Boosting the Immune System, the Vegetarian Way."



We had over 20 people from the public attend our class which was great. Susan Lausevic did the health lecture, talking about the immune system and the various symptoms that are seen that tell us our immune system is either down or not running properly. She shared that when thinking about boosting the immune system, we should focus on the eliminatory organs such as the skin, lungs, liver, kidneys, and of course... the colon! Even when we focus on just one of these organs we can feel a major difference in our health. We can help these organs through exercise, saunas, colonics, and other detox regimens to boost our immune system and feel great and avoid colds and flus all year around.

As our cooking classes are themed around parts of the body or diseases, we try and incorporate all the ingredients that are particularly good to our theme.

The foods demonstrated are as follows:

- Susan Lausevic: Red Cabbage and Sprouted Lentil Salad
- Stella Gules: Stuffed Tomatoes
- Nadine Polistina: Curried Adzuki Beans
- Nadine Polistina: Orange Delight

Our visitors really enjoyed all the dishes and expressed their gratitude. A couple of our contacts since starting our classes have moved out of Wentworthville, but since they are still on our contact list they still receive invitations to our classes and have requested us to send them the recipes that we demonstrate. Although one has moved to Orange, and another first moved to Canberra, but is now in Brisbane, the little church in Wentworthville is still making an impact in these people's lives. So, reader, I encourage you, no matter where you are, or how limited you think you are, personally, or as a church, your influence can go far beyond what you can imagine.



"The life of Christ was an ever-widening, shoreless influence, an influence that bound Him to God and to whole human family. Through Christ, God has invested man with an influence that makes it impossible for him to live to himself. Individually we are connected with our fellow men, a part of God's great whole, and we stand under mutual obligations. No man can be independent of his fellow men; for the well-being of each affects others. It is God's purpose that each shall feel himself necessary to others' welfare, and seek to promote their happiness.

"...This is a responsibility from which we cannot free ourselves. Our words, our acts, our dress, our deportment, even the expression of the countenance, has an influence. Upon the impression thus made there hang results for good or evil which no man can measure. Every impulse thus imparted is seed sown which will produce its harvest. It is a link in the long chain of human events, extending we know not whither. If by our

example we aid others in the development of good principles, we give them power to do good. In their turn they exert the same influence upon others, and they upon still others. Thus by our unconscious influence thousands may be blessed.

"Throw a pebble into the lake, and a wave is formed; and another and another; and as they increase, the circle widens, until it reaches the very shore. So with our influence. Beyond our knowledge or control it tells upon others in blessing or in cursing." *Messages to Young People*, pp. 417-418

I would like to thank, not only the cooks for their hard work, but all our helpers who were in the kitchen prepping and those who were serving as well.

Yours Sincerely,

Domenic Polistina



Sacred Musical Concert - Queensland

From My Heart – Clayfield – 10 July 2016

Only two weeks? How did we end up with only two weeks to plan a concert, practice and organise everything that we would need? But two weeks was all we had. Missionary school was fast approaching and with so many other things to think about, the concert had slowly crept up on us. But with God's help and a herculean effort from everyone, a concert came together which ended up being a full house and was such a blessing for us as we were able to really see God's hand in everything. It was only through His help that it happened. That was four months ago.



This time around, with the travelling troupe returned, now as EMC graduates, with many amazing memories and great experiences behind us, we began planning a second concert. The first concert had been to raise funds for our missionary school tuition fees, and this concert was given in thanks to the generous sponsors the first time; but also, all proceeds from this concert would go towards repairing the roof of the Clayfield Church.

It was with great excitement and anticipation by the Cornerstone Youth that we came together Sunday morning to have a final rehearsal before the concert. We set up tables outside where we would provide light refreshments after the concert and went about making final touches such as organising the microphones and arranging church pews.

At ten minutes to three in the afternoon, I had a quick peek inside the church to find the pews quite filled, and at 3:00pm our concert began. It has always amazed me how similar a concert is to an iceberg. So much goes on behind the scenes, like designing and printing flyers, distributing flyers, organising the concert space (arranging pews, tables, chairs and microphones), cooking and setting out the food (a huge thank you to all the cooks for the food, by the way; it was the icing on the cake! Pardon the pun). So the tip of the iceberg was made up of some beautiful items with a few original songs from the group such as "Cry of the Poor" by Elisabeth Balarezo, "Carry Me Father" by Lachlan Reyes and a few others such as "Falling in Your Arms Again" by Melissa Otto.

But if I could describe my favourite part of the whole concert, it would have to be when twelve young people were standing up there together, singing with one purpose and soul, like we always have, the song, "Thank You Lord". I can only say that it was a time-stopping moment and I feel as if we drew a little bit closer to heaven. It is in moments like these that I can not only feel the power of God-given music, but also see it working in my life, in the lives of the young people who are creating music and in those who love and appreciate it. If there was any other better reason to create, perform and simply music I don't know what it

is but I know that music is a power for good. It is a power that leads us either away from Christ or to Christ and His love. Music can help us make a decided change in our lives.... This concert was titled "From my Heart", and it really was from all our hearts, the place from which Christ's love can flow out of us to bless others.

If anyone is interested in becoming more involved in music ministry or is not sure how to become more involved, feel free to email me:

Daniela Balarezo: Daniela@sdarm.org.au

~ Reported by Daniela Balarezo

NSW Youth Focus Meeting - July

Sydney 2 July 2016

After a beautiful, fresh but sunny Sabbath day, just over 20 young and young-in-heart gathered together at Schofields Function Hall to welcome the new week. Br Rolly Dumaguit told of his exciting experiences in Chile. While crossing the Atacama, the worlds driest desert, he observed the cedar and palm trees; they are very green and full of life, even in the desert. This is due to them being rooted down to the water supply. A comparison was made how we need to be firmly connected to our living water supply, Jesus Christ.



"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."
Matthew 18:20.



Church Building Project – Kalkallo, Victoria

The moment has finally arrived! We have started the building of another church in Melbourne. It has taken quite a few years, and many prayers, to come to this point, but once we received the green light to proceed there was no delaying. On the 6th July 2016 we gathered at the building site for special prayers for this project, to ask for God's blessing and guidance.



The ground has been prepared for the foundation. This was not an easy task as many large rocks are scattered all across the site. But with the use of heavy machinery, and a lot of man power, the first lot of concrete has been poured. You can keep up to date with the progress of the building here:

<http://www.maranathaproject.org/> and follow along on facebook here:

<https://www.facebook.com/MaranathaProject>

Psalm 127:1 tells us that *'Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it.'* We had this experience many times since the start of this project and could see God's hand helping us overcome so many obstacles. May He be our guide and helper during the building process as well.

Your sister in Christ,
Brigita Szabo



Gorse be gone! by Brigita Szabo

The property we bought for our new church building is a beautiful piece of land- with a bit of an ugly spot. Unfortunately, a large section of it has been infested with gorse, which is a pretty annoying weed that is hard to eradicate. Here is a small reminder of what we were dealing with:



So we organised a busy bee, and around ten strong men worked the best part of the day to attack it with force. They came with chain saws, hand saws, poison and even a bobcat. But this gorse was just too big of an enemy to be tackled by mere mortals. We needed the heavy artillery! So we organised a company to come with their big mulching machine, and guess what? The gorse stood no chance! The block of land looks very pretty right now; in a way we get to finally see the whole lot in its full glory!

The important task ahead is to keep up the weed control so that we can eradicate this pest for good. So the plan is to have another busy bee and apply poison to the area as per the council environmental department's advice. This way we can hopefully get the plants to die down even all the way to the roots. We really don't want them to sprout again once spring comes!



This whole exercise made me think. Do we sometimes let our favourite sins take root in our hearts? What will it take to get rid of them? Once they have taken up residence in our heart it is hard and painful to get rid of them. I came across this verse that gives advice on how to remedy the situation:
*Thy word have I hid in mine heart,
that I might not sin against thee.*
Psalms 119:11

Reading His Word will keep us close to Him and give us strength to withstand temptation. So take your Bible from the shelf and give your heart a boost!



Article taken from <http://www.maranathaproject.org/>

RLPA is now online!

Your source of Adventist literature, Bibles, Hymnals, Sabbath School Lessons, and much more. Browse today to see what is available.

<http://www.rlpa.org.au/>



Orders can be placed online, and the option for pickup at Schofields is available.

Purchases can still be made via phone, post, or email directly to RLPA.

Please note that not all items in stock are listed as yet; more stock will be added regularly.

Order from RLPA:

Website: <http://www.rlpa.org.au/>

Email: info@rlpa.org.au

Phone: +61 2 9627 7553

Post: RLPA
PO Box 132,
Riverstone, NSW 2765
Australia

[illegible]

2016 NSW Conference

- \$2.00 each DVD + postage.**

Graduation Ceremony

Elim Missionary College

2016 NSW Camp

Invitation: AUC Spiritual Conference - “Soul Anchors”

When the storms hit and the winds blow, everything without an anchor is blown away. So it is in the spiritual world. Today, every wind of doctrine is blowing. Souls are carried away with all kinds of false teachings. Others are taken away by temptation and trial. The spiritual vitality of many more is just choked out by the cares of this life. So how can we withstand this spiritual onslaught? How can we holdfast through the spiritual storms that come our way. How can we make our calling and election sure? Come and find out at our 2016 AUC Spiritual Conference entitled,

Storm Anchors

What are “storm anchors”? These are spiritual truths that become anchors for our soul.

For this camp meeting each speaker has been asked to share an aspect of present truth that has become an anchor to their own soul. As they share these truths, it is our prayer that they will become an anchor for your soul too.

So please come and join us for three days of Christian fellowship and discovery amidst the beautiful surrounds of Elim Heights Youth Camp, NSW, from 28-31 December, 2016.

[Download Invitation](#)

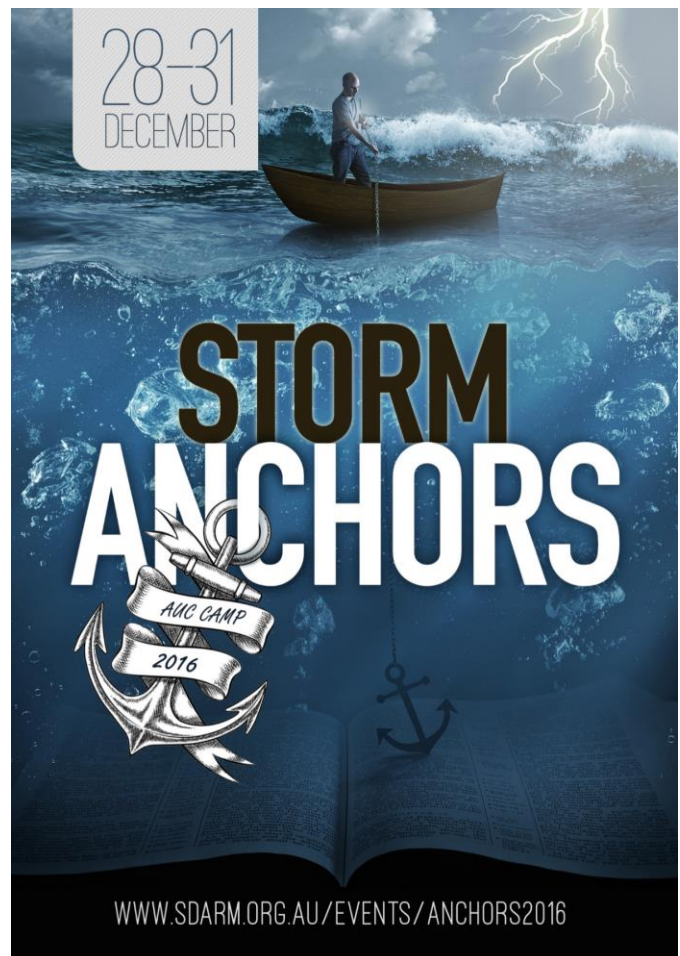
"Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil." Hebrews 6:19

For further information including **costs and online registration** go to:

<http://www.sdarm.org.au/events/anchors2016/>

Or call (02) 96277553

“Many who embraced the third message had not had an experience in the two former messages. Satan understood this, and his evil eye was upon them to overthrow them; but the third angel was pointing them to the most holy place, and those who had had an experience in the past messages were pointing them the way to the heavenly sanctuary. Many saw the perfect chain of truth in the angels’ messages, and gladly received them in their order, and followed Jesus by faith into the heavenly sanctuary. These messages were represented to me as an anchor to the people of God. Those who understand and receive them will be kept from being swept away by the many delusions of Satan.” Early Writings, p. 256



Shipping Container sent to Papua New Guinea



A large shipping container filled with Bibles, spiritual, health and colporteur books, hymnbooks, tracts, felts, clothing and other items, left Schofields headquarters to go to Papua New Guinea on the 6th of July 2016.

While the students were here at Elim Missionary College earlier this year, they helped to sort out the clothing and other items, filling every available space of the container. It must have been quite heavy, and it was interesting to watch the container being lifted up to the top of the truck, with the cabin of the truck bouncing a fair way up off the ground.

We pray the items in this container will prove to be a great blessing to the recipients, and we thank each one who has donated the goods and for their help packing the container.

~ Lidia Voncina





Coming Events Calendar

12-19 December 2016 **South Pacific Union Mission Youth Convention**
Fiji

Save the date, further information coming soon!

26 – 27 December 2016 **AUC Delegation Session**
Elim Heights Youth Camp, NSW
For further information, email:
SDARM: info@sdarm.org.au
Phone: +61 2 9627 7553

28 Dec 16 – 1 Jan 2017 **AUC Spiritual Conference**
“Soul Anchors”
For further information, email:
SDARM: info@sdarm.org.au
Phone: +61 2 9627 7553

2-5 January 2017 **Summer School**
Elim Heights Youth Camp
For further information, email:
Deborah Chapman education@sdarm.org.au
Phone: +61 2 9627 7553

3-5 January 2017 **AUC Workers Seminar**
Elim Heights Youth Camp
For further information, email:
Paul Chapman pchapman@sdarm.org.au
Phone: +61 2 9627 7553

8-9 January 2017 **AUC Workers Wives’ Seminar**
Elim Heights Youth Camp
For further information, email:
Deborah Chapman education@sdarm.org.au
Phone: +61 2 9627 7553

GOOD TIDINGS E-NEWS

Electronic Newsletter of the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement, Australasian Union Conference

PO Box 132, Riverstone NSW 2765, Australia

Tel: (02) 9627 7553

Email: goodtidings@sdarm.org.au

Web: www.sdarm.org.au

Editor: Paul Chapman

Associate Editor: Lidia Voncina

Design: Tabitha Hauptmann

If you no longer wish to receive the Good Tidings e-news, please click unsubscribe: [UNSUBSCRIBE](#)