

2021 August 18 #74

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UPLIFTING *Jesus*  
SERVING *People*  
PROCLAIMING *Truth*



### How to Survive in Lockdown

As we prepare this issue of the newsletter, New Zealand and most of Australia are under pandemic lockdown. Many families are facing difficulty and uncertainty as travel is restricted, school arrangements are changing, and some industries are shut down entirely while others face strict conditions in order to be able to work.

There is a sense that while we have all done this before by now, nobody really wants to go through it again. Nonetheless, the church has to continue doing what we do – uplifting Jesus, serving others, and proclaiming truth.

Here are a few things that we can do to survive lockdown:

- Look after yourself - think about your physical, mental and spiritual health.
- Spend time with God daily, in prayer and study of His word
- Stay in touch with people in your circle. Find out if they need anything, and let them know they have a friend in you. Especially think of those who live on their own or have difficulties to deal with.
- Check yourself on how well you are following the laws of health, including sunshine, exercise in the fresh air, adequate rest, plenty of water, good nutrition and being temperate.
- Engage in activities that will be good for your brain. Avoid behaviours that are addictive and might contribute to depression. Being active and useful is key.
- Work on your relationships, particularly with those in your household - given the fact that we are all spending more time together in the same place as family units, and there is added strain on relationships due to circumstances.
- Refuse to give in to fear - in whatever form, for whatever reasons. The number one command in the Bible is, "do not fear." Remember God's promises and pray for God's peace until you have it.
- Pray for the leaders of your country, as we are commanded to do, and pray that the pandemic situation may be brought to an end, that God's church may be free to work without hindrance.
- Seek to help those in need, as Jesus would do if He were in your place. Focusing on others rather than yourself will be a blessing.
- Share God's word, the truths of the gospel, at every opportunity seeking to point people to Jesus.
- Focus on thoughts that are positive and constructive at all times, remembering Philippians 4:8, "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

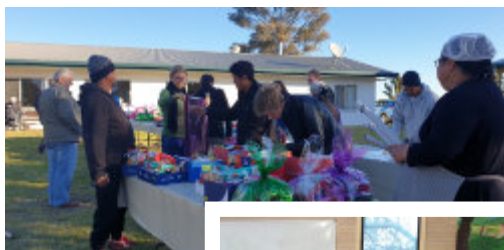
# NSW Camp Report

"Saved to Serve" was the theme of our June 2021 NSW Conference Campmeeting, the first one held at Elim Heights campgrounds since the 2019 bushfires. Though we missed the former meeting hall which had been destroyed in the fires, we thank the Lord that most of the facilities were still functional. A marquee had been set up for the main meeting place, and work was done to obtain power to the site. As Friday came, the dormitories filled, and the dining hall warmed with cooking preparations for the Sabbath. It was wonderful to see so many faces again gathered in familiar surrounds. With the setting of the sun, Br. Craig Cunningham led out in a message, "Serving Those in Need" to welcome in the Sabbath hours.

After a delicious evening meal, it was time for the main meeting. Despite the three portable outdoor gas heaters provided within its confines, the marquee was just a little bit too chilly. So, by popular request, Br. Paul Chapman delivered the main message for the evening, "Saved by Grace", from the back of the warmed-up dining hall instead. The message reminded us of the motive for rendering service to God. Gratitude. God saved us from death that we might serve him with a life of good works. Ephesian 2:8-10 says, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."

Sabbath morning worship brought us together again in the back of the dining hall. Sr Elisabeth Balarezo shared an interesting message, "Debtors to All," highlighting the apostle Paul's motive for service. Christ paid the debt for our sins. By this means Paul was adopted into God's family as a son. Now he himself felt a debt to all others. But what was the debt he owed them? The duty and privilege to share the wonderful news of their adoption also into the family of God. This is what led him to do and suffer so much in sharing the gospel of salvation to all who would listen. Likewise, we are debtors to all.

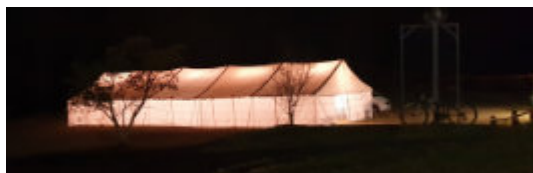
After a hot breakfast, we gathered again for Sabbath School, led out by Br Robbie Wiseman. As the sun had warmed up the morning air, we met this time in the marquee. The adult Bible lesson dwelt on hope for those outside the fold of God's church, which was quite appropriate given the theme of the camp. At the same time, the children's program, organised by Sr Vesna Kraus, with help from the local church's children's teachers, was run in the children's meeting hall. It was wonderful to see their dedicated meeting hall unscathed by the fires and filled with children once more.







The keynote address, "Saved to Serve," was delivered by Br Benjamin Thiel. Jesus died for us to save us so that we may serve Him. We may feel rejection at times from those we are seeking to save, but that should not discourage us. Sometimes these rejections are a cry of the soul for help. And even though sometimes we feel incapable of service for others, there is something we can all do, illustrated in the experience of the two restored demoniacs. "They could not instruct the people as the disciples who had been daily with Christ were able to do. But they bore in their own persons the evidence that Jesus was the Messiah. They could tell what they knew; what they themselves had seen, and heard, and felt of the power of Christ. This is what everyone can do whose heart has been touched by the grace of God" (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 340).



In the afternoon, the tent filled again as Br Larry Ah Ching, Sr Elisabeth Balarezo and Br Nathan Wiseman led out in the praise and fellowship meeting. In between the praise items, thoughts were shared on how we can all serve in some way in God's vineyard. This led nicely into the close of Sabbath message, delivered by Br



Randy Aquiatan, "A Work for You." This message highlighted the purpose and importance of church relationship in serving others. "Each has his place in the eternal plan of heaven. Each is to work in co-operation with Christ for the salvation of souls. Not more surely is the place prepared for us in the heavenly mansions than is the special place designated on earth where we are to work for God" (*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 326). The church is where we are organised for service to others.



The evening was a precious time spent in socialising and fellowship. In the morning, the early risers assembled in the children's hall for worship. The warm, fireside atmosphere fitted in well with the message Br Harold Kraus shared on "Family Service." His message highlighted the many opportunities family members are given to train for service within the confines of their own household.

Another hot breakfast was a welcome delight to warm us up on a cool June Sunday morning. Following breakfast, the day's program began. Two morning meetings were held each with sometime for discussion.

The first meeting was led by Br Nathan Tyler, entitled, "How Jesus Worked." The message recounted the methods Jesus used to reach souls. In the discussion that followed, people shared their own experiences of various methods that had proven successful.



The second meeting "Neighbourhood Service" was led by Br Larry Ah Ching. His thoughts dwelt on the responsibility and opportunity for service we all have in our own neighbourhood.

The afternoon activities focused on putting into practice some of the things we learned over the weekend. The NSW Conference Welfare Department organised the assembly of gift hampers, the Health Department gave practical instructions on home remedies, and the Youth Department illustrated the importance of working together in helping others.



Never to be forgotten, our children had a wonderful time too. Their program included lessons on serving others, arts and crafts, and walks in nature on journeys of discovery that complemented the lessons taught over the weekend.

After a packed day, we enjoyed one more evening meal together, before we had the last meeting to close the camp. Many encouraging words of thankfulness were expressed to the Lord for the camp, the helpers, and all those who assisted in some way to make it happen. We are grateful for the wonderful time we had together and look forward to the next one.

~Paul Chapman

P.S. Camp videos are available on [youtube.com/SchofieldChurch](https://youtube.com/SchofieldChurch)

# In Loving Memory of Colin Hammond

By Paula Hammond

Colin Ronald Hammond was born on the 22nd of March, 1964 in Carlton, Victoria. His father's name was Ronald Ernest Hammond and his mother's name was Patricia Maureen O'Toole. There were five children – Colin, his 3 sisters and 1 brother.

Colin's childhood was not a very happy one. Home life was very tough for him and sadly, from the age of 13, he was asked to leave home by his father. Even though his mother wanted him to stay, he was obliged to leave the family home where they lived in Broadmeadows.

Colin travelled extensively around Australia, and he would sleep in train stations, or wherever he could 'til he found rental accommodation.

At the age of 20, Colin became friends with people from the Baptist Church, Pentecostal Church, and Adventist Church. He began to study the Bible and the writings of Ellen G. White. Through his study he became aware of the Sabbath and that this was the day of rest given by God. He began to frequent the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement in 1990. He was baptised in Adelaide at the Camp meeting by Br. John Ciric on the 11th of April, 1993. He then returned to Melbourne and continued to attend the Keilor Park Church. He found employment with some Romanian brethren in Melbourne on commercial projects on educational facilities.

Colin began to get to know the brothers and sisters of the Keilor Park Church – especially George Cristea. It was through George Cristea that Colin was introduced to me. In February 1995, Colin travelled to Romania. After a whirlwind romance, we made our application to get married. On the 20th of April, 1995, we became husband and wife. In October, we departed Romania for Australia.

Our first port of call was Sydney. It was December and we attended the Annual Conference and stayed with Colin's friends – Patricia & Will. After the Conference, we travelled to Melbourne. We lived in Essendon for one year and during this time our first child – Lael Thomas Hammond – was born. The year was 1997. After one year we moved to Melton. Two years later our second child - Joyce Elena Faith Hammond was born. Another two years went by and we moved yet again. This time it was to Ballarat and in 2001 our youngest – Jeremiah Andrew Hammond was born.

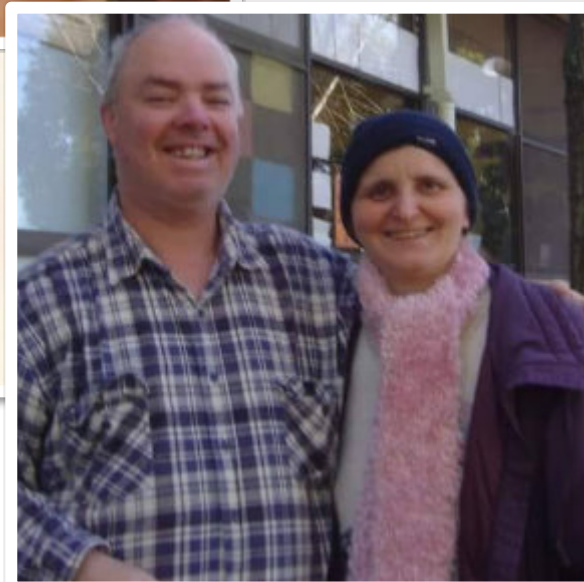
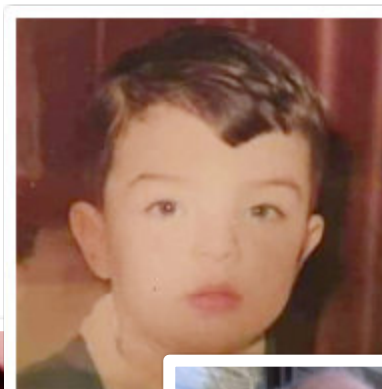
Every day Colin studied the Sabbath School lessons and read Bible stories to our children. When they grew bigger, they would read the Bible themselves.

Colin, my dear husband, was a devoted student of the Bible – the Word of God. Colin was a very good and faithful man. Many of our friends would contact him to ask him questions which he would answer. Night after night we would study the Sabbath School Lesson from 6:30pm. We would read the verses from the Bible in both English and Romanian. This was a pleasant experience for our family.

Colin was a good husband, indulgent and a giver of many gifts to me. He was strong and very special and loved me very much. My mother would write us letters and she would say that she has an intelligent son. I was an only child and my parents treated Colin like their son.

Colin was an avid user of Viber and Facebook. He would send many messages to the brothers and sisters in the church – especially "Happy Sabbath."

For Colin the Sabbath was the most precious day of the week. Colin loved the Lord Jesus and would praise Him often through hymns of praise.





One of my favourite Viber messages was: "One great thing about isolation is you can eat as much garlic as you want!"

Whenever the brothers and sisters would ask him "How are you Colin?" His reply would be "Any day above ground is a good day!"

Colin loved to eat garlic aioli with mashed avocado. He loved vegan pizza, capsicum relish (or ajvar), cabbage rolls, beans, hummus, tahini and salad. Colin would prepare oat waffles many times. He loved to eat grapefruit, watermelon, sweet potatoes (which are not my favourite).

Colin's favourite Bible verse which he liked to repeat was 1 Corinthians 10:31, "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."

Colin loved to watch the live presentations from Schofields Church in Sydney. He loved to listen to

Christian music—he loved the voice of Luiza Spiridon. He loved to read the writings of Ellen G. White and studied the Bible very much.

Let us pray to the Lord that He will continue to strengthen me. He knows everything and He knows the future, which we have no knowledge of.

I have the hope that we will see each other again in the future at that big reunion where there will be no more suffering, tears, pain, cemeteries, separation, or anything that hurts. I am impatiently waiting the second coming of Jesus so that I can re-unite with my darling husband where we can be together for eternity on the Crystal Sea.

Revelation 21:4 - "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."

## A Tribute to Steven Lett

By Nathan Tyler

Those who knew Steve Lett knew a quiet but earnest man who thought about big ideas and always wanted to develop his talents and learn more.

Born in 22 December 1965, Steve has family around NSW and Victoria. He spent the last number of years in Belfrayden, NSW with his wife, Debbie.

In 2019, Steve requested rebaptism. It had been my privilege to perform this on the 14th of April of that year, near Wagga Wagga. Steve was happy that he had renewed his covenant with God. He spoke of projects he would like to finish and skills he would like to learn that might be useful in communicating the gospel to others.

Sadly, the worsening of a lifelong condition finally threatened to cut his dreams short, and Steve spent the better part of two years in hospitals and nursing care. It was a non-malignant growth next to his heart, they said. It could not safely be operated on, but it interfered with the functioning of his heart, which then caused the function of other vital organs to deteriorate.

Whilst the doctors gave Steve only weeks or months to live, he hung on tenaciously for a year and a half.

He was able to visit friends and family and go out for a meal at times. Despite restrictions on visitation, a few of us were able to see him at different times, although not as much as Steve wanted, sadly.

Steve's favourite word was "paradox." This word is defined as something which seems absurd or contradictory, but yet is true. Steve found many paradoxes in life, but perhaps the one he grappled with the most is the fact that eternal life would begin for him in death.



The long battle ended on Friday the 11th of June. Steve was only 55 years old.

Because of restrictions, any family, friends or pastors from greater Sydney were not able to attend the funeral, conducted on the 28th of June. However, Br Robert Wiseman of the local Coleambally Church was assisted by Br Ben Thiel, who came up from Victoria. Br Steve was laid to rest at Glenmorus Memorial Gardens, Albury NSW.

When we read in Psalm 116:15, "Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints," we recognise that though death is a difficult thing to face, yet to God it represents the time when His servants can finally rest.

Steve has finally found that rest, and we look forward to the resurrection, when he will receive an eternally new and vigorous body and will be able to take up his dreams anew.

Graveside service: <https://youtu.be/Y5VMA2fQzCc>

# Blessings on Your 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Terezija Stoyko

5 July 2021

*The Stoyko family was amongst some of the pioneers of the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement Australasian Union, who came from Europe in the late 1950's. The Stoyko family knew what it was like to start life anew with nothing, and that made them very attentive to the needs of others. Their hospitality was experienced by many, their home was always opened to visitors, and even became the first home to many who immigrated here from Europe, especially the Slavs. The Lord has truly blessed Sr. Stoyko, and we are privileged to have her with us at Schofields Church, and so grateful to God that she is now able to join the "90's" Club. What a blessing!*

*We would like to share something of Terezija's life with you, as expressed by her daughter Maryanne:*

Terezija Stoyko grew up on a farm in Yugoslavia in the Ivastinovic family, being woken up at 5am to look after cows from the age of seven and working on the farm in her teenage years. From the age of eight, she lived through the Second World War – a traumatic experience which saw soldiers from opposing sides passing through and occupying their home, forcing the whole family into one room, which they did, and took whatever they wanted, leaving the family with little food to eat. But even though these were trying times, they prayed, and God looked after them, and preserved them as a family.

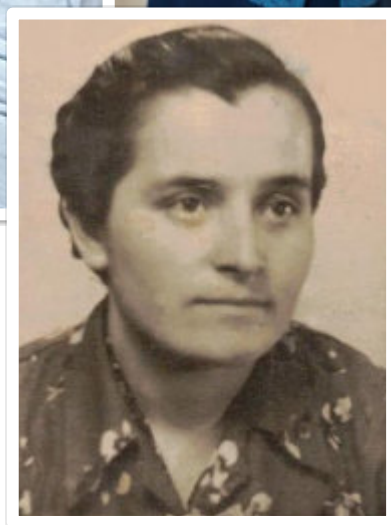
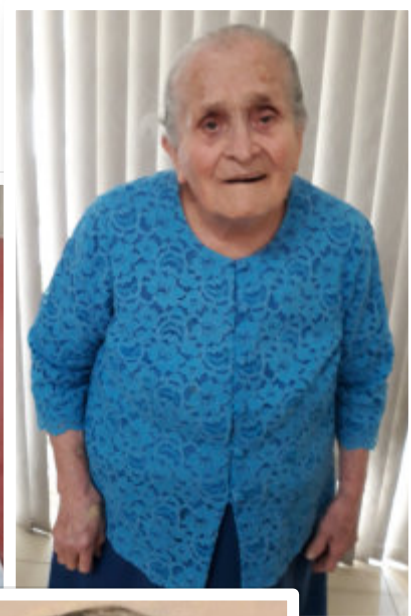
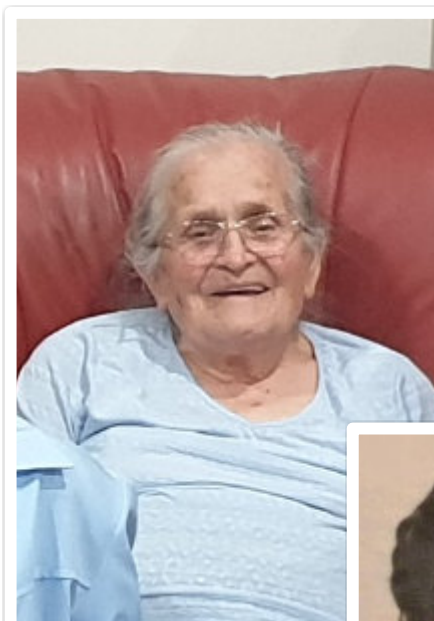
When she was little, she would sing a song about Australia with her sister, Mara, and said, I wish to be able to go there one day. Well, little did she know that her wish would come true, upon marrying and eventually settling in Sydney in 1957 with her husband Teodor and first-born son, Michael, who was 18 months old at the time.

Life wasn't easy – on arrival in Australia you lived in a house with 4 bedrooms. Each bedroom was home to one family—imagine sharing the kitchen and bathroom with so many others! At one point in time, they lived in Br Heslop's home in Annandale. Finally, a home was purchased in Ashfield – close walking distance to church in Summer Hill, which was a similar walking distance as were the churches she attended in her youth.

She found it difficult at Summer Hill church with English being the second language - Sr Haynes and Sr Stewart used to talk to her, and she would wish they would just leave her alone, as she was unable to communicate. But she was glad that they continued to talk to her, as she started English language studies at nighttime and would use the Yugoslav and English Bibles to compare verses whilst studying the Sabbath School Lesson, which helped her immensely with her ability to comprehend and read English.

As the family continued to grow – Joe, John, MaryAnne & Helena being born, the hard work continued. She always gave her best, to whomever it may be, being part of the kitchen cooking team at Auburn during delegation and conference time. As the children grew and moved on with their lives, she was so thrilled to welcome the 7 grandchildren as they were born. It has also been a great blessing to see her 9 great-grandchildren born.

The hard work from a young age started to take its toll, age slowing her down, but never dampening her spirits or preventing her from trying to make up a new recipe in the kitchen, even in her 80's. Her pita (walnut roll) and bread has been famous for years, and she has passed on her kitchen skills by teaching others. The grandchildren used to say, 'Baka, you should open up a pizza shop,' because it was just so delish! 'My time has passed for that,' would be her reply.





When she saw her mother arrive in Sydney at the age of 60, she thought she was old. Little did she think that she would be blessed to reach the age of 90! My Mum has been a blessing to so many, giving as she has received, praying to live the life that God would have her live.

Restrictions have temporarily halted her family from gathering to be with her during this milestone, but she praises God for His watch care, protection and leading, praying to be among those saved in His kingdom where there will be no more sin, and she will be youthfully immortal, with her Saviour.

## Stratham Help Build in PNG

Recently we received word that a house of worship was built in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea, with assistance from the Stratham Church in Western Australia.

Three new young people are attending this new church and our sister Bible worker is going on a two-day walk into the wilderness to reach out to new areas. Sister Bethany (second from right in the photo) is blind and so Stratham members also assisted in contributions to build her a small house close to the church so she can find her way there easily.



## Literature Campaigns

This year the churches in New South Wales have put together a new leaflet advertising the book *The Great Controversy*. About half of an initial print run of 40,000 copies has been distributed, with around 20 copies of the book being requested.

A new feature of this leaflet is the inclusion of a QR code that leads to an online form to request a copy of the book.

In Victoria, leaflets advertising *The Great Controversy* and the Present Truth Correspondence Course have been distributed, with 10 requests so far this year. In addition to this, members have distributed 500 free copies of *Steps to Christ*.

Meanwhile, in New Zealand, the church at New Lynn have developed a series of booklets containing the content of the earliest edition of *The Great Controversy*, which was entitled *Spirit of Prophecy*. A DVD is offered first, and then the booklets, one at a time in sequence, every two to three weeks.

So far the results have been limited because all door-to-door efforts ceased due to Covid-19 concerns and lockdowns. A couple hundred DVDs have been given out with just 1 response requesting the book series.

If you would like information on any of the leaflets, or would like to consider doing a mail drop via the post office in your area, please contact the AUC Office.



Many important questions  
are answered in the book

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## Issue ONE

in this issue >>>

*Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."*



...we are labourers together with God: ... building a foundation for God's workmen

# Camponotus

## Our Motto

1. Camponotus Kids are encouraged to follow God and grow up to serve Him.
2. Camponotus Kids are directed at children from ages 5-12 years. We will also encourage youth to mentor and help run the programs together with spiritually-minded parents and adults.
3. Camponotus Kids are a part of the SDARM Education Department Australia wide. However, each field will be running their own separate programs along our guidelines.
4. Camponotus Kids programs are designed to encourage children's sense of belonging, being and becoming. This helps children's physical, creative, mental, social, and spiritual health.
5. Camponotus Kids are able to join in with like-minded peers and develop skills for their futures.



## Scavenger Hunt

### Watch, Look, Listen!

*Our first ever Camponotus Kids Ev-Ant was held on Sunday, June 13 2021 at Elim Heights Youth Camp. The sun was shining and the children were smiling as they set out to find treasures in God's beautiful world.*

The kids gathered together with eager anticipation for their first Camponotus Ev-Ant – a scavenger hunt!

Held in the beautiful bushlands of the Putty Range, the NSW Conference proved a wonderful blessing to all who were present. Unfortunately, we missed a large number who were unable to attend due to covid restrictions.

The children enjoyed a range of activities organised by the NSW childrens department including stories, games, and baking. Camponotus Kids had the privilege of conducting their first ever activity during this time.

The children divided into two age groups – 5 - 8 year olds and 9 - 12 year olds. They were led by a supervisor in roaming the surrounding bushland in search of items listed for their hunt.



### NSW June Conference

#### Scavenger hunt

*"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork."*

The younger children shared and compared, while gathering their goodies.

The older children concluded their hunt in the dining hall with a lemon each, juicers, glasses, sugar and lots of sweet fun!

Thank you for the work efforts put in by the organisers to make this event successful.

We look forward to sharing news items and photos of events from around Australia in coming issues.



# Queensland Renovation

Fundraising is ticking along for the rebuilding of the veranda of the Clayfield church house. Many thanks to all who have given so far!

If you would like to help, please direct your contributions through your local church or directly to the Queensland Conference:

Bank: Westpac  
BSB: 034 060  
Account Number: 153 733  
Account Name: Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement  
Memo: Clayfield Renovation



Your gift will enable the team to purchase necessary structural materials, decking, roofing and other building supplies to reconstruct the veranda, to complete the restoration of this heritage structure and make it safe.

## Concert at Clayfield

On the 20th of June 2021, the QLD Missionary Department held a music concert at Clayfield church to give thanks to the Lord for His amazing love and kindness toward us. It has been such a blessing to see the Clayfield church and main building repaired. Repairs have been going on for about two years or more, which have taken many hours, effort and means over the course of the project.

Having completed the repairs to the church, it seemed like the perfect opportunity to hold a concert in the building, for the friends, family, and community of Clayfield. Though living in difficult and uncertain times, we had to work by faith, trusting and believing God, for we were not sure if it would be possible to perform as certain Covid-19 restrictions were still in place.

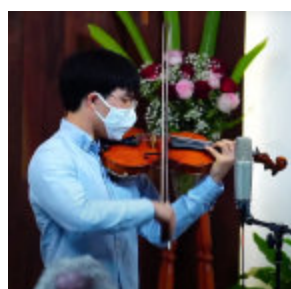
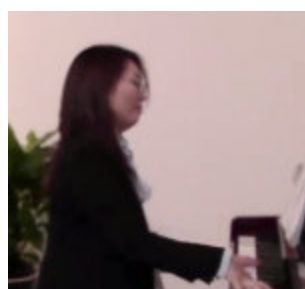
There was a large variety of performers ranging from the Korean church musicians with vocal and instrumental arrangements to the Pimpama and Clayfield churches with group and solo performances. All the items were very beautiful. It was a wonderful opportunity to share music and community within the church and praise God. We had a full-house attendance, according to Covid-19 safety protocols.

A marquee was set up in the front yard of the church with two large heaters which we were very grateful for due to the chilly, winter evening. Our thanks go to everyone who contributed with their time and effort but especially to Sister Deborah and Sister Irene, who provided refreshments for the evening in beautifully packaged containers, ready to be distributed.

Praise the Lord that after four months of arduous work, all the plans came to a conclusion with this beautiful performance. Many people from the community and church members were also able to view the concert via livestream on YouTube, where it is still available to be viewed on the Clayfield Church channel. As an opportunity to reach out to the local community and unite your church in a common goal, preparing and hosting a sacred concert can be a big blessing to all involved. I pray that as we have opportunity, we will all continue to place our gifts and talents in God's hands and see what He will accomplish with them.

Monica Balarezo  
QLD Missionary Department

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0BnIYyZ2O-M>



# The Story of Hebron Missionary College

*Very few people are still with us who remember the Hebron Farm and the training college which used to operate there.*

*Sister Elaine Weymark is one of those people. A retired AUC office worker, she recently celebrated her 90th birthday (in December, 2020). Some time ago we caught up with her to talk about Hebron, and this is what she had to say.*

## **The College at Hebron**

Hebron was a gathering place for the youth, and it was purchased in 1943. It is unique – to have that river going right around it until it is almost an island. I don't think that river flows like that in any other place but where Hebron is.

Classes were held from six to eight o'clock in the morning – we were up at five o'clock. Brother C. T. Stewart used to whistle all the way from his house to the students' house. As soon as they'd hear him whistling, they'd all get out of bed and run around and be ready.

The subjects studied were English (speech training, descriptive writing), Bible character stories, Prophecy, Physiology, and later on market gardening. I don't think there was any particular time frame for the course; you just stayed there as long as you wanted—there was always work for you to do! My husband Harry was there for five years, and Brother Brittain was there for three (because they needed him in the clinic).

The Southwell family spent their time there together as a family. During that time, under Brother Southwell's leadership, the students built the church on the property. They made all the bricks for the foundation from the sand down near the river, and then the church was built on the foundation.

My involvement started with my brother George, who was a student. At the time he was up there, I was already working in the Union Conference centre at Summer Hill. I often went up there for days at a time and joined in with the college education and orchard work, as well as assisting with the treasury work. I was up at five o'clock like the rest. When I heard Brother Stewart stir, I knew it was time to get up and go up with the students to class.

In the winter time there was always such a beautiful big fire in the huge fireplace there. Every student had



their place at the big long table. I often sat near the fire. I also helped prepare the meals for them.

The study book for the missionary college was the book Education by Sister White. The motto for all the students was on page 57, where it says,

“The greatest want of the world is the want of men—men who will not be bought or sold, men who in their inmost souls are true and honest, men who do not fear to call sin by its right name, men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole, men who will stand for the right though the heavens fall.” Education, p. 57.

## **Practical Work and Industries**

After they had been up there a while studying, they needed their practice. The students became interested in different kinds of missionary work. Some went into health and because we had the clinic there at Summer Hill, they would come to work there.

Others went into the various fields around the Union, taking responsibility perhaps in another state. There was a centre in every state except the Northern Territory, and we had New Zealand as well as part of the Union.

As far as industry was concerned, the Hebron Missionary College had established orchards, with several varieties of oranges, many mandarins, and a plum orchard with different varieties of plums. Down at the markets,

our oranges from Hebron were always reserved for the military as they said they were the pick of the oranges on the Colo River.

In 1946 it was decided to have a market garden as well as the orchards, to extend the practical education for students. So the land was cleared and an irrigation system set up to pump water from the Colo River. We had acres of cabbages, watermelons and pumpkins.







In the early days all the produce for the markets was picked up by the Surprise, which was the name of the boat that stopped at the jetty near the packing shed. Later we had our own trucks which would take the produce to market.

Brother Stewart had laboured in a sawmill at one time when he was younger, and so he set up a sawmill. They used to make all their own boxes for the oranges for the markets. They also cut timber for building, and they sold a lot of timber as well.

### ***The Debt and Sale***

When we first spoke about having a college, many people gave what they could. We began by donations, but it was always hard work to try to clear the debt—we never seemed to get to the end.

Because we could not seem to be free of debt at this period of our history, our GC representative who came to our Union Conference thought it better to be relieved of the debt, and in 1964 the property was sold.

It's not until you haven't got it, that you realise what you've lost. It was strange now for the youth not to



have this property, and it was always talked about to have another one. In 1969, only a few years after the sale of Hebron, Brother Ashmore, from Western Australia, donated \$10,000, which was used to purchase the property which would become the Elim Heights Youth Camp at Mellong.

### ***Legacy of Hebron***

Brother Brittain used to conduct a musical cantata called "From the Manger to the Cross." People from the community used to attend that. We had a good relationship with the farmers in the area.

Even today the road from Lower Portland into the property is still called Hebron Road.

I think the legacy of Hebron was in bringing everybody into unity with the same thoughts and the same teaching. You know that wherever you go, we're all just the one big family. If I hadn't had that time to establish myself in what I believed, I might not be here. It never leaves you.

Of course everybody enjoyed coming to Hebron for conferences. No matter what state you lived in, you'd come to conference at Hebron, and there's always that bonding of wonderful times and shared experiences, and encouraging each other just to keep pressing on with the work of

reformation. This is what is needed at this time of this world's history.

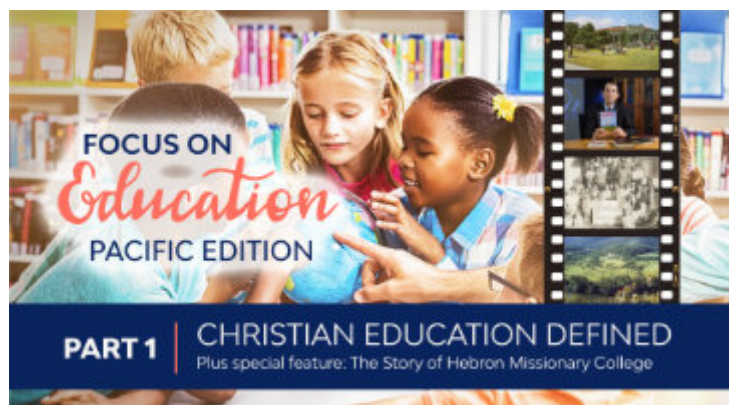
It's always a very happy memory to think about Hebron and all the different people that came there. They're all a part of my life. I do enjoy talking about the things that I grew up with, and it gives me courage that the work of reformation will continue.

## **Focus on Education**

The previous article on the story of Hebron Missionary College was featured in a special Pacific Edition broadcast of several presentations by the General Conference Education Department.

Other features put spotlight on several education projects, including the Tebakor College in Vanuatu, Luzon Field Academy in the Philippines, Camponotus Kids, Bible Missionary Training School in the Philippines, and Elim Missionary College in Australia.

These features, along with the presentations on education, are available on our YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/SDARMAustralasia](http://www.youtube.com/SDARMAustralasia)



## Upcoming Events



### **NSW & QLD Youth Camp**

Date: 1-4 October, 2021

Venue: Stuarts Point Convention Ctr

Contact: Larry (0431 409 349) or  
Jared (0410 24 599)



### **Education Department Conference**

Date: 24-28 December, 2021

Venue: Elim Heights Youth Camp

Contact: [info@sdarm.org.au](mailto:info@sdarm.org.au)

### **Missionary Training Program 2022**

Date: 6 February to 13 June, 2022

Venue: Elim Heights and AUC Office

Contact: [emc@sdarm.org.au](mailto:emc@sdarm.org.au)

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