

# AUSTRALASIAN GOOD TIDINGS

E-NEWS - 28 February 2013 #18

## Malakula Church Dedication, Vanuatu

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“...The LORD hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet. . . The mountains quake at him, and the hills melt, and the earth is burned at his presence, yea, the world, and all that dwell therein. . . . The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.” Nahum 1:3, 5, 7

Not many church dedications are marked by an earthquake but this one was! As members and visitors gathered on the sunny morning of November 2, 2012 to open the little church in Atchin village, Malakula Island, Vanuatu, God’s presence and protection were felt as a 6.4 earthquake rocked the island. We praise God no damage was sustained, so we all entered to dedicate the building and share God’s praises for His guidance in making this church a reality.

The message of Reformation came to Malekula—Vanuatu’s second biggest island—in 2002 through literature work. We praise God that since that time the interest has continued to grow to this day.

The building of a little church in Atchin village became a reality when a request came to the Welfare Department from the Brethren on Malakula Island. One family decided that they would donate some land for the building site. From there the pledge was made to also provide shelter and food for anyone that would come and help. The only funds needed to complete the project was for the shipping of the building materials. A visit was made to see where the land was, located 200 metres from the main island ring road was the selected block of land surrounded by giant mango trees and breadfruit trees . Underneath them was the jungle floor and brush that needed to be cleared. Once this planning had occurred a plan was drawn up and by faith a request for funds was made. Grateful donations were accepted and young people from all over Australia along with local volunteers came and a simple building with a beach sand floor was built to praise God. The members now meet regularly every Sabbath. There is still work and funding needed to complete the adjacent classroom .

We praise God GC Regional Secretary Bro. Rolly Dumaguit the GC Regional Secretary was on hand to officiate and witness this joyous occasion along with leaders from Vanuatu and the AUC.

May this new church building be used to further the cause of God and may His work continue to grow on this large island.

John Lausevic & Benjamin Thiel

PS. More recently more good news has come from the other side of Malekula Island when our field leader Br Andrew Pakasongi visited in January and run a series of meetings, and studies, many interests attended, souls committed their lives to the Lord and another small church has been organized. Praise God!

*John Lausevic*  
*Welfare Department Director*





## Dedication of Mt Siwi Herbal Health Clinic, PNG

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of November the Welfare Department Director was guest of honour at the recent dedication of the Mt. Siwi Herbal Health Clinic at Wara-Kar, Jiwaka Province, Papua New Guinea. The day was slightly overcast, but sunny, as many local community members and many church members who travelled from Markham Valley, Tari and points in between, all gathered with one purpose in mind—to attend the dedication of this clinic.

The history of this clinic had a unique beginning—it started out as a special place, taking patients who had come from the local area as a referral from a nearby Christian hospital in the Kudjip area. The hospital had been sending home many patients with incurable diseases and difficult medical problems. All who come to the clinic are treated using natural remedies and methods. The Welfare



Department has been supporting this mountain based health ministry for several years now, and has seen the programme grow from its infancy. Starting out with only one small native grass and bamboo walled house, it now has a church building in place, a sleeping dormitory, food preparation area, a small house and a few out buildings. It is still growing and expanding as finances allow. A prayer and welcome was held inside the church building that was built by the local members there—a place where those who are physically sick can come for spiritual remedies as well. Brother Hans

Yaimas presided at the church service and afterwards many guest speakers were given the opportunity to speak, including the village chief, who spoke about how the clinic has helped so many people there, including him.

The health work is growing rapidly in PNG as private hospitals exceed their ability to care for the daily volume of sick coming into their gates. The government hospital is a fair distance away, and many cannot afford to travel to it. Even if they are able to do so, they have to spend a great deal of time waiting in a queue in order to receive any treatment. The youth are involved with this place and interests are growing.



Another facility is being started by Sr. Esther Tai near Rotbung Junction and Okuk Highway in Minj, Jiwaka Province. This place is currently under construction and much support is needed for Elim Natural Remedies Training Centre (ENRTC). They are in need of financial as well as prayer support. They have given the Welfare Department a list of most urgently needed items. If you wish to help please send an email to [welfare@sdarm.org.au](mailto:welfare@sdarm.org.au) or you can contact us directly at +61 (0)488 683 142.

*Choir singing at opening ceremony*

*—John Lausevic  
Welfare Department Director*

## Solomon Islands Tsunami – Church Family Assistance

The Solomon Islands earthquake and tsunami which struck the island of Santa Cruz on February 6, 2013 has left 6 people dead, including a young child.

“A government spokesman says the 1.5-metre waves that roared into Santa Cruz Island on Wednesday were too fast to outrun for five elderly villagers and one child.” (<http://www.news.com.au/world/tsunami-warning-after-string-of-earthquakes-off-solomon-islands/story-fndir2ev-1226571643903>)

We received reports from our Church family in the Solomon Islands that Br Fernandez’s village was hit the hardest. It has been levelled to the ground. Sadly, the six persons that perished were his close relatives. His father has also lost everything including his house. We extend our heartfelt prayers and sympathies to Br Fernandez and his family at this time of great sadness.

The brethren there are in need of approximately \$1,300.00 for immediate relief. Please contact the AUC office for details on how donations may be made: [treasurer@sdarm.org.au](mailto:treasurer@sdarm.org.au)

## Samoa Fly & Build Invitation

*“Why do we not become enthused with the Spirit of Christ? Why are we so little moved by the pitiful cries of a suffering world? Do we consider our exalted privilege of adding a star to Christ’s crown—a soul cut loose from the chains with which Satan has bound him, a soul saved in the kingdom of God? The church must realize its obligation to carry the gospel of present truth to every creature. I entreat of you to read the third and fourth chapters of Zechariah. If these chapters are understood, if they are received, a work will be done for those who are hungering and thirsting for righteousness, a work that means to the church: ‘Go forward and upward.’ ” Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 6, pp. 296*

The time has come when we have to set aside our own needs, place the needs of God’s work first, and move into action. Many times we neglect the cause of God on earth by focusing on what we want to do for ourselves, instead of for others. Several years ago, a collection was made in our Sabbath School Special offerings, which was dedicated to the building of a church in Samoa. In the capital city Apia, not far from the main international airport, is a block of land waiting for people to come and use their talents in building up a new monument to God.

Please think about coming to help. If you have a few skills or many, you are welcome. Come and spend two to four weeks raising a simple building to be used in the service of God.

Contact us for more information at our email address [welfare@sdarm.org.au](mailto:welfare@sdarm.org.au) or by phone, on 0488 683 142. If you are between the ages of 13–70, please prepare to come and spend some time in a warm tropical setting. If you are under the age of 18 years, please bring a parent or guardian with you.

John Lausevic  
Welfare Department Director



# Fly & Build!

# SAMOA



YOUR HELP IS  
**Needed!**



**Mission Projects Oceania** is looking for young volunteers who will dedicate their time and strength to a *Fly & Build* event in SAMOA. Work will commence from June 17 - July 25, 2013. Reserve your spot today. Must be able to sponsor yourself. Contact us to place your name on our mailing list or to request disclaimer forms and more information.

Contact Mission Projects Oceania  
for more information:

Email: [welfare@sdarm.org.au](mailto:welfare@sdarm.org.au)

Or call: +61 488 683 142



Mission Projects Oceania

Like us on Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/MissionProjectsOceania?ref=ts&fref=ts>

LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU.



# New Zealand Youth Camp

## United in CHRIST – Becoming the Light of the World

NZ Youth Camp 18<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2013

A Youth Camp for the New Zealand youth was held in Wanganui (approx 450 km from Auckland).

The camp grounds were in a lovely quiet location with a beautiful lake behind the dormitories and kitchen/dining area. Also there was a quaint little “white church” which we were able to use for the Sabbath Services.

We had approximately 25 attendees during the camp and close to 50 on the Sabbath. We started the Sabbath in the little white church and also had a short talk on the importance of “Seeking first the kingdom of God, and Uniting with Christ”. Even though the meeting was short, the importance of making Christ first in our life was emphasized, and that we are to become united with Christ as He was united with the Father.

For Sabbath School, we had a large children’s Sabbath School in the dining hall, a large group of young people for their lesson in one of the dormitories, and just a few older (approx. 5) in the church. The service “An Opportunity too Good to be Missed” was a call to accept Jesus as your personal Saviour, the value of your soul in the light of the sacrifice of Jesus. Other meetings, worships and the social evening revolved around the topic of being a light in this world and it was also demonstrated with corresponding activities which were especially enjoyed by the children and young people.

There was a lovely spirit of helpfulness, happiness and active participation shown by all who attended.

On Sunday we had the opportunity to be a light in the Wanganui community. Some went out letterboxing (we’ve had 8 responses for the book Great Controversy), and others were playing instruments, some staying at the table with free books, while 4 others went out doing surveys. Many interesting conversations were instigated by the surveys, the most by two young girls who kept asking many questions for approximately 1 hour. We were all encouraged by this time of letting our light shine. We had lunch followed by a walk around a lake. That evening we had a treasure hunt, the clues being verses from the Bible which lead us on to the next place and clue and so on until we found the treasure in the church.

Canoeing and water activities were enjoyed by all ages. We also had an outing to an animal farm and a flying fox near a local beach. On the last evening we had worship around a campfire followed by some songs and stories.

The young people all had a lovely time and came home exhausted in body but refreshed in spirit.



## NSW Conference Biennial Delegation

On Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2013, 22 delegates of the NSW Conference of SDA Reform Movement gathered to elect new officers for the next two years. We praise God that each committee was able to work harmoniously together and organise the various departments to continue promoting the work of soul-saving throughout the state of New South Wales



*Delegates at the NSW Conference Delegation Session - two had already left*

### **NSW Officers for 2013-2014 as follows:**

President	A Pow
Vice President	M Thiel
Secretary	M Wiseman
Treasurer	M Staudinger
Auditor	J Voncina
Missionary Leader	G McCutcheon - Assistants: D Polistina, M Tuuina
Sabbath School	R Wiseman – Assistant: S Szoke
Youth Department	M Thiel – Assistants: L Voncina, C Cosson
Health Department	to be advised
NSW Committee	A Pow, M Thiel, M Wiseman, M Staudinger, G McCutcheon, G Kraus, E Stoyko
Delegates to AUC	A Pow, M Thiel, M Staudinger, H Kraus, E Stoyko Substitutes: D Polistina, R Wiseman

Schofields Development Committee: G Kraus, B Ilic, I Gules, I Ilic, S Risko

*Mary Wiseman*  
*NSW Conference Secretary*

## Engagement of Denise Dumitru & Jonathan Gules



An atmosphere of expectancy pervaded the air, as friends and family from far and near impatiently awaited the arrival of the guests of honour, Denise Dumitru and Jonathan Gules. The occasion—an engagement dinner, held at the Parish Hall in Bacchus Marsh, Victoria, on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2013. We were all there to celebrate their love and commitment, and give them our support as they planned their future together.

As the guests took their seats in the beautifully decorated hall, Master of Ceremonies, Johnny Araya, welcomed everyone for the evening. God's blessing was asked for the food that was being prepared, and also for the young couple sharing this special meal with us. Nathan Tyler presented an inspirational sermonette emphasising the importance of a God-centred family. MC Johnny asked first Jonathan and then Denise to read some meaningful promises to each other—personalised versions of 1 Corinthians 13, well known as the love chapter of the Bible. These are the kind of moments that are treasured for a lifetime, when love pledges to forever be patient, longsuffering, unselfish, humble, hopeful and enduring.

Throughout the rest of the evening while we were enjoying the delicious food, there were short messages shared by various friends and family, offering counsel and advice on how to have a happy, successful and lasting marriage. The children presented the song, "With Jesus in the Family, Happy, Happy, Home." Other solo and group items were also enjoyed, but a big highlight, especially for Denise, was to have her mother and father in America present via Skype—they were watching real-time video of the evening, and also shared a few words with Denise, Jonathan and guests, as they were projected on a large screen and amplified through the sound system.

It was hard to leave and say goodbye at the end of such a lovely day, however Denise and Jonathan now have another special occasion to look forward to—their wedding day! May God bless and guide them, and grant them a wonderful future, not only on this earth, but for eternity.

## Spread the GT E-News

Already have the GT E-News coming to your inbox? Then think of those who are not computer literate, or who may not be receiving "Good Tidings E News". Print it out, hand it to friends, put it on the church bulletin board, your magazine table or on your fridge.

And for all your friends who are computer literate, forward this edition of "Good Tidings E-News" on to them and invite them to [subscribe](#).





## Engagement of Nadine Cunningham & Domenic Polistina

On a typically cool Melbourne day, Keilor Park Church in Victoria was the scene of a warm and joyful occasion, as friends and family joined Nadine Cunningham and Domenic Polistina to celebrate their engagement. A casual country theme set the tone for the evening, with hay bales, checkered shirts and an assortment of hats adding to the relaxed atmosphere of the outdoor setting.

While the meal was being prepared and guests mingled, MC Nathan Tyler requested the guests to come forward and share when and where they had met Nadine and Domenic, where they hope to see them in 10 years' time (a vision for their future), and if money were no object, what would they buy for the couple? Almost all who shared a few words expressed their desire to see the young couple actively working in the Lord's vineyard for many years to come.



Thanks to the many sisters who brought a delicious vegan dish, a lovely meal was served buffet-style, and greatly enjoyed by all the guests. It was pleasant to sit and chat with new and old friends, and the children had a good time running around and playing games. With a special activity in mind, a small newspaper called "The Engagement" had been prepared, with photos and articles focusing on the young couple. This was auctioned off, with registered participants donating a sum of money for the privilege of bidding—all proceeds were to go towards the couple's honeymoon.

With sunset drawing us all inside to the warmth and light of the dining room, it was time for Nadine and Domenic to open their gifts. There were many creative items given, all representing something that the giver couldn't live without—some gave kitchenware indispensable to food preparation, while other gifts ingeniously focused on time, water and even romance. Nadine and Domenic also shared how God had led them in their experience, and brought them together despite some initial reservations. Their speeches were heartfelt and touching, and expressed their commitment and desires for a strong, God-centred marriage. As they plan for their wedding and commit their lives to each other and in His service, may God richly bless them in the future, both now and eternally.



## Exciting Job Opening: Christian Publishing

### **Wanted: Business and Marketing Administrator – Christian Publishing**

An opportunity has arisen for a highly motivated, consecrated and business minded person to take the oversight of Religious Liberty Publishing Association.

Religious Liberty Publishing Association is dedicated to the production and distribution of Christian publications in a variety of multi-media formats including print, electronic, and audio/visual, that support and facilitate the mission of the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement, Australasian Union Conference.

This role offers an exciting, mission focussed opportunity to work for Christ in a happy, uplifting team environment that values high Christian principles, a strong work ethic, and a willingness to help wherever needed.

As director of the association, you will use your business administration and marketing skills to oversee the production, distribution and marketing of high quality Christian publications for our church and the wider community. The role will also entail overseeing the coordination of in-house and/or outsourced graphic design projects. You will also be called upon to administer publications and subscription sales and order fulfilment. As a team player, you will also enjoy helping out with reception, retail counter sales and any other administration task that may present itself.

The ideal candidate will demonstrate

- A strong commitment to Christ
- A sound understanding of the third angel's message in the light of Revelation 18:1-4 and the relevance of the publishing work to supporting its promotion
- A strong commitment to and an active promotion of the principles of faith of the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement
- Sound business administration experience, including exposure to sales and marketing of online products will be highly regarded.
- Ability to coordinate production schedules of Christian publications and marketing of the same (online and print)
- Strong Customer Service and Counter Sales skills
- Strong IT skills
- Graphic Design Skills will be highly regarded but not essential
- Strong order picking, packing and dispatching skills
- Exposure to MYOB Accounting Software or ability to learn

This is a unique position for someone who loves Christ, enjoys a challenge, and has a passion for evangelism through Christian media.

To apply please forward your resume to [secretary@sdarm.org.au](mailto:secretary@sdarm.org.au) by March 23, 2013

For questions on this role please contact Joe Voncina on (02) 9627 7553 or by email [secretary@sdarm.org.au](mailto:secretary@sdarm.org.au)



## RLPA Bookshop News

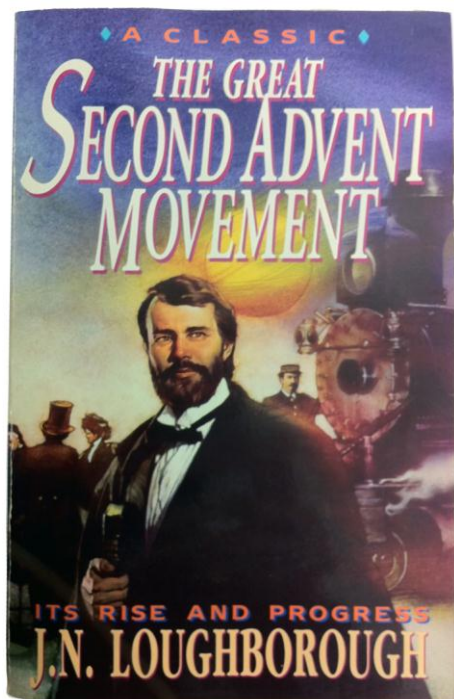
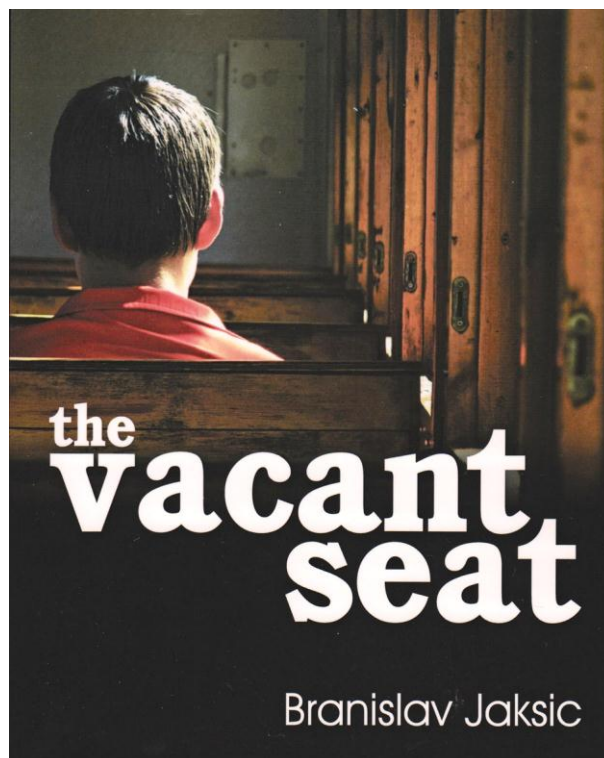
Branislav “Brian” Jaksic almost didn’t make it into this world, and when he did arrive, his alcoholic father disowned him and his uncle said he was “ugly.” Born in communist Yugoslavia in 1938, Branislav had a rough start in life. But life didn’t get any easier as he grew older. War, food shortages, an abusive father, and religious persecution were part of Branislav’s life. Despite the turmoil around him, his mother’s unshakable faith and trust in God and His divine plan for Branislav’s life gave him hope.

Upon becoming a Sabbathkeeper, Branislav faced an uncertain future, especially in light of the mandatory service he was required to complete in the Yugoslavian army. What was he to do? He could not join as a noncombatant. He could not request Sabbaths off. Other young Sabbathkeepers who refused to do as the military demanded were imprisoned, beaten, tortured, and starved. He had heard the stories.

The only option was to leave the country. But how? Could he escape across the border into Italy and apply to the Italian authorities for protection? Could he leave his beloved mother and family, not knowing if he would ever see them again?

*The Vacant Seat* will thrill you as you read about God’s protection and His divine plan for one of His servants—Branislav Jaksic—a man who trusts in the Lord and has devoted his life to serving his Savior.

**Available now through RLPA for \$19.95 plus postage**



### ***The Great Second Advent Movement***

by John N. Loughborough

Have you ever wondered how the early advent believers arrived at the prophetic conclusions they did? Would you like a good overview of the history of how the Advent Movement started and what it is based on? The Great Second Advent Movement tells these stories and many more. The author, John Norton Loughborough, a young man who travelled extensively with Brother and Sister White, tells the stories as he witnessed them and calls on many other witnesses to verify what they saw.

Now in stock!

**Available now through RLPA for \$19.00 plus postage**



# 2013 LONDON Project

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

16<sup>th</sup> June - 11<sup>th</sup> August

Forty volunteers are needed who will dedicate eight weeks for serious canvassing in London, United Kingdom. Apply now for your information pack and reserve your place today. You must be able to sponsor your trip to and from London and speak English.

Other volunteers are also needed to assist with the running of this project - cooks, Bible workers, and other personnel. Only the main volunteers and Bible workers need to speak English.

To receive the information pack please email or contact us on the phone number below.



Due to the preparation necessary for such a project, the deadline for applications to be received is no later than Friday, March 29, 2013. However, we encourage you to apply as soon as possible so that we can make the appropriate arrangements.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

# 2013 LONDON Project

**Peter D Lausevic**



plausevic@sdarm.org



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This project is organized by the  
**Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement**  
General Conference Missionary Department



*"Come over... and help us" Acts 16:9*



## Pictorial News



*Baptism in Fiji,  
October 2012*



*Youth Convention in Papua New Guinea,  
January 2013*

## Coming Events Calendar

**29 March – 1 April, 2013**

### ***South Australia Spiritual Conference***

*"The Secret of True Reformation"*

**Location:** Wingrove Rd, Mylor SA 5153

For further information contact: [sa@sdarm.org.au](mailto:sa@sdarm.org.au)

Telephone: +61 (8) 8376 0163

Or go to [www.sdarm.org.au/2013/sa](http://www.sdarm.org.au/2013/sa) to register

**16 – 18 August, 2013**

### ***Queensland Conference Camp Meeting***

**Location:** Ewen Maddock Dam Recreation Ctr, Landsborough, QLD

For further information contact: [pchapman@sdarm.org.au](mailto:pchapman@sdarm.org.au)

Telephone: +61 (7) 3862 4803

## GOOD TIDINGS E-NEWS

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