

It's Here. Don't Miss It!



Children help take up a special offering for the 10,000 Toes Campaign during Big Camp

While the world was still recovering after World War I, the Adventist Church was fully engaged in world missions and global expansion. Over that decade the number of worldwide evangelistic workers doubled in numbers.

The struggling economies, coupled with the rapid expansion of Adventist world missions posed a serious problem for the leadership of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Mission opportunities were available as never before, yet the crippling financial shortfalls in North America, Europe and Australia not only meant that such opportunities might never be realized, but that they actually needed to recall missionaries already in the field.

During the of General Conference Autumn Council, held September 20 to 27, 1922 in Kansas City, Missouri, USA, the delegates prayerfully decided to ask church members to sacrificially give one week's wage to cover the quarter of a million dollar budget deficit that year. In spite of the difficult conditions of the early 1920s, members responded by giving more than \$350,000 over the following year.

It seems to me that every time God's people are prayerfully approaching a need in His field, our Father in heaven is ready to bestow His blessings upon us. And not just money, but His Spirit. The Spirit of Sacrifice. It's here. Don't miss it!

During the Tasmanian Big Camp at Pine Springs Camp, Devonport in January 2018, we witnessed the Holy Spirit at work. The powerful revival messages of Pr. Jean Noel, coupled with the morning

sessions of prayer, brought about a change in our hearts that was manifested in different ways.

Some decided to give their lives to Jesus through baptism, a large number determined to spend more time studying the Word of God or committed to be actively involved in His work, while others purposefully settled to be faithful in returning the Lord His holy tithe. But many decided to give even more. These are the financial results that tell me the Spirit of God is at work among us:

- **\$5,486.40** raised for the 10,000 Toes South Pacific Division Mission offering
- **\$5,313.65** raised for the camp expenses offering
- **\$79,767** raised in cash and pledges for the Tasmanian Bible Workers Campaign. This is just \$10,233 short of our \$90,000 aim to help cover the cost of employing 4 Bible Workers in New Norfolk, Launceston, Devonport and Burnie.

But God has not finished with us. His Spirit has been manifested beyond Big Camp through the entire conference. The tithe received in January 2018 has exceeded our expectations, with an increase of 7.66% above January 2017. I praise the Lord for His goodness.

Friends, His Spirit is here. Reach up and receive Him yourself! Don't miss out on what is happening!

Pr Cosmin Dan-Marica

Chief Financial Officer - Tasmanian Conference

Movement of Destiny

Is the Seventh-day Adventist church just another denomination? Why are you a Seventh-day Adventist? What is the purpose of this denomination and of the local church you attend? Are Adventists arrogant when they claim to be the remnant church of Bible prophecy?

A mighty heavenly being standing over a river, with hands raised to heaven and swearing by God, told Daniel his book would be closed to human understanding till the time of the end. The commencement of this "time of the end" would follow an extended period of persecution of God's people called a time, times and half a time (Daniel 12:4-9). Gabriel had already informed Daniel, that one prophecy in particular – the cleansing of the sanctuary after 2300 evenings and mornings (2300 days) – would be closed to human understanding until this same "time of the end" (Daniel 8:14, 17, 21).

At the time of the end, John saw a mighty angel standing over land and sea with a book open in his hand. Swearing by God, he declared that the time was up. After being told to eat the book, John found that while it tasted sweet it was bitter in his stomach. After this sweet-bitter experience he was told to prophecy again (Revelation 10:1-3, 5-11). This striking reference back to the book of Daniel, was informing John that at this time – the beginning of the time of the end – Daniel's book, especially the 2300 days, would be opened to human understanding.

The period of a time, times and half a time is defined in Revelation as 1260 days, which according to the Biblical prophetic year/day principle is a period of 1260 literal years (Revelation 12:14, 6; Ezekiel 4:6; Numbers 14:34). Because of events that took place in 538 AD, the Roman Emperor Justinian, declared that the Bishop of Rome was "The head of the church, the true and effectual corrector of heretics." There followed at the hands of the Church of Rome 1260 years of persecution of God's people. This period ended in 1798 when the Bishop of Rome was imprisoned by Napoleon's forces. Thus "The Time of the End" began" in 1798.

In other words Daniel and John predicted that at the end of 1260 years (from 1798), the sealed portions of Daniel (especially the 2300 days) would begin to be opened to human understanding. However it's study would produce a sweet-bitter experience, followed by its global proclamation (Revelation 10:9-11). God was predicting the rise of a movement that would globally proclaim the sealed portion of Daniel's book – Daniel 8:14 in particular.

History reveals that the French Revolution of the 1790's was marked by violence, immorality and atheism. Such things reminded Bible students at that time of the signs of Christ's return. As a result they began to study the 1260 year/day prophecy. They knew of Justinian's decree and what happened in 538 AD. Exactly 1260 years later, when the Bishop of Rome was imprisoned by Napoleon's forces, these students recognized in this event the fulfilment of the

1260 day/year prophecy. Bible scholars of many denominations then turned their attention to understand Daniel 8:14 – the 2300 year/day prophecy. Thus the sealed portion of Daniel, which Gabriel said almost 2500 years before would be sealed until "the time of the end" – 1798, now began to be "eaten" or studied.

Most of these interdenominational Bible students, believed, based on Daniel 8:14 and Daniel 9:24-27, that something was to happen in 1843/1844. Many didn't know what would happen. However, William Miller, a Baptist farmer, believed that Jesus would return on Oct 22, 1844. His was an inter-denominational group of some 500,000. They began to herald the "sweet" news that Jesus was about to return.

When Jesus did not return on October 22, 1844 they experienced what has become known as "The Great Disappointment!" Sadly many gave up their faith in God. However some sought to discover what went wrong? They knew the date 1844 was correct because the 70 week or 490 year prophecy of Daniel 9, which was part of the 2300 year/day prophecy is a proven and precise fit – an exact fulfilment! It had predicted Jesus would be: baptized in AD 27, and He was; and be killed in AD 31, which He was. Jesus himself had

acknowledged the fulfilment of this first part of the 2300 day prophecy when, after his baptism in AD 27, He declared: "The time is fulfilled..." (Mark 1:15). Since this part of the 2300 prophecy was absolutely correct, this group rightly concluded that the rest of the 2300 year/day prophecy, which ended in 1844, had to be correct.

Convinced that the date was correct, they more carefully examined the phrase "...then shall the sanctuary be cleansed" (Daniel 8:14). Miller had taught that the sanctuary or temple was the Earth. Since the sanctuary (the Earth) was to be "cleansed" (Daniel 8:14), he believed that this must be a reference to Christ's return, when the earth would be cleansed with fire.

However as this inter-denominational group studied the Bible, they discovered that there was a sanctuary in heaven, which also needed cleansing (Revelation 11:19; Hebrews 9:23). Examining the sanctuary and its rituals in the Old Testament they discovered in Leviticus 16 & 23 that the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) or cleansing of the sanctuary, was regarded by the Jews as an annual "Day of Judgment" (Leviticus 23:29). Thus they saw that the cleansing of heaven's temple was a reference to God's end-time pre-advent judgment, and that 1844 marked its commencement.

From Revelation 10 these people also discovered their mission – they were to "prophecy again." They got the event wrong the first time, now they saw they were to proclaim to the world that the judgment was now in session and that Jesus was soon to come

Their mission was to proclaim the everlasting gospel of God's gracious saving love in the context of His judgment, that had commenced in 1844 (Revelation 10:11; 14:6,7). They were to share God's three angel's messages in order to prepare the world for the

**Are Adventists
arrogant when they
claim to be the
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Bible prophecy?**

Canada Mission

soon return of Jesus (Revelation 14:6-12,14).

This God-inspired prophetic movement that emerged after the 1260 years (after 1798) is called the "remnant." They observe all God's commandments, including the 7th day Sabbath, and follow God's word given through His prophets (Revelation 12:17; 19:10; 22:8,9). This inter-denominational movement, eventually took the name, the Seventh-day Adventist Church. This end-time prophetic remnant is not just another denomination! It exists to transform the world, including Tasmania, with Jesus for eternity by sharing His grace in the context of God's final messages to this planet. Accepting this truth humbly is not arrogance, but rather loyalty to the God who predicted it all so long ago!

These God-given prophecies and their incredible fulfilment clearly reveal we have not followed fairy tales! If they do not help light a fire in our bones then something is wrong with our walk with God and we need to go to our knees and plead with God for His Spirit. Won't you decide right now to join God in His final call to bring His children home? Your decision now will help us become a thriving disciple-making prophetic movement.

Pr Gary Webster
President

prayer & fasting

A Day of Prayer & Fasting

Join other brothers and sisters in prayer throughout the conference on Friday, March 23 to pray and fast for the following:

- Revival & Reformation in all of our churches. This is our GREATEST need.
- The mighty outpouring of God's Spirit to mobilize all of our Adventist disciples to transform Tasmania with Jesus for eternity
- Wisdom to know how to invest proceeds from the sale of the Franklyn Wharf property, and mighty miracles of God's providence to procure properties at incredibly low prices that will enable us to forward God's mission in Tasmania. God did it for our pioneers and He is the same God today.

Come over to Canada & help us

In 2016 our conference president was asked to conduct an evangelistic campaign this year in Ottawa, Canada, because they are wanting to reach out to secular people in their city. They felt that the president's Ancient Mysteries Reveal the Future series, which looks at ancient civilizations alongside the prophecies of Daniel and the Revelation, would help them in their mission. It seems now that most of our churches in Ottawa will be involved in this campaign. Our executive decided to take this on as a Tasmanian Conference project. It will be a three week evangelistic series.

As part of the campaign we will be conducting health meetings, sharing our personal testimonies and how to have better relationships in the home. During the day and some evenings, team members will be visiting the homes of those coming to the meetings. We will also be conducting a field school of evangelism in conjunction with the meetings, in which you can learn how to reach people more effectively with the gospel.

If you have a medical background, or have given presentations on relationships, or would be happy to share your personal testimony of God's grace in your life, or would like to visit those coming to the meetings, or help by preparing the team's meals then you are welcome to join us.

In the week prior to the evangelistic series our team will travel in the footsteps of our early Adventist pioneers in the New England area of the USA. You will understand how our church began and what drove these youthful pioneers to start this mighty prophetic movement of destiny. We will also visit New York City and Niagara Falls.

The dates are as follows:

- **October 5 – November 5**, for those wishing to travel in the footsteps of the pioneers, visit New York, see Niagara Falls and participate in the three week evangelistic campaign.
- **October 11 – November 5** for those just wishing to participate in the three week evangelistic campaign only.

Because we can only take a team of 10 people, act quickly to be part of the team. Please ring Wendy at the office on 6273 6277 for more information and an application form.

Pr Gary Webster
*Ready to visit on the doors
with Great Controversy and
Desire of Ages*



An Unlikely Connection

between Ellen White, Wedding and Camp Meetings



Collinsvale Church

When Jesus was on earth, He was deeply disappointed with the lack of readiness to receive his Kingdom. Although many were expecting the Messiah – particularly the Priestly class – they were not ready. Unfortunately, many will not be ready when Jesus returns. In preparation for the Second Coming, the cry rings out at mid-night, “Behold the Bridegroom! Come out to meet him!” This cry is the climax of the well-known parable of the wise and foolish women (Matt 25:1-13). In the setting of a wedding, some who are committed to the host of the banquet are allowed to enter through the door, but the five foolish women discovered too late, to their horror, that preparation for the second coming could be neither borrowed or loaned. Since our church came together post 1844, preparing a people is our core mission with all members involved.

In 1887 the message of the coming of the Bridegroom began to toll in Tasmania with the arrival of missionaries in Hobart to extend the wedding invitation to all to meet Him. It was the gritty, audacious spirit of these pioneering Colporteurs back in 1887 that broke new ground in Hobart with selling ‘Thoughts on Daniel and Revelation’ to hundreds of people. This very soon bore fruit with several families accepting the Sabbath and together they met in the Foster’s home in Sandy bay. The Foster family called for help to expand the

missionary effort. In response to this call, the Israel, Starr, and Baker families brought with them the Mission Tent, which along with smaller tents, they pitched on the corner of King and Regent St, Sandy Bay. Thus on February 29, 1888 Hobart hosted their first Camp meeting. The novelty of the Camp meeting along with follow-up evangelistic meetings culminated with a remarkable 20 baptisms on June 27. A day later the Hobart Church was born with 24 charter members

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on June 28, 1888. This was an astonishing result from their efforts, blessed with the oil from above that allowed their lamps to shine brightly. This was not easy work, for it was only through the careful follow-up of the Evangelists that these families were gathered in.

In a fascinating chain of events there amongst the charter group in Hobart was David Lacey whose daughter’s name was May. It was the Camp meeting in New Town in Hobart in 1895 that the promise of the coming of the Groom was to bring a double blessing for May Lacey.

Before this double blessing was to come, there was a work to be done. It was early May 1895, when Ellen White arrived in Hobart to visit one of the churches. She rode 12 miles over a dirt road in a two-wheeled horse-driven cart especially furnished for her luggage. This trip “right up the mountains” (as she described it) reminded her of Colorado with its heavy timbers. She was invited to visit a little church that had been built just 6 years earlier in 1889. Here in this heavy wooded area was a thriving Adventist Community called Bismarck – known to us today as the Collinsvale church. It is intriguing to note that, especially in the context of the world we live in, Willie White (AUC President) David and May Lacey walked the 8 miles to the church from Glenorchy to Collinsvale.

Ellen White’s heart was touched by the interest of the Bismarck youth and the “bright faced children” and she was full of gratitude to the parents who brought their families the long distance (from Hobart) to attend the evening meetings. These meetings coincided with evangelistic meetings in New Town that were well supported from the Hobart and Bismarck

churches. Willie White joined in the outreach and reported the meetings were “well attended.” Although successful, the meetings were too short to have the desired effect.

It was amongst all of this, that the double blessing came for May Lacey, for she and Willie White were to be married. At the urging of David May, the hastily arranged marriage occurred in the Lacey home in Glenorchy on May 9, 1895. Hastily arranged, for at the time they were not sure if they were to marry in New Zealand or on mainland in Australia, so there was very little detailed planning. They married

Tasmanian Big Camp

Jan 19-27, 2018

on Thursday 9th May 1895, but there was no time to enjoy the moment, for Willie had to attend a committee meeting in the evening and their two week honeymoon was cancelled in order to attend workers meetings in Launceston. Amazingly, during all this they never lost their sense of urgency for God's message - Jesus was coming and probation was soon to close, so there was no time to waste. It was this same sense of urgency that helped Willie and May White to keep their lamps burning brightly at all times.

The parable of the wise and foolish women is a well-worn parable, so well-worn that many have stopped listening to its message for we know the answers already. Yet there is still a nugget to be mined here for us.

The challenge and warning relates to the second coming and there is a door to the wedding banquet that can and does close. Here's the nugget. While waiting for the Bridegroom, it requires commitment and resilience for the long haul. There is neither instant discipleship nor instant maturation, but the women knew there might be a delay and prepared accordingly. This parable looks forward to the consummation of all things, yet there is a dire warning for all - there is a class who are awaiting the second coming BUT will not be ready. This was why there was an urgency with those pioneering colporteurs, who laboured diligently for souls, and why camp meetings were an important means of evangelism.

Our pioneers have left us a rich legacy that we enjoy today, however we do not want to squander the capital of our forebears. We need to rediscover prayerfully that same hunger and urgency our pioneers had in their desire to proclaim the mid-night cry. Which is why our executive committee has decided to hold an Easter Camp in the growing town of New Norfolk next year - we want it to help transform their community with Christ for eternity. Plan now to attend!

Dr Mark Falconer
General Secretary



“Our purpose for gathering together is to prepare us for living at this most exciting time of earth's history. Such a time demands that we be revived and filled with God's Spirit for His mission of bringing men and women, boys and girls into a saving relationship with Jesus.”

What a blessing it was to experience Big Camp Tasmania. Conference President, Pr Gary Webster wrote, “Our purpose for gathering together is to prepare us for living at this most exciting time of earth's history. Such a time demands that we be revived and filled with God's Spirit for His mission of bringing men and women, boys and girls into a saving relationship with Jesus.”

I love the passage in 1SM page 121, “A revival of true godliness among us is the greatest and most urgent of all our needs. To seek this should be our first work. There must be earnest effort to obtain the blessing of the Lord, not because God is not willing to bestow His blessing upon us, but because we are unprepared to receive it. Our heavenly Father is more willing to give His Holy Spirit to them that ask Him, than any earthly parents to give good gifts to their children. But it is our work, by confession, humiliation, repentance, and earnest prayer, to fulfil the conditions upon which God has promised to grant us His blessings. A revival need be expected only in answer to prayer.”

Truly God's Spirit was moving upon our hearts as we came together as one and humbled ourselves before our great Creator, asking Him to bring revival and reformation under the ministration of His Holy Spirit.

Keynote speaker Pr Jean-Noel Adeline

gave passionate and powerful grace-filled presentations that stirred our hearts to develop a deeper experience with Jesus. Along with speakers Herb Larsen, Pr Garry Hodgkin, Dr John Hammond, Graham Weir, Paul Rankin we received so many blessings.

Health programs in the afternoon were not only a tremendous blessing to our Adventists, but also to non-Adventists. One couple, who do not even believe in God and who were invited by a member to camp and stayed on our ground, said they thoroughly enjoyed their experience, especially the afternoon health programs.

Our Literature Evangelism seminars were received well. The presentations encouraged greater literature distribution by church members, developed skills in connecting with people and building relationships with our community. After each seminar, church members participated in door to door visitations with the books Great Controversy and Desire of Ages.

Thank you God for being in our midst. Your Spirit has moved on our hearts. May we do greater things for You in 2018 because we choose to allow You to work through us.

Joe Paola
Literature Evangelist
Team Leader Vic/Tas Conferences.

Welcome to Tasmania

Daniel and Katy Matteo



Daniel was brought up in South Queensland. After leaving home he spent 5 years as an infantry soldier. During this time he truly met Jesus, thanks largely to the influence of Godly youth leaders. After he married Katy in 2006, he discharged from the Army.

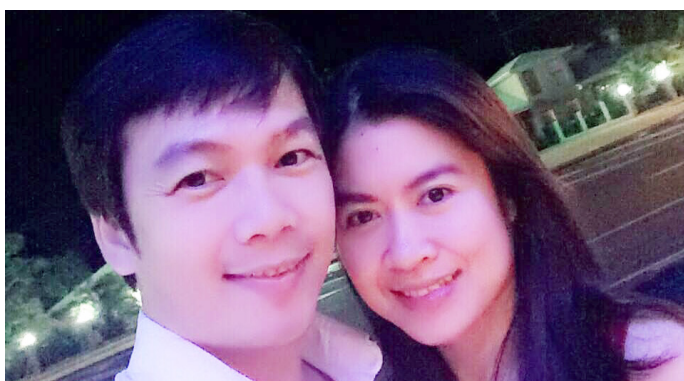
Daniel then spent two years in the security industry, and at the same time became heavily involved in youth ministry in the local church.

He and Katy then moved to Avondale where he completed his undergraduate studies in Theology and Katy her MA in Education. They then spent five years in Cairns, where he was a ministerial intern and associate pastor for Edmonton, Cairns, and the Mossman and Weipa churches, and also Chaplain at Cairns Adventist College. Following this he became the senior pastor of the Mossman and Edmonton churches and spearheaded the planting of the Cairns Northern Beaches church in 2017.

Daniel feels intimidated, but enthusiastic about this new opportunity to serve God in a new way as Youth Director of our conference and also looks forward to meeting new people. Katy is a high school teacher and is looking forward to ministering to a new community. Their hobbies are running and reading. They have two children, Grace who is 10, and Samuel aged 6.

Please pray that the Lord will guide them as they serve him in this new role.

Eugene and Michelle Estil



Eugene Estil finished his Bachelor of Arts in Theology degree at Mountain View College (MVC), Philippines in 2002. Following this he served the Lord as a missionary in South Korea for almost six years. He was an assistant pastor and assistant of the Communication and Leadership Advancement Program in the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD). He served as a church pastor in Hibao-an Seventh-day Adventist Church and later as one of the chaplains in Bacolod Adventist Medical Center (BAMC), Philippines. On moving to Australia he served as a volunteer chaplain in the Capricorn Adventist Retirement Village (CARV), Central Queensland.

He and his wife Michelle, who is a nurse, were married in 2015 and they feel very blessed to serve the Lord in Tasmania.

Eugene said, "We love the Lord and by His grace, we will serve Him till He comes."

As a couple they love to travel and to spend time in nature. Eugene also likes to play basketball and going mountain biking.

Steve and Maa Littlewood



In Exodus 13 Moses describes how the Lord went before the people as a pillar of cloud in the daytime, and a pillar of fire at night. Throughout the journey from Egypt to Canaan, when the cloud moved, the people moved; when the cloud stopped still, the people camped.

Steve Littlewood says, "For the last 13 years our 'pillar of cloud' has stayed over Adelaide. During that time we have participated in the journey of our children from childhood into adults. We now have one who is studying at Avondale, one who is commencing a teaching career in Melbourne, and a third one who finished Year 12 last year, and is planning to take a gap year in 2018.

As well as teaching, we were fortunate to have been included in the Adelaide City church family. This enabled us to make some great friendships, and we have enjoyed being involved in a variety of different responsibilities for both worship and social activities.

Towards the end of August, God made it clear to us that He was moving 'the pillar of cloud.' After the first phone call gauging our interest in moving to Tasmania, we watched as God smoothed out all of the obstacles that we thought were in the way. In the end, we were pleased to individually echo the words of Isaiah: 'Here am I, send me.'"

Steve was born in Richmond, Victoria and spent the first 17 years of

his life in Melbourne, before attending Avondale College to prepare to be a Mathematics teacher. Since then he has travelled the world (or at least one corner of it), having teaching experience in Papua New Guinea, Fiji (where he and Maa met), New Zealand and Australia. Most recently he has been teaching at Prescott College in Adelaide. His role involved being the senior Mathematics teacher and also being part of the Administration team, with specific responsibilities in the Curriculum Area. His hobbies include reading, walking, gadgets and following various sporting teams and codes (supporting many teams so that somewhere one of them should be doing well).

Maa was born on the island of Rotuma. This island is located approximately 650 km NNW of Fiji, and is a lush tropical paradise, surrounded by white sandy beaches, coral reefs and the Pacific Ocean. After completing her schooling in Fiji, she attended Fulton College, where she studied education.

Her teaching experience includes Fiji, New Zealand and Australia, teaching at a variety of levels from pre-school to Year 12. She has also worked with second language learners, and this became her speciality when she upgraded her qualifications at the University of South Australia. She has spent the previous nine years teaching at Prescott Primary Northern, in Adelaide. This included some time as the Mathematics coordinator. She enjoys cultural activities, keeping in contact with friends and family, travel, music (especially singing) and various sports.

They are looking forward to being involved at Hilliard Christian School, and belonging to a new church family.

David and Sokha Leo



David Leo was born in Auckland, New Zealand to parents who emigrated from Western Samoa. When he was 17 they moved to Brisbane, Australia. He says he has been an Australian ever since, but is still loyal to the All Blacks!

Although he was 9 months old when his parents were baptised into the Seventh-day Adventist church, he did not accept Jesus as his Lord and Saviour until he was 21. He wishes he had made this decision much earlier, but his desire to become an All Black Rugby player and many other things held him back from dedicating his life to God. He is now trying to make up for lost time and he with his family are dedicated to the ministry of God's marvellous gospel in the context of

His incredible Three Angel's Messages.

He and Sokha his wife, have been married for 12 years. He says, "We have complained and prayed in times of difficulty and have celebrated when God has rescued us. We cannot deny how great God's faithfulness is."

He enjoys socializing with people while eating a meal, listening to music, or enjoying the great outdoors where he and his family plan to learn to 'enjoy the cold'!

They are anxious and excited to work in Tasmania and look forward to seeing how God will bless as they spend time together ministering in the local churches of Glenorchy and Collinsvale, and at our Hilliard Christian School.

Rajko and Elize Celic



Rajko Celic was born and raised in Sydney, NSW. After he finished high school, his family moved to Bundaberg, QLD, at which time he completed his undergraduate studies in theology.

In the beginning of 2003, he went to Asia where he worked for six years. Four years were spent in South Korea where he taught conversational English and worked as a missionary. It was during this time that he took the opportunity to shift his career and took postgraduate studies in theology and ministry at Sahmyook Seventh-day Adventist University. It was at this time he met his wife, Elize, who was with her parents while they were working as missionaries in South Korea. Rajko and Elize were married in 2005 and moved to Taiwan where they spent the next two years working as a volunteer pastor under the Taiwan Seventh-day Adventist Conference.

In 2013 the Lord brought them to Australia where Rajko began working in the South NSW Conference as a pastor, and his wife as a teacher at the Seventh-day Adventist Canberra Christian School. For the last five years Rajko has been working in the Canberra and Queanbeyan areas.

In his free time Rajko enjoys learning and reading history, especially religious history, and he also enjoys playing basketball. Elize in her free time enjoys photography and site seeing.

They are looking forward to their new adventures in Tasmania and serving God in the Burnie, Wynyard and Smithton churches.

Literature Evangelism



Shane* opened the door and we had a friendly chat on the front porch. Shane has Lung cancer and is having treatment. He accepted and then gave a donation for the small book, Hacksaw Ridge. He had previously watched the movie. I love placing this book into homes as it gives a great message of faith, the gospel and other important beliefs. It is a book that many can relate to. Shane certainly did."

As I visited David's home we sat on the front porch and I began to discuss our services. We were having a very friendly chat for about ten minutes and then I happened to mention the subject of smoking. His whole appearance changed and he started to verbally abuse me, "My mother smoked all her life and she lived to 93yrs! Get out! I have had enough, and if you don't leave I will throw you down the stairs!!" "No problem David. I will pack up my things and go," I replied.

I thank God that He was able to take the brunt of that verbal onslaught. I couldn't help but remember the text I read in my morning worship found in Proverbs 4:19, "The way of wicked people is like deep darkness. They do not know what makes them stumble."

I felt so sorry for David and prayed that the Lord would soften his heart the next time He tries to reach out to him. How can someone change so drastically in a few seconds? "My God, help me to always love people," I prayed.

After that terrible experience I knew something good was coming up. Past experience has taught me that when I get an episode like that, God has a gem just around the corner. Two doors up the road I met Mel, a gentle, pleasant and loving lady. Once inside I began to canvass our work. The discussion quickly turned from health to the many difficulties she was facing in her current circumstances and her former years.

Mel had been abused, (sexually and physically), by a well-known church group when she was sent to them after her family physically abused her. Between the ages of 7 and 15yrs she was abused by members of the organisation, and to this day, carries the emotional scars. In later years Mel was married and then physically beaten by her husband. She shared many other trials with me. What a mess of a life. She told me she "hurts so much" and "trusts no one."

I started to tell Mel about how different God is and about His love for her. She then shared more grief and I shared some more of the love of God. I offered her the book, Thirteen Life-Changing Secrets by Mark Finley. This book is full of stories similar to that of Mel's. What a timely book to have in my bag, a book I have not carried before. I also offered her the Beyond Pain DVD and she gladly accepted it.

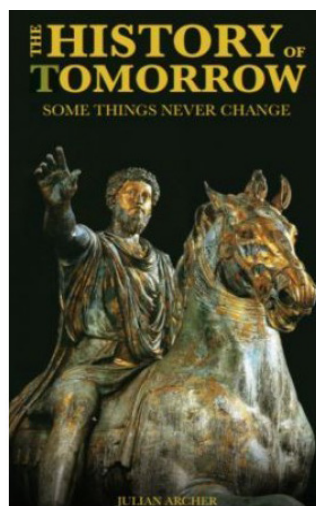
Mel was so hurt and felt so let down by God and His "supposed" followers that she did not even want me to pray for her. I feel so sad that she has reached this point. I pray that God will use the book from Mark Finley, the DVD and the visitations of the Beyond team member as they deliver the next DVD to impact her life. I pray that God will help her to see what His true followers are really like, and for her to start to feel that God does love her and is feeling her pain, more than she can ever imagine.

Thankyou God for leading me to Mel's home after David's outburst. The devil certainly was trying to stop me from ministering to Mel.

Paul Borg

Literature Evangelist Tasmanian Conference

** Real names withheld*



Pam has been coming to our church programs along with her friend and we have connected well. They are now attending The Secrets of Prophecy seminars and are thoroughly enjoying them. Both ladies are Catholic and have found the series very insightful. Soon I will have Pam and her friend over to our house and casually canvass our books as health is a great interest to both of them. I am certain that Pam and her friend will be new

members before the end of the year!!!

I would also like to tell you about Belinda. She approached me with a big smile and held my hand and said, "I believe you have a special message for me." One could only think, is this a "nutter" or a providential encounter? Belinda is really enjoying the book, The Desire of Ages and a little book called, The History of Tomorrow by Julian Archer, which really unveiled a lot of truths for her.

She is very excited and her transformation is beautiful to see. She is a lovely lady and wears her heart on her sleeve. Steps to Christ is another book I will show her next time. Belinda has been coming regularly to Ulverstone and Devonport churches, and came most days to our Tasmanian Big Camp. She brought her adult son on the last day and now her son has started coming to church as well.

Another lady, a patient of my husband Neil, has been gifting me many plants over the last few months knowing that our family loves gardening. Sadly, her husband has just found out that he has cancer and so I am going around next week to canvass our food and medicinal plants volumes. She was born in the UK, is an accountant by profession, loves her garden, has a gorgeous home overlooking the sea in the town of Penguin and has 8 of the world's

Around and About

most spoilt cats. Beautiful lady! I am also going to gift her the book, The Great Controversy. She is very intelligent and an avid reader, I am certain she will relish it! There are also others I am nurturing.

Wendy Orr

Literature Evangelist
Tasmanian Conference
*All names changed



Light a fire in your community

Just imagine what would happen if all of us carried books, tracts and/or DVDs with us and gave them to our friends, neighbours, work and school mates and relatives? Ka-boom! Hundreds of souls would be converted. Don't believe it? Then rewind a few hundred years and watch as the Waldensian Christians of northern Italy did just that as they travelled throughout Europe lighting fires for Christ.

You don't have to be a regular Literature Evangelist to do this. However, they can help you and your church to do it more effectively. Literature Evangelists have been invited to many churches across the state to serve in their community. Your church too can partner with them to reach out into your neighbourhood, distribute gospel literature and find people in need.

God has ordained Literature Ministry to be an important link between the church and the unchurched. As church members distribute literature, they are not only preparing many for the return of Jesus, but they become an important bridge that connects people to their local Seventh Day Adventist Church.

The training we offer your church will encourage greater literature distribution by church members, develop skills in connecting with people and build relationships with your community. For example, what happened at our recent camp, when members gave out nearly 170 Christ-filled books, can take place in your churches community. As the world gets spiritually darker by the day, many in our communities are longing for light and just waiting for us to give it to them.

If your church would like to partner with us or to know more of what is involved, please ring me on 0421028171 or email me at: lejoe@tpg.com.au

Joe Paola

Literature Evangelist
Team Leader Vic/Tas
Conferences.



Smithton Baptism

On the 16th December 2017, Smithton Seventh Day Adventist Church celebrated the beautiful baptism of Ivonne Palacios. Ivonne was born 7th January 1963 and grew up as a Seventh Day Adventist in Venezuela. After some time away from the church, she has recently returned and has fully committed her life to Jesus. Ivonne is so thankful to God for her new life and family.

What a wonderful example of God's grace and great love for each of us! May God abundantly bless you, Ivonne, as you choose to live for Him each day.



North West Christian School

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the renovation of NWCS's main entrance and gardens. For those who would still like to contribute to this please find below our Bank Account Details with Westpac:

Account Name: North West Christian School
BSB: 037 002
Account Number: 321 413

Please **CLEARLY LABEL** your deposit 'Bricks and Gardens'.
Thank you.

Around and About

Devonport's Special Sabbath School DUCK



Devonport Children's Sabbath School has been collecting funds with a special plastic yellow DUCK for various projects each quarter. The children take turns to collect the offering and last quarter the DUCK contained \$355 (weighing 4.4 kg; this is mostly aimed at small change). The money was collected for children's school lunches in Syrian refugee Camps, which is an ADRA project.

The DUCK has made Sabbath School more fun for both Children and Adults. This Quarter 'Pedro the Piñata' is collecting funds for the Bible Society's Nicaraguan Children's Cancer Hospital Project.

Sheffield SDA Community Fellowship



This new fellowship was launched on the 15th of December 2017 at the Sheffield Christmas Parade with a nativity scene float. The Fellowship's first program was scheduled as 'The Gospel in Song,' featuring Candice Berghan, on the 17th of February. The Fellowship group will operate one Sabbath afternoon each month.

Devonport and Ulverstone churches have at least 20 attendees that live in the Sheffield area. It is great to have a vibrant fellowship in an area that was once considered to be the Bible Belt of Tasmania.

Anonymous tithe

The Conference wishes to acknowledge the receipt of anonymous tithe of \$100, \$70, \$5.15.

Educating for Eternity



On Tuesday, 30th January, all Adventist school based employees (48) and some volunteers from our two schools gathered in Campbell Town to focus on two key goals of Adventist Education. Firstly, Pr Brendan Pratt shared the significance of the picture of God that we each hold. When our picture of God conveys the God of heaven as a caring, loving saviour who wants to be with us, then we add value to our local communities. Every one of us conveys one picture or another of God.

Secondly, the group focussed on our legal responsibilities of protecting the children in our care from harm. Child Protection is written into our state and national legislation, so that we have no choice. But, as Adventist educators our desire is to protect and grow the children in our care anyway. When we have a belief that a child is at risk of harm we have responsibility in law to report such concerns to government authorities.

While our primary aim is to introduce each child to Jesus Christ, Adventist Education is committed to a regime of Educating for Eternity.

Converge 16-18 February



Angelo Bocchino, Ryan Stanton, Jayden Wadd, Terrance Taylor, Joe How, Levi Ross & Jason Stanton

At the recent Converge conference held at Stuarts Point Convention Centre, NSW from February 16-18, the presenter Terrance Taylor had a challenging message that called youth to step up and do greater things for God. The event was brilliant and would be one that should encourage more Tassie youth to go next year. Converge is an event run by the Australian Union Conference Youth Department to help young people meet each other and Jesus, and to then go to the next level of sharing God's love with others.

North West Deacon & Deaconess Training

Ulverstone, Devonport and Burnie deacons and deaconesses had an afternoon training session on Sabbath March 3. The presenters, Gary Webster, Robbie Berghan, Rajko Celic and Candice Berghan teamed up to give short presentations followed by brief periods of discussion. Around 25 attended the event and the training was greatly appreciated by our deacons and deaconesses, who are key leaders in our churches to help transform Tasmania with Jesus for eternity.



Deacons and Deaconesses from Devonport, Ulverstone and Burnie with the presenters at Ulverstone Church.

Staffing wise, the year has started with a new Principal, Mr Littlewood, a new Year 1 & 2 teacher (Mrs Littlewood) and a new chaplain, Mr Leo (whom we call Pr David).

Much of the credit for the increase in enrolment must go to the Acting Principal from 2017, Mr Reid. We wish him well as he returns to his life of retirement.

Educational Administrators Orientation Program

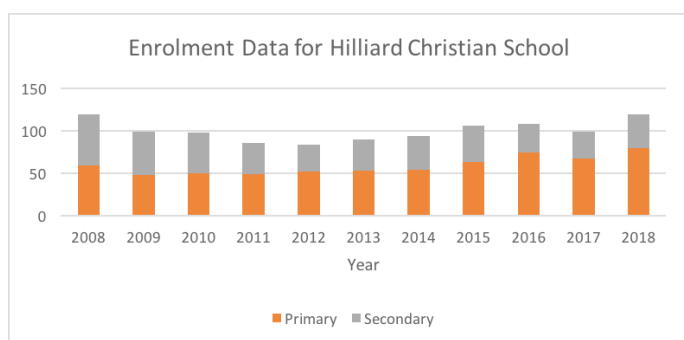
Mr Littlewood, with Mr Rabe (Primary Coordinator) and Miss Baker (Director of Learning), who are both taking on new administrative roles within the school, were invited to attend an orientation program in Melbourne coordinated by Adventist Schools Australia. The three, pictured here with Mr Chapman (Tasmanian Education Director) and Mr Murdoch (Australian Union Conference Education Director) spent the two days participating in seminars on data, spiritual leadership, mentoring and wellbeing, curriculum with a Seventh-day Adventist worldview and Adventist identity. While tiring, the days were valuable, and provided opportunities to both network and collect resources. (Despite being in Melbourne for two days, none of them had the opportunity to go shopping!)



Hilliard Christian School

Enrolments

Hilliard Christian School has started the year with an enrolment of 119, the highest enrolment since 2008 and a 20% increase on 2017. The graph below details enrolment over the past 10 years. The Primary Enrolment (80) is also the highest it has ever been in that span. As well as this, we have 10 students in Kindergarten, with the expectation that this will increase as well.



North West Christian School

What a start to the year! 2018 has seen a much-anticipated restructure to our school program. Unfortunately, we had to drop a teacher from our primary staff last year which was extremely 'painful' and much grieving was experienced by the Northwest family. This, however, was the catalyst for change - environmental and mental change. Classrooms were redesigned and then painted, dusted and vacuumed to within an inch of their lives. Benches were removed and repositioned. The computer room was gutted and redesigned as an Art room. New laptops were purchased and the old desktops found their way into the Design room. The library



was relocated into a vacated classroom and the old library became the music room come assembly room. Now we are splashing a little colour about: the entrances to the primary classrooms have attracted the attention of Mr Hauk's paintbrush, and so has the wall in the office.



Our library is now looking like a library, thanks to our volunteer, Val Viney. She is doing a marvellous job setting up our new room. It has taken a bit of time but it's been worth it. In fact, as I write Miss Viney has walked in, carrying some 'things' to make the library look... like a place that kids want to be.

Outdoor Ed has finally been able to acquire its own trailer, Kayaking equipment and tents. Our senior students are used to the outdoor program but 2018 will see the Outdoor Ed program extended to incorporate the students of the middle school. Kayaking expeditions begin this week.

The strings music program that began in semester 2 last year is growing and adding a new dimension to our school. This is a program that we certainly wish to foster and encourage. Our tutor and music Teacher, Sarah Scheermeijer, has visions of entering Eisteddfods this year to give a purpose to our practice.

We have maintained the status quo as far as enrolments are concerned. We lost a few students over the holidays but we have also picked up some new ones. We have also been a part of the state government's initiative of partnering with 'home-schoolers' so that they can have access to school a couple of days a week. This is an exciting program as we share our resources to benefit our broader school and church community.

Living Ministry Media

Over many years Living Ministry Media has been involved in various projects and special events in South Australia, not only run by the conference, but also local churches. Spreading the message through media is Living Ministry Media's focus.



During Big Camp Tasmania, the Living Ministry Media team recorded the meetings of the main speakers in the Big Tent and Youth Tent. If you missed a program or you would like to watch it again, then follow the link: <http://www.livingministrymedia.com.au/videos/>



Mission Ottawa

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October 5 – November 5, 2018

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