

AUSTRALASIAN  
**GOOD**  
**TIDINGS**

E-NEWS – 30 June 2014 #31

## NSW Field Conference

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### *“A Thief in the Night”*

6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> June 2014

This year’s NSW Conference at Elim Heights was held during 6-9 June 2014 in conjunction with the graduation of five students from the Elim Missionary College. The theme was: **“A Thief in the Night”**. The conference was based on the Bible verses: *“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.”* 2 Peter 3:10 and Mark 13:32, 33 *“But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.”*

Jesus will come in a day when the world will not be expecting or looking for Him. He counsels His followers to be ever praying and watching so that they may be awake to the times they are living in, and be spiritually ready when He returns. Are you ready for Jesus to come, are you watching, are you praying, or will you be caught out like when a thief comes in the night?

*“Many today are asleep, as were the disciples. They are not watching and praying lest they enter into temptation.*

*“Let every soul be on the alert. The adversary is on your track. Be vigilant, watching diligently lest some carefully concealed and masterly snare shall take you unawares. Let the careless and indifferent beware lest the day of the Lord come upon them as a thief in the night. . . .*

*“He who overcomes must watch; for, with worldly entanglements, error, and superstition, Satan strives to win Christ's followers from Him. ... We are in an enemy's country. He who was cast out of heaven has come down with great power. With every conceivable artifice and device he is seeking to take souls captive. Unless we are constantly on guard we shall fall an easy prey to his unnumbered deceptions.” God's Amazing Grace pg. 332*

It was truly a blessing to worship our Heavenly Father at a conference where we enjoyed not just wonderful Christian fellowship with one another and great food, but we heard many wonderful inspiring messages, leaving many considering our past walk with Christ and recommitting to a new walk with Him. While the main meetings were taken by Field and AUC workers, the morning and evening worships were taken by the graduating EMC students.

Opening of Sabbath was first in the order of events, and by Ryan Belu, one of the missionary students, presented the meeting entitled, “How to Awake”. The evening meal then followed.



Brother Alasdair Pow, the NSW Conference President opened the conference with a sermon entitled **“How to be a Pilgrim”**. He reminded us that we are all pilgrims waiting to be taken to a better land. After the meeting, all retired for a much appreciated rest.

Sabbath morning came far too quickly for some; morning worship at 7:30am was taken by Denise Gutierrez, **“How to be Wise”**, which was immediately followed by breakfast.

Regular Sabbath meetings followed throughout the day, starting with Sabbath School at 9:30am directed by Brother Robert Wiseman. The lesson review for the adults was entitled, “Solomon”, and the lesson study for the day was “A Grievous Mistake”. The younger children were taken by Sisters Lizy Thiel and Lidia Voncina and studied about the parable of the 10 virgins while Sister Rosemary Voncina took the older children.

Divine Service started at 11:00am, on the topic **“How to be Ready for the Thief”**, and was taken by Br Paul Chapman, AUC President. The main scripture reading was found in 1 Thessalonians 5:2-4 *“For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.”*

All enjoyed a combined lunch with some extra time being given between lunch and Young People's Meeting for those who would like to enjoy a nature walk or practice items for the meeting.



We truly had a feast for Young People's Meeting with a variety of lovely items, poems, messages and Spirit of Prophecy readings. This meeting on the topic of **"How to be Born Again"** was taken by Brother Matthias Thiel and Sister Lidia Voncina which took us right through to the closing of Sabbath meeting, which was taken by Brother David Dumaguit, **"How to be on the Right Side"**.

Combined dinner was welcomed and appreciated by all; then the EMC graduation ceremony commenced. The students for 2014 were: Ryan Belu, David Dumaguit, Denise Gutierrez, Melissa Mota and Leonardo Rojas. All who were seated at the front. The study, **"How to be a Missionary"** taken by Brother Nathan Tyler, was very topical and appropriate for this occasion. The certificates were given out by Brother Peter Lausevic followed by responses from the graduates. Thanks were given to all those who were involved in this program and photos were taken.

Sunday morning worship was taken by Brother Leonardo Rojas entitled, **"How to Recognise the Signs"** and breakfast followed.

There were two studies on Sunday morning, each followed by group discussions on the subjects taken. The first meeting was taken by Brother Matthias Thiel, **"How to Hasten His Coming"**, and the second by Brother Domenic Polistina, **"How to Endure to the End"**.

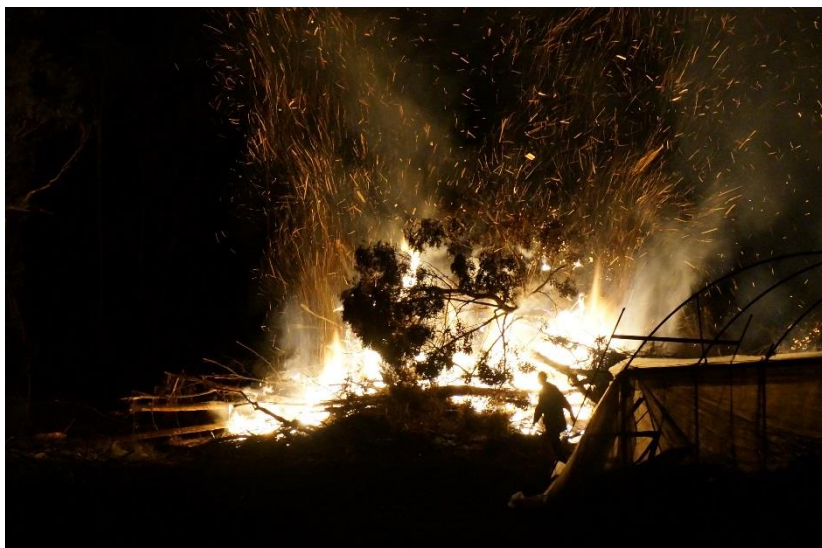
Sunday lunch, Brazilian style, was prepared by the Elim Missionary Students and enjoyed by all. The afternoon was left for activities run by the NSW Youth Department. Activities were chosen to emphasise the conference theme. One of the activities was to re-enforce that the time of the coming of Jesus would be a surprise to many and may catch people unawares. Another activity showed the importance of listening and knowing the voice of the real Shepherd from all other different. Another activity showed how we can get caught up in Satan's web and how difficult it is to get out of it.

Throughout the conference we were blessed by having a variety of instruments played, to accompany the congregational singing.



The closing meeting of the conference then took place, **"How to Proclaim It"**, taken by Brother Alasdair Pow, the final words of thanks were expressed, and then the benediction was given by Brother Paul Chapman.

Dinner was next; then a huge bonfire was lit up where many enjoyed the warmth while singing, talking, and socialising together. What a delightful way to finish such a wonderful conference.



May God help us each one to take stock of our lives and be prepared so that we will not be caught unaware!

Monday morning the day started with morning worship taken by Melissa Mota, **“How to Escape”**, and then it was time to pack and clean up.

Thank God for His wonderful blessings during this camp and thank you to all those who helped in many different ways during the camp to

make it such a special time; also to those who stayed afterwards for the cleaning of camp. I pray each one was truly blessed by the entire experience.

~ Reported by Lidia Voncina

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=5699>

## Elim Missionary College Graduation

On Saturday night, June 7, 2014, a Graduation Ceremony was held for the four month missionary training program conducted by Elim Missionary College in Sydney, New South Wales. Students participating in this year’s program were Ryan Belu (USA), David Dumaguit (Australia), Denise Gutierrez (USA), Melissa Mota (Brazil) and Leonardo Rojas (Spain).

We wish the best for each of the students and trust that they will be a blessing to the church wherever they go as a result of their experience with EMC.

The students all expressed their appreciation of the program, which included studies on Bible doctrines, righteousness by faith, prophecy, church history, and church administration. More practical knowledge was also gained in learning how to prepare and share Bible studies and sermons, as well as engagement in practical missionary service focussed on colporteur work, health evangelism, Sabbath School evangelism, and participating in public outreach programs. The students gained valuable experience in selling and distributing literature house-to-house, making many missionary contacts along the way.

We thank the Lord for His blessings throughout the program, and that, despite a number of challenges, we were able to complete the four months of training.

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=5808>



2014 EMC Students (Left to Right): Leonardo, David, Ryan, Melissa, and Denise



Former and current EMC students, teachers and support staff

## Condolences to the family of Brother Junior Letoa - Samoa

The sad news arrived from our brethren in Samoa that Brother Junior Letoa passed away on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2014 at 6:45pm due to health problems.

We have the wonderful hope to see our brother again at the coming of Jesus. Taking strength from God's Words found in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 *"But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive [and] remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive [and] remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words."*

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the family, brethren and friends who are grieving for the loss of their dear one.

## Follow Their Faith – 100 Years of Witness

*"I have just learned that tomorrow, the 30th, at 5:00, I am to be executed."* Bro. Gustav Psyrembel.

July 2014 will mark 100 years since the outbreak of World War 1. It was this crisis that led to an open schism within the Seventh-day Adventist ranks throughout Europe, and the consequent formation of the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement.

The issue that led to the rift was the European SDA leadership's decision to commit the SDA Church in Europe to the taking up of arms in combat, including on the Sabbath. The SDA Church members who protested against this decision were subsequently disfellowshipped.

Despite official efforts to reconcile in 1919, 1920, and 1922, and unofficial efforts in the early 1980's, the SDA Church and the SDA Reform Movement remain separate organisations to this day. Part of the reason for that separation is a firm belief that "God's remnant people, standing before the world as reformers, are to show that the law of God is the foundation of all enduring reform..." (PK 678) Regardless of what the world may do, God's "authority should be kept distinct and plain before the world, and no laws are to be acknowledged that come in collision with the laws of Jehovah." No matter what the law of the land may dictate to us, we believe that, "if in defiance of God's arrangements the world be allowed to influence our decisions or our actions, the purpose of God is defeated. However specious the pretext, if the church waver here, there is written against her in the books of heaven a betrayal of the most sacred trusts, and treachery to the kingdom of Christ." (TM 16, 17)

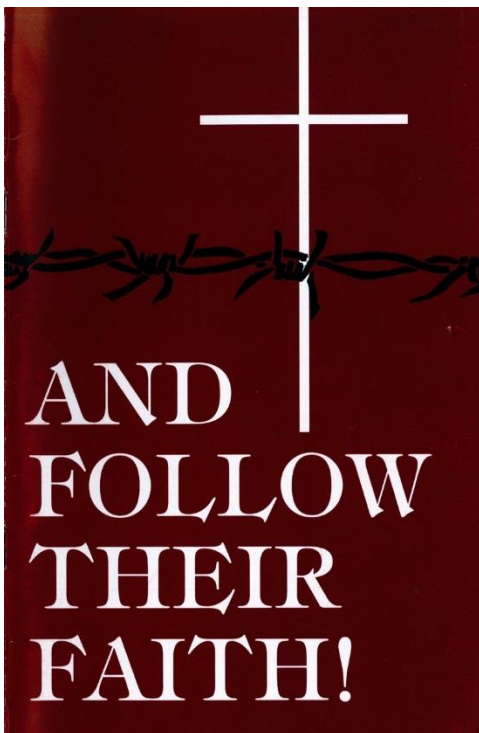
In standing "in defense of truth and righteousness when the majority forsake us," or fighting "the battles of the Lord when champions are few" (5T 136), we may bring to mind those great Reformers and martyrs of the Dark Ages. But, we should not forget that in our own denominational history, there have been many young men and women who loved not their lives unto death. In love for the truth and the honour of God, many faithful Adventists stood firm for the truth during World War I, refusing to bear arms, or transgress the Sabbath commandment. For many, that stand cost them their lives. History repeated itself in World

War II, when faithful members of the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement faced prison and death in defense of the law of God.

Commencing in this edition of *Good Tidings E-News*, we would like to remind our readers of our these heroes of the faith—men and women who, as Christians and Reformers, stood in defense of the truth and righteousness, regardless of the consequences.

The record of these witnesses for Christ, will be taken from the book, *And Follow Their Faith*, a compilation of remembrances of some of those who gave their lives while in prisons and concentration camps during World War II.

### From the introduction to *And Follow Their Faith*:



“More than twenty years have passed since the terrible Second World War ended. Much has been spoken and written about that time. In several places memorials have been erected as a reminder of those inexpressible sufferings. In that time of great apostasy when the fury of war did its destructive work and the god of war was worshiped and glorified by nominal Christians, there were still people who had the courage to acknowledge Jesus as their Lord. They knew that salvation could be found in only One-Jesus Christ. Through love for their Lord they fulfilled His will; they ‘loved not their lives unto death’ and courageously stood firm for their precious faith.

“Faith is proven in times of testing. Thus the period under the rulership of the swastika was also a hard test for God's people. The purpose of the Reformation has always been to educate soldiers under the cross. During that trial of World War II, these soldiers of Christ proved themselves victorious - faithful unto death...

“This publication is of special importance now, for today we fight a completely different kind of battle. From that time to our own day, many a hand has become feeble, many a banner which had been

kept aloft through united efforts has been conquered by the enemy and buried in the dust. And yet the pure, holy gospel still lives and is preached in all parts of the world; these martyrs saw with the eye of faith that the battle of the church is not in vain. This battle would have been in vain if the church were content to lead a complacent life after such a time of trial and persecution. Therefore we cannot betray these faithful witnesses by choosing an easier way; we are called to take up the work and continue it where these champions were forced to lay it down. This book's purpose is to point with unmistakable clarity to the fact that the battle of the Church concerns only the confession of Jesus Christ, the one Lord and King of kings, and that the church surrenders when the confession of Jesus Christ and His sacred truth is no longer its highest goal.”

## Heroes of Faith - Gustav Psyrembel – Executed

### HEROES OF FAITH IN OUR TIME

*“Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their*

*synagogues; And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles." Matthew 10:16-18.*

All through the ages, denial and persecution have been the fate of Christianity. This was the experience of the Master and Founder of Christianity, and therefore we should not wonder when the disciples and true followers of Christ make the same experience. "It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household?" Matthew 10:25

Thus we also of the Seventh-day Adventist Reform Movement have made many an experience, especially during the time from 1930 to 1945, about which we want to testify and report. The purpose of this testimony is to honour Him who went before us in the battle of faith as the Herald of our salvation. It should also serve as an encouragement for us to follow in the footsteps of those who suffered imprisonment, shame and death rather than conform to the powers of darkness by taking the easier way and thereby denying Christ. As it was in the days of the Apostle Paul, so also in our time there are faithful soldiers of the cross of whom it is written: *"But call to remembrance the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions; Partly, whilst ye were made a gazingstock both by reproaches and afflictions; and partly, whilst ye became companions of them that were so used. For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance."* Heb. 10:32-34.

## TESTIMONY BEFORE RULERS AND COURTS

*"And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles." Matthew 10:18.*



**Gustav Psyrembel**

Brother Gottlieb Metzner, himself a martyr for the faith, was instrumental in bringing a young man from Karlsmark, Brieg County, Germany, in contact with the SDA Reform Movement. This was during the time when the totalitarian power of the state in Germany rose and the military machine required every German citizen to take a positive stand in defence of the fatherland. As a result, this young Brother Gustav Psyrembel was soon called for military service. When the draft call came, he had not been married very long. Brother Psyrembel refused to perform this military duty because of his belief in the gospel of peace which Christ gave. He declared in short and clear terms that he refused to participate in any military training for the war effort because it is irreconcilable with the spirit

of the gospel according to the Sermon on the Mount given by Christ. He was fully convicted that all people who believe this gospel are bound into one international body and their main task is *"to seek and to save that which is lost"*... Therefore, with those of like faith, he could not conscientiously agree to participate in the blood-stained warfare of nations and all that was connected with war.

He was arrested, and after fruitless efforts were made to change his mind, he was brought before the Military Court at Berlin. On this occasion he was told that he was to account for his actions before a military court, not before a church council. They tried to convince him that every man should be subject to and obey the government. But Brother Psyrembel testified courageously that the kingdom of God is not of this world and that therefore the followers of Christ cannot fight for worldly kingdoms. (John 18:36.) Then a lengthy letter from a minister of the Seventh-day Adventist Church was laid before him and this recommended the defence of the fatherland as a Christian duty. But the young man, standing alone before a high war tribunal - betrayed by the ministers of the Adventist Church, who claimed he had erroneous views - declared firmly that he could not serve two masters....



Thus our young Brother Psyrembel was condemned to death by the court. In a detailed letter to his wife, he pictured how it hurt him that an Adventist minister in a letter to the court had betrayed him and placed his stand in such a false light. But even this betrayal could not discourage him. In a lonely prison cell he waited for the day of the execution of his sentence. What was in the heart and mind of this soldier of the cross during those days and hours only the Lord knows.

*Prison B, No. 4378  
Section AI Z 5  
Berlin NW 40, March 5, 1940*

*Dear Mama ... !*

*God's peace as greetings!*

*Again I want to show some sign of life and send you a few lines. I would have written sooner, but I wanted to wait for my term to expire so I could tell you more about it. The decision has been made, and I hope that you... have prepared yourself for this hour.... Dear Mama, I reported to you in my last letter that I stood at the beginning of the term. Today I can tell you that I now have that behind me.*

*It was short, and all went quietly, for I did not allow myself to have any false hope and was prepared for the worst. For me there were only two things I could do - either confess my faith or deny it. Right at the start I was told that I was not appearing before a church council which would decide religious questions but before a war tribunal. The motives for my action and conviction were regarded as wrong and were rejected. Only the offense and the deed were considered: My withdrawal from military service; the refusal to use weapons; the refusal to swear allegiance to the German flag and make the German salute. The most serious offense is the refusal to swear allegiance to the flag; this carries the death sentence. I had a lawyer to defend me, who asked for a life sentence, but this was rejected and I was given the death sentence. ...*

*Dear Mama, when you receive these lines, I will no longer be in the land of the living, because my execution will take place in the next few days; and then my soul will rest in peace. Trust in the Lord in all circumstances of life. He will help you to bear the duties and burdens that will now rest upon your shoulders. Do it in love and faith in Him; endure until the end so that we shall see each other again in that better land, in the city built of gold where all pain and suffering will be ended.*

*Farewell! We go through suffering to glory. Once again many greetings.*

*Your Gustav*

Another letter arrived, and it read as follows:

*G. Psyrembel  
Prison B, No. 4378  
Section AI Z 5  
Berlin NW 40, March 12, 1940*

*My dear Mama. ... !*

*The peace of the Lord be with you!*

*I would like to take advantage of an opportunity to write you a few lines, because every new day that dawns may be the last one for me. ... Therefore we will not yield in the hour of decision, for this is the right way and the truth. It is His work, and He will not let it perish. It is very regrettable when many of our fellow believers stray from the right way, leave our Leader and banner, fall away from*

*Him, begin to doubt His divine love and guidance, and thus grieve Him. Some day they will bitterly regret it and acknowledge their wrong, but then it will perhaps be forever too late and there will be no help or salvation. They do not realize that they betray those who hold fast to God and make their battle unspeakably heavy. When a case such as mine comes before the war tribunal, they say: "The others are all convinced that they are doing their duty and do not violate their conscience and God's commandments; why can't you do the same?" It is very, very hard in such a case to defend the truth, to explain this stand to the authorities and say that we cannot do otherwise. Another reproach came upon me because of my "unteachability" and "stubbornness." These apostatized Adventists, especially the ministers, have managed to deceive the people. Through their false representations of the truth, they declare us as the criminals and the deceived ones. It is not enough that they avoid conflict and try to sail around the difficulties, but they also attempt to justify their wrong actions through words and examples from the Scriptures that are not at all applicable. These words I have seen in the long, seven-page letter of the minister, and these statements are supposedly confirmed by the Testimonies. But all this should not shake us. Truth remains truth, and what is right will remain right; and the future will reveal on which side it can be found.*

*...In the faith that there is a reunion, I will now close. The Lord be with you. Receive my many cordial greetings and kisses from deeply loving Papa.*

*Best greetings to all those who always think of me.*

On March 29, 1940, Brother Psyrembel wrote his final letter to his wife and child. It reads as follows:

*Greetings with 2 Cor. 4:16-18.*

*I have just learned that tomorrow, the 30th, at 5:00, I am to be executed. Once again I had the opportunity to strengthen myself with the Word of God for this last journey. The New Testament was brought for me to read. (But I got less food to eat.) The portions of bread are much smaller here, and in general everything is much stricter, than at Ploetzensee; but I have borne everything gladly and patiently, for I know for Whom I do all these things and I am not the first and only one to receive this fate. The Lord says: "Rejoice, and be exceeding glad, for great is your reward in heaven." "Lift up your heads, for your redemption draweth nigh." These words and precious promises are what keep us going in our heavy but wonderful battle. The Lord has promised His power and protection. And He is also prepared to grant it to His children when they are in need of it. I have experienced this in all the years of my battle up to this very hour. The Lord be thanked and praised! He has kept me healthy in body and soul and has given me His joy and love in a rich measure. He will not leave me in the last hour. We shall not be sad, but happy, and regard it a privilege to suffer and die for His sake. "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." He has promised, and with faith in this power and salvation I will depart from this life in the hope, my dear ones, that we shall see each other again in His kingdom, to be forever with Him who has loved us unto death and has always had good intentions toward us. There we will live in the undisturbed and inseparable happiness and peace for which we have longed so much here. We shall be as such that dream and will hardly be able to comprehend the happiness that will be the portion of us sinful, unworthy creatures, who have deserved death and punishment. What a precious privilege it is to know and believe all this. And you, dear Mama, do not permit this precious treasure ever to be taken from you; trust in the Lord in all your circumstances of life, and He will be at your side and never leave you; overcome the pain and finish the race; be comforted and of good cheer.*

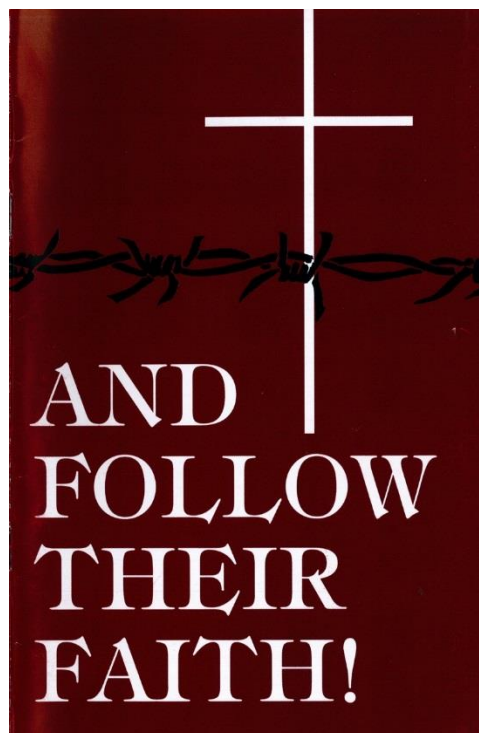
*"I would not give up this faith for all the world." He who loves Christ can never leave Him. The Lord will grant success to all His children who make such efforts to keep His commandments. It will also be a comfort to you that I will be dead before I am buried, and will not be buried alive. I hope that the Lord will sustain you. May He bless and keep you; may He let His protection and grace be over you and grant you His peace is my last wish and prayer. Amen.*

*Once again; and for the last time, very heartfelt greetings from your dear Papa. Best greetings also to Mother and all our dear brothers and sisters in the faith, as well as all our relatives on both your side and mine.*

*Gustav Psyrembel*

This last testimony of faith from this courageous soldier of the cross proves how the power of God's Spirit has overcome the world according to His word: "*For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.*" 1 John 5:4.

In the midst of a worldly Christendom which has deliberately involved itself in war and bloodshed as well as political battles among the nations during many ages - and today, in our enlightened age as this same apostate Christendom gives a shameful testimony before other religious confessions through their mutual slaughter - we deem it a privilege to report the upholding of the pure gospel by our faithful Brother Gustav Psyrembel, who testified for Christ and a better world. This hero of faith without boasting could also say with the apostle Paul: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing."



#### **Excerpts from the book, *And Follow Their Faith*.**

Book available for purchase from *Religious Liberty Publishing Association*:

Tel: +61-2-962-77553

Email: [info@rlpa.org.au](mailto:info@rlpa.org.au)

"In reviewing our past history, having travelled over every step of advance to our present standing, I can say, Praise God! As I see what the Lord has wrought, I am filled with astonishment, and with confidence in Christ as leader. We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history."—Ellen G. White, *Life Sketches*, p. 196 (1902).

## **Youth Department Fly-n-Build – Elim Heights, NSW**

**LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER!** The AUC Youth Department is organising a fly and build project at our youth campground at Elim Heights. The purpose of this plan is to make the campground more attractive and more youth friendly. The project involves two weeks of labour and building two major projects—an outdoor amphitheatre and youth recreational facility. So we need your help by volunteering one or even two weeks.

**Though Registration closed on the 31 May 2014, Late Registrants will be considered**

You can register online at <http://www.youthchallenger.org.au/fly-build/>

Or contact via phone or SMS: +61-430505935 or email: [youth@sdarm.org.au](mailto:youth@sdarm.org.au)

## Bible Prophecy Update: Pope and Evangelicals meet in Rome

In the March edition of *Good Tidings E-News* (#28) we reported on a landmark meeting between Pope Francis and Pentecostal Bishop Tony Palmer appealing for unity amongst Christians. At a later meeting of Charismatic Christians in Texas, Tony Palmer went on to proclaim that the Protestant Reformation is over and appealed for Christian's, both Catholic and Protestant, to unite.

We noted in that article that by this appeal for unity in Christendom, recognising all as brothers and sisters under the "one church," the Pope and the Pentecostal Bishop are simply taking another step closer to what prophecy indicates will eventually happen. The professed Christian Church will once more unite with the State and enforce laws against those who refuse to submit to her dogmas, thus violating liberty of conscience, and thus abandoning the fundamental principle at stake in the 1529 Protest of the Princes. See #28 of *Good Tidings E-News* for the full story.

<http://www.sdarm.org.au/news/2014/04/08/popes-call-unity-protestant-reformation/>

As a follow-up to that story, last week TruNews ([www.trunews.com](http://www.trunews.com)) reported that on Tuesday, 24 June, 2013, two prominent Fort Worth, Texas-based Christian ministers led a delegation of Evangelical Christian leaders to Rome to meet privately with Pope Francis.

"James and Betty Robison, co-hosts of the Life Today television program, and Kenneth Copeland, co-host of Believer's Voice of Victory, met the Roman Pontiff at the Vatican. The meeting lasted almost three hours and included a private luncheon with Pope Francis.

"Mr. Robison told the Fort Worth Star Telegram, "This meeting was a miracle.... This is something God has done. God wants his arms around the world. And he wants Christians to put his arms around the world by working together."

"The high-profile Protestant delegation included Kenneth Copeland, co-founder of Kenneth Copeland Ministries in Newark, TX; Reverend Geoff Tunncliff, CEO of the World Evangelical Alliance; Rev. Brian Stiller and Rev. Thomas Schirmacher, also from the World Evangelical Alliance; and Rev. John Arnott and his wife, Carol, co-founders of Partners for Harvest ministries in Toronto, Canada."

You can read the full story at <http://www.trunews.com/trunews-exclusive-pope-francis-meets-evangelical-delegation/>

Again, this is a remarkable event in the light of prophecy and history.

"When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with spiritualism, when, under the influence of this threefold union, our country [the USA] shall repudiate every principle of its Constitution as a Protestant and republican government, and shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions, then we may know that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan and that the end is near." (*Testimonies*, vol. 5. p. 451.)

"And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. 14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, [which] go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. 15 Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. 16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon." (Revelation 16:13-16)

In view of what will soon take place in the close of this earth's history, let us take to heart the exhortation of Peter: "...What sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness." 2 Peter 3:11 (ESV)

# Enjoying God's Creation – Coral Bay Camp

## Time set aside enjoying God's creation

In this day and age with people living such busy lives, we are thankful to God for giving us such wonderful counsels in the Spirit of Prophecy which we can all benefit from, in our practical lives.

*"Let families unite together and leave their occupations which have taxed them physically and mentally, and make an excursion out of the cities and villages a few miles into the country, by the side of a fine lake, or in a nice grove, where the scenery of nature is beautiful. They should provide themselves with plain, hygienic food, and spread their table under the shade of a tree, or under the canopy of heaven provided with the very best of fruits and grains. The ride, the exercise, and the scenery, will quicken the appetite, and they can come around a repast which kings might envy."* Review and Herald, October 8, 1867 par. 31

*"Parents and children on such occasions should feel as free as air from care, labors or perplexities. Parents should become children with their children, making it as happy as possible for them. Let the whole day be given to recreation. Exercise of the muscles in the open air, for those whose employment has been within doors and sedentary, will be beneficial to health. All who can, should feel it a duty resting upon them to pursue this course. Nothing will be lost, but much gained. They can return to their occupations with new life, and new courage to engage in their labor with new zeal. And such have gained much, for they are better prepared to resist disease."* Review and Herald, October 8, 1867 par. 32



On the 14th of April, a number of families here in the West decided to take time out for some recreation and be refreshed, so we set out on our trip to Coral Bay. For those who are unsure, Coral Bay is 1200km north of Perth. It would have been about 9-9:30 Sunday morning by the time we prayed and set off on our journey; although a few families had departed earlier that morning, we all caught up at some point. The trip was great and we thank God for His protection. We saw many goats, sheep and cows by

the roadside, wandering all over the outback of prickly shrubs and small sand tornados. Although the western countryside is very dry with sharp characteristics, God made it with its own beauty. Psalms 8:7-9 *"All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field; The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas. LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!"*

By lunchtime we were all pulling into Carnarvon, the half-way point between home and North Hampton, where we planned to stay the night. We stopped to stretch our legs and eat some much anticipated food before embarking on the second half of our journey for the day.

Finally we arrived at the half-way point to Coral Bay in North Hampton and settled down for the night. It was a quaint Farm Stay, but very well kept and provided us all with much needed rest. The next day we

continued our journey at 6:00am bound for Coral Bay, and for some strange reason this half of the journey seemed to pass by much faster. Along our route we crossed over the Tropic of Capricorn and saw many massive termite mounds dotted all over the countryside. It was amazing! Mound-building termites are found not just here in Australia, but also in Africa and South America. Some mounds can have a diameter of 30 metres. It brings to mind what Solomon wrote in Proverbs 6:6 *“Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise”*.



‘Coral Bay’, the sign finally appeared; by the grace of God we had all made it. We were staying in a caravan park just opposite the ocean, so of course once we arrived we had to set up our tents; but we all got in, helped each other and completed the job in record time. One of the tents, however, had been set up in the wrong place, so to save the bother of pulling the whole thing down and resetting it, we just removed the pegs and picked up the tent to move it, a rather interesting experience.

That evening we all went down to the ocean for a swim as it was very warm up there. The water was very refreshing, but it was a bit murky. We figured it was due to the tide and concluded it would be much nicer the next morning. After worship, that evening, as you would suppose, we all went to bed quite early, but the rest was much needed.

The next morning each family had their own worship and then we all had a nice big breakfast and headed down to the ocean where we took a ride in a glass-

bottom boat. Sure enough when we saw the water that morning, it was gorgeous! The ocean was a clear aqua colour and shimmered against the morning sun.

The glass-bottom boat was definitely an experience. We could see all kinds of coral, and some shimmered blue in the light. There were beautifully coloured fish of all shapes and sizes swimming everywhere, and we even saw a turtle! *“And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good.”* Genesis 1:21.

The rest of that day was spent on the beach in the sun. We all did lots of snorkelling, an amazing experience, as the fish were not scared of you; they allowed us to dive down and swim with them, and they completely accepted us. We can only imagine how wonderful it will be in the ‘earth made new’ when all the animals will not be afraid of us. We snorkelled out to “Aires Rock” a number of times, an absolutely massive yellow coral 250 metres off shore. We first saw it while on the glass-bottom boat that morning. This coral was amazing; it became flat on top and had lots of smaller coral growing on the head of it. There were also lots of schools of fish that loved to swim all around this large coral.

By the time evening came we were all very tired and hungry, so we cleaned up and had a big meal. The rest of the evening was spent socialising before we all had our individual family worships and retired for the night.

The following day, we all stopped off at the bakery for breakfast. The weather was perfect. As you can imagine, we decided to spend the whole day out in nature as we would be heading back down to Perth the next day. The weather was perfect. The whole time we were there the sun was shining, and we never had a dull day. Again a number of us young people decided to go snorkelling and headed out for "Aires Rock". Once again it was amazing; there were fish everywhere that swam around us as we passed by them. Although we didn't manage to see a turtle, we were blessed to see an ever abundant supply of fish, as well as a couple of stingrays.



Late afternoon, a few of us young people headed up to a high point to watch the sunset, a beautiful way to end the day in the midst of God's wonderful creation. That night, we were all very tired again, and looked forward to an early night. But alas that was not to be. As we all headed back to the campsite where Jacques Payet had been busy cooking food that day, everyone followed their noses to the tent where we all huddled and had dinner.

We all rose early the next day to get a good head start for the long trip home. After packing the tents and clearing the area, a long trail of cars

finally but reluctantly left the quiet little town of Coral Bay. After sitting in the small confined spaces of the cars, we all stopped for a much-needed stretch at Carnarvon, where we filled the cars up with fruit, and our stomachs with food. After our break, we all headed back to the cars to continue the long journey home again. We had decided that we were going to travel through the night this time instead of stopping at North Hampton. So those who weren't driving at the time decided it was best if they caught up on some sleep before it was their turn to drive.

We all thank God for our safe trip through the night as there were no accidents and no one fell asleep at the wheel, although there were constant stops along the side of the road as people were swapping drivers to give others the chance to sleep. The promise found in Psalms 34:7 "*The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them,*" was truly appreciated by all as we continued on our journey home.

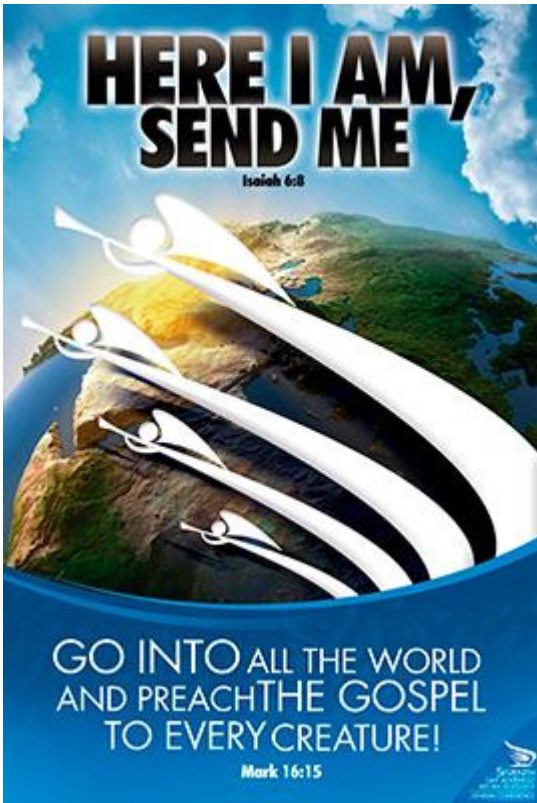
I can say on behalf of everyone, that at 2:30am the following morning we were all quite happy to be pulling into our driveways and crawling into our beds after a full day of being on the road.

We would all like to thank God for the wonderful experience of being able to participate in the trip up to Coral Bay. Just being able to spend time with family and friends enjoying God's creation was a great blessing, and we hope to be able to have another trip like it in the near future. Revelation 4:11 "*Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*"

~ Reported by Amariah and Charmaine Payet

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=5640>

# “Here I Am, Send Me”



At the 2013 Council meeting it was agreed to adopt a number of Evangelism objectives as part of the General Conference Strategic Plan.

## **Objective 1: Year of Evangelism**

Proclaim July 2014 through June 2015 “The Year of Evangelism” to all member Units through our direct publishing channels (Web, email, and print) by May 1, 2014

## **Objective 2: Here I Am, Send Me**

Encourage all Units to hold one Spiritual Conference during 2014 under the theme ‘Here I Am, Send Me’, and with the motto “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.” Mark 16: 15

## **Objective 10: World Distribution of “Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing”**

Encourage all units to distribute to the general public throughout their territories at least 25 copies per church member of the book “Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing” during the year 2014.

A full list of the Evangelism Objectives can be viewed at <http://missionary.sdarm.org>

In harmony with these objectives, the General Conference Missionary Department has made the following resources Available for download now at the website: <http://missionary.sdarm.org>

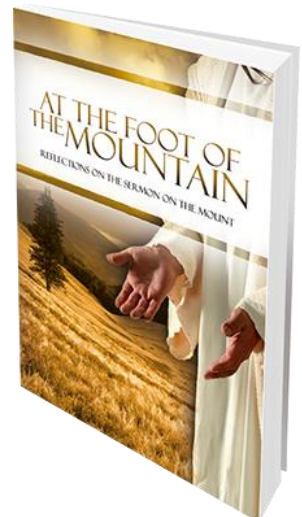
# PowerPoint Presentation for use in your Local Church or Group

# Printed materials to be distributed: Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing, by Ellen G. White (Printed under title "At the Foot of the Mountain"). This book will be available for order from the General Conference Publishing Department in the near future.

# Banners

# Graphic logo for printing on T-Shirts

Please share and promote among your churches and groups.



Available in:

English  
French  
German  
Hungarian  
Spanish  
Portuguese  
Romanian  
Russian



## Depression Recovery Program - NSW

This program was run by the Elim Missionary College students and Sydney churches. Both Wentworthville and Schofields churches held a free information and introduction meeting on Tuesday evening 8<sup>th</sup> April, then the 8 week program took place at 158 Bridge Road, Wentworthville NSW, from 15 April; to 3 June 2014.

The program catered not only for people experiencing depression but also for those who would like to support a friend or loved one through hard times; it was also for those who are interested in avoiding anxiety and depression, improving emotional intelligence and dealing with stress at home and work.

Those who attended learnt how to:

- Identify depression and its causes
- Enhance energy levels and mood
- Make positive lifestyle choices
- Eat for optimal brain function
- Manage stress without distress
- Defeat depression with right thinking
- Achieve peak mental performance

The Depression Recovery Program was not geared for taking anyone off medications, as this must be done by their General Practitioner; but by following the recommended program it would definitely improve their quality of life and help them avoid getting further depressed. The cost of the program was \$195 which included all materials, books, and on-line tests.

May God help all those who attended this program to seek Him as their Master Physician!

## Baby Arrival – Jonathan Nehvatal

*“Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his eward” Psalm 127:3*

Rob and Alina Nehvatal are grateful to the Lord for the new addition to their family. They welcomed Jonathan Elijah into the world on the 22nd of May, 2014. He weighed 4130g, and was 51.5cm long.

Little Ethan is very proud of his new baby brother.

Thank you Jesus.



## Sabbath School Seminar – Perth WA

*“The Sabbath school should be one of the greatest instrumentalities, and the most effectual, in bringing souls to Christ.” Counsels on Sabbath Work, pg. 10.2*

*“I feel a deep interest in our Sabbath schools throughout the land, because I believe them to be instrumentalities of God for the education of our youth in the truths of the Bible. Constant efforts should be made by both parents and teachers to interest the youth in matters of eternal importance. The Sabbath school is a missionary field, and very much more of a missionary spirit should be manifested in this important work than has been manifested in the past.” Counsels on Sabbath School Work, pg. 10.1*

Brother Paul Chapman is the General Conference Sabbath School Director. He has been travelling to many places internationally as well as within Australia, holding Sabbath School Seminars, teaching Sabbath School members and teachers how to conduct the Sabbath Schools.

On the weekend 20-22 June, 2014, Br Paul visited Perth Church holding this important Seminar, teaching the brethren how to obtain the best results from their Sabbath Schools and how to use the Sabbath School as a missionary tool in saving perishing souls. This program was appreciated by the ones who were able to attend.

The Sabbath Sermon, *Lost and Found*, may be viewed at <http://raindrops.sdarm.org.au/multimedia-archive/lost-found/>

Anyone wishing to order further DVDs from this seminar please contact Br Luke Kneebone from Perth WA on his email address: [lkneebone@sdarm.org.au](mailto:lkneebone@sdarm.org.au)

May God bless the work done in the West.

## Invitation to the QLD Spiritual Conference – 15-17 August 2014

### Except We Forget

QLD Conference invites you to attend our 2014 Spiritual Conference, 15-17 August, 2014. The title of our conference is “Except We Forget”.

Come aside with us for a spiritual refreshing as we consider those truths that have made us a distinct people before the world. “Except We Forget” encapsulates the theme for this year’s camp, as we recognise 100 years since the outbreak of World War 1 and the subsequent formation of the SDA Reform Movement.

Venue: Ewen Maddock Dam Recreation Centre, Landsborough, QLD

Accommodation:

- Adults (15 and over) - \$75.00 for the weekend.
- Children: (4-14 years) - \$45.00 for the weekend

An offering will be collected during the camp to cover the cost of food. (Suggested offering \$20.00/person)

For more details contact Paul Chapman – mobile: 0414 495 838 or [pchapman@sdarm.org.au](mailto:pchapman@sdarm.org.au)

# Invitation to the WA Spiritual Conference - September 2014

## Jesus Knocks - Christ's Message to Laodicea

WA Field invites you to our 2014 Field Spiritual Conference, 26-29 September, 2014. The title of our conference is "When Jesus Knocks – Christ's Message to Laodicea". The counsel of the True Witness to Laodicea is more relevant to God's people today than at any other time in the history of the Christian church. We will consider the most important elements of this message found in Revelation Chapter 3 and how they apply to us today. We hope you will be able to come and join us at this important and refreshing time together.

### Venue

The conference is being held at a beautiful Christian campsite named Camp Logue Brook located just 1½ hours' drive south of Perth (between Yarloop and Harvey). The address is: Logue Brook Dam Road, HARVEY WA 6220.

## Coming Events Calendar

**6-20 July, 2014**

### **Youth Department Fly-n-Build 2014**

*Elim Heights Youth Camp, NSW*

*For Further information contact Csongor Matyas*

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

*Telephone or SMS: +61-430505934*

**15-17 August, 2014**

### **Queensland Conference Camp 2014**

**"Except We Forget"**

*Location: Ewen Maddack Dam Recreation Centre,  
Landsborough, QLD*

*For Further information contact Paul Chapman*

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

*Telephone: +61-(0)7-3862-4803*

**26-29 September, 2014**

### **Western Australian Mission Field Spiritual Conference**

*Location: Camp Logue Brook, Harvey*

*Western Australia*

*Register online at [wa@sdarm.org.au](http://wa@sdarm.org.au)*

*Telephone: +61-(0)8-9377-3283*

*Download Invitation Here: [www.sdarm.org.au/wa2014](http://www.sdarm.org.au/wa2014)*

**3-6 October, 2014**

### **NSW Youth Camp**

*Location: 85 Grange Avenue Schofields.*

*For Further information*

*[mthiel@sdarm.org.au](mailto:mthiel@sdarm.org.au) or [lidia@sdarm.org.au](mailto:lidia@sdarm.org.au)*

*Telephone: +61-(0)2-9627-7553*

*Matthias Thiel mob: +61-(0)424 430 329*

**26 October, 2014**

### **NSW Youth Department Seminar - Communication**

*Location: 85 Grange Avenue Schofields.*

*For Further information*

[mthiel@sdarm.org.au](mailto:mthiel@sdarm.org.au) or [lidia@sdarm.org.au](mailto:lidia@sdarm.org.au)

Telephone: +61-(0)2-9627-7553

Matthias Thiel mob: +61-(0)424 430 329

**24-28 December, 2014**

**AUC Youth Convention 2014**

*Location: Elim Heights Youth Camp, NSW*

*For Further information go to*

[www.sdarm.org.au](http://www.sdarm.org.au)

Telephone: +61-(0)2-9627-7553

**4-14 January, 2015**

**Summer School 2015**

*Location: Elim Heights Youth Camp, NSW*

*For Further information email [info@sdarm.org.au](mailto:info@sdarm.org.au)*

Telephone: +61-(0)2-9627-7553

## **GOOD TIDINGS E-NEWS**

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

PO Box 132, Riverstone NSW 2765, Australia

Tel: (02) 9627 7553

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

Web: [www.sdarm.org.au](http://www.sdarm.org.au)

Editor: Paul Chapman

Associate Editor: Lidia Voncina

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