

Top News

NEWS FROM THE TOP END OF
THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA

MAY 2018



BIG CAMP INFO

Page 4 & 5



STORM CO - SAIBAI ISLAND
PAGE 8

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ADVENTIST BOOK CENTRE

HERITAGE REUNION LIVE 3-DISC SET



Experience a concert 45 years in the making! Max and Luce Mace join over 140 current and former Heritage Singers to bring you 37 past and present musical favourites. Recorded live in Ontario, California, this concert

covers 3 CD's ensuring hours of listening pleasure. In store now at the Adventist Book Centre for \$34.95 + p&h.

Call 07 4728 7097 or go to www.adventistbooks.com.au

CALENDAR UPCOMING EVENTS

4 - 7 MAY

YOUTH CAMP

TENNANT CREEK REGIONAL

4 - 5 MAY

TOWNSVILLE REGIONAL

RIVERSIDE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

19 MAY

MACKAY REGIONAL

8 - 10 JUNE

TEEN CAMP

- PRINCESS AND WARRIORS

9 JUNE

WOMENS MINISTRY

EMPHASIS SABBATH

29 JUNE - 7 JULY

BIG CAMP

1 JULY

PATHFINDER / ADVENTURER

FAIR DAY

SAVE THE DATE

29 JUNE - 7 JULY NAC BIG CAMP

APPLICATIONS ONLINE NOW

AT NA.ADVENTIST.ORG.AU

OR AT YOUR LOCAL CHURCH

24-26 AUGUST

YOUNG WOMENS RETREAT

CONTACT JESS FOR MORE INFO 4779 3988

23 SEPTEMBER - 7 OCTOBER

ADRA NAC CONFERENCE TRIP TO NEPAL

CONTACT ADRA ON 4779 3988

ALL ABOUT JESUS

I had just finished Year 12 and begun my apprenticeship. It was such a great feeling to now be earning an income, and I had a very clear idea where any surplus was going to be spent. I badly wanted a home stereo, and spent hours reading through catalogues (Remember those? That was in the days before the internet!) and testing out demo models in shops. Over the next year or two, each component – amp, speakers, tape deck, CD player, tuner, record player – attracted the same time investment in research and anticipation. You could say that period of my life was all about my stereo.

There have been quite a few periods in my life over the years. At different times it has been all about tools, cars, girls, study, work, travel, audio visual gear, camping, weight loss, clothes and family. Even in my spiritual life, there have been things I have fixated on; periods where it has been all about the KJV, Ellen White, the Jesuits, conspiracy theories, apocalyptic teachings, perfection, dress and diet reform, appropriate worship music and instrumentation, state of the church etc.

Sadly, I had missed the point entirely with the secular focus, and even my spiritual priorities. But God has been so patient with me and is gently drawing me into a better place where I can see how useless my former thoughts and actions were. There were some Greeks in the first century who had things straight when they came to Philip and said, “Sir, we would like to see Jesus” (John 12:21,22). Like those early Europeans, I now realise it is all about Jesus.

That's why we have themed Big Camp this year *All About Jesus*. Lee Venden is our main speaker and will present a thirteen part series designed to connect us solidly with Jesus. What a wonderful opportunity for us to be more intimately linked with the Author and Finisher of our faith.

It was important in the ministry of the Apostle Paul to “know nothing...except Jesus Christ and him crucified” (1 Cor 2:2) when he was at Corinth, and the aging disciple John said that if we have the Son we have life (1 John 5:12), so I'm taking my lead from them in making sure Jesus is front and centre in my spiritual devotions. Now I realise I need to explore and know Jesus in all the doctrines of Scripture, but I want to do that study with Jesus as the focus, not without him. He says to me and to you, “everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day” (John 6:40). Yes, it is all about Jesus for me, from Genesis right through to Revelation!

Darren Slade

President

Northern Australian Conference

Editor

Jessica Cooney

Design

Alex Green Design

Contact

jessicacooney@adventist.org.au

Ph: 07 4779 3988

Fax: 07 4779 8891

Post: PO Box 51,

Aitkenvale QLD 4814

Contributors

If you would like to contribute to Top News, please contact us using any of the methods on the left.

Please include photos with your submissions wherever possible.

Top News is the official magazine of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Northern Australia. All articles express the opinions of their authors and not necessarily those of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

OUR VISION IS TO CONTINUE
“EXPERIENCING AND
SHARING HOPE
IN JESUS CHRIST”

Find out more about us at na.adventist.org.au



Big Camp (June 29 - July 7)

BIG TENT - ALL ABOUT JESUS

KEYNOTE SPEAKER - LEE VENDEN
MORNING SPEAKER - CRISTIAN COPACEANU



YOUTH (18+)

ANDREAS BECCAI

Ice Skating
Community BBQ
Ten Pin Bowling
& Lazer Tag
Big Day Out
to Magnetic Island
Banquet - 80s theme

ACTIPass \$98.00* \$108.00* \$14.80*



WORKSHOPS

EVANGELISM - CHRISTINA COPACEANU

"Growing Painless", is an extremely practical, hands-on workshop exploring how outreach can become second nature, enjoyable and effective in winning hearts for eternity.

KITCHEN PHARMACY - BEV KROGDAHL

Come along and learn how to use your common kitchen produce as a pharmacy, with natural remedies for the home. Using simple items like onions, potatoes etc.

ADRA WORKSHOP - CHARLENE LUZUK

Wanting to serve your community with ADRA? We will be providing tools and resources that will help you to connect with and impact your community meaningfully. Please come.

MEMBERSHIP / CHURCH CLERK TRAINING - MICHAEL WORKER

Two workshops providing training on membership management and Minutes, Agendas and Meetings. For all those interested and currently in these church roles.

ATSIM RESOURCES - DARREN GARLETT

ATSIM have developed a great range of simple easy to use bible resources. Join Darren as he takes you through sharing Jesus with others through ATSIM.

FAITH FM - GAVIN CHATELIER

Gavin has a unique blend of the Word, Music & Message. Try new witnessing techniques and skills to help you grow as an individual and inspire growth within your church family to touch and reach your local community.

FAMILY AND MARRIAGE - CHEONNETH STRICKLAND

Featuring a workshop on creating strong spiritual families and a second workshop on fostering healthy marriages.

Do You Have A Will?

Free service available at camp

Secure Your Family's Future

IF YOU NEED TO:

- Make a WILL
- Update an existing WILL
- Discuss any questions about making your WILL



Make an appointment NOW on 0431 315 335

Darrin Parker (Trust Services Director)

IDENTITY JEREMIAH 1:5

HIGH SCHOOL (GRADE 8-12)

NIGEL KING

Ten Pin Bowling & Lazer Tag
Roller Skating
Banquet - Your Initial theme
Big Day Out - Magnetic Island
Ice Skating
Indoor Sports



ACTIPass \$125.35* \$139.25* \$153.20*

1TEAM DREAM JUNIORS (AGES 10-12)

CHEONNETH STRICKLAND

Ten Pin Bowling
& Lazer Tag
Barra Fun Park
Indoor Sports
Themed Tea

ACTIPass
\$90.00* \$100.00* \$106.80*

Growing in Jesus PRIMARY (AGES 7-9)

HAYDEN PETERSON

Barra Fun Park
Games & Grub night
Craft

ACTIPass
\$45.00* \$50.00* \$55.00*

10 GODS SPECIAL RULES

KINDY (AGES 4-6)

All 4 - 6 year olds come and find out more with singing, stories crafts & games each morning & afternoon.

ACTIPass for crafts \$10.00



BEGINNERS (AGES 0-3)

Moo Moo Cock - a - doodle - doo
Beginners, we invite you.
Get on your tractor and get in your gear
We're on the farm this year.

BIG CAMP - VACANT POSITION FUNDRAISING OPORTUNITY

Needing someone to run the Store during camp
Please contact the Conference Office on 4779 3988

Special Offering
Stamping out
diabetes in the
South Pacific
First Sabbath



Camp Kitchen

*Purchase your Sabbath meal tickets for only \$13.00

Chef Specials daily



Sanitarium health & wellbeing Breakfast

Free
for all

Sunday 8am
Outside Big Tent



*Early Bird price if ordered before June 8 *Regular price if ordered before June 22 *Late price if ordererd after June 22

NATALIE SCOTT

CFO/SECRETARY REPORT

May is looking to be another exciting month in our Conference, with many activities celebrating milestones in our School System:

- Riverside Adventist Christian School is turning 50 and I am looking forward to being involved in the celebrations in Townsville with those traveling to join.
- Carlisle Adventist Christian College is officially opening their new Science laboratory, classrooms and staffroom. I had a tour when I visited in February and the facilities are amazing! Block Grant Authority funding from both the State and Federal Government have assisted in making the project a reality.
- Cairns Adventist College is working to erect the plaque on their completed Tennis Court cover that also received Block Grant Authority funding assisting in making this outdoor learning space happen.

Did you know? We have Deductible Gift Recipient status for donations to any of our School's Building Funds. This means that you can get a tax-deductible receipt for your donation towards school building projects such as:

- Riverside Adventist Christian School – Construction of a roof over the basketball/tennis court, converting it into a covered sports and outdoor learning area.
- Carlisle Adventist Christian College – Construction of additional classroom space to meet the addition of Year 11 and 12 to the school curriculum, including hospitality/home economics.
- Cairns Adventist College – Construction of more learning spaces and an extension to the library.

Contact Paul White to find out more or make a donation: 07 4779 3988 or nacinfo@adventist.org.au



LIVING OUT THE GOSPEL - PRACTICALLY

In her book 'Loved Back to Life', Sheila Walsh says;

"Today our world is littered with broken, bitter people who need love and instead receive judgment. By love, I do not mean a soft, quiet thing, but a powerful force for good."

**I DO NOT MEAN A SOFT,
QUIET THING,
BUT A POWERFUL FORCE
FOR GOOD.**

Love breaks down and builds up. It is transforming. Judgment, however brings condemnation and fear. It is cowardly because it distances itself from the pain of life. Rather than healing what is bent, it cripples and abandons.

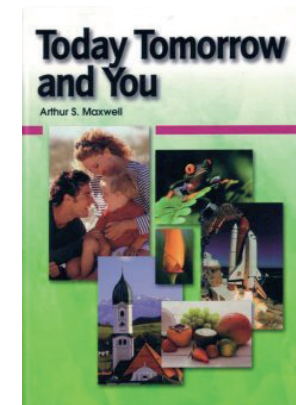
True love, the love that speaks the truth and yet refuses to abandon others, gives people an opportunity to change. It even motivates them to change."

God has placed our churches and church members in the communities they are in, in order for us to live out the gospel in a practical way. Our ADRA projects are designed to connect church members with people who are broken, bitter, hurting and desiring something that promises change. And what a beautiful thing for someone to attend an ADRA project, or a church service, or a Wednesday night bible study group for the first time and experience the kind of acceptance and love that is described above as "a powerful force for good?" God is waiting to send broken, bitter and hurting people into our midst and what does God require of us? To love them. And after we have done that? To love them more.

If you would like to start a conversation in your church about community projects, seek out your local church ADRA Representative and have a chat to them, or call Charlene, your Conference ADRA Director.

TODAY TOMORROW AND YOU

The world is to receive the light of truth through an evangelising ministry of the word in our books and periodicals. From our books and papers bright beams of light are to shine forth to enlighten the world in regard to present truth (CM p5)



**"THAT BOOK
IS FOR YOU"**

For a few mornings I have been praying that the Lord would guide me to people who would appreciate and purchase the book Today Tomorrow and You (TTY).

It was during this week, that I met BJ, a social worker who had lost her husband a few years back and so was raising her five children on her own.

BJ was very interested in the book "Healthy Juice" written by Dr Pamplona-Roger. She stated that she had bought books from the same author a few weeks back. When I canvassed the book Today, Tomorrow and You,

she held the book in her hand for a while and exclaimed, "this is the book I need. To secure her decision regarding the book, her mum who was listening in to our conversation, called out "That book is for you BJ".

The day I delivered the books to her home, BJ spent some time talking about her family life and how she missed reading the Bible like she used to do with her late husband. She acknowledged with tears in her eyes how she needs to make some changes now. "This book will help me start this new life," she exclaimed.

"You know what is funny about all this?" BJ added, "A few times throughout that day, mum repeatedly said that book is for you." BJ also commented on how I did not give up on her too easily. She believes that our meeting was definitely a divine appointment.

Praise the Lord that He has entrusted His people with the distribution of books and literature that contains present truth. How much joy it brings to many hearts that are ready to be enlightened by the truth of the Word of our loving God.

Willa Brough
Literature Evangelist, Townsville

MOSSMAN CHURCH

ADRA FUNDRAISING AWARDS

On the 14th of April, Mossman church was presented with an award acknowledging their extraordinary efforts in fundraising for the ADRA Appeal in 2017. The award category was "Most Funds Raised Per Member", and their total was a combination



of a plant sale, door-to-door collection and general donations. Thank you once again for your part in making a difference in the lives of those in need.



Charlene Luzuk
NAC ADRA Director

07 4779 3988

charneluzuk@adventist.org.au



STORM CO TRIP TO SAIBAI ISLAND

In the first week of the April school holidays an amazing group of teens went to Saibai Island to run a STORM Co program.

Before it even started STORM Co was brewing up to be one crazy adventure with threats of an impending cyclone and road flooding, so we decided to start our trip from Mackay/Townsville to Cairns a day early. Exploring Cairns was good fun, taking an opportunity to tour the city by stretched hummer. After a small gardening job at Cairns Adventist Church, we flew to Horn Island where we boarded our charter flight to Saibai Island, located on the Australian and Papua New Guinea border.

The team was met with eager expectation from all the children who experienced the joys of STORM Co the year before.

Throughout the week the teens organised and led out in all aspects of the kids club and sports time. On the final Sunday the team had an opportunity to tour the region and do a spot of fishing, finishing the day by attending and participating in a cultural flag dance with some of the young families on the island.

Not only was STORM Co a great opportunity to share God's love with the children on the Island, it was a great opportunity for the teens experience God working through them. THE STORM Co program was left up to the teens to organise, prepare and lead. They all did an amazing job and if our local churches are willing and prepared to give them the reigns, as different as it may be done, God will bless your church in ways unmeasurable.

STORM Co was run in partnership between the NAC Youth Department and Carlisle Adventist Christian College. Special recognition goes out to AUC ATSIM and NAC ADRA for financially supporting this STORM Co trip.



DARWIN PATHFINDER CLUB COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Darwin Pathfinder Club did community outreach in one of our remote churches where only kids attend. We had a great time of fellowship with 17 kids and 5 adults at Batchelor church.



CAIRNS ADVENTIST COLLEGE ANZAC DAY SERVICE

On the day before Anzac Day we held our very first Anzac Service at our School. Mr. George Schipke, along with four of his music students, performed two hymns and the National Anthem. Our College Captains laid a wreath to commemorate the occasion. We were proud of the level of respect the students displayed towards our servicemen and women who have fought for our Country.

Each class also placed cardboard poppies which they had made outside the school fence so passing traffic could see them. They looked really good and it was a special touch as part of our Anzac commemorations.

Staff and a number of students participated in the Anzac Day March in Gordonvale. The College Captains played a special part during the Service and Pr James London gave a short talk and prayer at the Service in Gordonvale.



RIVERSIDE ADVENTIST COLLEGE BIG FIVE 0 YEARS

Riverside Adventist Christian School is getting ready for the BIG FIVE O. Mr Terry Menkens, the first Principal of the then named Townsville & District SDA School and his wife Jean are visiting from England for the 50th Anniversary celebration weekend. They are pictured here with current Principal Ian Humphries and his wife, Jodi. Look out for the next Top News for some photos of the actual event.



DARWIN CLEAN UP AFTER CYCLONE



Darwin church sustained minimal damage and members were all safe during Cyclone Marcus. Thank you God for your protection. But clean up is still happening six weeks after Marcus tore through the city.

The strongest cyclone to hit Darwin in 30 years, trees were toppled all over the city, powerlines were brought down and more than a third of homes were left without power, some for more than a week.

The Bureau of Meteorology reported that the category two storm passed over the city before midday on Sabbath Day, March 17 this year, with a recorded maximum wind gust of 130 kilometres per hour.

Some good news in all of this is that the Darwin Pathfinders are in demand from members wanting garden clean ups, in return for donations toward their fundraising to attend the AUC Camporee in January next year!

EDMONTON CHURCH MENS MINISTRIES



The men (including some of our teen boys) of Edmonton Church enjoyed a BBQ together at the Esplanade on the 21/4/2018. This was a great way for the men and boys of the church to relax and fellowship together.

They had a special children's service on 28/4/2018 where all enjoyed worshipping together with songs, a skit, puppets and stories. It's great to see the children taking part in sharing Jesus.

DARWIN REGION

DARWIN AFRICAN OUTREACH

The Darwin region was blessed to have Pr Tapiwa present for a week of meetings. As the nights progressed they noticed that the attendance also grew. Many visitors were happy to receive free Bibles and materials throughout the week and each session ended with light refreshments adding to the fellowship.

All three churches (Darwin, Malak & Palmerston) contributed to the series by leading out in special music. But the program as a whole was spearheaded by the African Community.

Each night Pastor Tapiwa challenged folks and the spirit moved as church and unchurched folks responded on.

His final night the Darwin University Lecture theatre was filled with 140 attendees. 10 folk requested baptismal studies.

He concluded his series at a Regional for the Darwin area, speaking of cultural diversity and Jesus Christ.



MOUNT ISA CHURCH

KINGDOM DISCIPLES REVIVAL



The Mount Isa Church was blessed to have Pastor Levi Mote from 28th March through the Easter long weekend to 1st April. Over the 4 day program, Pr. Levi took the church back to the basic principles of Kingdom Discipleship that Jesus taught in the Beatitudes. He reminded everyone that without daily acknowledging our brokenness, God cannot work in us.

Pr. Levi's sharing encouraged the Church to persevere with outreach plans; to intentionally and purposefully

reach out to the community and tell people about Jesus. It was a wonderful reminder that we have a responsibility to share God's light with the world.

On Sabbath afternoon, there were 4 baptisms and a profession of faith of 10 members whose membership was moved from Fiji to Mount Isa. The week ended with All Night Prayer on Saturday evening hosted by the Women's Ministry, with the theme Great Is Thy Faithfulness where were introduced to a new phrase: God is Great – He is Faithful! They are excited to continue God's mission in 2018 and beyond!



AITKENVALE CHURCH

CHURCH CAMP

April 20th to 22nd Aitkenvale Adventist Church camped at Broadwater in the Abergowrie State Forrest with about 90 church members attending and 42 people camping for the weekend. It was a fun camp enjoyed by all as they explored the creek and tracks. Saturday night the kids played spotlight while others stayed at camp and competed in a dessert cook off. Teams were given 10 minutes to cook and a recipe to follow. Lots of stories and laughter were shared around the campfire till late into the night.



HERBERTON

FAITH FM HAS ARRIVED



During our Family Camp in Townsville 2017 Michael Engelbrecht, the Faith FM coordinator from the AUC, did his best to promote spreading the Gospel through radio. Pr Wolfgang was listening and decided, together with his

wife Lyn Joy, to make their home in Herberton available for transmitting Faith FM.

He also decided to produce content for Faith FM in his retirement. "Applying for a radio license was simple and painless," said Wolfgang.

After all the materials arrived, he installed a 12 meter mast with the aerial and everything on it. Pr Richard Felkel did the connection for him and Faith FM is on the air 24/7. You can find it on 87.6 fm.

Wherever you are, think if spreading the Gospel by radio is something you can do?

TOWNSVILLE CITY CHURCH

DARREN STEPHENSON'S BAPTISM



The 14th of April saw Darren Stephenson publicly commit his life to Jesus through baptism at Townsville City Church. The son of an Atheist father, and a mother from

the Church of Christ, Darren had always felt there was someone or something greater. While working in Wagga Wagga (NSW) in 2011, he shared these feelings with Daniel, an employee who encouraged him that Jesus loves us and wants to be personally involved in our life. It took a marriage breakdown and the realisation he had lost everything, before he stepped back to let God fill his life. In 2014, through God's leading, Darren and Daniel were working together again in Townsville, where Darren was invited to help out at the Community Kitchen being run by Townsville City Church, then started attending church. He gave a short testimony following his baptism, acknowledging the many people at City Church who assisted him in his journey.

GOVE - NHULUNBUY

COMMUNION SERVICE TAKEN

This small mining town is situated in one of the most beautiful parts of Australia. With a population of just over 3,000 a small group meet together to do church each Sabbath. They meet at Sunny and Swapna Chakkupurakkai's house most Sabbaths and the children do activities followed by the sharing of the Word and then fellowship lunch.

Visiting the group every three months Pr Sigl (on his last visit) was able to take a communion service with the group which was long over due. Please remember our isolated church families in your prayers and thank you to the Conference who make these visits possible.



YOUTH UPCOMING EVENTS

Princess and Warriors High school Camp Holloways Beach, Cairns (June 8-10)

This camp is for all high school students as we look at how to make wise choices; including what it means to be a man or woman, dating and relationships, dealing with bullies, and keeping healthy boundaries.

The camp is fully catered and separate boys and girl workshops, and mixed workshops will be led by Pastor Richie and Bec Reid. If you would like to be an adult mentor on this weekend please contact the Youth Department.

Cost is \$110 all inclusive. Register online at nayouth.adventist.org.au

Boys Day Out (August 31-September 02)

This is a conference wide initiative to encourage Christian men to MENTor our boys. Come up with your own activity like camping, fishing, working on a car together...etc. Register your plan online to receive conference support. nayouth.adventist.org.au

4WD Cape Trip (September 30 – October 8)

Will be our 4WD trip to Cape York. Start making your plans now for this amazing adventure.

UNSTOPPABLE – AUC Camporee (January 2019)

By now your pathfinder club will be making preparations to attend the Unstoppable Camporee at Molesworth VIC over the first week on January 2019. This is going to be a huge memory event for Juniors and Teens who are involved in this ministry. Please pray for and support our Pathfinders as they plan and fundraise to attend. If you do not have Pathfinders or Adventurers available in your region contact the Youth Department to see how you can start a club. Nothing is more important than investing in our young people for the Kingdom of God, especially to children in the 4-14 year-old window.



Christos Spero

NAC Youth Leader

4779 3988

Visit nayouth.adventist.org.au



BOYS DAY OUT

4WD Cape Trip

