

Top News Lite

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

ISSUE 14: 24/07/2020



MINITORIAL

The news is pretty grim at the moment. Spend too much time keeping up to date with what is going on around the world and you're likely to become pretty depressed. Perhaps that is why mental health related issues increased by 20% in Queensland during the lockdown, when people found themselves isolated. Spare a thought for the poor Melbourne folk going into another 6 week lockdown and how that will impact their mental health.

But outside of the pandemic are other hardships that make life a challenge. I have had three friends in recent weeks lose a parent. Others are fighting health issues. Still others have lost work while others have had their marriages break down. It can all start to feel overwhelming. But then I come back to my Heavenly Father and His Word for some comfort and peace. And as I receive it, I am able to impart it to many in my circle who really need it. This is how the Bible describes it working:

"All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. For the more we suffer for Christ, the more God will shower us with his comfort through Christ." (2 Corinthians 1:3-5)

Perhaps you need to be showered with comfort at this time. And I'm sure there are plenty of people around you that could really do with some comfort also. What a privilege we have to go to the Source of that comfort, and introduce others to Him as well. Be blessed, and comforted!

Darren Slade
President
Northern Australian Conference



PRAYER AND PROGRESS

Members of the Edmonton Seventh-day Adventist church met on the 11th of July to pray for the beginning of work on their new church building. The group, along with the builder William Ah Shay and designer Corrinne Jarvis, took time to reflect on the journey to this point and to offer thanks to God for His blessings. Prayers were made not only for the safety and smoothness of the build, but also for the continued ministry of the church in Edmonton, especially in these challenging times. The gathering also gave those in attendance an opportunity to catch up with one another after many weeks of restrictions due to Covid-19. Further groundwork is scheduled over the next few weeks with the church building projected to be opened around the new year.



Church in the Park

The Northern Beaches Seventh-day Adventist church took the opportunity to meet, under the trees, at Goomboora park, north of Cairns, on the 18th of July. This was the first time the group had been able to meet, in person, since early March and the families that came out genuinely appreciated the time spent together. Songs were sung, stories were shared, and time was spent reflecting on the essentials of church and faith. While there were some curious onlookers and local law enforcement was in the vicinity checking on social distancing, none of this stopped the group from making a joyful noise and spending some quality time on the Sabbath. It is planned that even after restrictions allow for a return to their rented hall, the church will continue to meet in the park once a month as a way of staying engaged with their local community.





CFO/SECRETARY MINI REPORT

Coronavirus COVID-19:

- Continue to be vigilant with the health and hygiene principles (staying home if unwell, physical distancing, cough/sneeze etiquette, handwashing/sanitising, cleaning and disinfecting etc).
- Follow State/Territory Government directives.
- Encourage any visitors to adhere to your meeting protocols, particularly now that State/Territory borders are open.

Tithes and Offerings:

- We keep saying "Thank you", and we very much mean it, to God and to our members for faithfully returning your tithes and offerings.
- \$313,530.97 was received in tithe in June. As you can see in the table below, tithe year to date to the end of June is 8.82% higher than the same time last year, with \$1,782,592.51 received.
- You may recall that Tithe year to date to the end of May was a 9.4% increase from the prior year, so we have seen a slight drop during June (0.58%).

	Same Period Last Year (2019)	Tithe Remitted (2020)	Variance \$	Variance %
January	267,362.38	294,489.28	27,126.90	10.15%
February	281,428.14	313,768.73	32,340.59	11.49%
March	286,209.86	242,802.71	(43,407.15)	(15.17%)
April	236,650.53	321,343.84	84,693.31	35.79%
May	267,407.74	296,656.98	29,249.24	10.94%
June	298,999.03	313,530.97	14,531.94	4.86%
	1,638,057.68	1,782,592.51	144,534.83	8.82%

- As the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic continue we know that these results may vary but, trusting in God, we remain cautiously optimistic.

Membership:

- At the end of Quarter 2 the total membership was 2,735 (a net decline of 3 from the previous quarter), and included one baptism.

Projects:

- Pastor Darren Slade has been talking about projects during his weekly video messages. In case you missed them here is a quick summary:
- **ADRA Shed** – ADRA have funded a 5 bay shed on the campground which replaces shipping containers and will also be able to be used to store Youth Department equipment.
- **Campground Fence** – The Commonwealth Government, through two different grants, is funding a new fence which will enable us to completely secure the grounds. Work is underway.
- **Edmonton Church** – contracts have been signed and groundworks are underway, with construction of their church commencing soon. Funding for this project has come from local church members and a grant from the South Pacific Division.

God bless, Natalie



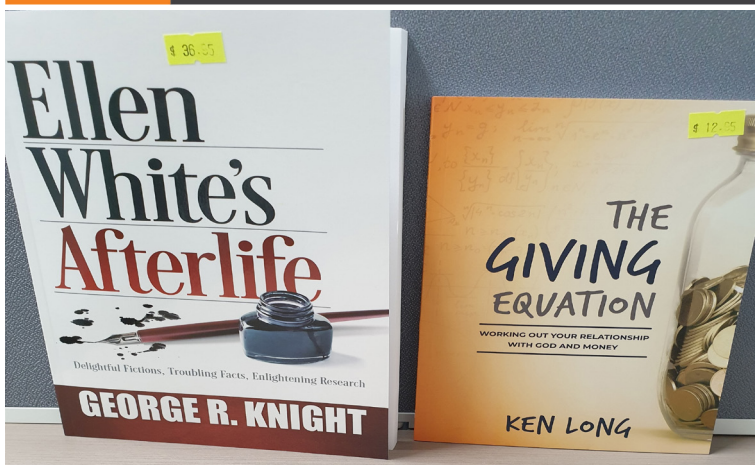
MAMARAPHA COLLEGE

MARTIN TANNER

On Monday, the 20th July, Mamarapha College had it's first Zoom meeting for students all across Australia and we joined from Tennant Creek. We had a number of students that were very pleased to participate in the meeting, and they gained a blessing by reconnecting with fellow students, teachers and leaders in their areas. As they were given work books to do during the Covid19, some had finished and others were still working and asking questions. At the end we had a prayer time where many put forward their requests.



ABC Christian Books



The Giving Equation \$12.95

Working out your relationship with God and money? This book will inspire individuals and families to better understand the heart of the Giver – and to give joyfully themselves! The more households there are living out this transformed mindset, the more powerful the impact of the church will be.

Ellen White's Afterlife \$36.95

Delightful Fictions, Troubling Facts, Enlightening Research

Ellen White's Afterlife examines:

- The delightful fictions about her in the 1960's;
- The troubling facts uncovered in the 1970's, and;
- The enlightening research of the 1980's and beyond

WHILE STOCKS LAST

CALL (07) 47287097 OR ORDER ONLINE AT
ADVENTISBOOKCENTRE.COM.AU



Flourish Connect Group



CONNECTING ALL WOMEN OF ALL AGES ONLINE

Tuesday's
@
7:15pm

Connect online each Tuesday via:
<https://adventistchurch.zoom.us/j/5886527893>



NAC Women's Ministry Director

NatheneaMacRae@adventist.org.au

RIVERSIDE CONVENTION CENTRE

Big Camp may be off the cards this year but Riverside is still open for camping if you need your yearly campground fix.

Call Di Obst on
0406 871514 and mention which church you are from to get a 10% discount.



**RIVERSIDE
CONVENTION CENTRE**



ADVENTIST CHURCH in Northern Australia

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT



“MAKING FRIENDS FOR GOD”

*A Series of 13 Short Videos
for the 3rd Quarter Sabbath
School is out now.*

So, what are you waiting for?

**Share your faith, evangelise
and make disciples.**

Vimeo:

<https://vimeo.com/spddiscipleship>

AUC website:

<https://disciple.org.au/resources/making-friends-for-god/>

NZPUC website:

<https://disciple.org.nz/ssq3-2020/>



Seventh-day Adventist Church – Northern Australian Conference 1885 – 1955

380 pages of church history from beginnings in 1885 through to northern conference status in 1955.

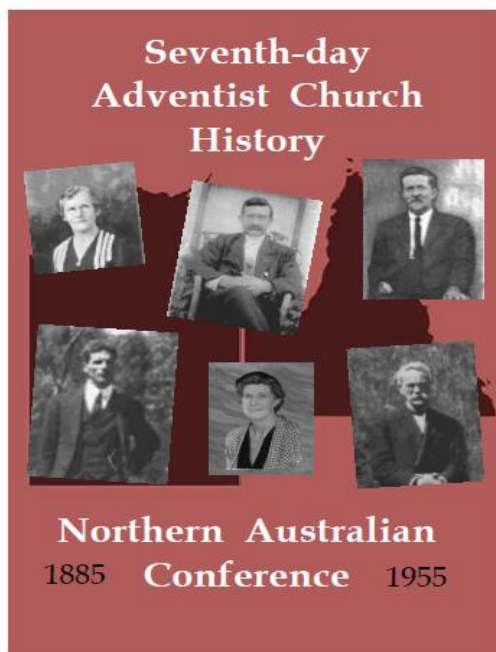
At A4 size this compilation by Selwyn Hawken is packed with history, stories, photos and God's leading.

At Printer's cost price \$20.00 place your interest now with author for payment and delivery.

Selwyn Hawken, 7 Palm Drive, Cannonvale, Q'ld 4802

Phone: (07) 4946 6545

Email: selhawken@yahoo.com.au



*Remembering and re-telling our history
is an important task for people
who see God at work in the lives of
people, churches and communities.
Selwyn Hawken has done a huge amount of work
in bringing together the stories of the Adventist
church in Northern Australia in this way.
The value of a work of such detail is that it
not only sketches the broad overview of history
but includes the smaller stories that
give us glimpses of the people, attitudes, faith
and determination of many of those who
worked in these places before us.
In this, there is much that is familiar,
as well as much from which we can learn
and some truly remarkable stories.*

—Nathan Brown, author and editor, Signs Publishing

*I was an associate director of
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministry
and found this book to be well researched
and informative on the history of the
Seventh-day Adventist church in Northern Australia*

—Edward Hastie



YOUTH DEPARTMENT

Unplugged

with

Simon Gigliotti

Pastor Simon comes from North Queensland originally. Before entering full time ministry, he worked as a Plumber. He has served as a School Chaplain & Church Pastor in Queensland, and as an Associate Youth Director in Victoria before moving to Sydney. He is married to Brittany and loves to spend his spare time with her, reading, or studying the Bible. He is passionate about discipling young people to follow Jesus and unlocking their potential to serve in God's Kingdom.

Zoom Details

ID: 588 652 7893
Password: Together

Friday Night

31 July 2020
7:00pm



Is your church's online experience intentional and impactful? Join us for a **FREE** 5-week online experience.

ADVENTIST CHURCH ONLINE NETWORK

» 18 JULY 2020 » 25 JULY 2020 »
» 1 AUGUST 2020 » 8 AUGUST 2020 »
» 15 AUGUST 2020 »



REGISTER AT: [ADVENTISTCHURCHONLINE.COM](https://adventistchurchonline.com)

TEEN EX 2020

CONQUERORS

21 - 27 September 2020

Online Registrations are now online

Speaker: Pr Pat Tuialii

Where: Chillagoe Caves

Cost: \$100

(includes: Camping Fees, Safety Equipment *Does not include Shirt*)

Teen Ex Shirt: \$25

Please register online at: <https://nayouth.adventist.org.au/events/>

For more information please contact the Youth Department
on (07) 4779 3988 or TravisSiutu@adventist.org.au



TACO ABOUT IT TUESDAYS

FOLLOW OUR ADVENTIST YOUTH - NORTHERN AUSTRALIA FACEBOOK PAGE, AND TUNE IN EVERY TUESDAY AT 6PM AS WE DISCUSS ISSUES THAT OUR YOUTH ARE EXPERIENCING IN THEIR LIVES



CHIP FACILITATOR TRAINING ONLINE

26th July and 2nd August 2020

ONLINE EVENT
09:30–12:30

Training is for volunteers to become
**CHIP Facilitators in church
and community settings.**

For new and refreshing facilitators
(last facilitator training 3 or more years ago)

COST \$299

For bookings please email: info@chiphealth.org.au

TRAINING OBJECTIVES

TRAINEES WILL:

- Be prepared to identify their CHIP program model, understand and overcome barriers, and build relationships.
- Learn to effectively plan and promote CHIP to their target audiences.
- Understand the financial requirements of establishing, conducting and sustaining a CHIP program.
- Understand and know how to access CHIP resources and program materials.

- Be prepared to implement CHIP in an easily reproducible manner.
- Be qualified for CHIP Facilitator certification.

FACILITATOR TRAINING INCLUDES:

- Two days of training and self-directed learning modules.
- 3-year certification on successful completion of all requirements.
- Complete Participant CHIP Kit or computer software of educational materials.
- Facilitator Manual.

The Complete Health Improvement Programme (CHIP) is an intensive lifestyle medicine intervention intended to prevent, arrest and even reverse chronic diseases, such as heart disease, diabetes, stroke and even some cancers.

At a time when so many are concerned about health, CHIP is well suited for community based presentation by non medical and health volunteers.