

AUSTRALASIAN GOOD TIDINGS

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**E-NEWS – 30 September 2014 and
31 October 2014 #34**

Cooking Demonstrations - NSW

**Cooking Demonstrations – Monday 1st, 8th and 15th September
2014 – Wentworthville Community Centre**



As a follow-up to the Depression Recovery Program, the Wentworthville Church Missionary Department just completed a series of cooking demonstrations. These workshops were held during the first three Monday evenings of September. This outreach took place at the Wentworthville Community Centre, Wentworthville NSW.



After the introduction on the first night, Brother Domenic Polistina gave a brief account of the community work planned for the local area; he then spoke on the topic which was the focus of these cooking demonstrations – optimal brain function, and which foods aid in maintaining peak mental health. Each week there were between 26-30 visitors present.

The cooking demonstrations were presented by Sisters Nadine Polistina, Susan Lausevic, Stela Gules and Rosemary

Voncina. The dishes demonstrated all had ingredients which support optimal brain function. The ingredients in these dishes help to achieve peak mental performance.

Dishes demonstrated were:

- Lentil Spread
- Tofu Mayonnaise
- Susan's Raw Wraps
- Flax Garlic Sauce
- Walnut Oat Patties
- Green Soya Bean Salad
- Walnut Maple Cookies
- Spinach and Tofu Dip
- Black Eyed Bean and Veggie Soup
- Polenta Slice
- Quinoa Salad
- Lemon and Almond Bars
- Carob and Walnut Brownie

To whet your appetite, here are some of recipes demonstrated:

Tofu Mayonnaise

INGREDIENTS:

300g silken tofu
2 teaspoons onion powder
¼ teaspoon garlic powder

1 teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon honey
2-3 tablespoons lemon juice, freshly squeezed

METHOD:

Place all ingredients in blender, and process until smooth and creamy.

Susan's Raw Wraps

INGREDIENTS:

1 cup shredded carrot
2 cups of finely chopped lettuce
1 finely chopped red capsicum
1 finely sliced avocado
1 block tofu sliced in strips and seasoned

1 finely sliced beetroot
1/2 cup chopped sweet basil
1 finely sliced cucumber
Garlic powder
1 packet of large round rice paper sheets

METHOD:

Place 1 sheet rice paper in warm water until it softens. Place on linen towel to absorb water. Take a little of each ingredient in middle of rice paper and sprinkle with a little garlic powder. Fold sides and bottom and roll up firm to top. Lightly brush with a little oil to prevent sticking and place on decorative plate. Serve with a little bowl of soy sauce next to wraps to drizzle on when about to eat. Yields approximately 20 wraps.

Walnut Maple Cookies**INGREDIENTS:**

2 ½ cups walnuts ground (in food processor)
 2/3 cup wholemeal flour
 1 teaspoon salt
 1/3 cup flaxseed meal
 1/3 cup carob chips
 ½ cup + 2 tablespoons maple syrup
 2 teaspoons vanilla

METHOD:

1. In a small bowl add all the ingredients in the given order and mix well.
2. Preheat oven to 180°C.
3. Drop dough on cookie sheet with a spoon, and flatten with a fork.
4. Bake for 10 to 15 minutes until golden brown; check often to prevent from burning.
5. Let cool before removing from cookie sheet.

Makes 12 cookies.

Lemon and Almond Bars**INGREDIENTS:**

1 ½ cups raw almonds	3 tablespoons maple syrup
Zest of 2 lemons	¼ teaspoon salt
4 tablespoons lemon juice	1 cup desiccated coconut
1 ½ tablespoons vanilla essence	1 tablespoon ground linseed
1 cup dates	1 tablespoon ground chia seeds
½ cup dry apricots	

METHOD:

Using a food processor or strong blender, process all dry ingredients except coconut, linseed and chia seeds, until well combined. In a bowl, combine the processed mixture with all the liquid ingredients. As mixture comes together, knead in the desiccated coconut, ground linseed and chia. Flatten it into a tray, and place in refrigerator to set. Cut to desired size and shape.

Great for snacks and lunch boxes.

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=6256>

Janos Janicek

Janos Janicek – 17 September 1929 to 25 October 2014



Our condolences go to Ilonka Janicek on the loss of her loving husband of 68 years, Janos Janicek, and to the families of Margaret Ciric and Ethel Stoyko on the loss of their uncle and to the family of Frank and Kati Sabo on the loss of their brother-in-law.

Janos Janicek (known to many as John) was born September 17, 1929 in Bač, now Serbia, formerly Hungary, to Janos and Marija Janicek, who were farmers. The youngest of 4 children, Janos had 2 older sisters (Cathy and Julie) and a brother (Frank). Although Janos completed only 4 years of schooling, he enjoyed learning and going to school. He always arrived earlier than the teachers. In 1940 Janos began working for a cabinet maker and spent two years learning that trade. However, his parents wanted his help on the farm, so he returned to farming, where he continued working for approximately the next 15 years.

Having met his future wife at school, Janos married his childhood sweetheart, Ilonka Sabo, on July 12, 1946 at the young age of 16 years, just two months short of his seventeenth birthday. Three years later in 1949, he was enlisted in the army to complete compulsory military service, which had him travelling all over Serbia. After returning home in 1951, Janos continued working on the farm with his parents, since work could not be found, especially because he did not want to join the Communist Party.



For this reason, Ilonka persuaded Janos to leave Yugoslavia, and on October 13, 1957 together with a relative who had made two previous attempts to cross the border, they secretly escaped to Trieste, in Italy, with nothing but the clothes they were wearing. Here Janos and Ilonka spent 22 months in a refugee camp and hoped to immigrate to New Zealand. However, God had other plans, and after passing medical and physical examinations, they were chosen to go to Australia.

In April 1959, they boarded the ship "Fairsea" at Napoli and arrived in Melbourne four weeks later, May 10, 1959. From Melbourne they were put on a train and sent to Bonegilla, a migrant camp where they spent one month. The government found a job for Janos at a steel factory in Wollongong, but he only spent two weeks there before moving to Sydney and obtaining a position at General Motors, doing spot checks for quality control at the Holden production factory. After approximately four or five years at Holden, Janos left to pursue his former trade of cabinet making and found work at St Peters with a kitchen company. He work with that same company until his retirement.

In 1960, Janos and Ilonka bought their first house at Summer Hill. It was here that they met the Risko family, Vasa and Kaja, at the shops, and speaking the same language they became acquainted and made friends. They were soon introduced to the Stoyko family and other believers. It was not long before they became interested in the Advent message and were baptised in 1962 by Brother Lavrik. Janos found enjoyment in reading the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy books written by Ellen G White, and Psalm 100 became a special favourite of his. With his love of music, Janos liked to sing and was heard singing a hymn in hospital during his last illness.

In 1966 Janos and Ilonka moved to Greenacre, and it was here that they welcomed Ilonka's brother Frank and his family to Australia in 1970. With no other relatives in Australia, the two families were quite close and spent a lot of time together; Janos and Ilonka especially enjoyed having the company of their nieces, Margaret and Ethel.

Always active socially, Janos and Ilonka were very hospitable and regularly joined church gatherings where they made many lifelong friends. They welcomed the company of young people, and so it happened that several young men newly arriving in Australia stayed in their home until they found work and places of their own. One of these was Milan Jonjin, at whose wedding Janos and Ilonka had the privilege of standing in as parents of the groom for the first time. Weddings were a wonderful occasion enjoyed by both Janos and Ilonka, and Janos happily assisted at many, either as a witness, or helping in the kitchen with the catering. With his sense of humour, Janos enjoyed having a joke, and at one wedding, he wrapped his arm up to appear bandaged, and circulated among the guests begging for money, which was collected as a gift to the newlyweds.

Gardening was a favourite hobby for Janos, who found a lot of pleasure in growing both vegetables and flowers, of which orchids and roses were great favourites. Janos loved his pets, which included chickens and two Chihuahua dogs, Zachy and Lily. Having bought his first Holden in 1960, Janos continued that tradition. For as long as he was able to drive, he always drove a Holden. It was a sad disappointment to him to sell his sixth and last Holden early this year, a car he had owned for over 30 years.

While in recent years Janos preferred staying in the comfort of his own home, he enjoyed vacations in Hervey Bay, Brisbane, and Melbourne. He also travelled back to Yugoslavia on two occasions, first in 1973, and then again in 1979.

In 1996 Janos and Ilonka moved again, this time to a new home in Glen Alpine, near Campbelltown. Here they continued to work as a team, sharing the work load. Janos was helpful around the home, whether it was doing laundry, cleaning, washing dishes or even cooking. Back in Yugoslavia when his wife was ill and in bed, they could smell pumpkin strudel baking next door, but Janos was too proud to go and ask the neighbour for some; instead he successfully made it himself. He took pride in his work, and even today some of the furniture he made many years ago in his cabinetmaking days has been passed down in the family and is still in use, solid as the day it was made.

Following heart surgery for a bypass operation in 1999, Janos suffered a stroke, but thankfully made a fairly good recovery. Age slowly crept up on him, and as he became less able to do manual work, maintaining the house and property became too much for Janos and Ilonka. So the decision was made to move to the Adventist retirement village at Kings Langley, where they purchased a unit in January this year.

Unfortunately due to poor circulation and diabetes, in September Janos suffered a toe infection which resulted in hospitalisation for removal of a small part of his little toe. The surgery went smoothly, and he should have been released in 2 or 3 days, but unforeseen complications arose and sadly Janos passed away 5 weeks later on Sabbath morning, October 25. He will be greatly missed by his wife of 68 years, Ilonka, as a brother-in-law to Frank and Kata, uncle to Margaret and Ethel, great uncle to five nieces and one nephew, and great-great uncle to 2 nieces and 6 nephews.

As a believer in the soon coming of Jesus, he now sleeps peacefully waiting for the glorious day of resurrection, when there will be no more parting, only a joyful reunion for eternity.

Condolences to Lalic Family



Nada Lalic – 17 April 1944 to 18 October 2014

We would like to extend our sincere sympathy to the Lalic family during this time of loss of their dear one, Nada Lalic. May God comfort and strengthen you through this time of sorrow. Be encouraged as you remember the words of Jesus that she is only asleep until He calls her to awake!

Nada Lalic's "*Dash*" as Dot Ilic (daughter) would call it "*I prefer to call it the 'dash' because that's the most important - the line between the dates of birth and death*" was written by Nada's family:

Nada was born on the 17th April, 1944 in Yugoslavia to Milivoj and Draga Jonjin. She was the fifth and youngest child of their family.

Her parents worked hard on their patch of land to scratch out a living to support themselves and their family. Times were very tough. Her brother Milan was older by four years. While she was still tiny, he would baby-sit her while her parents went out to work in order to bring food home. A good family friend who was a few years older than Milan would pop her head around to make sure that everything was okay with them and make sure they ate what was prepared for them by their mother. This meant that they grew up to be self-sufficient, to appreciate the value of hard work and also to know that they could rely on each other.

Nada absolutely adored her big brother. She looked up to him and they got into mischief together on more than one occasion. They would conspire to hide eggs the hens laid and place them in stinging nettle, knowing that their mum would never think to look there. Later, when the ice cream man came to their street, they would retrieve the eggs and barter them for some ice cream. Like all kids, they had their moments, but they were devoted to each other and wouldn't let anyone hurt the other. There were many adventures they shared, and it would take hours to recount them all. Nada so loved her brother, that she would follow him to the other side of the world with her small family in tow. More on that later.

As with most people who grew up in post-war Europe, life was very hard. Her family were very poor financially, but rich in their love of God and their pursuit of truth. This may sound easy, but growing up and living in a communist country was not conducive to showing and sharing your faith. It could get you into trouble.



Every morning at school their teacher would greet the class and say, “Good morning children; there is no God. Please sit down.”

Life and time moved on. Nada’s brother immigrated to Australia to begin a new life where he could worship in peace and freedom. Soon after, her father went there, too. So there was only Nada and her mum left in Yugoslavia.

As a young person, Nada was involved in church singing groups which used to travel around the country to various conferences. Around that time, church conferences were held primarily in Metkovic at the Ilic family home. One day she met a tall, dark, and handsome young man called Ignjo Lalic from Slavonia. It was true love; one that would span decades. Ignjo proposed to Nada in Metkovic. She said YES! He was the love of her life, a co-partner in every experience they shared, right up until the end.

They married on the 15th January, 1967 in Novi Knezevac in front of family and friends; it was a cold snowy winter’s day, but no one was concerned about the weather outside.

Later, they moved to Lipik where Ignjo built them a small home to live in.

In July 1968, their first child Dot was born. During this time, plans were underway to immigrate to Australia.

About 6 months after Dot birth, Nada, Ignjo and Baba Draga Jonjin all went to Calais in France by train and boarded a cargo boat which would take them to Sydney, Australia. This was not a passenger liner, so their trip took 55 days; and they travelled to South America, went through the Panama Canal, travelled through the French Polynesian islands, and finally arrived in Sydney. Nada’s big brother was there to greet them and introduced them to his new wife, Anna, who herself was ready to have a baby – David – a few weeks later. Nada was a proud aunty and loved her nephew and nieces.

The Lalic family came to Australia with a small baby, a mother-in-law and a few dollars in their pocket. In those days there was no assistance or handouts to newcomers to Australia. You were on your own and had to find work as soon as possible. After staying a short time with her brother, the young family bought a terrace house a few doors away from her brother on Young Street in Annandale where they lived for a few years. Both went to work while Baba looked after Dot and many other children in the neighbourhood whose parents immigrated to Australia from the old country.

In January, 1973 their family was complete with the birth of Steven. Sometime later, they all moved to Wentworthville, along with the grandparents, and made it their permanent home.



Many years of happiness and hard work followed – ups and downs, just as any life is lived.

Nada’s children grew up in a warm and loving environment where they were taught that there was no secret for success other than hard work. As both parents went to work, they too learnt the value of hard work. They were educated and loved. Steven graduated from university, and the family was proud of his accomplishment. It meant a lot coming from humble beginnings to be able to complete your education, as back in Yugoslavia that was

not the case, due to prejudice shown to those who couldn't attend school on Saturdays.

In 1987, Dot married Branko Ilic, at whose home her parents first met. In 1990 the first grandchild—Jesse-- was born, followed in 1993 by Bianca, their granddaughter. Both grandchildren were greatly loved from the moment they drew their first breath and were their grandparent's pride and joy.

Nada was always a positive person who would lift the mood of a whole room just by walking into it. She had many friends from all over the world who stayed in touch. She was strong and sympathetic and had a ready ear and heart to listen to anyone. Her storytelling was legendary. She could laugh with you, cry with you, pray with you, and be a great friend.



From early 1992 until recently, Nada fought with the beast called cancer four times. It was a hard battle, not just on her, but on those who were closest to her.

In 2013 she was given the news that she had angiosarcoma and that the prognosis was not good. That news didn't stop her living life to the fullest and being thankful for the life she had lived and for her family and friends.

On the 3rd of October, she went into hospital for the last time. Her health deteriorated quickly, and the doctors told her there was nothing more they could do to help her.

Courageously she decided to let the disease take its natural course. Goodbyes, hugs and kisses followed, and our hearts broke, a small part never to be mended again.

On the day she passed away she was surrounded by those she loved the most; she heard their voices and their expressions of love and support. She was not alone, but was surrounded by love. Blessed and happy is the person who is so loved.

On the 18th October around 8.30pm, Nada drew her last breath, hearing that she was loved.

But this is not the end. Her love of life and love of her family and friends lives on in each of you here today.

Rest in peace, Nada, until the resurrection, when you hear Jesus calling your name to wake up, no more in pain, but with a body that will never fail you. *"...Even so, come, Lord Jesus."* Revelation 22:20.

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=6451>

NSW Youth Camp – 3-6 October 2014

Abercrombie Caves NSW

It dawned a beautiful day the 3rd of October 2014 and with plenty of firewood loaded up, my brother and I set off to the wonderful campground of Abercrombie Caves. Arriving before noon to help set up the many



tents and tarpaulins, we soon found our camping area, which was nicely nestled in a corner so we could all be together. By the time most of the people arrived it was time to open Sabbath with a small study put together and presented by Br Domenic on the trials and sweet experiences of the children of Israel. After our evening meal, we all sat around the fire and engaged in a wonderful Bible quiz in which we discussed



the various good character traits that each of our Bible characters had. As a lot of people would know, the high country is very cold overnight and in our case, hot during the day, but due to our great raging fire, everyone was able to get warm before they retired for the night.

Sabbath morning was nice and casual as we all got up when the sun had warmed the air. After morning worship, we greeted a welcome to the day visitors, and pretty soon Sabbath School got underway. With all the discussions and shared truths it took until lunchtime to finish.



In the afternoon, we had a big nature walk. Nearly everyone participated in it and enjoyed it. We were all instructed to gather some articles from nature that reminded us of a story in the Bible. Rocks seemed to be the flavour of the day, for when we all got back, five or more of us all had the story of David and Goliath!!!! But with all the interesting object lessons that were presented, I am sure a blessing was gained. After some choruses were raised in praise, Br Alasdair Pow closed the Sabbath with a spiritually encouraging sermonette.





As the sun rose over our little camp on Sunday morning, birds could be heard in the trees nearby singing their Maker's praise. Morning worship, led by Cameron Thiel, brought birds to our minds once more as we learnt about the woodpecker and its amazing antics. As soon as breakfast was over, a big nature walk was organised, and soon we were all on our way. The vast hills and valleys were very stimulating on the mind as we thought of our heavenly Father and His merciful, bountiful blessings to us. The creek running by and the



shady trees were just some of the scenery that was enjoyed by everyone who came on the walk. In the afternoon, the self-guided cave tour was on, and we all enjoyed several hours in a very large cave that sometimes has floods run through it. The acoustics were amazingly melodious, and when we all sang, the harmony was very heart touching. Some of the other members of the public that were in the cave, commented that they very much enjoyed the music. Pools of water with plenty of rocks lined the floor of

the cave, and this provided much entertainment with the skimming of the smoothest rocks that could be found. Those of us that could stay until Monday morning enjoyed another wonderful evening around the fire chatting and catching up on the wonderful events of the past days.



I pray that each of us that attended can remember the wonderful spiritual time of this camp and be excited and enthusiastic to attend the next one.

~ Reported by Sam Wiseman

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=6391>

When Jesus Knocks – WA Field Conference Report

Christ's Message to Laodicea – 26-29 September 2014

The WA Field Conference was held at a lovely scenic place called Logue Brook Dam Campground from the 26th-29th of September, 2014.



Church friends and family arrived at the campground on Friday and gathered at sunset in the meeting area to welcome in the Sabbath and listen to the opening meeting of the camp presented by Br Jim Newman.

The theme of the camp was based on the letter written by Christ, through the apostle John, to the church of Laodicea which is recorded in Revelation chapter 3.

The morning and evening worships, divine service and Sunday morning meetings were all focused on different aspects of the letter. Each one was presented exceptionally well, showing that each presenter had prepared their topic thoroughly. The meetings were taken by Jim Newman, Johnny Thiel, Joe Voncina, Jacques Payet, Luke Kneebone, Shelley Newman, Christopher Newman, Gerson Robles, Linda Newman and Hayden Wiseman, and the topics covered were:

- The Laodicea Message; what is it and who is it for?
- Lukewarm / Cold or Hot
- Are we a Laodicean if we Heed the Warnings?
- How to Warn a Laodicean?
- Wretched, Miserable, Poor, Blind and Naked
- Gold Tried in the Fire
- White Raiment
- Eye Salve
- Opening the Door to Christ / Overcoming
- As Many as I Love I Rebuke and Chasten

All hearts were touched deeply, and much serious thought was provoked by each study. A big thank you to every speaker for the time and effort put into their studies.

After the Friday evening meeting, everyone enjoyed catching up with different friends and family over a delicious meal organised and prepared by Br Jacques Payet, John Lausevic and assistants. It was the first of many more that were served during the conference, and a huge thank you to Br Jacques and all his helpers for the effort that went into preparing healthy, nutritious meals for everyone.



The weather did not want to share in the happy friendly atmosphere of the campers on Sabbath morning and stayed in its bad mood all day. So we ignored it and enjoyed the Sabbath morning meetings immensely, and in the afternoon a lovely program of different and interesting items was put together and enjoyed by all who attended and participated. There were lovely musical items and interesting Bible illustrations presented, and it was a great blessing to all.



After the meeting we enjoyed more fellowship with one another and a few brave ones ventured out into the moody weather to enjoy a brisk walk to see the lovely view of the dam. At sunset everyone gathered again to close the Sabbath and bless the Lord for the wonderful day.

Dinner was followed by a special musical presentation of a classical piece prepared by those who played stringed instruments. This item had been prepared and practiced diligently months prior to the camp and it was thoroughly enjoyed by all who had the privilege of hearing it. Numerous requests for more were heard after the recital. Thank you to all those who organised and participated in the beautiful item!

This item preceded a very interesting video that was shown that evening on the life of Daniel. It made the story more real to each of us and was an encouragement to always stand for the Lord no matter the circumstance.



Sunday found the weather still not in a friendly mood, but the morning meetings and the different children's activities kept everyone in high spirits, and we thank the Lord for the wonderful time. In the afternoon those who owned 4wd's took as many as could literally squeeze into them for a fun ride through the bush around the dam. There were a few sore body parts the next day from some of the bumpy parts of the track, but everyone who went said they had a good time apart from that! Monday morning found everyone helping clean up the place and saying goodbye to each other.

It was a really enjoyable camp, and a huge thank you to Br Luke Kneebone who was behind a lot of the organising and preparation for it. Also thank you to those who assisted him and to everyone who attended the conference for making it such a blessed time of fellowship. It was a taste of what heaven could be like.



And most of all I would like to thank God for the blessing of Christian fellowship and the opportunity to be together with those of like faith. Thank you, Lord!

God bless.

~ Submitted by Shelley Newman

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=6346>

Clayfield Church Outreach to the Elderly - Queensland

On Sabbath afternoon 20 September at 1:30pm our young people and supporters from the Clayfield Church arrived at the Wesley Home for the elderly to sing and praise God for the group who were gathered there. The theme for the afternoon was 'The Woman at the Well.'



After much practice over the past weeks, our little "choir" gathered with all their instruments. Daniella introduced the group, and the first item was "The Woman at the Well". Daniella then told the story in segments while the young people played their violins, cello, button accordion, and flute in various items. Jordan said a lovely poem on the story, from the woman's perspective. It was great to hear our newly formed choir singing their parts. The last item sung by the choir was the rousing hymn, "The Banner of the Cross."

After the all too soon conclusion, we greeted all the people in the room. They greatly appreciated our visit and want us to come back very soon. One of the ladies had lived around Clayfield in her growing up years and married life and was in a choir for many years. She knew all the words of the hymns and sang along.



We pray that all received a blessing as they listened to the words of life.

~ Submitted by Irene Wiseman

Selected from "The Pioneer Newsletter" Vol. 4 Issue 36

Outreach at Shepparton Church - Victoria

On the 20th September at Shepparton Church, Victoria, the missionary department hosted a special outreach evening entitled “The marriage feast of The Lamb.” This event was based on the topic of marriage on this earth and also the wedding feast in heaven. The significance being the “white wedding garment” and its spiritual significance.



The evening started off with some fun: some marriage roll-playing and a lot of laughter. Pairs of participants were called up to engage in a number of planned household responsibilities such as sweeping the floor, folding the washing, doing the dishes, and minding the baby. It was all with the intent of showing how married couples need to communicate effectually and work as a team to get jobs done in the “family circle.”

We had 34 attendees and 5 from the public (3 Sikh Indians and 2 Australians), who thoroughly enjoyed themselves. A number of young people also came up from Melbourne. We shared a 3 course buffet meal which was set out on one long set of tables as if we were all at a wedding reception. All made some new friends. A book table was also set up with a variety of our church publications, such as *Steps to Christ*, etc. All were required to wear wedding / formal attire, or a wedding dress or suit that they had worn on their wedding day if they still had them. A few did, however, most of the singles were a little too shy to wear a wedding dress.

After the supper Br Geoff McCutcheon presented a small sermonette on the wedding feast in heaven and the need of having the wedding garment (Christ’s Righteousness) on.

An important focus of the evening was to help non-churchgoers; ie, non-churchgoers, who otherwise might not have come, to feel comfortable coming to a church event, who otherwise might not have come. There was a great deal of interest, and some indicated they would like to attend vegetarian cooking classes at our Shepparton Church. We are making plans for these either later this year or early next year.

We also received a good amount of donations which will be used for further missionary outreach programs at our Shepparton Church.

~ Submitted by Sister Adriana Stefanescu
Shepparton Church Missionary Leader

Birth Announcement – Mia Jade Balarezo



Mia is very much loved by her older siblings Justin and Dylan.

We pray that God will give you wisdom to bring up Mia Jade to His honour and glory. Psalms 127:3 *“Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.”*

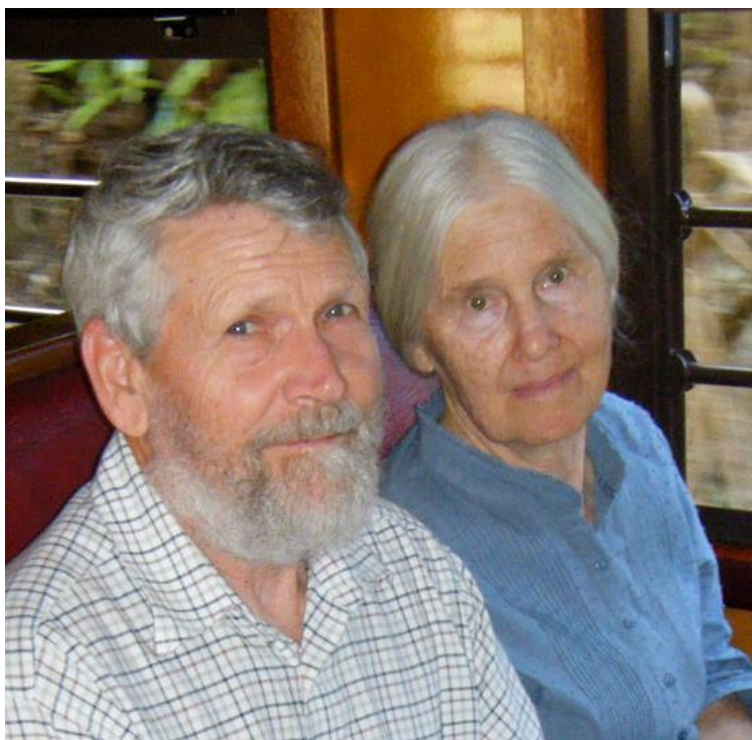
Congratulations to David and Elizabeth Balarezo on the birth of their third child, a little girl! Mia Jade Balarezo – meaning “my jewel” – was born on the 15th September, 2014 at 10:49am weighing 3.27kgs and measuring 50cms long.



For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=6279>

Celia and Peter Thiel - Eulogy

Introduction: written by Amos Thiel



The news of Brother Peter and Sister Celia Thiel's death has come as a shock of sadness to all of us who knew and loved them. Peter and Celia joined the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement in 1978, and their presence and contributions have been a blessing within the church since that time. They had recently spent happy times in Western Australia with their children, Joanna and Benjamin and their families. They had been to see the wildflowers, and had had great bonding time with the children and grandchildren. Before heading back home to Macclesfield, South Australia while on the last leg of the journey, travelling between Kimba, and Iron Knob on the Eyre Highway, they were involved in a fatal head-on crash. We may never know all the

details of that fateful day, but it appears that their vehicle veered to the wrong side of the road, just before a rise, and on the other side of that rise was a Ute and heavily loaded trailer. The man in the other vehicle survived with major burns and injuries, and was rescued from the fiery vehicle by his children who had been travelling in two other vehicles in convoy. Despite valiant efforts and burns, those attending were not able to remove Peter and Celia from their vehicle before the fire from the trailer and ute spread to their car. All accounts testify that they did not suffer and may indeed have already passed away – something that gives us much comfort in this trying time.

The funeral was held on 19th September at Morphett Vale Seventh Day Adventist Church, in South Australia, and was attended by approximately 250 people. Though a terribly sad time, it was a beautiful tribute to two beautiful lives. For those who were not able to attend the full service, slide-shows and memories can be viewed at www.thiel.id.au. A private graveside service was held the following Sunday in Macclesfield, where they now rest till the resurrection morning.

There are many things that can be learned from the lives of two souls who believed in the truth. The following paragraphs are an account of their lives, written by Peter and Celia's siblings and children. Let us look back to the happy times, the memories, and the privilege of knowing them and being blessed by their lives. Let us also take comfort that, although this may appear to be a senseless tragedy, this comforting truth remains: "God never leads His children otherwise than they would choose to be led, if they could see the end from the beginning, and discern the glory of the purpose which they are fulfilling as co-workers with Him." *Desire of Ages*, pp. 224-225.

As you read the story of their lives, I hope you are blessed, inspired and touched, even though they are no longer with us. We'll start with the story of Celia's life followed by the story of Peter's life.

The Life of Celia Mary Thiel

Early Years – Written by Roger Hanckel – Celia’s youngest brother:



Celia Mary Thiel, nee Hanckel, was born on the 3rd of December 1939 at Henty, near Wagga Wagga in NSW. She was the fifth of nine children born to Erhard Christoph Benjamin and Elfrieda Gertrude Hanckel (nee Koch).

Celia’s early childhood was spent at Waldeck, a 1,000 acre property, selected by her grandfather in 1884. She was a golden girl, with fine flaxen curly hair, hazel eyes (later) and fair skin. She was usually happy, smiling and laughing.

When Celia was 6, their ex-Army truck was packed with a piano, a dining table, seven children and other possessions. Waldeck had been put onto the market so the family could move to South Australia, to better attend to the children’s educational needs. Celia, with her four older siblings rode on the back of the truck and could talk to her parents through a hatch in the cabin roof. It was an arduous journey, but exciting, too. There were a few nights of roadside camping on rugs under the stars.

They settled on “Akoonah”, a 100 acre farm at Verdun. Predominantly a dairy farm, it was also a pear

orchard and had large areas of untouched stringybark bush. With numerous ferny gullies, shady springs and creeks, it was a wonderful place for adventurous children.

During her school years, Celia was sometimes called "Cherub"...due to her goodness and sunny disposition. Beneath her angelic demeanour, there was great strength of character and a steely determination to stick to whatever was right, fair and, above all, honest.

At Mount Barker High School, Celia was dux of all her first year classes and house captain. She also excelled in athletics, winning the Senior Cup - which sat proudly on her desk for many years.

After leaving school, Celia gained a position at Harris Scarfe’s and then was asked to become secretary in the “Lutheran Hour” Office, where she worked for eight years. Her work included management of a Correspondence Sunday School for children in remote areas. Here, Celia met her lifelong friend, Erika.

Erika has been kind enough to share some memories and special insights from those youthful years in Celia’s life. So, in her words:

“To me, at the age of 14, Celia was a first encounter as a workmate, the senior girl in the office, who was kind and sensitive in her mentoring, but firm as well, and always with that quick smile, a slight turn of her head, and a giggle, too.

Celia lived in a rambling home, always full of a great variety of children and interesting young adults, a strong and stable household, not perfect, but vigorous and warm, held together by faithful parents whose lives had not been easy.

Celia was a searcher and she was a thinker. Her cultural interests were broad - she loved music and singing, she listened to and understood classical music, and her family was blessed with capable and gifted people.” We thank you, Erika, for sharing these special memories with us.

In about 1964, Celia went to New Guinea for two and a half years, as secretary for several American missionaries amongst the Enga people at Wabag in the Papua New Guinea Highlands. She attended a three-month Enga language school, and in Pidgin English she taught six young New Guinean men typing and other office skills.

Married Life: written by Peter and Celia’s children:

Celia and Peter met in a car park. None of us are quite sure on the finer detail of this, but I can remember mum saying, “He was sitting in his car, looking at me with his ducky beak eyes”. We never really understood exactly what that meant, but we do know it was a precursor to a life-long partnership with Peter.



The wedding took place on 21st June, 1969, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Adelaide, with the reception in North Adelaide. A year-long honeymoon travelling around Australia in a Morris 1100 followed. During our childhoods, we had slide nights of these times mum and dad spent together. Mum loved the Australian countryside, and seeing them enjoying this and each other’s company up on a screen in a darkened lounge room is a special childhood memory.

Over the next three and a half years Joanna, Rebecca and Benjamin joined them. Amos came along four years later. Mum’s intense desire to raise us in a pure, pollution-free environment led us to move to Yandi, near Mt Compass, SA in 1980. This run-down old property, complete with outside bucket toilet, had its challenges, but I think mum took great pleasure in watching us grow fitter and stronger, roaming barefoot over 30 acres until the soles of our feet were like leather.

From the moment we were born, Celia’s career was the upbringing and nurturing of her children. While mum might have possessed many of the softer characteristics, she was by no means lenient in our upbringing. Very early we were given a small sum of pocket money each week which was debited in 20 or 50 cent increments according to our misdeeds, causing pain and tears with some of us and “who cares you can take it all” in others, after which other methods of discipline were employed. For all of us, at least part of our education was completed via homeschooling, and here some stronger characteristics also came out. If our time for breaks was exceeded, the whistle was blown with more than usual energy and we knew we had to rush in and avoid other consequences! Receiving the “I can’t do that” plea on one occasion, her reaction was “just sit down and say to yourself I can, I will and I must!” Bringing up and homeschooling four lively and opinionated individuals is not for the faint hearted, and our mother did admirably at the task. She proved that an effective education and a firm foundation can be gained though homeschooling, as

demonstrated by the fact that we went on to successfully pursue our careers, between us attaining two University Degrees, a Minister of Religion and an Advanced Diploma of Naturopathy.

Mum took diet and health very seriously, and in her last notes we also found the words “eat yourself smart”. This sums up beautifully mum’s ongoing self-education on food and herbs. She studied carefully the specific aspects of each nut, seed, herb and other food that came to her notice, wanting to truly understand not only their nutritional value but also their other health benefits. She was far ahead of her time. Whenever the latest wonder food hits the market - quinoa, chia, almond milk, goji, you name it... the odds are we have already learned about its benefits through my mother’s encyclopaedic knowledge of the blessings of nature.



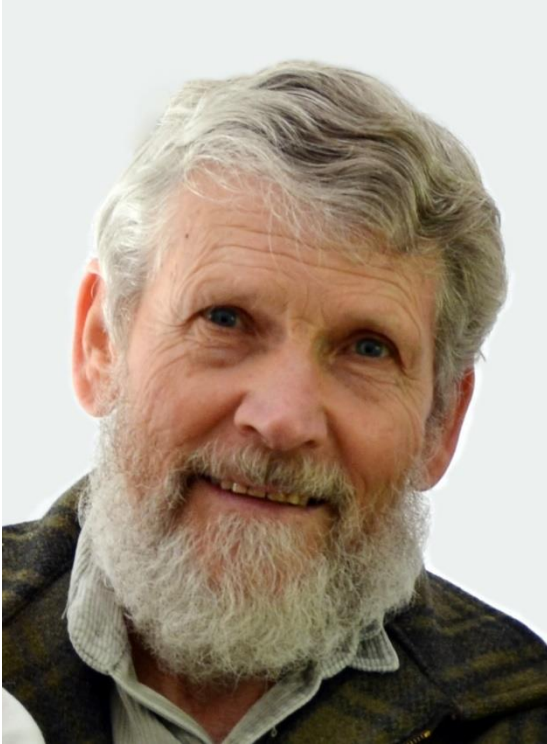
Many people have commented over the years and more recently, of the beautiful nature of our mother. The quiet helpfulness, the non-judgemental listening skills and the gentle understanding that she exuded was no accident, but was arrived at through many hours of Bible reading, meditation and prayer. Again, with her natural curiosity, intelligence and ability to self-educate, I think my mother often found that peace that passeth understanding and was able to share it with those around her. Of course she had her struggles, as we all do. She once told me about her struggle with pride. I remember telling her I certainly didn’t see her as overly proud... and she confessed that sometimes, she was proud of being humble.

Hearing the stories of how Celia has helped and encouraged so many of us over the years with her soothing presence, listening and kind, gentle advice continues to be a great comfort to all of us.

If we continue to practise and share these skills that she so humbly demonstrated throughout her life, not only will we be helping others, but we will also keep her in our hearts for many years to come.

The Life of Peter Thiel:

The Early Years: written by Christine Hughes, Peter's younger sister



Peter Siegfried Thiel was born on the 7th of March, 1941 in Sprottau, Selicia - now Poland. Peter was precious to each one of us. He brought sunshine and fun into the family unit. He was our 'monkey', and he made us laugh. His life influenced us in many different ways, but the impact and preciousness remains. Precious memories of our brother will remain in the hearts of each one of us, and I will share some of these memories with you.

It was wartime during Peter's early years and when the Russians approached Görlitz. Mutti took us - four small children - and fled with many others to the West. When Peter turned ten, our family moved from Görlitz to Falkenstein, a little township in East Germany.

Our adventures led us to supplement our meager post-war diet with fruit of various kinds, gleaned when available. I was small enough to slip through gaps in fences and help the 'windfalls' while Peter stood guard. Or he would let me stand on his back so I could climb over the fence. This activity stopped when one day Mutti found a hoard of pears under our bed. She took Peter plus the pears to the owner of the orchard where he had to confess. The kind, wise owner gave him a basketful of other pears which he said we could enjoy with a clear conscience. But Peter returned home very subdued, and we did not enjoy those pears.

One winter's day we decided to have a bit of fun dropping snowballs from an upstairs window onto unsuspecting pedestrians who used a small lane at the back of the house. One man took exception to this and made his way to the front to button-hole the culprit. Peter, aware that he would be in serious trouble, hid in the furthest corner of the coal cellar while he sent his younger sister out to face the man. Fortunately, I must have looked innocent enough, for the man took pity on me.

However, we did not always get into trouble, but spent beautiful, carefree days together. In summer Peter would invariably drag me out of bed while everyone else was still fast asleep. We would wash the accumulated dirty dishes from the day before and get the breakfast table ready to give Mutti a surprise. Other times we would go into the forest and return with buckets full of blueberries or bags of mushrooms.

Peter enjoyed doing things to make others happy, especially Mutti. Once we pooled our meager supply of hard-earned money, and Peter bought a dinner-set to give Mutti something beautiful. Giving others pleasure was an integral part of Peter's makeup. As young children, we would pick bunches of meadow flowers and search out elderly people, to surprise them and bring happiness into their lives.

In 1958 our family faced a life-changing event; we immigrated to Australia. What challenges! But Peter, aged 17, embraced these new experiences with enthusiasm; especially as girls found this handsome, young fellow fascinating. Several years passed during which time Peter not only conquered the English language, but also the heart of a lovely 18 year old girl. In due course Peter and Wendy married, but sadly the relationship did not last. Separation and divorce followed, but not before Wendy found herself to be pregnant with twin girls. It has only been recently that Peter allowed himself to get to know Esther and Helena, and I know it brought peace to his heart; and I hope it brings comfort to the girls and also to Wendy and Waldemar at this time.

The divorce brought a dark time for Peter, but gradually healing took place. Then one day he asked me out for dinner; he wanted me to meet somebody. There sat an attractive lady, with a small, shy, coy little smile which Celia never lost; Peter was comforted.

Peter as a Father and Husband - written by his children:

As we got older we shifted from our home near Mt Compass SA, to “Bimbadeen” - a beautiful 13 acre property near Lismore, northern NSW. This was to be home to our parents for the next 25 years. After preparing the ground, 200 custard apple trees, 60 mango trees, and numerous other fruit trees such as bananas, papaya and avocados were planted. There was always a huge vegetable garden. From when we



were little, dad taught us how to work hard, be frugal, and make do. During our school holidays, he took us macadamia nut picking. He was unstoppable; even when we had to pick nuts covered with ice in winter, he would rub his hands in the prickly leaves till they were warm and just keep going. We had races who could pick the most nuts in a day, and boy was Dad hard to beat!

Dad's frugality led him to attempt to persuade us that we did not require a proper saddle for our flighty, poorly trained three year old Arab cross, Bubbles. A perfectly good saddle could be made from a Hessian sack, he said. After much careful measuring and stitching, the 'saddle' was attached, and as we naturally refused to mount up, Dad did the honours himself. We all watched on in fear and amusement as he trialled this homemade contraption. Just a few steps down the road proved our need for a 'real' saddle as Dad

nearly came to grief. He quickly found himself on the road with one leg caught up in the reins high above his head while still being pulled along by a very scared Bubbles. Needless to say a real saddle was quickly forthcoming, which provided us with many more successful horse adventures after that!

Several years after moving to Lismore, Dad took up work as a country postman, where he worked part of the day delivering mail on one of the local runs. This was Dad's happiest time of employment. He loved his run and the casual contact with so many people. Initially he felt guilty that he enjoyed it so much and that it wasn't hard work and spoke of having to adjust his thinking to believe that this could actually be called work at all. On coming home from work, he often kept us amused with stories of accidentally wiping out a letterbox or hair-raising adventures on the narrow mountain roads. During this time we left the nest one by one. Dad had his postal run, but it was a lonely time for mum, so she also took up a postal run for a while and later delivered meals on wheels and volunteered in the local SDA second-hand shop.

Dad's stories were fascinating, and he told them with his whole heart and emotion. I remember people nearly in tears as he told the story of "Robust and Tenderheart" two lettuces who lived to make people healthy but never got to fulfil their life's purpose because they died in the fridge before they were eaten. Or his parable of the wolf who was offered an operation to become a sheep but refused and instead became a wolf in sheep's clothing.

Honesty, serving others, level-headed advice, and a quirky inappropriate sense of humour were some of dad's strongest characteristics. Though his bad nerves and allergies often made him edgy, he was never condescending but would apologise to us for being a bad Dad, which gave us more respect for him than anything else he could have done.

As a lay member, he was a strong and stable influence in the church for many years. Dad's sermons were unique and interesting - each the product of several days of arduous study, beard pulling, head scratching, and prayer. His personal battles did lead him to step away from church membership for a time. In recent times, however, he was known to have said that the only thing that kept him from fully joining with the little church he attended here in Adelaide was that he knew he wouldn't be able to say no to responsibilities that he was no longer able to bear.

Conclusion:

Of all things that inspire us about our parents, none shines so brightly as their dedication and commitment to each other. They were so different, and there were rocky times along the road that tested that dedication to the limit; but they stood by each other when most would have simply washed their hands and walked away. Now even in death, they remain together, proving that true love endures all things.

During more recent times, Peter and Celia moved to a two acre property in Macclesfield, SA with garden, fruit trees and a creek running out the back. They resided here until they passed away on the 29th of August, 2014.

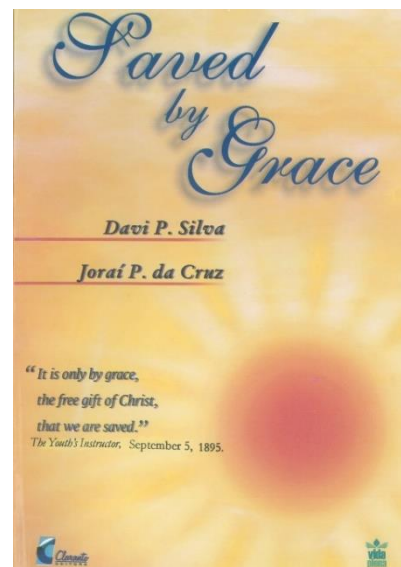
And so passes a legacy of two precious lives. Are some among the present generation being laid to rest because of the imminent time of trouble? Was pain and suffering around the corner? Or was the devil permitted to have his way so that one or more people would reach a turning point and be transformed forever? Whatever the reason this was permitted, we rest in hope and faith, knowing that one day up there we'll understand, and all things will have worked together for good for them who love God.

There is a Thiel family website for those who are interested: <http://www.thiel.id.au> and for more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=6241>

Saved by Grace — Davi P. Silva & Jorai P. da Cruz

Today, more than ever before, the people of God are in great need of power from above to finish the work of spreading the gospel. It is high time that we should study, accept, live, and preach with power the precious truth that salvation is possible only by the grace of Christ.

Is man saved by faith *without* works? Or by faith *with* works? Or by faith *which* works? Is man justified *before* or *after* sanctification? What is the role of obedience to the law of God and of doing good works in the process of salvation? Is justification only a forensic act – performed in the heavenly tribunal – or does it have anything to do with the life of the believer? These and other questions will be seriously considered in this book.



“No one has said that we shall find perfection in any man's investigations; but this I do know, that our churches are dying for the want of teaching on the subject of righteousness by faith in Christ, and on kindred truths.” Gospel Workers p. 301

“The enemy of man and God is not willing that this truth [righteousness by faith] should be clearly presented; for he knows that if the people receive it fully, his power will be broken.” Review and Herald, September 3, 1889.

“The message of Christ's righteousness is to sound from one end of the earth to the other to prepare the way of the Lord. This is the glory of God, which closes the work of the third angel.” Testimonies, vol 6, p. 19.

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Invitation to AUC Youth Convention – 2014

Elected 4 Glory

When: 22-28 December 2014

Elim Heights Youth Camp

5760B-5760D Putty Road PUTTY NSW 5670

“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood”

The AUC Youth Department will hold a Youth Camp at Elim Heights under the theme, “Elected 4 Glory”, replicating the wanderings of ancient Israel in the wilderness. The purpose of this youth convention is to build a stronger relationship amongst our youth and a stronger relationship in between our youth and God.

The seven days will be very colourful and packed with adventure, with spiritual studies combined in a way that it will be interesting and challenging. Watch video introduction now:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TLyHrwk4cu4>

To **Register Now** go to: <http://www.youthchallenger.org.au/auc-youth-camp-registration/>

Summer School Is Back!

A one week Summer School will be held at Elim Heights Youth Camp after the end of year Youth Convention.

When: **Monday 29th of December, 2014 to Sunday, 4th of January 2015.**

A promotional poster for Summer School. The background is a soft-focus image of green leaves. A red banner at the top left contains the text 'Are you looking for a great way to spend this summer? You should plan to attend'. Below this, the words 'SummerSchool!' are written in large, bold, red letters. Underneath, in smaller red text, it says '29 December 2014 - 4 January 2015' and 'Elim Heights Youth Camp, NSW'. To the right, a list of activities is provided in two columns: 'Herb Gardening', 'Practical Mechanics', 'Physical Fitness', 'How to Manage Money', 'How to Live Healthfully', 'The Advent Movement in History', 'Spending Time with God', 'How to Stand up for Your Faith', 'The Christian and War', and 'Guarding the Avenues of the Soul'.

RegisterNow!

**Cost including food and
accommodation:
Under 18yo - \$80
18yo & Over - \$120**

Please register by 19 December 2014 at education@sdarm.org.au

For further information email: education@sdarm.org.au

Coming Events Calendar

- 22-28 December, 2014 AUC Youth Convention 2014**
“Elected 4 Glory”
Location: Elim Heights Youth Camp, NSW
For Further information go to
www.sdarm.org.au
Telephone: +61-(0)2-9627-7553
- 29 December 2014 to Summer School 2015**
4 January, 2015
Location: Elim Heights Youth Camp, NSW
For Further information email education@sdarm.org.au
Telephone: +61-(0)2-9627-7553

GOOD TIDINGS E-NEWS

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