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Kevin Judge
Avondale College

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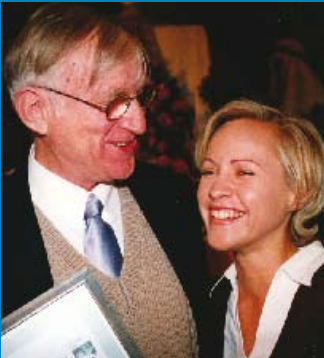
reflections

Autumn 2004

FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF AVONDALE



Visit Tasmania:
alumni tour p3



Homecoming
2004 p10



Fascinating
research
revealed p12,13

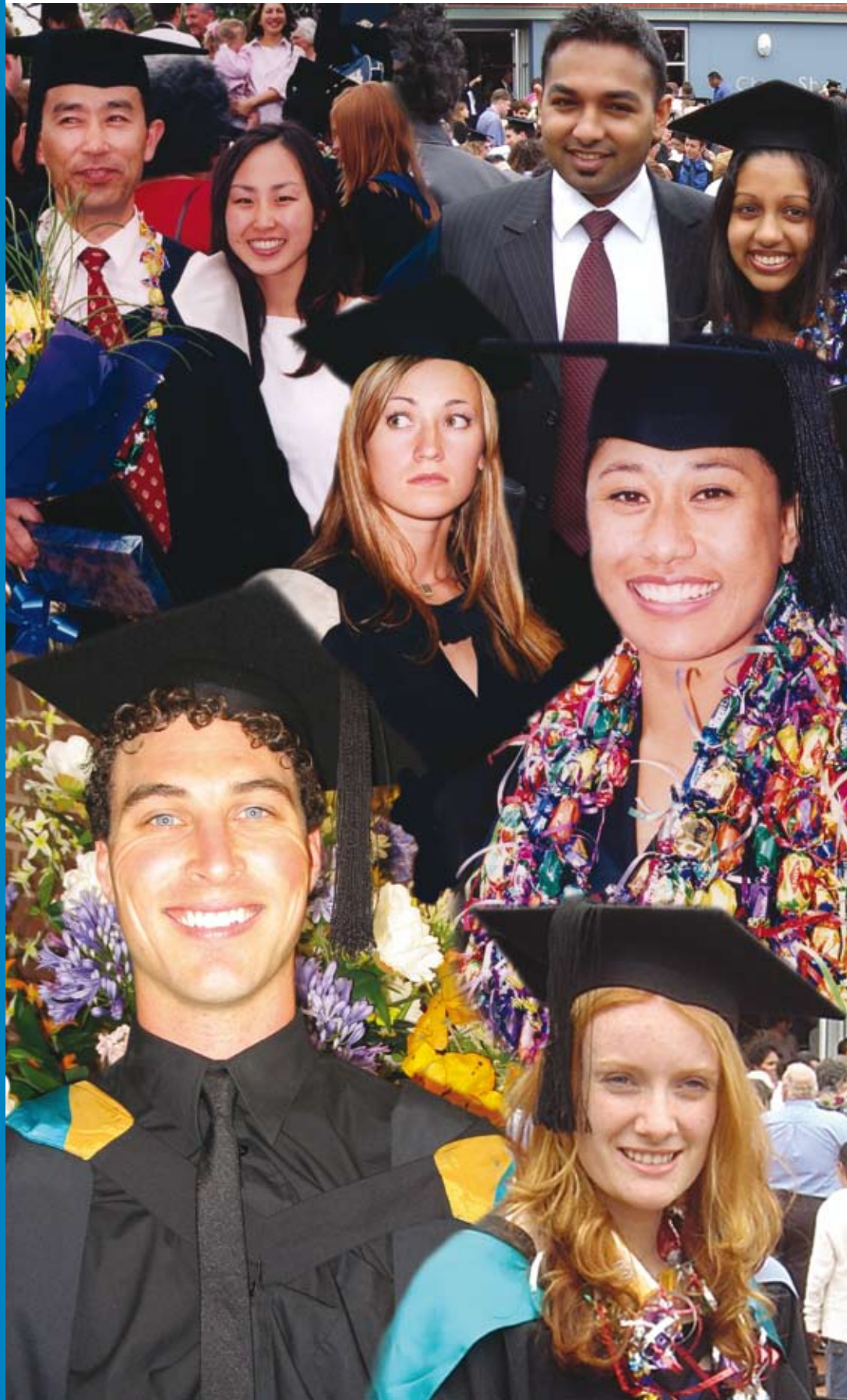


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reflections

reflections is an official publication of Avondale College, published biannually for alumni and friends

Editor: Kevin Judge
Associate Editor: Heather Potter
Consultant: Joan Patrick
Layout and Design: Heather Potter

Avondale College Alumni Association
President: Calvyn Townend

Avondale Administration
President: John Cox

Vice President Academic: Vivienne Watts

Associate Vice President Academic:
Harwood Lockton

Vice President Finance: Rob Ellison

Vice President Planning and
Administrative Services: Bruce Youlden

Development & Alumni Relations
Director: Kevin Judge

Please send any address changes to:
**Development and Alumni Relations
Office**
**PO Box 19, Cooranbong,
NSW 2265, Australia**

Or call: **+61 (0)2 4980 2296**
Or email: **alumni@avondale.edu.au**
Website: **www.avondale.edu.au**



Avondale began the 2004 academic year with a strong spiritual emphasis. The Staff Retreat meetings in February focused on the spiritual dimensions of Avondale's mission. The keynote address by Dr Barry Hill, Education Director of the South Pacific Division, highlighted the importance of spiritual values in education. Selected Avondale staff reported on ways in which they seek to create a positive spiritual tone and project Adventist values in their areas of responsibility. Group discussions developed strategies for advancing the Avondale's Christian/Seventh-day Adventist ethos. The ideas generated in these discussions have been passed on to the College's new Spiritual Life Committee, and will inform the development of the spiritual masterplan for 2004.

Dr Kerri-Lee Krause, keynote speaker at the Opening Convocation on March 3, highlighted to students the opportunities in higher education and the importance of spiritual development. The College President

challenged students at the College Church service on March 13 to experience the empowerment of a relationship with Jesus. Baptisms climaxed three of the Friday evening services in March. Avondale lecturer Dr Darren Morton, speaker for the Festival of Faith (week of spiritual emphasis) in April, focused on God's leading in people's lives, including the lives of Avondale staff.

The year has opened well. Avondale has record enrolments in teacher education, and the first-year nursing intake has risen for the third successive year. The total enrolment of 905 is just short of last year's record.

I would like to express special appreciation for the excellent support provided by past students and other friends of Avondale. I look forward to even closer relationships between Avondale and the church of which we are a part.

– John Cox

Voluntary Subscriptions to *Reflections*

Thank you to all donors for your continued support. The *Reflections* team is committed to providing a quality magazine to enable Alumni to keep in touch with Avondale.

The mailing list for *Reflections* is increasing each year and printing, paper and postage costs are a challenge for the College to meet. A \$10 gift would be much appreciated and would help ensure the same high standard of the publication for each edition.

**Please make payment in Australian dollars to
Avondale College, PO Box 19, Cooranbong, NSW 2265, Australia**
Donations over \$2 are tax deductible

Alumni head south to mainland

STOP PRESS! ALUMNI TOUR PLANNED FOR 2005

An exciting opportunity for Avondale Alumni is on the cards for 2005! Recently the Alumni Association voted to sponsor a 19-day tour to beautiful Tasmania, leaving Sydney by charter bus on February 18 and returning from Launceston by air on March 8. The tour itinerary will include some of Australia's finest scenery as well as places of great historic interest. Sightseeing visits to the Snowy Mountains, Mt Buffalo National Park, Sovereign Hill and the Eureka Stockade sound and light show, the Grampians, Phillip Island and the penguins, are just some of the itinerary on the trip south to Melbourne. A further nine days will be spent

exploring Tasmania by boat, train and coach. This will be the ultimate experience, the chance of a lifetime.

A special highlight will be Sabbath reunions with local alumni in Canberra, Melbourne and Hobart – a rare opportunity to re-unite with past friends and colleagues from college days.

By invitation, Keith and Ngaire Clouten (both Avondale alumni) will organize and manage the tour. The Cloutens have organized and conducted many very successful tours on four continents during the past fifteen years.

A tour brochure detailing cost (less than \$3000), itinerary and other important information will be available shortly. Seats will be limited, so it is important to make a decision now to be part of this inaugural Alumni South Bound Tour. Alumni south of Canberra who wish to join the tour will be charged according to pick-up point, and reservation will depend on spaces available from Sydney.

To express interest in this tour, please fill out the form and return to Alumni South Bound 2005, PO Box 19, Avondale College, NSW 2265 or email alumni@avondale.edu.au



Photographs courtesy of Dr Lynden Rogers

ALUMNI SOUTH BOUND 2005

I am interested in receiving further information regarding the proposed tour for Alumni to Tasmania in 2005.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ City: _____ PC: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Please note: There is no obligation at this point, and the tour will depend on indicated interest.

Graduation Class of



Guest lecturer Barry Hill in all his glory



Liliana Osorio and Cescobel Monge



Alastair and Michelle Clark with family



Bryce Wastney and family.



Calvin Tampubolon, Sharee Ward and Timothy Teulilo



Shontell Dougherty and family

2003



Reena Pitta and Moritess Cerdenola



"The Masters": Postgraduate Group



Janelle Isaacs celebrates



Brad Collet with Zennon Els and Scott Dobson



Joanne Lynch with husband, Peter, and daughter, Alexandra



Quentin Campbell and family

New Vice President: Vivienne Watts Shares her vision



Dr Vivienne Watts has taken up the position of Vice President Academic at Avondale in 2004. Prior to this appointment she was a Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Education at Central Queensland University. Vivienne has a wealth of experience in the higher education sector and brings to Avondale a multi-disciplinary background in nursing and teaching as well as a broad understanding of the university sector.

Vivienne, before taking up this appointment, how much did you know about Avondale?

As an alumnus of Avondale, I have followed the progress of the institution with keen interest. Also, I have kept in touch with friends who were my contemporaries at Avondale. Recently I was a member of one accreditation panel for the college, and this accreditation process gave me some insights into Avondale in its current form.

You graduated from Avondale in 1971. What did you do after gaining your Avondale experience?

I worked as a theatre nurse in several hospitals in Queensland and specialized primarily in the areas of renal transplants, eye, vascular and general

surgery. I married a minister and spent six years in various parishes in the South Queensland Conference, during which time I completed my music studies in voice and was a nurse educator for some time. My husband and I then spent four years at Andrews University where I completed a Bachelor of Science in health, a Master of Arts in religion and also upgraded my nursing qualifications.

Upon my return to Australia I worked as a charge nurse in a Melbourne public hospital, completed a Graduate Diploma in Education and worked as a primary teacher before becoming a parent and commencing employment at the then Capricornia Institute of Advanced Education. During my tenure at that institution, it changed its name and identity several times, so I have had the experience of being part of a developing institution that now enrolls more than 20,000 students. I completed my PhD in 1997 at the Queensland University of Technology, which houses the largest teacher education faculty in Australia.

What are your first impressions of being back on the Avondale campus?

Staff genuinely care about each other, work hard, and are dedicated to their Lord and to their profession. The rural setting is ideal for a spiritually-focused education and some of the facilities are among the best that I have seen. Of course there is still much to do but the enthusiasm and positive attitude that exists among staff and students lay a solid foundation for growth in the higher education sector.

What is your vision for Avondale?

Avondale College already has a reputation for good teaching, personalised curriculum, small class sizes and its Christian ethos, and I think these characteristics should be maintained. In addition, I believe Avondale has the capacity to operate at multiple sites, thus making a Christian education accessible to more

people. The Sydney campus in particular could be expanded and new sites established.

In the scholarly realm, I would like to see the institution acknowledged for its scholarly and innovative work, offer doctoral degrees, and be a leader in at least one area of scholarly activity.

I would like to see Avondale take an entrepreneurial stance so that, a significant percentage of its annual operating income came from its scholarly activities.

I believe that the Adventist church has been actively involved in indigenous education for a long time and Avondale could capitalize on this involvement by creating educational and career pathways for selected indigenous students.

On the innovative side, camp meetings and other church gatherings could become virtual campuses and include tertiary subjects in their workshop programs in association with distance study. In this way, people could access tertiary level courses that accumulate over time toward a degree. Avondale could also host Bible conferences that provide a forum for church people to present the results of their own Bible research.

In collaboration with established universities, and through the use of technology, we could broaden the range of courses and subjects offered by Avondale so that more Christian graduates are able to go out into a greater diversity of professions.

Associate VP

Harwood Lockton rises to top job after 25 years of service to Avondale

Harwood Lockton has recently been appointed Associate Vice President (Academic Affairs) at Avondale. The position was created due to the increasing complexity of government legislative requirements for academic bodies and the additional workload that this brings. Mr Lockton has worked as a lecturer at the college for 25 years and his teaching load has been assumed by Brad Watson.

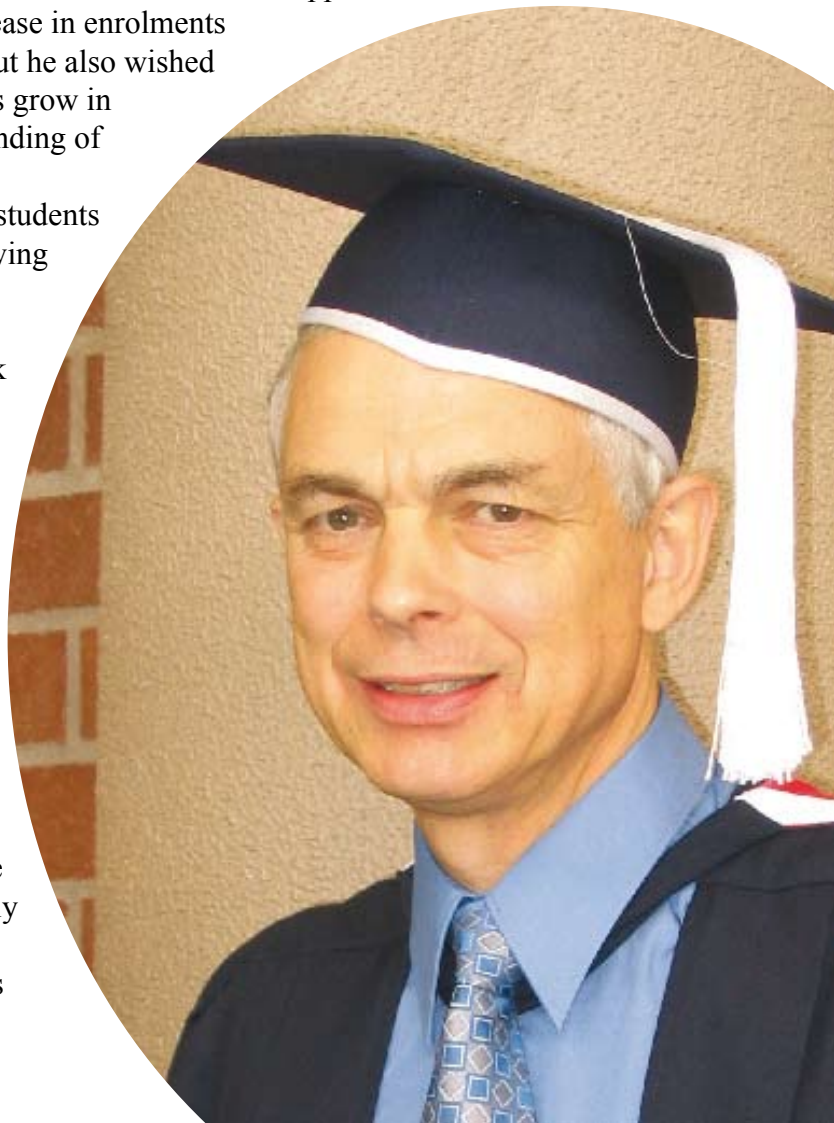
Mr Lockton said his vision was to see an increase in enrolments at Avondale but he also wished to see students grow in their understanding of Christianity.

“I would like students to have a growing understanding of what it means to think ‘Christianly’ - to engage intellectually with our faith and then to link our heads with our hearts and hands,” he said.

“Graduates of Avondale should be able to intellectually defend their Christianity as

well as present it in an appealing manner in their daily lives.”

He added: “I enjoy working at Avondale because it’s a very congenial environment – great colleagues, great students. I have particularly enjoyed taking students overseas on service projects over the past decade and setting up the International Development Studies course.” Mr Lockton will also be assisting with Avondale’s university status application.



Student Volunteer Awards

Faithful service recognised

Avondale Bachelor of Business graduate Heidi Randall won the inaugural Avondale Volunteer Service award for 2003 at an Awards ceremony at the college in November last year.

Heidi served in Japan for two years in between studying for her degree. South Pacific Division Volunteer Services Director Pr Mel Lemke said that Heidi was very much appreciated by both

staff and students in her service locations. "She has a real heart for service, and was considered a most worthy inaugural recipient of the award," he said.

Heidi graduated in 2003 and is teaching in Brisbane.

The 2004 winner of the award was announced at a ceremony in March. Scott Wareham served as a Dean for a year in 2001/2002 at Shannendoah Academy, in Virginia USA, and last year he volunteered in the North New Zealand Conference working with the Youth department. Scott is now working with returning volunteers on the college campus to help integrate them back into Australian life.



The sponsors of the Avondale Volunteers Service Award are Marion and Cyril Youlden, and Anna Rieger. This is a perpetual award of \$500 each year.



Students Rewarded for Achievement and Service



Lorinda Bruce and Owen Ryan, both final-year students, won the Avondale Foundation Awards for outstanding

achievement in 2003. Lorinda is now teaching at Longburn College, New Zealand, and Owen is employed by the South Pacific Division in its auditing office.

Each year the Alumni Association makes an award of \$1000 to a fourth-year student who has been involved in service to the community. The 2003 award was presented to Michelle



Bergmann for her enthusiastic involvement in projects such as StormCo, a student mission outreach program, throughout the year. She now works in Sydney.

Building for the future

Thank you!



Your support to the annual appeal and bi-annual offering will be invaluable to the future of Avondale

Homecoming 2004 August 27-29

1934, 1944, 1954, 1964, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1994
Guest Speaker: Dr Niels-Erik Andreason, former Avondale lecturer and currently President of Andrews University



Program features include:

Friday

- Murdoch Lecture 11.00am
Dr Andreason
- Alumni Luncheon
(reservation essential)
- Vespers

Sabbath

- Sanitarium Breakfast
- Sabbath services
- Class year luncheons and reunions
- President's Reception
(reservation necessary)
- Homecoming Concert
– Jaime & Emily Jorge

Sunday

- Golf Classic (registration necessary)

Reunion Hosts and co-ordinators

If you want more information about the weekend, or if you can help connect with students from your era, these are the people to contact.

- 1944 Russell Kranz, [redacted]
1954 Des Hills, [redacted] Eleanor and Ken Thomson, [redacted]
1964 Judy Banks, [redacted]
1974 Michelle Coltheart, [redacted]
1979 Linda Wemyss, [redacted]
1984 Len Hokin, [redacted]
1994 Karena Deppler, [redacted]

Hosts are appointed by the Homecoming Committee and they do their best to contact the student group from each honour year. This is not always easy and we solicit your help in spreading the word about dates, times and program details; or by updating our database with a current address.

My Avondale adventure

Over the years I've learned that college is not just an opportunity to obtain an education but also an opportunity to grow closer to God and to see His hand in your life. Deciding to come to Avondale was not an easy decision; however, seven months later I am still here in the great metropolis of Cooranbong continuing with my *Avondale adventure* and I can safely say that it is by far one of the *best* decisions I've ever made in my life.

Coming to Avondale meant adapting to another country and culture and while that was a slight challenge, fitting into the atmosphere and spiritual structure at Avondale was pie. After just one week on campus I was totally absorbed in the amazing praise and worship styles and felt so blessed for having met so many wonderful people in such a short period of time that being

thousands of miles from home wasn't really a concern. Getting to see the amazing beaches and the kangaroos was also definitely a plus but more importantly being here at Avondale has shown me a clearer picture of Christ, His character, and what it means to let Him have complete control over my life.

Of all the lessons learned since my arrival I've discovered that a new country and a new university will not hinder God's plan for me, they have simply added another dimension of perspective and strength to my life that were absent before. Simply, I feel my Avondale adventure has been an enormous asset to my education



and to my life and I know that what I've learned and experienced here will stay with me *long* after the educating ends and my plane lands back home.

– by Sarah Postler
Michigan, USA

Words to Live by

Accept that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue.

Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.

Always read stuff that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it.

If you lend someone \$20, and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.

The early worm gets eaten by the bird, so sleep late.

It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others.

Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time, because then you don't have a leg to stand on.

Birthdays are good for you; the more you have, the longer you live.

Ever notice that the people who are late are often much jollier than the people who have to wait for them?

If ignorance is bliss, why aren't more people happy?

You may be only one person in the world, but you may also be the world to one person.

A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.

Happiness comes through doors you didn't even know you left open.

Don't cry because it's over; smile because it happened.

Wrasses and Brown Barrels

Underwater⁺ Escapades

By Jason Morton BSc, Lecturer
Biology

Ever since my earliest memories I have dreamed of becoming a biologist. Now living the dream, I find it hard to convince colleagues that my occupation is indeed *work*. My work currently involves completing a PhD research project on the ecology of wrasses on temperate rocky shores with support from an Academic Postgraduate Award (APA) scholarship (University of Newcastle) and Avondale College.

Wrasses are coastal fishes often displaying brilliant colouration and a wonderful curiosity for divers. These fish are best known for their ability to change sex, with all individuals starting life as females then, for some, changing sex into males. Wrasses are a highly variable family with species ranging from the Cleaner Wrasse (the ones we often see on wildlife documentaries pecking parasites off other fishes) to the very large Humpheaded Maori Wrasse and Eastern Blue Groper.

My particular interest in wrasses involves looking at population trends and discovering more about the life of these fishes. Questions of particular importance include: What do they eat? How old are they? Who are their friends/foes? Do they travel far? When do they reproduce? At what age do they change sex? Most of my research focuses on the Terrigal, Norah

Head and Catherine Hill
Bay area and involves the



use of SCUBA for fish surveys and the following of individual fish using a handheld underwater digital camera to record behaviour. An average week involves between six and fourteen hours under the water following fish; enough time to recognise individual fish and make you feel very much part of the whole underwater environment.

The overall aim of the project is to gain a greater understanding of these currently poorly known fishes with the purpose to predict the effect of fishing pressure on rocky reefs. Several interesting discoveries have already been made but I must look forward to many more diving hours before my underwater friends provide answers to my growing list of other questions.

Embracing Brown Barrels

by Howard Fisher MScAgr,
PhD, Senior Lecturer, Geography

Unlike my youthful colleague Jason, who drifts blissfully beneath the waves, I urge my chronometrically-challenged frame up and down 45-degree

slopes in 40-degree heat, fending off leeches, ticks, stinging nettles and lawyer vines. This is *real* work! Former Avondaleans will be familiar with the Watagan Mountains which form a forested backdrop to the College on the western horizon. Geologically-speaking, the Watagans are mostly formed from sedimentary rocks which have weathered to produce generally low-fertility soils. But at Mt Warrawolong, which at 641 metres above sea level is the highest point in the Watagans, things are different. Here there is a capping of basaltic lava some 100 metres thick. This has produced different soil and hence the mountain hosts a number of plant species which are not to be found elsewhere in the vicinity. Among these is an isolated population of about 200 individual trees of the majestic *Eucalyptus fastigata* (brown barrel). The largest one has a girth of 5.5 metres.

Mt Warrawolong presents the full range of aspects, right around the compass, and provides a good opportunity to study the effects of aspect-related factors

on the distribution patterns of the members of the flora, especially brown barrel, which is restricted to the south- and east-facing slopes. In addition there is an interaction with the rainforest communities which occupy the more-sheltered gullies. I am completing a census of the brown barrel population, which includes mapping the locations of the individual trees, determining the distributional limits, and recording their girths. To measure the latter I literally hug the trees, embracing them with a tape measure. For the big ones, the embrace is cumulative!

One finding that has come to light is that there are very few young brown barrels here. When the old ones die, there may be none to take their place. This could be attributable to the absence of fire in recent years, and the consequent development of a smothering understorey of other plants, mostly rainforest types. The balance of the communities and the fate of the brown barrel population could depend on the striking of a match – or a lightning bolt.



ACF INVESTMENTS LIMITED

Some questions answered cfi@avondale.edu.au



Who is ACF investments limited?

ACF Investments Limited is a company owned and operated by The Avondale Foundation under the direction of a group of experienced Adventist businessmen who give freely of their time to support Avondale College. The company has been operating successfully for twenty-four years. Today it has about 900 depositors. Over the last four years deposits have increased from \$15 million to \$37 million.

How are the funds deposited invested?

Most of the funds received are invested in first mortgages over property up to 66% of their valuation, which means the loans are very secure. At call cash is held with the Church central bank. No money is invested in shares in the stock market.

How is it possible to offer interest rates higher than banks?

We have a policy of offering deposit rates higher than offered by Banks and Building Societies. We are able to do this because we do not have a large expensive branch network. This enables

us to operate on a margin of about 2% (compared with 3% for banks) and still add to reserves and contribute substantial amounts each year to Avondale College.

How easy is it to open and operate an account?

Accounts can be opened by mail. Request an Information Pack and fill out the application form and mail it to us with your cheque. We pay interest at the end of each quarter 31 March, 30 June, 30 September and 31 December. Interest can be paid directly into your nominated bank account or added to your term deposit.

Can I withdraw amounts from a term deposit before maturity?

Unlike other financial institutions, we will allow you to make one withdrawal of up to 20% of the amount in a term deposit without an interest penalty. If you withdraw the full amount on deposit before maturity the interest rate will be reduced to the at call rate.

What investment terms are available?

We offer terms of at call, 3 months, 6 months, 12 months, 24 months and 60 months. An at call account can

be operated like a bank account.

Withdrawal of funds is quick and easy. Provided you telephone us before 4.00 pm we will electronically transfer your withdrawal to reach your bank account by the following day.

Why invest with ACF investments?

- We can offer you personal service. Don't get shunted around the country to call centres. Just ask to speak to Fay or Chris.
 - Our investment policy and procedures are designed with the primary purpose of protecting your funds. We avoid risky investments.
 - No fees or charges
 - We offer competitive interest rates
 - Flexible term deposits with withdrawals permitted prior to maturity.
 - Our profits are used to support Avondale College adding to the \$5 million already contributed to the college.
- cfi@avondale.edu.au

Campus News - New Faces



Leticia Maguire (Lee, 1995) and **Tamma Miller** (2001) are our two new Student Recruiter/Advisors in the Marketing Department in Bethel Hall.

Shane Roberts (1998) is the new Assistant Director, Men's Residence, in Watson Hall. Shane has experience in pastoral ministry in Sydney.



Dianne Hillsdon (1997) is a former principal of the Adventist primary school in Hurstville, Sydney and is an experienced English Language teacher. She is teaching English language students at Avondale.



Marcia Townend (2001) will be teaching microbiology and biochemistry for one semester.

Dr Ross Cole (1980, 1992) has been Deputy Vice-Chancellor at Pacific Union College and is lecturing in Theology at Avondale.



Dr Jean Carter (1982) was the Associate National Education Director (Curriculum) for Adventist Schools in Australia before coming to Avondale to lecture in the Education department.



Dr John Watts (1972) has joined the Education Faculty specializing in mathematics education, and assessment and evaluation. John lectured at Central Queensland University for sixteen years prior to joining the Avondale staff. After graduating from Avondale, John was in pastoral ministry for ten years, including two years as Associate Youth Director for the Victorian Conference.



Pastor Lyell Heise (1969) is a former Avondale College Church Senior Pastor. His new role is lecturer in the Theology department and Director of the Worship Institute, which is jointly sponsored by the SPD and

Avondale College. Lyell's role will include preparing worship resources and offering training in worship leadership around the SPD.

Graeme Tretheway (1979, 1987) has joined the Avondale library staff. Graeme was a high school History Teacher and later a Teacher Librarian who has taught at Longburn, Macquarie College, Avondale High School and in the Catholic school system.



Brad Watson (1994) is lecturing in Geography and International Development. Brad has worked at Kabiufa High School 1995-96, Sonoma College 1997, Carmel College in Perth 1998-99, and Gosford Christian School from 2000-2002. During 2003 Brad worked for Asian Aid as marketing manager and assisted in project and policy review.



Carmen Booyens (1998, 2003) is the new Lab Technician for Biology. She has previously worked for Sanitarium Technical Services.



Alumnotes



Eva and friends
Inset: Eva

Eva Everett (1951)

has organized 15 walkathons since 1980 for charities in her community. Some of the recipients that have benefited from her enthusiasm are Blue Gum Lodge, Jacaranda Lodge, Cancer Research, Christmas Camp for Blind Children, child abuse, Flying Doctor Service, Spastic Centre, Bible Society, Wauchope Hospital, Wauchope Ambulance Service and the fire brigade. Approximately \$20,000 has been raised over the past 22 years. Well done Eva!

Camp meetings

Avondale was represented at three Conference camps in January, 2004. Dr John Cox traveled south to the Tasmanian camp meeting and enjoyed a very hospitable time with the attendees. During the week, John hosted an evening meal, during which he shared his vision for Avondale's future. A support group made up of Friends of Avondale was also elected to further the interests of

Avondale in the Tasmanian Conference. Pastor Graham Sutherland (President), Verona Kerrison, Glenda Amos, Dean Way, Ray and Hazel Stanton were voted onto the committee. We would like to thank this dedicated team for their support.

Kevin Judge crossed the ditch to attend the North New Zealand and South New Zealand camp meetings. Kevin reported that Friends of Avondale meetings were also held at these events.

"We had a very positive response from those who came along and everybody enjoyed themselves," he said. "I always look forward to meeting former Avondale students at camp meetings. It's also a good opportunity for old friends to relax and catch up with each other in a social environment."

Edith Falcke (Freeman, 1942), writes from South Australia, "I was a college student, and (my husband) was not. Two of our daughters spent some time at College. But old friends are true friends and the older we become, (the more) we like to reflect on the past. Dave Caldwell (1943) and I were young friends. I wish I could write like he does. We both attended the small Moonee Ponds Church in Victoria in our childhood. We are the same age. We had lovely Godly teachers and they set a pattern for us to follow".

See Edith and Dave (circled in photograph below) as they were in the Moonee Ponds Church Group and (inset) Dave as he is today.



Marketing Avondale to the Orient

The Year 2003 saw the recommencement of the Elicos (English Language Intensive Course of Study) at Avondale after a ten year or so lapse due to a downturn in the industry. Avondale has responded to the need for reputable Language Centres in Australia as a means for attracting students to learn English and later degree courses, as well as those articulating into degree courses from those started elsewhere overseas.

Asia is our closest target area for recruiting students and we visit these countries at least yearly to make contacts and cultivate interest in Avondale. Our safe, rural campus along with smaller class numbers has appeal to this market. We have targeted Korea, Japan, Thailand and China along with Hong Kong, where good relationships have developed with institutions such as Sahmyook University in Seoul, S'th Korea.

Study Tour Groups who visit Avondale have opportunity to experience intensive English learning, the Australian culture and scenery through excursions, and experience Avondale and community (through home-stay) hospitality first hand. Dear to our hearts has been a visiting Thai group each year for the past four years. These predominately Buddhist students have learnt English with our special Avondale-brand of teaching i.e., using the parables to teach the stories which form the content base. Not only have the students loved the stories – new to them but they have flourished with this method of learning.

Avondale also provides consultancy to some of the Bilingual Schools in Thailand where there is a growing market and interest. This contact will serve a ready-market for Avondale as students complete their schooling and look for tertiary education abroad, especially as many will have visited on a study tour and have fallen in love with Avondale's charm.

As part of the Avondale recruiting team I have had the privilege of visiting some of the countries. On these marketing trips I have also been able to lend a hand to the local expatriates who are reaching out into the communities in which they live and serve. One of the experiences I found enriching was in Japan (June 2003), as I worked alongside the Yokohama International SDA Church in their outreach to the homeless. Led by Pr. John Fraser and his wife Ann, this church group fed hundreds of homeless men on Sabbath afternoons, first ministering to their material needs, then appealing to their spirituality through song and conversation.



Another rewarding experience took place last November, 2003 in Bangkok when I visited the Klong (community in poverty built over the cities water-waste and refuse), which has evolved right beside a beautiful Muslim mosque. Teachers at the Bangkok Bilingual school have started a soccer team, and from the trust engendered have moved onto offering English classes to the youngsters of the community. My help in teaching was a welcome aid to the two teachers who cannot keep up with the growing numbers of children coming each week to sing Christian songs and learn English.

The world is our oyster presently as opportunities arise to teach English, and may it be that we fulfill the 'great commission' in so doing.

Lyn Medhurst
Avondale Language Centre Manager
Study Tours Director

