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reflections

SPRING 2003

FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF AVONDALE



Six Generations:
The Litster Family Makes its Mark

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reflections

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Editorial

For me, this year has had an air of finality about it as I have noted the passing of College events that I have been experiencing for the last time. Some pass with regret. Some I happily leave for others to take over. In this context my final President's message for *Reflections* belongs to the former category.

I would like all alumni and friends of Avondale to know that they have been a continued source of inspiration and encouragement to me. The past 13 years have given me a chance to get to know and work with many of you. I am richer for the experience, and hope that these contacts will continue informally.

Reminiscing is a sign of creeping age. When I started at Avondale in 1975 we had one degree accredited and the first cohort were still working their way through it. Now there is a plethora of programs offered. In 1975 the College Church was supervised by the Memorial Church pastor – but much of the week to week activity was in the hands of the Church Board members: mostly College staff and students. Now we have a pastoral complement of 3 – plus a number of volunteers. However, students still come to Avondale to

grow spiritually and to prepare for service.

Our denomination, along with the society in which it functions, is demanding more highly educated employees. Hence the explosion in post-graduate courses that Avondale offers. Nationally, the financing and quality of higher education are becoming high profile political issues. Avondale must continue to be part of this public debate.

Avondale has been good to me. It has given me opportunities I never expected. It has provided me with many friends. It has been a remarkably stimulating environment. However all things must end some time and I am looking forward to a change. It won't be difficult to put aside the intense day to day activity of the College. But it won't be possible to forget Avondale: I will always have a keen interest in it and its successes.

I have much confidence in Dr John Cox and his administrative team. I wish them well. I know the Lord will bless them as they take Avondale forward.

– **Geoff Madigan**

Voluntary Subscriptions to *Reflections*

Reflections readers have contributed \$720 to the production of the magazine this year. Thank you to all donors for your 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



John Cox

Acting President/President Elect

If you had asked a young John Cox what he wanted to be when he grew up he would have told you “a minister”. Recently appointed President of Avondale College, Dr Cox said his career path had taken many turns he would never have foreseen as a youngster.

“From the time I was about seven or eight I was influenced by a pastor who lived near us,” he said. “I hardly deviated from my desire to be a minister and I studied ministry and secondary teaching at the same time when I came to Avondale College and graduated from both.”

Despite pursuing a career in teaching, Dr Cox said he would never claim to have abandoned his original ideal. “Teaching is an important form of ministry and I see my work at Avondale College as a ministry,” he said.

Dr Cox has served as a lecturer in English and as Dean of the Faculty of Arts at Avondale. He was Vice President (Academic Administration) for two and a half years before accepting the role of President.

He brings a wealth of experience and academic achievement to the position. His credentials include a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theology and Education from

Pacific Union College, USA, a Master of Arts degree from the University of Newcastle and a Doctor of Philosophy from the University of London. His publications include a book through Cambridge University Press.

Dr Cox said he was looking forward to his new role and considered it an honour and privilege to serve as President of Avondale.



Age shall not weary them: 25 years haven't changed John a bit

“I want to sustain Avondale’s long-standing commitment to the mission of the church and to the spiritual development of students and staff,” he said. “I would like to maintain a close interface between Avondale and the wider Church constituency. The Church needs Avondale, and Avondale

needs the church.”

“I place high importance on quality of life for our students,” he said. “This includes life in the residence halls, provision of support services, and promotion of a healthy lifestyle guided by ethical principles.”

“One of the most exciting challenges for Avondale is the quest for university status – essential at a time when most people have come to think of a “college” as a secondary school or TAFE. We also need to build on our reputation for excellence in teaching with an enhanced commitment to the advancement of learning through research and publication,” Dr Cox added.

“One thing is non-negotiable – our special character as a Seventh-day Adventist institution. Our Adventist worldview, values, faith and lifestyle must continue to permeate all that we do.

“I believe Avondale is on the edge of an expanding future,” Dr Cox continued. The challenges ahead are also windows to enormous possibilities.”

Dr Cox is currently serving as Acting President while Dr Geoffrey Madigan is on leave. He will officially take over as President in the new year. 3



Avondale's Longest Serving President

Dr Geoffrey Madigan 1990-2003

After thirteen years of challenging administration, Dr Geoffrey Madigan has requested a change of direction. In 2004 he will take up a position as principal project chemist in the Sanitarium Health Food Company.

Dr Madigan is Avondale's longest serving president, having held the office with distinction for more than thirteen years. He has brought to the role an acute mind, strong spiritual leadership, and far sighted vision for Avondale, together with clarity of analysis, sound judgement, and wisdom in negotiating difficult issues. He has blended integrity and a sense of fairness with compassion and engaging wit.

Colleague and friend Don Hanson recalls an amusing incident in which Geoff demonstrated his spirit of fairness while supervising a chemistry tutorial.

"There were two kids in the same tutorial who should have got the same mark but one got 6 and one got 6 ½," he said. "They came to complain and Geoff told them: 'I can fix that immediately' and gave them both 6. Nobody ever came to complain about their marks again."

Dr Madigan came to Avondale as a Lecturer in Chemistry in 1975. He later served as head of the Science Department (1985 – 87) and as Academic Registrar (1988 – 89). He became President in September 1990.

When Geoff was first promoted to president, Don suggested his first presidential act could be to put an end to the much-despised weekend security duty for staff. Geoff swiftly responded: "I'm not going to do that! As long as staff are complaining about security duty, they're not complaining about other things!"

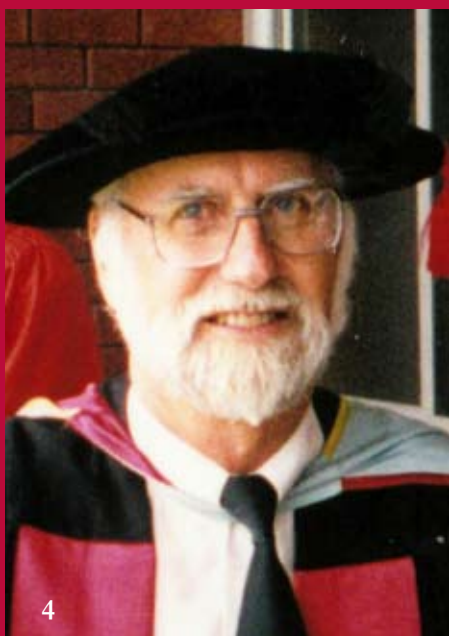
Dr Madigan will be remembered especially for his pursuit of university status for Avondale. His presidency has seen major additions to the academic program: bachelor degrees in arts, nursing and science, double degree courses, honours degrees, new

We honour his outstanding contribution to Avondale

postgraduate programs, additional vocational studies courses, and an English language program. College Hall and Bethel have been refurbished and the campus enhanced by an impressive new library wing and a new auditorium – the Chan Shun Auditorium. Enrolment has grown by more than half, and Avondale's scope has become international.

Some have speculated that Geoff's new career move may give him more time to pursue his love of gardening but Don Hanson pours cold water on this suggestion, saying: "I have often wondered if he actually likes gardening or if he does so much of it because (wife) Donna has him under the thumb and this is how she disciplines him," he said.

Avondale honours Geoff's outstanding contribution to the college and to the church's mission, and wish him God's continued blessing for the future.



Homecoming August 2003

Music and Speakers Inspire Alumni

The Three Choirs Festival, held at Avondale College on Saturday night, August 30, was the highlight of a packed program of events at the annual Homecoming alumni reunion weekend. The Sydney Male Choir headlined the concert, supported by the Avondale Singers and the Lake Macquarie City Ladies Choir. All three choirs sang together in a mass choral finale, accompanied by the Avondale Chamber Orchestra.

Homecoming Chairman David Potter said: "The Three Choirs festival was brilliant. The church was packed with several hundred former students and staff and they appreciated the music."

Cellist and musical prodigy Gavin Clark, 20, received a second curtain call after performing Poppa's Hungarian Rhapsody, accompanied by his father, David Clark, on piano.

"Gavin has been playing the cello since he was three years old and his 17 years of experience really showed. His performance was technically proficient and moving," Mr Potter said.

Other highlights of the weekend included a sermon on the nature of God's grace by USA *Adventist Review* magazine editor Dr William Johnson and a Friday night address by Robert Wolfram.



Gavin Clark performed with the Avondale chamber orchestra during church and at the Saturday night concert.

Citations Recognise Alumni Achievements

Several alumni received citations during the morning church services at Homecoming, recognising their successes and contributions in their various fields.

The Outstanding Alumni Award was presented to David Hay (1953), who has given a lifetime of ministry to the mission field.

Laurie Meintjes (1978) was among

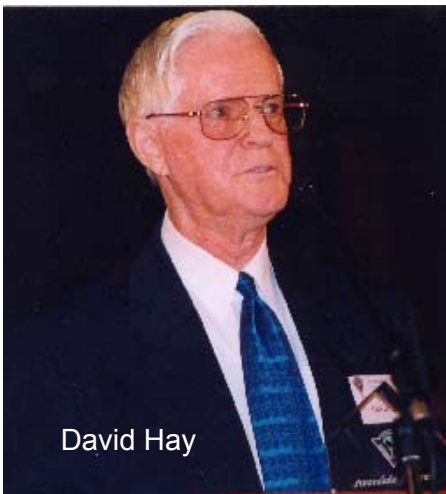
those who received citations.

Laurie has recently completed an autobiography entitled "Pretzel Legs" about his experiences as a child growing up in South Africa.

Other alumni to receive citations were: Thomas Austin (1933), Alwyn Wiltshire (1943), Hedley Eager (1953), George Porter (1963), Anne Moseley (1973), Honey Todd (1983) and Andrew Mathes (1993).



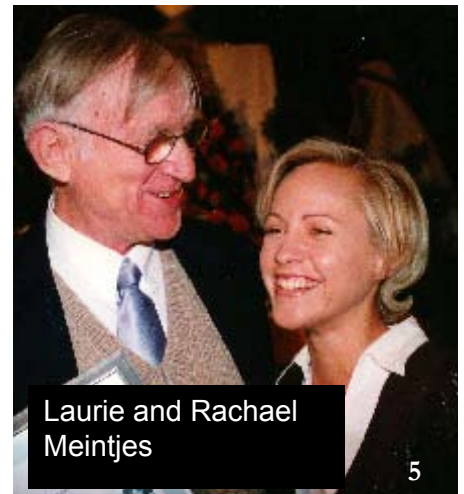
Honey Todd



David Hay



Thomas Austin



Laurie and Rachael Meintjes

Reminiscing with Friends at Reunion Groups



Verna and Alwyn Wiltshire



Walter and Helen Potter

1943



David and Joy Caldwell

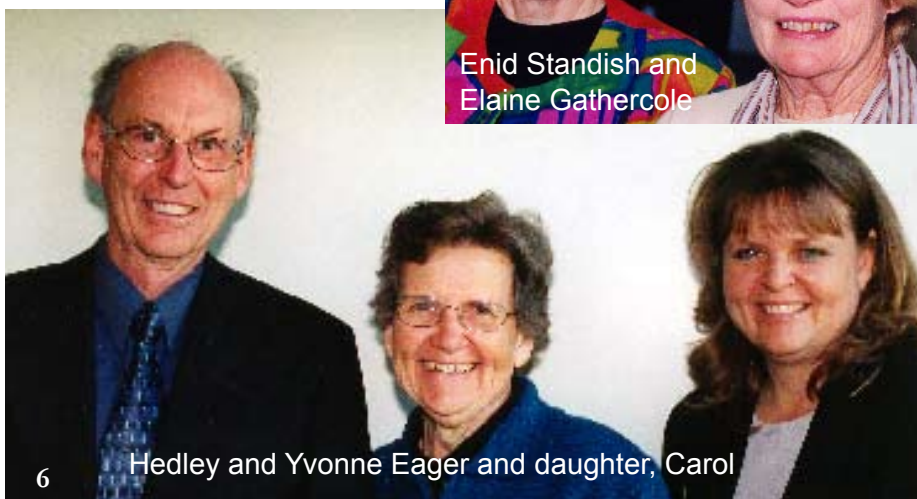


Olive Josephs

1953



Enid Standish and Elaine Gathercole



Hedley and Yvonne Eager and daughter, Carol



1953 group shot

Forty years after graduating, ladies reunite



Bev Chester, Carol Ferch-Johnson, Pam Shell, and Amy Chung

Bev, Carol, Pam and Amy were among five female Bible Instructors to graduate from Avondale College in 1963. They were reunited at Homecoming in August after forty years apart.

Bev served in youth ministry in Sydney and then in mission service in Fiji. Carol served as a Bible Instructor in New Zealand. Pam was a Bible Instructor in Sydney and Amy went on to mission service in Thailand.

1963



Fred Cracknell, Milton and Noeleen Hook



John and Beth Kosmeier



Karen Maberly and Ralph Luchow



Brian Robinson

1973



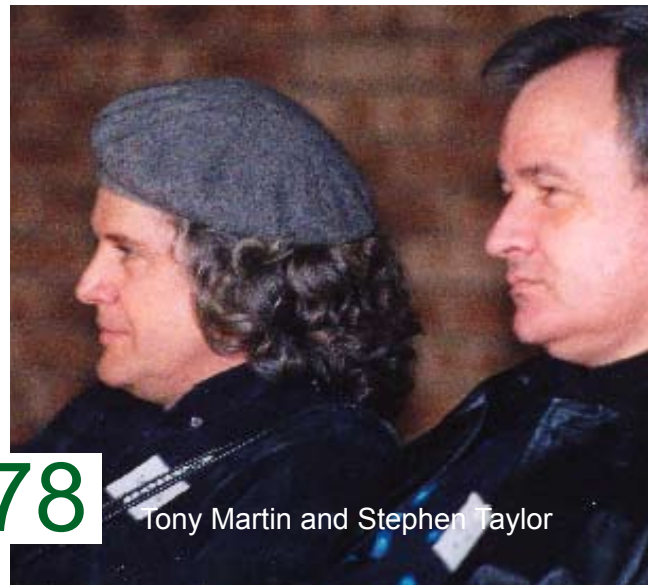
Sue Driscoll



Carla and Lin Chuang

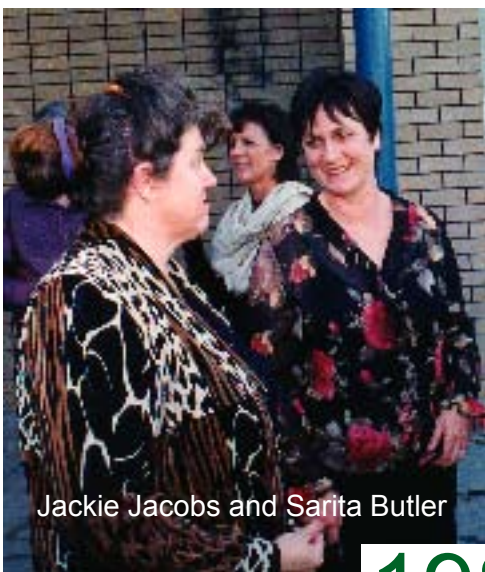


Jenny Trood and Sune Rif



Tony Martin and Stephen Taylor

1978



Jackie Jacobs and Sarita Butler

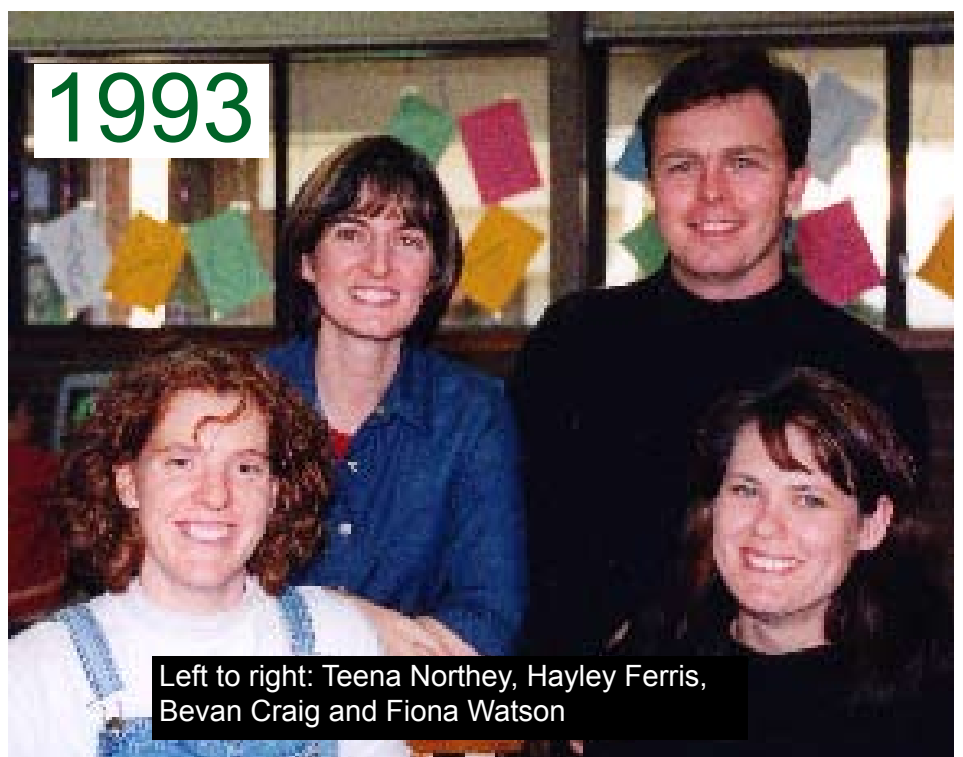


Phil and Di Knight and Sid Griffiths

1983



Brad Kemp



1993

Left to right: Teena Northey, Hayley Ferris, Bevan Craig and Fiona Watson

Crossroads in Adventism:

The Seventh Murdoch Lecture

A record Murdoch Lecture audience heard Dr William Johnsson's address in the College Church, *Crossroads in Adventism: an inside perspective on the modern Seventh-day Adventist Church*.

Bill Johnsson, already a graduate of the University of Adelaide, completed his B.A. (Theology) at Avondale in 1959 before serving for fifteen years in India. Further study, in the form of three advanced degrees and a doctorate, equipped him for teaching and leadership at Andrews University. Since 1982, as editor of *Adventist Review*, he has observed, participated in and reported events at Adventist headquarters.

The lecture was a "personal perspective, not a history," with five foci: Righteousness by Faith, Glacier View, women in ministry, conversations with other Churches, and the crisis surrounding the General Conference presidency.

Intense discussion of Righteousness by Faith in Adventism led to a consultation of 145 thought-leaders in 1979. William Johnsson, with Fritz Guy and Gerhard Hasel, drafted *The Dynamics of Salvation* statement published in *Adventist Review*, 31 July 1980.

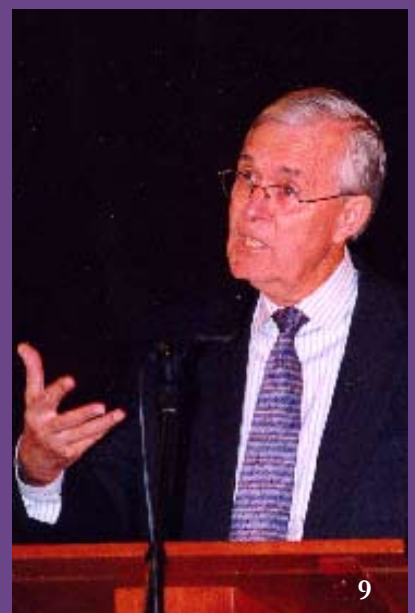
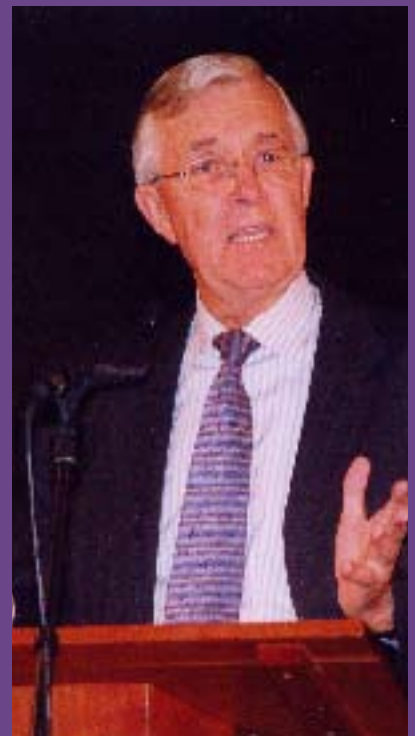
Dr Johnsson was one of the many involved in shaping the statement of fundamental beliefs voted at the April 1980 General Conference Session. From this background, in August 1980, he helped draft the Glacier View consensus statement on Fundamental 23, "Christ's Ministry in the Heavenly Sanctuary."

Bill Johnsson was strategically placed to understand the leadership of President Neal Wilson during the 1980s discussions of the ministry of women, followed by the actions taken at the Church's world sessions of 1990 and 1995. From a similar vantage point, he commented on a series of conversations with other Christians, and the 1999 resignation of President Folkenberg.

This reviewer listened intently to Dr Johnsson's lecture in the context of eight other presentations he made. He has given the Church a valuable resource in many books, 700 articles, and the *Adventist Review* he edits so winsomely to aid our witness amongst more than 200 nations. He well represents South Pacific Adventists in Washington.

The William G.C. Murdoch Memorial Lectureship, initiated in 1997, provides "opportunities for creative, stimulating presentations focusing on issues challenging Avondale College and its constituency to more effectively fulfil their mission in a changing world." Scheduled on the Friday morning before the Annual General Meeting and luncheon of the Alumni Association, it honours the contribution of Avondale's Principal from 1947-1952 by infusing reflective thought into the celebratory events of Homecoming.

Arthur Patrick,
3 September 2003.



Camp Meetings

and regionals

Special functions for Alumni and Friends of Avondale were hosted at camp meetings in the Western Australian, Victorian, North Australian, South Queensland and Northern New South Wales Conferences. Presentations on exciting developments at Avondale College have been favourably received. We look forward to increasing Avondale's presence at Conference camp meetings.



The Three musketeers: Pastors Jacob Ormsby (1990), Marty Luke (1995) and Daniel Milenkov (1998) reign supreme in the Waikato province of New Zealand



Joan and Arthur Patrick, Enid Webster and Wendi Herman at NSW camp alumni afternoon tea



Heather Palmer (Jackson), Mark Greenland, Rodney and Rosalie Fulwood, Delphine Trace (McDougall), Laurel Bryant, Warren Westacott, Margaret White (Hawkin) at North Australian camp

Overseas Volunteer Service Award Established

An anonymous gift of \$10,500 given to Avondale will establish a perpetual scholarship to encourage, acknowledge, and celebrate the contribution of Avondale student volunteers. The Overseas Volunteer Service Award recipient will receive \$250 cash and \$250 for tuition. The student must be a full-time enrolled student at Avondale, and to be eligible must have completed 2 years of a degree course.

The volunteer service must be cross cultural, have an overseas focus, and be non-salaried. An inaugural award will be made at the 2003 Awards Forum on 12 November.

Many students demonstrate enthusiasm and support for the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The South Pacific Division co-ordinates the programme and regularly has many positions for students willing to give unselfishly

to meet people's needs. The donors recognize that \$10,500 will only subsidize one student each year. Their dream is that other donors will contribute to this initial "seeding sum", so that more student volunteers may be encouraged to volunteer their skills. If you would like to contribute to this Trust Fund, please contact, Kevin Judge at Avondale on (02) 49802 296, or by email at alumni@avondale.edu.au.

Family Connections

Six Generations Involved with Avondale



Glynn Litster, Andrew Taylor, Michelle and Reg Litster

Avondale College is special to many Adventist families, but the Litster clan has a long link that goes right back to the St Kilda Road School in Melbourne and Avondale's beginnings. Michelle Litster and Andrew Taylor (cousins), are currently students at Avondale, with Michelle studying for a Bachelor of Education (Primary) and Andrew a Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Teaching degree.

Michelle's father, Reg, graduated in 1978 (B Ed Sc), joined the faculty in 1996 and currently lectures and instructs at the Avondale School of Aviation campus. Michelle's mother, Jenny, (Ewing) graduated (Dip Tch) in 1979. Michelle's grandfather, Glynn Litster, an educator/historian graduated from Avondale in 1945 (Teaching) and was a faculty member from 1971 to 1974 while Principal of Avondale High School. He was Alumni President from 1995-98. Glynn's wife, Elva (Dempsey), is a

Source material:

M Hook. *The Avondale School and Adventist Educational Goals 1894-1900*, University Microfilms International, 1978, p88.

M. Chamberlain. *Cooranbong*, Published by Michael Chamberlain, 1997, p101,102

S.R. Goldstone. *The Angel Said Australia*, Signs Publishing Co, Warburton, 1980, p134

graduate of Sydney Adventist Hospital (1948).

Andrew's father, Steve, graduated in 1978 (Dip Bus) and 1989 (B Bus) and his mother, Delwyn (Litster), graduated from Sydney Adventist Hospital in 1976 and from Avondale in 1978 (Audio Secretary). His grandfather, Graham Litster, brother to Glynn, graduated from Avondale in 1948 (Teaching). He married Shirley House. Graham also spent some time on the Geography faculty in 1976-77.

The great-grandfather of Michelle and Andrew, Will Litster, married Jessie Reekie, a primary student in Bethel Hall (from 1901) when Avondale Primary was part of Avondale College. She was also a business student at Avondale in 1915. Jessie's cousins, John and Philip Reekie, were among the first students at the Australasian Bible School in 1892 and 93 when it commenced in Melbourne. Their

father, Ainsley Reekie, and Wesley Hare, along with William White, were the first to inspect the Brettville Estate on March 13, 1894, and cautiously weighed up the merits of this apparently cheap property. This group considered the sparsely settled area had few opportunities for missionary outreach. They were also disturbed by the rough and lawless behaviour of the locals and employed a night watchman to protect the property. Ellen White arrived on May 23, 1894. In 1899, Jessie's father, Fred Reekie, a colporteur on bike, was asked to become farm manager/steward. He returned to Avondale as a faculty member and farm manager from 1914 to 1919. Will, Glynn and Reg and their families have all had service in the South Pacific as missionaries. What a heritage for these present day students!

Thanks to Glynn Litster and Reg Litster for helping the editor to put this story together.

The Avondale Foundation celebrates its 25th anniversary

This year is the 25th anniversary of the founding of The Avondale Foundation. Over that time the Foundation has contributed more than \$5 million to projects at Avondale. As we look around the College campus we are proud of the efforts of our members and supporters who have contributed significant funds to all the major developments that have occurred:

Science Faculty complex
Avondale College Church
Library Extension
Chan Shun Auditorium

The Avondale Foundation has just completed another successful year of operations that have underwritten the Foundation's promised support for the new Auditorium. Three years ago we undertook to raise \$750,000 for the auditorium, and to date we have contributed \$500,000 towards this project. The remaining balance will be paid at the end of this year with a cheque being handed over at Graduation.

The Auditorium Appeal generated gift intentions of more than \$520,000. During the past financial year we received \$87,542 from people paying their pledges. We wish to thank all who have contributed to the Auditorium appeal. We estimate that we have about \$40,000 of pledges remaining to be paid. Readers are aware

that The Avondale Foundation has passed all future fundraising over to the College, with the Foundation making future contributions to College projects from the profits of businesses the Foundation operates.

The Foundation businesses have had another successful year with records achieved and good profits earned. Avondale Nurseries Ltd, situated on 10 hectares of land in Glenorie, achieved record sales in spite of the country suffering the worst drought in a century. ACF Investments Ltd had its most successful year in its 23 year history with record profits resulting from deposits that have grown from \$15 million to \$34 million over the past three years. We greatly appreciate the support of the wider Adventist community and are happy to share the benefits of low operating costs with our 900 depositors by offering attractive interest rates.

The latest news from the Foundation is the expansion of our portfolio of businesses through the acquisition of Macadamia Oils of Australia. We believe this company has a huge growth potential. Macadamia Oils of Australia is the largest producer of Macadamia Oils with its product sold in Australia and exported around the world.

The oil is produced for cooking, as well as for cosmetic use. The cosmetic grade oil is the richest botanical source of palmitoleic acid – a naturally occurring skin lipid whose replenishment helps prevent the signs of premature aging. Among its larger customers is the Sanitarium Health Food Company who sell the oil under its own label.

For more details about the company and the health benefits of Macadamia Oil we would suggest that you look at their web site: www.macadamiaoils.com. Next time you are in Woolworths you might look in the specialty oil section for Sanitarium's Macadamia Nut Oil. When you make a purchase you will be contributing to the profits of both Sanitarium and The Avondale Foundation, as well as benefiting your health.

Having completed 25 years of support of Avondale the Foundation is looking forward to being a significant contributor to the growth and development of Avondale in the future.

**- Chris Ackroyd
Business Manager, Avondale Foundation**



Campus News

Acting Vice President

Dr Eric Magnusson has accepted an invitation to carry out the functions of Acting Vice President (Academic Administration) at Avondale during the transition period between the commencement of Dr Cox's role as Acting President/President Elect and the appointment of a new Vice President (Academic Administration). Dr Magnusson began work in Dr Cox's office on 15 September 2003. After several years as head of Avondale's Science Department, Dr Magnusson served as Principal from 1971 to 1980. He recently retired as Associate Professor of Chemistry at the Canberra campus of the University of New South Wales.

Avondale Lecturer Wins Academic Prize

Sharon Tolhurst, a Lecturer in Music at Avondale College, has beaten 15 contenders to win one of two prizes for the best post-graduate



research paper this year. Sharon's paper forms part of her Deakin University Doctor of Education research and was presented at the 25th Annual Conference of the Australian Association for Research in Music Education in Brisbane last month.

Sharon said winning the award had come as a pleasant surprise, particularly as her off-campus study

program offered little opportunity for feedback on her work.

"I'm really thrilled as it is difficult to gauge how you are going when you do a PhD," she said. "There is limited interaction with other students when you do a degree via email."

Sharon's paper was a report on a 7-week study conducted at a New York University assessing the value of short-term professional development experience in musical conducting.

Five Stars

Avondale College has scored five stars in several categories of the Good Universities Guide (GUG) rankings. Avondale ranked among the top universities in the nation in terms of staff qualifications, student-staff ratio and graduate rating of the educational experience for the fifth consecutive year.

Avondale also scored five stars for the proportion of students who were school leavers, four stars for indigenous participation and three stars for total graduate outcomes. Director of Marketing Services at Avondale, Mr Glenn Roberts, said the results were very pleasing. "We are delighted to see that a small tertiary institution like Avondale is able to compete against much larger institutions and come out on top".

New Vice President (Academic Affairs) Appointed

Dr Vivienne Watts, of Central Queensland University, has accepted an appointment as Avondale's Vice President (Academic Administration).

Dr Vivienne Watts is a Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Education at Central Queensland University. She has an impressive publication record and extensive experience in university

administration. She has served as Associate Dean of her Faculty and as president of the Faculty Assembly. For the past six years she has been a member of the University Council and for the past four years a member of the Executive Committee of the University Council. She coordinated the development of CQU's Bachelor of Teaching program.



Appointment to Pacific Adventist University

Graham Chester has accepted an appointment to the position of Deputy Vice Chancellor at Pacific Adventist University to begin in 2004. Graham has been a lecturer in the Business and Information Faculty.

New Staff for 2004

Mrs Dianne Hillsdon (1997) has been appointed as an ELICOS Teacher at Avondale College. She is currently Teaching Principal at Hurstville Adventist School and has been involved in ESL teaching for the past 6 years.

Ross Cole (1992) has been appointed as Lecturer in the Faculty of Theology. He is currently Deputy Vice-Chancellor at Pacific Adventist University in PNG.

Alumnotes

Stan Faull (1930) a 91-year-old Cooranbong resident, was honoured by the Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants with the presentation of a certificate marking his 70th year of membership. The Society, with a membership of 100,000 throughout Australia, maintains the highest standard of professional qualification and ethical conduct for its members. Of the forty members who were honoured on this occasion, Stan was one of only five who received the 70 year award. After training as an accountant at Avondale, he spent 44 years practicing his profession in several locations in Australia and New Zealand. For 30 years he was accountant of the Sanitarium Health Food Company in Cooranbong.

Milton Smith (1942) At the same ceremony, Milton was honoured with a certificate for fifty years as a Certified Practising Accountant. Born and raised in Vanuatu, he trained at Avondale. He has worked for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in several states of Australia, Papua New Guinea and New Zealand.

Laura Kent: Oldest Alumna
Joan and Arthur Patrick visited Laura Kent on 14 May 2003 to offer her congratulations from the Avondale College Alumni Association on her 104th birthday. As she accepted a potted flowering plant, the birthday lady asked if the gerbera would grow outside, in her garden.

Joan assured her that it would. They had already noticed her garden was cheery and colourful. It's only a few weeks since Laura was tending it herself. Not too long ago her plot won a "best garden" award from the Lake Macquarie City Council.

Laura Petersen was born 14 May 1899, five months before the Boer War began. She started the Missionary Course at the Australasian Missionary College in 1918, the year World War I ended. After her three years at College, Laura and Tom Kent were married in the Avondale Village Church.

The newly-weds first ministerial assignment was in Sydney, working with Pastor Reuben Hare's evangelistic team. Tom and Laura gave a long lifetime of mainly evangelistic service; he avoided the idea of retirement until



Laura Kent on her wedding day (above) and now (left)

he was 81, when the couple moved to Cooranbong. Seven more busy years followed before death claimed Tom in 1982.

Laura maintains the same family home, generously decorated with photographs. The couple's five children and sixteen grandchildren are central in an extended and still extending family.

Hobbies like reading and writing are now too difficult due to eyesight limitations, but Laura Kent prizes a practice she began over seventy years ago—baking a batch of bread, every week.

"If it wasn't for this wonderful [Adventist] message I wouldn't be here today," she enthused. Then she added, "It has been wonderful!"

May her tribe go on increasing!

Arthur Patrick

Centennial Awards At least eight Cooranbong personalities were among the 71 citizens of Lake Macquarie City who were awarded the Centennial Medal. This medal was established by the Australian Government in 2001 as part of the Australian system of honours and awards. The medal commemorates the centenary of Federation to honour the contribution made to Australian society by its citizens and other persons. The citations recognized the service to the community of **Dr Bryan Ball**, a former Principal of Avondale, for service through the Seventh-day Adventist Church, **Dorothy Cottier**, **Dr Timothy Gorle** (staff), and **Ron Rice** (1978), for their work with the Cooranbong Community Service Centre; **Dr Rod Ellison** (1946), and his wife **Unita** for service to women in crisis through the Southlakes Women's Refuge; **Clarence Mills** for long and voluntary service through the Cooranbong State Emergency Service, and **Dr Ivan Scale** (1952) for work in organizing the emergency relief services of the ADRA care organization in the Hunter region. **Mrs Adelle Rowden-Johnson** was also honoured for her work as director of the Southlakes Women's Refuge.

Avondale Annual Appeal and other Donations

In 2003 a large donation of \$100,000 was given for the refurbishment of Watson Hall foyer and lounge. This has made a significant improvement to this facility.

Avondale and its students wish to thank all donors who have contributed through the Annual Appeal, payroll deductions, or in other ways.

An Annual Appeal will continue to be part of Avondale's programme each year, giving opportunities for financial gifts to further benefit Avondale and its students.

Avondale College is pleased to report that \$136,457 has been given so far in response to the 2002 Annual Appeal.

If your name is not on this list and you feel it should be, please contact us: Kevin Judge, Director of Development and Alumni Affairs, phone: +61 2 4980 2296, or by email: alumni@avondale.edu.au

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2003 Gifts \$136,457

