

REFLECTIONS

The Alumni and Advancement magazine of Avondale College of Higher Education

Winter 2015 Vol 27 No 1

THE ROAD TO KARALUNDI

Avondale alumni hard at work
in outback Western Australia

NEW ERA FOR AVONDALE

Avondale earns self-accrediting status

FINDING "FIGHTING MAC"

Associate Professor Daniel Reynaud's research
on the man the Anzacs revered

THE FIGURES: 2014 DONOR REPORT



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My mother was not the kind to celebrate.

In Grade 8, I failed a mathematics exam, achieving a grade of 45 per cent. Mum sternly informed me I'd have to improve or there'd be trouble. After my next exam, I told Mum I'd done better. My grade: 31 per cent. It was then she took me in hand and "tutored" me in maths.

Mum's method met with success and in the next exam I achieved 100 per cent. Thinking this was worth at least some kind of celebration, I informed her of this with considerable pride. Her response: "I'm sure there's room for improvement." So much for celebration of success!

We have a lot to celebrate at Avondale in 2015. This is Avondale's 118th year of continuous operation. That means Avondale has survived two world wars, depressions and recessions and theological crises and power plays in our "mother" church. Avondale has not come through all that unscarred, but it is probably stronger for weathering the storms.

Avondale has been granted self-accrediting authority by the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency. This means that Avondale is considered to be of such standing it can oversee its own processes to ensure quality educational outcomes, just as universities do, and that Avondale is seen as a leader among private higher education providers. This is something worth celebrating!

During the past year, Avondale staff members produced more than 100 "Level 1" publications: books; book chapters; academic journal articles; and refereed conference papers. Avondale research teams received two major Office of Learning and Teaching grants. Associate Professor Brett Mitchell, with the other chief investigators on a research project, received funding of \$650,000 by the National Health and Medical Research Council. And Dr Paul Rankin graduated as Avondale's second PhD student.

Avondale has changed over the years and will continue to change if it is to reach its full potential—but some things will not change. Avondale will not stray from its purpose. Its mission is to foster "a Christian higher education learning community that is dedicated to serving world needs." This mission is what we are leaning on, going forward.

So, Avondale in 2015: a time to celebrate.



Ray Roennfeldt, President
Avondale College
of Higher Education

NEW ERA FOR AVONDALE

Self-accrediting authority brings university college status closer

Avondale College of Higher Education has become the first Australian non-university higher education provider granted self-accrediting authority by the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency. The authority means Avondale can self-accredit all of its higher education courses, including higher degrees by coursework and by research. Avondale submitted its application in July 2014, with the initial documentation exceeding 2000 pages.

"It's probably impossible to say any one milestone is the most significant, but this has to be right up there," says the chair of Avondale's governing body, Dr Barry Oliver, who has served on Avondale College Council for 17 years.

President Professor Ray Roennfeldt describes the granting of self-accrediting authority as a "new era for Avondale." "While self-accrediting authority does not provide university status, it does require that the institution's internal processes are at least as robust and rigorous as that of a university. So, in this regard, it is a large step towards the fulfilment of Avondale's vision to be an Australian Christian university."

GRANT GROWS STUDENT OUTREACH

Avondale and ADRA team up to establish new community programs



Almost \$8000 in surplus funding from a community service project 10 years ago has been re-allocated by the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Australia for student-led outreach.

Student Associated Ministries (SAM) leader Anna Beaden and Lake Macquarie campus chaplain Dr Wayne French are using the money to bring all of Avondale's outreach programs, projects and services together under the collective LAMP (Let's Actually Meet People). The surplus funding came from a project staff members and students previously supported in Cabramatta, Sydney, and was identified as "unspent" by vice-president (finance, infrastructure and risk) Paul Hattingh late last year.

LAMP brings together 12 programs, projects and services, eight of which are being funded by the re-allocation. The new plan for using the money is more effective, says Mark Webster, chief executive officer of ADRA Australia. "I hope this grant will allow the students to do more than they'd originally hoped, and that lives will be changed as a result."

THE BIG SWITCH: ENERGY AND WATER MONITORING A MODEL FOR OTHERS

Avondale has made the switch to begin monitoring its energy and water use in hopes of decreasing costs and increasing sustainability.

The use of utility monitoring systems across the college of higher education's Lake Macquarie campus provides a model others could adopt, says an energy and water conservation specialist.

"Avondale is quietly and modestly undertaking, on its own behalf, a sustainability program that would do credit to some of the top Australian businesses with which we work," says Andrew Boughton, general manager of the Energy Division of CST Wastewater Solutions.

CST will monitor electricity use by connecting current transducers to data loggers. Avondale will then allocate costs per building and per faculty or department.

"We need baseline data to efficiently control our energy and water costs," says Paul Hattingh, the vice-president for finance, infrastructure and risk at Avondale. "Monitoring is the first



step in helping our faculties and departments take responsibility for their own financial and environmental sustainability."

The goal is behavioural change. "We have a long-term vision of greater sustainability," says Hattingh. "We hope one day to offer courses in sustainability and eventually allow a student group to recommend and manage behavioural change, based on the data we collect."

Boughton says the project at Avondale is a good example of how to increase sustainability without needing to invest heavily in complicated technology. "It's a practical, down-to-earth approach that gives measurable results virtually from the outset."

The renewed commitment to sustainability has earned Avondale the status of Bronze Partner in the New South Wales Government's Sustainability Advantage Program.

EGIVING FOR AVONDALE

Friends of Avondale share Avondale College of Higher Education's mission of fostering a Christian learning community dedicated to serving world needs. Become a Friend of Avondale by making a donation or gift. With less than 30 per cent of funding coming from government sources, donations and gifts provide Avondale with an essential source of income.

Donate to mission clubs, projects and scholarships through the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the South Pacific's eGiving site.

Thank you for ensuring future generations can also enjoy the Avondale experience.



ROMANIAN IDOL

The launch of an anthology of modern Romanian poetry has solidified the status of Avondale PhD student Daniel Ionita in the country's canon of literature.

The publication of Ionita's *Testament: Anthology of Modern Romanian Verse* (2nd Edition) has reached "near-celebrity coverage in Romania as a highly significant event and literary work," says translating assistant Associate Professor Daniel Reynaud. The work is a revision and expansion of Ionita's first publication, *Testament*, an anthology of translated Romanian poetry.

Romania's foremost contemporary literary critic and historian Alex Stefanescu writes that Ionita's work does well in "convincing an English reader, who has perhaps never heard about Romania, to pick up and read Romanian literature."

Photo: Etienne Reynaud

OUR JOURNEY, OUTBACK



Alumni Lauren and Lewis Clark pause for a selfie at Tunnell Hill, Western Australia. The pair found their first teaching roles at Karalundi Aboriginal Educational Community. **Photo:** Lewis Clark

Getting to Karalundi Aboriginal Educational Community is a journey, to say the least. Located 830 kilometres northeast of Perth, the trek is a nine-hour drive through sunburnt country to the town of Meekatharra. It is a calling not for the faint hearted—and for Lauren and Lewis Clark, graduates of Avondale College of Higher Education, the call to Karalundi has marked the beginning of their teaching careers—albeit an unexpected start.

“I sat in a lecture at Avondale where the Western Australian Adventist schools director was telling us about Karalundi,” Lauren says. “I literally turned to my friend and said, ‘It’s in the middle of nowhere, I’d never go there!’ I guess God took that as a challenge, because He opened the door to Karalundi at a time when other doors had closed, and I was in a position to say yes.”

The Clarks’ journey to Karalundi began at Avondale in 2008. Lauren had been passionate about teaching home economics since Year 9. “I wanted to help students who weren’t achieving very well in other subjects, to give them something to be proud of at school.”

Lewis, however, enrolled at Avondale “on a bit of whim.” Originally studying communication, he made the switch to secondary teaching as the industrial technology program began to grow. “I was told many times to enjoy the

Avondale experience as it would be the best time of my life,” he says. “It’s not until now that I realise how true that is. I meet so many people and made lifelong friends—and found the wife!”

Lauren and Lewis both graduated with a Bachelor of Education (Secondary) in Technology and Applied Studies—Lauren in 2012 and Lewis in 2013. Lewis’ call to Karalundi came two months before graduation, when Lauren had already been working there for three terms. They married in January 2014.

“I was hesitant to say yes [to Karalundi] because my friends and I had already planned how we were going to spend the last few months together,” Lewis says. “But I knew that it was time to join the real world and start a new life.”

Their new life hasn’t been without challenges, but the Clarks have taken them in stride. Cultural differences between the students and teachers can seem vast at times, but Lauren feels her time at Avondale, and her Ministry of Teaching Overseas trip to Cambodia in 2010, helped prepare her for Karalundi.

“Even though Aboriginal culture and Cambodian culture are different, the trip gave me confidence to teach in a culture different to my own,” Lauren says. “There is so much that cannot be taught—to have a class of your own

and to feel the responsibility for their learning is something that can only be experienced when you are in the field.”

Lauren’s favourite memory of her time at Karalundi is of a school trip she and Lewis went on to Broome. “It was such a great time bonding with staff and students, singing songs and riding camels on Cable Beach with the students. Especially the time when a wild pig tried to snuggle up next to us while camping under the stars!”

The boarding school environment means that Lauren and Lewis spend more time with their students than most other teachers. Being in a remote location away from family, while tough, has helped strengthen their relationships with the students. “Family is super important to the kids,” Lauren says. “It can be hard for us to be far away from our families, but the students in the dorms are away from family, too, and it can be a bonding thing to know that we are all relying on each other.”

“You get the opportunity to build genuine relationships with the students,” Lewis adds. “That’s why I stay.”

Sara Bolst is the alumni relations officer at Avondale College of Higher Education

LIFESTYLE: THE BEST MEDICINE

Avondale's Annual Appeal supporting health research

One of the world's leading health and exercise scientists describes it as one of the most exciting medical discoveries of the past few decades: the power of "low tech" for remedying problems created by "high tech."

"Scientific evidence is showing that returning to a simple lifestyle is often the best way to manage and treat chronic disease," says Dr Darren Morton, a senior lecturer at Avondale College of Higher Education whose doctorate is

centre's about and why its work is so important."

That work includes partnering with Sanitarium Health and Wellbeing to relaunch and study the Complete Health Improvement Programs (CHIP). Dr Paul Rankin used this lifestyle intervention as the basis for his PhD, which he completed through Avondale. He found the delivery of CHIP by volunteer facilitators in their communities significantly improves the health of participants.

"Scientific evidence is showing that returning to a simple lifestyle is often the best way to manage and treat chronic disease."

in human physiology. "It seems lifestyle is the best medicine."

Seventh-day Adventists have known and practiced this since their beginnings as a church more than 150 years ago. So, it is fitting Adventists are continuing to make a prominent contribution to the emerging discipline of lifestyle medicine. For example, the founder of the American College of Lifestyle Medicine, Dr John Kelly, is an Adventist; as are several of the college's presidents, including the incoming president.

Avondale, as one of two Adventist tertiary institutions in the South Pacific, is also making a contribution through its new Lifestyle Research Centre. The centre brings together academics from Avondale and at other entities. Their motto: "optimising health outcomes."

"Thomas Edison once said the doctor of the future will give no medicine but interest his patients in the cause and prevention of disease," says director Dr Brett Mitchell, an associate professor of nursing. "This is exactly what the

"I can now stand up when I train CHIP facilitators [Rankin is CHIP in Churches program director for the church in the South Pacific] and say, 'We know that by running this program, you will be making a difference to people's lives.'"

The research by Rankin and others in the Lifestyle Research Centre

is establishing credibility in the medical community. Published papers have appeared in academic journals such as the *British Medical Journal Open*, the *New Zealand Medical Journal* and the *Medical Journal of Australia*.

Research presented in the latter measured an increase in hospital-identified *Clostridium difficile* infections. The message: we need to standardise cleaning practices and products.

Mitchell, a co-author of the paper, is a chief investigator on a National Health and Medical Research Council grant implementing and evaluating the effectiveness and the cost-effectiveness of targeted environmental cleaning practices in 20 Australian hospitals. "I've gone into research to make a difference," he says. "That's why the work of the Lifestyle Research Centre is important—our projects are sustainable, cost effective and improve lives. And because we have a range of academics working on projects, we consider a number of different perspectives."

The centre is also growing its contribution to the church's health message by studying the effectiveness of a modified CHIP for illiterate communities in the South Pacific and by offering postgraduate degrees in lifestyle medicine.

Giving to the Avondale Annual Appeal this year will support two of the centre's projects. The first, Lifestyle Intervention, is improving wellbeing by reducing the burden of chronic disease. The second, Infection Prevention, is reducing the impact of preventable infections.

If the evidence is showing lifestyle is the best medicine, then the Adventist health message "is arguably more relevant today than when it was conceived," says Morton. "And that's exciting because we have the potential to help others become healthier and happier."

Brenton Stacey is the public relations officer at Avondale College of Higher Education.



As alumni and friends of Avondale College of Higher Education, you'll likely have noticed that we've changed a lot over the years. So has the Australian tertiary sector—Australia now has the highest number of universities per capita in the world, and twice as many universities as it did in the 1980s. University culture in our country has never been stronger.

Avondale's uniqueness and service mission is something of which we're proud. We're small, but our graduates do big things. We produce professionals that go on to work in life-changing fields—nursing, teaching, ministry. Avondale graduates around the world are living out our mission of serving world needs.

But these differences can also present challenges. Avondale is currently unable to access large amounts of government funding that larger tertiary organisations utilise, so we rely heavily on donations—your donations.

Which is why we need your help.

With so many other institutions vying for your attention, it can be tempting to let Avondale slip from your mind when it comes to pledging your support. But as the financial year comes to a close, we ask you to spare a thought for Avondale.

Your support, both emotionally and financially, is important to us. It's your support in previous years that has helped us solve some of our most pressing issues, including the much-needed refurbishment of Music and Greer Halls in 2013, and the repairing of the Avondale College Seventh-day Adventist Church roof in 2014. This year, we're dedicating our Annual Appeal to the funding of the Lifestyle Research Centre, a project we believe will impact thousands of lives in Australia and around the world. We're excited about the changes we can make—together.

Thank you for your continued support—we look forward to facing the new financial year with you.



Paul Hattingh, Vice President
(Finance, Infrastructure & Risk)
Avondale College
of Higher Education

MUSIC & GREER HALLS, 2012



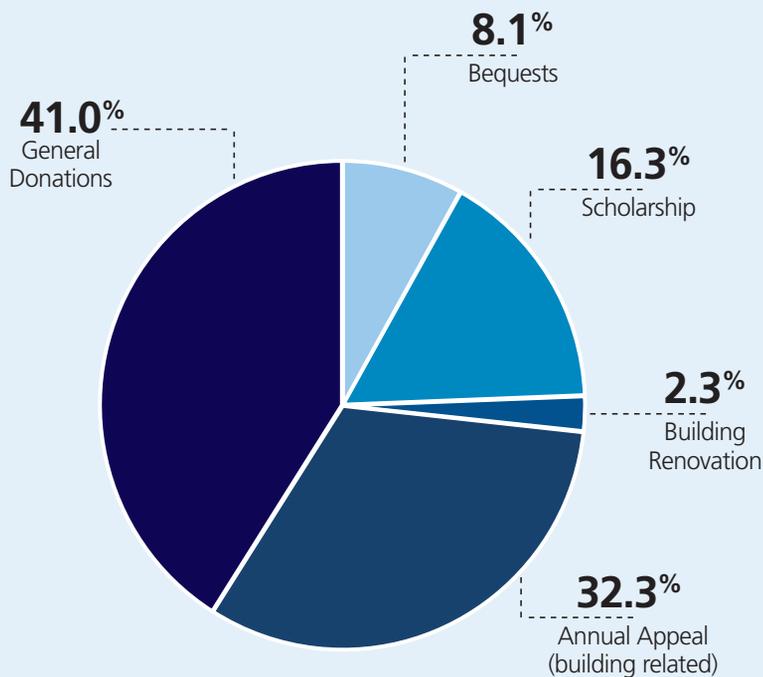
The much-needed facelifts for Music and Greer Halls, two of the historic buildings on Avondale's Lake Macquarie campus, were made possible by the Avondale offering collected in Seventh-day Adventist churches in June 2012. The two buildings were in dire need of repair, and the appeal response provided the resources to make this a reality. The repairs included the basics such as guttering, re-plastering ceilings and replacing rotten beams; but the funds also allowed Avondale to install airconditioning in the rehearsal rooms and classrooms, install swipe card security access to each room, re-coat the roofs, and polish floorboards. Your donations helped improve the Avondale experience for music students. Thank you.

COLLEGE CHURCH, 2014



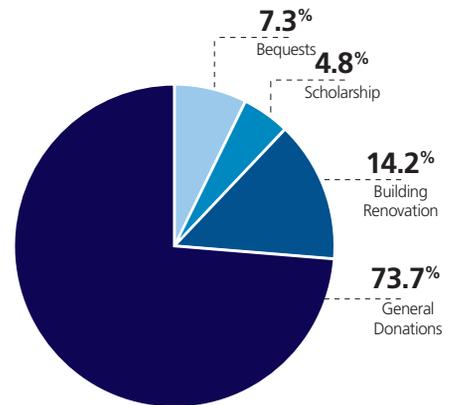
When flooding through the flat concrete roof of the Avondale College Seventh-day Adventist Church saw the building become too holey for use, you stepped in. The 2014 Annual Appeal raised \$215,000, which helped to fund the solution—the building of a new pitched roof. The new roof is insulated to prevent any moisture build-up, protects ventilation machinery on the roof and helps keep the temperature inside the building cool in the summer months. The church building is an integral part of the campus as it not only houses worship services each week but also accommodates numerous other events such as Festival of Faith throughout the academic year. Thank you for helping us restore our place of worship.

DONATIONS BY TYPE, 2014

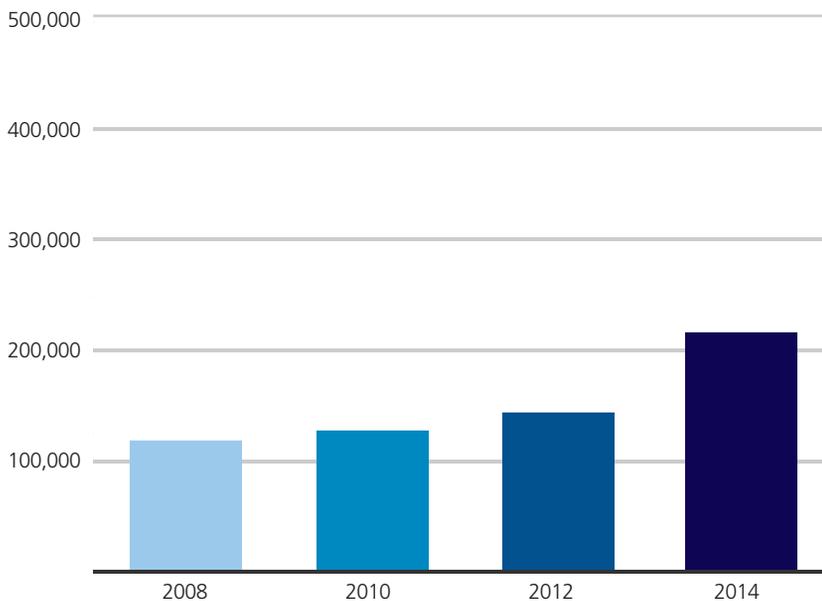


THE FIGURES: 2014 FINANCIAL REPORT

DONATIONS BY TYPE, 2013



DONATIONS: ANNUAL APPEAL



TOTAL DONATIONS
\$643,440
FOR THE YEAR 2014

2015 ANNUAL APPEAL

Our goal for 2015 Annual Appeal is to raise **\$300,000** for the Lifestyle Research Centre (see "Lifestyle: The best medicine," on the previous page). We've set the bar high, but with your help, we believe the goal is achievable. The money raised will support two of LRC's projects—Lifestyle Intervention and Infection Prevention—through funding scholarships and research support.



Jayden Hinshaw, 2014 recipient of the Avondale Business School Scholarship, talks with head of school, Warrick Long. **Photo:** Sara Bolst

FUNDING THE FUTURE: SCHOLARSHIPS AND AVONDALE

For Jayden Hinshaw, a second-year student in the Avondale Business School, coming to Avondale College of Higher Education was “a leap of faith.” The 2014 recipient of the Avondale Business Scholarship knew from an early age that business was his career path of choice, but it was the scholarship that helped confirm his decision to study at Avondale.

“Coming to Avondale was a big decision because I wasn’t sure what to expect,” Jayden says. “But the opportunities are enormous. . . . I took the leap, and I haven’t looked back.”

The scholarship Jayden received is one of five offered to new students by the business school each year. To be considered, potential students must provide examples of their commitment to Avondale’s values, high academic achievement and their involvement in and commitment to business at large. The scholarship provides financial assistance over the student’s first year at Avondale and can be applied to tuition or accommodation costs.

“Because we don’t get HECS funding, the scholarship can be the difference between a student saying yes or no [to studying at Avondale],” says Warrick Long, head of the Avondale Business School. “It helps ease the burden of paying full fees.”

Receiving the scholarship meant that Jayden

could live in the residences on campus. “It gives you something you can’t get anywhere else. Everyone knows everyone. It’s a community, a family, a brotherhood.”

Jayden’s interest in business grew while working with his father in the family business—an interest that saw his dad gradually giving him more responsibilities until Jayden was managing a Civic Video store in his hometown of Lismore. Interacting with big names like Pixar and Sony helped give Jayden experience in the field and the desire to learn more.

“I’m passionate about big businesses,” Jayden says. “In big businesses, you have a CEO, an HR, marketing, PR—seeing all the different departments work together for a common goal is a powerful thing. Big business has more power to mentor and change.”

Jayden gives credit to Avondale’s small classes and to its personal approach as the reasons why the Avondale Business School is making a name for itself in the wider community. “The lecturers here are wonderful,” he says. “There’s much more interaction here—the lecturers

know you by name, they know your qualities, what you’re good at. They don’t just chuck you in the deep end and say ‘good luck’—they walk you through step by step.”

Along with another student from the Avondale Business School, Jayden will be completing his four-week professional internship with Asian Aid in Nepal at the end of June. He sees the experience as an opportunity to learn new methods while sharing the knowledge they have gleaned in the past 18 months.

As for the future, Jayden has many options. With two job offers up his sleeve, he is also considering serving with the Royal Australian Air Force or with an aid organisation such as the Adventist Development and Relief Agency or Asian Aid—but he is keeping his options open.

“My main passion is just to help other people,” Jayden says. “It’s one of the main reasons I came to Avondale.”

Sara Bolst is the alumni relations officer at Avondale College of Higher Education

About half of the scholarships Avondale offers are funded by alumni and friends of Avondale. To fund a scholarship, contact Professor Ray Roennfeldt on +61 2 4980 2101, or president@avondale.edu.au. Find a list of existing scholarships at www.avondale.edu.au/scholarships



FINDING “FIGHTING MAC”: PROFESSOR DANIEL REYNAUD’S JOURNEY INTO THE LIFE OF THE ANZAC LEGEND

More than ten years ago, I began looking for what I thought would be some of the untold stories about Christianity and the Anzacs. Having read that the Anzacs were indifferent to religion, I was unable to find much more on that subject, for the Anzac legend itself was strictly secular. Yet a certain proportion of Australian men at the time were actively religious, so I expected that religiously active men naturally formed an important minority in the Anzac story. I set out to find what I could, starting with the most obvious sources for religious accounts of the war: the diaries and letters of the Anzac chaplains. Among the primary sources held in the Australian War Memorial (AWM) Research Centre, I soon found a fat file of personal papers from William McKenzie. Soon I was trying to decipher his bold, urgent and untidy pen strokes across the pages of his diary and letters, and the fascinating story of this energetic, committed, resourceful and charismatic man emerged. His own writings were bursting with vitality and humour. I thought I would find some stories: I just didn't expect them to be as huge as this.

On the suggestion of the pioneer historian in Anzac religious history, Michael McKernan, McKenzie's youngest granddaughter Ann Zubrick had donated to the AWM McKenzie's Gallipoli diary and his letters to wife Annie and some of the letters to his children penned during his three-and-a-half years away in Egypt, Gallipoli and France. Unfortunately, McKenzie had been unable to keep Annie's letters secure during the war years, so we only have his letters to tell the story, attempting to guess some of the stories going on at home from McKenzie's replies.

Having finally read through the massive file of McKenzie papers, I then moved on to other sources. I found a few biographies of McKenzie, some useful, others from authors capable of believing and then exaggerating every tall tale told about him—and there were a few. I corresponded with a researcher in the army who had an interest in McKenzie—he wrote a chapter on “Fighting Mac” in his myth-busting book on Anzac. I took up investigating the myths and legends about “Mac” myself, trying to sort out what was true and what were the soldierly equivalents of fishermen's tales. I eventually found that a good many stories were

grossly exaggerated, if not downright invented—but I also found that some of the myth-busting was also inaccurate, and that I could substantiate some of the remarkable deeds credited to McKenzie.

McKernan's history of religion in Australia during the war and his book on Anzac chaplains were the next ports of call. Then there were trips to the Salvation Army heritage centres in Melbourne and Sydney. The Melbourne centre director Lindsay Cox proved to be wonderfully helpful, and his dry wit made the process of discovery even more fun. The main resource was the Salvation Army newspaper *War Cry*, with an increasing number of articles on McKenzie, as well as excerpts from many of his wartime letters to Salvation Army boss James Hay, and even a good collection of articles penned by McKenzie.

From there I searched further afield, eventually tracking down two granddaughters who were able to help fill in the personal family side of the story that naturally was lacking in articles and features about McKenzie. Zubrick was particularly helpful. An academic and researcher herself, she critiqued the emerging manuscript, challenging me to contextualise and fill out some bald spots in the narrative.

That amazing online resource, Trove, with its complete digitised collection of almost every imaginable Australian newspaper from the past, yielded news stories about the now-famous McKenzie once he returned from the war, helping me gauge his post-war social impact and reputation.

As the process evolved, I was asked by *It Is Written Oceania*, the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the South Pacific's principal evangelistic television program, to write some Anzac-themed scripts and travel with the film crew to make some episodes. Eventually, nine scripts were done, and we filmed on location in Egypt and Gallipoli, and later France and Belgium. One of my favourite episodes was on "Fighting Mac", and it was great to film where he had been, and to recount some of the awesome stories from his life while standing in the shadow of the pyramids where he had preached powerful sermons to the Anzacs, and to see the headstones in Gallipoli cemeteries of men he had buried with his own hands. We walked over the ground at Lone Pine, where he so bravely followed the Australian attack into the captured Turkish trenches and began helping the wounded even as the fighting swirled around him.

What I found was greater than I expected. I

was amazed to find a man whose spiritual influence was pervasive throughout the Australian Imperial Force during the war. I did not expect that a humble (and for all of Mac's larger-than-life personality and showmanship, he was genuinely humble) Salvation Army man would remain a crowd-drawing celebrity right across Australia for the next 20 years. Everywhere he went he received a hero's welcome and drew crowds compared at the time to those following a Royal visit. This man was one of the great personalities of Australia between 1915 and 1939. His life and work impacted our nation in a way of which few others could boast. Once a household name; now virtually forgotten—something needs to change.

Having spent years compiling the raw material, I then needed extended time to sift through it all, shape it into a narrative and commit it to paper. The bulk of the writing was done in less than six months, during which time I also managed to crank out a dozen articles and film documentary scripts. Then it was a case of seeing it through the publication process, as editor Nathan Brown of Signs Publishing worked with me to improve the text.

I have published a few articles and books over the years. Usually by the time I hold the printed copy, most of the anticipation has gone, as I've seen so much of it from first tentative drafts through to endless proof copies. But this one was different, still exciting even weeks after I received my first hard copy. Maybe because I have enjoyed the journey on which McKenzie has taken me. Maybe because his spiritual vitality still resonates with me. There is something special about this man and his story.

I can recognise when I started on the journey to find "Fighting Mac". However, I doubt I will be able to identify when that journey will end. Even now, after all the years of tracking every lead I could find, new people are coming forward with their McKenzie stories. Most repeat what is already known. But just occasionally, I wish I had heard this little detail or that special anecdote when I was still writing the book. So far, no new information has been a game changer, but the researcher in me still wants to be as complete as possible.

Associate Professor Daniel Reynaud
is the assistant dean (learning and teaching) in the
Faculty of Arts, Nursing and Theology of
Avondale College of Higher Education.



Daniel Reynaud presents *The Man the Anzacs Revered* to William McKenzie's great-grandson Stephen Hansen and partner Josephine Bibby at the Evensong celebration on May 2.

Photo: Etienne Reynaud



STILL TELLING THE WORLD

Alumnus brings relevance and meaning to history and prophecy

Avondale alumnus Dr Allan Lindsay is still keen to tell the world about Christ and the church as revealed through the ministry of Seventh-day Adventist pioneer Ellen White. The retired academic, minister, teacher and former director of the Ellen G White/Seventh-day Adventist Research Centre spoke to *Reflections* about history and the spirit of prophecy and about how to keep both relevant and meaningful.

Why is history so important to Seventh-day Adventists?

To be ignorant of the past—either as human beings or as a church—is to lose identity. If we don't know how and why we came into existence, we won't know why we exist today, and that will most certainly affect our understanding of our mission.

Do Adventists talk and think enough about their history?

Not as well as we might. Many in our church are still ignorant of our prophetic foundations and of the Lord's leadings in their fulfilment. God's commands to ancient Israel to remember and teach its history are still relevant and meaningful.

The docudrama series *Keepers of the Flame*, which you presented in the late 1980s, is still one of your most recognisable contributions to the church. Why has it been so well received?

This has been a surprise, but I think it's partly because *Keepers of the Flame* presents, in a visual way, some of the highlights in the great story of how God has led us, and His teachings, in the past. What we see we're more likely to remember and to respond to than just what we hear. Seeing the places where the events of our past occurred has also added impact and reality to their telling.

Why is the ministry of Adventist pioneer Ellen White such a difficult issue for the church?

A simple answer is because the gift of prophecy has always been surrounded by misunderstanding, rejection and opposition. If prophets are genuine, they're bearing, like it says in Revelation, the testimony of

Jesus. In the light of the great controversy between Christ and Satan, that will ensure opposition.

So, how can the church deal better with this opposition?

By helping our people—especially the young—to see Ellen White as a warm-hearted, sincere and God-called human being and to understand her major role was to lead people to Jesus, as well as to teach about how to live the abundant joy-filled life Jesus spoke about. If her writings are to continue to speak to the church, we must continue to learn how to interpret and understand them, especially by noting the circumstances of her counsel and by looking for the principles she's addressing. The key is to apply her writings in a balanced and accurate way in a very different world than the world in which she lived.

In what way did you contribute to the new *The Ellen G White Encyclopedia*?

I contributed in a small way. The seven entries I wrote mostly concerned the beginnings of the church's work in Australia, including the account of the nine years Ellen White spent here. But this encyclopedia is the most comprehensive resource on the life and ministry of Ellen White ever produced, and I cannot recommend it too highly.

You also contributed to the Adventist heritage film project *Tell the World*. What's been your role on the film?

My role has been to ensure the film presents the account of the first 40 years of our church's history as accurately as we can make it. This is the first time the church has attempted to tell this story in a full-length movie—and with more than 90 actors and 1000 extras! All involved in its production are committed to portraying the story in the most professional, heart-warming and faith-affirming way.

TAKE FIVE WITH AVONDALE ALUMNI

Kelly Long graduated from Avondale with a Bachelor of Nursing degree in 2013. She currently resides in Dora Creek, New South Wales, but calls Western Australia home.



Some people seem to be born knowing what they want to do in life, while others find out along the way. When did you know that nursing was the career for you?

Nursing was literally the last career I would have picked for me. I was always the girly-girl who hated blood and guts and fainted easily. I tried work experience in a hospital during high school and only lasted an hour! After high school, I ended up getting a job as a carer at the Adventist retirement village, and about halfway through the year I realised I really loved what I was doing and was inspired by the people I worked with. I applied to Avondale and started studying for a Bachelor of Nursing in 2010.

What has life held for you since graduation? Has it been what you expected?

I honestly didn't know what to expect after graduation. I took a semester off in the middle of my course, which meant that when I finished my studies mid-2013 I had some time to fill before starting the new graduate program in 2014. The job I found with a private community nursing agency was just what I needed, and such a good experience—everyone was so supportive. It was great to have the opportunity to ease into nursing without having the added stress of a hospital environment.

I did my new graduate program through John Hunter and Belmont Hospitals and enjoyed the variety; but I missed the consistency of care and the ability to focus only on one client at a time. I also liked the idea of stable work hours, as I've started my masters in clinical nursing this year. So, I made the decision to return to the community setting. I think I've surprised myself in the sense that I ended up preferring community nursing to working in a hospital.

What part of your daily work do you enjoy the most?

The people. My colleagues are some of the most inspiring people I've met. They're so experienced and always patient with me and my abundance of questions. It's a relatively small team but yet everyone goes the extra mile. As the primary RN for my area, on a monthly basis

I check in with each of the clients in the area. I also have people that I visit on a weekly or in some cases daily basis and I enjoy being able to "journey" with them. I like that no case is the same, and that I get to use my problem solving to try to improve their quality of life.

What part of your daily work do you find the most challenging?

People! I struggle not to get disheartened when the rest of the team and myself are doing our absolute best to improve someone's quality of life and they aren't appreciative. When I come back a few days after doing a dressing and find the patient removed it for no apparent reason, it frustrates me. I acknowledge that some of their complaints are valid and that everyone is entitled to be the master of their own health care, but it's hard to put my personal want of affirmation aside from my professional life at times. It's something I'm working on.

What are some of the things on your bucket list?

Professionally, I want to graduate with my master's degree at the end of next year and use it in my ultimate goal of becoming a policy maker and patient advocate. I'm passionate about things like veteran's affairs and the way elderly people are treated within the healthcare system, so I'd like to become a person of influence in that sphere. I know it sounds cheesy, but I do want to feel like I'm making a positive difference in people's lives.

Personally, I'm not so highly ambitious. Before I "kick the bucket," I'd like to actually finish the two books on my bedside table, learn to cook something that doesn't come from a can or frozen packet and stop spending money on clothes only to throw them out six months later. Also, I promised a child at summer camp two years ago that I'd have a go at knee boarding if she did, and I still haven't made it up to her. Keeping that promise is currently at the top of my list.

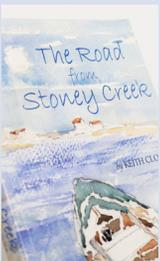
BABY GRAND BACK WHERE IT BEGAN



Music major Emily Dorrough plays the Yamaha G2 grand piano, donated by the Clapham family to the Avondale Conservatorium. **Photo:** Brenton Stacey.

ADVENTURES OF A LIBRARIAN

Keith Clouten, Avondale's former head librarian has self-published a book in which he outlines some of his experiences from his career. *The Road from Stoney Creek* reveals an exciting life of travel and adventure which saw Keith working as an academic librarian in three countries and a number of Seventh-Day Adventist institutions, and volunteering in dozens of others. Keith studied secondary education at Avondale and graduated in 1958.



IN MEMORY OF KEN CHAPMAN

Ken Chapman, born November 11, 1949 in Perth, Western Australia, passed away on January 8, 2015 while on a bicycle training ride. Ken spent his early years in Papua New Guinea, the son of missionary parents Alf and Betty Chapman. Ken studied at Avondale and after graduation remained in Cooranbong, where he became well known and respected for his church and community involvement. He served as an investigative consultant in the Chamberlain case, and was an advocate for all those who needed help; seeking no recognition other than the joy of helping others. He is survived by his wife Gwenda and sisters Margaret and Delys. *Adapted from Record, May 2.*

INSURANCE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

The 2015 Aon Benfield Scholarship, sponsored by insurance provider Aon Benfield, has been awarded to an Avondale alumnus for outstanding practice and professional development. **Levi Gardner** won the scholarship with his essay on the specified question, "How could social media and web-based technology change the insurance landscape?" As winner of the scholarship, he has been awarded a trip to London to participate in the Aon Global Clients Reinsurance Seminar. Levi undertook his studies at what is now the Avondale Business School, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Business degree in 2009. "I couldn't be more thrilled!" says Levi.

IN MEMORY OF JOHN JEREMIC

John Jeremic, born March 21, 1938 in Nis, Serbia, passed away on November 15, 2014 in Surrey Hills, Victoria. John trained for the ministry both in Serbia and at Avondale College and was passionate about sharing Jesus with those around him. He pursued a business career and worked with nursing homes and private hospitals. John financed the building and refurbishment of over 150 churches, 10 schools, and a number of libraries—including a new wing of the library on Avondale's Lake Macquarie campus, named in his honour—and funded medical centres in Africa and the Pacific. He is survived by his three children, their partners and four grandchildren. *Adapted from Record, February 14.*

A donation by an Avondale alumna has returned a piano to its original home and to its role as a teaching tool.

The Yamaha G2 grand piano comes to Avondale Conservatorium from the Clapham family, which has a long association with Avondale College of Higher Education—**Noel Clapham** worked as head of the Music Department from 1952 to 1957. Noel's wife, **Joy**, offered piano lessons to students in the area. Noel and Joy cherished the piano, says son John. Joy considered it her "lifblood," he adds, because it provided a source of income.

In addition to the piano, the family has also donated a viola and an extensive collection of sheet music for organ, piano, viola, violin and voice.

INVEST IN THE FUTURE

The Clapham's gift is an example of a gift-in-kind—one of the many ways to give to Avondale. Gifts-in-kind include property other than cash, such as pieces of art, books, manuscripts, equipment and land, and may also qualify as tax donations.

In addition, donations to Avondale can come in the form of bequests—gifts left to Avondale through an individual's will—or endowments, which are gifts that Avondale must invest.

For more information on giving to Avondale, visit the giving section of our website: www.avondale.edu.au/giving.

IN MEMORY OF WARREN JUDD

Warren Judd, most recently the chief executive officer of the Adventist Media Centre in California, passed away on May 26, 2015 following a long battle with cancer. Warren studied theology at Avondale from 1962 to 1964, during which he sang with the Avondale Symphonic Choir and directed a 16-voice male choir. His music ministry continued after leaving Avondale, and he was heavily involved in producing the Family Reunion music DVDs, CDs, concerts and cruises. Warren served in a number of media roles for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the South Pacific and in North America. He is survived by his wife, Jan, and his children and grandchildren.

2015 ANNUAL APPEAL

LIFESTYLE IS THE BEST MEDICINE!

Scientific evidence is showing that returning to a simple lifestyle is often the best way to manage and treat chronic disease.

Support Avondale College of Higher Education's Lifestyle Research Centre as it leads in the study of lifestyle medicine and grows its contribution to the Seventh-day Adventist Church's health message.

The centre's achievements include:

- studying the outcomes of the Complete Health Improvement Programs and the effectiveness of a modified CHIP for illiterate communities in the South Pacific;
- publishing papers in academic journals such as the *British Medical Journal Open*; and
- offering postgraduate degrees in lifestyle medicine.

Thank you for considering giving to Avondale's Annual Appeal this year and for helping us become healthier and happier.



THANK YOU!

The 2014 Annual Appeal raised one-quarter (\$215,000) of the cost of building a new pitched roof for Avondale College Seventh-day Adventist Church. You gave generously.



www.avondale.edu.au/egiving

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