

March 2021

northpoint

North New South Wales Conference News



SUMMER CAMPS WITH A DIFFERENCE

Jared Chung

COVID put a halt to many of our plans for ministry last year, but I was glad to see that God has found a way to keep our camp ministries going. Although this year looked a little different than the other years that I have worked at summer camps, it still accomplished the same goal—to inspire the campers to have a personal relationship with Christ.

Unlike other years, we had entire families staying at Stuart's Point, and then the campers were bussed over to Yarra each morning. This actually proved to be more of a blessing for ministry than a hinderance. While the classes and activities happened during the day, parents were able to relax and get some time for themselves. We had chaplains on both ends of camp (Yarra and Stuart's Point) ministering to both children and parents, so ALL members of the family were able to learn more

about the gospel—not just the kids. Another big difference was that we had all the age groups simultaneously in one camp. This also proved to be a blessing because we got to see kids in older age groups bonding with kids in the younger age groups.

From the icebreaker games to the music, the spiritual programming was intentional and powerful. Lawson (our camp pastor) presented the gospel to the kids in a way that was honest, exciting, and understandable. After each talk, the staff would break into discussion groups with the kids, and I was impressed to see how much the younger kids were able to gain from the sermon.

Despite the rain, activities happened as normal, and it was fun to see how different classes improvised around the weather

conditions. I had the privilege of being the videography instructor along with my co-leader Michaela. Our first day as a group, we had the campers in our class brainstorm ideas for a video. I wrote a script for it, and then we used our second day to film it across camp with the campers as the actors. We had one more day to finish filming and editing, and at the end of the week, we had an 8-minute video to play at the last camp meeting.

All in all, despite the various restrictions, this camp was a blessing to both campers and parents. God has been leading our ministry this year, and I believe that He will continue to do so.

Check out the video plus more photos.
nns.w.adventist.org.au/news-and-events/



President's Message

Pr Adrian Raethel
NNSW Conference
President



It must have been so uncomfortable for the audience to listen to His Sermon on the Mount. Jesus comes straight to the point.

*“Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s/sister’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?”
Matthew 7.3 NIV.*

There is a monumental difference between a speck and a plank. And to our horror, we don’t have the speck, we have the plank! A common human frailty is to criticise or judge someone else when the much bigger problem rests with us.

The focus of the Conference for 2021 and the theme for Little Big Camp is the strategic goal of Growing Spiritually. How easy it is for us to think so-and- so should be reading the Bible more or spending more time in prayer. But what about me, and you? How is Growing Spiritually defined? A Spirit-filled body of believers that are experiencing personal and corporate growth. Members are experiencing a vibrant prayer and devotional life; empowered to joyfully share their faith.

It’s good that Jesus was a carpenter. He is just the right person to work on our plank.



THE FULLNESS OF GOD

Charissa Torossian
NNSW Conference Prayer Director
and Evangelist

John 1:16 says, “And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace.” Have you ever wondered what John was talking about? Colossians 1:19 says, “For it pleased the Father that in Him (that is, Jesus) all the fullness should dwell.” Fullness of what? John 1:14 says the Word that made flesh was, “full of grace and truth.” Colossians 2:9 adds, “For in Him (Jesus) dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.”

So when God so loved our world, giving His only begotten Son, He gave Him – in His fullness – that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. This is a powerful thought! Jesus is the one, ever-full source of grace, truth and divine strength. As Christians, because of who Jesus is, we have been given one blessing after another. Since our God gave of Himself without limit for our redemption, His grace and power to work on our behalf is limitless.

However, John 1:12 reminds us that, “... as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God.” Without personal faith in Christ, we miss out on His fullness—while all who truly believe will be filled! This is why it’s so sweet to trust in Jesus. “Christ desires by the fullness of His power so to strengthen His people that through them the whole world shall be encircled with an atmosphere of grace.” {RH November 21, 1907} When we open our hearts to God through prayer and the study of His Word, we receive of the infinite, marvellous fullness of God. We receive of His grace

and truth – in, through and all because of Jesus. So whatever you do, don’t miss out on receiving of His fullness, today.

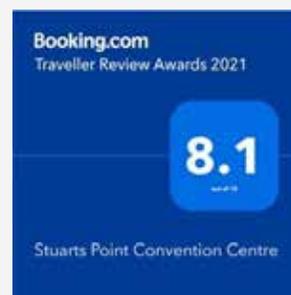
Stuarts Point Convention Centre Is Getting Recognised!

Glenn and Karen Houssenloge, the current caretakers at Stuarts Point Convention Centre (SPCC), were invited to an invite only meeting with the New South Wales Premier last week. They joined around 30 business leaders in the Stuarts Point and Scotts Head area, each having a talk with Premier Gladys Berejikian. Glenn and Karen spoke about all the amazing things SPCC does in accommodation services.



Karen Houssenloge, Premier Gladys Berejikian and Glenn Houssenloge

Stuarts Point Convention Centre also received an award of a rating 8.1 out of 10 from the Booking.com Traveller Review Awards 2021.



Central Coast Adventist School 2020 Mission Activities.

Despite COVID and in some cases because of it, teachers, staff and students were busy in 2020 at CCAS involved in mission activities. The Week of Spiritual Emphasis transitioned to an online program and was live-streamed to the School community. Students are inviting their friends to join Bible study and Bible reading groups. Parents have been watching the online weekly chapel programs along with their children. Funds have been raised for AORE Adventist Academy and Parker Primary School in Vanuatu following cyclone Harold. CCAS partnered with The Haven Church to distribute 63 hampers to CCAS families who had lost work or had their business fold due to the pandemic. Recipients have expressed deep appreciation for the care and practical Christianity that has been demonstrated during their time of crisis.



Gifts

Pr Neil Thompson

Gifts are great tokens of our love but are never a substitute for our love. They can act as a stepping stone to the expression of love, but the gift itself is not love. It is just a thing given by someone who loves. Real love involves taking a risk and giving of yourself, and how much you are willing to give of yourself determines the quality of your relationship to a large extent. The gateway to love's deepest places is through heaven's risky gate of vulnerability as you take a risk and give of yourself – just think how vulnerable Jesus was in giving himself to humanity. The gift of yourself opens the possibility of increasing experiences of joy and happiness.

So how do you give yourself?

It starts with our mindset.

We give ourselves to another first of all in our mind which translates into our actions. Adopting a healthy mindset and allowing yourself to think about your partner and your relationship in positive ways really does make a difference. Our thoughts become our words and actions, which become our habits and interpersonal style and form the foundation of our relationships.

An attitude that is open, willing to connect and trust, that isn't always trying to keep you safe, a mindset that is willing to take risks with low regard for self in loving the other. A mindset predisposed with the intent to see your partner in the best light

possible will help you overlook the occasional gremlin in the relationship (doesn't work in abusive and toxic relationships).

We change our mindset by a decision to adopt a positive view of our partner and relationship. We choose to think tenderly and exclusively about them. Think of all the things you admire: their looks, smile, favourite sayings, habits, kindness, compassion, strength, competence, sensibility, achievement, witty, playful, flirtatious, well educated, knowledgeable, wisdom and so on. Make your list as detailed and as personal as possible. If some of the things you think about make you smile and feel more gratitude about your partner then you are on the right track. This will all feed into a powerful process in your brain that will make you fall in love even more with your partner and help you to be more inclined to think well of them and your relationship.

The more in love, the easier it is to serve and do things for your mate that will bring you both happiness. Bring them their favourite drink because you can, say thank you with a smile, give them a back rub/scratch or a foot or scalp massage, clean their car out, take them on a date, make plans together, go away for the weekend together, and on it goes.

So by all means give your partner a gift as a token of your love and especially the gift of yourself in an endless falling in love.

2021 Pastoral Staffing

Alstonville	Dada Fialho	Kingscliff Associate	Andrew Pratt
Armidale	David Cherry	Kurri Kurri	Neil Thompson
Avondale College	Norman Hurlow	Kyogle	Fernand Lombart
Avondale College Associate	Fomai Mohr	Lakeside	David Price
Avondale College Associate	Micheala Truscott	Lightning Ridge	Beulah James
Avondale Memorial	Nimrod Maua	Lismore	Tim Merritt
Avondale Memorial Associate	Stephen Duncan	Living Abundantly	David Stojic
Avondale Memorial Associate	Steve Magaitis	Macksville	Quintin Dutlow
Ballina	Dada Fialho	Maclean	Adam Cinzio
Bellbrook	Quintin Dutlow	Maitland	Neil Thompson
Bellingen	Tim Turner	Moree	Peau Afoa
Blue Haven	Morgan Vincent	Mullumbimby	David Haupt
Boolaroo	Grego Pillay	Mullumbimby Associate	Tema Pologa
Bourke	Albert Peter	Murwillumbah	Ashley Smith
Bray Park	Steven Teale	Murwillumbah Associate	Boris Jovinov
Brewarrina	Doreen Murphy	Muswellbrook	Leticia Moreno
Byron Bay	Andrew Pratt	Nambucca Heads	Tim Turner
Byron Bay Assistant Pastor	Glen Hughes	Narrabri	Peau Afoa
Camden Haven	David Kosmeier	Nelson Bay	Danuta Stockwell
Cameron Park Fellowship	Lynette Moodley	Newcastle Multicultural	Uriah St Juste
Casino	Tim Kingston	Newcastle Polish	David Stojic
Caves Beach Church Plant	Robert Morgan	Newcastle Samoan	Talai Mohr
Central Coast Community	Matthew Pearce	Newcastle Spanish	Roberto Velasquez
Cessnock	TBA	Ocean Shores	Tema Pologa
Charlestown	Bob Bolst	Ourimbah	Mike Parker
Coffs Coast	Ben Rea	Port Macquarie	TBA
Coffs Harbour	Ben Rea	Quirindi/Manila	Raymond Dabson
Community @ the Bay	Sau Finau	Raymond Terrace Mission	Blake Penland
Coonamble	Christopher Petersen	Scone	Leticia Moreno
Cooranbarraban	Christopher Petersen	Singleton	Leticia Moreno
Dora Creek	David Price	South Kempsey Aboriginal	Quintin Dutlow
Dorrigo	Tim Turner	South West Rocks	Jack Ryder
Dungog	Ross Chadwick	Swansea	James Lee
Faith FM Radio/Conference Evangelist	Lyle Southwell	Tamworth	David Cherry
Forresters Beach	Neil Watts	Tamworth Associate	Tim O'Keefe
Forresters Beach Associate	Morgan Vincent	Taree	Graham Stewart
Forster-Tuncurry	Graham Stewart	Tenterfield	Brad Cooke
Gateway	Michael Chapman	The Haven	Ian Cangy
Gateway Associate	Tarenne Greenwood	The Haven Associate	Kim Parmenter
Glen Innes	Brad Cooke	The Vine	Matthew Atcheson
Gloucester	Shaun Hepworth	The Well (Kempsey)	Jack Ryder
Gosford	Miroslav Stilinovic	Toronto	Susan Magaitis
Grafton	Adam Cinzio	Tumbulgam	Matthew Atcheson
Grafton Associate	Greg Fernance	Upper Clarence	Tim Kingston
Gunnedah	Raymond Dabson	Wallsend	Lizeth Momanga
Guyra	Luke Reeves	Wallsend Associate	TBA
Hamilton	Justin Torossian	Warners Bay	Joseph Skaf
Hillview	Danny Milenkov	Wauchope	David Kosmeier
Inverell	Luke Reeves	West Wallsend Korean	James Lee
Kanwal	David Bertelsen	Windale Aboriginal	Keith Stockwell
Kempsey	Martin Thomson	Wingham	Shaun Hepworth
Kingscliff	Quintin Betteridge	Woy Woy	Mike Parker
Kingscliff Associate	Lyndon Parmenter	Wyee	Grego Pillay

A Heart For Helping

Wendy Hunter

Adventist Senior Living Employee Wins Ballina Shire Young Citizen of the Year Award

We are pleased to share the exciting news that out of eight nominees, Ryan Webb, who works as a member of the hospitality team at Adventist Senior Livings aged care facility at Alstonville is the winner of the Ballina Shire Young Citizen of the Year Award.

Every Australia Day, The Ballina Shire hold Australia Day awards, announcing winners of awards across a number of categories including, Sports, Young Citizen, Senior Citizen, Environmental, Community Event, Arts/Cultural and Volunteer of the Year. These awards are a celebration of the achievements and contributions individuals have made to the

Ballina Shire community. Ryan has been involved in multiple humanitarian projects that fill his passion to help others less fortunate than himself such as:

- a self-financed trip to Nepal in 2014 to refurbish the living quarters at a leper colony

- volunteering at Five Loaves mobile soup kitchen at Ballina since 2017

- volunteer transport for Alstonville Lifestyle Community residents during 2017 to 2019

- volunteering at Manna Haven vegetarian café at Byron Bay for the past two years

- setting up a food bank collection point at Alstonville Lifestyle Community in 2020, encouraging staff to donate to the food bank.

- Helping with grounds, maintenance and building projects at his local church

- Helping with painting and

minor renovations at a church members home in Alstonville.

- Volunteering as a children's mentor every Tuesday afternoon at a children's program that helps reinforce positive behaviour and healthy living.

- Volunteering at a mental health support group

- A self-financed trip to Kenya to join the volunteer humanitarian group, Kenya Health, spending a month helping in free medical clinics.

- During COVID-19 Ryan has been cooking food and delivering it to isolated elderly people in the community.

Ryan's huge heart for helping people less fortunate than himself is inspirational and at Adventist Senior Living, his award is well deserved. Congratulations Ryan, we are very pleased for you and are very proud to have you working here with us at Adventist Senior Living.



UPCOMING EVENTS

University Ministry Summit
March 19-21
Yarrahapinni
Youth Centre
nsw.adventist.org.au/

Little Big Camp
April 14-17
Stuart's Point Convention Centre
nsw.adventist.org.au/little-big-camp/

Grey Nomads
May 7-15
Stuart's Point Convention Centre
nsw.adventist.org.au/news/grey-nomads-2021/

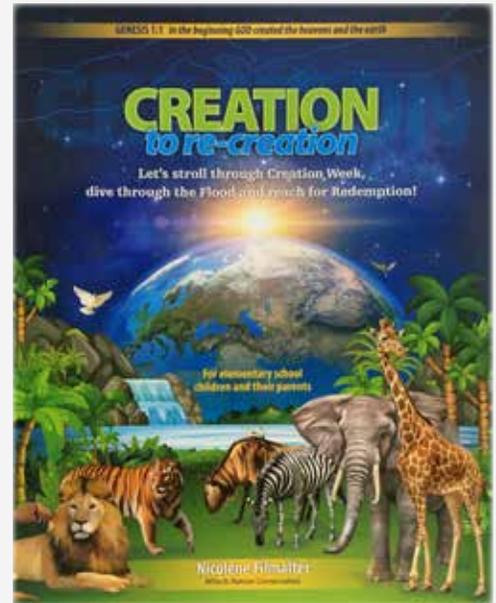
CREATION TO RE-CREATION

One of the most important issues that a child must successfully navigate to maintain and grow their faith into adulthood is the matter of origins – did we arrive by the hand of a loving God who created us for companionship, or are we the result of random processes emerging out of nothingness? Better Books and Food specialises in a range of creation science resources for all ages. This new book, Creation to Re-Creation is full-colour and beautifully illustrated. It starts with an examination of each of the

days of creation with a special emphasis on the Sabbath, traces the effects of the fall and the flood, and then concludes with the ultimate solution for a broken world with a huge sin problem – Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Pitched for curious upper primary-aged children, the book is jam-packed with interesting facts and reads like an easy conversation with the author, Nicolene Filmlalter. As a mother, ecologist and creation scientist, she has created a winner with this book.

adventistbookcentre.com.au/creation-to-re-creation.html

Available online or instore:
\$24.95



KIDS CORNER

ANIMALS IN THE BIBLE: FIND-A-WORD

G O D R E F W E W Y Z C M W I
 T U A L J R N F R H Z A M X G
 Y E G N V O O E A U B M F A X
 B A L G K G Y R F M T E M C U
 E Y Y W O D E L G T X L P D V
 I L J E E A O X S L S X U E H
 C N A E K W T U O A N T A V W
 A W R M C N C W L F S N A K E
 L W N P B O O I T V W O R M O
 F E E B L S Z D M G R E A E W
 A H J U B A P J Z U B U P S L
 L G T H R O L I A N S E B A H
 T I S D X I K E D K D O V E E
 Q W N K G V Z Q Q E Z E I E L
 B I O Y J A D M D E R U F X Z

ant	goat
bear	hare
bee	lamb
calf	lizard
camel	locust
deer	owl
dog	snail
donkey	snake
dove	spider
eagle	vulture
fox	wolf
frog	worm



FOOD FOR LIFE

Camila Skaf

NNSW Conference Health Department

“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

Mathew 4:4

Have you ever thought of the impact of food in our lives? What is the very first thing a newborn wants? To eat! I have had two babies myself and it was quite amazing to watch that little human looking for milk just minutes after it comes out of the womb.

As we grow up, food starts having different meanings and it defines many aspects of life such as culture, relations, identity and power. Food is then more than food to our body. It is an essential part of our being as a whole. God made us whole: physical (“God formed the man of the dust from the ground” Genesis 2:7), and spiritual (“and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and the man became a living creature” Gen 2:7).

There isn't man without physical body, as much as there isn't man without the breath of life. No wonder the tempter came using food to deceive Eve... as much as God gave man the breath of life, He had also provided the food man needed. But the tempter used Eve's “hunger” to deceive her (Gen 3: 1). Interestingly, the tempter used the same strategy when trying to deceive Jesus in the desert after his 40 day and nights fasting. (Matthew 4:3). Why?

Is food important? You know it is! You've had your own experiences and we don't need to be a scientist to access the latest scientific studies confirming that there is a functional interaction between bioactive food components with the genome at the molecular, cellular, and systemic level and the role of nutrients in gene expression and how diet can be used to prevent or treat disease. But more than that, food is relational. We bond over food, and we still make communities based on eating.

Jesus knew all that. His interactions to food always carried a deep relational aspect of life. He created, multiplied, and shared it. Now, I want to be more like Him and while sharing the physical bread, I want to remind people of the bread that truly satisfies the soul, the bread that is often forgotten until we are starving for abundant life, for bonding, for more...

Recipe of the Month



Smoky Adzuki Bean Brown Rice and Quinoa

Ingredients:

1 TBSP olive oil	½ cup vegetable stock
1 red onion	½ cup frozen peas
1 medium capsicum	1 400g can beans of choice- drained and rinsed
1 tsp turmeric	salt and pepper to taste
1 tsp smoked paprika	chili flakes (optional)
2 cups pre-cooked brown rice	squeeze of lemon
½ cup pre-cooked quinoa	

Method:

1. Dice onion and add to a large frypan with a little oil. Fry until onion is translucent
2. Dice capsicum and add to the dry pan
3. Add pre-cooked brown rice and quinoa and beans (I like to batch cook whole grains and freeze them, then either defrost or quickly microwave to defrost before adding them to my meals)
4. Add turmeric and smoked paprika and mix through
5. Slowly add vegetable stock and allow the rice to absorb it. Adjust seasoning.
6. Add frozen peas and heat through

Find this recipe and lots more online at hazelandcacao.com



 19-21 March 2021

 **Yarrahapinni**
366 Grassy Head Rd,
Grassy Head NSW 2441

 Register online at events.adventist.org.au/event/info/7029

LYLE SOUTHWELL • CHARISSA TOROSSIAN • JUSTIN TOROSSIAN

HE IS RISEN



MARCH 28 • MARCH 30 • APRIL 1

PREMIERES 7:30 PM |  WWW.THEEND.DIGITAL

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Enquiries

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Contributions

We would love to share local news with the conference in print or online. Please send through relevant contributions to the above contact address.

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North New South Wales