



# Australasian News Update

*"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works..." (Eph. 2:10)*

## NEW!

**Q&A with an LCG minister.**

**This edition: Mr Warren Burnett**



## UNLEAVENED BREAD

**Photos page 5**



## NEW YOUTH PAGE!



Dr Douglas Winnail was in the Philippines for the Southeast Asian Ministerial Conference. Read about it on page 7.

*Photo: Janice Gonzales*

## Greetings from Clarendon

Dear Brethren,

The year is off to a busy start for God's Work in Asia, Philippines and the Pacific region. Let me give you some highlights.

Facebook efforts continue to produce very encouraging fruit. I was told by our media team that we are on track to receive over 60,000 individual requests for literature in 2025 through Facebook alone. To put this growth into perspective, our average weekly Facebook response in 2023 was 418. In 2024 that increased to 704 weekly responses on average, and in 2025 so far, we are averaging- 1274 responses per week. These responses are received from 33 nations in the Asia Pacific Region. Here are a few countries you might be surprised to discover are receiving literature from the church: *Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, Nauru, Niue (look that up), New Caledonia, South Korea, Taiwan, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Samoa, Cook Islands and Kiribati*, just to name a few.

*Continued page 2*

## Upcoming Events

**June 1**  
Pentecost

**June 6-9**  
Melbourne Fellowship  
Weekend

**July 20-23**  
Australian Pastor's  
Conference

## Featured in this Issue...

<b>Adelaide: Ministerial Conference</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Mr Wyatt Ciesielka visits Australia</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Adelaide TWP's</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Church Chat</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Fiji and Vanuatu visit</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Youth page</b>	<b>8</b>

**For sermons, Bible studies, access to the latest church publications and a host of other resources, go to [lcgasiapacific.org](http://lcgasiapacific.org)**

*Continued from page 1.*

In April I had the privilege of ordaining Mr James Simpson from our Queenstown, NZ congregation, to the office of Deacon. Mr Simpson is doing a wonderful job serving our members in the South Island of New Zealand. Mr and Mrs Rajan Moses kept the Passover and ULB1 in India where he baptized a new member, Ms Aneeta Banerjee into the Body of Christ. Mr Moses also ordained Mr Marc Casey to the office of Local Elder. Mr Casey will join Mr Subash Wangkhem serving our scattered members in India.

Here in Clarendon Mrs Lucy Mager has rejoined the team after taking Maternity Leave – Congratulations to the Mager family for the birth of baby Anya. Lucy continues to serve part-time in accounting, assisting Mr Brian McKenzie. In February, Mr Troy Kearns and his family transferred from Melbourne to Adelaide where Mr Kearns is now serving in the Clarendon office as Operations Manager.

TWP's have been conducted in Adelaide, Vanuatu and New Zealand. Later this year we are planning to hold our first online TWP in the region. Mr Htoowah Laybeh will give the presentation and we are excited to see what fruit may come from our online efforts. Our longer-term plan for online TWP's, is to offer them in countries where we have subscribers, but where there are limited resources to arrange TWP's in person.

I hope we are all now looking forward to the Feast of Pentecost and considering our calling as firstfruits in God's Family. We are reminded that we have been called not primarily for personal salvation, but called to do the Work that Jesus began while in the flesh. In the May/June LCN, Mr Weston wrote in his Personal, this important reminder: *"Personal salvation is the by-product, not the primary purpose, of our calling. First and foremost, God is calling us now to do the Work and prepare for our future role in His Family. Let me say it*

*again: God is calling you to do His Work, not just to get personal salvation!"*

Through our combined efforts, our prayers, our tithes and offerings, God is blessing His Work, not only in the Asia Pacific Region, but throughout the world.

In closing, let us also remember that the Work of God is not just in magazines and Facebook advertising. We are also called to be Ambassadors for Christ and representatives of the coming Kingdom of God. While the world is clearly being stirred up by a satanic spirit of anger, accusations, contentions and war, we must be mindful of how easy it is to unwittingly be affected by that same spirit that is tearing the world apart! Christ warned that prior to His second coming that we would be faced with a challenging and dangerous social atmosphere. *"And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold"* (Matthew 24:10-12).

Sobering isn't it?! Let's strive not to be a casualty of this present evil age.

Thankfully, God has given us the Sabbath as a special haven and place of rest from this world. Please be sure to leave the problems and attitudes of the world, in the world, and not carry them into the church with us. Let's live peacefully with each other, let's work together and let's love each other as Christ loved the church. If we do this, then every Sabbath will truly be a delight!

Have a wonderful Pentecost.

With sincere love,

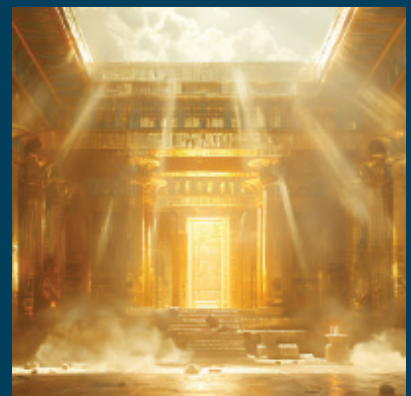


Robert Tyler  
Regional Director

## **Are We The Church Of That Pentecost?**

Jesus Christ said, "On this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18). Scripture testifies that Christ is the Rock on which His Church is built, and the Son of God promised us that this Church would endure. That Church began on the day of Pentecost, nearly 2,000 years ago, when God poured out His Holy Spirit on a relatively small group of believing people - and it exists today.

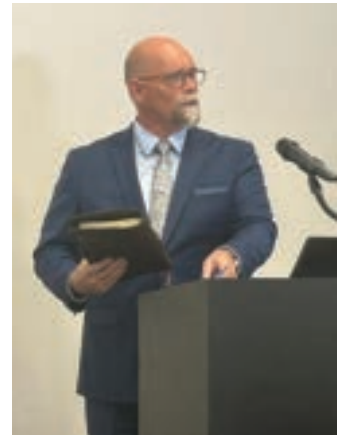
*(Are We The Church Of That Pentecost?, Wallace G. Smith, LCN, May-June 2025)*





---

# ADELAIDE: Ministerial Conference



Australian and New Zealand ministers gathered at the Australasian regional office in Clarendon for the Trans-Tasman Ministerial Conference on February 27 and 28.

The Director of Church Administration, Dr Douglas Winnail, was the keynote speaker. He gave two lectures during the conference discussing a number of issues that our end-time ministry is facing and how those in the ministry can best navigate through it. He highlighted the importance of cultivating God's culture within congregations and fostering unity with God's people.

The conference was a great success this year for many reasons. The ministry received important ministerial training through lectures given by Dr Winnail to help them best serve God's people. We heard some encouraging regional updates given by the pastors and leaders in the region, and were able to come together to further build a cohesive team spirit as we face more difficult days prior to Christ's return. The unified spirit and comradery among the Australian and New Zealand ministry was encouraging to see and to experience. We can be very thankful to God for the dedicated men that He has placed in this region to serve His people. - *Tony Leman*



---

## Italian-themed Dinner With Dr Winnail

Adelaide brethren welcomed Dr Douglas Winnail with a big, hearty 'Ciao', at a specially organised Italian-themed dinner. The carbs were flowing and taste buds were tingling, with several ladies preparing their own special lasagne recipes to share. A big thank you to local elder Mr Warren Burnett and his wife Mary who coordinated the evening, which ran seamlessly. The whole event had a wonderful, festive atmosphere and brethren fellowshiped for hours until it was time to say 'Buonanotte' and 'Arrivederci'. - *Troy Kearns*



---

# Mr Wyatt Ciesielka Visits Australia



The Sydney brethren were blessed when Mr Wyatt Ciesielka and his wife visited Sydney to spend the Sabbath with us. Mr Ciesielka gave the sermon titled “Christ - The Stone of Israel”. He discussed the fulfillment of prophecy in relation to the sceptre promises and how King Charles III is of the house of Judah, a descendant of King David, ruling over Ephraim today.

Mr and Mrs Ciesielka enjoyed fellowshiping with the brethren which was best summed up when he wrote:

“Just a quick thank you to you and the brethren for your warm hospitality. We enjoyed our visit with the Sydney congregation, very much. They are a friendly group.”

The week before spending the Sabbath in Sydney, Mr Ciesielka and his wife also visited the Church office in Clarendon. -Ed Lever

---

## ADELAIDE: Tomorrow's World Presentations

Once again Adelaide hosted two powerfully delivered Tomorrow's World Presentations at the Holdfast Bay Community Centre in March. The first, titled “Ukraine and Russia in Prophecy”, was presented by Regional Director and Evangelist, Mr Robert Tyler. It was attentively received by 30 guests and 44 Church members. Many guests remained after the presentation, keen to ask questions and to enjoy the refreshments provided.

The second presentation titled “The Four Horsemen: Myth or Soon-Coming Reality?” was given the following Sabbath by Adelaide Assistant Pastor, Mr Martin Montgomery to 16 guests and 44 members. Eleven returned from the first presentation and there were five first-time attendees. Once again, the audience



was captivated as God's truth was delivered with clarity and authority. A regular comment received after each presentation was, “How refreshing to hear explanations of troubling world events being shown in Scripture and not just in man's opinion.”

-Warren Burnett



---

## ADELAIDE: Church Activity



On Sunday, January 26, members of the Adelaide congregation visited Carrick Hill, the culturally historic estate on the eastern outskirts of the city. Built in 1939, this regal estate is full of exquisite paintings, sculptures and tapestries all collected by the original owners. We were taken on a guided tour, with each room brought to life with colourful stories of lives lived in style and opulence. Afterwards, we gathered at a nearby Italian restaurant for more hearty fellowship over lunch, which was the perfect way to cap off a thoroughly enjoyable morning. -Warren Burnett





**Melbourne**



**Brisbane**



**Adelaide**



**India**



**Auckland**



**Auckland**



**Sydney**

# Unleavened Bread 2025



**Suva**



**Canberra**



**Labasa**



**Christchurch**



**Auckland**



**Adelaide**





## We asked brethren around the region: What is your favourite Scripture and why?



**Jon Susi, Melbourne**

**“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths” (Proverbs 3:5-6).**

“This Scripture reminds me that we need to acknowledge God at all times because He is the source and the giver of our lives and everything around us.”



**Claire Nimbwen, Vanuatu**

**“No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it” (1 Corinthians 10:13).**

“I can’t overcome on my own abilities. However, this Scripture reminds me that I can rely on God to make a way of escape so that I can overcome.”



**Harrison McKenzie, Perth**

**“And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:32).**

“I really enjoy this verse because in this world of misinformation and chaos it is good to know the Bible can be our firm foundation of truth.”



**Aviela Leman, Auckland**

**“Go, gather all the Jews who are present in Shushan, and fast for me; neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will fast likewise. And so I will go to the king, which is against the law; and if I perish, I perish” (Esther 4:16-17).**

“Esther was very brave and put her total trust in God’s deliverance. She was not afraid of dying if she had to in order to save her people.”



**John Jacobs, Adelaide**

**“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me” (Galatians 2:20).**

“It’s a most appropriate Scripture for Passover and Unleavened Bread and encapsulates the definition of a Christian and how to live our lives.”



**Tokasa Nono, Fiji**

**“Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up...bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails” (1 Corinthians 13:4-8).**

“This section of Scripture gives me comfort and hope because it is the true definition of love and is very different from what love is in the world.”

---

# PHILIPPINES: Ministerial Conference

The Philippines was once again the host country for this year's ministerial conference for Southeast Asia. Ministers from Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines convened for a two-day conference in Manila on February 20 and 21. Church Administration Director, Dr Douglas Winnail, connected current



world events and geopolitical changes to end-time prophecy. He also urged the ministry to be ever more focused on our mission, strongly encouraging us to develop Godly culture in all the congregations.

Regional Director, Mr Robert Tyler, encouraged the ministry to continue to work effectively

as a team and pray for more open doors to preach the gospel. The conference was capped off with all the ministers attending Sabbath services held in Quezon City with 113 in attendance. -Joseph Gonzales



---

## MALAYSIA: Teen Activity



On February 9, a group of about nine teens from the Kuala Lumpur congregation, along with some accompanying adults, went to indoor amusement park District 21 in Malaysia for an action-packed time. District 21 is a theme/amusement park that offers activities that encourage team participation and personal development with a sense of adventure.

All the teens enjoyed the various activities on offer. By the end of the day everyone was tired, but the bonds of unity were evident. It was a great experience and a fun-filled day. -Ronald Moses

---

## FIJI & VANUATU Visit

From Sunday, March 30 to Monday, April 14, I had the opportunity to once again visit Vanuatu and Fiji. It was a privilege to have Regional Director, Mr Robert Tyler, with me for most of the trip. Many positive fruits came from the trip both logistically and spiritually and yes, there were several challenges, including a 13-hour ferry ride from one island in Vanuatu to another due to a flight cancellation! Perhaps a whole "epistle" on the details and lessons of this ministerial journey could be recounted, but here are four exciting updates from the trip:

- Witnessed the construction of the new Church building in Orap Village, Vanuatu, where we have a congregation of 75 members
- A successful TWP was held in Port Vila, Vanuatu, with 10 guests in attendance
- We performed the first LCG baptisms in Fiji (on page 11)
- We have commenced proceedings to register the Living Church of God in Fiji

How exciting it is to see spiritual fruits emerging in God's Church in the South Pacific region! -Paul Kearns







## Tony Leman

How good is the outdoors!? From access to fresh air, to diversity of plant and tree life, to soak in marvellous landscapes and observe all manner of insects and animals at work, the outdoors has a lot to offer.

In fact, as I write this article, a past Sabbath Bulletin (17th August 2024) contained a News and Prophecy write-up titled, “Children Benefit from Time Outdoors.” It highlighted the importance of spending time outside and illustrated the many benefits that it can bring in one’s life. Part of the article described how, “a 2022 study reported that ‘time outdoors can improve prosocial behaviours, including sharing, cooperating and comforting others.’ Research

also suggests that spending time in God’s creation can be particularly helpful to children with adverse upbringing—those who come from poverty, violence, or abuse.”

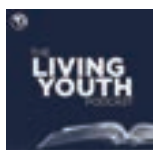
Interestingly God Himself encourages getting outdoors and learning more about Him through His creation. The Apostle Paul wrote the following in the book of Romans: “For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse” (Romans 1:20). The Apostle Paul on at least one Sabbath while in Philippi enjoyed spending time outside of the city and next to a river: “And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there” (Acts 16:13). No doubt many went to the riverside on the Sabbath so that they could feel more connected with their Creator while being outside and more immersed in His creation.

For the full article, visit [lcgasiapacific.org/livingyouth](http://lcgasiapacific.org/livingyouth) or scan the QR code



## CONNECT

Living Youth Podcast



Instagram  
@livingyouthprograms



Facebook  
facebook/livingyouthprograms



## BIBLE QUIZ

1. In Genesis 1, what did God create on the sixth day?
2. Finish this verse, “In the beginning, God created...”
3. What are the Hebrew words for “without form and void” in Genesis 1:2?
4. What verse in Genesis 1 does it say “Let Us make man in Our image”?
5. What was God’s first instruction to Adam and Eve? (Genesis 1:28)
6. Out of what substance did God make Adam? (Genesis 2:7)
7. What tree did God tell Adam and Eve not to eat from?

## ANSWERS

1. Land animals and people 2. the heavens and the earth 3. tohu and bohu 4. 26 5. Be fruitful and multiply 6. Dust 7. Tree of the knowledge of good and evil



---

# Q&A With An LCG Minister: Mr Warren Burnett

**When were you baptized into the Church Of God?**

March 21, 2009.

**On what date were you ordained?**

September 21, 2024.

**Where do you currently serve?**

In the Adelaide congregation.

**How did you first come to hear about the Church of God?**

My mother-in-law saw the Tomorrow's World program and recommended my wife and I watch it.

**What is your favourite scripture? Why?**

Ecclesiastes 12:13. There is no better scripture to sum up the righteous purpose of man.

**What is your favourite Holy Day? Why?**

Pentecost. What an incredible honour and privilege to be considered a firstfruit and to be part of the better resurrection. It's just such a humbling day.

**Which has been your most memorable Feast of Tabernacles? Why?**

That's a tough one. There have been so many! Probably 2020 in Hervey Bay. Most of the country was still in lockdown and it was just the Queensland congregation there, but it drew us closer together because we spent quality time with each other.

**Do you have any special memories that stand out since being in the Church?**

What really stands out to me are the friendships that I've formed over these past 16 years from all over the country and even overseas. It's what makes the Feast of Tabernacles so special. It's a time when you can reconnect with brethren you may not have seen for a while or a time to forge stronger friendships from the year before. What a special blessing that is!



**What do you feel are the greatest spiritual challenges in the end time?**

We are living in the Laodicean age and we have been so comfortable for so long. Life can change overnight and we will need spiritual strength and awareness to cope. We will need to be very close to God during the times just ahead of us.

**Who is your favourite Bible hero? Why?**

He is not known for any heroics, but to me, Boaz is one who is the very definition of Biblical manhood. He was friendly, faithful, protective, kind, considerate, generous and a man who displayed a high degree of integrity and self-control.

**What are you looking forward to being different in the Millennium?**

I'm looking forward to everything being done decently and in order. When everything will be done with mercy and love as the prime motivation and not with lust and greed as it is in this world's society.

I also look forward to designing towns and cities that have room to move and not be 'boxed in' as we are now. Real estate will be different in the Millennium, when we get back to God's way.

---

## SYDNEY: Mr Hemphill's Farewell



After years of devoted service, Sydney Pastor, Mr Graeme Hemphill bade farewell to the Canberra and Sydney congregations, marking the end of an era. On the beautifully warm Sabbath of March 1, brethren enjoyed a delicious, shared meal and joyful conversations prior to services in the picturesque Southern Highland town of Mittagong, New South Wales. At the conclusion of the church service, a presentation was made to the outgoing pastor Mr Hemphill by new Sydney Pastor, Mr Edward Lever. All the brethren joined him in thanking Mr Hemphill for the past 16 years of dedication to the various congregations he has pastored. Although brethren were sad to see him go, they were equally joyful that he has the opportunity to continue serving God's people in his new role ministering to the Auckland congregation. -Greg Watt

---



## PERTH: Church Picnic

Dr Douglas Winnail and Mr and Mrs Tyler were special guests at a bbq/picnic in Perth on Monday, March 3. The activity was organised on the Labour Day public holiday in Western Australia. Everyone enjoyed a relaxing lunch and much fellowship. As many members had not met Dr Winnail previously, they all appreciated the opportunity to meet and talk with him before he continued his travels to South Africa. -Jenny Edwards

---

## Innisfail Joint Services

On the Sabbath of March 29, the Cairns and Tablelands brethren had their first joint service in Innisfail. The five members met for lunch and then tuned into the Brisbane Livestream for services. It was a lovely opportunity to gather halfway between the two places and this meeting hall makes it possible for all the brethren to be together more often. -Anthony Mew



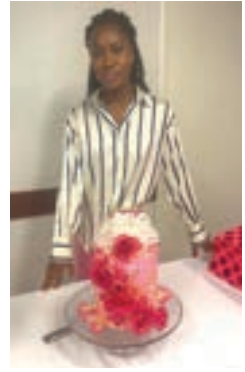


---

## BRISBANE: Graduation

After services on March 29, the Brisbane congregation celebrated Miss Chantal Sadi's graduation from Griffith University with a Bachelor Degree in Law (Honours) and completion of her Practical Legal Training. While studying, Chantal had also been working full time in the Brisbane Family Court. Her dedication, commitment and ability to balance work and study while also pursuing baptism is very commendable and an excellent example to other young people.

*-Anthony Mew*



---

## PERTH: Penman's 50th Wedding Anniversary

After Sabbath services on February 8, the Perth congregation surprised Mr and Mrs Kinnear and Carolyn Penman with a presentation of flowers and gifts on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary. Mr and Mrs Penman are a wonderful example to all the members. Following the presentation everyone celebrated with them and enjoyed a special afternoon tea.

*-Jenny Edwards*



---

## BRISBANE: Kellett's 50th Wedding Anniversary

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Ian and Christine Kellett who celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on the Sabbath of January 11. The Brisbane Congregation honoured the Kellett's with a cake, special afternoon tea and small gift after services.

*-Anthony Mew*



---

## WEDDING



As the sun set over "the sticks" (the old pier) at Port Willunga on March 12, Angus Montgomery and Gabrielle Bryce were married before God and a small group of family and close friends. The ceremony was officiated by Adelaide Assistant Pastor, Mr Martin Montgomery.

Afterwards the wedding party moved to the historic Salopian Inn for the reception. Warm-hearted speeches full of stories and advice were well received. A few tears were shed as emotions ran high on the wave of excitement a wedding brings. There was dancing and even some singing from family as the evening drew to a close.

Angus and Gabi departed as Mr and Mrs Montgomery to face the joys and learning experiences that God ordained. The Adelaide congregation is excited to have a newly married couple. We wish them all the best and pray for God's guidance in their marriage.

*-Andrew Crouch*

---

# BAPTISMS

On Monday, March 3, **Mrs Elena Barbaro** from the Brisbane congregation was baptised into the Body of Christ. The laying on of hands and baptism was performed by Mr Anthony Mew. We warmly welcome Elena into God's family.



*Elena Barbaro*



*L-R: Tony Leman, Graeme Hemphill,  
Manny Prabhakar, Paul Kearns*

On Tuesday, March 18, **Mr Manny Prabhakar** was baptised by Mr Paul Kearns and Mr Tony Leman, at Maraetai Beach in Auckland. Mr Graeme Hemphill and Mr Kearns then performed the laying on of hands. Torrential rain was falling just before the baptism but by the time the baptism ceremony was performed, the skies had parted and the sun was shining through! Mr Prabhakar's wife, Eva and son, Arian, were present to witness this joyous occasion.

**Ms Leanne Harrison** from the Christchurch congregation was baptised by Mr Paul Kearns on Sunday morning, March 23, at the home of a local member. There were several Church brethren in attendance who came to witness Leanne's baptism. Her mother and sister were also present. Following the baptism, a morning tea was served to the guests, which capped off a day of joy for Leanne and the Christchurch congregation.



*Leanne Harrison and Paul  
Kearns*



*L-R: Paul Kearns, Tokasa Nono, Sarome  
& Wise Navuruvuru, Robert Tyler*

On Sunday evening, April 6, the first baptisms in Fiji performed by Living Church of God ministers were conducted by evangelist, Mr Robert Tyler, and pastor, Mr Paul Kearns. The two ladies who were baptised were a mother and daughter, **Sarome Navuruvuru** and **Tokasa Nono**. The baptism took place at the Navuruvuru home and was witnessed by some of Sarome's grandchildren, her husband, Wise, and Tokasa's daughter, Helena. We congratulate Sarome and Tokasa on their baptism and thank God for the spiritual fruits being borne in the nation of Fiji.

---

## IN LOVING MEMORY



A member of the Canberra congregation, James Carter, died unexpectedly but peacefully in his sleep on March 18, 2025. He was 64 years old.

Prior to the Living Church of God, Mr Carter had been a member of the Worldwide Church of God. As a member of the Sydney congregation, he was a keen member of Spokesman Club until he moved to Port Macquarie for health reasons, then later moved to Canberra.

Mr Carter's family had great respect for his beliefs and wanted them expressed at the funeral. - *Ed Lever*

---

**Editorial Director:**  
**Assistant Editor:**  
**Layout Editor:**  
**Proofreaders:**

Robert Tyler  
Martin Montgomery  
Troy Kearns  
Michael Gill  
Bethany McKenzie  
Vicki Montgomery  
Sondra Tyler  
Tanya Kearns

The *Australasian News Update* is printed by the Australasian Regional Office, *Living Church of God*, 63 Grants Gully Rd, Clarendon, South Australia 5157, Australia

**Postal Address:** PO Box 300, Clarendon, SA 5157, Australia  
**Phone:** 08 8383 6266  
**Email:** [tomorrowsworld@living.org.au](mailto:tomorrowsworld@living.org.au)

**ALL PHOTOS PUBLISHED WITH PERMISSION**

---