



The Conche Shell



From the Editor - Apology

I was surprised to find that it was just 2 years ago that I sent out the last Conche newsletter. I do apologise that it has been so long. I know that some of you were beginning to look around under the coconut trees on your lovely beaches to see if was there and send it back to me. But seriously time has gone so fast I didn't realise it had been so long. I am sorry for taking so long.

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Specifically we are focused on developing our sense of Adventist identity as a system and to align the faith development of students with the mission and purpose of the SDA church. Programs that highlight why and how to integrate faith, values and student learning outcomes will be conducted so that the largest possible benefit can be achieved. Commissioning ceremonies to affirm each teacher's importance in the teaching ministry of the church will also be conducted in partnership with the Union and Mission Education Directors. These ceremonies are much more than receiving a token of employment and are intended to remind you of your value and importance as a partner in God's work. We are grateful for the clear support offered by the President of the South Pacific Division, and numerous leaders in all levels of church administration for their recognition of the teaching ministry as a vital part of the mission of the church.

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Future Direction - Words from Malcolm

It is great to have the opportunity to write for the Conche and to share some of the directions and goals that the SPD is engaged in across the Pacific. Firstly, I have not had a chance to meet every teacher and school leader in our system but I look forward to meeting as many as possible during various trips throughout the Pacific. With previous experience as a teacher, principal, dormitory director, conference education director, teacher education lecturer and vice-president at Avondale College I am hopeful of having something to talk about with you.

Our strategic goals have been developed according to three broad themes;

Reach Up (to God for spiritual renewal through prayer and study of the Word);

Reach Across (to others in the church family embracing our unity and diversity, discipling, nurturing, building community relationships, improving structure and being involved in the life of the church); and,

Reach Out (to others as a friendly church putting Christ's mission first, inviting all peoples to fellowship and making a difference through service to the community).

However, the best intentions in the world by system administration cannot deliver quality Christian education. It is through the dedicated and determined efforts of teachers, school leaders and school staff that these goals will be realised. With that in mind, we will continue to develop and distribute teaching and administrative resources including the Bible curriculum being developed by a skilled team under Ken's leadership and the re-publication of the Max Miller readers. Our pursuit of quality education will be based on a quality development framework, which will also be completed soon. Ken and Sonya's efforts in completing manuals for principals and education directors have also been greatly appreciated.

Your efforts are making a difference and we thank you for all that you are doing.

Malcolm Coulson
Director of Education
South Pacific Division



Many of the great
ACHIEVEMENTS
of the world were
accomplished by
TIRE
AND
DISCOURAGED
people who kept on
WORKING!

Resource materials

From time to time we send container loads of materials and resources across the pacific. Once they leave the office here we rarely think about where they have gone or if they have been received by you teachers. But sometimes we get the good news that a container has arrived, and so thank you Joseph Pitakia from the Solomons Mission for the photos and for organising the distribution of the last container. Here are a few photos and you may recognise some of these people.



A teacher from Malaita with a big smile when collecting his school's materials.



Teachers from Tangibangara primary school, from the remote island of Choiseul, collecting their resources



Fulton College Certificate graduates collecting their supplies.



This picture was taken after the certificate teachers were given their bags.



Kenny Elisha- Principal of Jones Adventist College collecting Bibles for his next baptismal class. Last semester Jones Adventist College baptised 31 students.

Luke 6:38 ¶

"Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you." ¶

Training and upgrading

Jim Yawane reports some exciting news that took place over year end at Sonoma. This is what he had to say.

Hi Ken

The attached photos show the elementary training program graduation.

This elementary program attracted more than 200 participants. It was a certificate course in elementary teacher training designed and implemented by Sonoma College. The program started in 2009 and was concluded last year. Each participant was required to attend a five week intensive study program at the end of each year and participate in a six week practicum.

January 5th, 2012 was a very memorable day for 176 pioneer students who graduated with a certificate in elementary teacher education.

The program cost more than K750,000 and was jointly funded by PNGUM, ADRA PNG and AUSAID through the Church Partnership Program.

The target was to train and qualify teachers that were already teaching in Adventist operated schools though without any qualifications. We are happy that we have managed to achieve this goal. There is going to be a similar training program conducted soon because of the demand and need.

We know God will continue to provide so that more teachers can be trained to go out and fulfil the mission of the church wherever they are called to serve throughout the union.

Blessings

Jim

KID's School

Many of you know that Julie Weslake is my wife and Director of Children's Ministry here at the Division. Sometimes, though not often, we manage to travel together. At the beginning of the year we both headed out to Tonga to run a KIDS or Kids In Discipleship program for parents, teachers and pastors. The idea is that by working together rather than separately we can reach the hearts of our boys and girls more effectively. The program was followed by teachers meetings.



Teachers involved in a prayer walk.



KID participants involved in a Bible discussion



And don't forget the delicious food, heaps and heaps of it!!

Isolated Schools

I wish to take the time now to honour those teachers who are working in isolated areas and especially those who are in single teacher schools. Yours is a very challenging task and I want to commend each of you for faithfully staying at the school and soldiering on. Once again Jim Yawane sent me a story that touched my heart and I know it will touch yours too. I'm sorry there are no photos to go with his story.

Two years ago I visited a little school on the coast of Kerema (Southwest Papua mission). This school is a two hour trip by dingy. During my first attempt I could not make it to the beach because the waves were huge and had to turn back. After a year in 2009 I returned and visited Mrs. Elizabeth Haiabu, a local lady who has served in various locations around the country for more than 20 years but now teaching in this school.

When I arrived I was greeted and welcomed by more than 150 students. During my three days stay with them I realised she was the only teacher, teaching all of these students, (Grade 3-5). On the morning of the last day before I departed I took the morning worship for the students and had a special prayer for them.

After worship, before I left, a child raised his hand and made a heart touching statement. "Excuse me sir, we have been praying every morning and afternoon that the mission will send us a mission teacher.

Can you help us and send a teacher to help our teacher, Mrs. Haiyabu?" I was speechless for a while and had to hold back my tears and also struggled for a while to reply. I just said, "Trust God and continue to pray," and left.

This year they have been rewarded with 5 teachers - prayer answered.

The school now has grades 3-8. In fact, 2 students from their first grade 8 class have been sent to Kabiufa to do their grade 9 this year. Roger, the mission pilot, flew them to Goroka all the way from Kerema. They are a living testimony of the difference that this one missionary teacher was able to make.

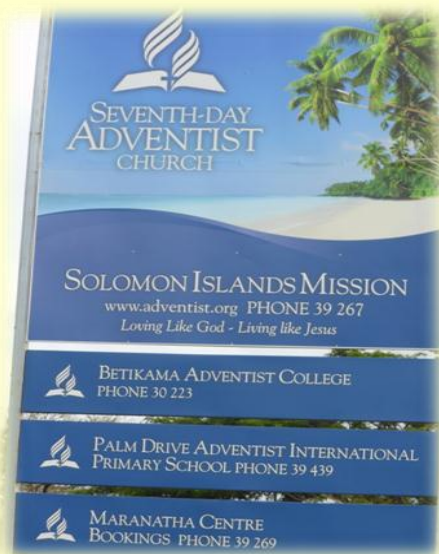
The name of the school is Aivau Adventist School.

This story indicates the commitment that our Adventist teachers have in serving the LORD regardless of the difficulties.

I can remember visiting the school back in the early 1980s with Mr Zebedee Aile. We slept at the school for a night and then travelled back by canoe to Kikori. We just about tipped out of the canoe and into the waters full of Puk-puks! But that is another story.

John 16:24

Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.



School Signs

Those of you who have been to any of my in-service programs will know that I emphasise the importance of having a clean bright school sign. I think I have found the best in the Pacific so far. It is at the road entrance to the Solomon Islands Mission compound. I would love to see every school in the Solomons with an identical sign but with their own school's name on it. What do you think?

Max Miller Materials

On the last weekend of March I am heading over to Perth in West Australia to attend a school reunion in honour of Max Miller. While I have spoken to Max by phone a number of times, I have never met him, so I am looking forward to this man of God who has had such an impact on the lives of students across Australia and of course the Pacific and PNG. We are reprinting some of his textbooks again and I expected that this would be in the primary teacher's hands by now. However, the printer had a severe stroke last November and that has delayed the print run. Hopefully it will all be finished by the end of March and then we will ship it out to the Education Directors' offices immediately after that. There will be another print run of the last of some of the gaps that existed before and which we have books for now. I know many of you have been waiting a long time for these resources. Thank you for being so patient.

School Accreditations

Over the last couple of years, school accreditations have taken up a lot of my time and travel budget. It is a very important part of my work as we strive to keep our schools at a high standard and especially our special character - that part that makes us different to any other school in the country. Getting to and from the school can be quite interesting at times. Sometimes it is by canoe but when I visited Tenakoga (Solomons Mission) it was by mission Hi Lux. The first picture is of the accreditation team getting ready to leave. Notice how high the load is. Another 5 people were taken on the return to Honiara. A total of 12 climbed aboard or squeezed into the cab. I hadn't driven a load like this since my younger days growing up on Norfolk Island. Hallelujah!!



What a beautiful and handsome lot this group is



Getting ready to leave Tenakoga for Honiara

Secondary Bible Writing Committee

Next week, we have the second meeting of our Pacific Bible Writing Committee. It is being run along the same lines as the Primary Bible committee that met several years ago. At our first meeting we did some major planning in terms of the big picture. Our Vision Statement is:

To produce a Pacific Secondary Bible Curriculum that is Bible based and grounded in the Seventh-day Adventist worldview, that restores the broken relationship between the students and God, while addressing the challenges of the current spiritual, social, moral and

cultural environment, thus empowering the students to be active disciples until Jesus comes.

It will cover years 9 – 13 where systems go to Year 13 otherwise just to Year 12.

At our meetings next week we will be deciding on a unit planning format and then begin to write the units. Now here is the big news that any of you can participate in. This Bible program belongs to you. The days of it being written by experts at the Division office are over. I believe you have the talents and ideas to say nothing of the cultural context. So,

once we decide on the unit plan format and the topics for each unit, we will open it up to anyone who wishes to write a unit for us. Those units that are of good enough quality to be included in the program will earn their writers A\$100. Now this is open to both Primary and Secondary teachers. So if you are keen then write to me and I will give you the topics that are needing units and you can get to work. The committee will decide on which ones to include.

Now who are on the committee?



From right to left. (insert) Terry Haru, Principal, Kabiufa Adventist Secondary School, (PNG), Jacinta Pelete, Principal Iakina Adventist Academy (American Samoa) Dr David McClintock, Principal Carlisle Christian College, Mackay (Queensland) Pastor Titus Rore, retired pastor and Education Director, (Solomon Islands Mission) Cecile Trief, Girls Dean, Bible Teacher, Aore Adventist College, (Vanuatu) Mele Vaihola, Education Director, Principal Beulah Adventist College (Tonga) Me namo/tasol. (Absent) Pr Mike Farrell, Bible Teacher, Navesau Adventist High School, (Fiji)

Elementary and Pre-Schools

As communities and societies change and respond to and copy western lifestyles, pre-schools and early childhood groups start popping up like mushrooms. The same is now true throughout the Pacific and there are so many new groups starting up. Some are in schools and some are in homes or church rooms. Here are a few photos of such groups and their facilities. If you would like a CD of resources to assist you then send me a letter or e-mail and I will send material up to you. My details on page 1 of this newsletter.



Pre-school students at Burns Creek.



Pre-school teacher at Tenakoga

The School under the House

Many of you will be familiar with the Food for Life project or the name of Dennis Perry. This group of dedicated volunteers are supporting an Adventist lady who has begun a school under her house for the disadvantaged kids in Port Moresby. Truly, schools are popping up everywhere and are run by all sorts of people who have a tender heart for Jesus and care for boys and girls no matter what their background. There may be little reward here in this life for such service, but I can guarantee that in the life to come, your heads will have the crowns with the most stars. This is kingdom work and I pray that each of you will continue to rely daily on God and His Holy Spirit to motivate and guide you to be all that you can be for Him.



Thank you everyone for all that you do each day in your schools.

Ken Weslake

SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION - EDUCATION STATISTICAL RETURNS

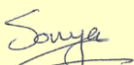
As school principal, you should receive Form 1 from your mission Education Director around September of each year. It is extremely important that you complete this form and return it to the Director as soon as possible. I include a form for you which you can start thinking about now for September of this year. The earlier you start, the easier and quicker the process will be for everyone.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING FORM 1 of the Education Statistical report

1. The union, mission or conference education director sends the **School Annual Statistical Report form (Form 1)** to each school **at least in September of every year** and the principal fills it out and returns it to the director **by the end of November of every year**.
2. **The reporting period is from January to November of each year.** Statistics compiled for government and other purposes in third or fourth term will be used. In this respect the report is a closing report rather than an opening report.
3. When reporting on staffing numbers please use the **full time equivalent (FTE)**. This means that the total number of staff in a school may include part-time personnel. Full time personnel's FTE is 100% or 1, but the FTE for someone who works half a day's hours is 50% of a full time load or 0.5. Thus, if you have one full time staff member and 2 staff members who work half a load, the total of staff (FTE) will be 2.
4. **School Annual Statistical Report (Form 1)**
 - **An SDA student** is one who is a baptised Church member, or one who comes from a home where at least one parent is an SDA Church member.
 - **Full-time NON Teaching staff** includes personnel who are not engaged in classroom teaching. They may be non-teaching administrators, a librarian, boarding school staff, or teacher aides who do not actually teach.
5. **Summary of Baptisms in Schools for the Annual Statistics Report**
Baptisms can be hard to calculate under some circumstances. If a student has taken Bible studies at school or has made a commitment at a week of prayer and is then baptised at a church, that student would be counted as a school baptism for reporting purposes.
6. **Calculating Primary and Secondary School Years**
There is variation between unions regarding what years or grades constitute primary and secondary schooling **for reporting to the GC**. Note the following:
 - The *Pre Prim* category in the *School Annual Statistical Report* refers to preschool years. Please insert figures for any preschool students but **do not count these** as primary school students.
 - Any school that has only Years 7-10 or a subset of these (e.g. Years 9-10) is counted as a secondary school.
 - If a school has **Years K-10** it is **both a primary school and a secondary school**. In other words it **must be reported as two schools** for GC purposes.
 - If a school is **K-12**, it is **two schools** for GC purposes.
 - In AUC primary school is Kindergarten to Year 6, and in a few cases Year 7. All other years are secondary.
 - In NZ and Cook Islands primary school is Years 1-8, and secondary school is all years above Year 8.
 - In French Polynesia primary school is *Elementaire* (Section Petits to Cours Moyens 2). Secondary school is *Sixieme* to *Troisieme*.
 - In the Solomon Islands, primary school is currently all years to Year 6, and secondary is all years above Year 6.
 - In Fiji, primary school is currently all years to Year 7 and secondary is all years above Year 7. However the situation will change further.
 - In Fiji, an exception to the rule is Fulton Primary School, where currently all years to Year 8 are counted as primary.
 - In Samoa, primary school is currently all years to Year 6 and secondary is all years above Year 6.
 - In Tonga, primary school is currently all years to Year 6 and secondary is all years above Year 6.
 - In Kiribati there is one secondary school only.
 - In Tuvalu there is one primary school only.
 - In PNGUM, primary school is Prep through to Grade 8, and secondary is any grade above Grade 8.

Thank you for taking note of these important issues to help us get more accurate statistics.

Regards



Sonya Muhl

Departmental Assistant – Education - SPD



FORM 1

SCHOOL ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT to GC - 2011

A GENERAL <i>If a combined school, please report primary as one school and secondary as a second school.</i>					
Name of School:		Date of report:			
Name of Conference or Mission:					
Principal's Name or Signature:		Mark with a 1 in appropriate column	YES	NO	
			1. Is the school a Day School?		
			2. Is the school a Boarding School?		
			3. Is this School an SDA Accredited school?		
			4. Is this school supported ONLY by the church?		
			5. Is this school supported by the government and church?		
		6. Is Bible an integral part of the curriculum?			

B ENROLMENT School Categories							
PRIMARY SCHOOL				SECONDARY SCHOOL			
Grade or Year	SDA	NON-SDA	TOTAL	Grade or Year	SDA	NON-SDA	TOTAL
Pre Prim			0				
Kindy			0				
1			0	7			0
2			0	8			0
3			0	9			0
4			0	10			0
5			0	11			0
6			0	12			0
7			0	13			0
8			0	Foundation			0
TOTALS	0	0	0	TOTALS	0	0	0

C BAPTISMS			Primary	Secondary	TOTAL
					0

D STAFF <i>All statistical data for Staff must be reported as (FTE) full-time equivalent of a teaching load</i>				Primary	Secondary	TOTAL
Type of school						0
Number of TEACHING Staff (Full-time equivalent)						0
Number of NON TEACHING staff (Full-time equivalent) and include school administrators, ESL and integration aides						0
Number of SDA Teachers (Full-time equivalent)						0
Number of Non-SDA Teachers (Full-time equivalent)						0
Number of teachers who graduated from an SDA tertiary institution with a TEACHING qualification (Full-time equivalent)						0
Number of teachers holding ANY DEGREE from any tertiary institution (Full-time equivalent)						0
Number of teachers certified by the SDA School system to teach (Full-time equivalent)						0
Number of teachers certified by the State or Government to teach (Full-time equivalent)						0

E SCHOOL LEAVING INFORMATION				Primary	Secondary	TOTAL
Number of students EXPECTED TO COMPLETE the final year of school at either Primary or Secondary School (Graduates) NOTE - This number should be equal to the number of students enrolled in the last year of Primary or Secondary Schools as reported under Section B - ENROLLMENTS						0