A Word in Season . . .

On 6 March 2018, a woman walking along a litter-strewn beach in Western Australia came across an old bottle in the sand. It was no ordinary bottle. Inside the saltencrusted glass was a wad of yellowed paper. Tonya Illman made headlines, for she had just stumbled upon the world's oldest recorded message in a bottle!

At the heart of every great discovery is the element of surprise that bursts through the most mundane circumstances to showcase something immensely valuable. Few things qualify as less captivating than litter on a beach, and the bottle could well have gone unnoticed; but with Tonya, it didn't - and the rest is history.

The odyssev of the bottle's recordbreaking 132 years' journey began on 12 June 1886 as a drift experiment at the Naval Observatory in Hamburg, as German scientists embarked on an extended study of ocean currents. Their purpose was to increase global trade by finding faster and more efficient channels of transportation. Hundreds of bottles were dropped from ships with the objective of tracing the time and destiny of their journey. The bottle that would become a feature in the Guinness Book of Records more than a century later, carried details of the location when and where it was launched; and the finder was given instructions on how to report the find to the German Naval Observatory in Hamburg.

Now fast forward into the Space Age, to a time far more in advance of the world in which the drift experiment began. Lightning-fast communications and global connectivity have transformed our experience. Global markets cater for our needs at the click of a button. Drift experiments? Messages in bottles? In our modern world, how can these relics of the past inspire anything other than academic or nostalgic interest? One might as well choose a cumbersome, hard-cover encyclopedia instead of Google or Wikipedia! Or find good news in the Bible in an age of that new phenomenon, "fake news"! The Bible may seem far removed, like, that message in a bottle, from the

mindset of this century. Its survival story is captivating. It has carried its precious message through the world's tumultuous history - a message that will never expire as long as time shall last. What a story it has to tell: and how significantly it has shaped and influenced society! Inside is a real treasure waiting to be discovered. Its message might well begin: To the reader of this note: 'God loved the world so much that He gave up His only Son, so that anyone who believes in Him will not die but have eternal life'. Imagine how revolutionary to one's life it would be to discover a personal message from the heart of God, against all the odds in this fast-paced, fragmented, materialistic world. It would be incredible!

- Norma Borrett * The message in a bottle is on display at the Museum of Western Australia & can be viewed online at <u>nationalgeographic.com</u>

Food for Thought...

"Through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope" - Romans 15:4, NIV.

Services of the Church . . . Bible Study/Discussion . . .

Saturday 10:00 am Children's Class Saturday 10:00 am Family Worship

Saturday 11:15 am Church Family Fellowship . . .

First Saturday

afternoon in each month after the Worship Service and a fellowship meal. Bible Study & Prayer

Monday 7:30 pm We operate a child protection policy. Marriages – Child Dedications –

Believers Baptisms – Funerals

The Link is produced by your local Seventh-day Adventist Church in Burnt Lane, Gorleston, NR31 0PG as a community service. Editor: Michael Walker – email: < <u>mwalker08@btinternet.com</u> > Minister: Mark Borrett – 07729 997699 Visit our Church Website: <u>http://greatyarmouth.adventistchurch.org.uk</u>



Celebration of the Remarkable Dr Martin Luther King, Jr



50 years to the day, voluminous crowds gathered in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 4 to celebrate the final speech of Dr Martin Luther King, Jr, on the anniversary of his death. Dr King was an American clergyman and a prominent leader in the Civil Rights Movement. He was also a Nobel Peace Prize Laureate who was known for his use of nonviolence and civil disobedience. Martin Luther King called for an end to racism in the United States, which at that time practiced segregation, both legally and in practice in most areas of life. He had frequently received death threats due to his prominence in the Civil Rights Movement; but he confronted the risk of death and made that recognition part of his philosophy. He taught that murder could not stop the struggle for equal rights.

On that fateful evening in 1968, enthusiastic crowds roused Dr King from his bed at the *Lorraine Motel* in Memphis for an unplanned appearance, and that was when he delivered his famous "Mountaintop" impromptu speech. He stated: "I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed". As he stood on the balcony relating his dreams of a better society in a brighter future, a shot rang out from across the street. Martin Luther King was rushed to St Joseph's Hospital, and was pronounced dead on arrival at 7:05pm. James Earl Ray, a fugitive from the Missouri State Penitentiary, was arrested June 8, 1968, at London Heathrow Airport and extradited to the USA where he was charged with the crime. On March 10, 1969, he pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 99 years in the Tennessee State Penitentiary.

We hail the courage and determination in the stand that Dr Martin Luther King took for the reform of human rights. He was a brave and courageous individual. His daughter, Bernice King, spoke about her father at the recent celebration and said that he was hated during his lifetime but is now celebrated around the world.



Recent celebration in Memphis 4 April 2018

Editorial

Human rights are a big issue in our society. Modern history has witnessed certain individuals who have dared to stand up in the world and challenge the violation of those rights. Mahatma Ghandi was one such person. Martin Luther King was another. They stood up for equality. God has made all men equal. Unfortunately, many have failed to recognize and respect that fact. Racism cuts right across the path of human rights. In the strictest sense, there is only one race: the human race! God has "made of one blood all nations ... to dwell on all the face of the earth" - Acts 17:26, KJV. Adventists are strong believers in the rights of individuals. It is for this reason that I felt it fitting and appropriate to feature Dr Martin Luther King on this month's cover story. May the inspiration of this man encourage us to stand up for the rights of others.

Norma Borrett has contributed *A Word in Season* in this month's issue. She reports on a very interesting account about a message in a bottle. The lesson she draws is very relevant for today. If after reading it, you would like to avail yourself of a FREE Bible, you may do so by requesting it on the church website: <u>http://greatyarmouth.adventistchurch.org.uk</u> - *Editor*

What kind of individuals are we?

"The greatest want of the world is the want of men - men who will not be bought or sold, men who in their inmost souls are true and honest, men who do not fear to call sin by its right name, men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole, men who will stand for the right though the heavens fall" - Ellen G. White, *Education*, *p.57*.

Public Health Screening
At Market Gates Shopping
Mall
Great Yarmouth
Sunday 29 April 2018
Between 10 am and 4 pm

Check Blood Pressure Blood Sugar Body Mass Index Carbon Monoxide Advice by qualified personnel

A Free Health

Contribution to Burnt Lane community ...

When you have walked past the Adventist Church in Burnt Lane, you may have noticed some work that was recently carried out in the pathway on the south-side of the church. It is common land and there was a lot of growth along the side of the building. When we were clearing it away last year, we found a lot of syringes in the undergrowth that had been deposited by drug addicts who have obviously used that secluded spot. This was posing a danger to others, particularly small children. In order to enhance the pathway to the houses and make it safer, the church has had it concreted as a contribution to our community.

You are invited to an illustrated nature presentation

Come & hear naturalist Charles Hans Watson



Saturday 5 May '18 at 2:15 pm

If you would like to come & share in our fellowship lunch about 1:00 pm, you will be most welcome to do so

He will be sharing his photography on the screen of the wonders of nature - you and the children will love it. Charles has contributed several articles on nature in 'The Link' from time to time He has travelled to many interesting places in the world and will be sharing some of the wonders he has discovered in nature -= This is an educational programme =-



Adventist Missionary Killed in Papua New Guinea Reported by Teressa Costello, Southern Asia-Pacific Division News

Berni Fallery Kunu, a 24-yr old remote region health worker

Berni was a medical missionary serving with *Adventist Aviation Indonesia (AAI)*, a service of the Southern Asia-Pacific Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He was a nursing graduate of Mount Klabat Adventist University near Manado, Indonesia. Berni was violently killed on Thursday, March 29, 2018 by a group of people from an area three-days walk away. It appears to be a case of mistaken identity. His body was found the next day in a shallow grave near the river where it was believed he had been bathing. His fellow health worker was unharmed and accompanied the body to the *AAI* headquarters a day's journey away.

Those who knew him said that he had a passion to serve God in the most remote and challenging areas. He understood the dangers of working in remote areas and wanted to dedicate his life in serving this way. He was engaged to be married in January 2019 to his fiancée who is currently serving as a teacher in another area. They planned to serve as a medical missionary team in a remote area after their wedding.

Police are currently investigating the incident. It has garnered widespread attention up to the highest levels of national government. Kunu's funeral was on Sunday, April 1 and was attended by an overflowing crowd. Condolence messages continue to flood in with an emphasis on how Kunu's life of whole-hearted service to God is inspirational.

At first glance, it may seem that this incident would discourage people from serving as Kunu did. Instead, numerous young people and others have stepped forward since his death to say that they also want to serve God as he did and wish to commit their lives to God in the most challenging areas of service.

What & Why Adventists' Believe

Christian Management

- As Christians, we recognize that God is the owner of everything in the world (Psalm 24:1).
- ☑ He has a two-fold ownership of us as human beings because firstly, He created us (Gen.1:26,27); and secondly, He has redeemed us by His blood (1 Pet.1:18,19).
- ☑ God has given us responsibilities in managing the things that belong to Him by being faithful stewards in how we handle our various responsibilities in life - e.g. He gave us dominion over the animal kingdom (Gen.1:26) - i.e. to reign over it by caring for it. He wants us to care for the environment (Gen.2:15) - an interesting point is that Christ will "destroy those <u>who destroy</u> the earth" (Rev.11:18).
- ☑ We are responsible to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the whole world (Mark16:15; Matt.10:32,33).
- \boxtimes We have a responsibility to care for our health (3 John 2).
- \boxtimes Whatever we do, we need to give of our best because it is for the Lord (Col.3:23,24; Eccl.9:10).
- ☑ It makes sense therefore how we handle our lives we therefore need to surrender the whole of ourselves to Him (Prov.23:26); that will determine how we relate to Him and carry out the responsibilities He has entrusted to us
- ⊠ The Lord requires us to devote a seventh of our time in honouring Him (Exod.20:8-11) - that is to keep His Sabbath holy as He has commanded us.
- ☑ In recognition of His ownership and our total dependence upon Him (Phil.4:19), the Lord also asks us to return one tenth (i.e. a tithe) of what we receive (Lev.27:30-32). The tithe is God's order of management for supporting the ministry of His Church (Num.18:21; 1 Cor.9:13,14). When Jesus walked this earth, He endorsed tithing amongst other moral responsibilities (Matt.23:23)
- ☑ Financing other good and worthy causes should be done sensibly and willingly, and we should plan our giving as God has prospered us and to do it cheerfully (2 Cor.9:6-8).
- ☑ It should be noted that we are stealing from God by withholding our tithes and freewill offerings (Mal.3:8,9); on the other hand, God promises rich blessings if we are faithful in doing these things (Mal.3:10,11). Christ's Kingdom should be uppermost in

our motives and actions; and if so, He has many things in store to bestow upon those who are faithful (Matt.6:33).