



# ONE TO ONE

The official quarterly newsletter of SDA Kinship Australia 01/03/08

NEWSLETTER NO 8 ISSUE 1

**OUR PURPOSE:** Seventh Day Adventist Kinship Australia is a non-profit support organization which ministers to the spiritual, social and physical well-being of former and present SDA Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Transgender and Intersexed individuals and their friends and families. Kinship is not supported by the SDA Church. Kinship is a confidential organization which supports the advancement of human rights for all people.

## Easter

EASTER, came early this year and I would like to share with you some Bible texts, that come under the covenant.  
Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and will not be afraid. Isaiah 12:2  
We should not be motivated by fear or approval of others. Isaiah reminds us all that surely God is our salvation and that we must trust and not be afraid.

For by Grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God--not the result of works, so that no one may boast. Ephesians 2:8  
We have been given Grace through Christ death on the Cross. No one can earn there way to Heaven. What a promise to all of us. God's promise of Love is still there to us all, no matter what. This has been taken from The Word Is Out. By Chris Glaser.

## Truth is like a Diamond.

When you examine a cut diamond, you notice that the top of the diamond has a large flat surface. This surface is called the table. The sides of a diamond are made up of many smaller flat surfaces placed at precise angles to reflect light. These smaller flat surfaces are called "facets." The facets of a diamond are designed to catch as much of the light coming in through the table as possible and then to reflect that light among themselves before it is reflected out through the table. The light reflected among the facets is what makes a diamond sparkle. (Wikipedia)

Truth is like a diamond and has MANY facets or aspects to it. Folks tend many times to catch hold

of one facet of truth and make it the whole diamond and even sometimes zealously advocate that everyone should focus on the same aspect and if they don't somehow they are spiritually and maybe even mentally deficient. THE LIGHT OF GOD shines through MANY facets of truth--not just a few which is why we have so much variety in spirituality and in the way people relate to the Infinite One.

Instead of running competition with one another in our spiritual walk let's APPRECIATE ONE ANOTHER MORE and learn from one another. Then the diamond of truth will sparkle brighter than ever and thus will our lives have renewed sparkle to them. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we would have more sparkle and less conflict among equally sincere spiritual seekers?

What do you think?

Sent in by, Tom Durst. Tom can be contacted at [tomdurst1@msn.com](mailto:tomdurst1@msn.com)

In seeking truth you have to get both sides of the story. ~ Walter Cronkite

## Kinship at GLBTIQ Pride Fair Day's this year.

Kinship was present at the Big Gay Out Day in Auckland New Zealand. People who came and took the information on hand at the site were related or friends to SDA people and felt that people who were Gay could not come and get the information, because of being seen at the Fair.



Our site was open and allowed the breeze to come through on a warm day.

The event is small compared to the Australian events. Kinship was very well received by the community at hand. My thanks to the people that took the time to say hello and chat for a while.

While I was in New Zealand I managed to go to the South Island and see Milford Sound. This was a high light of my trip to NZ. Nature is pretty awesome when seen up close. Gods handy work is seen everywhere.



Seals sunning themselves and doing what seals do.

Kinship was also at the Picnic, in Victoria Park in Sydney. The day was a great day with good company.

Kinship needs young people to participate in these events and we were rewarded by two of our members. We had a lot of people come and say hello and find out about us and show support for what we are doing. They were lots of surprises in who got information.

## Our Health

### GLYDE Health's new "Red Ribbon Condom"® to revolutionize HIV/AIDS Fundraising

18 February 2008 Sydney, Australia

GLYDE Health Pty Ltd is delighted to announce it has developed and trademarked the GLYDE Red Ribbon Condom®, which it will manufacture and distribute specifically for fundraising activities conducted by HIV/AIDS organizations around the world.

With the assistance of its global distribution agencies, GLYDE expects its Red Ribbon Condom® will be sought after by AIDS prevention and treatment organizations which need new and flexible avenues through which they can raise funds.

The condom, made from the highest quality red latex, with its distinctive trademarked GLYDE Red Ribbon symbol on the foil will be an excellent product for HIV/AIDS organizations to on sell, or offer to the public in exchange for a small donation. **GLYDE will donate 4 cents for each condom purchased by HIV/AIDS organizations.**

"I believe the GLYDE Red Ribbon Condom® can do for HIV/AIDS what the pink ribbon has done for breast cancer", says Clive Woodworth, GLYDE's managing director. "Our condom is instantly recognizable as a fundraising product. If you think about how many condoms can be exchanged for a donation on fundraising days and multiply that by 4 cents each, we can really help finance the fight against HIV/AIDS" he said.

GLYDE Health made the decision to announce the launch of the GLYDE Red Ribbon Condom® to coincide with the 2008 Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Festival. "As an Australian company, we believe it to be the perfect opportunity to launch our fundraising initiative" says Mr Woodworth. "We really hope the community gets behind this product and supports what we are trying to do".

About GLYDE Health Pty Ltd.

GLYDE Health has manufactured and distributed quality sexual health products for 18 years.

100% Australian owned and operated, the company has distribution outlets in Asia Pacific, Europe and North America. The company's comprehensive product range including its propriety product, the SHEER GLYDE Dam, ensures it is the supply solution for public health care providers, government agencies, AIDS Councils and hospitals.

## GLBTIQ Faith Groups

Story SSO.

Two of Australia's most prominent human rights leaders are the new patrons of Freedom 2 b[e], the support network for GLBTIQ people from Pentecostal and Charismatic church backgrounds.

The Honourable Michael Kirby and Reverend Dorothy McRae-McMahon were approached to add "credibility" to the organization, former Assemblies of God minister and founder of Freedom 2 b[e], Anthony Venn-Brown, said.

"These are people who are leaders in the community," he said. "Both the Reverend Dorothy McRae-McMahon ... and of course the Honourable Michael Kirby ... have been very public, and sometimes they've paid a price for that, but know the importance of living authentically and also that that is the way we're going to bring change."

Venn-Brown chronicled his own experience of struggling with his sexuality for 22 years as a minister in the Pentecostal church in his book *A Life Of Unlearning*. The Honorable Michael Kirby wrote the foreword to the book and Venn-Brown said that he saw the High Court judge as his mentor.

"I admire Anthony for his courage and outreach to Christians of his tradition," the Hon. Michael Kirby said.

"The wonderful thing is that he has already attracted the support of Pentecostal pastors and believers. Many religious people are very thoughtful and basically kind. Anthony Venn-Brown reaches out to them and I am proud of him and them."

### **Metropolitan Community Church.**

Please be aware of these churches in Australia. They are on the East Coast of Australia and are welcoming of all peoples. People who attend MCC often come from widely diverse Faith backgrounds as well as from no identified faith tradition.

All are Welcome.

### **"OUT LATE"**

'Out Late' is a booklet about sexual identity and coming out as an older gay man. It includes information about health and safe sex. It's not a 'how to' guide but it does explore a range of topics that many men in this situation have experienced. Copies of the booklet can be downloaded by clicking on the link below.

[http://www.afao.org.au/library\\_docs/resources/OutLate07.pdf](http://www.afao.org.au/library_docs/resources/OutLate07.pdf)

## Ashes to Greet the Pope.

**A group working for gay, lesbian, bisexual and trans rights in the Roman Catholic church is planning a special welcome for Pope Benedict during his visit to the US next month.**

The Rainbow Sash Movement said it is calling on "Catholics of good will" to take the Papal visit as an opportunity to shower the Pope mobile with ashes instead of confetti.

"Ashes are an ancient and appropriate greeting for a sinner who has caused the Church so much division and pain," RSM said in a statement.

"We will also be greeting him with whistles; these were used by the Polish people to show shame for the violation of human rights by the Communist Government prior to the end of the cold war.

The Pope, who has been outspoken in his opposition to equal rights for LGBT people, will visit Washington and New York from April 15-20 and will meet President Bush and address the United Nations.

# Look at Our Events

## Brisbane

Kinship will have a table in the community tent at the Brisbane Pride Fair Day the 14th June. The fair is held in Musgrave Park, South Brisbane.

## Kampmeeting

Australian Kampmeeting will be 3-6 October 2008 at Lismore, Northern NSW. The theme for the conference is "Rejuvenation." Check out our events page for the details.

This has had a change of venue because of unforeseen circumstances.

I think you will be surprised at the level of comfort the venue has.

So come and be part of it "Rejuvenation".

### My Son, Beloved Stranger

by Carrol Grady

This excellent book has been reprinted with an added epilogue. This is a great book to have in your library and to have extra copies to give to parents, pastors, friends and anyone else who deals with having a loved one come out to them.

### Open Heart, Open Hand

Three conversations about homosexuality and the family—a life and death matter. Introduced by Dr David Larson, a professor with the Faculty of Religion at Loma Linda University, this new resource features interviews with Adventist parents of gay and lesbian people.

## Christianity and Homosexuality

### Some Seventh-day Adventist Perspectives

The Book of the decade is out this month.

Kinship is offering a pre-publication special price to members and others who have helped to make the book a reality. Kinship is working to have links on websites run by a number of well-known organizations as well as a website created especially for the book. This book has been two years in the making and is a collaboration between the Adventist Forum and SDA Kinship International. For more information go to [www.sdagayperspectives.com](http://www.sdagayperspectives.com)

## Support for the Parents of Gay/Lesbian Adventists

Someone to Talk to.... Carrol Grady  
(Aka Kate McLaughlin My Son, Beloved Stranger),  
Coordinator.

Web-Site <http://www.someone-to-talk-to.net>

P-flag Australia For parents  
and friends of GLBT people  
Web site: [www.pflag.org.au](http://www.pflag.org.au)

Associations of Kinship Around the World  
SDA KINSHIP INTERNATIONAL  
[www.sdakinship.org](http://www.sdakinship.org)

SDA KINSHIP AUSTRALIA - Principal Office:  
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## MEMBERSHIP FOR KINSHIP IN AUSTRALIA IS WELCOME.

Membership is **FREE** in Australia, but relies on donations, to reach out to other people within the GLBTI community.

*Finally: The blows of life transform us.*

Articles in this News Letter are not necessarily Kinships view: Contributions to this news letter are welcomed and encouraged. (The Newsletter One to One has been prepared by N Thorpe --- Coordinator.)