

# ***FRIENDS OF THE SABBATH***

**DR BRYAN BALL**, RON DART OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRIES AND MELVIN RHODES OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF GOD in Australia for the *Australian Friends of the Sabbath Conference* to be held 11-13 April 1997 in Sydney.

The **Friends of the Sabbath** organization was formed, not to start a new church, but to foster a deeper understanding and experience of the Sabbath at a time when this institution has come under attack. The organizers have sponsored similar Sabbath Conferences in the USA and other countries where they invited scholars and leaders of different Sabbath-keeping denominations to present papers on various theological, historical, and practical aspects of the Sabbath.

In July 1996, the first ever such conference came to Australia. It was very well received by the many people who attended. Many remarked on the high level of scholarship and enjoyed the great variety of topics (all focused around the Sabbath) which were presented. While it was not expected that everyone would agree with all that they heard, the general reaction by virtually everyone was an increase in devotion to and enthusiasm for God's Sabbath. This flowed over into an increased devotion to God's way in general, a valuable addition to any congregation.

**Friends of the Sabbath** have a goal of fostering understanding and building bridges between the various Sabbath-keeping denominations, so they will be expecting the speakers to adhere to this in their lectures.

Copies of audios and videos of the conferences in Australia will be made available, as well as a wealth of literature from the various participants.

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING, WRITE OR PHONE *FRIENDS OF THE SABBATH*: GPO BOX 864, Sydney 2001. Telephone: (02) 9747 5655. E-mail: [craig@triode.net.au](mailto:craig@triode.net.au)**

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