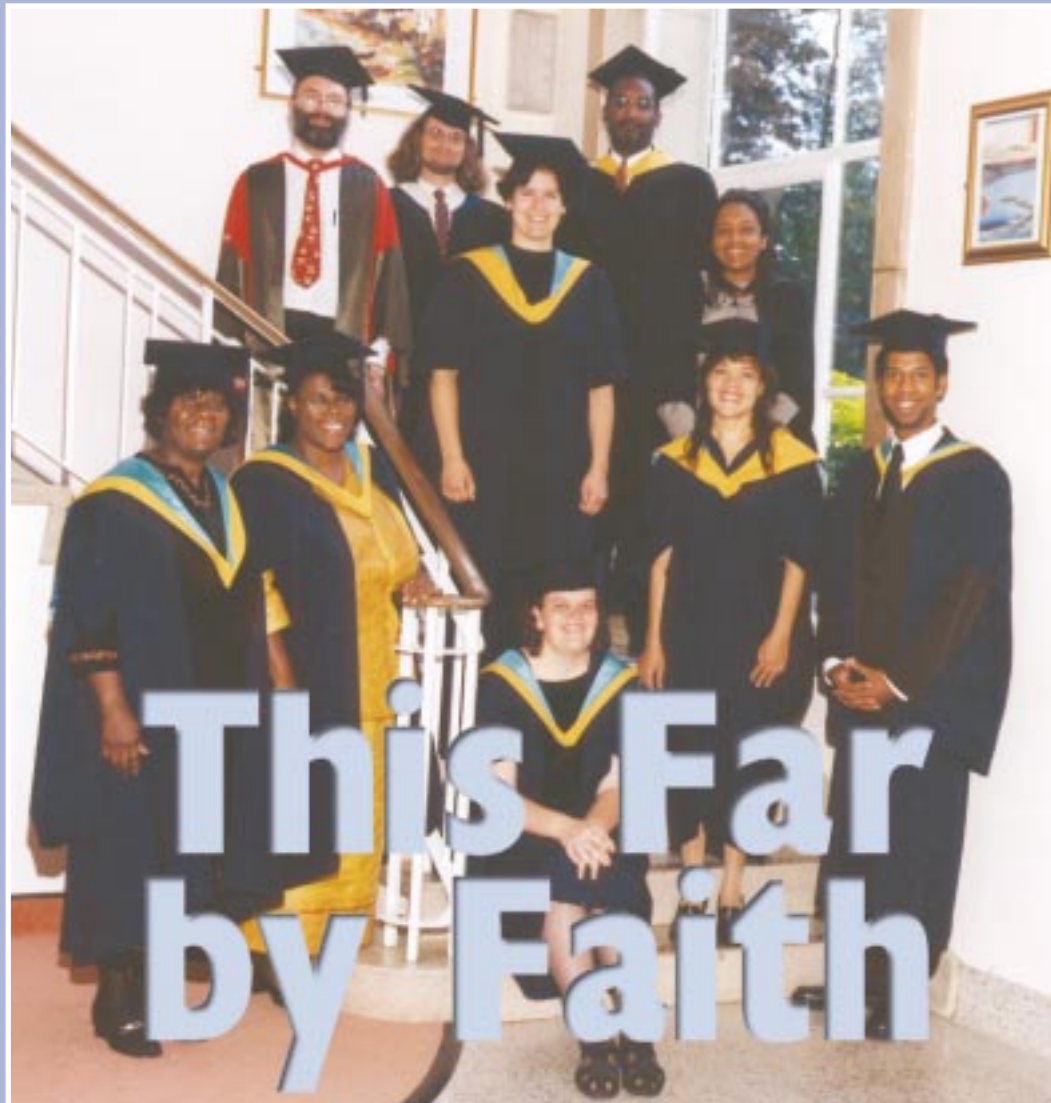


MESSENGER

Journal of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the United Kingdom and Ireland



Back, l to r: Dr Lawrence Turner, Head of the Theology Department; David Trim (Humanities – History); Gifford Rhamie (Theology); **Second row l to r:** Graduate Melissa Hope, with Kay Traille (Humanities – History); **Front row, l to r:** Cynthia Straker; Delcina Rodney; Joelle Cooper (seated); Cynthia Knowlton; Mark Castellino.

ing chiropractics. Melissa is modest about her accomplishments, but says she found her classes in history and theology very enriching and that her most enduring memory is of Seka Becejac's organ lessons. 'She was able to make me play the organ like an educated organist. If music [as a degree course] were a choice at Newbold I would definitely have done that,' she declares.

Cynthia Knowlton, who is looking for employment locally, found the Newbold experience spiritually rewarding. For example, 'One could not leave Dr Pedersen's lessons without having a living, touching and learning experience of the magnitude of God's love', she says.

Delcina Rodney is equally enthusiastic about Newbold. 'My time at Newbold was plagued by illness,' she says, 'due to a car accident I was involved in during my first week of classes. I almost didn't make it. The only reason I did is because of the support I received from fellow students and staff members. I want to thank them all from the bottom of my heart.' Delcina is continuing at Newbold as a post-graduate student in Pastoral Studies.

Cynthia Straker, who is warmly spoken of by her classmates as 'the mother' of the group, says she gained a family while at Newbold and also acquired 'much knowledge from the inter-cultural mix'. Cynthia is hoping to take up a hospital chaplaincy post in the near future.

Steve Wilson is currently working in Albania. He writes that his involvement in small-group ministry while at College allowed him to 'see life, God and problems from a different perspective' and helped him to complete his studies at Newbold 'even more enthusiastic than when I arrived'.

Nicholas Resla found the choir tour 'one of the great highlights' of the College year and enjoyed acting as its accompanist. Nicholas plans to work for a time but

Continued on page 6

A report on Newbold Graduation by Margaret Whidden

Graduation Day was a bit of a wash-out at Newbold. Rain drizzled down almost all day. Nevertheless, responding to this challenge to optimism, the atmosphere inside Salisbury Hall on 30 September was far from damp, as local civic dignitaries and friends of the College from Church and community joined the graduands and their teachers, families and friends in celebrating the fact that a group of students had come 'This Far by Faith', as announced by the class motto. The eighteen graduating students included one receiving the degree of MA in Pastoral Ministry through Andrews University and one student who was being awarded

Newbold's Diploma in Islamic Studies. Of the other sixteen, seven were graduating with British BA (Honours) degrees in Biblical and Pastoral Studies, and nine were receiving British BA (Honours) degrees in Humanities.

The centennial-year graduating class was, as always at Newbold, a multicultural group, this year representing thirteen nations: Bulgaria, Canada, Finland, Ghana, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Norway, Pakistan, South Korea, the United Kingdom, the USA and Yugoslavia. Six of the new graduates are from the UK. They include class president Joelle Cooper, class chaplain Melissa Hope and Mark Castellino, Cynthia Knowlton, Delcina

Rodney, and Cynthia Straker. Nicholas Resla, whose mother is English, and Stephen Wilson, who is Irish, are two others in the 'parish' of the MESSENGER.

Joelle Cooper has links with Newbold that go back for almost its entire history; her great-grandfather was among the first 'Newbold' students almost a hundred years ago, when the College was located in London. She is currently teaching in California.

Of the other British graduates, Melissa Hope (who divides her allegiance between Norway and Britain), is working as a student missionary in Stockholm and looking after her young son (born just last year), while her husband Ronny is study-

Winning souls with literature



Vernon Nambo, Home Sales director, The Stanborough Press Ltd, outlines his vision of each congregation using literature to win souls for God's Kingdom.

'More than one thousand will soon be converted in one day, most of whom will trace their convictions to the reading of our publications.' *Colporteur Ministry*, page 151. This is something we would like to witness in the British Isles. Hence the plan to have a publishing sponsor in every local church, with the following responsibilities:

- ◆ To develop plans on how to utilize evangelistic literature.
- ◆ To educate and train members in essentials of Christian salespersonship.
- ◆ To lead and direct the church into active literature-evangelism.
- ◆ To promote Adventist home libraries.

Evangelistic literature

We have a lot of literature that is specially designed to reach all classes of people . . . on health, character building, spiritual and social well-being. The concept is to encourage the local church to increase the use of literature in all its outreach programmes. This should not just be limited to magazines and tracts but should include books as well.

Christian salespersonship

Salespersonship is the ability to persuade people, through their reason and judgement, to buy what they need. To ensure member confidence and mass literature distribution, specialized training in the essentials of Christian salespersonship will be offered. This will be done through weekend training seminars and by correspondence.

Literature-evangelism

Literature-evangelism is the sharing of the Gospel through the selling or free distribution of religious literature. This is one of the best and most satisfying methods of reaching non-Adventist people. This agency can reach and influence the public mind as no other means can. The whole church can participate – young and old alike! The plan integrates into the member's everyday life experience with friends, neighbours and relatives. It allows church members to proclaim the third angel's message fearlessly.

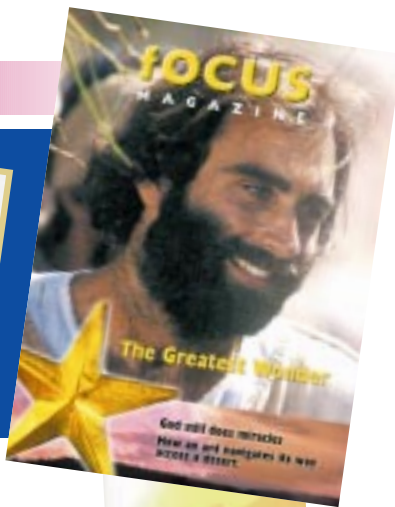
Adventist home libraries

We must be sold before we can sell. We must read before we expect other people to read our literature. Nothing can happen *through* us, until it happens *to* us. So, to be an effective book distributor there is no short cut – we just have to read what we sell or distribute.

'When church members realize the importance of the circulation of our literature, they will devote more time to this work. Papers, tracts, and books will be placed in the home of the people, to preach the gospel in their several lines.' *Colporteur Ministry*, page 7.

We have no greater opportunity than now to devote more time to mass literature distribution. To sum it up, let me apply with emphasis the South England Conference motto: **The Whole Church, Taking the Whole Gospel, to the Whole Community, Through the Printed Page.**

Nothing can happen *through* us until it happens *to* us.



Where was God?

Certain events on the international stage are so important that they punctuate our whole lives. Anyone in their mid-50s would have vivid recollections of, for example, Colonel Nasser and the Suez crisis (1956), the Cuban Missile crisis when the world teetered to the edge of nuclear conflict (1962), the assassination of President John F. Kennedy (1963), the Americans putting a man on the moon (1969), and the disgrace of Richard Nixon (1974).

I strongly suspect that the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Centre and the Pentagon will do more than punctuate our lives; they will actually change both the way we live and think. At the very least, the terrorist attacks will divide our lives into *before* 11 September 2001 and *after* 11 September 2001.

The content of my mail indicates that ▲ everyone needs to have their say on this one; ▲ the full range of views – on the terrorist strikes and the attack on Afghanistan – is represented in the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the British Union; ▲ a scramble is in progress to fit the contemporary crisis into the prophetic scheme of things.

Those involved in the scramble inevitably try to enlist the support of Ellen White. To my dogmatic friends I would respectfully point out that the quotations you have sent to me – reproduced on page 6 of *Messenger* 106/21 – are believed by the White Estate *not* to refer to the destruction of the twin towers. In 1906 (*Review and Herald*, 5 July) Ellen White wrote, 'I have no light in particular in regard to what is coming on New York, only that I know that one day the great buildings there will be thrown down by the turning and overturning of God's power.' It is believed that that quotation, together with the one at the beginning of *Testimonies*, volume 9 (published in 1909), has a more general application. Having reported that, however, I am reserving the right to think my own thoughts on the second quote. Sister White's reference to the ineffectiveness of fire fighters makes it clear that what was being referred to was an event other than the Second Coming. . . .

Two things in particular have surprised me about your letters: ▲ the allegation that, despite the contents of *Messenger* in the 28 September, 12 October and 26 October issues, neither the Union president nor I have written about the international crisis; ▲ the violent solutions to the international crisis suggested by some.

On the first of these two points: we have only been able to write about these events *since they happened*. On the second: it is clear there has been a massive shift in Adventist opinion on war since 1939 – at least at grass roots level. In World War II, Seventh-day Adventists in Britain were pacifists. Men of my father's generation were obliged to stand before tribunals and defend their non-violent views. The basis of their views was the sixth commandment. Typically, they were asked, 'What would you do if a German came to murder your wife and children?' One characterful Adventist told the judge, 'I would do the same to the German as I would do to you, and if you want to know

what that is, you'd better come and find out!' Despite his bellicose tone, in common with most Adventists he was relieved of the necessity of serving in the armed forces and, instead, put on 'essential work'.

There have been thoughtful letters. These I prefer. One person wrote, 'Where was God when nine Adventists died in the twin towers?' The writer quoted Psalm 91 as if it were a comprehensive insurance policy for Christians. That, incidentally, is how Satan interpreted that Psalm when he tempted Jesus (Matthew 4:6). The Psalmist's long list of things God's people need not fear should be seen against the background of the apostle Paul's teaching (Romans 8:35 et seq): 'In all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.' (Verse 37.) Notice, '*In* all these things': we are not saved *from* them, we are saved *in* them. We are not saved *from* the floods or the fires; but the Lord our God is our closest Companion *in* them (Isaiah 43:2). When Jesus said, 'I am with you always' (Matthew 28:20), He made no exceptions.

One more thought in response to the 'Where was God?' question: More than 6,000 perished in the twin towers – God was not just with the Adventists! I'm sure He had many other faithful ones among those who perished.

Another question I have been asked is, 'Why didn't God intervene?' The fact is, He probably did. Terrible as it was, you may be sure that Satan wanted a far worse tragedy on 11 September. There are angels holding back the winds of strife (Revelation 7:1-5) and, but for their efforts, the wars, the terrorism and the tragedies might be a great deal worse than they are. Satan's plan is for *total* destruction. Anything less than that, and he's disappointed. Nuclear weapons have been around for fifty-six years; it's not for want of Satan's efforts that they have not been used. . . .

Be careful how you represent God in this time of international crisis. Satan wants to use the atrocities to besmirch the character of the Almighty Loving One so that millions will fall away. Thus far Satan must have been bitterly disappointed in at least one respect; my American friends tell me that their own churches and the Sunday churches in the USA have been full since 11 September. 'People are coming home,' said Mark Thomas, marketing vice-president of *Review and Herald*. 'There is a revival in my country,' he concluded. Let's pray that the revival erupts here!

Have faith! One day a Rider on a white horse will appear. He will be followed by billions upon billions of angels. He will come to correct every injustice and right every wrong. On His robe will be emblazoned: 'KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.' (Revelation 19:11-16.)

The end of the war is certain. But in the meantime there is terrorism and hatred and genocide and homicide and suicide. In that 'meantime' period let's not be tetchy and crabby with one another. Let's prepare for that revival. And let's look forward to the day when Satan will be able to deceive the nations no more (Revelation 20:3).

After the great nappy schism **Richard J. B. Willis, BUC Health Ministries director**

Perhaps you missed it. Maybe it did not make headline news in the UK. You have not heard of the potty-training war which raged between two groups of American academics? The crux of the matter was this. One side claimed that children's self-esteem was boosted if they were potty-trained early. Opponents of the view contended that nature should take its course, even if it meant children going to school wearing outside nappies. It is not surprising to read that the latter view – supposedly independent – was sponsored by the nappy industry!

In the aftermath of the great nappy schism one wonders what will be in the next round of serious studies concerning children. We may not have long to wait for an answer. Scientists are beginning to take sides in the Mozart Effect debate.

One school of thought believes that classical music, and Mozart in particular, will boost the brain power of children right through to their early adult years. Scientists at Appalachian State University, on the other hand, say, 'We conclude that there is little evidence to support it.'

Dr Raj Persaud, Consultant Psychiatrist at London's Maudsley Hospital, says that more grey matter is required to appreciate classical music. So listening to such music from an early age should help to develop the brain-cell networks. There seems to be some substance to his observations since Professor John Jenkins of the University of London has shown that short bursts of Mozart's *Sonata K448* has been found useful in decreasing epileptic attacks. The high frequency sound is thought to: stimulate the brain into a more controlled pattern of behaviour, thus

helping to stabilize the erratic firing of the neurons in the temporal lobes; help to produce relaxing endorphins; and lower blood pressure. The jury is still out on whether or not the beneficial claims can be substantiated. Meanwhile, schools in Florida are required by law to play classical music CDs; and school teacher Anne Savan, in her learning difficulties class at Aberdare Boys' Comprehensive School, is using classical music to calm her pupils. She has already found that previously inattentive boys are now able to be part of the school choir and are doing well in GCSEs.



Adventist layman made Moderator of Churches

On the evening of Sunday 7 October, members of the Barnsley church were joined by representatives of other Christian denominations to celebrate the induction of Brother Bill Cowin as the new Moderator of Churches Together in Central Barnsley. In his sermon, Brother Cowin said that his main aims would be the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and helping the poor and needy in the Barnsley area.

HAZEL SCHOLLES

Brother Cowin, his wife Nancy and local pastor John Hines.



Canterbury Holiday Bible Club

Up to twenty-four children from the Canterbury area had great fun attending a Holiday Bible Club held at Broad Oak village hall in August. The theme for the week was Noah's Ark, and the

children enjoyed a variety of activities around the popular Bible story. Every day they listened to different stories involving animals, including 'Daniel and the lions' den'. They also had great

Lord Mayor of Birmingham at Harvest service

At 4.30pm on Sabbath 13 October NEC Church Growth director Pastor Paul Haworth was the guest speaker for the traditional Harvest Festival service at the Yardley church in Birmingham. In attendance were the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Birmingham, Jim and Ann Frances Whorwood. The Lord Mayor read the Scripture reading from Matthew 25:31-46, a passage he had chosen himself. By coincidence Pastor Haworth had chosen to speak on Matthew 25, which he used to remind the congregation of their responsibility to the wider society. In his talk Pastor Haworth mentioned the work that the Adventist Church is doing in societies

all around the world, through ADRA, Community Services, and Family Ministries. Commenting on the biblical view of the harvest, Pastor Haworth went on to speak about the Adventist emphasis on healthy living. This went down well with the Mayoress who is herself a vegetarian. Afterwards, the Mayor and Mayoress, who had been given gifts of appreciation, said how much they had enjoyed the service. Pastor Haworth was able to have an informal talk with them and commented on how down-to-earth they both were. 'There were no airs and graces,' he said. 'They were just a very nice ordinary couple.'

PASTOR DAVID SAVALANI

fun learning new songs and playing games.

During the craft sessions the challenge was to help the children design their own T-shirts; build an ark; and make clay and peg animals.

The highlight of the week was when the local press came to take a photo of the children who proudly showed off the crafts that they had made.

PASTOR FERNAND LOMBART



Ewoo campaign: twenty-nine baptized

by Andrew Beccai

There was a reversal of missionary endeavours this summer when Pastor A. L. Ewoo, a son of the Western coastal region of Ghana where Adventist missionaries began

their work, came to London with a blistering revival-style evangelistic campaign resulting in the baptism of twenty-nine people.

The only difference was that Pastor

Paster Ewoo with some of the newly-baptized members.



Ewoo stayed for only four weeks. Nonetheless, his New Life in Christ Campaign at the Lister Community School, Plaistow, would have made Pastor Dudley U. Hale, superintendent of the Adventist missionary effort in the Gold Coast [Ghana] proud. Edward L. Sanford and G. K. Rudolph, first missionaries to the Gold Coast, and George and Eva Kerr, medical missionaries who lost their two children in the mission field, would have known that their efforts had not been in vain.

It was a very challenging campaign for the Ghanaian Adventist church as very few of its members live in the east of London, but with dedication and commitment about ninety people attended the campaign. One of the organizers observed, 'If most of our members living in Plaistow area were to do vigorous visitation, we would

have baptized about fifty people.' But he was thankful: 'We thank God for the twenty-nine souls and for the effort of the members who travelled far to support the campaign.' An intensive follow-up will certainly see more people baptized.

Among those who were baptized were husband and wife Brother and Sister Ofori Asante, who were first to be immersed. Sister Aisha Asante revealed that she took the decision to be baptized first. 'I told my husband about it and later he also decided to be baptized.' A deacon, Brother Kodua, also expressed his joy: 'I am so happy', he said, 'to see my wife and my son baptized. My wife attended the Adventist church when she was very young, but she stopped and I am glad that she has now given her life to Christ.'

The best decision

On Sabbath 11 August Bristol Central was delighted to welcome a new family into their congregation and to witness the baptism of their eldest son. Prakash Pawar, his wife and two sons, had been attending our church for some months, having left Bombay to make Bristol their new home. The family's joy was made complete when their 13-year-old son Pratik entrusted his life to the Lord in baptism. Pastor Ron Edwards advised him that he had made the best decision in his life and the most lasting one. Pratik has blessed our church with his talent for playing the keyboard, and we look forward to his becoming more involved in our family.

LISA SABADIN



The Pawar family with Pastor Ron Edwards.

Flower Power

Flower Power is something we associate with the 1960s but it is still very real today. Roundelwood Health Spa was host to Revd William McMillan,

MBE, in September. An International Floral Artist and Special Associate of the National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies, 'Mac', as he



Those who turned out to listen to Revd Mac.

is affectionately known, has demonstrated flower arranging in every country in the world – from America to Afghanistan! Flowers cross all international barriers and bring joy and happiness. In desert and arid places they are even more valued.

Mac never charges a fee for his demonstrations, requesting instead that a donation be sent to a named charity. In this way he has raised hundreds of thousands of pounds for children's charities all over the world, providing hospices, orphanages and treatment for children's illnesses including cancer. Two years ago his work was recognized by the Queen when he was honoured with an MBE.

Although he is an international celebrity, the Revd Mac is also the minister of a Presbyterian church on the outskirts of Belfast, and always likes to be back home to take his Sunday service. Part of the art of flower demonstration is to be able to tell a good story and Mac had his audience in stitches in the Adventist church hall in Crieff on Wednesday

evening. He told them of how he was met at an airport in America by a huge man, dressed completely in primrose yellow with daisies embroidered on his trousers and fringing his hat, who turned out to be a flower arranger megastar in the United States.

Roundelwood Health Spa holds a Flower Arrangers' Week every year and invites floral artists to demonstrate and lead out in workshops. Two years ago Alison Bradley from the Scottish TV 'Beechgrove Garden' was the guest and last year we had with us Audrey Balderstone of the Stanborough Park church, who is also the Assistant Editor of the *Flower Arranger* magazine.

The Revd Mac gave a heart-warming presentation and demonstration when he reminded the large audience that there is much that is beautiful in this world, despite the ugliness of terrorism and international disputes.

PASTOR G. MARTIN BELL

Erdington baptism

On 16 June the members of the Erdington church received a wonderful blessing when Celia Dudley was baptized into the Adventist fellowship by our pastor, Paul Haworth.

Sister Dudley accepted Christ as her personal Saviour as a result of the NET '99 Millennium of Prophecy seminar satellite transmission from New York. For Erdington, the video series started 22 September 2000 and ended 9 December. Sister Dudley never missed a meeting. She faithfully attended all the series which were presented on Tuesday and Friday evenings at 7.30pm. She also received Bible studies from Pastor Haworth to underpin her faith and her understanding of the Scriptures.

JOHN OSEI-BEMPONG

Adventist Special Needs Association

The ASNA UK & Eire is an association established to support the spiritual, social and physical development of our members with special needs and disabilities. It also aims to support families, carers and professionals working within the field of special needs by providing resources, training and awareness programmes, family weekend breaks and special needs focus days. The ASNA is currently undertaking an extensive survey to establish the distribution and details of disabilities within church membership, the current practices of special needs ministries within Adventist churches, the needs of the members and leaders of the church. The results of this survey will help the association along with the church administration to provide an effective and appropriate service for the special needs church community. Please ask your local church elder, pastor or personal ministries leaders for further details and questionnaires.

On 1 December at the Advent Centre, London, there will be a concert of music and drama to launch the ASNA.

There is also a family weekend planned for 22-24 March 2002 in Northamptonshire, where families can meet for mutual support. There will be theme-specific workshops for parents and carers. Children and adults with special needs are encouraged to attend. Arrangements will be made for their care.

The committee members of ASNA are themselves affected by special needs, or work as professionals with adults and children with disabilities. Committee members are Nigel Nicholls (chair); Pastors David Spearing, Curtis Murphy, Cyril Sweeney, Alan Hush, Brighton Kavaloh; Sophia Nicholls (ASNA secretary); Olivia Robinson (treasurer); Karena Weekes (Support Services co-ordinator); Pauline Mitchell (Training and awareness co-ordinator); and Jill Galloway (Special Needs professional).

We would like to hear from anyone interested in becoming a member of this association or becoming an active member of one of the subcommittees mentioned above. For further details on the ASNA committees or general ASNA information, ASNA concert or family weekend break, please phone or email Sophia Nicholls on: (01491) 833395; email: asna@special1.fsnet.co.uk.

East Anglia Day of Fellowship

On 22 September about 250 church members and visitors from East Anglia met in Bury St Edmunds for a Day of Fellowship. They came from as far afield as Peterborough, Norwich and Gorleston in the north and Southend, Hutton and Basildon in the south.

The morning speaker was Dr Daniel Duda from Newbold who, during the lesson study period, presented an interesting lecture on Anger and how it can be a valuable tool if used correctly. Later, he drew lessons from the story of Jesus' healing the paralytic at the pool of Bethesda. The disabled man said, 'I have no one to help me,' while Jesus, the All-powerful, was standing there, ready to heal him.

Our venue was the impressive

Athenaeum. Just across the street are the lovely Abbey Gardens, where many members enjoyed their lunch in the welcome sunshine.

After a praise service led by David Andrews and Nicola Saunders, Pastor Dalbert Elias gave a presentation on Church Growth and showed a video on 'Reaching the Lost'.

Pastor Ian Lorek, the area co-ordinator, and organizer for the day said, 'This was the best attended East Anglian Day of Fellowship for some time. Many of those who attended expressed their appreciation for the excellent inspiration and fellowship. Thank you to all involved for making this a memorable day.'

ROBERT BUCKLEY

Broomhill weekend

The weekend of 31 August to 2 September was a time of fellowship and spiritual refreshment for twenty-eight Lodge Causeway members. Broomhill was the location. Pastor Ken Clothier's theme for the weekend was Jesus Christ in the Book of Hebrews. All the chores, including catering, were done on a rota basis.

S. A. HATCHER

The alternative family camp . . .

'No camps,' they cried! 'What will we do this summer – no Aberdaron fix, no sun, sea, sand and sunsets?' they thought. 'Oh, no!' cried the children. 'We won't see our friends for two years.' All the cries soon came to an end as, despite the restrictions of foot and mouth, family camp went on, and, yes, it was at Aberdaron – in a little family-run farm overlooking the sea. Sixty Aberdaron veterans took their annual sabbatical in that wonderful, peaceful, tranquil, fun-loving place and experienced a holiday with a difference. Different, but it was still Aberdaron! Yes, we still had family worships – in a barn. Yes, we still had a barbecue. We still had worships at the point. Yes, we still ate together, spent time together, went on cycle rides, had lots of cream teas!

Approximately thirteen families camped and a further six had reservations made in cottages and B&Bs, so Aberdaron had to go on, and go on it did. They came from Scotland, Bournemouth, from the towns and the cities, and experienced a totally relaxing, fulfilling, harmonious and spiritual week. We sang, ate, walked torchlit night walks – to see glow worms – witnessed on the beach where we had a bonfire and holiday-makers and even the chefs came out of the hotel to see what was going on. At the point we were joined by another fifty Christians and shared evening worship, and celebrated Sabbath together under Andy's well-constructed canopy, needed in order to offer shade from the tropical Aberdaron sun! After the worship we all shared a fellowship banquet together.

ANNETTE KOWARIN

Congratulations to Gilian Gorle, née Hertogs, on graduating with a PhD from the University of Reading. Gilian's dissertation contained a comparative study of the literature of Africa and the Pacific Islands.

Ron and Lilian Ogborne's Diamond Wedding

Ron and Lilian were married by Pastor O. M. Dorland at the Adventist church, Arley Hill, Bristol on 18 June 1941.

Baptized in 1935 and 1937, respectively, Ron and Lilian transferred their membership from Bristol Central church to Bristol Lodge Causeway in 1972, and have been cherished members ever since. Ron has a special gift;

he made the pulpit that still graces the platform today, and the communion set that the pastor carries with him on home visits. He has also served as church treasurer. Lilian has held the offices of head deaconess and church clerk, among others.

On Sabbath morning, to mark this joyful occasion, they were presented with a bouquet of flowers, and after the service members gathered round in the church hall for light refreshments and to congratulate the happy couple personally.

The following Sunday, four children, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren gathered together to celebrate their very special day; a family to be proud of!

S. A. HATCHER



Continued from page 1 – Graduation

has a place waiting for him at Trinity College of Music in London, where he hopes to continue his studies.

As for Mark Castellino, he has certainly started on a 'farther' journey, by faith. This was acknowledged when he was given a special commendation during the Graduation service. An ADRA intern, working in Azerbaijan this year, he hopes that, perhaps after taking another degree, he can continue working in international development. The offering taken up during the graduation service was designated, by Mark's classmates, as a gift for ADRA, in aid of the work in Azerbaijan.

'Optimism is the oxygen of innovation and the ozone of discovery,' said John Walton, in his address on Graduation Day. Speaking as a scientist (he is Professor of Reactive Chemistry at the University of St Andrews), Dr Walton listed a number of surprising reasons why we may allow ourselves some optimism about the future of this resilient planet. 'Christian faith,' he added, 'generates optimism about one's personal future and about the future of the world' – even when we are faced with the horrible events of 11 September. 'Faith and fact point squarely to optimism. . . . I'm urging you to embrace a healthy dose of optimism to catalyse the application of your talents and skills in making the world materially and spiritually a better place.'

Newbold Graduation is never a one-day event. Sabbath services are part of the programme, and Dr Gunnar Pedersen gave a stirring sermon, in which he talked about living by faith, living by trust. 'The alternative to belief and trust is paranoia,' he claimed. We must live by 'informed belief and trust', and by the testimony of Jesus Christ, and by 'faith fuelled by seeing the face of Jesus Christ – a living, abiding consciousness of God.'

Celebrations began earlier, with the arrival of the participants on the Friday (28 September), when the majority of those about to take their degrees participated in an evening service of consecration. The speaker was Dr Harry Leonard, recently retired from full-time teaching at Newbold. He talked about Martin Luther's agonized struggles over doctrine and how the great reformer had discovered that 'God was actually on his side . . . or, to put it another way, the faith was replaced by faith, or what Luther was to call trust' – the kind of trust that allowed Luther to write the 'battle hymn of the Reformation' – 'A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.' Luther, said Dr Leonard, could look back over his life and say, 'Thus far by faith.' So, to those graduating under the same banner, he asked, 'If thus far, why not now and tomorrow and forever?'

Obituaries

Pastor Victor Hayward Hall

2 May 1924 – 23 September 2001

Victor was the first of two sons born to Gordon and Margaret Hall in London. Several months prior to his birth Victor's parents had joined the Seventh-day Adventist church. The Wimbledon congregation witnessed his baptism not long before their church was bombed.

One year later in 1941 Victor Hall was the young man selected from all the London schools to give the 'call to prayer' at the Empire Youth Service broadcast from Westminster Abbey. That was a great honour, recognizing his fine voice and speaking ability. His call to Christian ministry had occurred two years earlier when, one Sabbath afternoon, he experienced the clear, unmistakable summons of his Master to be a pastor. Study for the ministry began at Newbold Revel and continued at Packwood Haugh, but was interrupted by compulsory National Service involving full-time work on the land. While completing his college career on the new Binfield campus, Victor became engaged to Christine Emm who was to become his life partner and support in a wide variety of ministerial posts. His first assignment was in Dundee to assist Kenneth Lacey in public evangelism. From there he was to relocate in Aberdeen where he ran a successful outreach programme alongside Dr Gertrude Brown.

Victor's big frustration in life was to know which one of his talents to develop. His gifts for music and art were used to the full in the time he spent working with Pastors George Vandeman, Roy Anderson, Elman Folkenberg and Russell Kranz at the New Gallery Centre in London. Victor was ordained in 1957 during a Session in Watford.

By the time the Halls left Central London their marriage had been blessed with three lovely children: two sons, Alistair and Mervyn, and daughter Shirley. Although he did not know it then, Victor would later return for a second five-year stint of service in Regent Street, 1971 – 1976, when Russell Kranz returned from Australia with a fresh attempt to reach an increasingly

secular and sceptical public. Between these two assignments Victor's career experienced tremendous variety, always combining pastoral care with other demanding responsibilities: Youth pastor at Stanborough Park and Bible teacher at Stanborough school; pastoral evangelism in the Luton area and Bible teacher at Stanborough school; Preceptor at Stanborough Boarding school with Christine, and full-time Bible teacher; Dean of men at Newbold College and teacher of first year Bible; Art teacher and Bible teacher. During these busy years Victor and Christine did everything possible to give their children an Adventist education.

When Victor left the New Gallery for the second time it was to become pastor of the Stanborough Park church, one of the most challenging jobs in the British Union and a post that he held with distinction for six years. During this time he was invited to be the main speaker at the '79 Youth Congress in Norway. Victor relished this experience and his powerful talks made a lasting impact on his young listeners. He had barely left Watford to care for the St Albans and Hemel Hempstead churches when open-heart surgery proved necessary. The surgeon's 'afterthought' of doing a fourth graft gave Victor an extra seventeen precious years. Comrie, Crieff and Weymouth became home to Victor and Christine in retirement. This was a happy time, never dominated by self-interest, but with a keen eye for the needs and concerns of others: years lived to the full with family, friends, and church always in mind.

Victor was a true example of a servant leader. A patient and generous man, he was a zealous guardian of God's flock, demonstrating an unwavering loyalty to Christian principles, and a fervent belief in the Advent message as the prophetic word for our generation. Never satisfied with the 'sound bite', Victor was a wonderfully creative, in-depth interpreter of Scripture. He weathered turbulent years for Adventism by always keeping Christ at the centre. His was ever the personal touch with a rare and beautiful sensitivity for the individual: eager to 'hear your story' and thoughtfully wise in reply. During his period at Newbold College Pastor Hall was a mentor and a thought leader for many a future minister.

One of his former Newbold students said of him, 'He was a shining star in one-to-one communication, straight and to the point. He was trustworthy because he dared to remain an ordinary human being even in his role as a



pastor.' Be it a dedication, baptism, marriage or funeral service, Victor's sense of occasion was faultless; he was truly a 'master of ceremonies'.

Victor spent his last weeks being nursed by the loving hands of his wife Christine with regular visits from his much-loved daughter and grandsons, Roy and Owen. This treasured time also brought all the family together for a week they will never forget. He was greatly moved by the many letters and cards from grateful people whose lives had been touched by his ministry and friendship. Finally losing his battle with cancer on Sunday evening, 23 September, he slipped peacefully to sleep for the last time.

Victor's funeral was held on Tuesday 2 October in the Crieff church and was conducted by the writer, assisted by Pastor Bob Rodd. He was laid to rest in the cemetery in his beloved home village of Comrie. In his final illness Victor did not ask for the supernatural removal of its cause, rather he placed his trust in his Maker who has 'tasted death for us all and who gives to His children the infinitely greater miracle of a glorious life that shall never end.'

PASTOR LESLIE H. HILL

Mrs Christine Hall wishes to thank all those who sent beautiful flowers, made telephone calls and sent cards which revealed sympathy, understanding, encouragement and shared memories.

SANDERS, Ethel – d. 10 August. The members of the Bodmin church were saddened to hear of the death of Ethel, a founder member much loved and respected over the years. Born at Trevorry, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, in 1905, one of seven children, Ethel grew up in the parish of Lanlivery and became a teacher in the village school. After her marriage to Jack, they farmed at Tregantle in that same parish, where their twin daughters Margaret and Mary were born, moving to Kirland farm nine years later, until they went into semi-retirement at Tor View, St Mabyon, moving from there finally to Bodmin. Jack and Ethel were staunch Methodists until literature-evangelist Eric Whiting's work and influence reached the Jolliffe and Rich families (Mrs Rich being Ethel's sister), who in turn passed the truth of Sabbath keeping and the Second Coming on to the Saunders family. Thus was formed the nucleus of the Bodmin church back in 1942, Jack and Ethel being baptized by Pastor A. K. Armstrong. The couple were well known for their hospitality and a well-laden table at both Kirland and Tor View, growing most of the produce themselves. The church benefited from Ethel's faithfulness in various offices to which she was appointed, and she was a faithful churchgoer, giving encouragement to all and sundry. Upon her failing health she lived at St Brevard with Mary and Arnold for eighteen months until passing to her rest. The funeral service was conducted by Pastor M. Walker, assisted by Pastors D. Elias, K. Clothier, and R. A. Burgess, the last two being former pastors of Ethel's church. Husband Jack died thirteen years ago. Both now await together the call of the Life-giver. 'Man of Sorrows, wondrous name' was one of the hymns chosen by Ethel for her funeral. It was sung with deep feeling, relying on the One who declared of Himself, 'I am the

Resurrection and the Life.' Heard in the quietness of Bodmin cemetery was the acclamation, 'Hallelujah! What a Saviour', as Ethel was lowered to her resting place. Comfort indeed rested upon the family and all who attended as the 'God of all comfort' was felt to be present.

ARNOLD BLACKBURN

The family wish to thank all those who sent messages of sympathy and support, and who donated to ADRA, which was appreciated very much.

CLOKE, Edith – d. 10 September. The members of Coventry Central church were saddened by the loss of one of their oldest members. Edith was born in Berkshire, and devoted her life to nursing and to bringing up four children. She moved to Coventry almost twenty years ago, to be near her son Eddie and his wife Lynn. In 1984 she was baptized into the Coventry Central church by Pastor B. K. Robinson. For several years she was able to attend church services, then age and infirmity confined her to her home. For many years she had been able to carry on with her beloved tapestry work. One of her tapestries was of 'The Last Supper', and this was framed and hung on a wall of her home, an ever-present reminder to her, and her visitors, of the sacrifice Jesus made for us all. Eddie and Lynn lived close at hand, and faithfully cared for her, supplemented by the help of carers. Finally she was confined to hospital, where she peacefully passed away. The funeral service was conducted by Pastor Peter Sayers. Edith had always shown a great love for nature and for God's love, and this was shown by her choice of hymns – 'All things bright and beautiful' and the powerful hymn 'How great Thou art'. She was buried at Canley cemetery, surrounded by relatives who loved her dearly. To Eddie, Lynn, daughter Anne and sons Thomas and Tony and

their families, we extend our sincere sympathies.

DR D. BULL

WATERMAN, Ernest Mervyn – d. 13 September. The funeral was held on 24 September at St Luke's church, Brighton, of Ernest Mervyn Waterman. Mervyn was fond of children and for many years worked as a gardener at a school. He was married for thirty-four years until his wife sadly died of cancer. He regularly came along to Hove church every week, and always seemed cheerful. In the recent past he had become ill, necessitating his moving to a nursing home in Rottingdean. Before this, he had made his last trip to

Australia to visit his niece and her husband. This was very brave of him as he was 85 at the time and not in good health. Pastor L. D. W. Southcott, with our church elder Norman Beattie, visited Mervyn in the Royal Sussex County Hospital when he was dying. They prayed with him, and comforted him. He died later that night after being taken back to the nursing home. Our pastor, Stefan Burton-Schnull, took part in the funeral service. We all look forward to seeing Mervyn when Jesus comes again in the clouds of glory, to take His loved ones home. Mervyn is survived by a niece in Saltdean, and Joyce in Australia.

A. HOLDEN

DEATH OF DR HUGH WILLIAMS

Dr Hugh O. Williams, for many years Medical director of The Sanitarium on Stanborough Park, has died in Abergavenny. Dr Williams also served as Health and Temperance director of the British Union, and was responsible for the erection of the large extension to 'The San'. His funeral took place at a crematorium near Cwmbran on Friday 2 November. Our heartfelt condolences go to his widow, Elizabeth, and the family.

EDITOR

WEDDING

OOSTHUIZEN-DAMMICCO. Everyone wishes for the sun to shine on a wedding day, and especially to shine upon the bride. Sunday 12 August started as a very wet, miserable day, but the many prayers that ascended to Heaven that morning were answered! By the time the bride arrived at the Worcester church the rain had ceased. Sabrina was escorted by her father, who gave her away to Willem, so that they could exchange their wedding vows. Like all weddings, it was a very happy occasion for all who witnessed the radiantly happy couple marry in the newly-decorated church and surrounded by so many lovely flower arrangements. Pastor Alan Conroy conducted the marriage ceremony, and Pastor Malcolm Watson was best man for Willem. Sabrina's cousin from Italy, Serena, conscientiously played her part as bridesmaid. A number of friends and relatives from Italy, and Willem's parents from Cape Town, South Africa, attended, with many others, to witness Sabrina and Willem join their lives together 'in the sight of God, and all those present'. This day was the culmination of their meeting and working together and then Sabrina's attending the Worcester church, where she was eventually baptized earlier this year. It was a joy to see them so happy on their special day, and they were wished by all that God would richly bless them as they spend the future together.

D. J. LACK



Country Life: The West One witness

by Dr Clemency Mitchell

What does 'Country Life' mean to you? For some it's an expensive glossy magazine, mainly to be seen in waiting rooms. For others it's a brand of butter, but for Adventists it should mean the best place to eat in central London.

What is Country Life?

Country Life Restaurant has been serving healthy, appetizing, totally vegetarian food in central London for nearly twenty years. It was started at the New Gallery by a group of American Adventists who strongly believed in the health message as the right arm of the Gospel. The original group of volunteers have long since been replaced by regular workers who continue in the same spirit, aiming to help people to live healthier and happier lives, and to open the door to the

Gospel. The original funding for Country Life came from OCI, a lay organization of American Adventists which exists to help the church by setting up self supporting, church supporting missionary projects. Country Life is now a UK registered charity, but OCI continue to give generous support.

After the New Gallery was sold, Country Life needed to relocate, and three years ago, after much prayer and searching, it was reopened in Warwick Street on the edge of Soho, just across the road from the old site.

A unique mission field

Country Life has a great and unique potential for missionary outreach. It is the only Adventist institution in the very centre of London. It is right in the heart of London's

West End, in Soho, a lively crowded district famous for its restaurants, pubs, clubs and entertainment. It is also a busy commercial centre with the headquarters of the British film industry. Crowded with workers, pleasure seekers and tourists, it's at the edge of London's theatreland and a stone's throw from Piccadilly Circus, which Londoners like to think is the hub of the world. It's an ideal place for a missionary presence and it's difficult to think what missionary outreach other than a restaurant would reach so many people.

A warm welcome

The Country Life team has much to offer church members. They would like to welcome many more Adventists to the shop and restaurant, and to have them invite their friends to eat in the restaurant and join in their outreach activities. Do you or your friends need a new start in coping with health problems? The cookery courses, health lectures or personal lifestyle counselling (by appointment with the Country Life doctor) could be just the thing. Or would you like to bring them to a small, friendly, non-threatening Bible discussion group? They are planning a series of lectures and cookery programmes on Tuesday evenings this autumn, and we have a regular weekly Bible discussion group on Wednesday evenings at 6.30. Do feel free to bring friends to any of these activities if they are within reach of where you live or work, but if possible let them know in advance if you are coming to lectures or cookery programmes, because space is limited. They have some good

health books and cookery books, and even a Country Life cookery video.

To encourage you all to visit, they are introducing a **10% discount for church members on Sundays**. They are also introducing a **10% senior citizens' discount on Mondays**.

Getting more involved

Country Life can use more helpers. They would love to hear from anyone who has a few spare hours that they would could volunteer regularly, or occasionally, either at Country Life, or at home with their computer. They sometimes need more regular staff too, so if you live in or near London and would like a fulfilling full-time or part-time job with like-minded Adventists, do let them know, as they are always interested in hearing from people who would like to work with them. Pay and conditions are standard for the catering industry, but the rewards are great and who knows how many will be in the Kingdom through the seeds that have been sown at Country Life?

How to get there

The Country Life Restaurant and shop is about two minutes walk from Piccadilly Circus: go up Regent Street, turn right into Glasshouse Street, then left into Warwick Street, and Country Life is right in front of you.

Opening hours: Sunday to Thursday: 11.30am-10pm; Friday: 11.30am-2.30pm
3-4 Warwick Street, London W1R 5WA.
Tel: (0207) 434 2922.

Oxford baptism

On 1 September the Oxford church was happy to witness the immersion of John Gooch. John was introduced to the church by Velli Kalio, a student studying at Newbold College. They met during a professional course in London. Velli gave John a book which changed his life. The book, *The Unlikely Hero* by Desmond Doff, brought John closer to the truth and he contacted the Oxford church in January of this year and started Bible studies with David Spearing, the Oxford pastor. John was baptized following an inspirational sermon by Pastor Spearing on the temptations of Christ.

SOPHIA NICHOLLS

Manchester South charity event

On Sabbath 6 October Manchester South Health Ministries held a charity event to raise funds for the local cancer hospital, Christie NHS Trust. Here the opportunity was used to inform Christie Hospital that the

Church supported its cause, 'Christie's Against Cancer'. The afternoon programme consisted of a talk by the Head of Nursing at Christie's, Alison Norman. She left the congregation with a wealth of information concerning cancer and its treatments.

Following the programme there

was a fund-raising concert in the evening. As the praises went up, the Lord's blessings were felt. Those who contributed included The Muneri Sisters, Alycia Hanson, Carlence Parnell and The Manchester Adventist Choir. Funds raised amounted to £45.

JANICE SAVIZON

UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENT	WHEN	WHERE	WHO	HOW
Palmer Sisters Gospel Concert	24 November	Church of Christ The Cornerstone Milton Keynes	Mike Johnson No.7 Promotions	(01908) 692391 or visit www.palmersisters.co.uk
30th Anniversary Praise and Thanksgiving	15 December, full day beginning at 9.30am	West Bromwich church, Darlmouth Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands	Pastors old and new!	Come and share this special celebration ... we've reserved a place for YOU!
Concert of music and drama to launch the Adventist Special Needs Association	1 December	Advent Centre, London	ASNA (UK & Eire)	Sophia Nicholls on (01491) 833395 or asna@special1.fsn.net or karen@weekesk@freeserv.co.uk
Gospel Concert	1 December 7pm	Harper Bell School, Ravenhurst Street, Camp Hill, Birmingham.	Eternal Praise, True Reflections, Valerie Chisholm and others.	Contact: Lois (0232) 608 6101 or Judith on (0121) 533 9774. Tickets adults £5; children £2.50; OAP £3

All advertisements for upcoming events should be submitted in this format.

MESSENGER

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SUNSET

Sunset times are reproduced with permission from data supplied by the Science Research Council.

	Lon	Card	Nott	Edin	Belf
Nov 9	4.20	4.32	4.19	4.16	4.32
16	4.10	4.22	4.08	4.03	4.20
23	4.02	4.14	3.59	3.53	4.11
30	3.56	4.08	3.53	3.45	4.04

MESSENGER SUBSCRIPTIONS

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ABC Book Sales

11 Nov	John Loughborough	10am-2pm
18 Nov	Peckham West Midlands	10am-2pm
25 Nov	Chiswick	Time to be announced
2 Dec	Sheffield NEC Women's Retreat	11am-1pm
9 Dec	West Midland Centre	10am-2pm
16 Dec	John Loughborough	10am-2pm