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Journal of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the United Kingdo

255:



by Pastor Cecil Perry president of the British Union Conference chairman of the ADRA-UK Board Annual Appeal Chief Promoter for England and Wales

fter more than eight decades of partnership with Worldwide Advent Missions, Ingathering finds a new host, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). In recent years the projects benefit-

ing from the Ingathering collections
 have been administered by ADRA. As a result the audit trail of the expenditure
 on each project can be easily tracked.
 In the 2001 Ingathering Campaign £0.5 million was realised for worthy
 projects. Our volunteers again excelled

themselves in making the necessary sacrifices to knock on doors and brave the weather to help meet critical human needs.

The administration of the collections at the local level will not differ from the way it has been done under WWAM. The Personal Ministries department and the Ingathering agents in the churches will continue to organise the volunteers and promote the collections.

The challenge of growing world poverty, manmade and natural disasters, demand from us a greater participation in the Ingathering programme.

Eight Appeal Projects have been selected for 2002. The new ADRA website carries details of each project. ADRA expects every member to be acquainted with the scope of the task we have taken upon ourselves. From Cambodia to Guyana, India to North Wales, Guinea to Madagascar and from the Ivory Coast to Kenya we seek to fulfil the greater part of our humanitarian mission to the world.

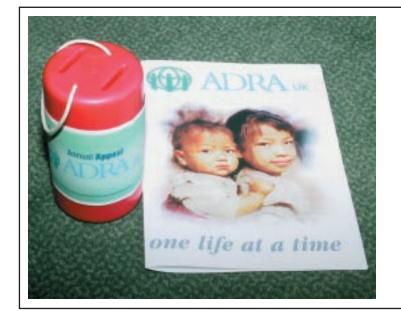
True love and true religion demonstrate themselves in our love to our neighbour. What we do this year for Ingathering will meet someone's need – be it providing water, food, shelter, education or medical help.

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ADRA enjoys the goodwill of many, both inside and outside the Church, because of its visible, consistent humanitarian work world-wide. Based on this popular support it is my hope that more members will join us this year in collecting for the charity.

What a joy it will be if by your efforts and mine we could exceed last year's target, knowing that more good causes could benefit from our work of love.

What would Jesus say if we are driven by the right motive? 'I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you took me in; I was naked and you clothed me. I was sick and you visited me; I was in prison and you came to me.' Matthew 25:35, NKJV.



2002 Projects

The 2002 ADRA-UK Annual Appeal will fund nine projects helping some of the world's most vulnerable people.

Children's Orphanage – *India* Special Needs Camp – *Wales* Mother and Child Health Centre – *Ivory Coast* HIV Counselling – *Kenya* Teen Sex Education – *Cambodia* Community Development – *Madagascar* Family Planning – *Guinea* Community Health – *Guyana* Emergency Disaster Response

Stanborough Park, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD25 9JZ Tel/fax: 01923 681723 email: *director@adra.org.uk www.adra.org.uk*



• Dwight Nelson speaks at Ministers' meetings.

• LIFEdevelopment.info launched (pages 8-11).



Ingathering dates:

Provinces: 30 March – 14 April Metropolitan: 30 March – 21 April

Editorial

David Marshall

AWR: **Good news on a bad day**

uring the unfolding of the tragic events in New York on 11 September, senior Adventist World Radio staff were travelling in the United Arab Emirates, near to the heart of the Islamic faith.

In contrast to the destruction in New York and Washington DC, AWR was able to offer hope by signing a major airtime contract with one of the largest shortwave broadcast stations in the world, based in Adu Dhabi.

AWR now broadcasts from this site in the Islamic world 18 hours every day to Africa and Asia! This station alone allows us to bring the message of hope to a potential audience of 1.6 billion! Before 11 September other broadcasters lined up

for airtime at the Abu Dhabi station, but AWR was there first. At a time when the world's eyes are focused on these mission areas, God performed a miracle to allow AWR to share the good news.

The station in Abu Dhabi complements the other stations AWR uses to cover the globe and allow the Adventist Church to speak to the world!

Basma, a listener in the Middle East wrote: 'One night, accidentally I got acquainted with your life-saving programme. It was a night different from any other night of my life. It was a night that brought an end to the old world of darkness and wandering. It was a time that, through your teachings, I found faith in Christ. It was the spark that





opened a window of light and caught my attention

Fadel had lost contact with AWR after having been a listener for many years in his home country of Irag. He moved to Libya and saved enough money to buy another radio because he wanted to hear the Voice of Hope. He wrote to us: 'God made it possible for me to buy a new radio and the first station I tried to locate was the Voice of Hope. If you could just know how happy I was when I locked on to your frequency for the first time in more than three years. I leaped with joy and kissed the radio! I felt that I had found something precious that I had lost.

Together with thousands around the

world, Fadel and Basma* are blessed by the message of hope we bring as a church by radio. All of AWR's airtime is purchased by the generous donations of church members. To continue this important ministry AWR is once again seeking your help.

Please remember the AWR offering in your church on 9 March.

For further information please visit our website at www.awr.org. AWR staff are also available to visit your church. Please contact us at: AWR, Whitegates, St Marks Road, Binfield, RG42 4AT.

*To protect the identity of the listeners mentioned above we have changed their names

Healthwise

The Nuns' Story

pidemiologist Dr David Snowdon, a collaborator in the Adventist Health Study, recently published the results of a long-term study into Alzheimer's disease after following the lives of 678 nuns over a number of years. The nuns were members of the School Sisters of Notre Dame based in the United States. Their ages ranged from 75 to 106.

Access to the biographies, medical histories, and eventually their donated brains gave a unique opportunity to track the course of the devastating condition. From his research with the nuns and other data on ageing, the following emerged as factors thought to influence the development of Alzheimer's disease:

• Genetic predisposition, in particular a substance called apolipoprotein in its various forms (E2,3,4). Where E4 was inherited from one parent there was three times the normal risk; if inherited from both parents,

Richard J. B. Willis, BUC Health Ministries director

- then eight times the normal risk. • The level of 'idea density' in early life (the ability to use concepts imaginatively) and one's subsequent level of education (the higher the level the lower the risk). The role of these factors is quite marked; it is thought that building strong neuronal networks early in life helps to strengthen the internal activity of the brain.
- A history or otherwise of head trauma, the former producing residual internal damage.
- A person's nutritional status, in particular the levels of B12, folate, lycopene, and homocysteine, the latter causing damage at high levels.
- One's exercise status and whether or not drugs are used (legitimately prescribed or otherwise that might affect the brain).
- The ageing process itself, but by no means inevitably
- Stroke status. It is thought that small strokes might serve as a trip-switch facilitating the onset of Alzheimer's.

• Emotional and faith factors: strong emotions causing changes in brain chemistry; and faith factors to a large extent protecting the brain

Investigation of the

nuns' brain tissue showed that even where Alzheimer-like changes had already occurred the behaviours associated with Alzheimer's were not necessarily manifest in the lives of the women. However, the condition was seen at its worst in women who had had even minor strokes.

There is hope that a test will soon be developed which will accurately predict this condition years in advance so that appropriate preventative action can be taken. It would appear that a balanced healthy lifestyle remains the best protection along with an interest in reading and other forms of mental activity.



Islam: A religion of peace?

he only living heart donor.' That was the tabloid take on Osama bin Laden expected Christ's return, the resurrection and the final judgement almost immediately. Not a bad starting point for a discussion with a Muslim. in the early, heady days of the Afghan war. The video clip cut into the news in which bin Laden rejoiced at the Trade Towers event may have affirmed Did you know that Muslims view Muhammad (AD570-632) as the final

the tabloid take. Elsewhere, however, his expressed outrage at the US prophet for Earth's last days? Did you know that what started him on his spiritual bases in Saudi Arabia, at the human consequences of Western sanctions against quest was that he was appalled by the commercial greed and rampant polytheism of his time and that his mission was to turn people back to one God? Iraq, and at the American support for the Israelis, may have suggested a more That, though believing that Muhammad was the last and greatest of the prophets, considered spurring. Muslims also believe that Adam, Noah, Job, Abraham and Jesus were also Did you catch the contrast between the video images on the news and the pronouncements of our politicians about Islam? 'Islam is a religion of peace,' said prophets?

Tony Blair. Did we want to believe him because we were freaked out by the newspaper assertion that the al-Qaeda destroyers – like the suicide bombers in So, is Islam a religion of peace? Israel - were driven by the promise of death as a doorway to paradise that would Muslim tradition urged tolerance towards Christians and Jews who submitted to Muslim rule: in medieval Europe that compared well with so-called Christian involve 'seventy-two virgins'? Perhaps, too, our historical consciences were sensitised by the fact that the Christian West of the Middle Ages conducted ethnic states where Muslims and Jews were confronted with the options of baptism or exile (sometimes death). A Muslim state would, however, treat Christians and cleansings against the Muslim East, called them 'crusades', and used the cross Jews as second-class citizens; and decree death on polytheists. The word Islam as their symbol. We certainly understood and approved the desire of the means 'submission'. The Arab root of the three consonants s-I-m carries the politicians to deter reprisals against Muslim communities in Britain. But is Islam a religion of peace (and bin Laden a notoriously bad son of implication of 'peace' and is a form of the root salaam (in Hebrew shalom).

Islam)? The majority of Muslims who have written to newspapers and been Islam is 'a religion of peace' in the sense that it promises the protection of Allah to the humblest believer. Emphasis here on *believer*. However, there is a interviewed on television have distanced themselves from al-Qaeda and darker side to Islam that our politicians deliberately don't mention. First, it is the identified their recruitment agents as 'extremists' in whose hands their sons duty of the Islamic community to extend the realm of Islam into the non-Islamic have been victims. A distinction is made between the beliefs of Islam and the beliefs of 'Folk Islam'. When they discuss 'fundamentalist' Islam, however, community (which they term 'the Abode of War'). Second, Muhammad's revelations interpreted by early Muslim thinkers are meant to determine Muslim it becomes clear that what they are talking about is a form of Islam heavily weighed down with excess baggage, not necessarily a particular interpretation of relationships with non-Muslims for the duration of human history. . . . Islamic belief. The excess baggage would include a pathological hatred of all Discussions about whether Islam is peaceful or not tend to turn on the interpretation of the word *iihad*. Over the centuries *iihad* has meant more than things Western which stems from the issues bin Laden has raised - bases proselytising among non-Muslims. To some it has meant a personal struggle for in Saudi Arabia, sanctions against Iraq, etc - and, behind those issues, a deep-seated alienation resultant from the contrast between the grinding faith incumbent upon all Muslims. To others (in very recent times) it has come to mean any struggle against under-development and injustice. Historically it has privations of the under-classes of the Middle Eastern lands and the conspicuous meant a holy war instigated by the Caliph, the Allah-appointed leader of the consumption of the West. Muslim world. The aim of the *jihad* was the subjection of non-Muslims to the law One thing that has become obvious among Adventists since the 'War against Terrorism' began is the extent of our ignorance about Islam. Since 11 September of Islam (though not necessarily their conversion).

The Christ-given imperative to 'make disciples of all nations' was never the Prime Minister is said to have made a serious attempt to understand the meant to be carried out by warlike means. Indeed, the means by which we Islamic mind by a serious study of the Koran. Though that study is unlikely to lead choose to carry out that imperative may, as in the past, determine how peaceful him to any insights into the mind of bin Laden, his is not such a bad example. a religion Islam is. We shall not, of course, expect to enjoy any degree of success 'Why should we know what the Muslims believe?' snarled a man in the back of the Sabbath school class. Perhaps because there are more than a billion Muslims in winning Muslims as long as we call our outreach endeavours 'crusades' (a term that strikes terror into the Muslim community). Any success with Muslims in the world, that 750 million of them live in the '10:40 window' (almost untouched by this 'gospel of the kingdom') and, further, that more than 200 has got to begin with the search for common ground, and any such search should million Muslims live in lands (like this one) in which Christians are free to witness start with finding out something of the history and beliefs of Muslims. Meanwhile we appear to be at the mercy of our politicians who, although keen to claim the to them. And how will you witness to Muslims if you know nothing about what they stand for? moral high ground, do not appear to be all that good at occupying it.

Let me leave you with the first of a number of suggestions made by Borge One man has tried to stress the importance of knowing something about Schantz on how to approach Muslims: 'One factor in gaining respect is your Islam. That man is Borge Schantz. Many of you will know him as an engaging camp meeting speaker. His booklet, Your Muslim Neighbour and You, is an easyacquaintance with Islamic history, creeds and practices. Ignorance of Islamic to-read starting point for any attempt to understand Muslims. Schantz challenges themes on your part will not encourage a Muslim to take your own convictions us to take 'the unique Three Angels' Messages' to the world's one billion seriously.' Your Muslim Neighbour and You, page 18. Muslims. As the Adventists who attended a Muslim-organised seminar on the Your Muslim Neighbour and You is a 48-page booklet which distils the basic information you need to know about second coming on 28 October will know (Messenger 106/25) early Muslims Islam. Dr Schantz is now working on an outreach publication for use among Muslims.

Newsbreak

www.Websites Work in Witness.com

That would you do if a researcher from ITV phoned and asked you to represent the V Adventist Church in the filming of a new programme about different religions? Would your first thoughts be like those of Moses when God asked him to speak to Pharaoh: 'Lord I am not a public speaker, please find someone else!'

Rosemary and Douglas Lethbridge faced such a situation. They were approached by HTV about being filmed for a series of programmes, planned for release in the spring, with a spiritual

travelogue slant. The production team aims to visit various localities which have strong religious connections and discover what churches are in those areas and how those churches contribute to their communities. The Bala church was originally

discovered by a television researcher trawling the net.

During the one-and-a-half hours of filming and interviews, Rosemary and Douglas were asked questions such as: Why are you a Seventh-day Adventist? Why do you go to church on Saturday?

What difference does it make to how you live your life? What does your church do for others?

While HTV viewers may only get five minutes, the crew were exposed to ninety minutes of meaningful spiritual discussion. When not involved in the filming the crew of four studied the twenty-seven fundamentals displayed on the website. discussed the benefits of following God's way, and heard details of specific ADRA and other community projects that the Adventist church in Bala, North Wales and the UK were involved in.

The film crew talked about their positive encounter with Adventists and in such a small community word got round and people were soon talking about our beliefs

It is now our prayer that the Holy

Spirit's leading and presence will be present in the cutting room; that God will be glorified in the editing process; and that the Church will be correctly presented during the time allocated to Adventists during the series.

How can you convey an accurate and balanced picture of such important issues in what in the end will be a total of five minutes' viewing time? While it is not granted to many to appear on television, each of us should expect to be faced with unplanned witnessing opportunities where we have limited time to share the Good News. We need to be prepared to witness in the café, on the bus, while waiting for a train, when stuck in a lift or any such occasion where God puts us as His mouthpiece. . ROSEMARY LETHBRIDGE

Adventist to chair interchurch family committee

Karen Holford, who works alongside her husband in the SEC Family Ministries department, has been elected to chair Churches Together for Families. This is an interchurch group that explores ways in which the churches in Britain can work together to support families. It is also a forum for sharing ideas and resources, and it provides a way for the different churches to have a stronger voice in response to Government initiatives that affect the family. The group also publishes papers, materials and resources for churches to use.

Karen has worked with this group for five years, initially on a subcommittee exploring ways to help churches become family-friendly. This project took a broad focus, beyond the needs of families with children to encompass families of all ages, shapes and sizes, in churches large and small. This work has now been published on a website for churches to download for their own use. It contains information, case studies to discuss, ideas, surveys, and programme ideas to help everyone in the church express their needs, and their dreams for their church. The website can be found at www.churchesandfamilies.org.

Karen was also involved in writing a special leaflet called 'A New Start at Home'.

'It's exciting to dialogue with the family-focused

workers from other churches. Many of the people I work with have never met an Adventist before, and they have been very impressed with the work the Adventist Church has been doing for families. We are now recognised and respected by many of the different church and family organisations, and we've been able to network and learn from each other," said Karen

The plans for this year include a special day exploring the role of grandparents in today's society and churches, and a residential conference exploring how churches can support refugee and immigrant families in their communities. COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR

'Christians Together' hosted by Redruth church

Our church in Redruth was packed with at least a hundred guests for the Sunday evening service on 20 January. The service celebrated the 'Week of Prayer for Christian Unity'. Two years ago, the writer was invited to give the evening message on the theme of the 'Millennium Resolution' during a similar event at the Illogan Highway Methodist church. During one of the committees for 'Christians Together in Illogan' we were asked if they could use our church for this year's event. We were delighted to be chosen as the host church

though the weather was ghastly outside, they found a warm welcome from our small membership. Those who have visited our Redruth church will know that the sanctuary is beautifully set out on the first floor. As one gentleman completed his ascent of the stairs and peered through the window into the sanctuary, his first comment was one of delight and appreciation. The service lasted about an hour and comprised several hymns, chosen and introduced by individuals from the respective churches, including our own, ably presented by David Clemow. The hymn we chose was 'I will sing the wondrous story'. Prayers and the Scripture lesson were shared among the different ministers. Revd Margaret Roskilly from Illogan Highway Methodists gave the short address based on the theme: 'With you is the Fountain of Life'. As the local pastor, the writer compered the service and was able to present a positive witness, making it obvious that Adventists believe in the basics of the Christian faith, so that no one should have left that evening without knowing that we believe in salvation by grace through faith alone, the presence and power of the Holy Spirit and the imminent return of Jesus Christ. Invited by the pastor, everyone joined hands around the church for the benediction before we all descended to the hall for a delightful spread of eats and refreshments prepared by our dedicated sisters of the church. PASTOR MICHAEL I. WALKER

Although the service was scheduled to begin at

6pm, people began to come in just before 5.30. Even

And the next clue is?

An eager band of treasure hunters gathered at Crieff church to take part in the Grand Treasure Hunt organised by the church's social committee. The weather stayed clear as seven cars, filled with members and friends of the church, set off clutching their pages of cryptic clues. They soon found themselves being sent all over the towns of Crieff, Muthill, Comrie and St Fillans to find the answers. Each answer was in the form of a number and the final answer was the sum total of all the numbers. When all the clues were completed, a flag was hung outside the home of Crieff church members Robin and Yvonne Spearing in St Fillans, to indicate that this was where a delicious tea of sweet and savoury waffles was being served for all the participants. As with all treasure hunts, the results were fiercely debated and the eventual winners, Andrew Logan, Shirley and Roy Froude and Arran Quinn generously shared their prize, a large jar of Quality Street, with the other participants. COMMUNICATION SECRETARY

Picture shows the participants of the Grand Treasure Hunt at Crieff church

Presents for children in Eastern Europe

The churches of Ipswich and Bury St Edmunds joined together to fill over a hundred shoe boxes with gifts for the children of Eastern Europe.

The appeal was part of The Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child which annually asks people to collect shoe boxes filled with inexpensive gifts such as toys, balls, dolls, sweets and toothpaste, for children who have suffered because of war, natural disaster, poverty, illness or neglect.

As the organiser of the appeal in the two churches, Thelma Chalcraft says, These gifts will mean so much for many children who otherwise won't get a gift.

Many of the boxes were collected by Lynda Lay who works at the Pharmacy department of the West Suffolk Hospital in Bury St Edmunds. She put an item in the internal newsletter and was amazed by the result as boxes kept coming in PAUL KING

Wales: Floods hamper small groups

The opposition tried his best to sabotage the first ever small groups training weekend in Wales. From all over Wales and the Border countries trainees battled their way through high winds, high water and around fallen trees and landslides to Abergavenny. Both the rivers Usk and Wye burst their banks, forcing road closures and lengthy detours. One carload from North Wales found themselves on the wrong side of a road closure due to flooding. The only way to ensure they got there was to send a car out over the mountains along single track roads – with no signposts to show them the way!

The small group concept (or cell group) is God's way of ensuring the nurture and

growth of His children and the most effective way of sharing Him with others. 'The cell is God's way of organising, sustaining, protecting and reproducing life. Therefore we should not be surprised that God used this cell principle when He created His spiritual body.' The Church, B. Beckham. It is the method the early believers, as described in Acts, used to achieve such dramatic increases in their numbers. Twenty-five trainees gathered in

Abergavenny from 1-3 February for a packed weekend of lectures, prayer sessions, practical workshops and praise that left us mentally stimulated, physically exhausted but spiritually alive. The weekend started from the point that we are all disci-

1-Accord launch of Area Seven Youth Federation

Area Seven is a unique and diverse area and, as expected, the launch of

the Area Seven Youth Federation was an exciting event. Very few details about

Some of the members of the federation (left to right): Andrew Rock (president), Kemi Rashford (public relations), Sonia Tello (treasurer), Emmanuel Yeboah (sports and social), Pastor Colin Stewart (sponsor). Other members (not pictured): Doreen Christopher (secretary), Philip Francis (evangelism), Susan Miller (teens), Daniel Thompson (evangelism), Olivia Toumazos (teens), Keisha Williams (sports and social), and Greg Wilson (evangelism).







ples and that being a disciple means taking the message of the Gospel to all people. It is not an optional extra. Small group ministry is one of the most effective ways of doing this while at the same time providing the environment for caring and nurturing.

Lectures, seminars and workshops by Pastor David Cox, Personal Ministries director for the BUC, and Rosemary Lethbridge who has been involved in small group ministry in North Wales - dealt with the nittygritty of establishing group values, the group structure, group life-cycle and the formation of a small group. One important aspect was the understanding that the group would only survive if it was a holistic small group. A small group is far more than a small number of people meeting together for Bible study: it is a complete lifestyle.

We all experienced in workshops a small group situation. While this was essentially a role-playing situation many were surprised at how rapidly we developed an awareness of one another's needs and were able to support our fellow group members

We all realised how far we had come from the way God intended His body to function, grow and develop. For some it meant a real paradigm shift. Dearly held traditions were stood on their heads. We are all looking forward to continuing our training on three further one-day training courses during the next six months and, having been given homework, are starting to prepare for the formation of small groups throughout Wales. GORDON LETHBRIDGE

the programme had been published, and so it was with some curiosity that the youth of Bedford, Harrow, Hope Community, Luton, Milton Keynes, St Albans, Stanborough Park and Watford Town gathered at the Stanborough Park Centre on the afternoon of 19 January.

The programme began with a warm welcome from the Federation's president Andrew Rock and sponsor Pastor Colin Stewart. They reminded us of the potential of Area Seven and the main drivers behind establishing the Youth Federation. We missed the presence of the youth of four of our churches but rejoiced over the hundred or so who had made it from the other area churches

During the course of the evening we were blessed with items from across the area. Pastor Japhet De Olivera (youth pastor at Stanborough Park) presented a sermon based on Acts 2:1 in harmony with the 1-Accord theme of the event

While the youth of the area chatted and chilled, the room was transformed

into the 1-♥ Café. Much as the Federation officers enjoyed the opportunity to serve the youth in such a literal way, the real reason behind running the café was to whet the appetites of the youth to this innovative witnessing tool. We were treated to the soul-soothing sounds of the Luton band while we fraternised and fed. The satisfying food was served in portions that were more banquet than café and included such delights as Esau's Soup, Peter's Potatoes and other delicacies. This was washed down with delectable fruit cocktails. We were treated to four original items of music and poetry, all of which were thoroughly appreciated by the enthusiastic audience.

We thank God that the Area Seven Youth Federation launch was an enjoyable and successful event, and ask that you pray for the youth in Area Seven as we work on reaching the goals that God wants us to achieve, with one accord.

KFMI RASHFORD (Public Relations) Area Seven Youth Federation a7vouth@vahoo.com

Handsworth Centenary

Karen Larman, Communication secretary



fter months of planning, the big weekend of celebrations had finally arrived. 2001 was a year that the past and present members of Handsworth church will never forget. On 26-28 October the church celebrated one hundred years of the presence of Adventism in the West Midlands area.

On the Friday evening the atmosphere that filled the church was one of

Top: The Sabbath service at

Aston University.

Right: Pastor Lloyd Antonio and Sisters K. Senessie and A. Smith are among the missionaries Handsworth has sent overseas.

Below.

Living Waters and the Youth Chorale sand in the Sabbath services.

Photos: Everton Rooms

joy and praise. Past and present ministers joined together in leading out during the service. Pastors A. R. Rodd, Alan Conroy, Don McFarlane, Steve Palmer and Egerton Francis were specially chosen to participate in this memorable occasion: they had been instrumental in helping Handsworth to 'come this far by faith', our theme for the weekend.

Pastor Jeff Nicholson, the current

pastor of Handsworth, set the celebrations in motion by giving a brief account of the history of the church. This account was followed by a more detailed presentation by Lorraine McDonald, a former member, on Sabbath afternoon. Throughout Handsworth's history there have been many significant families. From the 1940s to 1960s families such as the Bryans, the Merchants, the Beltons, the Beavons and the Huses played a very significant part in shaping the history of Handsworth. Prior to the celebrations Paul Belton was asked to take part and give his reflections; unfortunately he passed away before the centenary. Brother Oscar Stewart was asked to read Brother Belton's reflections which he had written in preparation for the celebrations.

Participating in the weekend's events were a number of singing groups including Remnant, Living Waters, and the Youth Chorale.

As the Friday night drew to a close Pastor Randy Stafford, from the USA, and Pastor Francis, the NEC president, led the congregation into a commitment service, the lighting of candles allowing us to be reminded that Jesus is the light of the world. As candles were lit Gloria Stewart led the church in singing 'This little light of mine'

Sabbath 27 October was no ordinary Sabbath in the calendar of the West Midlands Adventists as they gathered at Aston University

Daughter and sister churches joined in the celebrations by presenting the lesson study during Sabbath school. Handsworth has not only evangelised within the West Midlands, but has gone further afield. Pastor Lloyd Antonio, and Sisters K. Senessie and A. Smith brought a warm and colourful account of their missionary experiences abroad.

During divine service the platform party included civic dignitaries, including the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, pastors and Bible workers. The sermon was delivered by Pastor

Stafford – a powerful message fitting for the day.

The main focus for the afternoon service was a PowerPoint presentation that provided a clear, concise visual account of Handsworth's history. It was very informative as it mentioned the first baptism in the West Midlands area held in 1893 of Alicia Cox, the signing of the deeds for Handsworth church (then based on Nineveh Road) on 21 February 1901, the dedication of the church on 27 October 1901, the first wedding in Handsworth of Brother and Sister Thompson in 1947, the influx of West Indians in the 1950s, the Smethwick church being organised in 1966, the opening of the new Handsworth church (Hutton Road) by the Lord Mayor in 1967, the formation of Newtown church in 1974, the starting of Ladywood church in 1989, and the start of Bournville branch Sabbath school in 1995, right through to the present day.

The day's events concluded with a concert featuring old and new artistes. To close the weekend celebrations, friends and family were invited to a prayer breakfast where Pastor Stafford gave his final address. Handsworth clearly has a rich heritage.

Lorraine McDonald will be writing a book on the history of Handsworth. If anyone would like to assist by sending photos or information it would be greatly appreciated. Please send items to Handsworth SDA Church, 98 Hutton Road, Handsworth, Birmingham B19.

Seminar outreach at **Sydenham**

The seminar outreach planned and presented by Pastor Paul Day, began on Sabbath 12 August and continued through to Sabbath 1 September. This event was the first seminar outreach at Sydenham, and was held on Sundays at 6pm, Wednesdays at 7.30pm, and continued on Sabbaths at 11.15am and 7pm, offering the interested, attentive cross-section of young and adult people attending the opportunity to observe the Sabbath, sense its sacredness, and enjoy its blessing; fellowshipping and worshipping the God of Creation. With the youth promoted to the position of leading out in the activities and presenting the question-time aspect of the programme, full participation was encouraged. There were no losers at guiz time. The participants received not only information, but soul-inspiring

words of life that challenged the congregation to live lives that reveal the beauty of Jesus.

The Sabbath school (a special feature) provided for and offered group discussions of the current Sabbath school lessons. The Pulpit-in-the-Pew added to the delight and inspiration of the seminar. Perhaps the feature most enjoyed by all was that aspect where the congregation participated by supplying answers to guestions projected on the screen by Paul Day.

At the close of the seminar five people were baptised including the son of Paul Day. The candidates were Emil Day, Ewart Paul, Wonder Mokat-Shane, Kimbia Rogrs and Floris Lewis. Pastor Ellis Guthrie of Lewisham baptised the candidates. MALCOLM ANDERSON

Filipino **Fellowship Day**

On 17 November the members of the Swansea church were privileged to play host to the London Filipino church. The church was full to capacity as we were ministered to by 30-40 of our brothers and sisters.

Our visitors led out in the various services of the day, but the high spot was the inspirational message of Pastor Todd Frias, the pastor of the Filipino church. In his message he encouraged us to be like Joshua and to be faithful in these stressful times. The sweet music performed by the various singing groups was enjoyed by all.

Over a delightful meal prepared by Sister Kidwell and her Filipina friends we were able to become more acguainted with our visitors. In the afternoon the personal testimonies were spiritually uplifting and encouraging. The young people showed us their

God-given talents through songs and sketches

The aim of the day was to encourage us to help our local Filipino members to keep in contact with their Adventist roots. Ten non-Adventist Filipino visitors attended from the community SWANSEA S. S. DEPARTMENT

Manchester **South: Five** baptised

On Sabbath 5 January, five ladies were baptised and accepted into fellowship at the Manchester South church. The baptism followed a four-week evangelistic campaign conducted by local pastor Richard Brooks. During an altar call at the end of the campaign many individuals indicated their wish to

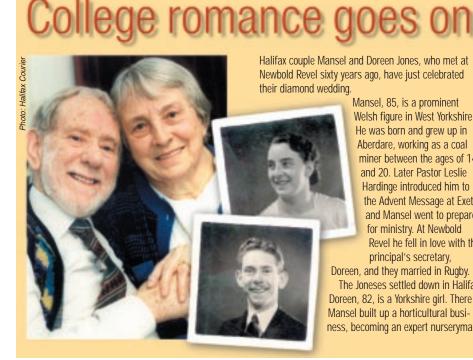
Bibles for Prisoners

Prison Ministries frequently receives requests from prisoners for Bibles. The average cost of a Bible is £7.50. If you would like to sponsor a Bible for a prisoner, please send a cheque/postal order made out to 'South England Conference [Prison Ministries]', and post it to: SEARCH Prison Ministries, 25 St John's Road, Watford, WD17 1PZ. Please do not send cash, and do not post directly to the prisons.

The NEC urgently require the following for Family Camp 2002 at Aberdaron 19 – 28 July 2002

- Head cook
- Kitchen staff
- Activities/craft leaders for ages 8-10, 11-13 (mornings only)

Please contact Pastor Cyril Sweeney for further details. Tel. 0115 9606312, Fax. 0115 9691476, Email. admin@necsda-church.co.uk



Mansel, 85, is a prominent Welsh figure in West Yorkshire. He was born and grew up in Aberdare, working as a coal miner between the ages of 14 and 20. Later Pastor Leslie Hardinge introduced him to the Advent Message at Exeter and Mansel went to prepare for ministry. At Newbold Revel he fell in love with the principal's secretary, Doreen, and they married in Rugby. The Joneses settled down in Halifax. Doreen, 82, is a Yorkshire girl. There Mansel built up a horticultural business, becoming an expert nurseryman.



accept Christ and be baptised. Those baptised on 5 January were: Gloria Anderson, Barwadi Lekolori,

Silethokuhle Nyoni, Vera Gordon and Isolyn Whiteley. WAYNE PICART

Queen sends card to sixty-year Valentines

Jerley and Elmer Valentine, very much-loved and respected members of the Stoke Newington church, have celebrated their Diamond wedding. Joining in the celebrations were their numerous family members, some coming from as far away as Jamaica, Canada and the USA, as well as friends and members. A special church service was conducted by our minister Dr Richard De Lisser, assisted by Pastors Stephen McKenzie, Richard Holder and Roderick Thomas. A reception followed at the John Loughborough School hall.

Pastor C. R. Perry, BUC president, and Pastor Don McFarlane, SEC president, were present, and special musical items were provided by Brothers Foster, Espeut, Stuart and Corea.

Elmer (née Ming), 81, and Verley, 83, were married in Jamaica in 1941 and emigrated to England in the 1960s. Verley worked as a skilled tradesman while Elmer stayed at home to raise her family of eight children.

During their active years, Verley was first elder in our church, while Elmer was head deaconess.

Pastor Perry said that the love which the couple maintained over the years was unique and a manifestation of God's love. He also said their relationship was even more remarkable against the background of today's high incidence of broken marriages and unfulfilled relationships.

The couple received a congratulatory call from the Jamaican High Commissioner and a card from the Queen, which read: 'I am so pleased to know that you are celebrating your diamond wedding anniversary. I send my congratulations and best wishes to you on such a special occasion."

Among the numerous gifts received was a plague from our church.

The Valentines said that the key factor to their long relationship was love, trust, patience and, above all, faith in God. They said they were very grateful for the time God had granted them together. They had always viewed their marriage as being for life.

They have also been blessed with forty-six grandchildren and fifty-seven great-grandchildren.

The Valentines' story graced the whole of the front page of the Weekly Gleaner (the top Caribbean newspaper) and featured in other weeklies. The Hackney Gazette, The New Nation and The Voice among them. F R SLITHERLAND



For over half a century Mansel was elder of the Halifax Seventh-day Adventist congregation. In the Adventist church, and in the communities of West Yorkshire, Mansel became well known as a public speaker. For many years he was a regular figure at church youth camps, including those at Aberdaron. For ten years Mansel organised an annual Cymanfa Ganu (Welsh-style hymn-singing festival), typically attended by members of more than a dozen Adventist congregations.

Doreen and Mansel have a daughter, Maralyn, and a son, Haydn, who organised a family party for their parents' diamond wedding at a Halifax restaurant.

Mansel Jones has never retired, not completely, anyway. At 65 he sold his business, and since then he has worked the gardens and greenhouses of a local businessman.

Mansel and Doreen are committed to the Adventist health message and to the counsels of Ellen G. White. For many years they have counted the majority of church leaders in the British Isles among their friends. They still have a great love for Adventist young people. Adapted from the Halifax Courier

LIFEdevelopment.info

[more than just living]

First Three Phases

> Get Connected

Utilizing various models to develop meaningful friendships with secular people.

> The Evidence

A compelling 60 minute program hosted by Dwight K. Nelson that introduces God in a whole new way

> Mind the Gap

A phase where people are introduced to a basic understanding of Christianity.

LIFEdevelopment.info launched at BUC ministers' **meetings** by Pastor John Surridge, Communication director, BUC

rom Sunday 10 to Wednesday 13 February over 170 ministers, Bible workers, quest speakers and spe-

cial visitors attended the Workers' Meetings of the British Union Conference in Swanwick, near Derby. The theme for the meetings was 'LIFEdevelopment.info', a new evangelistic strategy with a strong emphasis on reaching people from a secular background rather than those who already have some knowledge of Christianity

The Workers' meetings were organised by BUC Ministerial Association director Pastor Alan Hodges, who is also Executive secretary of LIFEdevelopment.info. 'It is important that we organise meetings regularly for our workers,' said Pastor Hodges. 'Many of them are fairly isolated in their districts and having fellowship with other ministers can be very helpful in their ministry. It is also good for Church leaders to be able to discuss new ideas with all our workers at the same time, and this was why we chose these meetings to launch LIFEdevelopment.info. This is a new approach to evangelism within the Church and, as we are planning to launch it to the public in October this year, we felt that we had to launch it within our own worker force as soon as possible."

Multi-media package

The opening speaker on Sunday evening was Pastor Miroslav Pujic, the executive

'The light may be better where we are standing, but we're not likely to find many lost people there'

director of LIFEdevelopment.info. He described the concept as a

'long-term process, not a single event.' It represents a 'paradigm shift away from short-term evangelism,' he says. 'This is not another evangelistic programme,' he added, 'but a strategic vision based on building friendships with secular people. It will be an ongoing process with not only the full commitment of church members, but also of pastors and church administrators. If we don't meet people on their terms, where they are, we won't be able to reach them for Jesus Christ."

The quest devotional speaker for the meetings was Pastor Dwight Nelson, who has served as the pastor of the Pioneer Memorial church in Michigan for the last nineteen years and was the speaker for the world-wide NET '98 satellite television broadcasts. As well as dealing with several issues directly related to the stresses and challenges that pastors face. Dwight also spoke on the LIFEdevelopment.info theme. In his opening message he told the story of a man who lost his car keys and then got all his friends to help him look for them. After a time of fruitless searching one of the friends asked him if they were looking in the right place. 'This isn't exactly where I lost them,' the man replied, 'but the light is better over here.' This illustration set the theme for Dwight's subsequent presentations and summed up his understanding of LIFEdevelopment.info. 'For too long we have been seeking the lost in the wrong place,' he said. Referring to Adventist theology and biblical understanding he continued, 'The light may be better where we as Adventists are standing. but we're not likely to find many lost people there.'

Driven by experience

As a further refinement to this new challenge to Adventists, Dwight spoke of the different attitudes shown by secular people today. 'Secular people are driven by experience rather than knowledge,' he

Ten one-hour satellite broadcasts

said. 'A secular person coming to your church will need to belong before he will believe.' The theme 'belonging before believing' was taken up by a number of speakers and became the main catch-

phrase of the meetings. On Monday the structure of LIFEdevelopment.info was broken down

into its seven constituent parts and examined in some detail. The first section will introduce BUC churches to the idea of making friends with secular people and supply a limited range of resource materials. Then in mid-2003 there will be a major satellite broadcast, with Dwight Nelson presenting ten one-hour programmes designed to introduce spiritual values to a mainly secular audience,

Seven-part strategy

along with a series of lessons specially prepared by Pastor Mike Stickland. This will be followed by a six-month follow-up programme which will include monthly television programmes, again presented by Dwight Nelson. The remaining sections of LIFEdevelopment.info will present more traditional topics, though in a way which

leads the receiver to experience the joy of worship. Dr Daniel Duda from Newbold College will produce these materials, and Pastor Gifford Rhamie will produce further materials dealing with the subject of baptism. The final two sections will deal with Christian life, growth, and service.

Cell groups

A key element in LIFEdevelopment.info is the formation of small groups, or cell groups, throughout the British Union Conference. BUC Personal Ministries director Pastor David Cox is currently presenting this concept and a number of prototype groups have already started. During his presentation on Monday afternoon Pastor Cox spoke of the various types of cell group which can form in a church. 'You can have special interest groups, prayer groups, or Bible study groups,' he said, 'but the most effective type of group is what we call the "holistic cell" group. These are core groups which are evangelistic in nature and they are the ones which have the real potential to make the church grow.' Pastor Cox went on to say that he would like to see 1,000

Café churches



t's a fact of life – wherever there is life, there are living cells. The cell is the basic building block of living things throughout the natural world. We grow and function only because of the growth and function of the millions of cells of which we are made. And,

cell groups formed in the territory of the British Union Conference over the next year and a half.

Pastor Peter Roennfeldt, Ministerial Association director of the TED, followed up on the cell group concept by talking about the new models for 'church' which are beginning to develop across the Division. Drop-in Centres, Better Living Centres, Community Centres, and Café churches, are all examples of different approaches which can be taken in the attempt to meet people where they are. Pastor Roennfeldt particularly highlighted the work of the Cottage Beck Café church which has been started by Pastor Bryan and Mrs Isobel Webster in Scunthorpe.

'These café churches may not have any religion preached from the front,' he said, 'but there is a lot of spirituality happening around the tables.' According to Pastor Roennfeldt, café churches have a number of qualities that appeal to secular people today: they allow you to 'come as you' are', they are non-threatening, they have a relaxed rather than a formal





apparently, the Creator intends that the cell should be as important in the growth and function in the body of Christ – the Church. Consider the importance given to the cell or small group on the following three

occasions: 1 The Exodus. Just after the Exodus from Egypt, Moses implemented an inspired plan by which the vast multitude of liberated slaves - as many as two million souls – could be organised and given a new sense of identity by being formed into small units of no more than ten people (see Exodus 18). 2 The First Advent. Jesus attracted many disciples, but after a night of prayer He chose just twelve from among them. He formed His own small group of ordinary men to share an extraordinary relationship with Him and with one another (Luke 6:12, 13). Rather than devoting His time to preaching to large crowds, He concentrated on teaching the twelve – modelling the values of the kingdom of God, preparing them for service, and building a sense of intimate community. After His ascension, the small group or cell became the basic organisational unit of the young church, meeting daily in the homes of believers. It was this

atmosphere, and they provide that one resource which is indispensable to social interaction today, food.

Stew Harty, director of the 'Faith for Today' Adventist television programme, went into some detail about how Dwight Nelson's satellite television series would be produced in 2003. He also answered some of the questions raised concerning the method of receiving the broadcasts. While the receivers already set up in many Adventist churches for NET'98 will be able to downlink the broadcasts, many hoped that the programmes could

No 'magic bullet'

also be included on a 'free to air' satellite channel

Finance matters

The issue of LIFEdevelopment.info finances was addressed by BUC treasurer



Victor Pilmoor. A considerable number of the workers present spoke of the evangelistic projects that their churches were already involved in and some expressed concern that the money being put into LIFEdevelopment.info would detract from the good work currently taking place. Continued on page 10

by Pastor David Cox, Church Growth director, BUC

cell structure which facilitated the explosive growth of the church recorded in the book of Acts. 3 The Second Advent. As we prepare for the return of Jesus, the blueprint for completing the Gospel commission and experiencing the new

community of the Kingdom of God could not be more clear. 'The formation of small companies as a basis of Christian effort is a plan that has been presented before me by One who cannot err.' Evangelism, page 115.

LIFEdevelopment.info is an ambitious plan for the growth of the Church in the United Kingdom and Ireland. The cell is indispensable to its success, as it will be to the building of God's Kingdom on Earth until Jesus comes. Holistic small groups, in which members are committed to growing in their relationship with God and with each other, and to sharing what they have with others, are multiplying throughout the British Union Conference. If you are not already part of one, plan to get involved. And watch for small group training events: perhaps God is calling you to start your own indispensable cell.

What is LIFEdevelopment.info?

A strategic vision to involve Adventists

- > In building lasting friendships with secular people
- > To help them in the process of leading people to Jesus Christ
- > To support them with a multi-media package

Why LIFEdevelopment.info?

- Evangelism is a long-term process, not a single event. This concept of lifetime evangelism represents a paradigm shift away from the short-term evangelism we have done in the past.
- Enables every member of the church to be involved in real evangelistic witness. This requires an actual strategy and structure for a familiar concept – 'every member a minister' – to be a reality.

The uniqueness of LIFEdevelopment.info is that there is no one set way to work. Everything is customised to each individual member. Also each person can participate in their own time, place and at their own speed.

Time Frame

Title:	Training
Method:	Seminars
Date:	Jan - Oct 2002
Title:	
Method:	
	LD Centres
Date:	Oct 2002 - Sept 2003
Title:	Evidence
Method:	Media Event
Date:	6-17 October 2003
	Mind the Gap
Method:	Workshops and Media
Date:	Nov 2003 - June 2004
Title:	Experiencing the Joy
Method:	Worship
Date:	June 2004 - Ongoing
Title:	Who Wants to Live Forever?
Method:	Baptism
Date:	Ongoing
Title:	Quality Life
Method:	Fellowship
Date:	Ongoing
Title:	Kana an Constant
Method:	Keep on Growing
	Equip
Date:	Ongoing

Continued from page 9

Victor was able to confirm that LIFEdevelopment.info was not something that would stop all other forms of evangelism, but it was a project which could bring focus and direction to those churches which were still exploring their approach to evangelism. Regarding the quantity of money which would be spent on LIFEdevelopment.info he said, 'I'm not too worried about the money. It's when we start thinking that we can't do big things that the problems start.' He went on to speak of the faithfulness of members in giving for evangelistic work and the large amount of money which has been raised from the Government through the Gift Aid scheme.

Pastor Martin Vukmanic, Union Evangelist in Sweden, spoke on the subject of 'Revitalising churches' and stated, as he has done many times before, that there is no 'magic bullet' when it comes to revitalising and rekindling a spirit of evangelism within a church. 'You can tell when you have a revitalised church however,' he said, 'because you will see it planting new churches.'

'Contageous Christians'

Graham Paris, a guest speaker representing the Willow Creek organisation, spoke about the 'Becoming a Contageous Christian' materials which have been sent to every minister in the British Union Conference. His presentation included several videos, one of which was entitled 'Lessons from Geese'. This four-minute video emphasised the benefits of teamwork, the extra effort required when you try to 'go it alone', and the benefits of honking to encourage the goose in front.



Although the launch of LIFEdevelopment.info was the main theme for the Workers' Meetings there were a number of presentations on other topics designed to assist and support the ministers in their work. BUC president Pastor Cecil Perry spoke on the subject of Ministerial Ethics, drawing many lessons from his wide experience over the years. BUC Executive secretary Pastor Eric Lowe presented, and took questions on the 'Keeping Our Church Family Safe' document, which provides guidelines particularly in the area of child safety. ADRA-UK director Mr Raafat Kamal gave a presentation on Ingathering and answered several questions relating to the change from World-Wide Advent Missions to ADRA-UK, and BUC Education director Mr Keith Davidson gave a report on the latest developments in our schools where over 1,100 children are currently being educated.

Undoubtedly the most entertaining speaker during the three-day Workers' Meetings was Pastor Denys Baildam, a former departmental director at the BUC, who is now retired. He spoke on the subject of retirement and, reading from a meticulously crafted script, dealt with some serious issues while still managing to keep his audience laughing.





'One word of encouragement,' said Mr Paris, 'can keep me going all day.' Reactions from those attending the meetings were varied. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship, the opportunity to meet with friends not seen for a long time, and the chance to make friends with those not met before. Almost all of those who were asked to comment about LIFEdevelopment.info recognised that there would be challenges in its implementation. However, all were convinced of the underlying strategy: that it is time for the Seventh-day Adventist Church to begin focusing on reaching the secular, postmodern, non-Christian people who now make up the vast majority of our populations in Western Europe.

Brixton: farewell and hello

hree-and-a-half years ago the members of Brixton church welcomed their new pastor, Dr E. L. Henry, into their fellowship. On 20 January they met to say farewell to him on his retirement after thirty years of ministry.

As his farewell send-off, a representative from each department expressed well-deserved thanks to him. The overriding focus in almost all the speeches was the appreciation of Dr Henry's strength of character even in the face of adversity. Special songs were rendered by young Nyreena Brown and by Diadem.

Pastor Henry will be missed for his quiet disposition, calm benevolence and sound advice



Baptismal candidates with evangelist Errol Nembhard last autumn.

that he so skilfully disseminates. His catch-phrase, 'Let me tell you something,' dotted throughout his well-presented sermons, will remain with us for a long time.

His son Eric, and daughter-in-law Annette, were by his side. Although his wife Iris could not be present, she sent a letter of thanks which was read by Brother D. H. Clarke.

Pastor Henry remarked that his years at Brixton were challenging ones but a joyful inner-city experience. His main thrust as he retires is to continue his ministry through writing devotional studies.

We wish for Pastor Henry continued success in his ministry as a witness for Christ.

On 5 January Pastor D. Elias introduced our new pastor. Hamilton Williams and his wife Julie to the church. He outlined Pastor Williams' wealth of experience and expressed confidence in his abilities. Pastor Williams comes to Brixton with twentyeight years of ministerial experience, having served

Dr E. L. Henry.



Pastor Hamilton Wi as Health & Temperance director, evangelist and

Ministerial director at Conference level and more recently as the Church Growth director of the British Union. He is qualified in Theology, Health Education and Psychological Counselling and is also the author of three books which span the three dimensions of man, physical, mental and spiritual: Take Charge of Your Health: Success Within Your Grasp and Who Kissed Me?

As a church we look forward to working with Pastor Williams and to sharing his ministry.

The church is also blessed to have Pastor Steve Roberts as a part of the ministerial team. He brings to Brixton an air of vivacity and friendliness as well as a deep sense of spirituality. He is supported in his ministry by his wife Louise, and children Joshua and Elizabeth IOAN REID

Credit Union members visit Cuba

On 9 December the London Adventist Credit Union (LACU) celebrated another year of varied successes at its Annual General Meeting, convened at The John Loughborough School, which culminated in an enjoyable banquet and presentation of awards.

The chairman, Dr Albert A. C. Waite, said in his report that success can only be realised if hurdles are cleared. He said, 'Fire and water can be both destructive and redeeming. It is the same fire that burns and destroys that also purifies. It is the material that goes into the fire that determines the outcome. It is the same water that drowns kills - that also sustains life. Life or death depend on how we use the water.'

Over the past year, the Bank of England has reduced interest rates seven times. The LACU also reduced its interest rate for the first time in its sixteen years of existence. The combination of the two organisations' reduction in interest rates impacted the income of the Credit Union negatively, resulting in an 18.6% decrease in income from its loan accounts. The management, however, anticipated this and through pecuniary skills increased its income from investments by 98.2%, which resulted in an overall increase in income on the previous year, and an increase in total net assets of 5.5%. The chairman's aggressive application of the LACU's delinquency policy resulted in a 64.2% reduction in total expenditure over the year, which contributed to the 3.5% dividend paid, an increase of 16.7% over last year.

Dr Waite encouraged the members in attendance to promote the Credit Union among other church members, using the new comprehensive brochure. which gives details of what the Credit Union is all about. He further informed us that the investment strategies that are already in the pipeline should yield a bigger increase in income next year. All the members were happy with the financial state of the Credit Union.

But the Credit Union is not only about finance. We have an educational, social and personal development programme. In September 2001, the annual

Video outreach

A generous gift from a visitor to Stanborough Park church has made it possible for the divine service to be more widely available on video for members and others who are unable to attend church.

During last summer Mr David Shaw. on a visit to the church, expressed an interest in the video-recording equipment which he had noticed being used during the service. He is a son of the late Mrs Rose Shaw, who was house-



bound during the last few years of her life. Her son felt that she would have greatly appreciated viewing these tapes had she been aware of the facility.

Recording the services using two analogue cameras began in April 2000. Three members, who believed this to be a viable form of evangelistic outreach. provided funds to purchase two digital cameras. Two further members agreed to loan theirs on a regular basis. With this equipment five videos were available by the end of each service.

The videos are produced primarily for those who are unable to be at church owing to ill-health, infirmity, etc. This helps them to participate in the service and still feel a part of the church family. The videos can also be shared with non-members, particularly when items of special interest are included in the service such as baptisms, baby dedications or special music.

Following discussions, Mr Shaw and his sister Mrs Margaret Dickins decided

they would like to make a donation from their mother's estate to the audio-visual department of Stanborough Park church, specifically for the purpose of producing videos of the divine service to be made available throughout the BUC

and beyond. This kind donation will purchase equipment to increase production. At present, some 15-25 videos are distributed each week that, in addition to the Park members, also go to Northern Ireland, Lowestoft and the North of England. One video is even sent as far afield as Australia! Videos are available on loan, by just paying the £1 cost of postage and packing, or may be purchased for £2 each + postage.

For further information contact the Audio Visual Co-ordinator, David Swain, on 01923 448296 or dswain@ntlworld.com. Pictured by Stanley Maxwell in the video recording studio are David Swain (left) and his son Carl. FRANK BI FWITT

tour took some members and their friends to Cuba and Jamaica. While our week's tour of Jamaica (including Kingston) can be accurately described as 'Jamaica, no problem', it was the unknown entity of Cuba that captured our hearts and souls.

We found ourselves at a Youth Congress on the Sabbath, where over a thousand young people were in attendance. The worship service was vibrant, interactive and Spirit-filled. We noted the quality of the singing - many instruments, expressive faces and voices but very little body movement. We also noted that while the Cuban public was scantily dressed, there was a marked difference among the youth in the church – modesty, stylishly presented, was the order of the day.

We visited the Union Office and the Seminary, where Dr Waite gave a lecture and was presented with a certificate of appreciation. A dinner was put on especially for us, where a number of Cuban Union departmental directors were present. We were told that we had made history in Cuba, in that we were the first group of British Adventists to fellowship with them

The generous treatment we had must have been a sacrifice, because wages in Cuba are very low. Medical doctors are paid only US\$12 per month and other professionals just US\$7. We met a doctor working in a café because the tips meant that she earned more than her cohorts in the hospitals! One of us sat at the wheel of a Union department director's car, which was new in 1945! The printing presses at the

Union are over 100 years old. Yet they continue to print literature, between breakdowns every few minutes. This does not deter them. They baptised over 2,000 in 2001 and their membership stands at about 25,000.

The Credit Union touring group learnt much in Cuba and as one of our British young people on the tour said, 'My experience in Cuba tells me I need to appreciate all that I have, and make more use of the opportunities that come my way."

Back to the LACU's banquet on 9 December when the Board of Trustees presented personalised plaques to Mrs D. Daytes, Mrs C. Rocke-Caton, Mrs C. Henry, Mr S. De Silva and Mr E. Moore – all for outstanding, dedicated and loyal contribution to the LACU from their respective departments.

The secretary, Mrs A. Robinson, ended her report to the AGM with, 'I think that the motto for the education and social section of the Credit Union should be, Join the Credit Union and see the world.' The chairman concluded: 'The Credit Union is comfortable with the thought that we can and will grow; comfortable that we are getting a little closer to our objective of owning our own building; comfortable with the thought that if the membership give their support, we will get better. But more importantly, we are comfortable that we have a friend, a leader, a provider a wisdom-giver, who is our Saviour and financial adviser - Jesus is the One!'

DR ALBERT A C WAITE and MRS ANNETTE ROBINSON



Helping children near and far

On Sunday 4 November the Chilterns Community Services Federation held their autumn meeting at Newbold College. The day started with a devotional talk by Pastor N. Myrie, followed by an illustrated talk by Sophia Nicholls, in which she explained how and why the newly-formed 'Special Needs Association' came about and how the Church's Community Services are in a good position to be of assistance to this group.

The main part of the day was spent in packing and wrapping 130 shoeboxes for children and young teenagers in the Balkans. Christmas had come early at Newbold! These boxes were then transported to ADRA-UK during the following week, in readiness for the pre-Christmas ADRA visit to that area. It is good that the Federation were able to do something practical to bring happiness and a better quality of life to those less fortunate

During the lunch break, our nominating committee met to elect the new officers and members of the executive committee for the years 2002 and

2003. We should like to congratulate Brother S. Sealy of the Slough church on becoming the new president, and to thank the retiring president, Sister Margaret Robertson for all her hard work and commitment during the past two vears.

REBA NICHOLLS (secretary to the Chilterns Community Services Federation

Pastor Ellis Guthrie baptises one of the candidates.



Salvation through sacrifice

Two brothers shared a passion for painting. Their poor financial state did not allow them to pursue their dreams, so they came up with a plan to help them achieve their goal. They decided that one of them would work in order to finance the other's passion for art and then, after things had settled down, they would change around. The first one worked very hard to support the other but, by the time that his brother made his final breakthrough, years of hard labour had left his hands calloused and unfit for the fine brushwork required in painting. He sacrificed his life so that his brother could live his life to its fullest.

With this illustration Pastor Alan Conroy explained the plan of salvation at Simon Bell's baptism on 19 January. Friends, family and members at the Worcester church shared in Sue and Simon's happy day.

Simon grew up in an Adventist church, but became disgruntled and left it as a teenager. Several years later his wife Sue became interested. This proved an encouragement to Simon. They were given copies of the NET '98 evangelistic series hosted by Dwight Nelson. This inspired them to join the fold. They are currently worshipping at Worcester, where the congregation is overjoyed by Simon's decision. WILLEM H. OOSTHUIZEN

(The magazine designer wishes to extend his own love and congratulations to his cousin, Simon).

Baptism in roofless Lewisham!

Six candidates were baptised in the 'new' baptismal pool at Lewisham on 15 December. The sanctuary was still in the process of being built and was still without a roof! But the pastor, members and builders were able to prepare the pool to enable the baptismal service to go ahead.

Before the service began, Pastor Ellis Guthrie offered a prayer of consecration, dedication and thanksgiving for the pool that was about to be used. In the temporary sanctuary, Pastor Sam Davis admonished the candidates to take on the characteristics of Christ.

With the power of technology, the proceedings in the pool were transmitted down to the 'temporary' sanctuary, where the congregation were able to see and hear all the events of the bap-

tism. They were also able to take part: candidates could hear their requested hymns and texts!

In honour of Brother Lewis, a member who has worked relentlessly on the building of the church and in particular the pool, his daughter Pat was the first candidate to be baptised. Shorna Coke, Faith Johnson, Clarisse Pinnock, Judith Brooks and Anthony McIntosh also gave their lives to Christ. Felix Richards, who had been baptised the week before at the Greenwich church, received the right hand of fellowship. KAREN SATCHWELL

New start at Hove

Hove made a brand new start in 2002 with a brand new pastor. On the first Sabbath of the New Year, Pastor Leslie Hill arrived early with his wife Jill and his daughter Louise. Pastor Hill preached a sermon on 'How to face the world in 2002' to our 47-strong congregation. He used several modern examples - among them Joni Eareckson Tada – of people who, despite difficulties, had faced life with courage with the help of Jesus. ANNE HOLDEN

Keeping the Church Family Safe Training volunteers needed

The North England Conference urgently wishes to recruit members who will be able to assist in the implementation of the Keeping the Church Family Safe (KCFS) policy. We are looking for people who are trainers or have had significant training in child protection issues. These could include social workers, childcare specialists, doctors, nurses and youth workers etc. Successful applicants would be expected to work in small teams taking KCFS awareness programmes to local churches, working with them to implement KCFS policies. If you would like an information pack, or wish to talk to someone about this project, please contact Pastor Cyril Sweeney at: NEC Family Ministries Departm 0115 960 6312

or email: admin@nec-sda-church.co.uk

Issues

Please, no more 'crusades'

by William G. Johnsson Editor, Adventist Review *

It's time for Seventh-day Adventists to drop the word 'crusade'. To Muslims it is an offensive term heavy with 1,000 years of history, and Christian sensitivity and mission mandate that we set it aside forthwith.

Adventist missiologists have long tried to warn us about this term. 'The word "crusade" carries with it the full meaning of a fanatical and aggressive Christianity, using military and political might, bent on dominating if not eliminating Islam and Muslim governments,' notes Dr Jerald Whitehouse, director of the Global Centre for Adventist-Muslim Relations. 'To use the term "crusade" to mean the preaching of "good news" is, in the Muslim's perception, similar to discussing the "good news of ethnic cleansing"!"

It's of no comfort to the Muslim to argue that when Adventists plan an evangelistic 'crusade' we simply mean vigorous, concerted action on behalf of the Gospel. Nor to point out that Billy Graham and others have been conducting 'crusades for Christ', 'campus crusades', and so on for many years.

I think Billy Graham and his

associates need to change the vocabulary, but I can do little about them. My appeal is to Adventists at every level to consider this matter prayerfully and make a correction.

We have to be aware of how others will understand what we say if we are to represent Jesus rightly. Like the apostle Paul, we need to adapt to every situation in order to make the Gospel attractive (1 Cor. 9:19-23).

For some 200 years Christians from Europe undertook a series of military expeditions to recover the Holy Land from the Muslims. In 1095 Pope Urban II stirred up the enthusiasm of a large crowd to the point of immediate action, promising forgiveness for their sins and the protection of Peter, Paul, and the holy church if they would go forth under the banner of Christ

'The multitude rose to their feet and cried out repeatedly: "It is the will of God!" The pope then exhibited the cross and said: "Wear it upon your shoulders and upon your breasts; let it shine upon your arms and upon your standards; it will be to you the surety of victory or the palm of martyrdom; it will unceasingly remind you that Christ died for you, and that it is your duty to die for him." This gave the name to the movement (crusade, from crux, cross).¹

A motley, disorganised host of about 600,000 men, besides women and children, embarked on the First Crusade. Freed from moral obligations, they wrought devastation everywhere. Many died of pestilence and hunger; some 40,000 reached the Holy Land and captured Jerusalem in 1099 in a bloody slaughter that left not one Muslim or Jew alive in the city.

'It was this bloodthirsty proof of Christian fanaticism that recreated the fanaticism of Islam,' writes historian Steven Runceman in *A History of the Crusades.* 'When, later, wiser Latins in the East sought to find some basis on which Christian and Muslim could work together, the memory of the massacre stood always in their way.'²

For the next 200 years the popes headed a popular movement that galvanised Christians throughout Europe. Wave after wave of adventurers set forth, fired with motives ranging from religious to mercenary. The Second Crusade, led by Bernard of Clairvaux, numbered about 1.2 million fighting men; it was a complete failure. Even young people were caught up in the wild enthusiasm: in the Children's Crusade, 30,000 French children in 1212 went forth under the leadership of the boy Stephen; multitudes died of exposure or hardship or were seized as slaves. The great beneficiary of the

Crusades was the papacy: its wealth and power increased enormously. Think, my friend: do Adventists

really want to be associated with this history? Significantly, Ellen White did not refer to our activities as 'crusades', nor should we.

Let's have evangelistic campaigns or efforts or thrusts, or whatever term is appropriate. Let's have campus revivals or retreats – more and more of them.

But please, no more 'crusades' sponsored by Seventh-day Adventists.

 A. H. Newman, A Manual of Church History, vol. I, page 459.
 Steven Runceman, A History of the Crusades, vol. I, page 287.

* First published in *Adventist Review*, 10 January 2002. Why not phone the ABC and take out an annual subscription to the REVIEW? It costs only £18.50.

News Digest

Yeovil:

Church-planting update

Three years into the church-planting project at Yeovil, and we are at the stage of developing 'community' – involving the parents in a community project that would impact Yeovil and bring us together as a core group. That was a huge challenge. In the course of the year we saw the birth of Time Out Together, a charitable company that aims to meet the 'felt needs' of families. A teen club was launched, and a parenting newsletter published.

We had no idea the extent of the impact – until Christmas. For three Christmases past we have brought together friends, the parenting group, and the clubs (Pathfinders, Adventurers and Explorers). Over the years the attendance has increased from 21 to between 70 and 80 and, in 2001, it increased to over 100. The children participated in a concert, showing off their talents and reminding us of the true reason for the season. Parents shared the responsibility for food. Excited children played and parents chatted as we watched the results of three years' hard work. DANA KING

Newport: Joy and sadness

Newport church members made a number of joyful Christmas visits to residential homes to distribute gifts, books and comforts which our sisters had been knitting during the year. A beautifully-decorated church – the work of Bill Machell – and a wonderfully-organised luncheon cooked and served by Pathfinders, together with a carol service, took place on Christmas Eve. So why were we sad? It was farewell to Pastor Paul Lockham who had been called to be Executive secretary of the North England Conference. On 27 December a party was organised to give Paul, Helen and their family a send-off. A presentation of china was made to them. *VERA MACHELL*

Crieff: 'Pure dead brilliant'

Crieff church chose the evening of Saturday 1 December to celebrate St Andrews Day (30 November), and to host its church social. Giving more than a passing nod in the direction of St Andrew, the social had a distinctive Scottish theme. The vast depth of talent that is present in Crieff church was put to good use for the evening's entertainment, which consisted of a rich assortment of songs, musical items, poetry and comedy – an audience participation item. Young and old members, retired and serving ministers, gladly gave of themselves and ensured that the evening was a resounding success. Crieff members and friends gathered in the church hall along with health clients from Roundelwood who had been attending a special members' week Everyone walking through the door who was not wearing tartan was asked to contribute £1 and buy a tartan ribbon. The funds raised amounted to £40 and went towards the Crieff Pathfinder fund for Camporee 2002. The evening was organised by Angela and Malcolm Logan, and Shirley Froude. COMMUNICATION SECRETARY

Lincoln: Evergreen ministry

When Owen Papaioannou welcomed the Lincoln congregation to the quarterly Evergreen service, he shared the dictionary definition of the word 'evergreen': non-deciduous shrubs and trees; remains fresh and vital. Lincoln Evergreens is more than a ministry to older members; it serves several purposes.

Firstly, it reminds the whole church that every member is valued and that God-given gifting and ministry knows nothing of retirement.

Secondly, it encourages those in the 'middle years' to be thoughtful about the value we place on older members in our midst, their ministries to the body and the wider community, to be cautious about excluding older members from active involvement in worship and service.

Thirdly, in an age when people are valued by ability, beauty, intelligence and contribution to our market economy, Evergreens ministry teaches our young people that God has a higher value system, one which is not transient and measured in years.

Fourthly, Évergreens is about evangelism. Lincoln's Evergreens have an enthusiasm and compassion for those who do not yet know Jesus that inspires our congregation. They are serious about prayer and are concerned about building bridges into the community. Recently we sat in the Eastgate Hotel enjoying the Evergreen festive lunch. Almost 50% of those there were non-church attenders. LOUISE MARSH

Focus Youth Group

During the church's Youth Day on 2 February the youth of Colchester had a chance to show the many gifts that God has given to them. We were blessed with the singing of the Focus Youth Group, and the musical talent of Rowena on the flute. God stilled the nerves, and provided the less confident of the youth with the courage to take part in the day. Pastor Malcolm Taylor preached on the theme that with God nothing is impossible. *ELIZABETH JONES*

Witnessing success at York

It was the week before Christmas. For once, the commercial, godless spirit many people feel at Christmas-time may have helped to serve the Lord. Adventists at the York church were able to raise not only a substantial amount of money, but a smile from many Christmas shoppers as they passed the Crux Centre, a church-turned-café, at the heart of the city. The promise of a warm drink, something to eat, and service with warmth and kindness rarely encountered, as well as the bric-a-brac stall outside, proved too much for scores of shoppers, hungry for food and for God-given love.

We were provided with a large banner to hang outside on the railings, and Joy Barker and Gina Pepper, who organised the event, were glad that a 16-year-old like me would be seen to be helping in the community. They prepared food and took orders, while Joan Flower and Dawn Franks took turns at collecting the money. Roger Neal, with his wife Marilyn and Morris Franks, were at the bric-a-brac stall outside, in the bitter December weather. My mum, Sharon Puckering, was also there. The profits (after expenses) reached £254, and that was split equally between ADRA and Martin House. The York church has decided to book the Crux Centre twice for 2002, at Easter and later on in the year.

Activities at The Dell

On Sunday 4 November The Dell Rest Home in Oulton Broad, Lowestoft, opened its doors to the public for a Craft Fair to raise funds towards social events for the residents. The hard work of Jean Spoor, manager, and her staff and residents was rewarded with eight craft stalls, good support from the public, and at the end of the afternoon the grand total of £194 raised.

These funds will be used to help provide activities and outings for the residents at this Adventist rest home for the elderly. Those living in the home, as well as those in retirement flats nearby, have the opportunity to go on regular outings in The Dell's minibus to places of interest, near and far.

There are also regular social and religious events within the home. Sabbath services are held in the church in the grounds of the home, and worships in the home itself. One recent social event involved staff and residents looking beyond their own beautiful surroundings, with a fund-raising event for the McMillan Nurses. A coffee morning raised the sum of £140, and this was presented to representatives of the McMillan Nurses, who visited from the local hospital. PASTOR IAN LOREK

Oonagh on Radio Leicester

Oonagh Clarke of the Loughborough church was the only one to answer the question on Sunday 28 October on Radio Leicester. Her husband Ray said, 'Answer in your best voice, not your Cockney voice.' The question was, 'Who was Luke and what two books of the Bible did he write?'

Oonagh phoned in with the correct answer and won the prize of the day, which she was summoned to Radio Leicester to collect.

Wednesfield church seeks help

The Wednesfield church is seeking a baptismal pool for their sanctuary and would appreciate help or advice from those who have experience and/or expertise in this area. Perhaps you know of companies that specialise in this work or maybe you have information on where we might obtain a pool at reasonable expense. Please contact Clive Ferguson with any information that you feel could be helpful. 01902 865031 or *clive.ferguson@blueyonder.co.uk*.

Obituaries

BARNETT, Derek – d. 31 October. Derek Barnett was born in Lancaster in 1946. He moved around the country as a child and became a Barnardo's Boy in Edinburgh. It was there that, at the age of 16, he met Pastor and Mrs Howard Parkin who concerned as they were for the welfare of young people, tool Derek into their home as a foster son. Howard and Marjorie moved with their family to Watford when Derek was 18. pleased at his honesty and delighted at his flowering as a loving son. He never forgo Mother's Day or family birthdays or Christmas. Derek began working for David Balderstone's land scape-gardening firm before moving on to Rolls Royce in Leavesden and thence to Abbots Langley Hospital. It was there that Derek's caring nature found expression and he was to work at Greenbanks Nursing Home in Watford for the next thirty years Derek was a keen supporter of Celtic at the time they won the European Cup, as well as supporting Wolverhampton Wanderers. He died all too young after a painful battle with cancer in the Westmin Nursing Home in Chorleywood His brother John was present with his wife Carol when Derek died aged 55. Many attended his funeral at West Herts crem atorium and we sang his three most-loved hymns 'How great Thou art', 'Jesus, keep me near the Cross' and the hymn he had at his hantism 'Just as I am'. The writer conducted the funeral which was attended by not only his many friends from his career in nursing, but his brother-in-law Adrian Cowen who came with his daughter from Grimsby Audrey Balderstone organised the funeral and gave hospit ality to Derek's brother John and his wife Carol who travelled from Falkirk in Scotland. We long for the day of reunion when Jesus comes to give life to Derek once more and he can resume his service for Jesus on the Great Day. PASTOR ROBERT VINE

PHILLIPS, Edna - d. 7 November. The Adventist community at The Dell has lost a well-loved resident. Edna came to live in one of The Dell flats, set in the beautiful grounds of The Dell, in 1973. Just prior to her retirement she had taught in the Adventist church schools in Leeds and Walthamstow, although most of her forty years of teaching were spent in a Church of England school near Chelmsford. Edna and her hus band Benjamin were charter members of the Chelmsford church, and Edna offered hospitality to visitors most Sabbaths. She is remembered for her dedication, both to her teaching and her faith. Her only child, Megan, grew up in the Chelmsford area, and although Megan now lives in Canada. distance did not affect the strong bond between mother and daughter. Frequent visits were made, and Edna very much enjoyed her regular trips to Canada during he long retirement. She was 88 when she died, following a brief period of declining health. The writer who conducted the funeral, was able to read from a testimony left by Edna herself, including how much she had enjoyed the Christian love and fellowshin at The Dell In fact she demonstrated much of that love and concern herself, and she will be greatly missed Our sympathies are with Megan and her family, as well as Edna's surviving brother and sister. Edna chose the hymns for her funeral, and one verse of one hymn reads: 'We read Thy power to bless and save, E'en in the darkness of the grave; Still more in resurrection light we read the fullness of Thy might.' PASTOR IAN LORFK

PARSONS, Marjorie – d. 9 November. Older members of the Slough church and the many who once enjoyed her hospitality will be saddened to hear of the passing of Mariorie at the ripe old age of 97. In 1923 Marjorie married Albert Parsons, an Inspector of Police in Malaya, and returned with him to Singapore. Early in the 1930s she was attracted to Adventist beliefs through attending meetings conducted by W. W. Lake, a veteran missionary in India and the Far East, and was baptised soon after. Albert and the family moved to the Philippines and settled in Baguio. When the war broke out, they were in terned by the Japanese and, on their liberation four years later, returned to England and settled in Windsor. Marjorie and her three daughters attended the Slough church, while Albert returned to the Philippines. In spite of having lost everything in the war, Marjorie bore no ill-will and, when an appeal was made to invite a German prisoner-of-war to share Christmas in 1945, she went the second mile and invited two; then kept in touch with them for several years and sent them parcels of food and clothing. Marjorie moved to Australia in 1961 to live with

her eldest daughter, Joy, and ultimately moved to Paradise, California, where she married Elder Lake. After his death Marjorie moved to Washington State to be near her second daughter, Petrea. Here she attended the Chehalis church until failing health confined her to her home. She died leaving three daughters and their families to mourn her loss and look forward to reunion on resurrection morning. *Dr A. JOBN WOODTELD*

THOMPSON, Cyril - d. 15 November. Born in York in 1912 where he was brought up and educated. Cvril entered Stanborough College and Hydro, graduating as a Nurse and Physiotherapist. It was while working at the Hydro that he met and married Ethel Chattle Their marriage was blessed with a son Michael In 1959 Cyril and Ethel moved to Blaenau Ffestiniog in North Wales, to work in a Physiotherapy Clinic with Cyril's friends Kenneth and Hazel Hill Fifteen years later they moved to Wirksworth in Derbyshire to be near Ethel's brother-in-law David Nolan, and Cyril continued his work as a Physiotherapist at the Whitworth Cottage Hospital. From Wirksworth they would travel to Chester Green church Derby every Sabbath, picking up other members on the way. They were friends of us all, Cyril's greatest concern being for our youth. March 15, 1991 saw the passing of 'My girl' Ethel. Cyril's life was one of dedication to the work of the Lord and to all around him. Every Ingathering campaign he visited every house in Wirksworth and was certainly Chester Green's golden collector until the year before he passed away. After one-and-a-half years of illness he fell asleep. The funeral service was conducted by Pastors Eric Lowe and Peter Sayers and Dr Patrick Herbert, with personal tributes from Malcolm Hayles and Olga Marr Cyril is survived by his son Michael and his wife Heather, grandchildren Keith, Gayle and husband Grant, and Lisa, great grandchildren Marian, Mark, Aidan and Bethany. We praise God for blessing our lives with Cyril and look forward to meeting him again when Jesus comes. IIRSIIIA HIIRBARD

CUNDLE. Lilv - d. 18 November. The York church was very sorry to say goodbye to Lily on 23 November. The funeral service was conducted by Pastor Roger Neal. Less than a week before she died, he had been present at her ninetieth birthday party at the hospital where she spent her last days. Lily was baptised at York, and was one of the church's first members, faithfully coming every week with her mother, until she met the man who was later to be come her husband, Leslie Cundle. Lily Chapman, as she then was, fell in love with him, and they were married in 1940 by Pastor William Lennox. The newly-wed couple enjoyed a stable and happy marriage. Lilv served as a deaconess within the church. and stopped attending only when bad health forced her to stav indoors. From then on she was cared for by her daughter Dawn who had married Maurice Franks, and their two sons, Lily's grandchildren. Andrew and Peter Franks. Although Lily had not been able to attend for some time now, her loss will be keenly felt by all who knew her. God keep her family until Jesus comes again to take us all home ANDREW PUCKERING

STOODLEY Annie – d. 24 December Sister Stoodley has died at the grand age of 105. The Trealaw company, where she has been an active and articulate mber, received the news of Sister Stoodley's death with great sadness. She had been a member at Trealaw since 1951. For many years she was church treasurer and an energetic Ingatherer. Sister Stoodley was cared for by her family until she went to live at The Laurels Nursing Home. While we were waiting in the chapel many of our sister's favourite hymns were played. The funeral service was conducted by Pastor Richard Vine. Caroline, a grand daughter of Sister Stoodley said 'She was not only a very dear grandmother but a very good friend.' Sister Stoodley was always happy and cheerful when we met for our services in her home on Sabbath after noons, and always took part in the Sabbath school lesson discussion. She was laid to rest at Trealaw cemetery with her husband and son, where she awaits the return of the Lord. BRIAN CHAPMAN

The treasurer of the British Union Conference would like to acknowledge the receipt of £100 tithe from Anon (twice).

International News

Self-help Primary Schools – Eyira, South Sudan. Seventh-day Adventist self-help primary schools run by local churches have been potential centres of evangelism in the South Sudan Field, according to Clement Arkangelo, principal of the Eyira Adventist Vocational Academy, South Sudan. At these schools the pupils not only learn how to read and write, but they also learn about Christ, the Author of life and true education', he says. This approach has led many pupils to make a decision for Christ. Parents are also encouraged by the new lifestyle of their children'.

Although most are built with rudimentary materials, and some operate under trees, these primary schools have been running since the early 1990s. With the steady growth of the churches, the need for a Christian education has become an unavoidable need of every local church. The challenges of developing these primary schools have been many.

Orville Woolford, Education director for TED, under whose auspices South Sudan belongs, recognises the importance of these self-help schools and reports that 'plans are being laid to enhance the professional performance of the teachers involved so that the maximum possible may be achieved for God and for the children of this war-torn area.

When the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) in South Sudan was established in 1994, the primary schools benefited from the school materials that ADRA distributes to community-based primary schools. As school materials became available, teaching at the self-help primary schools now rank among the top primary schools in South Sudan,' Arkangelo adds. This is not because these schools have good infrastructures, but rather it is because the Christian atmosphere results in good teaching.'

Lectures on Islam at Newbold –

Bracknell. Recently Dr Borge Schantz, retired lecturer of Newbold College and professor in Islamics, returned to teach in the recently-established Diploma in Islamic

Brecon camps – at Brecon!

The Family Ministries Calendar of Main Events in MESSENGER, 8 February gives the Brecon Camp as being at Aberdaron. Wrong! Wrong! Wrong! You would expect the Brecon Camp to be AT BRECON. And it is! The Brecon Camp – at Brecon! – will take place from 31 May-4 June AND 6-8 September. One last time: The Brecon Camp is where? – at **Brecon!**

ABC BOOK SALES 2002

March10Peckham17Manchester South11am-1pm

24	John Loughborough	10am-2pm	
	New Opening Ti		2pm

ABC, Stanborough	Park
Monday-Friday	9-5pm
Friday	9-noon
1st/3rd Sunday of month	10-2pm
1st/3rd Wednesday of month	Closed

Studies programme. In a series of lectures, he took his students through the beliefs and practices of Islam, covering, among other things, the history and development of Islam and the Koran, the Five Pillars and Five Articles of Faith, Laws and Traditions in Islam, Women in Islam and Christian witness in the Islamic context.

During the lecture series he delivered an evening lecture open to a wider audience entitled 'Is bin Laden a good Muslim?' This was the first in a series of lectures that will be delivered under the umbrella of the Diploma in Islam Studies programme.

After a brief review of Islamic beliefs and practices, Schantz focused on specific elements that 'could appeal to an extreme fundamentalist' – referring to individuals such as bin Laden and those involved with the Taliban.

Adventist health professionals meet -

Zlatibor, Serbia. About 120 Adventist health care professionals and church administrators from throughout South-East Europe met together from 1-3 February at the Church's campsite in Zlatibor, Serbia, for lectures on health, discussions of mutual concern, and about sharing their faith in their workplace.

The gathering was organised by Dr Zorica Plavsic, Health Ministries director of the Adventist Church in the South-East European Union Conference who introduced two new programmes that she plans to be used in the SEEUC – Eight Weeks to Wellness, and a new anti-smoking programme that has already been translated into Serbian.

Pastor Paul R. Clee, Health Ministries director for the TED, was guest speaker on the opening evening and spoke on the theme of 'maintaining a closer relationship with God'. *ANR*

Ugandan Government responds to pleas of Sabbath-keepers – Kampala, Uganda. Election officials in Uganda rescheduled a national election following a public protest by local leaders of the Adventist Church. Originally set for Saturday 16 February, the election was brought forward to 14

isit the BUC website at: www.adventist.org.uk

February. The change of date headed off plans by Adventists in Uganda to hold a peaceful street demonstration to draw public attention to their plight. People of faith should not be excluded

from public life simply because government agencies fail to accommodate religious practices, such as Sabbath-keeping, said Adventist leaders at a press conference.

'A peaceful protest would tell the world that we are being marginalised as a church and as a people', says John Wani, president of the Church in Uganda. He explains that Adventists encounter problems not only at the polls, but in other aspects of public life as well. 'As far back as 1997 our students in government institutions of higher learning have had the same problem, with examinations and lectures scheduled on Sabbath. We have repeatedly appealed to the government and to heads of those institutions to accommodate our students, but to no avail.'

This most recent incident has generated widespread support for Sabbath-keepers within Uganda's faith community, says Wani. Following the extensive media coverage of the Adventist protest, 'many people, includ-ing Catholics, Anglicans, and even Muslims, rang our office (and said) they would march with us if we announced the day and time for them to assemble.' ANN

Adventist television series captures public attention – Novi Sad, Serbia. An estimated 1 million homes tuned in to view a series of programmes produced by the Adventist Church in Serbia and broadcast by fourteen cable television stations.

Radisa Antic, president of the Church in the South-East European region, presented the 18-programme series entitled 'The Words of Love, Truth and Jesus Christ'. The series was recorded in the new Novi Sad church and was broadcast six evenings each week during prime time.

'The time has come when we can use the electronic media to preach about Jesus Christ our Saviour to many thousands and millions of people,' said Antic. When this opportunity came our way we didn't want to miss it, and so we came together as a team of forty people, put the structure together, and asked the Lord to bless. A miracle took place and, once again, the Scripture is right when it says that "with God all things are possible":

During the three-week broadcast period, thousands of people phoned in to chat about issues relating to the programme, say organisers. Thousands more logged on to the website, *www.duhonvnihorizonti.info* for more infomation and sermon summaries. According to Miodrag Zivanovic, director of the church's regional Bible Correspondence School, more than 700 people have enrolled in Bible study courses, with the number still increasing. ANN

New HIV/AIDS programme – Mooi River, South Africa. The Adventist Development

and Relief Agency has started a new HIV/AIDS programme in the town of Mooi River in KwaZulu Natal Province, South Africa. The multi-faceted, three-year programme focuses on prevention strategies, support groups, economic development activities, and home-based care for those suffering from AIDS.

Mooi River was chosen because an estimated one-third of its 22,500 residents have HIV/AIDS. The town, located along a toll road, has few income-generation opportunities for women with little education, and prostitution has flourished. The South African government built a large number of houses as one way to alleviate poverty, but the number of people who have died from AIDS has drastically shortened the waiting list.

HĪV/AIDS prevention is a key component of the new programme and youth are encouraged to talk with each other about changing their behaviour and taking responsibility for their actions. An economic development programme offers women an alternative to prostitution as a way of earning an income.

A support group will help people cope with the suffering of family members or friends. The last phase to be implemented will be home-based care of those with advanced AIDS. Al

UPCOMING EVENTS					
EVENT			WHO	HOW	
Teens' Day			Steve Palmer, NEC Youth Dept.	0115 960 6312 necsda@cs.com	
Young People and Drugs Prevention Seminar	17 March	Nottingham Central Church, Nottingham	Steve Palmer, NEC Youth Dept.	0115 960 6312 necsda@cs.com	
'He's Been Faithful' Adventist Special Needs Association Family Weekend	22-24 March	Frontier Centre, Northamptonshire	ASNA UK & Eire.	Events manager: asna@special1.fsnet.co.uk 01491 833395 £10 p.p. full board! Discount price	
Area I Youth Day	23 March	St Austell Church	BUC Youth Dirctor, Pastor Des Boldeau	01726 64494 meye5@meyewalker.freeserve.co.uk	
Prayer Warriors IV	3-6 May	Alton Castle, Alton, Staffordshire	Steve Palmer, NEC Youth Dept.	0115 960 6312 necsda@cs.com	
All advertisements for uncoming events should be submitted in this format					

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 Messenger

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 EDITOR: D. N. MARSHALL

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Sunset							
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Mar	8	5.53	6.05	5.56	6.01	6.13	
	15	6.05	6.17	6.08	6.16	6.27	
	22	6.17	6.29	6.21	6.30	6.41	
	29	6.29	6.41	6.34	6.44	6.54	
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