

Messenger



Hang on to it!
The enclosed information sheet is intended to build your awareness and confidence for the new ADRA Ingathering Campaign.
Be Prepared!

Ingathering: What's changed?

by Pastor C. R. Perry, president, British Union Conference

After decades of collecting for the charity World-wide Advent Missions the members of the British Union Conference will be collecting under the auspices of Adventist Development and Relief Agency – ADRA uk.

Many have welcomed this move in that ADRA enjoys a high level of goodwill among the rank and file membership.

Raafat Kamal, the ADRA uk director, together with his support team, has produced a series of articles in MESSENGER designed to inform our constituency of volunteers on the projects chosen and how they can increase their own participation in the Ingathering Campaign and collect more funds to benefit the humanitarian cause.

What has changed?

A question that has come up over and over again is: How does Ingathering under ADRA uk differ from that of Ingathering under WWAM?

- Under WWAM all funds collected went through the WWAM account at the Trans-European Division. These funds will now go through a special Ingathering account set up by the ADRA uk Board.
- ADRA uk will be responsible for the selection of the worthy projects and

the direct interfacing with the recipient organisations. ADRA uk will monitor and evaluate each project from the application of funds to its completion or continuance. Whereas in the past ADRA-administered projects were chosen by WWAM this will no longer be the case. It will be ADRA uk from start to finish.

What remains the same?

However, some things will remain the same with Ingathering:

- Its promotion through the PM department and Ingathering agents will be the same.
- Accountability for Ingathering materials will be the joint responsibility of the local church agents and the directors of the charity.
- Collections will be done as in former years but under the name of ADRA uk (successor to WWAM).
- The missionary or church component of Ingathering will be retained through the activities of the volunteers of the church in responding to the usual questions associated with the collections.
- Donors should be informed of the work of ADRA uk as an international humanitarian organisation that



addresses human needs without respect to religion, race or creed. Although ADRA uk is sponsored by the Church it stands alone in its operation in order not to prejudice funding from government donors and to provide a clear audit trail of funds intended for the projects selected.

Members, therefore, can collect with the full assurance that ADRA uk will administer the funds of the charity without fear or favour.

Ingathering and witnessing?

Ingathering under ADRA uk still provides an opportunity to meet people and help satisfy their spiritual needs. Some volunteers have found it rewarding to return to the doors of enquiring contacts to leave ADC cards or suitable literature.

Let me wish you a bumper Ingathering year. After nearly a half century of Ingathering I hope to be thrilled by the prospect of joining you in the field this spring to do my best for worthwhile projects.

LIFEdvelopment.info

MISSION STATEMENT

As **Adventists**, united by the **power of God**, we want to reach **secular people** to **enable** them to become devoted disciples of **Jesus Christ**.

WHY

LIFEdvelopment.info?



Two Reasons:

- > 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.
- > It enables every member of the church to be involved in real evangelistic witness – making 'every member a minister' a reality.

Adventists represented at CTBI assembly

by Pastor John Surridge, Communication director, BUC

From Tuesday 26 February to Friday 1 March over 300 representatives from churches and other Christian organisations joined together at the Hayes Conference Centre in Swanwick, Derbyshire, for the Churches Together in Britain and Ireland Assembly. The Adventist Church was represented at the meetings by BUC president Pastor Cecil Perry, and BUC Communication director Pastor John Surridge. Over the four days of the Assembly those present enjoyed a wide range of lectures, workshops, and group discussions, as well as experiencing

worship services from several different traditions.

Among the guest lecturers were Dr John Drane, author of the book, *The McDonaldization of the Church*; Dr Grace Davie, senior lecturer in sociology at Exeter University; and Revd Canon Joel Edwards, general director of the Evangelical Alliance. Daily Bible studies were led by the Bible Society and the audience particularly appreciated Revd Dr Chris Sutherland's story-telling approach. In an address lasting over an hour Dr Sutherland told several stories, from contemporary life and

from the Bible, using the dual approach to make the Bible stories come alive. His concluding story was a recitation of the whole book of Jonah, which he paralleled with the apparent lack of concern we show for our fellow human beings today.

In a presentation entitled, 'Rebuilding the Household of Faith: being Spiritual, Human and Christian in Today's World', Dr John Drane emphasised the deep spirituality which exists in our society without ever being connected to a church. Pastor Perry spoke warmly of Dr Drane and drew parallels between what he had presented and the underlying principles of our own LIFEdevelopment.info approach. 'I believe Dr Drane is quite right,' he said. 'People are still hungry for spiritual experience but many of them are not finding it in our churches. They are looking instead to the New Age and to eastern philosophies. Our task is to find new ways for these spiritually hungry people to connect with the Church.' Pastor Perry welcomed also the opportunity to explain what the Adventist Church stands for to some of the participants during his short stay at the Assembly.

Pastor Perry with Revd Nezlin Sterling, General Secretary of the New Testament Assembly and a President of CTBI.



WHAT IS LIFEdevelopment.info?

A strategic vision to involve Adventists:

- > In building lasting friendships with secular people.
- > In the process of leading people to Jesus Christ.
- > With the support of a multi-media package.

"With LIFEdevelopment.info each church can customize the way they participate. This creates a unique situation where every member and different departments of the Church are mobilized under one common mission."

—Pastor Cecil Perry, President, British Union Conference

Editorial

David Marshall



A flight of stairs going nowhere?

When Jimmy Modha announced to his family that he had converted to Christianity the news was received like a force 10 disaster. His mother fainted. His father threw him out of the house. His brother Jay prayed for the gods to kill him.

He had been brought up in a devout Hindu home in Leicester.

Jimmy's brother Jay was doing his PhD in parasitology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Jay told Jimmy, 'If you were dead, at least we could mourn you, and the family name would not be dishonoured.'

Jimmy's first instinct was to up the anti. But he had not just 'converted to Christianity', he had accepted Jesus as his Saviour. And that had 24/7 implications. He said to Jay: 'Don't get bent out of shape. I'm going to pray for you. And remember this when you're up against it: You've got a Friend in Jesus.'

Some time afterwards Jay began having disturbing dreams. He would wake up in a hot sweat. In his dream he had seen an unnaturally bright light illuminating the heavens. At its centre were three fiery humanoid creatures. The first blew a deafening trumpet. The second shouted, 'The Lord has come!' The third, holding a huge scythe, said: 'The Earth is about to be judged!'

At the very core of the shining was a larger, even more luminous figure. There was a white-hot radiance about him. In the dream he fixed Jay with a laser-like glare. 'As he descended,' Jay writes, 'he would deeply unsettle me. I would feel that I was completely undone. Terror would shake me. I would have to look away. At my side would be my brother Jimmy who would not be afraid at all.'

After he had had one of his dreams, it would take Jay over an hour for his heartbeat to drop to normal.

He found the courage to phone Jimmy, and told him about his repetitive dream. Jimmy said, 'What you have seen sounds like the second coming of Jesus. Can I send you a Bible so that you can read about it?' Jay hung up.

Jay received his doctorate and was awarded a research fellowship in Japan. His mental state deteriorated. One night he almost leapt to his death. He made a conscious decision to explore the meaning of Christianity.

Jay found the Bible Jimmy had sent him. He began to read one of the gospels. When he read the words of the crucified Christ, 'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do,' he realised that he was a sinner for whom Christ died. He prayed for forgiveness, accepted Jesus as his Saviour, and the burden of guilt was lifted. Now he preaches the Gospel which, at the time of his brother's conversion, he found so outrageous.¹

The second coming of Jesus occupies 1,845 scriptural verses.² That being the case, it's hard to ignore. Therefore Christians have not, in the main, ignored it. John Calvin wrote, 'We must hunger after Christ until the dawning of that great day when our Lord will fully manifest the glory of his kingdom.' John Knox wrote, 'Has not our Lord Jesus carried up our flesh into heaven and shall he not return?'

John Wesley said, 'The Spirit in the heart of the true believer says with earnest desire, Come, Lord Jesus.' Vance Havner wrote, 'We are not just looking for something to happen, we are looking for Someone to come!'

Christians have not *ignored* the Great Expectation. Some, however, put it into a category covered by a query. Others follow Alfred Lord Tennyson in regarding it as a 'far-off, divine event'.

John Stott, himself a great preacher of the second advent, discusses the ambivalence of Anglicans towards the belief. 'The 1662 prayer book gave directions on how to find the date of Easter for 500 years up to the year AD2199,' writes Stott. 'And according to an Act of Parliament in 1732 the American Episcopal Prayer Book enabled its readers to calculate the church calendar as far ahead as AD8500. These Anglican churches do not exactly encourage their members to live in lively expectation of the Lord's return!' concludes Dr Stott.³

And, before we come over all pious at the expense of the Anglicans, let's ask ourselves, How 'lively' is our expectation of the Lord's return? The great Victorian social reformer Lord Shaftesbury identified the second advent as the one great driving force of his life. His diary makes it clear that everything was 'subordinate to this one great event'. His biographer Edwin Hodder wrote, 'It entered into all his thoughts and feelings; it stimulated him in the midst of his labours; it gave tone and colour to all his hopes for the future.'

Has the second advent become less real in your experience? Could you, like Shaftesbury, say that it is the driving force of your life? Or has it become just a focus for a complex pattern of prophetic interpretation? Does it impact on your life, or is it just a part of your theology?

Why do you think God used a repetitive dream to bring home to Dr Jay Modha the reality of the second advent? Could it be because there was no other way to bring him to Christ? Did the Holy Spirit use dreams because Modha was shut off from all forms of Christian witness or influence?

Is it possible that, in our framework of prophetic interpretation, we have such a long list of things that 'must happen' before Jesus comes that the second advent has lost its urgency for us? Or is it because we have become too comfortable in the material world?

'The hope of Christ's coming at the end of history is the logical and necessary outcome of our faith that God has already acted for our salvation in the historical events of Jesus' life, death and resurrection. . . . Faith in Jesus without the expectation of his Parousia is like a cheque that is never cashed. . . . A faith in Christ without the expectation of a Parousia is like a flight of stairs that leads nowhere.'⁴

References:

1. 'Journey Out of Darkness', Reformed Theological Seminary, Winter 1998, pages 8-17.
2. John W. White cited Robert J. Morgan, *Nelson's Book of Stories, Illustrations and Quotes* (Thomas Nelson, 2000), page 685.
3. John R. W. Stott, *The Incomparable Christ* (IVP, 2001), pages 158-159.
4. Stephen H. Travis, *I Believe in the Second Coming of Jesus* (Hodder and Stoughton), page 105.

Healthwise

Pottermania

Richard J. B. Willis, BUC Health Ministries director

Not the Pottermania which has helped gross £680 million at the box-office, but the bizarre activity of a real-life character, Steve Potter, who is about to enter our everyday lives and will qualify for the sobriquet 'Pottermania'. Potter has found a way to make science fiction become science fact in his laboratory in California. He has developed a virtual rat by linking live rat brain cells to a computer and using these cells to convey information to the silver-screen.

It all started with snails or, rather, two snail neurons which he sandwiched between silicon structures on a microchip. These cells grew extensions and started to connect with each other and had the ability to exchange electrical signals. Adding a source for such signals allowed him to see how the cells responded and whether or not some kind of memory could be established.

Encouraged by his research, Potter moved on from snails to rats. By linking live rat brain cells to a signal feedback system and a com-

puter he is hoping to discover how memory is retained and what modifications cells undergo in their activity as a result of feedback.

The purpose of Potter's experiments is to discover how neurons keep us thinking and moving. It is hoped that, with sufficient knowledge of these matters, ways may be found of avoiding damaged areas of human brain tissue resulting from conditions such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases. So far Potter has managed to keep neuronal cultures alive for eighteen months or so.

This lurch towards sci-fi reality disturbs many scientists. Pennsylvania scientist Paul Root Wolpe asks whether we should control other people's brains, even in a good cause: 'We begin to think about remotely-controlling brains, including human brains. Then who has the right or the ability to do that? Who, indeed?'

Potter is not the only scientist engaged in this type of study. Others are interested in developing prosthetics for people who are

paralysed, or to accustom the brain to function in particular circumstances outside its normal range of abilities, such as space flight. Visionaries are even looking forward to the day when minds will be able to communicate directly with computers or machines without the need for intermediary wiring.

Using brain tissue from whatever source raises all sorts of ethical issues. Wolpe, quoted above, goes on to say of the brain/machine merger, 'You are creating an organism that by its very definition could not exist in nature.' The moral arguments will no doubt rage on for a long time. Let us trust that the issues will be addressed before Pottermania becomes a fact of life eclipsing even that associated with the other Potter. Either way we are in for an interesting future!



'First Fruits' from the 'Hope for Today' campaign

Manchester South church held an evangelistic outreach campaign entitled 'Hope for Today', which ran for four weeks from 7 October to 3 November, and was conducted by Pastor Richard Brooks.

Meetings were held on Sundays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturday nights at 7.30, and were well supported by Manchester South church members and other sister churches within the Manchester District.

On the final night of the campaign,

Pastor Brooks made a special altar call, and it was thrilling to see the number of individuals who responded. Pastor Brooks and the elders prepared the first group for baptism at the end of December.

The baptism was held at Manchester South church on 5 January, where the candidates represented the 'first fruits' from the campaign, and more baptisms are planned as others accept and respond to the call of our Lord.

Celebrating National Marriage Week

The Family Ministries department, led by Helen Thomas, brought much joy and laughter to the many who attended a series of six seminars covering topics such as, How to Love Your Mate, Communicate with Your Mate, Worship with Your Mate.

This celebration, the first of its kind to be held in our local community of Sands, High Wycombe, took the form of group discussions, role plays and one-to-one conversations. The week culminated with a Valentines' Banquet, serving a tasteful menu, music, drama and fellowship. A certificate was presented to all who attended the seminar.

EUVAN MORGAN



Teesside Lay Preachers' Graduation

The Graduation Service for members of the Darlington, Middlesbrough and South Shields churches who had attended and completed the 'Heralds of God's

Word' Lay Preaching Seminar was held at Darlington church on the evening of Friday 25 January.

The course, which had been carried out over the period of February-



Students and instructors at the presentation.

Chariots of Fire

David Pitt is a member of the church in Dudley, and is ranked Number One in the UK for the under-13 boys' 100 metres and 200 metres.

Alan Simmonds, head of PE at Ridgemount High School where 13-year-old David is a pupil, says, 'I have never seen anyone run so fast. He is outstanding. He is a very pleasant lad and enjoys everything he does. That is the key to his success.'

David believes there is another key to his success. And that God is that key. Running for his school at Birmingham's NIA, David has repeatedly been asked to compete on the Sabbath. That he has always refused to do. He believes that he cannot expect God's blessing and compete on the Sabbath.

And God is blessing David. Most recently in the English National Championship.

J. SMILEY (Mrs)



Tottenham feeds the hungry

On Sunday 16 December, instead of going to central London to feed the homeless, the Community Services departments of Tottenham West Green Road and Haringay churches joined together to organise a Community Outreach Day for people living in the area. Church members wanted to show the community that they cared, so they generously donated food items, clothing, toys, books and money to enable the event to take place.

Those who attended were provided with a sumptuous three-course meal. Food was also taken to the homes of six needy families who were unable to attend the event. Visitors to the event were able to have their health checked – weight, blood pressure and sugar level – by Sister Davidson from the Health and Temperance department of Holloway church. Clothes, books and toys were also available for those attending.

At 3pm, when everyone had eaten, it was noticed that there was a large quantity of food left over. A church sister commented that the Lord had multiplied the food. Little did we know that the Lord had a plan!

It was decided to take the food to distribute to needy people living on the streets. The Holy Spirit led us to Kentish Town where we gave food to a man begging outside a shop, who then went to call his friend who was in need. His friend mentioned that he was living in a

hostel in Camden and that the men there would appreciate a hot meal. We made our way to the hostel where we fed over sixty men. They were so grateful. One man commented that it was the first time in three years that he had eaten rice. There were two, Shaun and Neil, who were hungry for the Word of God, so we had a lively discussion with them. Please remember them in your prayers.

Our hearts were so overflowing with joy that we forgot to get the name of the person in charge before we left. A visit was made to the hostel on the following day to get the details. On approaching the hostel we saw the man whom we had met in Kentish Town the night before who had told us about the hostel. He said that the men were still talking about our visit.

The Community Services Team was so overjoyed by the success of our visit to the hostel, that they wanted to provide the men with another meal just before New Year's Day. Permission was granted by the Head of Operation and another visit was made on Sunday 30 December. On that visit we fed approximately a hundred men.

M. DONOVAN

Voluntary teachers and non-teachers, young and older required for Hackney Adventist Bible School. Theme: 'Space'. 22 July - 2 August, 9.30am-3.30pm, 1 hour, half a day, three days or two full weeks. Contact Olive Simmonds: 0208 533 9327 (evenings)

Congratulations to Beverley Thirkell on obtaining a PhD in Psychology and Special Needs from the University of London. A great achievement – her family are very proud of her!

New minister at Camp Hill

February 2 marked the first Sabbath of Camp Hill's new serving minister, Pastor Jeff Nicholson.

BUC president Pastor Cecil Perry was also present, and officially welcomed Pastor Nicholson and his family into the Camp Hill District churches. One of Pastor Nicholson's first ministerial duties was officiating at the ordination service of four new young elders: Simon Buffong, Jeremiah Hall, Clement Morgan and Errol Simon.

KIZZY BENT

Prison chaplain visits

On Sabbath 2 February the Ipswich church had a special guest for the worship service, the Revd Sue Evans, a local prison chaplain and Church of England minister.

Pastor David West and Leonora Claxton met the Revd Evans on one of their prison visitations to run services at the Hollesley Bay Prison near Ipswich. After a lively worship experience, led by local member David Andrews, Sue read from Luke the story of Anna and Simeon. The visit of Sue Evans to the church is one of the many ways that Ipswich members are involved in the community and building bridges to the local churches and leaders in the town.

PAUL KING



Idris at 100

Carmarthen church is celebrating its oldest member. The well-known musician and teacher Idris Owen, who studied at Stanborough College, has reached a hundred.

W. Idris Owen celebrated his 100th birthday back in October. He was born in 1901 of a mining family in Mountain Ash, South Wales, an area where our church family eventually numbered 100. Sadly, we no longer have a church there. The early Adventists travelled to spread the Gospel, and here was no exception. Idris's father became a colporteur, and Idris left home at 17 to go to College on Stanborough Park, moving on after two years to Collonges, where he was to learn French and teach music.

The outbreak of World War II meant that he had to return home to England, and he spent the next eighteen years teaching music in Watford and giving great support to the evangelistic campaigns with his choirs and organ playing. In 1957, when many men of his age would have been looking forward to a peaceful retirement, Idris travelled to the other side of the world – to New Zealand – where he conducted the Royal Auckland Male Voice Choir. He also taught music and French.

Idris returned 'home' in 1974, this time to Grantham, to be near his daughter, whom he later followed back to his homeland, Wales. This was not to be the end of music. He has been playing the organ in church and leading the singing, right up to his 100th birthday.

In real West Wales tradition, his

birthday was not celebrated by half measures. Firstly, a week before the day, the local pensioners' group gave him a party, birthday cake and concert by a local singing group. On the Sabbath, there was a fellowship lunch, another cake, presents and cards.

On his birthday he received a card from the Queen and three telegrams, including one from the Welsh Assembly, and he had visits from several local

Idris, Netta and the chairman of the Carmarthenshire County Council.

Councillors. He thought the day was drawing to a quiet close, with a meal at Tyn-y-coed with his immediate family and his 90-year-old sister, when he received the 'icing on the cake' – a visit by the Carmarthen Male Voice Choir, who sang 'Happy Birthday' and then, in true Welsh tradition, gave a small concert and shared birthday cake number three with him!

VALERIE DUST



The Winning Edge

by Pauline Straughn

Like so many of us, I enjoy watching the Olympics, although I do not consider myself to be a keen sports person. I can vividly recall the Olympics held in 1993 in Barcelona, and it was thrilling to see the dedication of the athletes who had travelled from all over the world to compete for their countries.

It was exciting to see them run the race, and my attention was focused on Linford Christie in particular, the British athlete who won the 100m race. He was, in my opinion, a real champion who went with the visualisation that he was going to win the race, and he did. Remarks from the commentator were particularly striking, as he described him as a runner with 'total concentration matched with power and sheer determination'.

Despite the enchantment of that day, Linford concentrated on beating his way forward as though his life depended on it. He expended just as much effort in ignoring outside pressure, in order to concentrate on the task in hand. As he fought his way past his fellow runners to the final finishing line, there was a sense of relief and triumph in having made it to the end. He knew how important it was to develop a 'tunnel vision' which the challenge demanded. The moment of his final leap forward to victory said it all, and proved that it was possible for him to win.

The Christian's experience requires no less determination and total concentration. We must be shut in with God while the race is on, and right from the start

of God's race we become winners.

I was talking to a friend during a weekend conference recently, and she remarked that we must be in God's waiting room while we are running the Christian race. This might sound like a paradox to some, but waiting on God is an active part of the rules of the spiritual race. Much effort, energy and stamina are needed to work for God but, as our highest Authority, He alone gives us the power to be overcomers, despite the hurdles along the way. He provides the guidelines and adequacy for us to stay in the race, and He promised that when we wait upon Him, we will run and not become weary or faint from the race.¹

We need to stay on the track to ensure that other 'crowds' do not distract us. This race can be lonely sometimes because you may be the only one in your family in 'the race', or the only one in your particular line of work who is following Jesus, the forerunner. Through dedication and a positive attitude, the winning edge is within our grasp, as we learn to shut out the crowds in the form of unkind remarks, prejudices, rebuffs and hindrances to the Gospel. The world will hate the Christian, simply because it hates Christ.² However, His strength is supplied to every need so that we can cope.

There is no room for competitiveness in God's race. I was reminded recently of an incident during the race in 1992 when some athletes suffering from Downs Syndrome took part in a race. On this oc-

casation, one or two runners unfortunately fell to the ground. Instead of carrying on, the others stopped to lift those who had fallen and made it to the finishing line together. This is a crucial part of our race experience which many overlook. The success becomes a corporate success when the desire is there for each one of us to be motivated to stay in the race, and to provide a helping hand and lift those who need our strength in the hour of weakness.

During Linford's interview afterwards, he was able to talk about his success as he panted and smiled at the victory he had just won. One day, we too will be able to celebrate the experience of being in God's race, and to rejoice with Jesus who helped us to reach the finishing line with Him. So many witnesses compass us about,³ and Paul and many other pioneers of the Gospel have fought and finished the course successfully. They are cheering us on to completion and not disqualification. In the light of their examples, we must endeavour to run the race with purpose, strength and patience as we look to Jesus, the Author of our Faith.

Running with patience takes time and effort but the reward is a guaranteed heavenly crown, which will last for ever. The winning edge which Christ gives us, enables us to experience the celebration of knowing that it was all worth the wait and struggles of this lifetime.

1 Isaiah 40:31;
2 John 15:18; 3 Hebrews 12.

NEWBOLD COLLEGE
The Department of Theological Studies is seeking to appoint a
LECTURER IN PASTORAL STUDIES
commencing August 2002

- The successful candidate will:
- Have pastoral experience
 - Have expertise in Pastoral Studies generally with competence in missiology/cross-cultural studies
 - Be able to work within the British context of higher education
 - Have proven skills as communicator/teacher, and good people skills in a multicultural context
 - Have the ability to contribute to undergraduate and postgraduate education, including the supervision of postgraduate research
 - Have a vision for the future of pastoral education
 - Be innovative in outlook
 - Be able to model the role of a pastor in twenty-first-century Europe with its diverse cultures

- In addition to teaching responsibilities:
- Participate in the supervision of students in field placements
 - Participate in the department's international off-campus programmes
 - Undertake an administrative role in one of the department's programmes

The Humanities Department is seeking to appoint a
Lecturer in English
commencing August 2002
for 2-year contract initially

- The successful applicant will:
- Have a minimum of a Master's degree, preferably in some area of twentieth-century literature
 - Be prepared to teach specialised classes in twentieth-century literature
 - Be ready to teach some introductory classes in writing and literature
 - Be ready to teach other areas of the English curriculum such as Milton, linguistics, creative writing and/or rhetoric
 - Be familiar with current issues in literary theory

Salary according to denominational scale. Letters of application, together with current CV and addresses of two referees should be sent to: The Vice Principal, Newbold College, Binfield, Bracknell, Berks., RG42 4AN. Tel: 01344 407401. Fax: 01344 407404. Email: mpearson@newbold.ac.uk. Deadline for receipt of applications: 30 April 2002.

Hope/Harrow Update

Hope outreach. Hope Community Church's (Ruislip) first outreach event of the year took place on Wednesday 16 January at the Bishop Winnington Primary School, Southcote Rise. Andrew Evers, a BAPS student at Newbold College with professional expertise in vegetarian and vegan cooking skills, held the first of a series of four health cookery courses for the local community and church members. It is the first time that this Church of England facility has been made available to the HCC, reports Dr Lombart, HCC's pastor. The HCC plans to follow up with an Alpha course and holistic programmes and functions that will cater for other spiritual, emotional, and social aspects. **Kid's Zone and Heart Café.** Kid's Zone and Heart Café are two ongoing, vibrant community services conceived by the combined efforts of members of the HCC and the Harrow churches. Once a month a committed and cheerful team of mostly Adventist youth put on a unique programme of lively songs, mimes, Bible stories, crafts, and other fun activities targeted at young children from unchurched families. After the Christmas and New Year's break twenty-three children from non-Adventist homes turned up for the two-hour (10.30-12.30) programme on Sabbath morning 19 January at the Northolt Community Centre for another instalment of blessings.

Heart Café is the regular, monthly HCC and Harrow social event also held at Northolt Community Centre on Kid's Zone's day. The programme runs from 7.30 until 9.30. The same team who do Kid's Zone also lead out in Heart Café. This is a time when Adventists can bring their friends to enjoy good food, non-alcoholic beverages, quizzes and musical items in a relaxed, friendly and clean atmosphere. Singer Ray Larose is a favourite with the regular attendees. On Saturday 19 January, singer and composer Claris Lombart performed some guitar pieces and sang songs in French, German, English and Mauritian. **Harrow Adventist nurse wins prestigious award.** Avis Hutchinson, Community Mental Health Nurse, has won the prestigious Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother's Award for Outstanding Service for 2001. Two of the most important aspects of her work have been in relation to ongoing liaison and support to a multicultural day centre for people with serious mental illnesses, and in her role as a lecturer/practitioner. Avis is a faithful, active and cheerful member of Harrow church.

DR CLAUDE LOMBART

Marriage Renewal

Four couples renewed their marriage vows and others their baptismal vows at Smethwick's Family Ministries' day. On February 16 some of our visitors were from the community, while others had travelled from as far away as London. We were sorry to bid farewell to Pastor Steve Murphy and his family.

PALMER, Ivy - d. 9 August. Ivy Palmer was born in Devon on 26 November 1906. She was a member of the church first at Exeter then at Hull. While attending the Hull church the Palmers lived at Witherssea. Ivy was a lovely Christian and a faithful Adventist. She was generous, often helping the church and those in need. She loved to study and discuss the Scriptures; but, especially, she loved her Lord. Ivy spent her final years at The Dell and at the Kensington House nursing home in Lowestoft. She leaves behind her daughter Enid, and one granddaughter. Ivy rests in sure and certain hope of the Resurrection.

MARC RASELL

BAKER, Philip - d. 11 December. Philip was born in 1942 in Bilston, Wolverhampton, the first of four sons. As a schoolboy his interests were in writing, reading and sport, especially football. After leaving school he went to Bilston College and gained an ONC and HNC in Engineering. In 1961 he met Jean Davenport. A leaflet was pushed through his door in 1963 with an invitation to a series of Bible lectures at Bilston Town Hall given by Pastor Bryan Ball, and a year later Phil and Jean were baptised and received into the fellowship of the Oxford Street church. Two years later they were married by Pastor Ball in that church. Phil enjoyed ingathering and worked with great enthusiasm every year building a friendly relationship with the local residents. Every year he collected many hundreds of pounds. He was ordained as an elder and he faithfully carried out his responsibilities for many years. He also enjoyed leading out in the Sabbath school class, and preaching. For eight years Phil worked as a sales representative for Granose Foods. He enjoyed the work of travelling around the Midlands and the North until in 1981 he was made redundant. After that he found it difficult to gain long-term employment, in part due to his firm Sabbath convictions. Phil and Jean had been happily married for thirty-five years - finding strength together during the loss of their baby in 1970. The following year they fostered several children and, in 1975, began fostering a little girl called Tracy Tracy was very close to her Dad. In 1989 Phil and Jean adopted her. Much of Phil's time was dedicated to caring for elderly relatives on both sides of the family. He also loved and cared very dearly for his wife Jean during her illness, and he looked her rock. Phil was always very friendly, and looked forward to church socials and cricket matches. He attended church throughout his short illness, and preached his last sermon just a few weeks before he died. In recent years Phil and Jean appreciated the warm fellowship and support of the Cannock church members. Phil's funeral service was conducted by Pastor E. Francis, NEC president, Pastor J. Jeanville and Pastor P. Liburd, and took place at the Oxford Street, Wolverhampton church on 18 December in front of his many friends and family members. He was laid to rest at Beacon Hill cemetery, Wolverhampton. Phil's faith in God never wavered and, although there is sadness at this time of parting, we know that he is safe and secure resting in his Lord.

TERRY AND HAZEL LAYLAND
Jean and Tracy Baker and Phil's brothers wish to express their thanks for all those who have called, visited, sent cards and floral tributes, prayed and in many ways supported them through this time of loss.

BAGNOLD, Enos - d. 13 December. Enos, the second of five children, was born in 1941 to Phillip and Agatha in St Mary, Jamaica. When he was 13 his father died. To support his mother and siblings Enos worked in agriculture. In 1962 his sister sent for him to join her in England. He planned to learn a trade and stay for just a few years and earn enough money to go back home. He found work in the textile industry in the cotton mills of Stockport and in Derbyshire. While searching for something else in his life, Enos tried different faiths before finding the Adventist church in Manchester in 1964. It was here that he met his wife, Devurley. They married in 1968. To know Enos was to love him. As a father he was strict but fair. He had a ready smile and cheerful disposition. He always gave wise counsel and had strong beliefs and principles. The Bible was always used as a foundation and guide for every situation. Church was a vital part of his life and he served as a deacon for many years. He also enjoyed giving Bible studies. His work as an auxiliary nurse at a local hospital brought smiles to the faces of the patients and staff alike. For the last few years Enos struggled with ill health. He was diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Through his treatment he remained cheerful, giving copies of *Great Controversy*

and *Steps to Christ* to the doctors and nurses. Pastor R. Brooks, assisted by Pastors I. Antonio and A. Rashford-Hewitt, conducted the funeral service. It was held at Manchester South church on 27 December. Enos leaves to celebrate his life Devurley, his wife, their four children, Owen, Pamela, Michael and Neale, his sister Rose and brother Leri. Enos remained a faithful member using every opportunity to witness to the love of Jesus. We praise God for giving us someone like Enos to bless our lives and look forward to the time when Jesus will return to take His loved ones home, never to part again.

JANICE SAVZON

JULIUS, Millicent (Daphne) - d. 30 December. Daphne was born in 1929 in Port Antonio, Jamaica. Known as Daphne to most people, she was the daughter of Ernest Nelson, an engine driver, and Minibel Josephine Forrest, a seamstress. Daphne was one of many brothers and sisters of whom Linda, Gloria and Samuel live in this country. On leaving school she was taken on as a seamstress in Port Antonio until June 1957 when she decided to emigrate to England. She met Ignacio Julius and they married in 1960. They bought a house in Easton, Bristol, and had four children - Olivia, Norma, Mark and Michael. She loved home and family life and put a lot of energy into counselling her children and imparting pearls of wisdom. While she was a loyal and trusting friend to a lot of people, she was also a very shy person, and she loved the church to which she belonged for well over thirty-five years. She became more involved in it as the years went by, and was eventually appointed deaconess, a post that she was very proud of and took seriously. She also ensured that her children had the correct grounding in the Adventist faith and always encouraged them to give their lives to Christ. She loved to sing and always sang around the house. She had a lovely voice and was a member of the church choir. Daphne leaves behind a large and growing family that includes many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her illness was one that developed slowly but we are comforted by the knowledge that she is no longer in pain and look forward to the day when we shall see our beloved mother again.

OLIVIA JULIUS

COWAN, Jean - d. 16 January. Jean, with her late husband Tom, was accepted into the fellowship of the Isle of Wight company in 1988 during the ministry of Pastor Peter Stearman. Jean had responded to an advertisement for Bible study guides. When the pastor called at the home she enquired, 'Are you a Seventh-day Adventist?' Given an affirmative answer, she replied, 'So am I!' When, a few weeks later, a hurricane struck the Isle of Wight damaging power lines, the Stearmans prepared hot meals and other essentials for Jean and Tom. Born in 1904, Jean lived a full and exciting life. She made many friends when she nursed at four London hospitals. Approaching her 21st birthday, she became the youngest nurse to receive the Nurses' Gold Award. Her final years were spent in Ayrshire. From there Revd Sandy Greig and Pastor Jim McCracken came down to conduct her funeral service on the Isle of Wight. Jean 'fought a good fight and finished her course'; she rests until the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall award her the crown of life.

JOHN HEMMING

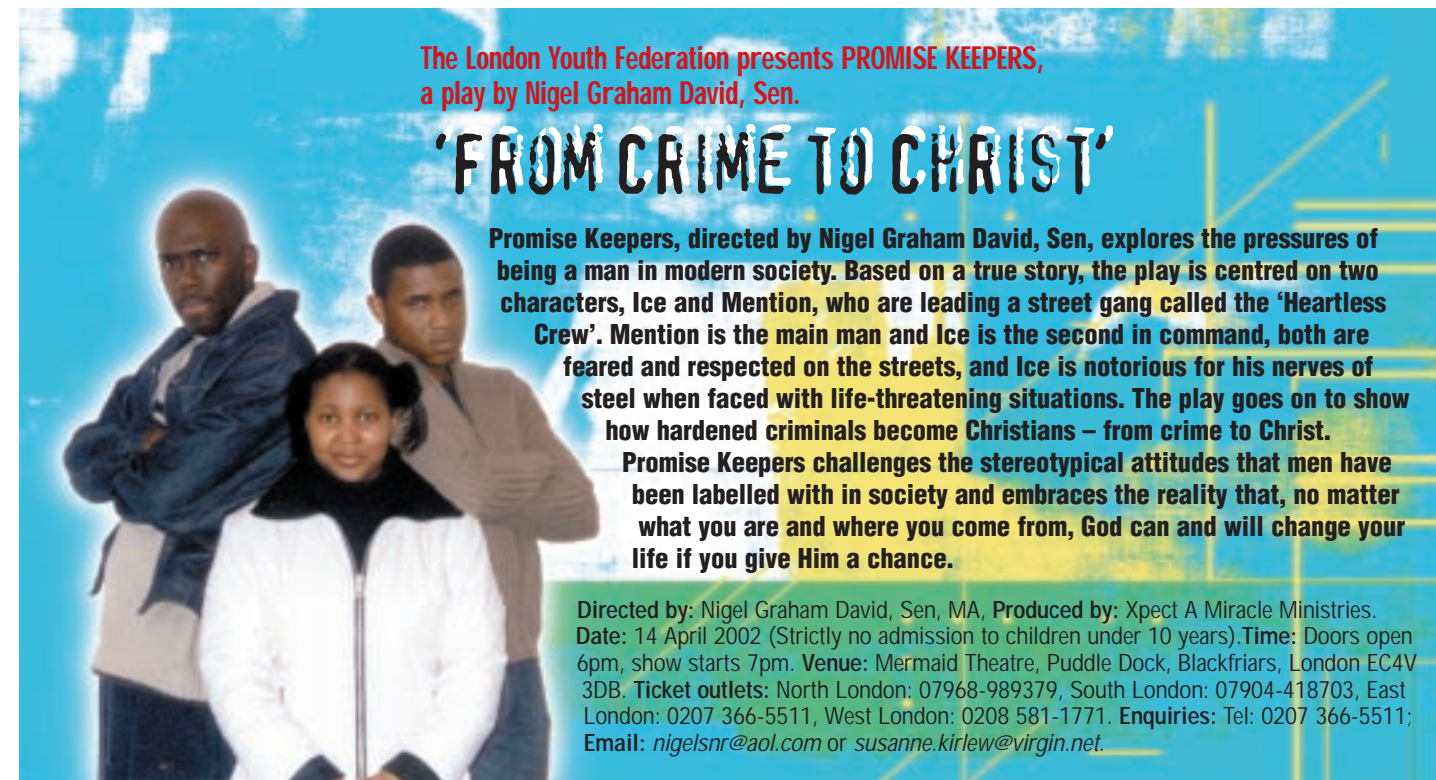
TOLMAN, William Eric - d. 21 January. William Eric Tolman, born in 1917 in Shepherds Bush, died at the Clementine Churchill Hospital, Harrow, one day before his 85th birthday. The funeral service was conducted at Mortlake crematorium on 4 February by the Revd Rico Tice, Revd Preb. Richard Bewes and Pastor Victor Cooper. Bill attended West Kensington Grammar School and found his first job in the Stock Exchange. He achieved a City and Guilds qualification in papermaking. During service in the Pioneer Corps he met Enid Groom in Brackley, Northants. His company trained in Scotland for the D-Day landings and Bill was among the first to cross the Channel and to cross the Rhine. Bill married Enid in 1947 and took his bride to live at 16 Priory Avenue, Chiswick. He worked as a sales executive and as the London representative of Olives Paper Mill in the Fleet Street area. Bill and Enid attended a series of evangelistic services in the Chiswick Empire Theatre conducted by Pastor Tom Bradley. As a result they were baptised in April 1951 and became members of the Chiswick church. When 1 was appointed minister in 1956 Bill was a respected and much loved elder, a position he held for 28 years. Until his stroke in 1996, Bill attended the bi-monthly Sabbath services held by Adventists at the Quaker Meeting House in Amersham. In addition, the

Tolmans helped in organising Sunday services at the New Gallery Evangelistic Centre. At that time Richard Bewes was beginning his ministry in London and, ever since, Bill and Enid have found satisfying, spiritual sustenance among the ministry and members of All Souls, Langham Place. Bill was a man of many talents. He used his photographic hobby to develop large, clear, black and white church news photos in his dark room at home. Enid, the Chiswick church public relations secretary, sent these, with accompanying news releases, to local newspapers. Bill was also official photographer at Newbold College graduation ceremonies for many years. One of his greatest skills was his ability to listen carefully to other people. He had ample opportunity to use this gift as he and Enid shared their home with several thousand visitors from around the world. Bill always displayed an equitable disposition and offered impartial judgements. Enid says of her husband: 'I've never seen him in a temper,' and adds, 'We've never had a quarrel in our lives, though people don't believe me.' For almost six years since his first stroke he and Enid appreciated the efforts of his many carers at Charing Cross Hospital, the Royal Star and Garter Home, Richmond, and the large number of workers from the Social Services - usually six a day - who cared for him at home. William Tolman was a brave, wise and good man. But his trust in a future life was based, not on a conviction that he was good, but that the Man-Christ-Jesus was his Saviour. When we talked and prayed together, Bill, naturally frustrated after his stroke by his inability to talk, communicated his faith with his eyes. He maintained a confident belief that the resurrection will take place at the return of Jesus. We all await that happy day. The mourners present included Enid, his wife, and their children - Carol, with her daughter Lisa Butler, and John; cousins Ronald Tolman and Peter; brother-in-law, Robin Plank and wife Doris; nephews, Andrew Plank and his wife Margaret, Michael Plank and wife Ruth; and many friends and local residents.

PASTOR VICTOR COOPER

STEWART, Dr Judith Ann (née Emmerson) - d. 28 January. It is with great sadness that we record the death of Judy, beloved wife of Jim, and treasured daughter of Dr Ron and Elaine Emmerson. She received her junior education at the Newbold Church School. Then, as a teenager, Judy enjoyed popularity as an all-rounder at the Aberdaron youth camps. Having studied at Balliol College, she gained an honours degree from Oxford, where she also participated in the women's first teams in both rowing and squash. She completed her clinical medical training at St Thomas's Hospital, London. From 1988-93, while in Bristol working in registrar posts and serving as an anatomy tutor, Judy attended the Bristol Central church. In 1993 she married solicitor Jim Stewart, and they spent their first year of married life in South America where Judy and Jim worked for some of that time on a voluntary basis at the Adventist River Plate College in Argentina. On returning to the UK, Judy pursued her medical aims in the field of neurology, occupying posts in several London hospitals. She then undertook pioneer research into stroke incidence and risk factors among different ethnic groups in south London. This important study, which had the potential to relieve the suffering which so many are experiencing because of strokes, was almost completed, and much of the data has since been published. Tragically, five years ago Judy was diagnosed as having breast cancer. Since then hundreds of friends have been praying for her and her family - especially the members of the Wimbledon church which she and Jim attended. For a time it looked as though the cancer had gone into remission as Judy appeared to be well when she served as a bridesmaid at the wedding of brother David to Anne in 1998. But, in spite of intensive treatment, Judy's health sadly deteriorated, and she passed away peacefully at the age of 38 years. In addition to her infectious enthusiasm and her bright smile, she had a strong Christian faith. She will also be remembered for her unwavering trust in the promises of God, her enormous display of courage, her humility, bearing in mind her notable academic achievements, and for her constant concern for others. A Thanksgiving Service for Judy's life was conducted in Newbold College's Salisbury Hall on 7 February with Pastors Ian Sleeman, Malcolm Taylor, Vlado Godina and the writer officiating. An interment followed in Wokingham. Our thoughts and prayers are with husband Jim, the Emmerson family, and with all other relatives. Truly a 'saint' has been laid to rest to await the soon-call of her Lord and Master.

PASTOR JOHN ARTHUR



The London Youth Federation presents PROMISE KEEPERS, a play by Nigel Graham David, Sen.

'FROM CRIME TO CHRIST'

Promise Keepers, directed by Nigel Graham David, Sen, explores the pressures of being a man in modern society. Based on a true story, the play is centred on two characters, Ice and Mention, who are leading a street gang called the 'Heartless Crew'. Mention is the main man and Ice is the second in command, both are feared and respected on the streets, and Ice is notorious for his nerves of steel when faced with life-threatening situations. The play goes on to show how hardened criminals become Christians - from crime to Christ. Promise Keepers challenges the stereotypical attitudes that men have been labelled with in society and embraces the reality that, no matter what you are and where you come from, God can and will change your life if you give Him a chance.

Directed by: Nigel Graham David, Sen, MA, Produced by: Xpect A Miracle Ministries.
Date: 14 April 2002 (Strictly no admission to children under 10 years). Time: Doors open 6pm, show starts 7pm. Venue: Mermaid Theatre, Puddle Dock, Blackfriars, London EC4V 3DB. Ticket outlets: North London: 07968-989379, South London: 07904-418703, East London: 0207 366-5511, West London: 0208 581-1771. Enquiries: Tel: 0207 366-5511; Email: nigelsnr@aol.com or susanne.kirlew@virgin.net.

International News

Effort to raise cigarette taxes launched – Washington DC, USA.

Raising taxes on cigarettes will significantly cut the numbers of children who smoke, say members of a coalition launching an initiative aimed at getting religious groups more involved in the fight against tobacco. The new effort to increase cigarette taxes around the nation was launched at a Capitol Hill press conference.

Religious organisations have traditionally played key roles in anti-tobacco legislation, said press conference moderator Roy Branson, a professor of ethics and public policy at Columbia Union College, located in Takoma Park, Maryland.

'The tobacco industry has targeted a certain population: children,' said Branson, who also heads CUC's Centre for Law and Public Policy. 'As religious organisations, it is our concern to protect those who might be vulnerable.' Every day in America, 5,000 children try their first cigarette, according to Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, a public advocacy group. Another 2,000 become regular smokers, one third of whom will die prematurely as a result of tobacco-related diseases.

Statistics show that every 10% in tax increases reduces youth consumption of tobacco by 7%.

Some 435,000 people die from tobacco-related illnesses in America each year, said Branson. 'It's the number one preventable death in America.'

ANR

Advances in Christ's homeland. Is there any other city in the Trans-European Division besides Tel Aviv where one could find five different ethnic Adventist churches within a one-mile radius? Such is the case in Israel's commercial capital, where immigrant settlers from Ghana, the Philippines, Romania, Russia and Spain have established spiritual homes.

These meeting places do not fit into the 'cathedral' category! In most cases a floor in a factory building is rented. But

hard-working members whose income in most cases is minimal have transformed the original industrial environments. The observance of the Sabbath in Israel means that worship services in these commercial complexes are undisturbed by the busyness of other countries.

For more than sixty years the church in Israel never had more than 300 members but, with the influx of people of Jewish background from around the world during the past five years and good leadership by Field president Richard Elover, the membership has grown to more than 1,200. The first Publishing Planning Committee in the history of the church was convened and some good strategies formulated.

The Field's first literature-evangelist has been recruited, and six additional church members have expressed interest in this work. During two book sales in churches in Tel Aviv, one of them a Methodist/Presbyterian congregation, more than \$1,000 worth of literature was sold.

The great burden of the leadership and members is to make Christianity real to the Hebrew-speaking inhabitants. As books and magazines are printed in the local languages, and other communicational avenues open, no doubt Jews and those of Palestinian background will join their friends from many lands in more meaningful worship of the God who, historically, has manifested His presence so wonderfully in this region.

JOHN ARTHUR, TED

TED church planting

'Church planting is high on the agenda of church leaders across the TED,' reports Pastor Peter Roennfeldt, TED Ministerial Association secretary and Global Mission co-ordinator. 'I recently attended the British Union Pastors' Council and their launch of LIFEdevelopment.info, with their emphasis upon the revitalisation of churches, small groups, Life Development Centres and church planting. This week I have been speaking at the Pakistan Union

Pastors' Council and hearing reports of evangelism and church planting.'

Over the last five years the Pakistan Union and Section leaders have focused resources upon ten major cities. 'Over twenty new churches and groups have been planted in these cities during the last five years and over twelve church buildings constructed,' says Roennfeldt.

In 1998 the leaders of unions and conferences across the TED launched a plan to plant 250 new churches by the end of 2005. The concept is to encourage a variety of approaches, including support for both spontaneous and strategic church planting. Leaders now report plans for over 300 new churches.

Åpen Dør: First worship services!

Church planter Arne-Kristian Andersen and the core group in Porsgrunn, Norway, are encouraged by the attendance at their first worship services. 'We started our first worship service on January 12 at 2pm,' writes Arne-Kristian. 'The core group met at 11am to get the place in order. At 1.30 people started to come. Forty-nine people (including children) came to worship together!' On 19 January, forty people met, and on the 26th, sixty-two people. 'There is absolutely no doubt that this is God's project, because it has been too wonderful to be the work of the core group and church alone,' concludes Andersen.

CaféSEED, Helsinki: reaching people!

CaféSEED - with opportunities for Finnish, Russian and English-speaking audiences - opened in Helsinki in September. Helsinki church pastor and planter, Atte Helminen, reports that this year has started well. 'God has taken over our work!'

'As well as café evenings, small groups, male interaction groups, and monthly "Baby Café" meetings, we concentrate on quality worship services,' says Helminen. 'We have regular unchurched visitors, and some who have already started attending our small groups.'

Kennington Christian Fellowship.

In central London, Eddie Hypolite and a dedicated core-team are planning Kennington Christian Fellowship on the Kennington Estate. 'It is exciting to meet young adults who have been reached by the variety of community ministries - including the weekly "Food for the Brain" - with emphasis on biblical values.'

Cottage Beck Café church.

Cottage Beck Café church is being planted in Scunthorpe, Lincolnshire. Reports in the local *Evening Telegraph* have encouraged community involvement. 'We now have one lady from nearby coming in to help with the café every Wednesday, and another lady coming in to help with the youth club on Thursday nights who has also volunteered to produce a monthly newsletter, which the probation service have offered to put out (500 a week) around the doors,' writes church planter Bryan Webster. The *Evening Telegraph* is also providing someone to set up a website. Two solicitors have volunteered time each week to provide free legal advice to people - the basis of a free 'Legal Advice Surgery' for the community. A local lady has volunteered to act as receptionist.

'Plug Inn' with Tina Kjeldal.

A few weeks ago I visited Plug Inn,' reports Thomas Müller, church planting coach for the Danish Union. 'It was their club night. I was truly amazed.' 'Plug Inn' is a project for unchurched teenagers from the streets of Copenhagen that has been launched by Tina Kjeldal and a small team.

The teenagers meet twice a week for club nights, providing social opportunities. Following the requests of the teenagers, the 'Plug Inn' is now introducing 'Explorer', a time for Bible study. 'They will take up topics related to teenagers and see what advice the Bible has. They also plan to arrange worship services with and for the teenagers,' reports Müller.

ANR

UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENT	WHEN	WHERE	WHO	HOW
West Midlands Day of Fellowship	6 April 9.30am	West Bromwich Town Hall, High Street	Speakers: Pastors Peter Roennfeldt & Miroslav Pujic, TED	Pastor D.Masih: 07957 617674 (Concert in evening also)
Concert	27 April 7.30pm	Adrian Boulte Hall, Birmingham	Alan Charles Essence of Harmony	Focus Arts 020 8318 3632 07855 551 792. £6 adv. £7.50 door
Youth Leadership Training Seminar – Level 2	10-12 May	Bilbury Centre, Birmingham	Steve Palmer, NEC Youth Dept.	0115 960 6312 <i>necstda@cs.com</i>
Water2Wine Marriage Enrichment Weekend	17-19 May	Woodside Conference Centre, Kenilworth, Warwickshire	Pastor Bernie and Karen Holford	Jerry & Ola Hall 0121 603 0125 <i>water2wine@blueyonder.co.uk</i> <i>www.water2wine.esmartweb.com</i>
Graduation 2002	19 May at 2.30pm	Gymnasium, Newbold College	GC President, Pastor Jan Paulsen	Tel: 01344 407420 for tickets <i>hsavage@newbold.ac.uk</i>

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

Messenger

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EDITOR: D. N. MARSHALL

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Sunset

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

	Lond	Card	Nott	Edin	Belf
Mar 22	6.17	6.29	6.21	6.30	6.41
29	6.29	6.41	6.34	6.44	6.54
Apr 5	7.40	7.52	7.46	7.59	8.07
12	7.52	8.04	7.59	8.13	8.21

MESSENGER SUBSCRIPTIONS

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ABC BOOK SALES 2002

March

24 John Loughborough 10am-2pm

April

28 John Loughborough 10am-2pm

May

12 West Midlands 10am-2pm

19 Newbold Graduation 10am onwards

26 John Loughborough 10am-2pm

June

10-16 SEC Camp Meeting Prestatyn