

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

# Messenger

## ACTS 2002

### New faces and old friends

by Marianne Tribes and Mary Ellen Ruetting

The preaching was uplifting, powerful and appealing,' said Derek Gomes from Leytonstone church, London, as he gave his impressions of Active Christians Together in the Spirit (ACTS) 2002. This annual event at Newbold College brought nearly 2,000 young people together on 23 February. They came from all over Britain and places as far away as Norway and Venezuela for an innovative worship experience. The theme for the day was *Explore the Possibilities*.

A variety of worship styles in the morning gave people the opportunity to explore possibilities through preaching. In the family service Dr Daniel Duda, senior lecturer in the Department of Theological Studies at Newbold, spoke about dangerous encounters with Christ, while Dr Laurence Turner prepared the congregation's appetite for a gourmet meal – of Bible study in the Moor Close student service. 'The Bible is not a bowl of pot noodles that you just add boiling water to and enjoy immediately. It is a gourmet food: a feast of many courses that takes time to eat,' he said. Visitor Althea White found plenty to chew on in Turner's analogy. 'Laurence Turner made me think. He's very challenging,' she said.

Known for dynamic music and inspirational speakers, a Back2Back preaching service ran concurrently in the gymnasium. Newbold students David Riley, Nerine Barrett and Anthea Davis were joined by innovative UK church pastors Stefan Burton-Schnull and Eddie Hypolite. With only fifteen minutes each, all speakers managed to challenge the audience. 'I really felt the presence of God when Stefan and Eddie

spoke,' said Ingrid Oculi from Reading. Worship co-ordinator Paul Vunivela, a Newbold student from the USA, said, 'The students preached very well – you would never have guessed they were still in training. They all had a powerful message with their own way of delivery.'

Possibilities were yet to be discovered in the afternoon with eleven workshops on topics such as missions, communication, counselling, business and cultural diversity, relations between Christians and Muslims, art and small groups. Each speaker integrated biblical lessons with practical application for life and service.

The day ended with a musical finalé, which saw a full house for the evening gospel concert. 'The concert

was very well run and it was nice to see lots of new faces,' said Natasha Clark, Newbold student. When reflecting on the day, Dr Duda said: 'It is very important for young people to get together and get the feeling of diversity in the church and the richness that comes with it.'

'The effort was well worth while,' said Kay Choudary, principal organiser of ACTS 2002. 'We are already preparing ACTS 2003.'



## 'All London All Power'

Dr Richard De Lisser and Pastor Hamilton Williams report on the All Power Bible-based evangelistic series aimed at the secular person.

'All Power' was an apt name for the evangelistic seminar that launched what was referred to by some as the marathon outreach event in London. It was sponsored by the London Area Advisory Council under the leadership of Dr Richard De Lisser and co-ordinated by Pastor Hamilton Williams.

### Fifty-nine nights

For fifty-nine non-stop nights in two venues north and south of the river running alternately, Leo Schreven of the 'It Is Written' telecast in California, delivered practical and powerful messages that burned their way into the hearts of the attendees.

### Twenty seminars

The 'All Power' seminar which launched the programme and ran for seven evenings and covered twenty seminars was unique. It is the best of its kind in the world church. It is a biblically-based, non-doctrinal, life-mastery seminar aimed at reaching secular people and introducing them to the greatest wisdom book of the ages, the Bible. Many who would not have attended a traditional evangelistic campaign turned up for the seminar. Leo Schreven in his energetic, rapid-

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## 'All Power'

Continued from page 1

fire style, had the people spellbound at times as he wooed their hearts with empowering principles, giving them keys to mastering every aspect of their lives. Many long-standing church members commented that for years they had been hearing how they ought to be living and what God expected of them but at last they were given valuable help as to how to do it.

### Over 900

On the opening night in Brixton it was standing room only with an attendance of over 900. Amid the crowd were people of all religious and cultural persuasions, including four pastors from other denominations, three of whom by the end of the meetings had accepted the Sabbath with a view to leading their congregations to do the same.

### Three baptismal services

Many of the seminar workers who have

seen campaigns come and go commented that they had never seen people literally running to a seminar, arriving an hour before the programme to ensure a good seat. Those who arrived late were suitably upset for having done so, such was the quality of the messages and the messenger. The 'All Power' seminar led into a prophecy seminar where young and old alike heard the Bible prophecies as they had never heard them before. The meetings culminated with three baptismal services, two at Brixton and

one at the Advent Centre. Forty-four were baptised.

### Ripple effect

London will not be the same after this marathon programme. The pastors and workers must be commended. The ripple effect is still being felt as the baptismal figure has risen to over fifty-five as a direct result of the seminar. It is almost certain that with the great number of videos and audio cassettes of both seminars now in the hands of the people many more souls will be added to God's kingdom; the real impact of the programme is still to come!

## The Stanborough Press – the new way forward

by John Surridge, Communication director, BUC

On Thursday 7 March the Stanborough Press Board, which includes the President and Vice-President for Finance of the Review and Herald, voted to recommend to the British Union Executive the closure of the printing and binding facilities of The Stanborough Press. This recommendation was unanimously accepted by the BUC Executive Committee one week later on Thursday 14 March, and the closure of the production unit will be phased over the second half of 2002.

Although many will be saddened by the loss of this facility and the staff redundancies which have already taken place, the future for The Stanborough Press now looks much more secure. To understand the reasons for this one needs to understand that publishing, printing, and binding are all separate processes, each requiring its own special expertise. Over the last twenty or thirty years the majority, if not all, of the publishers in the British Isles have stopped doing their own printing and binding for

costs and, therefore, prices have to be cut.

Press manager Paul Hammond is convinced that, as a consequence of the closure of the production unit, The Stanborough Press will be able to offer a wider range of books at more competitive prices. In particular it is believed that the changes will significantly improve the service provided to the British Union constituency. Stanborough Press books, together with Sabbath School lessons and magazines, will continue to be produced. These, together with US books and the health food range, will continue to be marketed by the Adventist Book Centre.

Stanborough Press treasurer Graham Barham said, 'If we are to retain our current markets and enter new ones we must remain competitive. This we can only do by containing costs. The new strategy will allow us to forge new market opportunities, re-enter existing markets on a more competitive basis, and allow us to move forward with new initiatives both at home and abroad. The changes should in no way

financial reasons. Quite simply, specialist printers and binders can offer a far more competitive price. The Stanborough Press has experienced stiff competition for its African markets. Hence

affect negatively the way we serve our members. In fact they should allow us to provide a more comprehensive service.'

An example of some of the new approaches which The Stanborough Press is exploring is the proposed expansion of the ABC (Adventist Book Centre) operation in London. Pastor Vernon Nambo, Marketing director of the Press, spoke to the BUC administration and Departmental directors about this. 'Our plan is to open three new retail outlets in the London area,' he said. 'These would be at the Advent Centre, the Lewisham church and at the North Wembley church. We are keen to re-enliven the Christian bookshop market, and we would really like to open outlets in the West Midlands and elsewhere, as well.'

On Wednesday 10 April The Stanborough Press launched ten brand new books. According to Pastor Nambo an even wider range of new books will be published in future years when The Stanborough Press becomes exclusively a publishing house. The objective of The Stanborough Press is to produce good literature for church members and the wider public. It aims to find new ways of doing this as efficiently and effectively as possible.

## Healthwise

## 'Eat it, and like it!'

Richard J. B. Willis, BUC Health Ministries director

Not a compelling parent urging her child to eat what is good for him, but an authoritative food agency is making the statement! You would think that at a time when human rights are being promoted and asserted it should be possible to select and eat the items that appeal to the consumer and reject others for whatever reason. Well, not according to the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC).

This UN panel, ruling on issues concerning the international food trade, has stated that you have no right to know where the food you eat originally comes from. The only circumstances which would change their view is when a risk to human health has been identified.

It looks very much as if the GM foods lobby has won the day hands down. At a

recent meeting in Yokohama, Japan, the 200 or so delegates heard the CAC overrule the EU call that all GM foods be traceable from seed to product. Companies such as Monsanto will now be able to laugh all the way to the bank in whatever currency they like.

Unfortunately the research into the possibility of health risks in GM foods will grind to a halt. Such research as may be necessary, more than likely, will be done only after a problem arises and not before the products go on sale. The sole safeguard, until that happens, will be the checking of foods for allergens that might have appeared anywhere in the process. This would apply to GM and non-GM food alike.

CAC's concession was granted following scares in which a Brazil-nut allergen found its way into a soya bean that was being

modified, and another allergen in StarLink, a variety of GM corn.

The CAC's 'shut up and eat up' attitude extends to all fruits and vegetables besides the grains, soya and their products already modified. By the time any harm might be found in any or all of these items it will not be possible to trace the problem to a specific gene.

At the risk of provoking trade wars, it might not be too late to voice disapproval of these decisions made by CAC to your MP and MEP. While it is late, it may not be too late. This is not an issue that can be avoided. It affects us all, and it serves as a warning that events can overtake us in ways that we could not have predicted.



## Editorial

David Marshall



# Wit's End Corner

'We are hard pressed at every point, but not hemmed in. We are at our wit's end, but not at our hope's end. We are persecuted by men, but never abandoned by God.'

Hey, is somebody having a pity party? Bit of a loser, maybe?

That all depends on how you view the apostle Paul. He concludes with: 'We are knocked down, but not knocked out.'<sup>1</sup>

*Hard pressed* refers to somebody under severe pressure. The words translated *at our wit's end* imply 'cornered'. What is here translated *knocked down*, in our language means 'depressed'.<sup>2</sup>

Paul was under severe pressure, at wit's end corner, and he was depressed!

Notice that after each of those things the words *but not* or *but never* are used. Paul was hard pressed, at wit's end corner, persecuted and depressed – but he was *not* hemmed in, at hope's end, abandoned by God or knocked out!

If you can identify with Paul's pressure points – and perhaps you can – may I encourage you, by faith, to accept the promises implied here for those thus pressured?

\* It's important, when you're living under pressure, not to feel hemmed in. God makes it his business to ensure that you have a way out. Man may feel 'cabinéd, cribbed and confined',<sup>3</sup> but God gives him space. For three years Geoffrey Bull's body was confined in a cramped prison cell in Communist China; but, daily, his spirit had communion with Infinite God.

\* It's important when you're at wit's end corner to realise that God knows the way in all directions. We may not know which way to jump, but God is more than willing to guide us. When we're fresh out of options, God is able to offer us outs we've never thought of. For the Christian, wit's end is not hope's end; he has the resources of heaven at his disposal.

\* It's important when you're persecuted to realise that God has never been closer to you. The kingdom of heaven is owned by the persecuted (Matthew 5:10). Your attackers are merely burnishing your crown! You have to accept what you cannot understand.

\* It's important when you're knocked down (depressed) to understand that you're not defeated. You may be struck down, but 'struck down' is not destroyed. In human terms you are just a 'clay container' (2 Corinthians 4:7); but God's terms are different. To him you are of infinite value. The repository of treasure, no less! God says to you as he said to Paul, 'My grace is sufficient. My power is made perfect in weakness. Lean on me!'

God's grace *is* all sufficient.

Paul proved it. John Wesley proved it.

When Wesley first branched out from the established Church – began to make his first business the communication

of the Gospel to the masses – he had doors slammed in his face on every side:

'Sunday morning, 5 May, preached in St Ann's, was asked not to come back any more. Sunday evening, 5 May, preached at St John's, deacon said, "Get out and stay out." 12 May, preached at St Jude's, can't go back there either. Sunday morning, 19 May, preached at St Mary's, deacons called a meeting and said I couldn't return. Sunday evening, 19 May, preached on the street, kicked off the street. Sunday morning, 26 May, preached in a meadow, chased out of meadow by bull deliberately let loose during service. Sunday morning, 2 June, preached on the edge of town – was kicked off the highway. Sunday evening, 2 June, preached in a pasture; 10,000 came to hear me.'<sup>4</sup>

Wouldn't you have given up some time between Sunday morning 4 May and Sunday evening 2 June? Wesley didn't. God's grace was sufficient and he knew it.

The Holy Spirit used Wesley to turn around the history of this country. Directly or indirectly, Wesley led tens of thousands to Christ. He preached 42,000 sermons. He travelled 6,000 miles a year on horseback. He covered seventy miles in a single day. When he was 83 he wrote in his diary, 'I am a wonder to myself. I am never tired, either with preaching, writing, or travelling.'

From wit's end corner Wesley was led to outstanding achievement in the service of God. He discovered, as did the apostle Paul, that God's grace was sufficient for both physical weariness and physical pain. Also like Paul, he found that God's grace was sufficient for both opposition and slander.

It is God's fixed purpose to use 'jars of clay' (earthen vessels) to contain the treasures of the Gospel. When Paul said 'jars of clay' he had in mind 'the small, earthenware oil lamps sold so cheaply in the marketplaces' of his day.<sup>5</sup> God uses humans to shed abroad the glorious light of the life-revolutionising message of Jesus. Why does God use clay oil lamps (humans)? 'To show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.' (2 Corinthians 4:7, NIV.)

Though clay jars, we are privileged to contain the treasures of the Gospel. But, frail and mortal, we are the victims of circumstances over which we have no control. Life's itinerary will throw up any number of wit's end corners along the way.

If, right now, you are standing at wit's end corner, don't panic. Trust God. He has promised that there *is* a way out. He wants to lead you to the broad, sunlit uplands of limitless grace.

### References:

<sup>1</sup>2 Corinthians 4:8, 9, Barclay. <sup>2</sup>Paul Barnett, *The Message of 2 Corinthians* (IVP), page 88. <sup>3</sup>William Barclay, *The Letters to the Corinthians* (St Andrew Press), page 221. <sup>4</sup>Wesley's *Journal* cited Dr Archibald Hart, *Workers' meetings*, Toronto GC Session, June 2000. <sup>5</sup>Colin Kruse, *Tyndale New Testament Commentaries: 2 Corinthians* (IVP), page 106.

## ABPA Weekend

Members and friends of the Adventist Business and Professional Association gathered together at the Hilton Hotel in Newport, South Wales, over the weekend 15-17 March. It was a wonderful time to relax together in friendship, encourage and support each other in business and church life, and share ideas and news of activities.

The featured speaker was Pastor

Martin Bell from Roundelwood. His first talk was an encouragement to turn on the 'videos' in our minds, to record beautiful happenings so that we can relive them later.

Sabbath services were spent with the members of the Newport church, and enjoying a delicious fellowship lunch with them. The more energetic ones followed this with a walk in the hills overlooking

the Bristol Channel. The evening's activities included a surprise celebration of the 35th wedding anniversary of David and Audrey Balderstone, longtime stalwarts of ABPA.

Anyone wanting information on the Association, or its future activities (the next weekend together is planned for November) is invited to ring Audrey Balderstone (01923 231110) or Maritz Sabatier (0208 5379385). The Association president is Dr Andrew Baildam.

JAN PEARCE

## Five thousand miles to a baptism

The day started normally enough – people greeting people, joining Sabbath

Tiffé Chanzé.



school classes. An interval. A few announcements from the platform, the visiting preacher giving us a splendid sermon (aren't they all?)

Then the centrepiece of the morning, if not the entire day. Pastor Barry Alen invited Tiffé Chanzé to join him in the waters of the baptistery, where she was about to start her new life in Jesus Christ. This moment had come after many years of searching, searching for answers to so many questions. And now, after being in the United Kingdom for just five years and five thousand miles from her home in Lilongwe, Malawi, she had, by way of attending an Alpha course and receiving Bible studies with Pastor Alen, at last found the answer in her

personal Saviour, Jesus Christ.

When Tiffé came to the UK she studied at Aberdeen University where she obtained a Diploma in Travel and Tourism. At present she is studying for an NVQ in Caring, and gaining valuable, practical experience by caring for a young woman who is almost completely paralysed.

Tiffé returns to Malawi shortly for a much-deserved holiday, and while there she will make a choice of careers, either to continue in the Care profession or return to the travel and tourism industry. Whatever her choice, she knows that Jesus will always be at her side. Our wishes and prayers go with her.

DAVID BRADLEY



The ASNA personnel.

All the attendees.

members who were involved in the centre's group activities.

## ASNA: First Family Weekend

The first Adventist Special Needs Association (ASNA) weekend at the Harry Whittaker Lodge, Northamptonshire, was about beautiful sunshine, wonderful company and spiritual nurture. Those who attended expressed appreciation of the extent to which the weekend met their expectations. They met and made new friends and learned about important issues relating to those with special needs and disabilities within the Church. There were fifty-nine residents and twelve day guests.

From the main meeting rooms the views were stunning, making them a perfect setting for our older members with special needs and for younger

Cherish Shirley, a young participant, said, 'When I heard about the walk arranged among Harry Whittaker's 200 acres of lush green land and spectacular lakes I was not keen. But I went along anyway. It was amazing! The community of both disabled and non-disabled children took part in games which produced enjoyment, confidence, concentration and team co-operation.'

Prior to the getting-to-know-you session, Pastor Sam Davis presented Friday evening vespers. Sabbath morning began with a walk around the beautiful grounds. Praise, worship and testimonies were led by ASNA committee member Karen Weekes. The Sabbath morning discussion was led by Pastor Barry Alen. The afternoon workshops provided an opportunity for discussion on issues such as communication, education, and the Disability Discrimination Act. Dr H. Graham facilitated a group in which carers could share their experiences. Workshop leaders included Julie Saunders (RNIB, Camp Hill), Irma Ackie (Speech therapist) and Margaret Alen (special needs teacher, Southampton). Special speaker Kenny McShane came from Mencap.

On Sunday morning Olwen McIntyre recounted her experiences as a sibling of a member with special needs and how she established a Special Needs class at Camp Hill church.

Details about ASNA, including membership, can be had by phoning 01491 833395 or visiting the website [www.asna.co.uk](http://www.asna.co.uk).

SOPHIA NICHOLLS

## Baroque music at Galway

The Galway church were privileged to enjoy baroque classical music as part of the Sabbath school programme on Sabbath 19 December. Evonne Baasch and her son David (17) from Maryland, USA, were the classical musicians. Evonne is the daughter-in-law of Iva Baasch, teacher in Grianach House School and Sabbath school superintendent at the Galway church. She also teaches violin at Sligo Adventist School. David is in his last year at Tacoma Academy. Both mother and son are superb violinists and they played pieces by such baroque composers as Corelli and Bach, including *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*. They finished their performance by playing a medley of the well-known gospel songs *Kumbayah* and *Peace Like a River*. The Baaschs also contributed to the service and played *Amazing Grace*.

Evonne was delighted to be in Ireland for the first time. She particularly like her visit to the medieval Bunratty Castle, on the way to Galway. The Baaschs played for the students of Grianach House School on Monday, and had the opportunity to visit the historical Aran Islands before returning to the United States.

OLIVER MARTYN

## Greeting card ministry

Three young people, Roger Taffe and Rory Mendez from the Stoke Newington church, and Sharon Platt-McDonald from the Brixton church, got together last year and launched a new ministry. This ministry came in the form of greeting cards. The cards were carefully selected and worded to inspire and encourage all who received them. The team believes that these cards will nurture and inspire fellow Christians and witness to non-Christians.

Roger says there are two things that have driven this ministry. Firstly, a realisation that in our hectic and stressful lives we often don't find the time to think about others or show those we love that we care. These cards were conceived as a simple way of showing the church family and those outside the church that we care and that we love them. Since stress affects us all, sending an encouraging card to someone might just be the tonic

they need to lift their spirits and produce copious amounts of 'happy hormones'. Secondly, living in a secular society where the majority of people are not interested in church or spiritual things, this ministry was designed to provide a 'wedge' to reach unchurched relatives, friends and acquaintances. Several non-Christians have already attested to the fact that these cards have touched their lives.

The cards were carefully selected and worded to appeal to a contemporary audience. For example, the past two years on Mother's day, the Stoke Newington church has distributed over 250 bouquets of flowers and cards to honour the mothers in that community. The response was tremendous. We received cards and letters of appreciation. The whole exercise was rewarding for the members and gratefully received and appreciated by the community.

Some of the more popular cards that have been used are as follows: \*'Missed you at Church', for absent and former members; \*'We're glad you came to church', for visitors to your church; \*'As you begin your new life in Christ', for newly-baptised members; \*'He's got your whole world in His hands', for individuals who are struggling with a problem and need assurance and encouragement. [rtaffe@hotmail.com](mailto:rtaffe@hotmail.com)

## Wimbledon church goes to Centre Court!

On Friday evening 14 December about thirty members and friends of Wimbledon church went to the Centre Court shopping mall in Wimbledon town centre to sing Christmas carols and collect money for Shelter, the charity for the homeless.

Positioned just outside Debenhams department store, on the ground floor, the group were also standing just under the escalators which allowed the singing to ring through to the upper floor and throughout the mall on that busy pre-Christmas evening.

The singers' ages ranged from 7 to 82 years, with additional helpers collecting money and giving out copies of FOCUS magazine.

The group were also accompanied by the church's mini-orchestra comprising

Ji-eun Ahn (violin) and Ji-Hee Ahn (cello) and Percy Reason on the piano, who, incidentally, gallantly pulled his (supposedly portable) keyboard in and out of lifts and throughout the mall on a trolley to provide musical backing for the singers.

Holding it all together and keeping everyone laughing and in good spirits was Wimbledon's own Pastor Vlado Godina who enjoyed conducting the ensemble.

Passersby gave generously and stopped to comment on the 'beautiful singing' and the happy, smiling faces of those involved, as praises and thanks to God echoed throughout the mall as a gentle witness to all who heard the true meaning of Christmas.

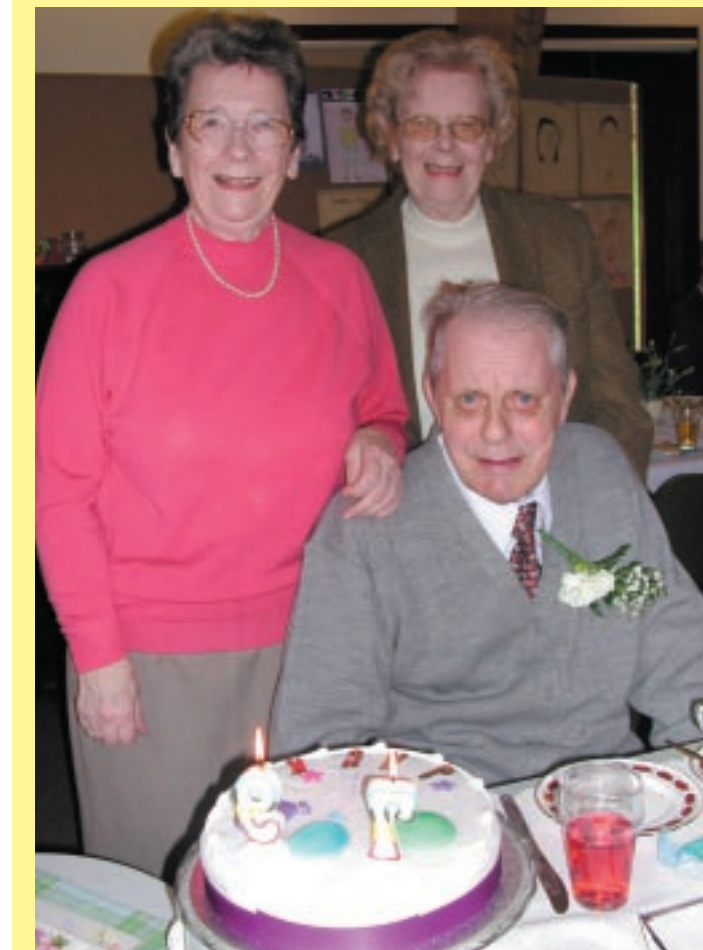
Approximately £150 was collected which, together with the collection from the church's Christmas concert, constituted part of the £700 cheque which was ultimately presented to Shelter.

ASHA WJIE

## Oxford church Healthy Living Supper Club goes wide!

The *Oxford Times* newspaper supplement, published monthly, featured a member from the Oxford church. Nigel Nicholls is one of the leaders of the Healthy Living Supper Club which has been running for over 6 years. The supper club aims to bring the health message to the Oxford community through food demonstrations, health talks and presentations followed by a healthy meal. Over the years it has seen members of the Oxford local community benefit from its projects. Last month, Nigel was interviewed and featured preparing a wholesome vegan meal which was photographed and published in the March issue. Subsequent to this issue, there has been a 50% increase in new members, who all came as a result of the issue. We want to thank God for His leading in this project as we witness through the right arm of the message to those in the Oxford community. The HLSC meets the first Wednesday of every month at Friends' Meeting House, St Giles, Oxford, 6.45pm, for presentation followed by a wholesome meal. (£4 unwaged and £5 waged.) Telephone Junko Murayami 0776 829 8297.

SOPHIE NICHOLLS



## Born again at 79

Jack Woods was born on 23 March, seventy-nine years ago, and born again at his baptism on 23 March 2002. Not a religious person through most of his life, Jack enjoyed sports such as football, cycling and swimming, and was, with his wife, an ardent ballroom dancer. Some time after the loss of his wife he suffered a series of strokes that put him in hospital and in contact with a nursing sister, a member of Crieff church – Eleri Quinn. Eleri, through her care for Jack, invited him to attend a 'Friendly Club' and then eventually the Crieff church. Jack has been attending church for some time and become a cheerful friend of all. Pastor Bob Rodd then began to visit Jack and had studies with him which brought him to the decision to be born again through the waters of baptism.

We were also privileged to have Jack's two sisters attend the event. In spite of being somewhat disabled by the illness he has suffered, Jack has an irrepressible zest for life and always greets one with a smile and a twinkle in his eyes. He is looking forward to the coming of Jesus. After the baptism the church hosted a fellowship/birthday lunch for Jack and his sisters who are in the photograph.

PASTOR LLEWELLYN EDWARDS

## Area 4 Youth Day in Canterbury

On Sabbath 16 February the youth of Area 4, together with visitors from as far away as St Albans, joined together at the Broad Oak Village Hall in Canterbury for a Youth Day of Fellowship. The event was organised by Area 4 Youth Co-ordinator, David Santineer, and Canterbury church elder John Wilson. Altogether, around a hundred people enjoyed worship, fellowship, inspiring musical items, sketches, splendid weather, and a social.

Bernie Holford, SEC Family Life director, was present with his wife Karen and their children. Working

together as a team Bernie and Karen presented the sermon which was entitled, 'Experiencing the invisible God'. This was felt by many to be the heart and highlight of the day.

In the afternoon, young people from St Albans church gave an inspiring and eye-opening report on their work in Albania.

The Hove choir, with no instrumental accompaniment whatsoever, was impressive in its a capella renditions of sacred songs. Among other musical performers were Canterbury church's own 'Cantabri', and solo singers,

who all displayed much talent and potential to use music to worship God and glorify His name.

A sketch with John Wilson, Mike Millard and David Santineer added some dramatic zest to the day's programme, and in the evening everyone enjoyed the concluding social.

Pastor Fernand Lombart of the Canterbury and Folkestone churches expressed his appreciation for the many who attended and helped to make the day such a success.

RALPH LOMBART

# God's constant care

A personal testimony by  
Pastor Paul Smith\*

The Christmas holiday period was over. My wife and I had been staying with our eldest son, Geoff and family for a brief time. Sabbath 29 December brought its own responsibilities. I needed to be prepared and in place for my Bodmin appointment.

We set off from Stoke about midday on Friday and encountered traffic jams on the M6. It was stop and start for nearly an hour and we decided to turn off for a break at one of the services. Having joined the M6 once more, we discovered the road was not quite as busy as it had been earlier. On reaching the M5, however, it was a joy to find that most of the motorists had either turned off or reached their destinations.

Between Bristol and Weston-super-Mare on the southbound motorway, we saw the traffic slowing down. Likewise, we adjusted our speed, being ready to stop if required. Suddenly, there was a crash. A car at the rear shot into us, shunting our car into the one in front. We were stunned. Pam received a laceration to her head which hit and broke the seat belt mounting. Her head was bleeding. I tried to move my arms

and legs and head. Both of us had the whiplash effect. But, relatively speaking, it seemed that we had come through almost unscathed. It was too good to be true. What might have been? Somehow we felt God had taken care of us.

I have wrestled with the idea of putting this experience in print. There is only one motive, our desire to praise the Lord for his protective care. Someone, somewhere, could have been praying for us. Thank you, Lord, and thank you, pray-er.

'Saved to serve' could be rather trite. But in this case I believe it to be true. Serving God is a great privilege, and a deep thrill comes in knowing that I can be used by Him. Due to the event here described, I have realised anew the frailty of life and how precious it is. After all, I'm just a pilgrim passing through. William Watson, in his poem, 'World-Strangeness', asked:

*In this house with starry dome,  
Floored with gemlike plains and seas,  
Shall I never feel at home,  
Never wholly be at ease?*

Perhaps I never should. Life given

in love seems to be the only answer.

My heart has been stirred by the fact of God's constant care. I have been reminded of the rainbow of his presence. William Edwin Sangster, a fine Methodist preacher of yesteryear, wrote:

'Men have wondered what kept John Wesley in the saddle contesting the three kingdoms for Christ. . . . What kept David Livingstone in the jungles of Africa and Peter Claver tending the poor slaves at Cartagena. . . . Death alone ended their labours. It is not in normal nature to love like that; it is a GIVEN love. They sought and received it from God and they were consumed by its scorching flame.'

As God sweeps his sceptre over every area of life, I feel I would like to receive more of that love and be consumed by its burning flame.

\* Pastor Smith has retired from ministry three or four times. Each time he has felt God calling him back to service. Currently he pastors the Bodmin church and (many miles away) the Taunton church plant.

William E. Sangster, *Daily Readings from W. E. Sangster* (London, Epworth Press, 1966), page 134.



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  - 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](mailto:mpearson@newbold.ac.uk) Deadline for receipt of applications: 30 April 2002.



## The Great Scottish Walk

Sunday 23 June

Come and join us on a 12-mile sponsored walk around the beautiful city of Edinburgh!

The Great Scottish Walk is Scotland's biggest charity walk event that takes place each summer. It gives the general public an opportunity to raise funds for a charity of their choice. We are looking for supporters of ADRA-UK to participate in this sponsored event and help raise funds to further its work. A great day awaits all those who are interested in having a bit of fun as well as a bit of exercise!

Starting and finishing at Edinburgh's Meadowbank Stadium, the 12-mile route will be fun to do and great to complete, with finishers receiving commemorative medals and certificates. With plenty of entertainment at the start and finish, it's a real family day out, too. Walkers will be accompanied by pipe bands, route entertainment, goody bags, after-walk show, first aid, water stations en route, etc.

Participants will need to make their own travel arrangements. If you would like to participate in this sponsored walk please contact Chantal Alen on 01923-681723 (England) or Harry Wilby on 01764-654369 (Scotland) for more details.



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**FARAGHER, Kathleen** – d. 26 September. Kathleen (née Adams) was born in 1914 at Llandudno, North Wales. She died in Canberra, Australia, and is survived by her daughter Margaret (Canberra) and her son Alan (Edmonton, Canada). Having been baptised at Camp Hill in 1956, Kathleen came to Australia in 1971 and worked as a nursing sister at the Warburton Adventist Hospital in Victoria. She returned to England in 1984 to nurse a sick relative, and while in England attended the Tamworth and Wolverhampton churches. She returned in 1985 to Australia and continued her nursing duties at the Warburton Hospital until her retirement. In 1988 she moved to Canberra to live. She was a resident of Mountain View retirement hostel during the last year of her life. Kathleen was predeceased by her son-in-law Paul Belton in June 2001. She was a dedicated Christian lady who quietly shared her faith.  
*PASTOR GARY WEBSTER*

**TUCKER, Evelyn F. L.** – d. 18 February. Evelyn's Australian accent was a give-away though she spent the last twenty years of her life in the west of England. In 1967 she and her mother visited England for a holiday in a Torquay hotel, where one of the waiters with an eye for quality fell in love with her. Soon after, they were married. Evelyn was a kind and loving Christian, full of wisdom and excellent judgement. Her infectious laughter will never be forgotten. Although too shy to take an active part in public leadership, she served the Exeter church as treasurer and organist with distinction. Until about three years ago, despite her maturing years, she was a member of the local Ramblers' Club, so the writer was more than a little surprised at the time when this perceptive lady asked him, just two months before her demise, if he would conduct her funeral service when the time arrived. Together we chose the hymns. There were many compositions dear to Evelyn's heart, but she especially wanted the chorus 'God So Loved the World' from Stainer's *Crucifixion* and C. E. Gounod's *Mors et Vita* played on tape. Everything at the service was Evelyn's choice. The lyrics epitomised her strong faith in Jesus Christ, and the music echoed the quality she normally listened to or played herself at church or in her own home. Without the assurance of the resurrection, the sudden departure of this wonderful lady would have been a tragedy. Evelyn's husband George, who hailed from Cardiff, died from cancer after only twenty years of their marriage. His niece Anita Clark with her husband Robin, living in Somerset, attended the service. A second niece Sheila Davies was unable to make the long journey from Wales. The Easter story is our assurance that we will see Evelyn again.  
*PASTOR KENNETH CLOTHIER*

**ANDREWS, Gladys May Emily** – d. 20 February. Born in a small cottage in Molding Yard, Wivenhoe, Gladys was one of ten children. After leaving Wivenhoe school, she served in a house in Richmond, Surrey. On one of her visits home she met and fell in love with Frank. They married in 1937 and, during forty-four years of marriage, they were blessed with three sons, Tony, David and Richard. Family and friends gathered in the Colchester church on 4 March to commemorate the life of a wonderful mother, grandmother, sister and friend. Pastor Malcolm Taylor led out in the service with Gladys's son David reading 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. Gladys was a much loved and respected member of the church, supporting ADRA through many hours of knitting and crocheting. Young and old could freely confide in her. She would always have a listening ear and a friendship which was never judgemental. The committal took place in Birch cemetery, where our dear sister is now sleeping until the time when the Saviour she loved fulfils his promise and returns. We all look forward to when we can hug Gladys on that happy day.  
*ELIZABETH JONES*

**WATTS, Tudor J.** – d. 18 February. Tudor was born in Risca, South Wales, in 1911. He was one of twenty-one children, his father having remarried following the death of his first wife. Leaving school at 14, Tudor became a boot and shoe repairer. In 1934 he was baptised in Newport by Pastor Murdoch and about this time he met Violet Ward and followed her to Stanborough College. They were married in 1936 and eventually settled in Cardiff. Later two daughters, Patricia and Marilyn arrived. In 1951 Tudor felt called to the colporteur ministry, a calling he was to follow until he retired. He also served in most church offices and was an elder at St Paul's in Cardiff. Being much in demand as a tenor he was never happier than when leading congregational singing at evangelistic campaigns. In May 1965 he was appointed Publishing Department secretary for the SEC. During this period, he ran on-the-job training sessions for Newbold students, helping many to earn scholarships. In August 1976 he officially retired but the next year returned as Area Publishing director for the South East of England. In July 1978 he finally retired from the publishing work, only to start as a maintenance worker at Granose Foods, followed by a spell as an instructor at the VOP. Also at this time he was the very popular leader of the Stanborough Park Senior Members' Group. He ran their fortnightly meetings and organised day trips and holidays to Broomhill and the Isle of Wight. In his 80s Tudor was on the SEC preaching plan and regularly taught a Sabbath school class. In 1996, Violet's health began to fail and, in spite of Tudor's tireless support, she finally moved into a residential home, soon to be followed

by Tudor. She died last August aged 91. Tudor died peacefully one month after being admitted to hospital, aged 90. Pastor Robert Vine conducted his funeral service with the assistance of one of Tudor's sons-in-law, Dr Peter Bone. The large congregation included Tudor's daughters; the other son-in-law Byron Burgess; both Tudor's grandchildren, Joanne Burgess and Andrew Bone; and his nephew, Terry Watts, who read a Scripture reading. Many from the publishing work were eager to pay tribute to their colleague and friend. Publishing director of the TED John Arthur was in Albania but wrote: 'In 1954 Tudor was one of the most successful salespersons in a force numbering almost a hundred throughout the UK and Ireland. I will never forget the annual Literature conventions at Swanwick which were attended by more than 350 – and Tudor and Violet played no small part in this annual dispensation of inspiration. . . . Tudor will always be remembered for his total commitment to God, his faithfulness to the cause of Christ, his cheerful personality, and his willingness to go the second mile to help people in need.' Pastor Roy Chisholm added: 'He was so devoted to the Lord . . . totally sold on taking the Gospel to men and women. It was a privilege to work with him.' Also, the family received condolences from former GC Publishing director Bruce Wickwire; former Publishing directors for NED Jan Knopper and Pastor Ron Appenzeller, and from Moses Elmadjian who assisted Tudor in the SEC. In his address, Pastor Vine mentioned that he and his brother, Pastor Richard Vine, were trained to sell books by Tudor. He concluded, 'Tudor was so brave and strong. We believe he, with all of God's servants, will be welcomed by our Lord on that great day – the day of Jesus' coming.'  
*COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT*

**BROWN, Linnette Marion** – d. 3 March. Members of Preston church were saddened at the loss of one of their members. Linnette was born in Jamaica, one of seven children. She married Sherman Brown in Jamaica in 1955 and moved to England in 1956. Her working years were spent in the nursing profession. Due to ill health, Sister Brown became housebound for many years. She enjoyed good music and, quite often, small groups would have Sabbath school in her home. She remained cheerful, and was a constant source of encouragement to others. She gave her heart to Christ and accepted his salvation and this Christian hope kept her buoyant when the conditions of life were not the best. Our condolences are extended to those she leaves behind: her husband Sherman and daughters Veronica, Christine, Angela and Karen. Officiating ministers at the service were Pastors Fred Mapp, Barry Stokes and Lloyd Antonio. 'Great is Thy Faithfulness' was beautifully sung by Sister Brown's daughter Karen. Other musical items were presented by Zion Singers, Psalms, Zena Taylor and Carol Bryant. All the tributes echoed the same traits about our dear sister – loving, caring, cheerful and faithful to the end. The best tribute we can give is to emulate her and live the good that we saw in her and, when our Lord returns, we can look forward to being reunited with our sister once more.  
*JENNY JEFFERS*

# Islam: 'The fastest-growing religion in Britain'

TIME magazine, 25 February 2002, pages 24, 26.

Islam is 'the fastest-growing religion in Britain. Nobody has an accurate count of the number of British Muslims – estimates range from 1.5 million to 2.5 million – but they run the gamut of all social classes. In the West End of London, rich playboys from the Gulf states are staples of the clubbing scene. In rundown mill towns in the north of England, by contrast, thousands of native Pakistanis struggle in an environment where jobs are scarce, racism is rampant and arranged marriages are the norm.

'It was long assumed that the growth of Islam in Britain was simply a function of immigration. But that underestimates the religion's appeal. Since the early 1980s, Bangladeshi and Pakistani imams, often associated with evangelistic Islamic groups,

have targeted young black inmates of British prisons. "Islam is a sort of natural religion for underdogs," says Ziaddin Sardar, a British scholar of Islam, "and that's one reason why Afro-Caribbean people have found its message very attractive." Prison authorities have allowed imams to bring literature into the jails – everything from copies of the Koran to anti-American leaflets highlighting the importance of *Jihad*.

'Finsbury Park [mosque] is at the heart of the extremist Islamic culture that French authorities called "Londonistan".'

'Sardar explains that the mosque attracts "younger, more disaffected Muslims, mainly from working class backgrounds, mostly unemployed, unmarried. These guys see themselves as totally under siege. For them, *Jihad* is a salvation."

## ADRA-Ireland: the challenge of Brazil

ADRA-Ireland Country director Alan Hodges, accompanied by Trans-European Division Regional director Roy Richardson, visited the Central Brazil Union, 10-24 March. The purpose of the visit was to inspect and attend opening ceremonies for five children's day-care centres plus a development centre and a cultural centre for the Karaja Indians.

### Why Brazil?

The Irish government agency Ireland Aid provided 75% grants totalling IR£600,000 in 2001 towards the cost of these projects. But why Brazil? There is an awful lot of coffee – and almost everything else! – in Brazil, including 140 million people, half of them under the age of 25. Riches it possesses, beyond imagination, but little money. Brazil is the fifth largest country in the world, covering nearly half of South America and it is also the world's biggest debtor. Ninety per cent of the wealth is owned by 1% of the population and 34% of the population is under the poverty line. A large-scale population drift from countryside to towns and cities has caused problems of housing and employment. Many shanty towns exist and poverty is widespread. The last available survey revealed that a quarter of Brazilians are illiterate and 2 million chil-

dren aged 7-14 do not even have a school to attend. Even when they have one, only 60% stay long enough to become literate.

### Plight of the children

Over the last five years a strong relationship has developed between ADRA-Ireland and ADRA-Central Brazil. Although not looked upon as a priority country by Ireland Aid, the Government's sympathy for the plight of the children in Brazil has been shown by their support of these most worthy projects. This third visit by Alan Hodges emphasised also the strong support that local government is giving to the nine Day-Care Centres that have received grants from the Irish Government and are being operated by ADRA. In many cases local Government is providing the food and giving regular monthly financial support for each child attending the centres. Up to 200 children attend each centre either in the morning or afternoon as, though many attend state school, they are not receiving the standard of education they deserve. The added help and support they receive at the Day-Care Centres gives them the opportunity and hope for a better future. The inauguration ceremonies were attended by the mayor, city officials, ADRA and church officials.

ADRA has been working with the Karaja for several years and Ireland Aid has supported a sanitary project that has provided toilet blocks for Indian families. In addition, an agricultural project has been developed where Indians have been taught how to grow corn, banana trees and watermelons. A Development Centre, where they can be taught skills enabling them to produce crafts to help preserve their culture, was opened in the village of St Isabel. A Cultural Centre was also opened in Sao Felix, the nearest town, where they can sell their crafts to provide an income for their community.

The relationship between ADRA-Ireland, ADRA-Central Brazil, Ireland Aid, and the local government in Brazil has shown what can be achieved when people work together. This was poignantly summed up in a song sung by the children at the Rio Claro Day-Care Centre in Sao Paulo State: 'One day there will be no more crying'. This makes it all worth while.

PASTOR ALAN HODGES

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**Kerry Ferris:**  
01344-407421 or  
kferris@newbold.ac.uk

**Erica Hole:**  
01344-407450 or  
ehole@newbold.ac.uk

## AWR Production vacancy

Adventist World Radio is looking for an enthusiastic and committed radio producer to join its English Language Service based at its European Office in Bracknell, England. As part of a small production team the successful candidate will be involved in news production, feature making, interviewing, and programme making. The candidate will need to be competent with digital editing, FTP and internet technologies and should have a background in radio or media as well as a strong commitment to the world mission of the Adventist Church. Salary according to denominational scale. Letters of application, together with current CV and the address of two referees should be sent to: Director, English Language Service, AWR, Whitegates, St Marks Rd, Binfield, Berks, RG42 4AT. Fax: 01344 401419. Email: [English@awr.org](mailto:English@awr.org).  
**Deadline for receipt of applications: 10 May 2002.**

## AIMS UK

(Adventist International Medical Society, UK branch)  
Invites Adventists studying, practising or retired from medical and allied professions to a Day of Medical Fellowship on Sabbath 11 May from 10am at the Ellen G. White Research Centre, Newbold College, Bracknell, Berkshire. For further information phone 01344 459787 or email: [clemency.mitchell@talk21.com](mailto:clemency.mitchell@talk21.com).

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Bury St Edmunds SDA Church, Fornham Road, Bury St Edmunds.

### ABC BOOK SALES 2002

**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  
16-23 NEC Camp Meeting Southport

**July**  
14 John Loughborough 10am-2pm

### ABC Stanborough Park, Watford NEW OPENING TIMES!

Monday-Thursday 9am-5pm  
Friday 9am-12 noon  
1st & 3rd Sunday 10am-2pm  
1st & 3rd Wednesday Closed!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENT	WHEN	WHERE	WHO	HOW
Disability Awareness Afternoon/Concert	20 April, 4.30pm/6.30pm	Camphill church, Birmingham	ASNA	<a href="mailto:karen@weekesk.freemove.co.uk">karen@weekesk.freemove.co.uk</a> <a href="mailto:asna@special1.fsnet.co.uk">asna@special1.fsnet.co.uk</a>
Da Plan Tour Music, Comedy and Poetry	27 April, 7.30pm Tickets £6	Adriane Boulte Hall, Birmingham B3.	Alan Charles + Band, Teddy Bear, House of Troops	0121 643 6187 or 020 8318 3632 <a href="mailto:focusarts@yahoo.co.uk">focusarts@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Area I Day of Fellowship	18 May	Oldway Mansion, Paignton	Speaker: Pastor Jack Mahon	01726 64494 <a href="mailto:meye5@meyewalker.freemove.co.uk">meye5@meyewalker.freemove.co.uk</a>
Graduation 2002	19 May at 2.30pm	Gymnasium, Newbold College	Speaker: GC President, Pastor Jan Paulsen	Tickets for Sunday Phone: 01344 407420 Email: <a href="mailto:hsavage@Newbold.ac.uk">hsavage@Newbold.ac.uk</a>
5-a-side Football	19 May	Sheffield	Steve Palmer, NEC Youth department	0115 960 6312 email: <a href="mailto:NECSDA@cs.com">NECSDA@cs.com</a>

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

## Messenger

Volume 107 Number 8 19 April 2002

EDITOR: D. N. MARSHALL

COPY FOR No. 10 – 29 April

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## Sunset

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

	Lond	Card	Notl	Edin	Belf
Apr 19	8.04	8.16	8.11	8.27	8.34
26	8.15	8.27	8.24	8.41	8.48
May 3	8.27	8.39	8.36	8.56	9.01
10	8.38	8.50	8.48	9.09	9.14

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