

# Messenger



## LIFEdevelopment.info

### and the Challenge of Evangelism in 2003

by Alan Hodges, LD Executive Secretary, British Union Conference



The concept of LIFEdevelopment.info is gaining momentum around Britain, Ireland and even beyond these shores.

#### Visit of Dr Jon Paulien to the British Union

At the end of October 2002 Dr Jon Paulien from Andrews University responded to an invitation from the British Union to speak to pastors in meetings arranged in Watford and Wolverhampton. He also spoke at a meeting of the LIFEdevelopment Board and to over one hundred lay persons at Stanborough School.

Dr Paulien has spoken and written widely on the subject of reaching postmodern or secular people with the Gospel. He states, 'It is not my intention to criticise traditional methods of evangelism. Most have functioned as long as they did because they were very effective. If what you are currently doing is effective, continue with it. But traditional methods of Adventist evangelism are not connecting with the indigenous, majority cultures of the Western world. Scripture and experience both teach us that we need to add other strategies to our repertoire if we wish seriously to engage the secular, postmodern culture of Europe.' (To read more see [www.adventist.org.uk/home/](http://www.adventist.org.uk/home/)

*lifedevelopment*.) When Dr Paulien spoke of the 'indigenous majority' he was referring to the third and fourth generation, whatever the cultural background.

Dr Paulien's presentations were well received and have helped to emphasise the importance of the responsibility the church has in reaching all sections of our society with the Gospel.

#### The British Union Responds to the Challenge

In order to achieve the goal of reaching our postmodern society plans have been laid which will result in resources and events which will help members and local churches in their evangelistic endeavours.

#### The launch of LIFE.info Magazine

Feedback from the first issue of *LIFE.info* has been positive and The Stanborough Press is completely out of stock. Issue 2 will be in your hands soon. We encourage every member/local church to support the production of the magazine by investing regularly. This can best be achieved by standing order by individual members or local churches. Every amount invested, whether small or large is important. *LIFE.info* is a valuable tool in reaching people in your community.

#### 'Get Connected' in 2003

The uniqueness of LIFEdevelopment.info is that the concept can be adopted in 'Your Time', 'Your Place' and at 'Your Speed'. As members of the LIFE-development team have visited churches over the last few months we have realised that members need more time to establish LIFEdevelopment groups and centres and more time to make lasting friendships. We are, therefore, recommending that each member and local church concentrate their activities on 'Get Connected' in 2003.

#### 'The Evidence' and 'Mind the Gap' in 2004

We have revised the dates for the satellite event presented by Pastor Dwight Nelson. *The Evidence* will now be televised live in March 2004 and *Mind the Gap* will be transmitted in October 2004.

#### Dates for your Diary in 2003

**19 April** – Day of Fellowship in Wolverhampton: Guest Speaker Pastor Dwight Nelson

#### 26 April

Day of Fellowship at Wembley Arena: Guest Speaker Pastor Dwight Nelson

The LIFEdevelopment team is planning special fellowship Sabbaths for the Missions. The dates are as follows:

8 March – Ireland;  
15 March – Scotland;  
12 April – Wales

We want these special days to be an inspiration, keeping our minds focused on sharing our faith with others and reaching out to the community.



## LIFEdevelopment.info



## Memories of SEC Family Camp

by Helen Thomas



What a week! Families from all around South England came together in the beautiful, idyllic surroundings of Chapel Porth in Cornwall. Each day was organised with its own activities that accommodated all age groups. Some of the highlights of the week were Secret Families, 14-mile Camel Trail Cycling (or 27 for those feeling energetic), a trip to the Sports Centre, an afternoon out at a Kids' Fun Park. This still gave time for families to relax and enjoy a peaceful rest while their children played in the safety of the campsite.



Football, rounders, and the swings gave them plenty of fun while they became friends. Mums, dads and grandparents, too, enjoyed each other's company as friendships were made.

Dana and Leslie King led out in the family worship with the theme, 'I know the Father cares for me'. This was certainly spiritually stimulating as they used both dialogue and drama to illustrate Isaiah 49:2, and becoming 'Polished Arrows' for God. The importance of this scripture was



firmly placed in each one's mind as parents and children shared personal experiences, stories, songs, games and gratitude for each family member. The lesson was practically demonstrated as all the campers made their own 'Polished Arrows'.

The week came to its climax on Thursday. Off came the shorts and T-shirts and on went the flounces, moustaches and sombreros as everyone was invited to a Mexican Fiesta Banquet. Music, food, and a Mexican setting made the theme of the evening come alive. This was followed by a concert. The many talents of the campers gave the audience hours of laughter and pleasure, as each performance was unique. Many thanks for their commitment is given to Bernie and Karen Holford, the organisers, and to Pastor Fernand Lombart for being an excellent Camp Master. Family Camp 2, 2002 will long be remembered with happiness!

### SEC Family Camps 2003

Lone Parent Camp with Fernand Lombart and team  
20-27 July

Family Camp 1 (Camp team still to be finalised)  
27 July-3 August

Family Camp 2 with Bernie Holford and team  
24-31 August

For more information contact Karen Holford,  
SEC, 25 St John's Road, Watford, Herts, WD17 1PZ,  
tel 01923 232728 or email  
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# The Challenges of 2003

The GC theme for 2003 is *Experience the Wonders of His Grace*. What a glorious idea to contemplate for the New Year.

God's unmerited favour towards us is the reason we exist and have the hope of a brilliant new world in which the blessings of paradise lost will be restored to the redeemed.

The face of the old year is covered with the wrinkles of our past experience. In the peaks and troughs of it are the stones of our victories and defeats; joys and sorrows.

God's grace has given us another opportunity in this New Year. God's grace also gives us spiritual strength to face the challenges ahead. He has spared us to carry out his divine purpose. God's eyes are upon his church and he covenants with his people to make it a means of grace to the world.

The members of the Seventh-day Adventist church, living among a secular, postmodern and Bible-starved generation, must seize the opportunity of another year to alert the lost to the message of God's saving grace. We are under divine orders to mingle with the world; to make friends with the unchurched. Jesus' blood was shed for them too. The world's need is for relevant Christians who can identify with the greatest need of their souls.

Let us revolutionise our New Year's resolution by asking God for wisdom to know how to bring a friend to him. That friend could be someone in your home, at your workplace, college or school. May this year of God's favour also be one marked by a deeper study of his word and unceasing supplication and prayer. We can be positive and joyful again, leaving the past behind, because of the sound of infinite grace. Abounding grace is ours for the taking. It is God's gift to the believer and comes with soul-satisfying nuggets of compassion, forgiveness, mercy, patience, acceptance and unconditional love relationships. God says to his people, "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving-kindness." (Jeremiah 31:3, NIV.)

This is the wonderful grace we must appropriate to ourselves and make available to our 60 million neighbours all over the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland.

### Time is running out

The Spirit of the Lord will not always strive with

men. There comes a time when God will make his grand entrance into the world to reap the fruits of Calvary. The instability of the world's financial, physical, political, social and religious systems invites the Church to tap in to her spiritual and prophetic roots.

International hostilities and the menace of a global terrorist network leave us with unsettling news headlines. There is also the threat posed by the forces of lawlessness in our own society. These increase the urgency of our mission and underline the importance of our message. The General Conference, aware of the gravity of the moment, has identified three strategic issues facing our church. They are: The Quality of Life; Unity; and Growth.

### The quality of personal and church life

This is demonstrated by members whose lives radiate the joy of salvation, restoration and anticipation of the world to come. We need to be on guard lest we fall into Laodicean complacency. The quality of our spiritual lives cannot be determined by self-assessment and management. God's assessment is what counts. What we feed on spiritually is crucial to our soul's well-being. Our experience of the assurance of salvation in Christ will result in a confident outlook on life and a passion to reach out to the lost.

A recent survey indicated that many of our members lack the assurance of salvation. This was a consequence of impoverished relationships with Jesus; and this, in turn, resulted in poor relationships within the Church.

In 2003 let's make a conscious effort to achieve greater spiritual depth and growth through Bible study, worship and a more meaningful prayer life.

### Unity

This has to do with cohesiveness in doctrine resulting from Spirit-filled, Bible-based, Christ-centred fundamental beliefs.

One of the challenges facing a growing church such as ours is the potential for division. Seeking biblical unity and not merely uniformity is crucial. We must promote sound doctrine and the basics of Christianity. The call to the Church is to be true to Scripture and the leadings of the Holy Spirit. As a Church we must move together to present the whole Gospel to the whole world.

### Growth

Growth results when members have a rich spiritual experience. They discover their spiritual gifts and are moved to commit to active witness. The rate at which the Church is growing or not growing in Western Europe cannot be overlooked. We must preach or perish. We are called intentionally to co-operate with the Holy Spirit for growth spiritually and numerically. It is God's will that we bear much fruit. (John 15:8.)

The General Conference has set aside 2004 as The Year of Evangelism. The British Union in concert with them have launched the LIFEdevelopment.info initiative which incorporates many of the features of the GC's call to evangelism.

There are two projects launched from Washington: 'GO ONE MILLION' and 'SOW ONE BILLION'. The first has to do with at least one million members making a commitment to engage in active evangelism into the year 2004. To date over 1.2 million have pledged to be a part of the forward thrust in evangelism.

'SOW ONE BILLION' calls for the scattering of evangelistic tracts or Christian literature purposefully to gain the attention of those around us for Christ. Our outreach through LIFEdevelopment.info is to distribute 50,000 copies of the *LIFE.info* magazine in the making of friends and getting connected.

Out there, at least one person is waiting to receive an invitation to the Kingdom – from you. God is depending on you and me to make a deliberate decision now to be co-labourers with him. Remember this is the acceptable time for someone – can we wait?

Have a blessed New Year. The grace and peace of God be with you all!

\* This is a Guest Editorial by Pastor C. R. Perry, president of the British Union Conference.



## Dangerous times

These are dangerous times for the well-being of the world," says Dr Gro Harlem Brundtland, Director General of the World Health Organisation (WHO). 'The world is living dangerously, either because it has little choice or because it is making the wrong choices about consumption and activity.'

In the *World Health Report 2002* Brundtland draws attention to the paradoxes that exist in the area of health. She says, for example, there are 170 million underweight children of whom 3 million will die this year. On the other hand there are 1 billion overweight adults worldwide and a further 300 million who are clinically obese. Underweight and overweight are the alpha and omega of the WHO's top ten. The others in between are:

- unsafe sex
- high blood pressure
- tobacco use
- alcohol use
- unsafe water, sanitation and hygiene

- iron deficiency
- indoor smoke from solid fuels
- high cholesterol

Some of these risks have results that are far reaching. WHO cites sub-Saharan Africa and India as having 30% of their disease burden arising from fewer than 5 of the above risks.

Inequality in health care provision was highlighted in 1980 with the publication of *The Black Report* issued by Sir Douglas Black and colleagues. A new report *The Health Divide*, coinciding with the demise of the Health Education Council in 1987, showed that little change had occurred in the intervening years. Lower occupation groups exhibited poor health in comparison with the better-off occupations. There were even regional differences in health.

Commentators at the time wrote of the health inequality findings as 'shocking', 'devastating', and 'tragic'. There is no reason to expect that their reac-

tion would be too different in 2003 since many if not most of the inequalities have not been adequately addressed. Similarly the WHO Report uses words such as 'alarming', 'startling', and 'shocking'. Should these same risks to health be visited a few years down the line the same 'ominous warnings' will appear in the text. Most of the risks are related to patterns of living with the divide between the 'too much' and 'too little' getting ever wider.

The world is indeed 'living dangerously' and the Seventh-day Adventist Church is meeting the challenge through our hospitals, health outreach, and ADRA programmes highlighting the dangers and taking practical steps to put things right. We are all stewards of health resources, with a duty to reduce risks, promote sustainable development, and reduce inequities in society wherever we can. Dangerous times, yes, but not without hope.





by Mike Johnson

## Taking the Gospel to the community

Ullanda Alexander and the children's choir Promise provided the Gospel content at the inaugural Milton Keynes Arts and Music Festival. The festival, a mix of Gospel, jazz, classics and art exhibitions, was hosted at various venues across the city. Ullanda and Promise each performed a 20-minute set as part of the 'Jazz & Gospel in the Park' event where they shared the stage with The Syd Lawrence Orchestra. Their audience included some serious devotees of the open-air music scene who came prepared with hampers and tables, intent on having a good time. They got what they came for plus some inspiration and encouragement as well. Promise, as always, performed to a level greater than their age and this helped to win over the hearts of the audience. Later that evening Ullanda took to the stage and this is what the organiser thought:

'Wow! The power of this lady is matched by the sheer strength of her personality. Her very presence on stage is absolute dynamite and her ability to involve the audience in her singing is truly magnificent. She engenders, through her singing, a true feeling that everything is all right with the world. We look forward to having her return to Milton Keynes.' Geoff Drinkel, City Centre Manager, Arts and Music Festival 2002.

Working with community partners like this is part of the wider music ministry of the writer and No. 7 Promotions. Artistes within the Church are blessed with exceptional vocal skills, and engagements such as these provide valuable opportunities for them to share their music without compromising their beliefs, and they are rewarded for doing so.

As part of Black History Month recently Ullanda Alexander, Promise, 3D, Pastor Joshua Maponga, Jocelyn Isabriaye from Luton and Linda Lake from Southall took part in a Gospel concert produced by No. 7 and promoted by the African Caribbean Arena in Luton.

## 75th anniversary of the Stanborough Park church

The weekend of 29 and 30 November marked the celebration of the 75th anniversary of Stanborough Park church.

Organised by Sue Bennet, the Friday night Young People's meeting was in nostalgic mood as Denver Annable, David Balderstone, Lydia Dean, Heidi Tunwell, Christina Pandoo and Adrian Harris shared their experiences of the decades during which they, as young people, had taken part in the society's activities.

They reminisced about the fun they had taking organised rambles in the country or during ice skating at Richmond, table tennis tournaments and social events. Several met their partners at the church, and decades later were still enjoying the fellowship and warmth of the church family. Many said that for them Stanborough Park was home. Lydia Dean's re-creation of her 60s clothes brought a smile to everyone's face, while Heidi Tunwell claimed that her old white Bible still carried the smell of the church as it was in her youth.

Like Janus, who looks both ways at once, the purpose for the weekend was to acknowledge the people and plans that have given the church direction and stability in the past, and also embrace the opportunities and challenges in the future. At Sabbath school it was seen that the church is still reaching out to the community through the Mother and Toddler Club, the Senior Members' Group and the recently-formed Blue, through which the youth are sharing their hospitality

and their faith in making friends for Jesus.

During divine service the Mayor of Watford, Mrs Dorothy Thornhill, had a message of encouragement for the congregation before reading the Scripture for the day. She said, 'It's lovely to be here again. I'm no stranger to your church, having been here several times, but thank you for inviting me to this special occasion.

'What I'd like to say to you is that the Word and the work of the Lord is very much alive and kicking in Watford, and thank you for everything you do to make Watford, our town, a better place in which to live and to be. And you do. This church is known by its name. It's known by the community, because you reach out into the community.'

Former pastors of the church, Roy Burgess and Peter Stearman, were invited onto the platform, while recently-retired Pastor Patrick Boyle took Galatians 2:20 on which to base his sermon, during which he reminded the members that the Mission Statement for Stanborough was 'To know Christ and to make Him known.'

After a bring-and-share lunch of delicious food, and the evening variety concert, once more the theme of planning for the future was typified by a tree-planting ceremony. An ornamental garden tree – a variegated Norwegian Maple – which is expected to reach six metres in twenty years, was planted by Denver Annable and David Balderstone near the corner of the church building.

FRANK BLEWITT



## Aberdeen: North Sea baptism

Sabbath 28 September was a day filled with blessings in Aberdeen church. Sonja Eikum was baptised. The service started in the church, where the theme of the sermon was 'Being Different'. In it Pastor McCormac spoke of the need for Christians to be different from the world. Vi Buchan, a local member, wrote a poem especially for the occasion. After the service in the church everyone piled into cars and a minibus for the short journey to Aberdeen beach, where Sonja was to be baptised by Pastor Marcel Ghoialda, the youth pastor for the Scottish Mission.



Sonja was supported in the North Sea by Karoline Brown, a very close friend. It was Sonja's wish to be baptised in the North Sea, between Norway and Scotland, between the two countries, the land of her birth and the country she now lives in. Pastor McCormac remarked, 'I'm glad she wasn't born in Iceland!'

COMMUNICATION SECRETARY

## Thanksgiving - thanks living

Harvest Festival in Newport on 12 October took on a different setting this year. A token display of fruit and vegetables in baskets was displayed among bread and flowers, but the main focus was on a model mission hospital and two empty flower baskets, dominated by the large church Bible.

The programme, co-ordinated by the writer, emphasised the fact of living our thankfulness every moment of our lives.

During the singing of 'bringing in the sheaves', members filed to the front of the church to place their offerings for ADRA in the baskets provided.

This amounted to £260.

Pastor Adrian Broome's sermon posed the question: 'What does God's goodness mean to me?'

VERA MACHELL

## Sister Coke's Thanksgiving

The members of the Brixton church took time out to congratulate and pay tribute to one of their dearest members, Sister Frances Coke. It was in celebration of her 90th birthday and thankfulness to God for life and health. She was accompanied on the platform by her daughters, Norda-Fay and Carol, her son-in-law and her grandchildren. She also has one great-grandchild. She was presented with a floral arrangement from the church and in response she and her daughters sang beautifully the hymn 'Under His Wings'.

Frances Coke came from St Elizabeth, Jamaica, to join her husband (now deceased) in England in March 1957 and quickly became involved in the activities of the church, serving as a deaconess, Sabbath school teacher and a choir member for a number of years. She won the admiration of many with her lovely singing voice.

One of her outstanding achievements is her contribution and commitment to the Day Care Centre which was held at Brixton church. Her work, over a period of ten years, has been

# A Mission to India

I am Zoe Trevellyan. My 19-year-old grandson and I, members of Cork church, have recently returned from a month in India, touring southern and central India. While there, we stayed in members' houses, in guest rooms attached to various missions and in local hotels. No amount of briefing can prepare one for the culture shock!

The Southeast Asia Division president's wife, Mrs Dorothy Watts, who started the Sunshine Orphanage in Bangalore twenty years ago, told us that a request had been received from a remote area for funding and help in starting an orphanage. The Maharastra Section president, Pastor Sathe, provided us with transport. He and the senior pastor in charge of education for the Division escorted us. There was a greeting ceremony where we were

appreciated by the community at large and will long be remembered.

A special event was held in the church hall to celebrate her birthday, organised by her grandson, Simon.

Throughout her forty-seven years as a member of Brixton, she has encouraged us to 'keep God's word as our daily food' and to be a positive influence to someone.

JOAN REID

garlanded with a floor-length garland of roses and jasmine flowers. I gave a short address, claiming God's promises to his people. Twenty-six local pastors were present, sitting at the children's desks, as well as the school principal and teachers. There was a feast provided for all of us at the school principal's house, where rice was cooked outdoors on the cracked earth under eucalyptus trees over open fires in enormous stainless steel cauldrons. This royal treatment was typical of the reception we received everywhere we went. The overwhelming poverty suffered by most of the mission workers in India didn't affect their wonderful hospitality and generosity. Time and time again the parable of the widow and the mite came into our minds and I felt ashamed for my comparative wealth and my reluctance to share.

The drive over potholed and narrow mountainous roads took up to eight hours of our 14-hour day. That afternoon we made a visit to a school of 1,500 students which desperately needs to expand to cater to the needs of the local community. Our hearts were touched by the huge work already being done in India by the church and also how many other poor children of the rural villages and

cities need rescuing and educating. One Sabbath we spent in Orissa, a neglected state on the east coast. A couple of years ago it was devastated by a cyclone in which at least 50,000 people lost their lives. The state also gained infamy for being the place where an Australian missionary doctor and his two young sons were burnt alive in their jeep by extremists. Eighteen young people, mainly tribal orphans who had been raised in the boarding school, were baptised in a very moving ceremony. After giving a short address, I presented each new member with an Irish coin. They were so happy. We had a touching foot-washing ceremony with all the sari-clad women kneeling before each other in humble prayer. One particular family (the Gantayats) with whom we stayed in Orissa earn \$50 a month to keep six of them. Their home had been ravaged by the cyclone. The parents slept on a cot on the roof and yet for two days they shared with us all they had.

In Tamil Nadu, a state south of Orissa, we visited a 'private orphanage' where one Indian church member had been so touched by the plight of the abandoned children that she had rescued thirty-five boys. They live in a shack 16' by 16' and sleep on mats on the floor. The place is immaculate and organised. They all go to school but she cannot afford the 8 Euros weekly for taxi fares to take them to church. The boys would love to go to church but have never been. The project especially close to my heart is to raise funds for a home for medically disadvantaged orphans whose fate otherwise in a survival-of-the-fittest society would be tragic. Now Cosmo and I are committed to working to help India with the charity HELP India (Health Education Literacy Programme). We are so blessed to have been born in our circumstances. The sheer scale of India defeats any sort of description.

The work seems overwhelming but each soul is precious in God's sight. 'I, the Lord, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.'" Isaiah 42:6, 7 (NIV).

ZOE TREVELLYAN

For further information please contact Zoe Trevellyan at: Ztrevellyan@hotmail.com.



## A perfect day at Manchester South

July 20 was a warm and sunny Sabbath day and it was the day set aside by the Manchester South deacons and deaconesses to celebrate their work. From the beginning of Sabbath school the sanctuary gradually filled until it was at its full capacity by divine service. The congregation listened attentively to the visiting speaker, Pastor Richard Jackson, as he spoke on 'Labouring for Christ'.

In the afternoon there was a baptismal service conducted by our resident minister, Pastor Richard Brooks, when seven precious

souls were immersed following the reading of their favourite scriptures. The members, friends and relatives in the congregation who had come to witness this event sang their much-loved songs.

Six of the candidates became members here at Manchester South while the seventh joined our sister church, Longsight. The Manchester South candidates were 1) Louise Brade, 2) Japhet Nyamongo, 3) Nkosilathi Ngwenya, 4) Joan Coleman, 5) Pearl Ashley and 6) Caroline Nyakundi. The Longsight candidate was 7) Patricia Scott.





by Sophia Nicholls, ASNA \*

# Our all-inclusive Church?

with a disability. Gathered in one place, they would be the third largest nation on Earth after China and India. As a nation this population:

- are the poorest
  - are the least educated
  - have the least access to transport
  - are lowest in employment
  - are the least evangelised and least church-involved nation on Earth.
- What is the first thing that comes to your mind when you think about the disabled or those with special needs? Here are some interesting statistics to consider.

- Only 5% of disabled people are wheelchair users
- 1 million people are registered blind
- 750,000 people cannot see well enough to read a newspaper or recognise someone across a street
- 8 million people have a degree of hearing loss
- 2.5 million use hearing aids
- 75,000 are profoundly deaf
- 1.25 million with learning disabilities
- 410,000 people with epilepsy
- 250,000 with facial disfigurement
- 3% of children under 16 have one or more disabilities
- 1 person in 3 will have a mental illness
- 1 in 4 households is affected by disability
- 95% of the population will experience disability at some point in their lives

### What is a disability?

A disability can be said to be a physical or mental impairment which restricts or limits activities. There are approximately 8.7 million disabled people in the UK covered by the Disability Discrimination Act. This act takes into account anyone who has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his/her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. This represents 15% of the population. Over 5.2 million disabled people are of working age – 18% of the working population.

Yet disabled people are over six times more likely than non-disabled people to be out of work.

### Did you know that?

The World Health Organisation states that there are over 650 million people

accepted member of the society and the church body.

The application of the social model has led to the growth of independent living; thus the person with the disability retains control of his/her life.

### Which model do you support?

How does your attitude affect your personal ministry and the ministry of your local church?

Are the gifts and talents of people with disabilities welcomed in your congregation and community?

### Your church building: 20 questions

This is a very basic checklist to alert you to the possible difficulties in the accessibility of your church building. ASNA would like to encourage all Adventist establishments to do an audit on their church facilities to assess its current position in light of the Disability Discrimination Act which comes into the final stages from 1 October 2004. We would want to suggest that this act must be viewed as an opportunity to reassess our churches' facilities and services as all members who use the facilities will benefit from any necessary improvements.

1. Is there a parking bay for those with a disability in the church car park or immediately outside the church entrance?
2. Is it possible to get from a parked car to any area in the building without going up or down a step or stairs?
3. Are the paths of a continuous common surface, not interrupted by steps?
4. Are steps easy to see?
5. Are there ramps with handrails?
6. Is there at least one primary

\* Sophia Nicholls is one of the founding members of ASNA. She is the secretary and special projects co-ordinator as well as being involved with PR. She is the wife of Nigel Nicholls and a mother of two boys, Matthew and Christopher James. Christopher is blind with learning difficulties.

† ASNA – Adventist Special Needs Association – is an Adventist church-based ministry established to provide REST (Resources, Education, Support and Training) in the ministry to those living with disabilities and special needs. Telephone 01491 833395.

### References and further reading:

- *Am I beautiful or what?* Outreach and ministry to people with learning difficulties, by David Potter. ISBN 1 85999 202 1.
- *Hearts in Motion: a four lesson Bible study for disability awareness* by, Steven Jensen. Through the Roof publication.

entrance to each building usable by wheelchair users?

7. Can doors be opened easily?
8. Is the floor level on each side of doors?
9. Can the service be heard clearly?
10. Is there an induction loop for hearing aid users?
11. Is there adequate lighting to prevent shadows on those speaking?
12. If an OHP is used, are there large print paper copies available for people unable to see the screen?
13. Is there space for wheelchair users?
14. Are there seats with arms and large leg room for people with mobility impairments?
15. Can people take communion without mounting steps?
16. Can someone in a wheelchair be baptised?
17. Is there an accessible toilet for wheelchair users?
18. Can a disabled person access refreshments or a telephone?
19. Are there large-print Bibles and hymnals available?
20. Is there a space for families with young children with a disability to go if necessary?

If you would like further information on how to make your church more accessible to those with a disability and to discuss issues such as the Disability Discrimination Act and how it affects your church, please contact ASNA. †

### Is our church complete?

Revisit 1 Corinthians 12:22-23 as you ponder this question. This chapter helps us determine the make-up of our church body. Most churches have difficulty in ministering to disabled people simply because of some basic fears and lack of awareness. Moving past these attitudinal barriers and misunderstandings, we'll discover the joy of caring for someone simply based on the preciousness of their souls, not on their physical attractiveness and intellectual capabilities or social position.

# Pathfindering commitment and reward

by Emma Stickland

It's great to have a minister who is a Master Guide and committed to Pathfindering. Supported by an equally committed staff, the rewards are great!

The fortnightly meetings for the club leaders seem a struggle at times. There is the chasing up of homework, and the encouraging of parents to help out and work with their children on things that cannot be done in club time. Even if the staff feel exasperated, it vanishes in a moment when they see the Pathfinder, Adventurer and Eager Beaver Clubs march together down the aisle of the church and gather at the front for an investiture service.

Such was the case at Banbridge church on the morning of 21 September. Fresh from the summer break, and the TED Pathfinder Camporee, the various young people gathered to collect their certificates of achievement for the things they had been working on during the previous year.

What better day than the BUC Pathfinder Rally Day to have an Investiture and restart the club

following the school year cycle? Altogether, 5 Pathfinders, 8 Adventurers, and 5 Eager Beavers were invested, following the induction of 3 new Eager Beavers, 5 new Adventurers and 2 new Pathfinders.

It was necessary not to take up too much time in the Family Service on Sabbath morning as Pastor Patrick Boyle was running a two-week campaign at that time, including meetings on the Sabbath morning. Instead the Pathfindering Clubs took over the Sabbath school time. While all Sabbath school classes at Banbridge are important, well-attended and eager participation is guaranteed, no word of a mention was made at the forfeit of the Sabbath school time in place of the Pathfinder programme. Why? Because thanks and acknowledgement were not only given to the children and parents, but to God our Father in Heaven. He is the reason for Pathfindering; the reason for exploring his creation, the reason for developing the skills and abilities he has given us. The reason for studying the Bible to discover his love for us.

PITCHER, Florence Annie – d. 14 April. The members of the Lowestoft church are saddened to record the death of one of their long-standing members. 'Flo', as she was affectionately called by family and friends, was baptised by Pastor J. M. Howard in the late 1930s, following evangelistic meetings in the town. In spite of suffering from asthma for many years, Flo had led out in various offices in the church, her favourite being Welfare leader, sewing, knitting and crocheting, and also helping with mending, etc, at The Dell Rest Home in Oulton Broad. Two council-run homes in the district also benefited from her crocheted blankets, as did the Red Cross. Flo also loved working with children and was a great help with the toddler group here, not only amusing the children, but talking to the mothers, listening to their problems, sometimes helping with advice. We miss her at our services, singing and playing the organ. As Flo's health deteriorated, she was taken to hospital and later transferred to the 'Old Vicarage' nursing home in a nearby village where she was able to share her faith with the other residents. Flo passed away having suffered an asthma attack which affected her heart. The funeral service which was held in the Lowestoft church was conducted by Pastor Ian Lorek, assisted by Pastor David Neal who gave the eulogy, and Pastor David Foster who said a few words in remembrance of our sister. Flo was tenderly laid to rest in the Kirkley cemetery with her husband who had been a faithful member of the church for many years. Together they rest in Jesus awaiting the resurrection call. Our love and prayers are with Flo's family, daughter Eunice Sampson, son Graham and their families, her sisters Joyce and Grace, also her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

JEAN BAKER

WHITE, Ellen Ethel – d. 5 August. Ellen was born in 1912, the second daughter of Mr and Mrs Homer Spinks. She spent her childhood days in South London. She had an artistic talent and learnt dress-making. She heard the Advent message at a campaign meeting and was baptised in her teens, joining the Wimbleton church. In 1937 she married George White, and the couple had two children, Michael and Avril. As a family they moved around London, attending Holloway and Ealing churches. Ellen taught her children the principles of Christian faith and witnessed their baptisms at the Chiswick church in 1956. Ellen and George moved to Watford and worked at Stanborough Hydro. They later started residential homes for the elderly in Essex and Devon. After the death of George, Ellen moved to Leigh-on-Sea to join her daughter Avril, joining the Southend church in 1977. In her later years her health and mobility deteriorated and she found it difficult to attend church so she started a little Sabbath school in her lounge for some other elderly members, but remained attached to Southend church. When she required full-time care Ellen finally moved to 'Cherry Lodge' in Lowestoft to be near her sister Marjorie. She enjoyed her six grandchildren, and busied herself with needlework, sewing and mending for 'Dorcas' – and making toys and teddy bears for the children in Romania. She missed her son Michael and family, who moved to Australia. She will be missed by her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and her wider family, for whom she regularly prayed. Ellen now at rest awaits the Lord's return. The funeral service was conducted by Pastor Malcolm Taylor.

OPAL PATEL

JOBBER, Rose – d. 27 August. Rose first came into contact with the Advent message through the George Vandeman campaign meetings. She later joined the Wood Green church. She was a very active member and loved floral arrangements which she regularly did to enhance the church. She moved to Leigh-on-Sea and joined the Southend church in 1953, where she was a faithful and regular member, sharing her faith with her family, friends and neighbours. She spent her later time in hospital as her health deteriorated. On 12 September her favourite hymns were sung at her funeral service: 'What a friend we have in Jesus' and 'O love that will not let me go'. The service was conducted by Pastor Mike Toy. Now at rest, Rose awaits her Lord's return.

OPAL PATEL

TAYLOR, Muriel – d. 5 September. Born Muriel Wills seventy-nine years ago in Wallisdown, Bournemouth, Muriel learned to love Jesus very early in life and was baptised at the age of 12 into the church she grew to love so much. She was to spend her whole life in Dorset, mainly in the village of Holt where she, her husband and family, built a bungalow as a family project. In her youth she had met and married Ernest Isaacs and they were blessed with three children, Angela, Sandra and Raymond.

They have paid tribute to their mother as a loving, caring person who, in her own gentle unobtrusive way, loved to serve others. She had a beautiful, warm and cheerful spirit which perhaps led her to work in social services where she helped and blessed the lives of others as a home help, going round the homes in the surrounding villages representing her Lord practically in a consistent and faithful way. In later years she worked at Ferndown Council office helping to organise the coverage of social needs with the DHSS. Aside from her duties at work and as a mother, she loved her garden and allotment; and the church was often blessed with flowers she helped to grow. Not one to seek public acclaim or recognition, she valued favour with God far more than the praise of men. After the death of her first husband she married William Taylor in 1986, a fellow church member who also had lost his spouse by death. They lived together in Staphell until Muriel's death. The funeral service was held at Bournemouth church on 11 September, led by Pastor M. L. Anthony, who gave a message of the blessed hope guaranteed by the resurrection of Christ and the certain promises of God. Muriel will be missed greatly by the Bournemouth church where she always greeted people with a warm handshake and a cheerful smile, and the children were often blessed with woolly jumpers she had knitted for them. Our sympathies and prayers are with her husband and all the family as we all wait together for the day of Christ's return when we will see her again. Come quickly, Lord Jesus.

DOUGLAS VINE

SAVAGE, Queenie – d. 18 October. Before her health began to fail, Sister Savage was a lady of poise, presence and an unmistakable air of authority. She was born in Grimsby in 1911 but was raised on the south coast. Her father's death when she was 13 effectively broke up the family. She was privately educated. Queenie became a Seventh-day Adventist at Hove in 1929. Between 1931-1935 she trained as a nurse at Bart's Hospital. In 1941 she married Leslie Ralph Savage. Daughter Ann was born in 1942, and in 1949 Nigel was born. Ralph and Queenie committed their lives to the literature ministry. Following Ralph's death in 1966 Queenie continued alone in the literature work in Watford. She had served as a lay preacher and Sabbath school teacher at Hastings. Subsequently, she was one of the founding members of the St Albans church, and served it as a Sabbath school teacher, PM secretary, Ingatherer and in a variety of other capacities. Ann's death in 1987 was a major blow to her health. In the final years of her life Queenie received unstinting 24/7 nursing care from her son Nigel. The funeral at St Albans church on 31 October was well attended. It was conducted by Pastors Patrick Boyle, David Marshall and David Neal. A message was read out from Dr B. B. Beach of the General Conference who said that Queenie was 'an old guard Seventh-day Adventist' who was 'loyal to the Church to the highest possible degree'. Dr Beach concluded, 'The next thing she will hear is "Well done, good and faithful servant: enter into the joy of your Lord."' To son Nigel, son-in-law Anthony Keough, grandson Pastor Adam Keough and to the wider family, we commend the Blessed Hope in which Sister Savage so fervently believed.

EDITOR

BEMROSE, Stephanie – d. 5 November. Born in 1911, Stephanie lived all her life in the Doncaster area, one of three sisters. Her mother was visited by a colporteur when the children were small and was converted by the message she heard, opening her home to Barnsley and Rotherham church members. Steph worked in a florist's shop for a while, then as a cleaner at High Melton Teacher Training College until her retirement at 65. She was like a second mother to her niece, Pat Austwick, and very close to Pat's husband Alan and children Andrew and Lucy. Steph – the longest-serving member of the Barnsley church – was treasurer for many years, and at various times served as deaconess and church organist. A stalwart Ingatherer, faithful and independent, Steph showed a lively interest in young people. She wanted to remain in her own home for as long as possible, but frailty made it necessary for her to move from her Barnburgh home to Bolton Hall Nursing Home a few miles away, where she died on her 91st birthday. Family, friends and church members gathered at Rosehill crematorium, Doncaster, on 11 November and the funeral was taken by Pastors John Hines and Jude Jeanville. Marva Jeanville read the poem 'Footprints', which was found in Steph's Bible. The funeral was followed by a reception at Barnburgh Church Hall. Loving sympathy is extended to niece Pat and her family.

HAZEL SCHOLES

## Adventist Chorale at the Albert Hall, the Banqueting House - and on Christmas TV!

by John Surridge

On Sunday 17 November the London Adventist Chorale and the Croydon Seventh-day Adventist Gospel Choir joined together to perform as guests as part of the Grand Final of the 2002 Sainsbury's Choir of the Year at the Royal Albert Hall. Inviting choirs of the past to make guest appearances was something done especially for the millennium year. However, the success of that compelled Sainsbury's to repeat it. In 2000, the Adventists were put last on the programme, as it was the organisers' desire to 'save the best till last' as they put it. Once again last year they placed the Adventist choirs at the end and once again the response was enthusiastic. Two songs were chosen for the performance based on the theme of that quarter's Sabbath school lesson studies, 'The Advent Hope'. The first song selected was 'Ready to Ride' - the title of the new Faber Music publication of choral

arrangements by Ken Burton. The song, in the style of a spiritual, speaks of being ready to make that final journey in the 'heavenly chariot'. The second song, based on John 14:1-3, was 'Come and go with me to my Father's house', and reminded the audience that Jesus is the only way to our Father's house. The audience clapped and participated enthusiastically throughout the song, which was accompanied by Tina Brooks on piano. The songs were performed together with Sharon D. Clarke, currently performing at the Dominion Theatre.

On Wednesday 13 November the London Adventist Chorale took part in a charity event for Her Majesty the Queen. The event was the 'Alliance of Religions and Conservation', founded by Prince Philip in order to raise awareness of environmental issues among differing faith groups. This took place at the Whitehall Banqueting House, and was presented by Pam

Rhodes. The event was broadcast on the BBC's World Service (Radio).

During the Christmas period Adventist musicians appeared several times on national television - a specially commissioned gospel arrangement of 'Angels from the Realms of Glory' for the Leslie Garrett Christmas Concert on BBC1 was arranged by Adventist conductor Ken Burton for Leslie Garrett, the BBC Symphony Orchestra, and the Northern Spirit Chamber Choir from Harrogate.

Then there was BBC2's screening of the 'Sainsbury's Choir of the Year' programme. Soon after Christmas, Ken Burton was included on a BBC1 review of the Jubilee Year - *Plus* BBC Wales' performance by the Adventist Vocal Ensemble on the 'Mike Doyle Show', which had already been shown previously.

Other high-profile performances involving Adventist musicians have included: 23 November (World AIDS

Day), when the London Adventist Chorale participated in an event for the charity 'Positively Women' which helps women affected with HIV. On 7 December the Croydon Seventh-day Adventist Gospel Choir performed at Clonter Opera House in Cheshire. On 20 December the London Adventist Chorale performed an hour's programme at Shoreditch church as part of the Spitalfields Festival. From 20 to 23 December the Croydon Seventh-day Adventist Gospel Choir were on tour in Amsterdam, Netherlands. On 23 December Ken Burton was musical director at a concert entitled 'Christmas Presence'. This included the King's Singers, Deryn Edwards (formerly of The Swingle Singers), and the Howells School Choir. On 8 March the London Adventist Chorale will be guest singers at a cancer charity event held at Blenheim Palace. The keynote speaker for this event will be former US president, Bill Clinton.

# International News

## 'Sow one billion'

Adventist church leaders approved a new evangelistic initiative on 9 October to reach one billion homes around the world by the end of 2003. 'Sow one billion' is a joint effort among each of the Church's twelve divisions, and leaders say the far-reaching project will require co-operation and participation at all levels of the world church.

The goal of 'Sow one billion' is to distribute a billion special brochures, or tracts, inviting people to study the Bible with an Adventist pastor or layperson, or through an Adventist Bible correspondence school.

World church president Pastor Jan Paulsen presented the initiative to international church leaders gathered for the annual council, saying that the concept was 'maybe bigger than we can grasp right now'. He reminded listeners that the Church is growing by one million people annually, while the world population is growing by some 130 million annually. The disparity, he said, prompts the question: 'How is the Church going to reach them all?

Aren't we drifting further and further behind?'

In spite of the huge challenge, said Dr Paulsen, the Adventist Church continues to be a mission-driven Church. 'God wants us human beings, the Church, to be his witnessing instruments in the last days,' he said.

'The biggest challenge for the Church is to prepare the hearts of our people to have the will to follow this up,' says Michael Ryan, a key co-ordinator of 'Sow one billion'. 'In terms of logistics, it will not be raising the money to print, it will not be the distribution, it will be the organisation and viability of very effective Bible schools. When you consider that we are only a church of 13 million members, this is a complete rethinking and retooling of our resources to respond to this. That's the challenge.'

There are currently many Bible correspondence schools functioning around the world, but Ryan says that plans are under way to put a Bible correspondence school in every country.

ANW

## Christian counsellors

The SEC Counselling Service has grown. It has been available for a little over six years now, and the Holy Spirit has blessed the work done and also the workers involved. We would love to welcome more voluntary counsellors into the group to help provide a first-class service in this very needy area of ministry.

If you are a trained counsellor who is interested in joining this very worthwhile service we would love to hear from you. You can get full details from Trudy Young, Counselling Co-ordinator, SEC, 25 St John's Road, Watford, WD17 1PZ. Tel: 01923 232728, or email: [tyoung@secadventist.org.uk](mailto:tyoung@secadventist.org.uk).

The SEC Counselling Service operates an open line on Monday evenings from 6.30 to 9pm, and we respond daily to messages left on the answerphone. Please let your family and friends know that the Counselling Service is there, or if you just need someone to talk to, call the SEC Counselling Service: 08457 413602.

## WEDDING

**SAMMONS-HORNER.** July 14 was a gloriously sunny day in California when Edward Michael Sammons and Shana Leigh Horner exchanged their vows. It was an outdoor ceremony conducted by Shana's grandfather, Pastor Edmund Jones, and attended by family and friends from both sides of the Atlantic. The couple met at Newbold and have sustained a long-range relationship during the two years that Edward has pastored in South Wales. On 18 August family, friends and church members from the UK were able to attend a celebration of the union at Nicholaston House, overlooking the Gower. We wish Edward and Shana God's continued blessing as they minister together for him.

WENDY SAMMONS

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## ABC BOOK SALES 2003

### January

6-9	BUC Workers' Meetings	
19	John Loughborough	10am-2pm
26	West Midlands	10am-2pm

### February

16	John Loughborough	10am-2pm
22	ACTS Programme	Newbold College

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

	London	Card	Nott	Edin	Belf
Jan 3	4.04	4.16	4.01	3.51	4.11
10	4.13	4.25	4.10	4.02	4.20
17	4.24	4.36	4.21	4.14	4.32
24	4.35	4.47	4.33	4.28	4.45

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