

Messenger



 LIFEdevelopment.info

MEET PEOPLE – GET CONNECTED

by Pastor Alan Hodges, LIFEdevelopment.info director, BUC

'I try to find common ground with everyone so that I might bring them to Christ.' Paul, 1 Corinthians 9:22, NTL.

The LIFEdevelopment.info handbook is out. The new posters are out. Samples of the LIFEdevelopment invitation cards have been distributed.

All you need to know about LIFEdevelopment.info is explained clearly in the new handbook. Enough copies have been distributed to the churches so that every family has access to a copy. Get excited about LIFEdevelopment.info. Get connected with new friends in your community.

Use the new invitation cards to invite people to your small group, to a meal or an event at your LIFEdevelopment centre, or even use them to meet someone on a one-to-one basis. There are five different invitation cards. Choose the card you wish to use.

There are plenty of resources available.

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purevoice

What would you get if you gathered together some of the very best Adventist musical and dramatic talent and banned all instruments? You would get 'purevoice' – a show that celebrates the full range of sublime *a cappella* Gospel, set in a unique and innovative production that has been designed to appeal especially to the unchurched.

This production, written and directed by Mervyn



Weir, with musical direction by Tina Brooks, features the award-winning Blessed Voices (winners of the Channel 4 Gospel Singers of the Year Award), 3D with their just-released, highly-acclaimed debut album, and the quite extraordinarily gifted Antonia Francis among others.

This is not a concert. This is not just drama.

Purevoice is musical theatre that features a compelling story of ordinary people with an extraordinary message. The production toured London, Birmingham, Manchester and Sheffield in June of this year, and received fantastic reviews. Due to public demand, the show returned to London – the Shaw Theatre, Euston – for the weekend of 11-12 October.

Sarah Bailey from Premier Christian Radio said, 'It was exciting, innovative and funny – simply an unforgettable experience.' Juliet Fletcher from *Gospel Direct* thought it was, 'A really great show, with top-class singing and quality acting.' Marcia Dixon from the *Voice* newspaper wrote: 'Inspiring and uplifting – a remarkable display of the beauty of the human voice.'

The production showcases an incredible range and quality of Adventist talent, featuring a unique and contemporary take on Bible stories. Christians and non-Christians, old and young, black and white, found it entertaining, educational and most of all inspiring. *Purevoice* provides an ideal opportunity to share an uplifting social occasion with your friends and neighbours and *LIFE.info* contacts. Be prepared to be moved, to laugh, to cry and to celebrate the joy of Christianity.

Will it be Jesus or Santa? God or the GNP?

Introduce *Jesus* to the people this season.

FOCUS
for mass distribution
in your area.

Order through your
PM secretary
or directly on the ABC
hotline 01476 539900.

£1 buys 5 copies.
£5 buys 25 copies.
£10 buys 50 copies.

Spend something
on outreach this
Christmas.



ADRA-UK provides emergency relief in central Sudan

by Malcolm Rea, ADRA Project director



Over the past months, ADRA-UK has supported a number of relief interventions assisting people in Liberia, Zambia, Malawi, Uganda, Sudan, Bangladesh and Pakistan. We praise God for the generous support of our church members.

Hundreds of people are very grateful for the tents, blankets and mosquito nets generously donated by ADRA-UK in August 2003. The sun beats down relentlessly for nine months a year in central Sudan. Farmers are desperate for summer rains to grow their dura (sorghum), an important crop which sustains their families for most of the year. The rains started to fall late in July 2003. The rains east of Rabak were torrential and would not stop. There were no rivers to collect the water so it started to sweep across the desert, building momentum and volume as it sought the Nile.

Unfortunately, people in mud huts were in the path of that torrent. Their huts simply collapsed. There was nowhere to go and no one to turn to – their neighbours were also struggling to find shelter from the flood. When the rains finally stopped there was time to assess the damage. Mud roofs held up by heavy branches had fallen, killing several people and injuring others. Animals and crops had been swept away.

The conditions were perfect for mosquitoes, outbreaks of diarrhoea and respiratory tract infections. What does one do with a family of eight while the water recedes? The lucky few who could afford it bought some reeds for a temporary shelter. Most of the others slept under the stars and hoped it would not rain. The crops were ruined anyway.

ADRA-UK's help was on the way! In the middle of the night a number of truck-loads bounced across the potholes to Kosti with Adventist volunteers hanging off the load. There were so many security checks that one of the trucks took almost twelve hours to travel the 320-kilometre journey; but they made it! Excitement was running high as the convoy headed east towards the affected areas. The first of the three distribution points was at Ambasia. The Commissioner from the local government arrived, followed by the Chairman of the Higher Committee for Emergency and State Minister for Social Affairs.

It was the biggest thing that had happened for the local community in a long time. White Nile Television broadcast the tidings. Khartoum newspapers praised ADRA, and HAC Khartoum said, 'Other NGOs should be more like ADRA.' Sultan Bakhiet, a Court Judge said that the people were very happy to receive the gifts. 'They said to thank them (ADRA-UK) a hundred times because they have sent beautiful gifts that will never be forgotten in our lives – the things given exceeded our expectations!'

ADVENTIST PUBLISHING IN THE THIRD MILLENNIUM Special one-day seminar

Guest speakers
HOWARD FAIGAO
Associate director, Publishing Ministries department, General Conference

JOHN ARTHUR
Trans-European Division

VERNON NAMBO
The Stanborough Press

CROYDON SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH,
95-96 SELHURST RD, SOUTH NORWOOD SE25
(Near Selhurst Station)

Tuesday, 25 November 2003, 10am-4pm
Discover how publishing accounted for more than 51,000 baptisms worldwide in 2002

Healthwise

with Richard J. B. Willis, BUC Health Ministries director

Nanny knows best!

The philosopher Herbert Spenser, writing in 1884, raged against what he called 'despotism' and 'slavery' induced by 'coercive' measures, which for him included alcohol licensing, factory safety legislation, free education, and public health measures, among other things.

All of the above are taken for granted today and yet, were Spenser still around, he would have just cause to be angry. The sterilisation of people deemed to be medically unfit to reproduce, a throw-back to the twentieth century, is not only set for a return, it is already here!

A US charity – Project Prevention or Crack – is paying addicts to be sterilised. So far around 1,050 addicts (mostly women) have been sterilised over the last five years. Barbara Harris, the woman who runs the charity, says, 'Our principal aim is to stop children winding up in foster care or with long-term health problems, whose care puts an enormous burden on the taxpayer. . . . If they spend the \$200

on drugs, they spend it on drugs. It's none of our business what they do with the money we give them.'

People like Spenser object strongly when governments insist on smoke-free eating and open spaces; alcohol-free zones; mass vaccination projects; and 'five fruit and vegetable' campaigns and similar such plans. They often refer to these measures as 'health fascism', where the Nanny State is to be obeyed and the offending person penalised for divergent antisocial behaviour.

Nation States appear to be blind to history in general, hardly remembering their own clumsy approaches in implementing prevention programmes and tackling various health issues. Take for example the feet-dragging AIDS treatment in South Africa, or the secretive dealings with SARS in China.

There is a dilemma, voiced by Samuel Smiles (back in 1859): 'Whatever is done for men or

classes, to a certain extent takes away the stimulus and necessity of doing for themselves; and where men are subjected to over-guidance and over-government, the inevitable tendency is to render them comparatively helpless.'

We can only hope that Nanny does not always know best – and show that we can manage without her sometimes – since actuarial researcher, Francis Fernandes, said recently, 'Society might dictate that life has to finish at a certain age regardless of health.'

I trust that his statement is not connected to the 'Take a Loved One to a Doctor' day promoted by the American Public Health Association! If it is, many of us might find our days numbered!



Editorial

with David Marshall

God's Englishman*

Do you have historical heroes? Personages of the past whom you hold in especially high esteem?

I have at least one. And he was not an Adventist! Indeed, he lived in the century before Adventism got under way. Truth to tell, I've always thought of him as the Grandfather of our Church.

His name was John Wesley.

In the school I attended four historical figures were constantly held up before us: John Wesley (who led the Great Awakening), Sir Isaac Newton (the scientist), Sir John Franklin (the explorer) and Alfred Lord Tennyson (the poet). So much was made of these guys that you would have thought they were among the school's 'distinguished old boys'! They were not, of course; but they were local lads who had made good.

Wesley always appealed the most. After all, his birthplace was in easy biking distance of home. There, at Epworth, was the church where Wesley's father had ministered. Outside the church was old Samuel Wesley's tomb – on which John Wesley stood to preach when he was excluded from the pulpit. At the centre of Epworth was the market cross where Wesley preached to boisterous crowds. A little distance from the market cross was the rectory built for the Wesley family when the earlier rectory was burned down. It was from an upstairs window that the 6-year-old John was rescued seconds before the burning roof caved in. It was from the garden below that Samuel, his father, quoted the words, 'Is not this a brand plucked from the burning?'

John Wesley, ever after, was raised with the belief that God had spared him for a great purpose. After years of studying the life, theology and influence of John Wesley I still believe that to have been the case.

2003 has been the Tricentennial of John's birth. Roy Hattersley has published a new biography to commemorate it. I wondered why, at first: both 'Why the book?' and 'Why Hattersley?' There are many biographies of Wesley. And Roy read Economics at a university renowned for its History and Theology departments. Subsequently he served in the Wilson and Callaghan governments and today, in the Age of New Labour, continues to be a warm advocate of Old Labour values. So why would he write about Wesley?

Roy Hattersley has written a biography of Wesley that is far from dull. He cuts away the thick encrustation of Methodist myth that has covered Wesley's life, and exposes the man. And the man he exposes is very fallible, but very credible. Roy, the eponymous hero of *Spitting Image* (remember?) was often seen at lectures in the Theology and History departments and it is clear that he learned something. Indeed, his grasp of Wesley's theological odyssey is, in my view, second to none. Hence, though the Methodists are not exactly beating down the doors of SPCK and Wesley Owen to buy the book, I think it's brilliant. A story like Wesley's is bound to have been 'improved' in three centuries of telling. Roy Hattersley has done everyone a service by

relentlessly chiselling away to expose the truth.

Many of Wesley's theological conundrums and confusions are still present in twenty-first-century Adventism. If Wesley was our grandfather, we take after him!

On the one hand was the legalistic influence of his mother, Susannah. That influence was reinforced by Wesley's youthful enthusiasm for the behaviourist teaching of Thomas à Kempis, *The Imitation of Christ*. That, arguably, was solidified in his experience by the lifelong influence on his thought of the (perfectionist) teaching of William Law's *Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life*.

On the other hand there was the Gospel influence of the Moravians, of his friend and contemporary George Whitefield, and of his own study of the New Testament.

But Wesley was always torn. His forty-year correspondence with Whitefield bears testimony to that. However, it is possible to view the life of the leader of the Great Awakening as a series of 'awakenings' from the legalism that is the 'gut theology' (if you'll pardon the expression) of us all. From his *Journal* it is clear that that was how Wesley viewed his own experience. The 'awakening' to which the *Journal* gives most emphasis is the one that occurred in Aldersgate Street on 24 May 1738. In Aldersgate Street, having grasped the essential truth of the Gospel in Romans, Wesley experienced his 'Pentecost moment' when he realised that he could 'depend on Christ, Christ alone' for salvation.

Wesley's 'long life was punctuated by such incidents', according to Hattersley.² Some of them occurred while he was at Oxford. One – at the height of a storm at sea, en route to the New World – was when he contrasted the calm-amid-crisis of the hymn-singing Moravians with his own uncertainty and timidity. Without doubt another tremendously important moment for Wesley was when, for the first time, he stood up to preach the Gospel to an open-air crowd of thousands in Bristol. Although he professed to be 'a Church of England man' to his death, that was the moment when the restrictions imposed by the established Church fell away and Wesley saw 'the world as his parish'.

Wesley did not invent taking the Gospel to the masses through open-air preaching. When he preached his open-air sermon in Bristol, he was responding to an invitation from Whitefield who had already discovered the 'liberation of field preaching'. And Whitefield, in turn, stood in a proud tradition that went back to the Lollards. But outdoor preaching was the medium Wesley made his own.

In a century in which the established Church was little more than a means of social control, John Wesley took the Gospel to the labouring millions of the Industrial Revolution and earned the epithet 'God's Englishman'. Travelling thousands of miles on horse-

John was one of eighteen children (eight died in infancy) born to Samuel and Susanna Wesley.

In the course of his ministry he rode an estimated 375,000 kilometres around the British Isles. It is believed that he preached at least 40,000 sermons. With his brother Charles, John composed hymns – some 6,500 between the two of them.

Nineteenth-century historians asserted that John Wesley's revivalist preaching and attention to social reform prevented a French-style revolution in Britain.

back, and preaching many times each day, John Wesley reached millions with the revolutionary message of the Gospel of Christ. With his brother Charles, John also made hymn-singing a central part of worship.

Our roots are in Wesley's Great Awakening and the time we get separated from those roots is the time we begin to die. It is no accident of history that the canal by which Wesley's influence was conveyed to our own communion was the experience, thought and writing of Ellen White.

Wesley's voice was the first of importance to be raised in England against slavery. 'Give liberty to whom liberty is due,' he announced, 'that is, to every child of man, to every partaker of human nature.'³ Only days before his death, one of Wesley's colleagues read to him the autobiography of an African slave. He was so stirred by this that he dictated a letter to young William Wilberforce, then in the thick of his parliamentary fight to abolish the slave trade, to encourage 'your glorious enterprise in opposing that execrable villainy which is the scandal of religion, of England, and of human nature. . . . Oh be not weary in well-doing!'⁴ Add to that Wesley's sensitive social conscience and his concern 'to preach the Gospel to the poor' and, arguably, we have the reason why an Old Labour man like Hattersley should wish to research and write the best biography of Wesley we have seen in a long time. We have reasons, too, why John Wesley deserves both our respect and our admiration.

References

¹Roy Hattersley, *John Wesley: A Brand from the Burning*, published by Little, Brown, an imprint of Time Warner Books UK. ISBN 0316 86020 4. Price £20. ²Hattersley, page 137. ³Cited John Pollock, *John Wesley: 1703-1791* (Hodder and Stoughton, 1989), page 234. ⁴Pollock, page 250.

* The author is aware that, forty years ago, a Marxist historian mistakenly applied this epithet to Oliver Cromwell and used it as a title of a book. He believes that it rightly belongs to John Wesley.



The Epworth Rectory, now a museum to the Wesley family.

Balham trumpets good news

Pastor Joshua Maponga has concluded a successful Christian revival at Balham church that saw many attend the nightly meetings to hear of Christ and his saving power. Assisted by his friend and fellow African, Dr Sam Mahlangu, Pastor Maponga skilfully mixed his revealing evangelistic message with his musical talents, playing the mouth organ and trumpet. Playing religious pieces with an African emphasis, particularly the South African Township beat, his renditions were much loved and well received. Pastor Maponga also plays the piano and has released four excellent musical albums exhibiting his love of the Word with his musical talents.

Dr Mahlangu, who preached the first week of the campaign, is a man with a powerful evangelistic preaching style, a trained counsellor and always ready to help evangelistic efforts and the spreading of the Gospel. His special interest is the training of lay preachers although his academic background is in Maths and Science.

On Sabbath 4 October, the final day of a two-week revival, Pastor



Maponga delivered a brilliant and memorable sermon to an enthusiastic and very large congregation. Sensitive issues such as homosexuality, divorce, sex, drugs and church liturgy were explored with spiritual sharpness and common sense.

In the afternoon a short sermon by Pastor Maponga was followed by a well-attended baptism conducted by Pastor James Philip. The three candidates, Simon Scott, Arliah Cole and Dalsie Magnus (Norbury church, South London), were baptised at Balham church during a service that included delightful singing from the group New Life. Ten people have expressed their desire for baptism and are receiving preparatory training.

PATRICK MCKERROW



Peckham helps Tanzania

Peckham church held an evening of music on 9 August entitled 'We are One' in aid of the Tanzania School Building Project (part of Great News Ministries led by Pastor V. Goddard).

Jacqui Gill, a member of Peckham church, went to Tanzania to see firsthand the needs of its people. Many attended the concert and gave freely to help the project to build a school for the Merus Tribe in Tanzania. The school will not only educate their children; it will also provide a way

to introduce God into their lives by evangelising the community.

The concert raised £630 and further monies have been donated since then, bringing the total to over £800.

CAROL JOSEPH

Newbold: Outstanding results

The Summer School department of Newbold College had much celebrating to do lately. When the results for the Pitman Examinations for English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) were announced it was revealed that all nine students passed, five with first-class passes.

'These fantastic results are a reflection of the young people's ability and hard work, as well as the

preparation they received from their teachers,' said Ursula Lewis, Summer School director.

The students, Polish, Swiss, German, Portuguese, Spanish, Brazilian and Finnish, were in Newbold College for four weeks to learn English. Most had little or no knowledge of the language before they arrived, but by the end of the course were confident enough to take exams for the higher

Parent power at Harper Bell

by N. Banton

Months before the exam-saturated month of June, the headteacher Mr Oscar Stewart noticed that four of his Year 10-11 students were displaying a clear aptitude for Maths. Sagaciously, he decided to steer the students' gift down an avenue where their talent could be confirmed and rewarded. The decision he made was to approach his colleagues who were parents themselves, and to discuss the situation.

Three of the parents/colleagues decided that they would willingly give up two hours each Sunday morning to provide extra tuition for the students. The idea was put to the students and, fortunately, they agreed to forfeit a Sunday lie-in and accept the benign help of the extra tuition that was on offer.

Each student completed his or her coursework within the given deadlines and sat the Intermediate GCSE Maths exam in June. With God's help and by his grace, all four pupils, Krystal Douglas, Patrice Herbert, Charlotte Saunders and Osaze Bhaccus-Oum, were successful, obtaining grades D-C.

Photo: Everton Rooms



intermediate and intermediate level.

The Pitman Examinations are recognised both nationally and internationally and students are given the option of taking them by the end of the course. Newbold College's Summer School operates every summer and besides the Pitman Examinations, all students have to sit for an exam set by the College at the end of the course. And since 'all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy', during their four-week stay, students are also given opportunities to see a little of England with trips organised by the College.

MELODY TAN

Preston baptism

On Sabbath 26 April Preston church witnessed the baptism of two candidates: Myrthlyn Wallace and David King. After a rousing song service the programme began with the song 'Power in the blood'. The officiating

ministers were Pastors Kevin Johns and Frederick Mapp.

Myrthlyn and her three daughters have been worshipping in Preston church for approximately three years. Myrthlyn loves to sing and has a passion for baking cakes. She was already an Adventist but decided that it was

time to rededicate her life to God. Mary Jeffers, her spiritual guardian, had a big smile, reflecting the happiness shared by the congregation.

David always greets us with a smile and loves singing. He comes from a Christian background. He didn't know that attending a witnessing programme presented by members of the church would eventually lead to his baptism. David was invited to church by Sisters Coke and Andrews and he told them that he would attend just once. Once was not enough, and David became a regular visitor to the church. He said that the church was so welcoming, there were no questions asked, and he felt a warm acceptance



U R Special NEC Pathfinder Rally

by Trevor Thomas, Pathfinder director, NEC

It was one of those cloudless summer afternoons, with a blue sky that went on for ever, with the rays of the sun holding us in a warm embrace and a cooling breeze that made us feel good to be alive. In the distance, ever so softly at first then growing louder, could be heard the voices of 400 uniformed Pathfinders, Adventurers and Eager Beavers singing, 'O We Are the Pathfinders Strong'. People came out of their houses smiling and clapping as they watched the twenty-minute-long procession.

The NEC Pathfinder Rally Day was held in Birmingham this year and it was a great success. The theme was, 'U R Special'.

The day began with a creative worship service and continued with a formal, ceremonial service attended by the Deputy Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Councillor Mamood Hussain, and Pastor C. Sweeney representing the NEC. Our speaker was lovingly known to us as 'NJ' from the Tamworth church whose message was based on the theme and brought us all closer to Jesus.

As the Pathfinders marched into the hall Councillor Hussain commented that he had never seen such a well disciplined group of young people and that discipline of this nature would change the society we lived in for the better. In total, 550 attended the Rally and took part in the afternoon procession. The event was a wonderful witness in the community. People asked questions about us and wanted to know how they could join the mighty Pathfinder movement.

from members. He is enthusiastic and has quite an active desire to participate in all church activities. His knowledge of the Bible and analytic mind make discussions a real blessing to all. Connie Jeffers, David's spiritual guardian, shared the joy felt by all.

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

Binfield 1946-50 Were you there?

If you were a student in those years, or a member of staff, the Archive at Newbold College would like to hear from you. What do you remember about the buildings? The gardens? The classrooms? The library? The dining hall and the kitchen? The farm? The stables behind Egremont? Football? The swimming pool at Binfield Hall? The buildings at Farley Hall? The church school in Moor Close Lodge or Egremont? The Chapel? Graduation in Moor Close Chapel?

We need your help to build the picture for the Archive, and to begin the restoration of Egremont.

Please send us your memories and photographs (or copies) of what it looked like then. The college is looking forward in its work, but also back to its history. Thank you for your help.

David S. Penner, Principal; Jonquil Hole, Archive, jhole@newbold.ac.uk or Jonquil Hole, Newbold College Library, St Mark's Road, Binfield, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG42 4AN, England.

Poems published by Pauline

A new book of poetry has just been written and published by Pauline Oxley of the Stevenage church and printed by Proprint of Cambridge.

Beyond the Valley contains a selection of twenty-eight poems. Pauline writes: 'Sometimes life throws us into "valley" situations, and it is only when we look beyond what is happening and see God's bigger picture that his plan for our lives can begin to emerge. *Beyond the Valley* therefore expresses my thoughts at various times in my life when I needed Someone bigger than myself to rescue and save me. At those times I was motivated to write poetry as a release mechanism. Hopefully the poems will now be a tool for the encouragement of others.'



Tanya's story

by Eric Hand

It was early October 2002. The Clarendon church, Nottingham, was deep into its Sabbath school lesson. Suddenly all eyes turned to the back of the church. A young Muslim man had entered the sanctuary and politely introduced his cousin Tanya, asking if she could join us in our worship. He informed us that Tanya was in Nottingham on a three month visitors' visa from Baku, Azerbaijan.

Throughout the next few weeks Tanya, who spoke no English, was made to feel welcome. The language difficulty, though, concerned the membership so much that, at a cost of well over £25 an hour, the church agreed to support the services of an interpreter by the name of George. Eventually the time for Tanya to go home arrived just before Christmas 2002. Members were sorry to see her leave, particularly before arrangements for her baptism could be made.

Imagine our surprise and delight in January 2003 when we arrived at church to see Tanya sitting in her usual chair!



Svetlana translates the words of Pastor Ellis during Tanya's baptism

This time we were to have the privilege of her company for six months – and this time the church was determined Tanya would realise her wish to be baptised while she was with us.

In June we said goodbye for the final time to Tanya. We hope and believe that this newly-baptised member into God's family has gone home to begin a valuable work for him in a country that is predominantly Muslim. She has left with cards, many presents, and much love, as did Svetlana, the lady who has been her interpreter since January.

Beauty from Ashes

On Friday 16 May Slough church welcomed Pastor Roderick Thomas. He had responded to an invitation to be the guest speaker at our two-week evangelistic seminar series, 'Beauty from Ashes'.

Pastor Thomas is a dynamic, internationally-renowned speaker, voted Speaker of the Year in 2001. He serves as a senior pastor of the Diego Martin District in Trinidad, West Indies.

Each night except Tuesday and Thursday he presented a range of topics including My Secret, A Hostile Witness, A Man's Life – all designed to engage church members and people in the community. It was well attended by church members, members of their families and friends. Emphasis was also placed on creative spots and current issues such as supporting your children at school, health issues including looking after your heart, prostate cancer, and accounting for your money.

The seminar series came to an end on the Sabbath 31 May. We believe that this ignition is the start of something big in our community.

DARREN CONNOR

Community event

For many years Stevenage church has had a presence at Stevenage Day, an annual town event held in June that has quite a large attendance. Pastor Leonce suggests that this year has been the best response that our church has had yet!

The response by the public was quite fantastic! I did not count the number of people who visited the tent but I estimate that it was about two hundred or more, and of that we had about half having their blood pressure checked and about thirty requesting the 'Health Analysis' test. We carried our church's name and logo. Many asked about our beliefs, etc. and five promised to visit us on Sabbath. The most dramatic event undertaken by us was the distribution of nearly one thousand pieces of literature comprising approximately 500 LIFE.info magazines, 100 FOCUS magazines and over 300 'Man of the Millennium' tracts.

'I feel that God gave us a wonderful opportunity to witness for him that day and he gave us his Spirit in a special way, so that I am convinced that our witness pleased him.'

TREVOR FRANCIS

Wednesfield Personal Ministries

It was a beautiful Sabbath day for all who attended. The motto was 'GO TELL', which was a personal challenge

for all to revisit and revise his or her Christian life in terms of witnessing.

Special items were presented including a solo, 'The Midnight Cry', and the Wednesfield church choir sang 'Someone Forgot'.

The sermon was delivered in a plain enough format in order that all could understand, and the AY programme comprised a baptism of candidates from Pendeford church. Pastors R. Jackson, Geoffrey Gordon and C. Sweeney took leading roles in the baptismal service. It was a joy to witness seven souls being immersed. With confidence we can be certain that they have been saved to serve our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

Bristol campaign a success

Australian evangelist Pastor Geoffrey Youlden conducted a campaign in the city of Bristol during July.

Over forty people made a decision for baptism and are being visited by the pastoral team of the area. Many attendees came from the community. The church members have been renewed in their Christian experience. Over 500 tapes of the messages were sold, giving opportunity for ongoing witness.

'Come out of her!'

The Liverpool baptism on Sabbath 27 September was a fulfilment of the call from God found in Revelation 18:4. The candidates' previous church connections included The New Apostolic Church and the Roman Catholic Church. The four candidates, Calista Maphosa, Earle Warde, Mobrie and Nelijah Harriott, come from different parts of the globe: Zimbabwe, Guyana and Jamaica.

The items, readings and testimonies all added life to this special service. Pastor F. Mapp, Bolton pastor and NEC Ministerial Association secretary, gave counsel to the new members on the new life in Christ, and church elders Felix DaSilva and Edward Wilson welcomed them into fellowship. Several hands were raised following an appeal from the baptistry by the writer.

PASTOR BARRY STOKES

Singles conference planned at Newbold College for Sunday 28 March 2004. Presenters, keynote speakers, musicians, poets, workshop leaders required. If you want to make a contribution to this singles event contact Val Bernard on 01344 407468 or email VBernard@newbold.ac.uk.

The Principal of the Adventist Discovery Centre acknowledges with sincere thanks a donation of £300 received in September from the Manchester area.

Hyland House School
Presents
God Bless the Child
Saturday 8th Nov. 2003
The Advent Centre, 37 Brandon Street, London W1H 5HD
TICKET PRICES: Adults £7.50 Children £4.00 TIME: 7.30PM (Starts Open @ 7.00PM)

Featuring Songs of Llandaff Road
Young Gospel Performers:

- Wesley Acquah (accompanying by George Acquah as seen on The News at 10 & The World's Best)
- Demetrius (from The News at 10)
- Hyland House Music Team
- Hyland House Choir
- Song Leader: Denise Reed
- Singer: Andrea Clarke (from Liberty Ensemble)
- MC: Pastor Steve Williams

Boxes: S, 7, 15, 16, 23, 36, 38, 414, 436, 705
Tables: Indigenean Wood (Mafeking Line and Harrogate) & City Line

To purchase tickets by post:
Send a stamped, addressed envelope & cheque payable to Hyland House School to:
Kiloway PFI, 9 Blanche St, London E15 4JP,
clearly stating name, address & contact number
All money raised will go to Hyland House School
Keywords: SUNDAY 27/09/03 094112

The event will be broadcast on television - BBC TV The Digital 230 Sunday 8th Nov

Hull re-baptism

On Sabbath 28 June Francis Kwaku Egu rededicated his life to Christ through baptism. The occasion was made even more special because his lovely wife Amma was present to witness her husband's recommitment. The happy couple have recently married and Amma had come over from Ghana to be with her husband.

Francis was first baptised at the age of 15 in his homeland. Hull pastor Keith Hamilton immersed the candidate, and Brother Francis was welcomed into fellowship by the writer.

We wish Francis every blessing and good success as he continues his studies towards his Master's Degree in Business Administration at Hull University.

PETER WALLER



Pastor Keith Hamilton with baptismal candidate Francis Kwaku Egu

Banbridge: Super Cool Adventure

by Emma Stickland

SCUBA (Super Cool Undersea Bible Adventure) was the theme for the Holiday Bible Club held at Banbridge church this summer.

Under the superb leadership of Gwen Thompson and her team, an exciting activity and Bible-based programme took place each evening for two hours, then the children and leaders took the Sabbath school programme, telling us all about their activities and Bible stories told throughout the week.

The Holiday Bible Club was a great success, catering for approximately thirty children throughout the week



from the local church and community. The children (and leaders, I hasten to add) had a wonderful time playing games, cooking, making crafts, and learning new catchy theme songs. Local pastor Nathan Stickland kept us all entertained telling our daily Bible story, while dressed up as a Dog named Scuba-duba-doo. The church hall was highly themed for the occasion as an undersea water world, and each day's activities, crafts, Bible story and memory verse were designed around people in the Bible who went deeper with their faith in God, such as Elijah and Jonah.

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Church Member Discounts
Book for November, December or January at 50% off the tariff price. At any other time of the year 50% off the tariff price, providing that reservations are made less than two weeks before arrival (Seasonal tariffs apply).

For further details and reservations telephone 01764 653806, quoting 'Church Member Discounts'. Alternatively write to the Reservation Department, Roundelwood Health Improvement Centre, Drummond Terrace, Crieff, Perthshire, PH7 4AN, or email: health@roundelwood.freeserve.co.uk

MTV, The Box, VH1, The Hits, The Vault, Chart Show TV, Smash Hits, MTV Base...

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Why not spend your time a little differently for a change?

Many overseas mission opportunities are occurring and the latest is as follows:

- What:** Overseas Short Term Mission Trip
- Where:** Tamale, North Ghana, Africa
- When:** 24 June - 11 July 2004
- Cost:** £875 (includes flights, accommodation, food & vaccinations)
- Who:** YOU?

We need: Medical Staff Nurses, doctors, pharmacists, opticians, dental technicians, midwives. **Evangelism Staff** Musicians, singers, Bible workers. **Building Staff** Electricians, bricklayers, plasterers, carpenters, architects, landscapers, painters/decorators, plumbers.

Interested? Then call Pastor Des Boileau 01923 672251 email: daboileau@adventist.org.uk
Kirlaw PR, 5 Blanche Street, London, E16 4JP
Tel: 020 7366-5511. Fax: 020 7366-7238
email: info@kirlawpr.com. www.kirlawpr.com



BRADLEY, Pastor Thomas James – d. 4 July Tom Bradley was born in Fremantle, Western Australia, 1905. With his friend Len Minchin, Tom went to Avondale College to train for the ministry. He served his internship in New Zealand under Pastor Roy Allen Anderson and married his college sweetheart, Olive, in 1926. Many of the core Adventist families in New Zealand became Adventists as a result of the missions run by Pastor T. J. Bradley. In 1946 the Bradleys moved to Britain where they ran a number of successful campaigns, including one in Birmingham. Correspondence from Enid Tolman and Peter Hamley flesh out details of further campaigns in Chiswick and Croydon. On their return to Australia the Bradleys conducted successful campaigns in Adelaide, South Australia, and Perth, Western Australia. Subsequently they lived in California before returning to Cooranbong, NSW. Pastor Bradley died aged 97 in the Charles Harrison Nursing Home near Avondale. He is survived by his wife Olive, their son Leon and the extended family. He died in the Blessed Hope. DAVID MARSHALL

CLEMENT, Mabel Alice – d. 26 August. Mabel, sister of the late Alan Clement who had served the Church as Conference treasurer in the North and South, fell peacefully to her rest in Paignton. Mabel was a Scot, having been born to Adventist parents in Dundee, and was baptised aged 14, in Glasgow. Her love for children was evident in the way she sent birthday cards to the youngsters in her local church, even as a nonagenarian. She had trained as a nanny in her mid-teens and that training had taken her to London. The work she adored was interrupted by her loyalty to her parents who had moved to Hereford and were in poor health. She cared for them until they died. Mabel's next major leap was to Watford, where she was employed as a valued assistant nurse at our Sanitarium on Stanborough Park. KENNETH CLOTHIER

Festival of Praise

South Cumbria church hosted its own Songs of Praise event on 27 June. We called it Festival of Praise and invited the ministers and elders from the local churches to participate by reading Scriptures on praise. We were very happy that the Catholic priest accepted our invitation and read 1 Corinthians 13. The elder of the United Reformed Church chose to read Psalm 150, and the leader of the Wellspring Christian Fellowship chose a passage from Zephaniah. We chose hymns of praise which included, 'O For a Thousand Tongues', 'All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name', 'Crown Him with Many Crowns', and Graham Kendrick's hymn 'Shine Jesus Shine'. The local Dalton Town Band came along to accompany the singing and the Wellspring Christian Fellowship provided a number of musical items.

In order to advertise the programme we went along to the local evening paper and they were very happy to provide nearly twelve column inches to encourage people to attend. A few days before the actual programme the award winning Radio Cumbria, our local radio station, was very happy to allow the writer two minutes to promote our Festival live on the radio. In addition to this we distributed around fifty window posters which were displayed in the local shop windows.

The Festival of Praise was a charity event to raise funds for the local Furness General Hospital to provide an Oncology unit. The people in our locality have to travel to a Manchester hospital in order to receive diagnosis and treatment. This involves a five hour round trip. The local hospital is raising funds by public donations to build its own cancer unit here in Barrow-in-Furness. The concert was well attended and went tremendously well. Everyone enjoyed it and at the end of the evening the collection amounted to £215.

Conducting events such as this has endeared our church to the local community. They can see that we are not odd and that we mix with the local Christian community.

BILL KITCHEN

Interested in learning to teach English?

Each summer Newbold College runs an intensive English Language Teacher Training programme. On Sunday 16 November there will be a 'taster day' to see if this is the right course for you. The cost is £25 for the day, including lunch.

If you are interested in the taster day or in the summer course contact: Meggan James on mjames@newbold.ac.uk or 01344 407454.

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Resource materials available from the Adventist Book Centre include the video series, *Chasing Utopia* and *Lifestyle Magazine*. Each church throughout the British Union has received a set of these tapes but further copies are available at £6 including p&p for a set of 12 videos. Also available at the ABC are the *Matthew*, and *Acts* videos (each set of 4 videos available at £12.95 plus £2.95 p&p).

The 'Taking Charge of Your Life' pack is available from the LIFEdevelopment office, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts, WD25 9JZ, at £20 for a pack including p&p. This pack includes a sample Adventist Discovery Centre card for mass distribution, a set of 'Taking Charge of Your Life' lessons and a set of 8 videos featuring Pastor Peter Jack's Seminar series which has been especially designed for postmodern people. A great interest in this course has developed in Norwich, where thousands of cards have been distributed throughout the city.

If you need supplies of invitation cards, more posters, or even another LIFEdevelopment.info handbook contact Faye Weekes at LIFEdevelopment.info, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts, WD25 9JZ, or email us at ask@LIFEdevelopment.info.

The magazine, *LIFE.info*, is proving a great success as a tool for connecting with people. Place your order through your Personal Ministries secretary. This bi-monthly publication is available at 20p a copy. Why not place a bulk order? 50 copies cost just £10!

Get connected now with new friends in your community. As 2004 draws near, invite your new friends to view 'The Evidence', presented by Dwight Nelson via satellite from Newbold College in March 2004.

Become a missionary for the Third Millennium AD.



On Tuesday 30 September three members of the Mission Spotlight team arrived in England as part of a wider visit to Europe where they will be filming a Missions report for the first quarter of 2004. The three members of the team were Ginger O'Neal, who is known to many as the presenter of Mission Spotlight programmes; Jerry Heinrich, Ginger's older brother who works as cameraman and editor; and Jerry's wife Donna, who is a producer.



The Mission Spotlight Team, Jerry, Donna and Ginger

Mission Spotlight on England

Following a tight schedule, the team members visited a number of sites, focusing their attention on the LIFEdevelopment initiative. Their first stop was Pastor Eddie Hypolite's community project in Kennington. On Wednesday they met BUC president Pastor Cecil Perry and visited the Adventist Discovery Centre, before travelling to Grantham to meet the Stanborough Press and *LIFE.info* magazine team. In the evening they spent quality time with SEC president Pastor Don McFarlane.

Other areas filmed by the team included Stanborough Junior and Senior Schools, Newbold School and College, and John Loughborough School. They also attended a small group meeting with BUC Personal Ministries director Pastor David Cox. Before their return to the US the Mission Spotlight team visited Stanborough Park, the Advent Centre, Holloway and Brixton churches.

Mission Spotlight programmes have been shown in Adventist churches throughout the world for over thirty years, first in the form of slides and an audio commentary, and then using video. Next year they hope to start distributing their material on DVD. Churches in the NEC and SEC can order Mission Spotlight through the Sabbath School departments at the conference offices, while churches in the missions should contact the BUC Sabbath School department.

JOHN SURRIDGE

Prayer Feature

with Tracy Dixon

A friend of mine once said while she was in a great deal of pain that she had often doubted *what* she believed but knew *who* she believed in, so whatever troubles she faced she knew she would be fine because she trusted that God was on her side.

Evangelism is something that has been very much on my mind this week and I often wonder what arguments would persuade non-believers to become Seventh-day Adventists. We put forward our beliefs about food, drink, money, Creation, etc. Yet I have come to the conclusion that arguing about such things has very little value as it highlights only our differences, things about our lives that take discipline and sacrifice, concepts that seem hard to grasp for people simply questioning whether God actually exists or not. I am at the moment praying like mad for revival in our Church and I feel strongly that it will be our renewed commitment to relating to our Father in Heaven that will lead to revival and that it will be the outward signs of trust and the peace that falls upon the soul when one can truly say one knows God, that will win us the most souls for Jesus.

What matters is whether we can say that we love Jesus. I am concerned about our list of 'Do not's'. We might seem like a frightened people rather than trusting people. God's love is something I want to share and shout from the roof tops. I want to share it because I feel his love when I pray. Through my life he is comforting me. He makes my weak, disabled body something purposeful. He gives me hope. I love to talk to him and have a relationship with him because I love him and that is all that matters. Pass it on and pray with me for revival and growth for our Church this fortnight.

I was reading the *Big Issue* this week. One article said that there is no other country where church attendance is declining to the same extent it is in Britain. I wonder why, and I wonder what we as Adventists can do about it. Of course the best thing to do is pray.

Send prayer requests to: TElizabethDixon@aol.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS				
EVENT	WHEN	WHERE	WHO	HOW
Starry Night Banquet	22 November, 8.30pm	Nechells Community Centre, Melvina Road, Nechells, Birmingham	Fund-raising event for community minibus	£20 couple, £15 single. First 50 people £5 discount. Tel. Verina Blake 0121 356 9370 or 0121 359 7176
Turning Water into Wine Special retreat for married couples	27-29 February 2004	Highgate House Conference Centre, Northampton	Pastor Bernie and Karen Halford, SEC Family Ministries department	Karen Halford, SEC, Tel: 01923 232728; Email: halford@secadventist.org.uk .

Please submit advertisements in this format. Please make the church connection clear. For a complete list of upcoming events check out the database on the BUC website, www.adventist.org.uk.

ABC BOOK SALES 2003

Nov		
1	Bristol Central	6-8pm
2	Gloucester	2-4pm
8	Sheffield Burngreave	5.30-8.30pm
8	Leamington Spa	4.20-6.30pm
9	Leicester Central	10am-Noon
16	John Loughborough	10am-2pm
30	Peckham	10.30am-2pm

Dec		
7	West Midlands	10am-2pm

Messenger

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Sunset

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	London	Card	Nott	Edin	Belf
Oct 31	4.36	4.49	4.36	4.36	4.51
Nov 7	4.24	4.36	4.23	4.21	4.37
14	4.13	4.26	4.12	4.08	4.24
21	4.04	4.17	4.02	3.56	4.14

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