

Adventist satellite TV channel launched

by John Surridge, Communication director, BUC

At the beginning of January the Adventist Church launched its new 24/7 satellite channel for Europe. The 'Hope Channel' began test transmissions from the powerful Hotbird 6 satellite on Thursday 18 December and right from the start the signal was clear and stable. Up to thirty million homes across Europe now have the potential to receive the channel, with receiving dishes as small as 60cm in diameter in the south-east of England.

At present the programmes being broadcast on the Hope Channel are mainly traditional Adventist programmes such as *Amazing Facts*, *It is Written*, *Breath of Life*, and *Faith Alive*. These are familiar to thousands of Adventist members who have bought the videotapes in the past, but there are also programmes dealing with creationism such as *Fingerprints of Creation*, and the *Young Age of the Earth*, and programmes which have become familiar to Adventist Television Network viewers over the last couple of years, such as *Sabbath School University*.

Future programming is still being planned but it is hoped that it will include new titles such as *Freedom in Focus* which will challenge viewers who are pondering the issues of Church and state. There will also be fast-moving mission documentaries to inspire the young and adventurous; personal stories of faith depicted in a reality TV series called *Escape* aimed at secular people searching for meaning and purpose; travel programmes that will take viewers to ancient Bible lands; and professional health presentations which will open the minds and hearts of viewers to listen to the spiritual messages from



BUC president Pastor Cecil Perry with LIFEdevelopment co-ordinator Pastor Alan Hodges, who is holding a typical digital satellite receiver.



Stefan Fraunberger from the 'Stimme der Hoffnung' German Adventist television production team, standing beside one of the two outside broadcast vans which will be used for Dwight Nelson's Evidence series in March.

Dwight Nelson series to begin on 1 March

Ingathering funds make a difference in Madagascar

by Raafat A. Kamal, ADRA-UK director

Over the past two years, and as part of our Annual Ingathering Appeal, over £1 million have been collected by our committed church members in the United Kingdom supporting 27 development and relief projects in 18 countries.

Two of these projects were in Madagascar. The first project promoted basic health, agricultural and environmental knowledge to an estimated 10 million Adventist World Radio (AWR) listeners in the rural areas of Madagascar. Surveys conducted by AWR proved that an estimated 85% of the listeners understood well what was broadcast in the weekly radio programmes. One of the immediate tangible impacts of this project is reflected in the increase of AWR listeners from 10 million to 14 million. This also led to better recognition of the work of AWR and ADRA by government departments and some national and international development agencies.

The second project helped improve the quality of education of approximately 9,000 children (Adventist and others) in Adventist schools in

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the preaching ministries of the Church.

Although there are already a handful of religious channels being transmitted to the UK and Ireland by satellite, it is unusual for a channel to be operated by a single Christian denomination. However, the worldwide structure and organisation of the Adventist Church, coupled with a great deal of faith and work by a large number of people, has enabled this to become a reality for us.

'This is a great day for us in that we have finally combined our efforts and our resources to bring Adventist programmes into the homes of the public,' says BUC president Pastor

Cecil Perry. 'It was back in 1844 that our Church had its beginnings and it was also in 1844 that Samuel E. B. Morse invented the telegraph. The Church and communications have both come a long way since then and we must thank God for opening this door of opportunity for us.'

Life Development

The Hope Channel will play a vital role in LIFEdevelopment, the largest evangelistic strategy ever embarked upon by the Adventist Church in the United Kingdom and Ireland. Monday 1 March 2004 will see the first of

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Ingathering funds make a difference in Madagascar

Madagascar. The series of group training benefited over 400 teachers and 75 school administrators. An assessment study carried out by ADRA and the Education Department of the Union of Adventist Missions in the Indian Ocean Division showed positive signs of impact in terms of meeting the set targets. The project has given momentum to educational development in Madagascar.

ADRA-UK is the overseas development and relief agency of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the United Kingdom. Drawing its inspiration from Scripture and the experiences and hopes of the poor, ADRA looks forward to a world in which the wonderful things of creation are cherished; the rights and dignity of each person are respected; the voice of the poor is heard; and all have access to food, shelter and clean water; to a livelihood, health and education.

As you go out Ingathering in April 2004, ADRA – your church agency – will be celebrating its 20th birthday, commemorating two decades of humanitarian work bringing hope and relief to millions of people. I challenge you to continue sharing your Christian compassion and making the dreams of poor people a reality!

ADRA-UK ANNUAL APPEAL PROJECTS 2004

North Ghana Health Project, **Ghana**
Wukro and Kalamino Orphanage Project, **Ethiopia**
Nabinene Orphan Support Project, **Uganda**
Manchester Skills Training Project, **Jamaica**
Mobile Health Outreach Partnership, **Nepal**
Health and Vocational Skills Development, **Dominica**
Special Needs Camp, **Wales**
Women's Co-operative Group Project, **South Sudan**
Pakistan Adventist College Development Project, **Pakistan**

Congratulations to ADRA-UK on the recent success with their grant applications to the European Commission. Proposals for Peru, Nepal and Kazakhstan were approved by the EC for the total budget of £1,583,700.

FEBRUARY 15 Big 6 Sports Day Harvey Hadden Stadium, Nottingham	ABERDARON CAMPS July 4-11 July 23-August 1 August 1-8 August 8-15 August 15-22 August 22-29	Special Needs Family Camp Earlteen Camp Junior Camp Senior Camp Coventry Camp
MARCH 13-20 Youth Week of Prayer	JULY 25-AUGUST 1 BUC Pathfinder Camporee	
MARCH 14-19 Youth Revival, Church of England, Ladywood, Birmingham	AUGUST 6-8 European Youth Congress	
MARCH 20 Youth Day Albert Hall, Nottingham	JUNE 24-JULY 11 Ghana Project	
APRIL 16-18 Level 2 Youth Leaders' Training Bilberry Hill Centre, Birmingham	SEPTEMBER 10-12 Doctrinal Weekend	
APRIL 30-MAY 3 Prayer Warriors 8 Alton Castle, Staffordshire	OCTOBER 1-3 Doctrinal Weekend	
MAY 30 Big Banquet	OCTOBER 10-12 Level 1 Youth Leaders' Training Bilberry Centre, Birmingham	
	NOVEMBER 20 Student Day	

NEC TEL: 0115 9606312
YOUTH EVENTS 2004

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.

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

The Sexual Health of Young People

A recent collaborative study conducted by the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO); the World Health Organisation (WHO); and the Centre in Adolescent Health at the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis has thrown up some very disturbing facts.

Nine of the nineteen Caribbean Community and Common Market countries (CARICOM) took part in the study: Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, and St Lucia, which involved 15,695 students aged 10-18 years. The good news is that 65% of these young people had not had intercourse.

They gave the following five reasons for their abstinence, the first two of which were the main ones: waiting until marriage; waiting until they were older; not wanting

to risk pregnancy, fear of disease; and, not being ready emotionally. The survey did not ask what role, if any, religious views had in shaping their responses and attitudes.

The abstaining 65% should be praised. The news from here on does not make for pleasant reading. Of those who had ever had intercourse: 22% were below the age of 12; 34.6% between ages 13-15 years; and 51.6% aged 16-18 years. What is particularly shocking is that in 42.8% below aged 12; 37.9% from 13-15 years; and 36.5% of the 16-18-year-olds the first intercourse had been forced!

Twenty-three point five per cent of girls had their first intercourse before aged 10, 54.8% of boys likewise; of girls 16.4% of 11-12s, 44.7% of 13-15-year-olds, and 15.3% of over 16s had their first intercourse during the age periods indicated. First intercourse in boys was experienced by

54.8% of the under 10s, 23.2% of 11-12-year-olds, 19.3% 13-15 years, and 2.7% of the over 16s.

Seven per cent of the girls across the age ranges became pregnant, and 11.6% of the boys thought, or knew, that they had made a girl pregnant. Around 30% of the girls said that they always used birth control, and 20% of the boys stated that they did.

There is a mistaken belief in faith communities that condom use is an encouragement to sexual promiscuity; it is rather a recognition that for some people certain behaviours are inevitable. Whilst the Church strongly advocates sexual abstinence outside of marriage and faithfulness to one partner within it, sadly the world does not view sexuality in the same way.

In the CARICOM study, in the most recent sexual intercourse reported of the boys and girls below aged 12 only 26.4% used a condom, 51.8% of the

13-15-year-olds did, and the 16-18-year-olds were more cautious in that 70.8% of them did. When asked if they worried about AIDS, 26-29% of the children below aged 12 showed concern, 31-41% of 13-15s did, and 41-53% of 16-18s showed varying degrees of concern.

These figures should startle us into dialoguing about sex with our young people, highlighting the responsibility that comes with maintaining integrity in the face of the pressures that young people experience. We need to pray for them as we have never done before, and role model a chaste and enjoyable life.



with C. R. Perry



In this year of Evangelism

**'We have this hope that burns within our hearts,
Hope in the coming of the Lord.
We have this faith that Christ alone imparts;
Faith in the promise of His Word.'**

Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal, 214.

Can we as a Church truly sing this song in a strange land? This world with its grim tales of political, moral, religious and social degradations is the place of our temporary habitation.

The patriarchs of old – men of faith – found out that they were aliens and strangers in their earthly country. Their Christian, moral and ethical values were inconsistent with those of the world.

However, they did not spend time 'looking down at the mud but rather at the stars'. Their eyes twinkled with the reflection of the Hope of the Coming of the Son of Righteousness. They looked for a better country, a better nation, and a better world.

We too share that hope as we begin to walk the first mile of 2004. The message of hope we have may not change secular, oppressive governments, relieve world poverty, stop terrorism, crimes, sickness or death – but it can point men and women to God's future.

The vision in Revelation of the descent of the Holy City and the description of God's New World for the saints is a glorious picture that should send ecstatic shivers up and down our spines. What is to be and what Jesus has already done for his Church is enough of an incentive for us to tell the story of his redeeming love.

Let us preach, pray, teach and sing of optimism. In the winter darkness let the light of his word shine. Be a spark if you cannot be a candle. For Christ's sake, 'Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven.'

Peter, the outspoken apostle, entreats us as friends, 'Dear Friends, I urge you as aliens and strangers in the world to abstain from sinful desires which war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that though they accuse you of doing wrong they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.' (1 Peter 2:11, 12.)

In this world there is no shortage of people who must be confronted with the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ. That is the primary task entrusted to each of us.

In this Year of Evangelism God has promised to be with our efforts to evangelise in the British Union Conference.

The Life Development initiative and many other forms of evangelism have struck an upbeat note. God has opened up the airwaves for the *Evidence* programme by Dwight Nelson to enter the homes of those

who have installed satellite dishes. Our vision for broadcasting 24/7 has become a reality through the co-operation of Adventist Television Network (ATN).

Our team here in Britain has been working night and day to make sure that our church members have access to the Church's vast resources of plans and ideas. As a result of this development the Church in the UK will have to give serious thought to our building a viable media centre for the producing of quality programmes. 'To God be the glory great things he has done.'

We are joyful for this day; the test pictures from the satellite are better than those sent back from the recent scientific mission to Mars! Rejoice with us by becoming involved in the use of this evangelistic tool. Your generous co-operation and financial contribution will ensure our reception for many years to come.

Another piece of good news is that the Ingathering programme will continue through ADRA as it was last year. There are regulations from the Commissioners which could change the way we are doing it at present, but we await the outcome.

When I consider the faithfulness and love of our member in the tithes and offerings and their service to God's Church I see hope in and for the Church in these uncertain times.

The Church is growing by conversion and transfer accessions, and many have joined our congregations from overseas because of the unsettled situations in their countries of origin. We thank God for the open door policy of our churches to embrace all.

There are challenges and much work to do for our families, church-related institutions and our ministries to the local congregations and communities. Nevertheless, 'We can do all things through Christ who' not only provides but 'strengthens us'. 'Look up and lift up your heads,' says Jesus, 'for your redemption, your hope, draws nigh.'

Can the Church truly sing this song in a strange land? We are pilgrims and strangers embarking on a New Year in which many in our world do not believe in most of our Christian, ethical and moral values.

The members of the twenty-first-century Seventh-day Adventist Church in Western Europe are called upon to sing this song, 'We have this hope', in a strange land. It is in this strange land that we must make friends with the unchurched. Give hope and not despair. We must heal the broken spirit, set at liberty the captives of sin and declare the triumph of God's grace.

Let us again thank God for the way he has led us in the past and 'for the plans he has for us; plans to give us hope and a future' (Jeremiah 29:22).

March on, Church, through the dawn of the New Year and never rest until the task is successfully done at its sunset. Watch and pray. Study his Word. Let the Holy Spirit of God empower you to reach out to someone in your strange land. God bless you.



Rina's house – with roof! – on Christmas Eve. Left: Rina last September



A roof for Rina

by Audrey Balderstone

I met Rina in September last year when I flew to Albania to see 'Baby House', the orphanage which was to benefit from the more than £14,000 raised by Stanborough Park church's Festival of Floral Art. Harry Wilby, driving the ADRA truck with humanitarian aid and hundreds of boxes of goodies for children in orphanages throughout Albania, was delayed at customs. The drive to Korce would take approximately five hours, so our journey was postponed until next day. In the meantime Elidon Barhdi, the young, enthusiastic and extremely efficient acting director for ADRA-Albania, arranged for me to see a number of ADRA projects around Tirana.

One of these was a clinic in an area about 10km west of Tirana and while we were there the ADRA girls asked if I would like to meet Rina. I had seen a picture of a very poor little child in the ADRA office, and apparently we were near her home. Rina is one of eight children, the eldest of whom is 20 years old. Her family migrated to Tufina from a very poor and remote north-eastern town in the hope of finding work and a better quality of life. Unfortunately only *one* of the family, Mira (17), has been able to find employment and the \$50 a month she earns in a shoe factory is the only income the family has. Like her brothers and sisters she has only four years of education and her biggest desire is to eat at least one proper meal a day.

The family have made a dwelling out of reclaimed materials and it is primitive to say the least. The floors

are mud, the roof is sheet-iron, and there is no furniture. Rina is a bright, obviously intelligent child who is loved by her siblings. She also suffers chronically from respiratory diseases and skin infections. Her mother takes my hands repeatedly and points to the roof and her eyes silently plead with me to do something for them.

Amid much laughter we take photographs and then wave goodbye, but my heart is heavy. I have just spent six months raising funds for the orphanage, and I have promised to help with two more big fund-raising projects at church when I get back and they are going to take us up to Christmas. There will be neither the time nor the opportunity to do anything for Rina and her family.

Back in England I couldn't get Rina out of my mind and wrote to Elidon asking for an estimate of how much it would cost to do the roof. Almost £2,000. It would need a miracle. And of course God sent one. It was a happy day in November when I was able to tell Elidon that we had the money – and could the work be done before Christmas? It was thrilling to hear that the work, apart from some painting, is finished and the family moved in on 24 December.

All around the world ADRA is changing lives and we pray that the lives of Rina and her family will be changed even more as they hear about the One who is the motivating force in those who work for and support the Adventist Development and Relief Agency.

They all decided . . .

There was joy in heaven, and fireworks going off all around the Wednesfield church, Wolverhampton on Sabbath 8 November when three boys and one young lady were preparing to enter the pool for baptism.

A steady stream of family, friends and members began flowing into the beautifully decorated church by the canal. The car park was overflowing into the nearby streets as more and more people came.

Leon Ferguson (9), Jonathan McCool (9), Alex Williams (11) and Kimberley Turton (14) sat at the front, clothed in white robes except for Kimberley who sang first then changed later. They had all decided to follow Jesus and requested baptism.



Back row, left to right: Kimberley Turton, Pastor Edson Augustus, Pastor Richard Jackson. Front, l to r: Alex Williams, Leon Williams, Jonathan McCool.

Local minister Pastor Richard Jackson welcomed us. Evangelist Edson Augustus, visiting from St Vincent, delivered a timely tailor-made message to the candidates. He combined the story of the three Hebrew boys with the story of Esther, so none of the candidates was left out. He stressed the importance of standing up for the right in a pagan environment.

The baptism of Alex and Leon brought joy to the speaker, Edson Augustus who is related to them, Brother and Sister Johnson from Great Brickkiln Street – grandparents, Clive and Maxine Ferguson and Sonia and Gustav Williams. Friends and family came from London and Coventry to witness the event and the delight of Grace and Alrick McCool was obvious.

Kimberley was most relaxed, and as a member of the Wolverhampton Youth Choir, she sang before the immersion. Max Thompson, the local poet, read her a special poem. Sandra Turton and the rest of the family were happy for her.

Pastor McIntosh immersed the candidates and they were welcomed into the Wednesfield fellowship. Refreshments were served in the youth hall afterwards.

GRACE MCCOOL

Grianach House play

The guest of honour at the Christmas play at the Irish Mission's Grianach House school was the Mayor of Galway, Councillor Terry O'Flaherty. Councillor O'Flaherty expressed her appreciation of the wonderful performance by the students of the school in the Christmas pageant. There was a large attendance of parents, family and friends as the students demonstrated through music, song and drama the true spirit of Christmas. School principal Esther Robartson thanked all who had taken part and especially musical director Gerry Gough and teacher Nomi Jackson. The Christmas play was a marvellous showcase of the talents of all the students of the school, from the youngest to the oldest. It highlights the powerful witness of Grianach House School in the Galway area.

OLIVER MARTYN



Sleep-out for the homeless

by Gillian de Villiers

To the casual passer-by the scene around the precincts of the Abbey Cathedral was amazing – and wonderful! A group of young people from Albans church was part of the 433 caring participants who sprawled around the Abbey and prepared to bivouac under a clear,

should they choose to have one.

The reason for the sleep-out was twofold. Firstly, to experience a little of the discomfort and hardship suffered by the homeless and, secondly, to find sponsors for the event. Two other charities, from Watford and Dacorum, were also beneficiaries, and the mayors from all three boroughs, together with the Bishop of Bedford, demonstrated their solidarity for the causes by sleeping in sub-zero temperatures that night, as well. Most of the young people were from church groups and various youth movements, and one group presented a

freezing, starlit sky. Shepherded by Pastor Bernie Holford, our eager youngsters were sleeping out in support of Centre 33. This is a drop-in centre that the St Albans church members support by donating food regularly. Some of our church members also cook and serve meals to the homeless people who call in to a warm and friendly reception, a meal, and a shower

meaningful programme in the nave of the Abbey that included contemporary Christian music and drama. Their message was about the hope that there is in the cross, and how by coming to the cross one's life is transformed.

Our young people slept fairly well, or hardly at all, depending on their preparation. Two of our young ladies talked until 2am before dropping off! One young lady managed to move from the cardboard protecting her from the cold ground. And as it had rained lightly during the night, she got her sleeping bag and leisure pants wet. No joke! Before 6am she and her siblings tottered into the warmth of the Abbey for hot drinks. (Volunteers had stayed up through the night serving soup and hot drinks.) The others of our party still slept snugly on for a while longer. The question on everyone's lips as they passed prone or upright bodies was, How long did you sleep last night? The usual reply: Not very much.

Comments from the various members of our team: 'I'm glad I'm not homeless!' 'It was very cold!' 'It is not too bad being homeless if you have your friends around you.'

A week later, when they were asked: Would you do it again? everyone's response was yes. Some added: But I will be better prepared! (There's a moral here, somewhere.)

ASNA speaker at Princess Royal Trust

by Sophia Nicholls

In November 2003 Mrs Olivia Robinson, one of the trustees of the Adventist Special Needs Association charity was invited to be the guest speaker at the Annual General Meeting of the Princess Royal Trust. As an active member of ASNA, she was asked to speak about her involvement in the association with specific reference to respite care and the needs of parents living with children and adults who are disabled. Olivia was pleased to receive an invitation from the Trust to speak again at other events planned for 2004. She also looks forward to providing the link between the work carried out by ASNA with the Princess Royal Trust.



Forty-two toddlers party with Santa!

Four years on and Bournemouth's Mothers' and Toddlers' Sunshine Club, set up to serve the local community in Winton, continues to grow. Such has been the success of this outreach that a new After-School Club has been established to keep in touch with the older ones!

Due to the number of children attending the Christmas festivities, two parties were held, leaving thirty minutes to spare between each one! Our recently retired pastor,

Martin Anthony, conducted a short carol service and blessing for each group, after which 'Santa' (aka George Primmer) handed out presents, followed by a table full of party food. The loudest squeals of delight came from the youngest group, the



older group being able to participate more thoughtfully in the service.

Joy Elliott, the Sunshine Club's founder, is pleased to report that one of the mothers has been attending Sabbath school each week with her little boy for two years, and regularly takes a leading role. Also several mothers are now attending periodically. Every mother has commented on the warm, friendly and caring way the club is managed, expressing special thanks for the Christmas, Easter and birthday cake and presents given to each child.

JUDITH CASSIDY

Santa's helper

One of Stanborough Park church's main outreach programmes of the year took place on Sabbath 13 December. The annual Toy Service has been a tradition for forty-three years, and, over the years, many of Watford's mayors and mayoresses have attended the services.

This time the special visitors were the Chairman of Watford Borough Council, Councillor Ellie Burtenshaw, and her husband Councillor Alan Burtenshaw.

During the service boys and girls were encouraged to give presents to Watford's

underprivileged children. After three large sackfuls had been filled, they, and hundreds of other toys on display, were presented to the Councillor by Mrs Pat Walton. Her father, the late Mr Alfred Kelly MBE, began the service. Councillor Burtenshaw was the link between the church and the social services who would distribute the toys.

Accepting her new role, Mrs Burtenshaw said, 'I accept on behalf of children who will not have much in life. I know it will bring joy and happiness to those children. Nobody told me I'd be one of Santa's helpers, which is what it felt like as I saw the children putting toys in the sacks.'

During his address, Pastor Robert Vine said, 'There is a tendency today, in our wider society, to divorce Christ from Christmas. . . . The first Christmas, mankind became aware of God's taking a part in human lives. . . . Neither Christ's story, nor yours, has reached its climax yet.'

BRONWEN ATKINSON



Communication News

with John C. Surridge, Communication director, SEC

SEC writers and editors

The South England Conference welcomed Dr Roy Adams, associate editor of the *Adventist Review*, in November. Dr Adams spent a week in Britain and the main focus of his visit was to launch Adventist Writers & Editors (AWE) on Sunday 23 November.

All those who attended on Sunday morning were published writers in one form or another. The excitement and passion for this discipline was evident in the group. Prior to his official lecture on writing and the dynamics of writing, which was truly first class, Dr Adams spoke on the blessing of writing and how it could be used evangelistically.

At this first meeting, some of the AWE committee were introduced. Mrs Sharon Platt-McDonald, who is a health-care professional but has a definite passion for writing, is the president of the Association, and Pastor Horace Taffe is currently the chaplain. Other appointments are not yet confirmed.

In addition to this, Dr Adams made himself available for other appointments centred on communication. His first visit was with the ministerial fraternity in London on Thursday 20 November, and on the Friday morning he conducted worship at the BUC office. The St Albans church hosted Dr Adams on the Sabbath morning, when he delivered a soul-stirring sermon about standing out from the crowd. The youth of Stoke Newington benefited from the insight and wisdom of Dr Adams on Sabbath afternoon. His interactive discussion was enlightening.

The Communication department express their deep appreciation to Dr Adams for spending such quality time in this region. Thanks also to Pastors Richard DeLisser and David Neal for their extended hospitality.

If you wish to join Adventist Writers & Editors and/or receive the quarterly newsletter, please email vevers@secadventist.org.uk.

Media training for leaders

On Monday 1 December five Adventist leaders from the North and South England Conferences attended a professional media training programme at the Latimer Conference Centre near Amersham. Principal lecturers for the course were David Addis, who works as a radio broadcaster, tutor, and media consultant, and Harri Ritchie, who is currently a senior producer with BBC Radio News Management. As in previous years the training was organised by Chris Doggett of The Media Suite, who set up the television and radio studio simulations, as well as arranging interviews with an external print media journalist.

Those taking part in the training were Don McFarlane, Dalbert Elias, and Earl Ramharacksingh, president, executive secretary and treasurer of the SEC respectively; Pastor Paul Lockham, executive secretary of the NEC; and Catherine Boldeau, Communication director of the SEC. Although intensive, the day was enjoyable and a number of good lessons were learnt which could be helpful in future relations with the media. Speaking from his office in Nottingham yesterday Paul Lockham said, 'Before the training I was very nervous about being interviewed by



the media. The practical experience during the day dispelled most of my fears and, although I can't honestly say that I would now feel confident about speaking to the press, I would at least have a good idea of what to say and what not to say. One of the best things I learnt was how to handle difficult questions and how to keep things on track even when the interviewer is leading in a different direction.'

This media training day was part of a wider strategy of communication training throughout the BUC. All the administrators of the Union, Conferences and Missions have now received at least one day of professional training and the programme is expected to continue on at least an annual basis for the foreseeable future.

Search begins for Evidence studio audience

At the beginning of December the LIFEdevelopment management committee began concentrating on the *Evidence* series of television programmes which will be broadcast from Newbold College next March. The programmes will be presented by Pastor Dwight Nelson, already known to many in the UK through the NET '98 evangelism series and his sermon at the Wembley Arena Day of Fellowship last year. The *Evidence* programmes will be aimed at secular, postmodern people, and Dwight will be trying to create a more intimate environment than the more traditional church setting used in NET '98. As part of this strategy the studio audience of around sixty people will be seated around tables

and will be carefully chosen to give a good balance of age, gender, and ethnicity. A good number of people in the audience will also be from a non-Adventist or even secular background, helping to ensure an authentic setting for Dwight's talks.

'Finding the right people will be a challenge,' concedes Sally Salmond, Content Producer for the *Evidence* series. 'Ideally we would like to find a core group of people who can come to each of the ten recordings. It's important that both Dwight and the viewers see the same faces night after night so that we can build up continuity. We can't pay for people's travel or accommodation

expenses but I'm sure that there are people out there who would be willing to give up ten days next March. After all, this is the first major televised evangelistic event we have put on in this country so it's a unique opportunity.'

The exact dates on which the programmes will be filmed are: Sunday 29 February to Thursday 4 March, and Sunday 7 to Thursday 11 March 2004. If you are interested in being a part of the studio audience, or know someone who would be, please contact Sally Salmond at the BUC office, tel 01923 672251, or Humphrey Walters at the SEC office, 01923 232728. Priority will be given to people who will be coming with a secular friend, and the earlier we receive your names the better your chance of taking part. The absolute deadline for receipt of names is 13 February 2004. Note that we are expecting applications to exceed the number of places available so please apply as soon as possible!

Pastor Osei at British Council Carol Service

On Friday 12 December Emmanuel Osei, pastor of the Holloway church, was invited to be the guest speaker at the British Council Christian Fellowship Carol Service.

This annual event has hosted speakers such as Paul Boateng MP, and this year David Lammy MP was expected to be the speaker but unfortunately he was taken ill. The whole event was arranged by Stephen Adjei, a member of the London Ghana Adventist church who has been working for the British Council for the past twelve years.

Special music was supplied by the Willesden-based group, Blessed Voices, whose singing was greatly appreciated by the worker force. The Christ of Christmas was the message from Pastor Osei. As God's unconditional love was the motivation for Jesus' coming to this earth, Pastor Osei encouraged his hearers to let love be the motivation for the humanitarian work that they engage in. It was a great experience fellowshipping with Christians from different persuasions and witnessing to them of our soon coming King.

JOHN SURRIDGE

NELZIE LEE CAMPBELL (1927-2003) d. 31 May. The funeral service was held in Burngreave church, Sheffield, on Monday 23 June presided over by the resident minister Pastor D. Rafferty. Other ministers assisting in the service were former pastors of Burngreave congregation: Pastor P. Sayers, who read the Scripture reading, and Pastor G. Harris, who offered the opening prayer. There were three special items, besides the eulogy. One item was rendered in poetry with an accompaniment of miming movements by someone standing near the speaker. Two other specials were in song: a solo (interspersed with weeping) by a young female vocalist; and the other a choral rendition by a male voice group. One of the relatives read the eulogy which, among other things, stated that the deceased had a sense of humour and that she loved the Lord. Pastor Rafferty preached a comforting sermon, expanding on the theme of 'The Blessed Hope', and after the congregation had sung the closing hymn he pronounced the benediction. Whosoever would, then fled past the coffin to show final respects. Sister Campbell now lives on in the memories of her daughter, of her daughter's husband and her grandchildren, as well as in those of a long line of other relatives.

ROSEMARY BLENNAN

MOSES EMMANUEL GODFREY (1929-2003) d. 25 August. During the last month of his illness Brother Godfrey bore pain with the fortitude of one thoroughly resigned to the will of God. Cancer had spread rapidly upwards into his lungs. Being a member of the Adventist Church from home, Jamaica, Brother Godfrey was readily accepted into membership here by the Burngreave congregation, Sheffield, where he subsequently served in various church offices, including that of elder. Pastor D. Rafferty, resident Burngreave district pastor, presided at the funeral service held on Tuesday afternoon 2 September. Three other former Burngreave pastors were in attendance: Pastors P. Sayers, G. Harris and I. Sweeney. Present also was interim minister Pastor R. Jackson, who was a former member of Burngreave, and friend of

the deceased, and Pastor Thomas. Someone paying tribute called attention to the initials of the deceased, MEG which, when read from the opposite direction, spelt GEM. 'Brother Godfrey', the speaker said, 'was a gem.' Soloists and choir sang, friends eulogised, and pastors preached; but came the moment, alas! that witnessed the corpse borne away to its 'long home, and the mourners go about the street'. His widow and children, relatives, brethren and friends, shall long recall his name – Moses Emmanuel Godfrey – with blessed memory.

ROSEMARY BLENNAN

MARGARET MAYVIL CASH (1906-2003) d. 2 July. May was born in Abertridwr, Glamorgan. Her mother died when May was 2 and she was raised by her stepmother along with her siblings, Alwyn, Blodwyn, Bill, Hessie and Connie. May won a scholarship to attend school in Aberdare, where Pastor H. McCrow was running a campaign. The family attended the meetings and mother and children were baptised by Pastor W. H. Meredith. May commenced her nurses' training at the Sanitarium Hydro on Stanborough Park, Watford, but she contracted TB and was unable to complete her training. She was anointed and was healed, and ever since has praised God for his healing power. May eventually returned to Stanborough Park and resumed her employment at the Hydro, this time in the office. She then met John Cash and they were married in 1932. They had one son, Ron, who later emigrated to Australia where he still lives. John worked at Granose Foods factory and later May ran the Granose shop. They retired to Ashcott, Somerset, following their lifetime friends Will and Grace Coates, and then moved to Hutton. John went to his rest in 1989 and a few years later May moved into residential care at Uphill Grange, Weston-super-Mare, where she ran the shop for the residents and discovered a new talent, that of artist. Many of her paintings now grace various homes of family and friends, including her room at Ambleside Nursing Home where she spent the last few months of her life.

During her later years May was lovingly cared for by nearby friends Jenny, Roger and Alva Gallaher who regularly visited, gave her lifts, shopped and attended to all her affairs when she could no longer manage. They cheered her lonely hours by singing hymns, praying and reminiscing together. Her strong faith in God, the assurance that she would soon see Jesus in the clouds, her cheerfulness, contentment and wit remained with her to the last. The funeral was held in the Weston church, conducted by Pastors Ian Sleeman and Islwyn Rees, longtime friends of whom she was very fond. She will be sadly missed by her son Ron, nieces Lynette Shrimpton and Sandra Rigby-Barrett, as well as her 'Weston family'. We all look forward to the reunion morning and the promise of no more partings.

LYNETTE SHRIMPTON

DANIEL LLOYD LAWRENCE (1922-2003) d. 26 September. Daniel was born in St James, Jamaica. As a boy he was a keen learner and developed a strong interest in Bible and spiritual matters. He came to England in 1948 on the *Windrush* to get to know England and to pursue an education and career in the engineering industry. He settled in Birmingham and married Josephine Buchanan in 1954. They had seven children – three girls and four boys. Daniel first attended Camp Hill church in 1957 and was deeply impressed with Adventism. He and Josephine were baptised in 1958. Reconciling the needs of a growing family and limited finances with his Christian faith presented a constant challenge. Through difficult times, he found comfort in the words of Scripture, which he was keen to share with others in need of help. He served in the church as an elder and Sabbath school teacher, and conducted the youth baptismal class. He also served as a member of the NEC and BUC Executive committees. He spent several years living in America where he also served the church. Daniel had an active mind and always had time to talk and share his insights on a range of subjects. During his final days, he was reconciled to his approaching death and faced it with assurance in the Lord.

Prayer Feature

with Tracy Dixon

'God co-operates for good'

Happy 2004 to all of you. I wonder, did any of you make New Year's resolutions? I didn't this year because I usually find that the New Year often does not find me emotionally or spiritually ready to commit to changing aspects of the way to live for the better. I find Easter much easier in that respect, probably because it is warmer and there are blossoms blooming everywhere you look.

From this I conclude that I need signs to show me that there is hope, or at least I find it easier to hope when there are signs that my hope is not misplaced. Six weeks ago, though, on 17 November when the weather was cold and dreary and I had no reason to believe that any of my long-term prayers might be answered, one of them was. My husband who has been smoking for nineteen years, on that day, out of the blue, decided to give up. I have been praying that he would give up for just over nine years – since we first started dating. You can imagine how excited and thankful to God and to my husband I am that now he is ready to kick the habit.

My husband and I thought it would be worth telling you this story because we know that probably all of you will have prayers that you have prayed about for years and that, in many ways, you have almost given up hope of ever having them answered. Alan still struggles from day to day with the cravings for cigarettes, but now I pray with certainty that God will see him through to the day when he looks back over the previous twenty-four hours and realises that he hasn't thought about smoking once – and I really hope that will be sooner rather than later.

Nicotine, I have heard, is the most addictive substance known to man. I don't know whether that is true, but I know that giving up the drug is very difficult and painful and it really is a miracle when someone decides that they want to face life without it. May the miracles that you are praying for this year be granted and may God open our eyes to the less miraculous miracles that he performs every day, remembering that God 'co-operates for good with those who love [him]' (Romans 8:28).



He looked forward to the hope of the resurrection when it was his strong desire to meet his wife and children again. The funeral service was held at the Camp Hill church and was conducted by Pastor Nicholson.

CAMP HILL COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

DORRIS MAUD MORRIS (1908-2003) d. 9 October. It is with sadness that we record the death of Dorris Maud Morris in the Caerphilly Miners' Hospital. The second of five children, Dorris attended Snatchwood School, Abersychan, at just 4 years old. Her mother Ethel became an Adventist through her sister, Addie Cadwallader. Her father Alf was a miner during World War I. During an illness he had a dream about the Holy City, but the gates were closed to him. After he recovered, he became a Christian too. He became a colporteur, then later a painter and decorator. They moved to Newport in 1925. Dorris went into domestic service in Watford, returning to Newport in 1930 for health reasons. She enjoyed the packed prayer meetings and the activities with the other young people in the church, including cycle rides: she described those days as some of the happiest in her life. She married Tom in 1940, and they lived in Garndiffaith. Ray was born in 1944, and the family moved back to Newport in 1954. Tom passed away in 1967. Dorris was very independent, enjoying shopping, gardening and knitting, the visits of the local pastor, Jan McKenzie, and of Olive Scott and Rene Courtney who visited her faithfully twice a week for the last ten years of her life. This was deeply appreciated by Ray and Lyn Morris, as they were living in Hertfordshire. Dorris was proud of her grandchildren Ian and Hazel, and of her great-grandchildren Anna and Erin. Cared for by her family, she died of cardiac failure peacefully in her sleep. She will be remembered long in Newport church as a loving and lovable Christian. Our sympathy is for Ray and Ian, Lyn and Kate, Hazel and Andy, Anna and Erin. The service (in Newport church) was conducted by a former minister, the writer, assisted by the present minister, Pastor Jan McKenzie. The organ was played by her old friend Hilda Pimm. Dorris was laid to rest with her late husband Tom in St Woolos cemetery, Newport, on 16 October, to await the call of the Lifegiver. 'Though we sorrow, we sorrow not as others who have no hope.' 1 Thessalonians 4:13.

RICHARD L. VINE

Wedding

BELL-HILL. In September, on a wonderful sunny Sunday afternoon, friends and family gathered at All Saints' Church, Fishponds, Bristol to witness the marriage between Rebecca Hill and Andy Bell. Rebecca, who is a BBC nursery nurse, has been attending Lodge Causeway since she was a little girl and Andy is a store manager for the supermarket chain Lidl's. The church was beautifully decorated by Sandy Edwards and Barbara Moore who not only made the bridal gown, but the four bridesmaids' dresses as well! The wedding was very much a family affair. Her father gave her away and read the passage of scripture. Her sister Deborah was chief bridesmaid and together with three church friends, Rachel Ohman, Nicky Moore and Melisa Grizzle, supported Rebecca on her big day. Christopher Moore acted as page boy. The best man was a friend of the bridegroom. Kings Western House with its lovely grounds was the venue for most of the wedding photos and reception. After two weeks' honeymoon in Rhodes the couple continue to live in the Bristol area. We wish them every blessing in their new life together.

S. HATCHER (Mrs)

continued from page 1

Adventist TV launched

Pastor Dwight Nelson's *Evidence* series being broadcast from Newbold College and it is hoped that thousands of Adventist members, together with their friends, will watch these programmes from the comfort of their own homes. Churches that have satellite reception facilities are being encouraged to run LIFEdevelopment evenings where guests can share food and fellowship as well as watching the programmes. The style of these events should, where possible, mimic the café style that will be used at Newbold, with guests seated informally around tables.

Although thousands of Adventists will watch the *Evidence* series, the programmes are primarily aimed at secular people. 'Secular people aren't interested in hearing about God – at least not at first,' says Sally Salmond, Content Producer for the *Evidence* series. 'They are more interested in trying to make sense of things like injustice, suffering and death – so the programmes we have put together deal with those kinds of issues. We'll also be looking at love, relationships, meaning, peace, forgiveness and hope. Of course Dwight will be guiding his audience to the ultimate answer to all these questions, which is God, but he'll be doing it in a way that is sensitive to the secular postmodern mind.'

In order to maximise the number of homes where the *Evidence* programmes can be watched it is vital that as many church members as possible install satellite reception equipment in their homes before March. If you already have the equipment (or will have it installed by March) and are willing to become a part of this history-making evangelistic venture by hosting group meetings



One of the satellite dishes being used at the BUC

in your home, please let your pastor know as soon as possible.

Technical information

Already hundreds of members have satellite equipment installed in their homes for watching 3ABN; all they need to do is search for the Hope Channel using their digital receivers. Those who don't have a satellite dish should contact a satellite installer as soon as possible. A few satellite installation businesses are listed on our Hope Channel web page at www.hopetv.org.uk but those outside the catchment area for these businesses, or those who may find installers already fully booked, should simply find a local installer to do the job. The total cost for installing and setting up a basic satellite dish and receiver should be around £250, including the equipment. Difficult locations and more advanced equipment will, of course, cost more.

It should be noted that members who have Sky digital dishes and receivers will NOT be able to receive the Hope Channel. Sky broadcasts from the Astra satellite at 28 degrees east, and the Hope Channel broadcasts from the Hotbird satellite at 13 degrees east. It may be possible to fit an extra dish to an existing Sky system, but this would need to be done by a qualified satellite system installer.

Parameters for the Hope Channel are as follows: *Frequency*: 12577;



Time out

Steve recently joined a football team for evangelism.

He read that 70% of Christian conversions happen through friends. Steve house-shares with Christians, spends Sabbath and two weekly small groups with church friends; he wanted to get in balance by making more time for unchurched friends.

This week Steve's skilful tackle prevented a definite score. The opposition player spun round and swore loudly in Steve's face, then shoved him, fists ready. Steve stood there quiet and calm, hands resting by his sides. The ref sent the aggressive player off and his coach muttered, 'Don't fight, you expletive, and

especially not him. He's a bleeping nice bloke, a church boy.'

After the game Steve went and chatted with the aggressor and shook his hand.

Steve is winning respect. He says, 'Most of these blokes probably don't have one Christian friend. I want to start at square one and earn credibility. Then they'll feel safe to ask why I believe – some guys have already. Eventually I'll invite them to a men's breakfast with my Christian friends. Or maybe a small group.'

I'd call him a frontier missionary, wouldn't you?

You're busy. You'll never find time for unchurched friends. So make time.

'My Father sent me into the world. In the same way I am sending you.' John 20:21.

Polarisation: Horizontal;
SR: 27500;
FEC: 3/4.

If you do not have access to the website or would like more information please contact Pastor John Surridge at the BUC office. Phone: 01923 672251. Information has also been sent to all pastors, elders, and LIFEdevelopment co-ordinators.

SITUATION VACANT

South England Conference seeks Senior Accountant to work in their Watford office. Applicants must have at least five years' accounting experience, preferably with formal accounting qualification, also experience in working with accountancy software packages, spreadsheets and payroll systems, ability to work in a team, but show initiative working alone.

A full job description is available on application. Salary benefits according to current denominational scale. Letters of application, with CV, and names and addresses of two referees should be sent to: The Human Resources Director, South England Conference, 25 St John's Road, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD17 1PZ or msparrow@secadventist.org.uk.
Closing date 29 February.

Corrigenda 'Muslim Awareness' article MESSENGER (vol 108/26). Pastor Oscar Osindo requests that we make it clear that he is not Director of Islamic Studies at Newbold, as given, but leader/co-ordinator of the Muslim work in the South England Conference. In MESSENGER (vol 109/1) we wrongly credited Brother Joshua Maponga with the title of 'pastor'. Apologies. *EDITOR*

NEW ADDRESS FOR NOTTINGHAM CLARENDON The Baptist Church, Chandos Street, Netherfield. Sabbath school 1pm. Divine service 2.15pm

Congratulations to Fiona Peart on gaining her MSc in Human Resource Management from the University of Salford in July 2003. We wish her continued success in her future career.
JAMES SAVIZON

ABC BOOK SALES

Feb

1 John Loughborough 10am-2pm
24 NEC Workers' Meetings Swanwick
29 West Midlands 10am-2pm

Messenger

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Sunset

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

	Land	Card	Nolt	Edin	Belf
Jan 30	4.45	4.58	4.44	4.40	4.57
Feb 6	4.58	5.10	4.58	4.56	5.11
13	5.11	5.23	5.11	5.11	5.26
20	5.24	5.36	5.25	5.26	5.40

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Single copy subscription by post £13.

Overseas airmail £27.50

UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENT	WHEN	WHERE	WHO	HOW
PM and SS Weekend Retreat	6-8 February	Bilberry Hill Centre Rosehill, B'ham	R. Morgan, NEC, PM & SS depts	NEC office: 0115 9606312. £50
Adventist Chorale in Concert	7 February 7pm	Bridge Park Complex Harrow Road, NW10	Little Eden & Eden High School	Tel/Fax: 020 8751 1844
Big 6 The sporting event of the year!	15 February 10.30am-5pm	Harvey Hadden Stadium, Bilborough, Nottingham	Basket/foot/volley/netball, table tennis, badminton, athletics	Participants £2.50; Spectators £1.50. For further details contact the NEC office: 0115 9606312
Turning Water Into Wine For married and engaged couples	27-29 February 2004	Highgate House, Creaton, Northampton £200 couple/£180 SEC	Bernie & Karen Holford	Tel: SEC 01923 232728 email: kholford@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.