



by Douglas McCormac

Irish Mission Session Driven by Grace



from Zechariah and described the various characters who were present: God the Judge, Joshua the High Priest and Satan the prosecuting attorney. He shared a vision of a God who accepts sinners for who they are and said that the business of the Church is to be a channel of God's grace.

In his book, *How the Irish Saved Civilisation*, Thomas Keneally describes Ireland as 'a little island at the edge of Europe'. And so it was on this little island on 6 and 7 November, in the Belfast

Adventist church, that members came together to rejoice in all that the Lord had done.

The theme for the weekend was 'Rejoicing in His Fellowship', and the guest speaker was Pastor Llew Edwards, the Scottish Mission president. On the Sabbath morning Pastor Edwards spoke of the Power of Grace. He painted for us a courtroom scene that came to us

In the afternoon after everyone had had their fill of food and caught up with old friends, we came together once again to hear from each of the churches around the mission. We heard from four churches in the North and South about their experiences in connection with the stands they have organised at agricultural shows. We learned of efforts to reach the unchurched youth around the Larne church in Club Seven. We listened to Anton as he shared how inmates from the local prison had worked hard at renovating the Derry church and how their building was being used for various community initiatives. Ashley shared one experience in which he witnessed to a small group of Brazilian believers, through a casual introduction over a petrol pump. We heard stories from all over the mission, and Pastor Cecil Perry closed the programme with a devotional from 1 John 1.

The Mission Session was formally opened at 5pm on Saturday night with the singing of the great hymn 'Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee'. Mission president Pastor Curtis Murphy then introduced Councillor Ruth Patterson, High Sheriff of Belfast and DUP councillor. She welcomed the members and



Back left to right: Bob and Moyra Rodd, Eric and Denise Winch, Paula and Neil Robertson. Front left to right: Bob and Joy Smart, Christine Hall, Olga Lewis

Salvation soldiers

The Scottish Mission hosted a Retired Workers' Buffet Tea on 21 November at the Crieff church. Stories, funny and serious, precious memories and reminiscences were shared, followed by the meal together. Karin Edwards and Andrew Willis (youngest worker in Scotland) provided hostess and waiter service to these honoured salvation soldiers. A letter of greeting was read from Jim Ponder, who was unable to attend. Unfortunately, circumstances meant Pastor E. Logan and Dr and Mrs Ken Thomas were also unable to attend.

LLEWELLYN EDWARDS
Scottish Mission president

january eight two thousand and five 7.00pm

Featuring
Lauri Preston (USA)
Hosanna
A Heart to Praise
(new dynamic ensemble)
Joel & Desron
Victor Acquah
And others!

Sing a New Song

Tickets are £5 each and can be ordered directly from Wembley Conference Centre Booking Office on 0870 060 0870

Stanborough School Entrance Examination

The Entrance Examination for the September 2005 intake into Year 7 will take place at the school on **Tuesday 11 January 2005**. For further details please contact the Registrar, Mrs Jean Hinks, on 01923 673268 or email jhinks@stanboroughpark.herts.sch.uk.

Healthwise

Passing the Orals

The health messages must be getting through. The 2003 Children's Dental Health Survey has shown a decrease in obvious decay in children's permanent teeth. It is at the lowest recorded level since Reports have been issued.

A total of 12,698 school children aged 5, 8, 12 and 15 participated in the survey with just over 10,000 having dental examinations. All were questioned about their oral health habits, and the official conclusion was that children's permanent teeth are better than ever. Concerns were raised, though, about an increase in plaque and gum disease. These

Dental Health Surveys are produced each decade and the 2003 Report is the fourth in the series. Key findings are:

- little change in the proportion of 5-8-year-olds over the last decade having obvious decay or 'milk' teeth with cavities
- a decline in the need for fillings in 5-8-year-olds with 'milk' teeth
- 62% of 12-year-olds and 50% of 15-year-olds were free of obvious decay in their permanent teeth, with 87% of the same age groups being free from cavities into the dentine of their permanent teeth
- the proportion of 8-, 12- and 15-year-olds with cavities into dentine and permanent teeth with

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

- obvious decay has decreased, and this was a more pronounced decrease in the 15-year-olds (42% in 1983, 30% in 1993, and 13% in 2003).
- fewer 12- and 15-year-olds with filled permanent teeth although those children with fillings had multiple fillings thus showing an increase in restorative dental care
- the average number of permanent teeth with cavities into the dentine among 8-, 12- and 15-year-olds decreased over the past decade, and the average number of fillings in the permanent teeth of 12- and 15-year-olds also decreased

Oral Health Targets set for 2003 for the safeguarding of permanent

teeth in England and Northern Ireland were exceeded but this has not yet been achieved for primary (or 'milk') teeth. (The figures relate only to England and Northern Ireland as Scotland and Wales have their own devolved agencies.)

It is great to hear some positive news about health, especially as it involves young people. Solomon, the wise man, urges: 'So remember your Creator while you are still young,' before – as he puts it – 'Your teeth will be too few to chew your food.' (Ecclesiastes 12:1, 3, GNB.) On that basis the outcome for the children in the Report looks good!



Hope for the New Year

Hope may have been the only thing left for many at the end of 2004. The ground had shifted from under their feet. Human and natural disasters had left them a legacy of bad memories, hardship and destitution.

Many of us can identify with the hundreds of Christians who have lost loved ones and possessions and are awaiting the realisation of the hope of Christ's coming to usher in a new order of things.

Nevertheless, we have every reason to thank God for the outpouring of his blessings in the world – imperfect as it is – and more so on his church.

The churches in the British Union Conference have experienced growth in membership and financial support through the faithfulness in witness and stewardship of its members.

Bold ventures

The launch of the LIFEdevelopment.info evangelistic initiative was one of our bold ventures into the world of secular postmoderns. This long-term outreach series has already engaged the minds of many in our Union and others throughout the Trans-European Division.

The availability of the Hope Channel to broaden our witness has moved us into a new era of communication. The broadcast of the 'Evidence' series with Dwight Nelson as host speaker and Gillian Joseph (BBC announcer) as co-host opened up for us unlimited possibilities to reach a wider audience.

The physical growth of the church has been enhanced by the ebb and flow of immigrants who have added new vitality to some of our churches and bulging seams to others. The challenge of accommodating this expanding diversity in our churches gives us more room for developing our spiritual maturity and



with Pastor C. R. Perry
BUC president

Faith strengthens

There is no situation in human affairs which has not been provided for. You cannot get to any place and not find God there. He is the stillness at the heart of every storm. He is the Eternal One, the unchanging Reality which lies behind that which is passing.

Are you fearful about the future? Ringing down the centuries comes the great 'Fear not' of our Lord. Jesus knew what was coming to his own people and yet he said, 'Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.' Go calmly about your business, whatever comes, holding firmly to your faith. Fear weakens, faith strengthens.

Attributed by Grace magazine to a Christmas radio broadcast by King George VI

outlook as to the inclusiveness of the Gospel.

Outlook

The outlook for 2005, half a decade into the twenty-first century, comes stamped with God's promise: 'For I know the thoughts [plans] that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.' (Jeremiah 29:11, NKJV.)

Therefore we can afford to be optimistic of another New Year knowing that we are in God's thoughts or plans. In a world of growingly restrictive industrial legislation, broadening litigious culture and a hardening, unforgiving and uncompassionate lifestyle, the church must carry out its God-given mission.

The New Year provides us with another opportunity for spiritual growth and togetherness. It can be a time when we seize the moment to focus on the main reason why the church exists, that is 'to seek and save the lost'. This we can do through establishing small groups, personal and public evangelism, literature/prayer ministries, engaging in the initiatives of LIFEdevelopment.info, conducting Bible Seminars and Correspondence Schools, and media evangelism.

Choose your ministry

As you think about your New Year commitment to God's plan for your life and his church please choose one ministry that harmonizes with your spiritual gift. God promises to empower and enable those who are hungering and thirsting to give the bread of life to their neighbours.

As the New Year opens may I request that you pay attention to the many special events and offerings for 2005, the year of the General Conference Session and penultimate year of the BUC's. Join the world church in praying for the church living in hostile areas of the world where religious freedom is limited or denied.

The membership of our church has passed the thirteen million mark. Contingent on this growth are the complex challenges of preserving spiritual unity and quality of life. It is only through the spirit of Christ, the study of his word and unceasing prayer that we will experience God's will for us and this church.

Recommitment

Let the dawn of 2005 be a time of recommitment. Let us recommit to the Christian values which have characterised our mission to the world over the years. Meaningful mission involves service and sacrifice. It is a service which is acceptable and holy to God and one that demonstrates itself in meaningful worship and meeting human needs, whether through mission offerings or ADRA-related projects.

Living in 2005 can be exciting for all of us if we see it through the eyes of Jesus and our role in God's unfolding drama to reconcile the world to himself.

We may have many plans for the New Year, but it is instructive to listen to the wisdom of Solomon in Proverbs: 'Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.' (Proverbs 19:21.)

I wish for you all a blessed and victorious New Year! Maranatha!



Left to right: Pastor H. Taffe, Cynthia Moyo, Mary Sawula, Anita Subbiah (Eden-friends), David Njadu, David Russell. (Absent is Charlene Townsend.)



Hounslow baptism

On Sabbath 9 October a baptismal service was held at the Hounslow church. It was an occasion on which four brand new members were immersed in baptism by Horace A. Taffe, pastor of the church.

The occasion was significant for a number of reasons. First, among the newly-baptised was one member of the Eden-friends group, a church plant group which is supervised by the Hounslow church and currently meets at the Little Eden School premises. Second, the baptism followed in quick succession to a baptism which took place a month previously, when two other members from Hounslow were baptised.

Occasions like these are expected to be frequent for the future as evangelism continues to be the watchword of the Hounslow church.

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

www.it'stime.come

David Lammy MP and the Mayor of Haringey were two of the special guests who attended and contributed to two weeks of community-focused campaign and workshops at Tottenham West Green Road church.

The campaign was held every day from Saturday 25 September to 9 October, except on Thursdays. There were two sessions: 11am to 1pm and 7.30pm to 9pm. There were prizes and surprises each evening. The theme of the campaign was www.it'stime.come, and the

main seminar was delivered by Pastor Jeremiah Bonner, an international evangelist. Other special guests participating in the programme were Martin Ransom, Borough Commander for Haringey (Fire Service), Councillor Gmmh Rahman Khan, and Pastor Stephen Agilinko of West Green Road Baptist Church.

The Tottenham West Green Road church is a church in the heart of the community, with the community in its heart. There was a Health Screening & Promotion Workshop, with a Drugs Awareness Seminar

students
r u @ university or in higher education?
r u studying away from home?
get connected
2 other students - stay connected 2 God
 with Retreats, Devotionals, Camps, Conferences, Days of Fellowship
 Register with the SEC Higher Education Chaplains Service

Newbold Pathfinders send Christmas gifts

Children at the Newbold church had to make an early start for Christmas, wrapping their first gifts in late October. Those gifts had a long way to travel. The thirty-one packages that the church's Pathfinders packed left on a journey of more than 1,000 miles to an orphanage in Serbia.

Money to buy the gifts and packing materials came from an anonymous donation of £400 to the mother of the Pathfinder group's leader, according to area co-ordinator Pat Dyckhoff.

Most of the children the Newbold Pathfinders packed for are between the ages of 8 and 16. Ana Plantak, 15, a Year-10 student at St Crispin's, wrapped up a box with gloves, a scarf and a mini-spa pack with health and beauty items for a girl aged 14-16.

'Being 15, it's what I would want for Christmas,' Ana said.

There are more than forty students in the Newbold Pathfinder group that meets every other Sunday at Salisbury Hall on the campus of Newbold College in Binfield.

TIM PUKO



conducted by Metropolitan Police Officer Patrick Heizle, followed by health checks – cholesterol, blood sugar and pressure, weight – conducted by Dr Andy Shillingford and his medical team.

MAXINE DONOVAN

York baptism

Earlier this year the York church gained another member with the baptism of John Chandiyamba. John (19) said afterwards that he felt 'uplifted'. His younger brother Gordon hinted that he might be next to be baptised. The two young men live with their Catholic aunt and uncle, and moved from Malawi early last year.



Pastor Roger Neal performed the service, and elder Richard Likupe, and deacon Obed d'Autruche, also officiated. John has proved to be a conscientious student of both the Bible and his school work, and is admired by everyone for his quiet friendliness.

ANDREW PUCKERING



Tea with the Queen

Frank Horne, an 89-year-old ex-army cook, was baptised into the Adventist church, Manchester, in 1952. In 1981 his wife Anna died of breast cancer. He continued to live in the Manchester area, but ill health caused him to move to Wednesfield, Wolverhampton, to be near his only daughter Pauline. It was a terrible blow to Frank when he found out that his daughter too had breast cancer, and in November 2003 she died.

Frank first knew about the invitation to Tea with the Queen from the Deaf/Blind Society in Peterborough in March last year. Although he knew about it, he still couldn't believe it when the invitation came. He said he called his friend and neighbour Sheila, and told her that the invitation had arrived. She came over straight away, read the invitation, and said, 'Yes, Frank, you are going to the Palace.' The members of Wednesfield were

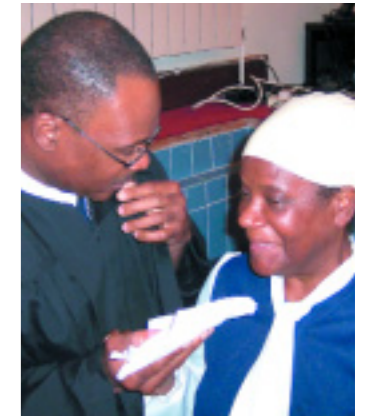
so happy for Frank, whose membership was transferred from Sale church in 1999.

The big day came and Sharon Taylor, a carer from the Deaf/Blind Society, accompanied Frank, travelling by train to Euston Station, London, then by taxi to the Palace, arriving at 2pm. They had two hours to tour the Palace and were excited with all they saw.

At 4pm the national anthem was played, announcing the arrival of the Queen and other members of the royal family. The Queen did a presentation before a large gathering, then thirty people were invited into the royal tea tent, including Frank, to have tea with the Queen. Frank informed me that the Duke of Edinburgh and Prince Charles smiled at him, and Prince Edward shook his hand. The Queen sat about three feet away from him and, while they ate, two bands played beautifully.

Frank said, 'This day was one of the best days of my life, but my only regret was that my daughter wasn't alive to share this wonderful experience.'

GRACE MCCOLL



decided to give their lives to Christ. Our pastor, Wilfred Blake, baptised both candidates. They were Vernon Clements, whose wife Annette Clements was a member of the Willesden church but had decided to transfer her membership to Peckham on the same day as her husband's baptism! The other candidate was Margaret Boyme who had been regularly attending Peckham but decided the time was now.

The church was full and there was rejoicing, not only in heaven but here in Peckham.

Margaret said: 'Lord, I thank you that you have called me with a holy calling to your purpose and grace, which was given in Christ Jesus. I know that your plan for me existed before I knew you.'

Vernon said: 'Lord, I thank you for bringing me back into the fold. I was lost but now I am found.'

CAROL JOSEPH

Prayer & Bible Conference

by Robert Hines

Over the weekend of 22-24 October ninety-six people spent their time at Stanborough School, praying, studying and praising God together at South England Conference's first Prayer & Bible Conference for Teens and Youth. This residential weekend was hosted by the Youth Department in response to the growing demand for more Bible-focused retreats.

The Prayer & Bible Conference was oversubscribed and, if the accommodation had allowed, could have had 140 people stay for the whole weekend. Even so, many people came down just for the Sabbath to catch a taste. The tranquil surroundings of Stanborough School lent to this experience.

Pastor Steve Palmer, former Youth director for the North England Conference and instigator of Prayer Warriors, was guest speaker.

The London Youth Federation Praise Team and Band gracefully led us into worship. 'The team was outstanding', and they were 'a real

blessing to have around', were the thoughts of two attendees.

The Conference aimed to introduce young people to the joys of personal Bible study and teach them how to pray with power. To this end the small group studies and the worship services highlighted and taught these elements. One attendee, Narraser, said 'Thank you for a great weekend. It has brought me closer to God.'

This conference-wide event had people attending from Kent, Bristol, Milton Keynes, London, Newbold, Watford, Surrey, Cambridge, Wiltshire and Essex. We also had people attend from the NEC – Birmingham and Nottingham. The mix of people was so refreshing.

It was a positive weekend because young people were able to study the Bible with like-minded young people, and it was encouraging to have the assistance of the older members. The small group studies were focused on the life and times of Elisha. The theme for the weekend was *Unleash the Power* and there was a real sense that the power that accompanied this mighty prophet of God was there for us as well.

The next Prayer & Bible Conference is planned for 25-27 February 2005. Please contact Pastor Robert Hines at the SEC Youth Ministries department for more details – rhines@secadventist.org.uk.



Leamington baptism

Two young people were baptised by father and grandfather.

On Sabbath 23 October the Leamington Spa Mission was packed to the doors, and praise was even more joyous than usual. It was the baptism of two young people, David Harlin and James Watson. Friends and family from far and near joined them in their special day as they made a public declaration to follow Jesus.

Both were joyfully privileged to be baptised by someone special. David was baptised by his grandfather Roy Burgess and James by his father Malcolm Watson. The service was an uplifting and encouraging one and the Leamington church is proud and pleased to welcome James and David.

BRENDA LOUISE PRETORIUS

Peckham baptism

October 9 was a high day in Peckham. Two more people had



Newbold hosts lecture on race in the British Union 1950-70

by Helen Pearson

Two years after completing a year as the first black female president of the Newbold Student Association and graduating from Newbold with a degree in Humanities (see photo right), Anthea Davis returned to the College on 16 November to speak to staff and students. This was the third lecture this term in the series organised by Newbold's Centre for the Study of Religious and Cultural Diversity whose purpose is to develop peaceful relations by exploring and celebrating difference.

Since graduating, Anthea has completed an MA at King's College, London, where she wrote her dissertation on the relationships between West Indian immigrants and the administration of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Britain between 1950 and 1980. Her lecture presented just a small part of that research. She began with a description of the negative reception given to West Indians in the wider society during the early 1950s. Then followed her question: 'In what ways was the Seventh-day Adventist Church different from the rest of society in its attitude to West Indian immigrants?' The answer 'from folklore and memory' was 'while the number of immigrants was small, the welcome was warm'. But as the numbers grew, there was evidence of antagonism between the administration of the indigenous Church and the immigrants over such things as worship style, time keeping and detailed planning.

Anthea cited correspondence demonstrating power struggles along racial lines over the holding

of church office, the distribution of social welfare resources, and the admission of West Indian students to Newbold. Her account distinguished between racism among some administrators, and more positive caring personal relationships between immigrants and local indigenous pastors and congregations.

The lecture also addressed the effect of West Indian immigration on the evangelistic outreach of the Adventist Church in the British Union, and the suggestion that West Indian immigration has prevented the Church from evangelising the indigenous population of the UK. Anthea cited a study which showed falling membership figures in indigenous churches during 1960-75, and figures from the Irish, Scottish and Welsh Missions which showed that even where predominant numbers of members were white, none of the Missions had grown by more than 100 members between 1950 and 1980.

A quotation from a Church leader in the early 50s suggested that the indigenous membership was in decline before the West Indian influx. 'Our evangelists bring men and women into the church but somehow we are failing to keep them,' said one administrator. Membership figures were further negatively affected by the emigration of indigenous members to Australia and the USA.

Anthea's account finished in 1970, but added



a footnote concerning the redistribution of power in the British Union brought about by the so-called 'Pierson Package' in the late 70s. 'During the period under discussion,' she concluded, the British Union had been what has come to be known as 'institutionally racist' – it had collectively failed to provide an appropriate service to the people it was established to serve. It is difficult to fit the administration's views into a Christian paradigm.'

Anthea's closing words were a challenge to British Adventism in the twenty-first century. 'Now that power in the Church has changed hands,' she said, 'and the Church is three-quarters black, it would be an equal travesty for black Adventists not to step out of their comfort zone to make the effort to reach the indigenous population. We need to learn to be more proactive and not reactive.'

The lecture attracted an audience of over thirty students, staff and Adventist professionals, some of whom had lived through and worked for the Church during the period under discussion. They responded to the lecture with questions and observations

On a personal note, Anthea recounted how difficult she had found the research. 'I knew that society at large was hostile,' she said. 'I asked myself, "If this is the church that I love, then what else is there?"'

Dr David Trim, lecturer in History at Newbold, said: 'There has been a long unwillingness in the Church to confront the problem of racism. All of us need to be less complacent about our own attitudes and not think that because we are the Church, we are immune.'

Adventists in Inverness

On 13 November I had the wonderful opportunity, with my wife, to spend a Sabbath with the believers in the Inverness area. God's providence has led a number of members to live in the area, and when they meet they constitute the most northerly meeting of Adventists in the British Isles. Anthony Keough and his wife Mo, who is a member of a local Church of Scotland, gave Karin and me a place to stay and opened their home for the members to worship.

On the Sabbath ten of us gathered for praise, prayer, study and fellowship. Following warm singing led by Karoline and Sylvia Brown, Anthony Keough led the group in a very profitable discussion of James 4:1-10. After that we had a sumptuous lunch and in the afternoon I was able to discuss with the group

and make suggestions for meeting the needs of fellowship, worship and witness. We also discussed possible models of leadership that they could adopt. We ended the meetings with a presentation on the

wonderful Saviour who is our Lord Jesus.

Sadly for the group, Sylvia and Catherine will be leaving the area in the new year. The nearest pastor is Brian McCormac at the Aberdeen

church, some one hundred miles distant. We invite the prayers of our church family for this group in the 'far north' and for Pastor McCormac as he seeks to encourage and minister to this family of God's people.

LLEWELLYN EDWARDS
President, Scottish Mission



Left to right: Karoline Brown, Janice Meredith, Karin Edwards (my wife), Sylvia Brown, Silverline Chigbo from Nigeria, Judith Madlala from SA, Chinkere Chigbo (husband of Silverline), Anthony and Maureen Keough and Kathryn McMahon from Australia. Two other folk who attend from time to time were not able to come.

COLIN WILSON (1917-2004) d. 19 October

'Miss me a little – not too long, And not with your head bowed low. Remember the love that we once shared Miss me – but let me go.'



These words from the poem 'The Road Home' set the tone for the funeral of Colin Wilson at a service of celebration and appreciation for his life. Colin was born on 26 March 1917. As a small boy he was educated at Victoria School, Dunblane, Scotland, a School for the Sons of Military Gentlemen. There he was shown his straw pallet and drilled by a sergeant major. Maybe this is why he always stood so straight and tall. His education was completed at George Watson College, Edinburgh, and he was articled with a firm of chartered accountants. As a young man working in London, Colin visited many of the capital's well-known churches to listen to the outstanding preachers of the day. In the Carnegie Hall he heard Pastor Roy A. Anderson explain Bible prophecies, and his heart was moved. At the age of 19 Colin was baptised and embraced the Adventist faith. War years brought new tests of character. To register as a Conscientious Objector meant ridicule and hate, but Colin was not afraid to die and for four years risked his life as a Bomb Disposal Officer attached to the Royal Engineers. In 1946 Colin married Evelyn Davids in the Chiswick church and they were blessed with three children – Yvonne, Stewart and Anne – all of whom

qualified as teachers. In 1952 Colin was appointed as the secretary of the British Advent Missions (now SDAA), and in 1958 he became secretary-treasurer of the British Union Conference. It was his enthusiasm and foresight that saw the new British Union Conference office built on Stanborough Park, Watford, and The Dell Retirement Home opened at Lowestoft. Colin's children remember how the secretary-treasurer of the British Union Conference became their good-fun dad when he got home from the office, and would play badminton and broomstick hockey as a part of their team against the neighbours. And on Friday evenings, after studying the Sabbath School lesson, the family would sit around the fire while their father recited the poetry of Robert Burns with great gusto. Colin was proud of his Scottish heritage and in 1974 he and his wife moved back to his beloved homeland to take responsibility for the Crieff Nursing Home and Health Centre, and to oversee the purchase and development of Roundelwood. Through nine difficult years he battled with overdrafts and little income. Many times he told the staff, 'We are just turning the corner', until they asked how many corners there could possibly be left to turn. The existence of Roundelwood today is a tribute to the foundation Colin laid and his dogged determination against considerable difficulties and opposition. Sadly, Colin's wife Eve died in 1983, the year after he retired. He found solace walk-

ing the paths in the mountains and woods, beside rivers and lochs, surrounding his home. He always had a cheerful word for a friend or stranger he met along the way, and also talked with God about his family. As his eyesight failed, he prepared his sermons using texts from memory and memorising the themes so that he could preach without notes or prompting. In 1988 Colin married Brenda Smith (the widow of Pastor Clifford Smith) and they loved their little home in Comrie which was always open to visitors and friends and was always full of warmth and laughter. Colin's grandchildren adored him. He knew how to relate to little children and teenagers, and was affectionately known as and called, 'Dearie' by all of them. It was his grandsons Alister, Duncan and Alex, together with his son Stewart, who carried his coffin into the Crieff church. His faithful tweed hat, walking stick and walking boots were placed on the coffin, while a group of musicians, led by his son-in-law Robin Spearing, played gentle Scottish music. Tributes were given by his grandson Duncan Halls and Pastor Martin Bell, and prayer and thanksgiving and praise to God, the creator, by Pastor Ernest Logan. Before a piper led the coffin from the church for the final committal at the Perth crematorium, the congregation sang with full volume and full conviction,

'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.'

G. MARTIN BELL

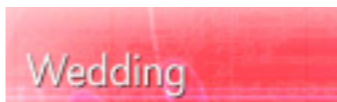
Tributes have been received from throughout the British Isles and overseas for Colin Wilson, a remarkable man and servant of God.

ETHEL NEAL (1914-2004) d. 25 September. It was with sadness that we heard of the death of Ethel Neal at the age of 90. She had been a devout Methodist from childhood and she came into the Adventist church during a campaign held by Pastor Ken Lacey, joining with a company who were meeting at the Friends' Meeting House in Wellingborough. When she married Stan

Breton they both moved up to Manchester, where her son Clive was born. They eventually moved back to Northamptonshire and she worked at John White's shoe factory in Rushden, teaching young women the shoe trade. She was remembered as a person who was always willing to listen to other people's problems. Ethel had a strong faith in God and a love of nature. She met and married Eric Neal

some time after Stan's death and they had a few happy years together until he died. Ethel spent her later years in a residential home but she had access to the garden where she enjoyed the flowers and the birds. She would visit the other residents who could not leave their rooms and this lifted their spirits. Some members of the Kettering church remember her fondly for the uplifting and encouraging letters

that she wrote to them. A Thanksgiving service was held at the Kettering crematorium on 6 October at which her son Clive gave a wonderful testimony about his mother and her life, which had been quite a difficult one. Pastor Brian Robinson, the local pastor, conducted the service and reminded those present of the resurrection Hope. *AUDREY P. LEWIS*



WOODYATT-MacDONALD Thunderstorms were forecast for midday on Sunday 8 August – just the time the wedding was due to commence. However, like most of the other arrangements needed for such an occasion the weather had been pre-ordered some eighteen months before and the Supplier delivered, faith prevailed and the umbrellas were left at home! It was exceptionally humid but dry until the last photograph had been taken outside and then the spots began to fall, but nothing could have ruined such a wonderful and special day for Lucie, daughter of Stewart and Liz, and Matheau, son of Doug and Jayne from Wolverhampton. The marriage took place at the small and picturesque parish church of Barnwood in Gloucester. The Revd Paul Green officiated and local minister Mick Smart gave the sermonette based on favourite passages of scripture chosen by the couple and read during the service by Josh youngest brother of Mat. 'So I tell you, don't worry about everyday life – whether you have enough food, drink and clothes... Matt. 6:25-34, and 'For I know the plans I have for you'

Jer. 29:11-13. Mick also advised them to listen to one another and base their marriage on making each other happy and not themselves. A small version of the worship band from the Leamington Spa church, led by Rob Pearce, accompanied and enhanced the singing of some uplifting worship songs. Victoria Kowarin accompanied herself on the piano

giving a beautiful and meaningful rendition of the worship song, 'Hungry, I come to you'. The entire service was such a great opportunity to witness to family and friends unaccustomed to churchgoing and many expressed how much they had enjoyed the experience. Matheau was aided by best man Mark Castillino, while Lucie's sister Helen, Mat's sis-

ter Sam and friend Caroline Pace were maids to the bride. Daniel Barham efficiently carried out his duty of pageboy and ring carrier, and Amy Woolridge was the delightful flowergirl. We wish the newlyweds much happiness and may God richly bless them in their life together. *LIZ MacDONALD*

They do listen!

Merseyside member Ronald Standley recently wrote to the BBC regarding evolutionary teachings in science and nature programmes.

'Dear Sir or Madam,' he wrote, 'I enjoy watching the excellent nature programmes on the BBC but get irritated by the repeated mention of millions of years in connection with the theory of evolution of life on earth. I understand the BBC has taken a position that favours evolution, but many thousands of thinking people find this hard to swallow, and it detracts from the enjoyment of your programmes.'

'As a Christian myself, and believing the Bible to be the inspired word of God, I find the atheistic presentation of evolution to be damaging to our nation as a whole. As the television medium is so powerful in influencing the lives of many, I would ask you to reconsider your approach, and try to give a more balanced view of the origins of life on earth, more in keeping with the Christian heritage of this country.'

Their reply is too long to quote here, but among other things,

they said: 'We have certainly noted your request for a more balanced approach', and 'The BBC makes all comments available to senior management and programme makers so that in future they can be consulted in decision making on policy and programmes.'

So they do listen! The letters that are read and taken seriously are brief and to the point. Since no one likes criticism, you should include, as Brother Standley did, some comments regarding what you like about their programmes.

Why not write to Points of View, BBC, PO Box 1922, Glasgow G2 3WT. You never know, your letter could make a difference!

LECTURERS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

The SEC Higher Education Chaplaincy Department would like to contact all lecturers and other personnel who work in establishments of higher education across the UK. We would like your help in contacting and supporting Adventist students.

Please contact us by mail: SEC Youth Department, 25 St John's Road, Watford, WD17 1PZ. Tel: 01923 232728, Fax: 01923 250582, Email: youth@secadventist.org.uk.

< 8
Driven by Grace

delegates of the Adventist Church to Belfast, then spoke of the vibrancy and energy that could be found in the wonderful city of Belfast and how over the years the city had changed despite the troubles and the fragility of the peace. She thanked Pastor Murphy for his invitation and he, in turn, presented Councillor Patterson with a small token of gratitude.

Pastor Edwards then gave the keynote address entitled 'Wonderful Grace'. Taking the words of Paul in 1 Corinthians 15, he explored what made up the church, and asked what was its DNA and what was it that motivated the members. He took the experience of Paul's stoning at Lystra and asked what it was that motivated him to get up despite the hardship – and to keep preaching Christ. He told us that 'Paul was driven by grace' and he challenged us to consider what was driving us.

After the preliminaries on Saturday evening it was time for Pastor Murphy

to give the President's Report, which began with an impressive video presentation skilfully put together by Chris Riley a student missionary from Tasmania. Pastor Murphy thanked all those who had worked so hard over the past three years. Special appreciation was recorded for the support of the Emerald Foundation which raises funds to maintain Grianach House School in Galway, and to those workers who had been a part of the mission over the years but had moved on to new pastures.

Over the remainder of the weekend we heard from each of the various departments and how God had blessed the work in Ireland. Many took the opportunity to ask questions and explore a little further what had been happening and to make suggestions for the future.

As we look to the future we pray that God will continue to be the guiding influence that he has been over the years and that the Adventist Church in Ireland will continue to flourish and grow.

Delegates at Large:
Pastor C R Perry
Pastor C G Murphy
Pastor D McCormac
Dr L Sharp
Dr M de Groot
Pastor K Papaioannou

Pastor E C Lowe
Mrs I Dickie
Mr J McNamara
Mrs A McCormac
Pastor M Logan

Mr V Pilmoor
Mr A Keough
Mrs F Moody
Mrs M Cully
Pastor A Kapusi

Regular Delegates:
Mrs S Burns
Mrs N Magee
Mrs L Walker
Mr E McKee
Mr P Lowry
Mr R McCormac
Mr B Eardley
Ms B Msiphu
Mrs K Hillier
Mr O Martyn
Mr R Johnston
Mr P O'Callaghan
Mr R McAuley

Mrs C Magee
Mrs J McKibben
Mrs R Hamblin
Ms H McCormac
Mr R Little
Ms R Douglas
Mr N Sisson
Mr B Drijaca
Mr A Hill
Mr N Emm
Mrs K Broomfield
Mr A Rothwell
Mrs A McNally

Mr M Hamblin
Mr D Muldrew
Mr D McKee
Mrs E Irvine
Mr R Brown
Mr K Doherty
Mr A Rotaru
Mr A Hillier
Mr T O'Rourke
Mr A Broomfield
Mrs S Stephenson
Mrs E Wilson
Mrs S Lake

Additional Delegates:
Miss E Robartson
Mr P Nesbitt

Mr A Kongari
Mr D Clydesdale

Voted to accept the following names for the Recommendations Committee:

Chairman	Pastor C R Perry		
Banbridge	Mrs Sharon Burns	Mrs Jenny McKibben	
Belfast	Mr Edward McKee	Mr Robert McCormac	
Coleraine	Mr Kenneth Doherty		
Dublin	Mr Niall Sisson (Secretary)	Mr Alex Hill	
Galway	Mr John McNamara		
Larne	Mr Robert Johnston		
Mission	Pastor Mike Logan	Mr Stephen Lake	Mr Paul Nesbitt

Nominating Committee:

Pastor C R Perry	Eileen Irvine (Secretary)	
Andrew Broomfield	Kenny Doherty	Ruth Hamblin
Niall Sisson	Evelyn Wilson	Tony O'Rourke

Credential & Licences Committee:

Pastor Curtis Murphy	Pastor Eric Lowe	Pastor Mart de Groot (Secretary)
Mr John McNamara	Mrs Francis Moody	

Plans Committee:

Victor Pilmoor (Chair)	Anton Kapusi	Douglas McCormac
Curtis Murphy	Kim Papaioannou	Ashley Kongari
Mike Logan	Kathy Hillier	Heather McCormac
Adam Kongari	Nelly Magee	Rosie Douglas
Ross McAuley	David Clydesdale	Andrei Rotaru
Nigel Emm	Stephen Lake	
Patrick O'Callaghan		

Important items:

Voted to recommend that the incoming executive give serious consideration to establishing an office in the Republic of Ireland with a view to taking advantage of Gift Aid and benefits for ADRA-Ireland. It is understood that changes would be initiated within the coming triennium. Voted to reactivate the proposal that information with respect to IM minutes promised last session be included in the Irish Mission Newsletter.

Voted to approve the following sponsors:

Youth sponsor	Adam Keough
Stewardship & Trust Services	Mart de Groot
Communication	Douglas McCormac
Children's Ministries	Nelly Magee
Personal Ministries	Curtis Murphy
Women's Ministries North	Ruth Hamblin

Women's Ministries South
Sabbath School North
Sabbath School South

Betty Sisson
Nigel Emm
Evelyn Wilson

Voted to record appreciation to retiring sponsors including Reg Swain, Niall Sisson, Marion Cully, Annie McCormac and Nathan Stickland.

Voted to accept the following as the Executive Committee for the coming triennium:
Curtis Murphy, Victor Pilmoor, Adam Keough, Anton Kapusi, Linda Soretan, Tony O'Rourke, Raymond Little, Sharon Burns, Sylvia Marcu

The Plans Committee:

Free flow sharing of ideas took place. A variety of people felt that more emphasis could be placed on the Health and Family Ministry providing this was conducted as an authentic expression of community. The executive committee is to consider how this might be expressed and implemented.

A need for local church officers to create network relationships as a means of improvement was expressed. A letter of recognition and encouragement should be shared with new groups identified in Limerick and Burr.

A commitment to a minimum level of witness should be encouraged including the willingness to share one ABC card per member per day for example. A suggestion was made that churches should develop interest co-ordinators to develop better methods of embracing transient members and visitors.

Concern was expressed for a more disciplined approach with regard to sermon length and Sabbath School discussion and a note that well planned children's stories often hit the spot.

Report of the Credentials and Licences Committee:

Ordained Ministers:	Douglas McCormac	Kim Papaioannou
Anton Kapusi	Mike Logan	
Mart de Groot		

Ministerial Licences:

Adam Keough	Ashley Kongari
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Lay Preachers:

Mrs E Irvine	Mr V McCormac	Mr T Thompson
Mr A Johnston	Mr A Broomfield	Mr R Little
Mr R Doherty	Mr R Cooper	Mr S Moffet
Day Marira	Dhumisani Bhebe	Victor Thomas
Fungai Sakaike	Joseph Adam	Makho Madubenko
Mrs A O'Brien	Mr D Kirwin	Mr T O'Rourke
Mr J McNamara	Mr T Mulveen	Mrs F Moody
Mr D Muldrew	Mrs R Hamblin	Mrs E Wilson
Mr E McCullagh	Mr B Rothwell	Mr A Hill
Mr N Reid	Mr S Marcu	

Literature-evangelist Credentials:

Mr P Nesbitt	Mr H Wills
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Commissioned Teacher Credentials:

Mrs N Mulveen	Miss C Dorman
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Missionary Credentials:

Mr V Murphy

A vote of thanks was expressed for the presence of the Adventist Book Centre with a request that they visit more often.



ABC BOOK SALES

January

23 West Midlands	10am-2pm
30 John Loughborough	10am-2pm

Wishing all our members a very blessed and prosperous New Year!

Thank you. The acting principal of the Adventist Discovery Centre acknowledges with sincere thanks a donation of £300 received in November from the Manchester area.
THELMA HODGES

Messenger

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EDITOR: D. N. MARSHALL

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Sunset

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	Lond	Card	Nott	Edin	Belf
Jan 7	4.10	4.22	4.06	3.58	4.17
14	4.20	4.32	4.17	4.10	4.28
21	4.31	4.43	4.29	4.23	4.41
28	4.43	4.55	4.42	4.38	4.54

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