

ADRA Annual Ingathering Appeal? By all means!

by David Cox
Personal Ministries director, BUC



Have you noticed that the annual Ingathering campaign seems to come round more frequently than annual holidays? Maybe that's because the Ingathering period is longer than the holiday period. We have only two or three weeks for collecting, but it's already been MESSANGER headlines for several weeks, and for me certain butterflies (the stomach variety) arrived earlier this year than usual: the daffodils I associate with the start of Ingathering started blooming in February instead of March.

Why am I saying this? Because I know I'm not the only one who has to take a deep breath and pray for strength when I knock on my first door. For most of us it doesn't come naturally. But is that sufficient reason for not doing our part? I don't think so. Join me in taking courage from a few reflections.

God moments

I usually feel closer to God when I pray than when I'm reading the newspaper. And I have to lean more on God when I'm asking people to give to ADRA than when I'm paying my bill at the supermarket check-out. Going door to door, I meet a surprising number of truly good people, and occasionally have the opportunity to talk heart to heart. God draws near.

It's not about me

At the end of the day ADRA Ingathering isn't about me and my pathetic butterflies. It's about others and their desperate needs. Others I've never met to be sure, except via the TV, perhaps, or more importantly via Jesus, and he's Someone most of us *have* met. Remember that he did say something to the effect that we meet him in the person of the poor?

But it IS about me

I stand corrected. ADRA Ingathering *is* about me. Whether I like it or not (and I can't say that I do) we grow through doing the difficult things. We don't grow, spiritually or otherwise, by doing only the things we find easy. This has to be one of the main reasons why God

has invited us to partner with him in the building of his kingdom, even though he could do it all by himself. What Jesus did with the loaves and fishes he could do with coins and bank notes. But he doesn't because he wants us to grow. One Bible translation says, 'Grow up!' (*The Message* on Matthew 5:48.)

Feel-good factor

There is a sense of satisfaction that is gained through doing something worthwhile, that is gained in no other way. With ADRA Ingathering, I find this comes after I've knocked on the last door for the day; at the end of the collection period; and at any time I think forward and remember what my small contribution will accomplish. I see the smile on the faces of the street children who have been given their first real home with ADRA; I hear the laughter from a group of women who no longer have to carry water every day for two miles, because the village now has its own clean water well. And I feel good.

More ways than one

So far I've only reflected on the discipline of knocking on doors to solicit donations. But what about the discipline of walking or running 13 miles in the ADRA half marathon planned for 20 March in Hyde Park? Or the discipline of preparing food for a fund-raising meal at home for friends and neighbours? Or the discipline of a sponsored silence (Holloway youth have done this)? Or the discipline of washing cars, digging gardens, organising a concert or a

boot or garage sale, or a hundred other creative ways of raising money? We must *by all means* send help to those who need it.

More not less

All of the above begs the question of why ADRA Ingathering lasts for *only 2/3 weeks*. Shouldn't it be an all-year-round thing? Well, in the early days Ingathering did last all year. And the work of ADRA is 24/7/12 – it never stops. Let's not think our work is finished once the daffodils have gone. The needs remain. So why shouldn't a local church adopt an ADRA project long-term? Why not do the hands-on thing and join a short-term mission team abroad? And why not get involved locally in serving the people of your town and your street, all year round? I can't think of any good reason. Can you?

Let's just do it. By all means!



Annual Collection: 26 March - 10 April
(extends to 17 April in Greater London)



Government approves million-pound ADRA aid

by John Surridge



Since the tsunami disaster first struck in South East Asia ADRA-UK has been working on project proposals to help in rebuilding some of the devastated communities. Two of these projects have now been approved by the Department for International Development (DFID), meaning that the UK Government will be giving ADRA-UK nearly a million pounds to carry out its relief work. The two approved projects are both located in Sri Lanka and the first of these, the Sri Lanka Tangalle Livelihoods Recovery Project, will assist 1,000 of the worst affected households in the Tangalle coastal communities of the Hambantota District of Sri Lanka. The second, the Sri Lanka Ampara Transitional Shelter Water Project, will provide clean water for 5,000 households in the coastal Grama Niladhari villages of the Ampara district in southern Sri Lanka.

Speaking of the first project, which will help to increase the incomes of households by getting the people involved in sustainable non-fishery related work, ADRA-UK director Raafat Kamal said, 'It will last about six months. During that time we expect that about 80% of the people will have moved into dairy production while the others will take up other agricultural activities such as goat and poultry farming, kitchen gardening, and honey production. Forty households will be engaged in fish pond cultivation which, while it may not be a complete substitute for the kind of fishing the people are used to, will provide regular and sustainable jobs and income.'

Speaking about the second project area, the

Grama Niladhari villages of the Ampara district in southern Sri Lanka, Raafat said, 'These people are currently living in transitional shelter camps which have been provided by the Government. Good sources of water and a sound distribution infrastructure are vital to prevent water-related illnesses. Our project will supply and fit 1,000 water tanks, four water browsers which will pump water

from different inland wells, a regular delivery service so the tanks are supplied with clean water, fifty local hand pumps, and a high volume well, close to shelter facilities. A water disinfection unit will provide up to 5,000 litres of clean water per hour and each of the 5,000 households in the shelters will have their own 25 litre secure and sealed water container ensuring that drinking water is kept free of contamination. A final element to the project is training. Members of each household will participate in training activities such as personal hygiene, water storage and potable water techniques. We will also be training Government personnel in the use of mobile water analysis equipment to ensure that the water sources used in the shelter facilities are clean.'

An Invitation

Newbold College alumni are invited to the Spring Alumni Gathering at Newbold

Sabbath 30 April 2005
(May Day Bank Holiday Weekend)

Sabbath morning service speaker: Dr Laurence Turner
music: alumni choir
lunch
concert

time to meet old friends and think new thoughts

RSVP

Pat Dyckhoff
Tel: 01344-407583

email: pdyckhoff@newbold.ac.uk

Sandra Rigby Barrett (alumni choir)
Tel: 01344-407479

email: srigby.barrett@newbold.ac.uk

www.newbold.ac.uk/alumni

Healthwise

Sudan 2 FSA 0

The UK Food Standards Agency (FSA) has called for the removal of 100s of food items containing minute traces of the carcinogenic agent *Sudan 1* from all grocery retail outlets and ranging from vegetable soups to more processed items.

Sudan 1 was made illegal recently when it was discovered that the colouring caused cancer in animal experiments. The colouring agent is used in the production of shoe and floor polishes, waxes, solvents, oil and petrol. In the instance under investigation it was used to enhance the colour of chilli powder which was subsequently

purchased by the manufacturers of a particular brand of Worcester sauce.

Crosse and Blackwell bought in good faith before the substance was declared illegal, which was when *Sudan 1* was already in the food chain. The Worcester sauce is used as a flavouring agent in an extremely wide range of food items and where you might least expect them. (A full list of the recalled items can be found at www.food.gov.uk.)

In truth there is little if any risk from *Sudan 1* in the quantities in which it is found in all the food items concerned. As an ingredient it is too minute to be labelled either in

the original Worcester sauce or in the end products containing the sauce ingredient. This is zero tolerance policy at best.

There is some suggestion that the FSA acted too late in informing manufacturers, retailers, and the general public since some of the supermarket chains were already withdrawing items from their shelves before the FSA announcement, hence the nil points awarded to them in my title!

There is another reason for their negative score. While acting over the issue of *Sudan 1*, causing literally millions of pounds to be lost because of the withdrawal and destruction of food items, the Agency is being taken to task for their slowness in dealing with other food items

of concern. Health Agencies have pointed out that there is *greater* risk from the high quantities of salt, sugar and fat in the diet. The FSA has the authority to make recommendations on all of these ingredients in its watchdog role on nutrition and health, but has failed to act.

The Health Secretary Dr John Read is open to the introduction of new food labelling ideas as simple as ABC or colour codes. What neither he nor the FSA will do is to tread on the toes of the food industry and impose restrictions on the *really* harmful elements of the national diet. Let the score stand!



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

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The challenge is to make a difference in our world by being different in our lives.

'By this all will know that you are my disciples,' said Jesus, 'if you have love for one another.' (John 13:35, NKJV.)

Does that mean that people are entitled to conclude that we are not the disciples of Jesus if we do not love one another? It does. 'A new commandment I give to you . . .' (13:34.) Remember? And you can void the Ten by ignoring the one; 'that you love one another'. Break one, break all. And that one, that *new commandment*, is a summary of the others: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart' and 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' That new commandment expresses the ten positively.

So what was new about the 'new commandment'? Jesus had shown them how to love and, in this final, inclusive commandment, he was saying, 'I have shown you *how*. Now do it.'

Why was the new commandment so important? Jesus was about to leave his disciples, and was saying, 'When my tangible presence is gone the main evidence that I am still around is going to be the extent to which *my* love is reflected in *your* lives.'

What am I saying?

Just this.

If love is absent among us it means Jesus is absent.

'Behold I stand at the door': on the outside, notice. Until we let him in, the Church cannot make its final proclamation to the world.

The Kingdom does not come by committee action. It comes as Christ lives in me, lives in you and through us has access to the collective life of the Church.

Church growth depends on church health. That is why church health has to take on a certain priority at present. Specifically *spiritual* health. To be even more specific, we are suffering from a lack of love. To Laodicea, the Risen Christ said, 'Buy from me gold, tried in the fire.' Ellen White said the gold symbolised faith and love.

Christ has them. We need them. Let's pray to receive them.

'See how these Christians love one another!' was a statement made of an early generation of Christians. They still remembered the words of Jesus, 'This is how the world will know if you're mine: whether you love one another.' Notice, it is not by our creed or our list of 'fundamentals'. It is not by the clothes we wear. It is not by the hymns we sing. It is not the style of worship we practise. It is by whether we love one another. That is how the world will know whether or not we are Christ's.

'The measure in which Christian people fail in love to each other is the measure in which the world does not believe in them, or their Christianity,' wrote G. Campbell Morgan. I'm still thinking about that one!

The final test of discipleship is, 'Do we love one another?' Jesus said so.

Since the 70s there has been a lot of stress on salvation by faith (as opposed to salvation by behaviour). That is good: salvation is through Christ's works, not ours.

George Knight tells us that that emphasis started

in the mid-50s by way of a reaction to the legalistic Adventism of the 30s and 40s.

Understandable, and theologically justifiable.

But, with that emphasis on faith, did our emphasis on Christian behaviour – or discipleship – disappear altogether? Christianity has got to change the way we behave – otherwise the world is entitled to conclude that it doesn't work.

Just before Paul lists 'the fruit of the Spirit' (love and eight facets of Love: 'joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control'),¹ he lists 'the works of the flesh'.² And these are: 'adultery, fornication, uncleanness, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revels and the like'.

Er . . . a disturbing list, right?

Now go back and reread the fruit of the Spirit.

Compare Paul's lists.

Which characteristics are most prevalent in your local congregation?

The fruit of the Spirit? Phew! That's a relief!

Of the other list, although there is a conspicuous absence of sorcery, murders and drunkenness in our congregations – praise God! – some of the others are not completely unknown . . .

. . . contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath. . .

The fact is, of course, that all should be entirely absent.

Some of the best Christians I have known have been Seventh-day Adventists.

Some of the worst Christians I have known have been Seventh-day Adventists.

(Okay, that, in part, has to be because I know a lot of Seventh-day Adventists!)

But some of the bad ones have really been shockers. What has made the difference between the saints and the shockers has not been the presence (or absence) of sin. We are all sinners. Indeed, by the standard of Jesus, we must, at times, appear a bit much of a muchness!

The difference has been made by the presence (or absence) of love.

Love makes shockers into saints.

But the shockers have always felt that they were right. Indeed, in some cases, they have become shockers through harbouring no self-doubt with regard to the assumption that they were right. (Osama bin Laden thinks he's right.)

If what makes you right is the Truth (or Gospel) of Christ, then it will transform you into a loving and lovable Christian. If what makes you right is just a spirit of arrogance then you will be spiritually arrogant and, like the Pharisees, yet another example of bad (false) religion.

'Christ's love compels us.'³ And what is so compulsive about Christ's love? In a word, the cross. In Paul's words, 'because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for

The strongest argument



with David Marshall

The strongest argument for Christianity is not something that you say but something that you are

themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.⁴

When you are compelled by Christ's love, only one course of action is open to you. And it will not make you a shocker! Sainthood, however, is not the work of a moment. That's conversion. Sainthood, in a complete sense, takes a lifetime. But the compelling love of Christ is what redirects and propels our lives.

We are saved by grace, so we should be gracious.

Salvation comes about through the Saviour's love, so we should be loving.

Do you know the strongest argument for Christianity? A loving and lovable Christian.⁵

A man's message will always be heard in the context of his character.⁶ So let it be a character of love. The strongest argument for Christ is not something that you say, it is something that you are.

References:

¹Galatians 5:22-23, NKJV. ²Verses 19-21. ³2 Corinthians 5:14, NIV. ⁴2 Corinthians 5:14, 15. ⁵Ministry of Healing, page 410. ⁶William Barclay, *Daily Study Bible: Corinthians* (St Andrew Press), page 208.



Germany, were part of ADRA-Sri Lanka's efforts to provide shelter and household items to about 3,000 people in the area. Eventually, after days of negotiations with officials, many forms being filled in, and help from the Sri Lankan Army and Navy, the tents reached their final destination. In her latest report Arlene Senior tells of the impact that just one of the tents will have:

'Neil De Silva and his family will receive one of over 200 tents that ADRA-Sri Lanka is distributing as part of its tsunami relief effort. "We once had a nice house, nice surrounding land and a good business," De Silva said. "Now most of our home is damaged, the cars that I sold for my business have been swept away and we are left with nothing."

'De Silva is one of thousands whose homes and livelihoods were completely destroyed in the 26 December tsunami. ADRA-Sri Lanka is responding to this devastation by

securing money from partnering ADRA country offices and donors worldwide. The money will be used for projects that provide Sri Lankans with clean water, new homes and alternative ways of supporting their families.

'Project director Anita Obenaus and her team have been working with the Sri Lanka Navy to co-ordinate the distribution of the tents at the Galle Divisional Secretary's office. Anita talked about the impact of the tsunami during the distribution process. "It will take time to build houses and communities again. ADRA wants to rebuild hope in the life of the people affected – a temporary shelter and a household kit are like a drop in the ocean. But many drops can fill a bucket, a bucket of hope that makes a difference for one life, and another, and another. This is ADRA's motto: changing the world, one life at a time – and I will add: one step at a time."

Sri Lanka: Tsunami relief continues

In a recent issue of MESSENGER ADRA-UK consultant Arlene Senior reported on some of the difficulties she and her fellow ADRA workers

were having in getting a shipment of tents through customs and to their destination in the Galle district of Sri Lanka. The tents, donated by ADRA-

BUC workers' meetings in Kidderminster

Nearly two hundred ministers and other workers from the two Conferences and three Missions of the Adventist Church in the UK and Ireland came together on 21-24 February at the Pioneer Centre near Kidderminster for four days of study, worship and fellowship. In his keynote address, Pastor C. R. Perry expanded on the theme of the meetings – 'United in Witness of Truth' – and said that as ministers for God we all need to ask a crucial question, 'Am I true to myself?'

The event was organised by BUC Ministerial Association director Pastor Alan Hodges, who had invited three special guest speakers: Dr Alden Thompson, Dr Roy Adams, and Mr Ian Hamilton. Dr Thompson's lectures followed the theme of 'Pictures to Help Your Church Study the Bible and Stay Together'. Dr Thompson

demonstrated Ellen G. White's spiritual journey. 'She matured and



Photos: Peter Jaynes and John Surridge



this principle by studying a number of Bible characters. Dr Roy Adams spoke on 'Issues Facing the Church'. Of his contribution one pastor wrote, 'If ever there is someone who exudes authority it is Roy Adams. I cannot think of anyone sitting inside the GC building who is trusted over here more than Roy Adams. He is one of the finest Christian gentlemen one could wish to meet. His preaching is authoritative but humble. A regular visitor to Britain and known well through the pages of the *Adventist Review* he seems to have his finger on the pulse about where Adventism is at.'

During Wednesday and Thursday we explored the theme, 'United in witness of Truth.' Alan Hush woke us gently from our slumber on Wednesday morning with a time of prayer and reflection. Although the Pioneer Centre caters for a younger client, it did remarkably well in catering for we older pastors and, of course, the ones not so old.

Each morning we were delivered a feast of a breakfast and the canteen buzzed with the sound of friends and colleagues catching up on old times and sharing experiences.

On Wednesday morning Roy Adams spoke on a topic he admitted not dealing with much: spiritual warfare. Ian Hamilton then continued the morning session by asking the question, 'What does it take to plant a church?' Ian has been a regular face at conference meetings, talking on the need for a structured church planting strategy with-in Christian churches. He also spent time with the pastors, speaking on what it means to be a leader and how to overcome some of the burnout by getting our priorities right and concentrating on what God has called us to do.

Wednesday was also the day we let down our hair and tried some physical activity. The

developed,' he said. Ian Hamilton, from Church Resource Ministries, gave a series of presentations entitled 'Finishing Well'. He challenged his audience to redefine what they considered to be success and suggested his own definition: 'Success is finding out what God wants you to do and then doing it.' He illustrated

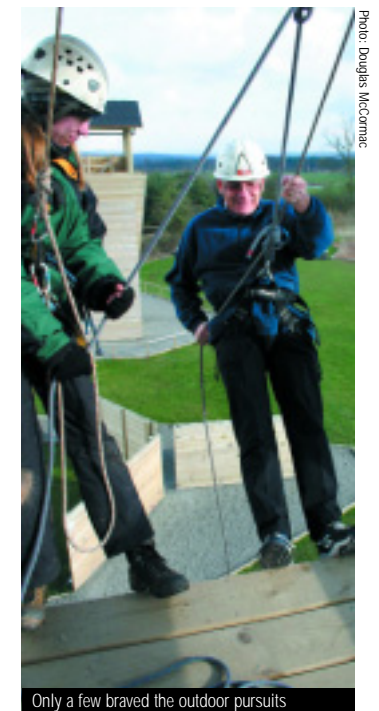
Pioneer Centre offered archery, table tennis, soccer, climbing, abseiling and there was even a high-wire activity. Freezing temperatures and blizzards prevented many from opting for outdoor activities, but a small number did wrap up warm and brave the elements.

After all the physical activity it was time for Newbold's Daniel Duda to bring us down to earth and back to the Bible. Time was also spent in the afternoon discussing various issues that affected the Church and we were also given an opportunity to ask questions of the BUC officers.

Pastor Egerton Francis closed the official proceedings for the day by looking at John 17 and Christ's prayer for unity. But that was not the end, and Eddie Hypolite and Lee Gallaher entertained us with some very frightening images of people without their makeup and some very special inventions that came all the way from Japan to make a pastor's life a bit easier.

Thursday's activities, unfortunately, were cut short by the bad weather and many found themselves leaving early.

Each day was so packed with meetings and workshops we were left with little time to wonder about what was happening back home and, before we knew it, it was time to go. As they say in Ireland, 'the craic was great', and most of all, the time spent and shared with peers, friends and colleagues, although filled with meetings, was restful and recharging.



Only a few braved the outdoor pursuits

Hackney street fair

by Darell Philip

Photo: Paolo Messina



It was August last year that the Hackney church held its first-ever street fair. Members of the Haggerston community, where the church is based, came out and took part in the activities that members had to offer. And there was something for everyone. Children took part in a sack race, bounced on the bouncy castle and demonstrated their ball skills in the football com-

petition, while their parents were treated to a massage and aromatherapy session by Miriam Barham, a health practitioner. Young people volunteered to wash the cars of local residents in the community while the car owners had a drink and ate some of the great food on offer and fellowshiped with members of the church.

£150 was raised and will be used to support the youth department who were influential in putting this programme together. Adrian Blake, 18, and one of the youth leaders at the time said, 'The street fête was a chance for members of our local community to come out, have some fun and get to know about the church. It was a good day and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, as well as finding out a bit more about the church.'

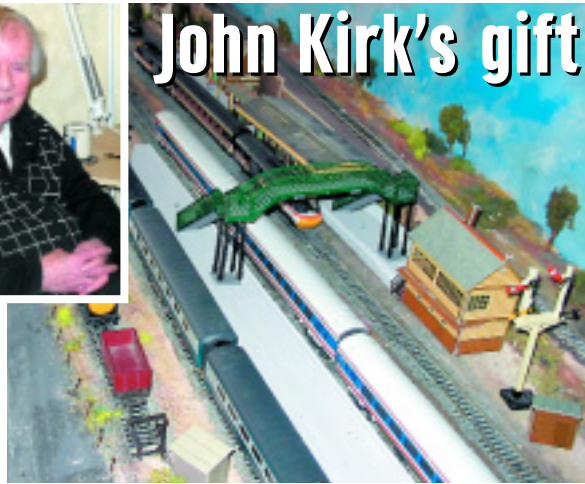
All in all, it proved to be a highly successful and enjoyable day, and plans are being made to have a much bigger and better street fair in September.

Baptism and wedding anniversary

Myles Obeney has visited Wood Green church on rare occasions, but this visit was different. After attending Wood Green for a long time, his wife Theresa expressed her wish to be baptised. She affirmed her stand for Christ, sup-



John Kirk's gift



ported by family, friends and church members on 2 August 2003.

It was at his wife's baptism that Myles responded to an altar call by Pastor Keith Boldeau, minister of Wood Green and Palmers Green churches. Myles began attending church regularly with his wife and requested Bible studies, which were conducted by Pastor Boldeau in their home, and on 19 June 2004 Myles publicly made his declaration to follow Christ. Again family members and friends were made very happy.

When asked what led him to make his decision for Christ, he replied, 'I acknowledge that as a sinner I need Christ in my life. It is also my hope to be ready for the Second Coming of Christ.'

To add to their happiness Myles and Theresa celebrated their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary on 4 July, at which time Pastor Boldeau asked Brother Obeney what advice he would give to younger married couples and those contemplating marriage. 'Never be afraid to say I am sorry,' was his reply.

Family, friends and well-wishers shared their happy occasion. May God bless them as they continue to share their lives together. *COMMUNICATION SECRETARY*

Brixton gives £5,000

The members of Brixton gave unflinchingly the sum of over £5,000 to the tsunami appeal. It was encouraging to see the overwhelming response shown in support of a people displaced by disaster. The overriding thought was that God is depending on us to do our part and in so doing we will help those depending on us to rebuild their lives shattered by tragedy.

JOAN REID

SITUATIONS VACANT
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The post of **Nursery Manager** will be available from September 2005. If you would like to join our team and are enthusiastic, innovative and committed to quality learning; experienced in teaching the early years; are suitably qualified: minimum NNEB or NVQ3 in Early Years, and are a committed Adventist, please send your CV to address below.

The post of **Key Stage 1 Teacher** will also be available from September. If you would like to join our team, and are enthusiastic, innovative and committed to quality learning; possess a recognised teaching qualification; are experienced or newly-qualified, and are a committed Adventist, please send CV to: The Headteacher, Stanborough Primary School, Appletree Walk, Garston, Watford, Herts, WD25 0DQ.

BRITISH UNION CONFERENCE
Full-time vacancy for a **Groundsman for Stanborough Park Estate**, from May 2005. Applicants must have relevant skills and experience in estate management, and be sympathetic to the ethics and values of the Adventist Church. Application forms from: BUC Secretariat, BUC Offices, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts., WD25 9JZ. Tel: 01923 672251. **Closing date: 7 April.**

John Kirk has an inspirational story and an amazing gift that he's using to God's glory.

After a miraculous conversion he came back to church. While visiting his daughter, John suffered a severe stroke which left him paralysed on his left side. 'I was unable to stand, walk or sit up easily. My speech was impaired and I could not swallow. My left arm and hand were useless and my leg dragged. God did not leave me there. He gave me the determination to get up and go to church, to be rebaptised and this time surrender my life to my Saviour for real.

'Adjusting to my physical condition was not easy. Trying to do things with one hand took a lot of time and struggle. Getting to church for 9.30 meant getting up at six. Just trying to fasten the top button on my shirt takes as long as 20 minutes . . . but it

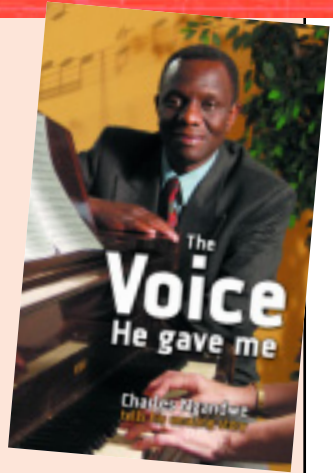
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was important that I exercise my hand to get my hand and brain to co-ordinate. I took up building models – boats and railways. I finally built one so extensive that it took over my bedroom and three years of my time. I made a deal with God. I said, "Lord if you

will help me to sell this layout for £500 I will give all the money to ADRA."

'I put it up for auction on e-bay. The bidding was open for a week and right up to the last hour we had only one bid of £250. Then a rush of bids, until the hour ended

with the final bid – £500 exactly. I kept my part of the bargain and ADRA received my cheque for £500.'

ADRA would like to thank John for sharing his life story with us and for his three-year fundraising effort!

Obituaries

Literature-evangelist MURIEL RUBY DOOLE (1923-2004) d. 14 November.

Muriel Doole was born in Belfast but grew up in Bournemouth where her mother became a Seventh-day Adventist. After Muriel had been ridiculed in school for not being able to recite Psalm 23 from memory, she decided that this would not happen again. As a result, she learned many Bible passages and lots of hymns by heart. Back in Northern Ireland, Muriel was baptised in the former Belfast church building in Florenceville by Pastor Craven. She married Charles Dunbar in 1942 and they had three children: Ruby Henderson, Edward, and Thelma Hodges. Charles died shortly before Thelma was born. To provide for her young family, Muriel started selling books and magazines and became an outstandingly successful literature-evangelist, a profession she followed until her legs could no longer carry her. She married again in 1960, and her second husband, George Doole, died in 1982, leaving her a widow for the second time. Muriel was a well-known figure in many towns and villages of Northern Ireland. She spent her last year living with Ruby and died after a short spell in the Mid-Ulster Hospital in Magherafelt where it was the writer's privilege to serve Communion to her. After the funeral service in the Larne church, she was buried in the family grave in Ballymena. We remember her as the lady whom we loved to spoil a bit at church socials, and who could be rather forthright in her expressions. She loved her Lord and, together with her family, we look forward to meeting her again when Jesus returns.

MART DE GROOT

EVANS KUDZALA NJOLINJO (1962-2004) d. 22 November. Evans was born in Malawi in 1962, the fourth child in a family of six. After spending a few years in Zimbabwe, the

family returned to Malawi where Evens received his education. He was a bright student and went on to the University of Malawi to study commerce. After receiving his degree he worked for the Malawi Council for the Handicapped and the United Nations Development programme. In 1986 he married Agrida Kulunga and they were blessed with three children, a boy and two girls. When Evans came to England in 1992, his family accompanied him, and after one year's further study, he qualified as a chartered accountant. The family then settled in Wellingborough, Northants, where Evans finally decided to train as a psychiatric nurse. His cheerful and kindly personality made him a suitable candidate for this profession, and colleagues at St Andrew's Hospital, Northampton, spoke highly of his character and his work. His service there was cut short when in 2003 he underwent surgery for a brain tumour. He seemed to recover, even returning to work for a few weeks. This was short-lived and he began to deteriorate, finally receiving care at the Cransley Hospice, Kettering. He passed peacefully to his rest on 22 November. The funeral service was conducted by Pastor Brian Robinson, with tributes being paid by family, friends and colleagues. Our hearts go out to Agrida and the children, Dalitso, Mutilere, and Tanyada, also to his mother in Malawi, his brothers and sister. We hope and pray that it will not be long before we all meet again.

PASTOR R. E. HULBERT

PASTOR JIM FROST (1951-2004) d. 2 December. It is with the greatest sadness that we report the untimely death of Pastor Jim Frost, son of Jim and Joan Frost of Oulton Broad. Jim was a passenger in a light aircraft owned and operated by the Georgia-Cumberland Conference in the USA, which

tragically crashed, killing all but one of the people on board. At the time of his death, Jim was that conference's Vice-president for Administration. Jim had always wanted to enter the Adventist ministry. One Sabbath afternoon when he was just 3 years old, he went missing in the Southend church. His parents were on the point of calling the police when young Jim was found in the pulpit, practising his preaching. On being asked what he was up to, he said, 'Well Daddy, when I grow up, I want to be a preacher.' Jim spent most of his childhood in Gorleston, attending what was then the Great Yarmouth church. Upon leaving school he helped with his father's office cleaning business for a while and later worked at the Stanborough Press in Grantham, before going to Newbold to study theology. After only a couple of years he was persuaded by Pastor Zamora, of the Columbia Union College, to go to Guatemala to teach English. When trouble erupted between Britain and Guatemala over Belize, this stay, too, was cut short. Jim came under suspicion of being a British spy, and his passport was confiscated for a time, but once he got it back he made good his escape to Columbia, where he completed his BA. After a year in ministerial work there, he went on to Andrews University to complete an MA, before continuing his career in churches in the area of Washington DC, and at some time as chaplain at the Smyrna Adventist Hospital, in Tennessee. Eventually, he was called to the Albany church in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, and then to Gainesville, from where he was elected to the position of Conference Vice-president. Wherever he went, Jim was remembered for his warmth and great sense of humour. His secretary, Laurie Naus, says of him, 'He looked at people through the Lord's eyes. He always looked for the best in everyone. He was such a

pastor at heart. He had a genuine love for the people of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference.' Co-workers also remember him for his ability to understand and establish trust with all types of people, his tender approach and not least, his worships with their humorous beginnings and thought-provoking endings. Jim often visited Britain, taking up preaching appointments in a number of churches, where he was much appreciated. He was last here in September 2004, to lead the celebration service for his parents' sixtieth wedding anniversary at Oulton Broad. Despite the pain of their loss, Jim and Joan are thankful to the Lord for providing them with this special last memory of their son. Besides his parents, he leaves behind him his beloved wife Cindy and their teenage daughter Brittany, and four sisters who live in the UK.

(Grateful acknowledgement is given to the Georgia-Cumberland Conference Communiqué for some of the details in this notice.)
C. PEAKE

CLIFFORD SMALL (1913-2004) d. 25 December. The Bristol Lodge Causeway church mourns the loss of one of its most senior members. Brother Clifford Small died suddenly at the age of 91. Cliff joined the church in 1967, being baptised in the Lord by Pastor Tom Fielding at Bristol. Always a loyal, steadfast member, Cliff was characterised by his vigour and broad smile. The cremation service was conducted by the Revd Alex George at Canford crematorium, Bristol. Our sincere condolences go out to Cliff's sons Patrick and Andrew and their families, and to his stepson Pastor Alan Hodges and family. Clifford Small often expressed his personal, fervent hope in the soon return of Jesus to usher in his kingdom and raise to life those who sleep in him.
CHURCH CLERK

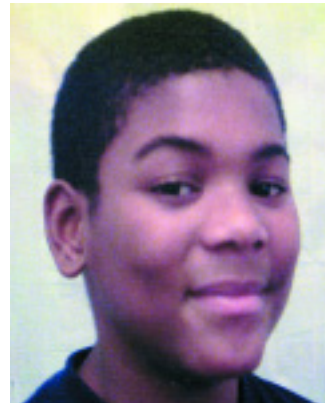
Kids Sabbath School Fundraisers



Hi, My name is Ruth and I am 11 years old. I raised money for ADRA by making cakes to sell at Nottingham Central church. It was really fun making the cakes and I enjoyed it. I learned that doing something small can help support a big project like the ones run by ADRA. I believe the money has helped people around the world.



Hi, My name is Audriana Christy and I am 10 years old and go to Nottingham Central church. The thing that I did was baking cakes and selling them to raise money for the less fortunate and to use my talent for others.



Hi, my name's Emroy Andrews. I am 12 years old and go to Nottingham Central church. The thing I did was a sponsored bike ride. I wanted to do this because I felt it was time to do my part for those less fortunate and to use my talent for the good of others.

'No, Your Majesty . . .'

James Carlisle started his working life as 'a humble dentist' (his words). Then the Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda asked James to take over the chair of the National Parks Authority. At the time it was half a million in the red. By the time he left, it was more than \$800,000 in the black! Highly impressed by his achievement and honesty, the prime minister asked to see him again.

This time he asked James, a Seventh-day Adventist, to take the post of Governor-general of Antigua and Barbuda, in which role he would be responsible, among other things, for dissolving Parliament, appointing the new prime minister following each election, reading the speech from the throne at the opening of Parliament, and presiding at all state functions. He has now held this position, an appointment made directly by the Queen herself, for eleven years.

In a recent interview he was asked why he thought he had been chosen.

'I was told it was because I was known to be honest, and though from a poor background had made something of myself. It was felt that my example might inspire youngsters to aim for the skies!'

Sir James added: 'I consider being a representative of Her Majesty the Queen a tremendous privilege and honour.'

Since his appointment, this champion Ingatherer can no longer go from house to house, but in 2004 he still managed to raise \$38,000 towards the Ingathering total for his local church! And he does take advantage of his position, a little, by giving foreign diplomats gifts of Adventist literature. 'It would go against protocol for them to refuse my gift,' he smiles. 'Only eternity will tell if these gifts have made an impact.' He has also made it a rule that whenever he and his wife host state functions at Government house

no alcohol is served. This decision has, naturally, been challenged, but Sir James has refused to budge on the issue in a country where drugs and alcohol are two of the biggest problems.

Sir James's parents were Anglicans, but in his home village everyone was familiar with Adventists. He had Adventist friends and 'eventually started to attend church with them . . . I virtually read myself into the faith while still a teenager,' he says.

In his early 20s James headed for London where, after a stint in the Royal Air Force, he began the education which led to his receiving a BDS degree at the University of Dundee. After practising as a dentist in Scotland, Wales and England, he returned to his native Antigua. It was while serving there that he was asked to take the post of governor-general.

Sir James and Lady Carlisle have five children, and Lady Carlisle works for the mentally and physically challenged.

So how did Sir James come to say no to Her Majesty?

The Accolade (knighthood ceremony when the Queen places the sword on the knight's shoulder), was set for a Friday evening, so Sir James respectfully requested that Her Majesty suggest another date, explaining the situation regarding the Sabbath. Far from being affronted by this bold request, as many people thought she would be, the Queen wrote a very understanding letter, setting another date! However, on that date Sir James had to dissolve Parliament, so for the second time he had to ask Her Majesty's pardon and crave her indulgence! Enough to make any royal personage say they were not amused, but Her Majesty simply said, 'Well, come to Buckingham Palace', which is where the Accolade eventually took place!

Since his appointment, among other achievements Sir James has

been able to bring about a change in the Public Holidays Act, which now states, 'when the first day of November [National Day] falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the following Monday shall be a public holiday [instead]', thus helping to preserve the sanctity of the Sabbath in the Islands he serves with humility and love.

ANITA MARSHALL
(Adapted from an interview in Adventist Review, 9 December 2004.)

Christianity 'stamped out'?

Evangelist Mark Finley is ready for a month-long 'It Is Written' public campaign that will broadcast from Kiev, Ukraine, globally via satellite.

The Kiev broadcast, dubbed 'ACTS 2005', will be held in the Ukrainian capital's International Centre of Culture and Arts, and will help bring down the curtain on one of the more audacious claims of former Soviet premier Nikita Khrushchev.

Finley will speak from the same stage where, in 1960, Khrushchev gave one of the most widely-reported speeches of his political career, in which he declared that within 25 years religion would be 'stamped out' in the nation.

Instead of seeing religion eliminated, however, the former Soviet Union opened its doors to people of faith not long after the supposed deadline. Today thousands anticipate the start of the ACTS 2005 event. More than 65,000 people across the former Soviet Union are engaged in Bible studies in advance of the meetings, and between 1,500 and 2,000 people are expected to sit in the same auditorium Khrushchev used, to hear the Gospel proclamation.

Along with the local audience, more than 1,200 locations around the Euro-Asia church region will receive the nightly meetings via satellite or videotape.

ANW



PRAYER REQUEST
Swansea Adventist church request your special prayers as we are in the process of planning to build a new purpose-built community church. Thank you for your prayers!

CONGRATULATIONS
to Wendy Dennis-Gorden on gaining an MA at University College London, in Social and Historical Sciences MA Museum Anthropology.
to Adrian Neal on gaining an MSc in Computer Software from Oxford University.

ABC BOOK SALES

April

3 John Loughborough	10am-2pm
10 West Midlands	10am-2pm
17 Manchester South	10am-1pm

May

8 West Midlands	10am-2pm
15 John Loughborough	10am-2pm
22 Newbold Graduation	10am-onwards

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Sunset
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	Lond	Card	Nott	Edin	Belf
Mar 25	6.22	6.34	6.27	6.37	6.47
Apr 1	7.34	7.46	7.40	7.51	8.00
8	7.46	7.58	7.52	8.05	8.14
15	7.57	8.10	8.05	8.20	8.27

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LETS CONFERENCE
Pentecost 2
23 April 2005
Aston University Central Hall, Birmingham.
All NEC lay members who are running or have run a successful evangelistic outreach should send details to Pastor Roy Morgan, 22 Zulla Road, Mapperley Park, Nottingham, NG3 5DB.