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Messenger

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by Anthony Roberts

Better Different

Better Different School Reunion, Lord's Cricket Ground
Sunday 18 September. Part of the 25th Anniversary
celebrations of the John Loughborough Adventist School

Realising it was the 25th anniversary of John Loughborough Adventist School, Anthony Roberts, Donnette Hamilton and Paul McDaniel, all students of the 1980s,

felt the need to get in touch with ex-pupils and staff to organise a special reunion celebration which would coincide with the school's anniversary. With the help of God and with the blessing of church and school,

the Better Different Committee was set up, with a mix of past students, representative from the school and church, acting as the steering committee to get the project under way.

The anniversary follows a number of milestones since spring 1980 when, against much adversity, the Adventist Church, under the leadership of Dr Reid, pursued the opening of a secondary school in Tottenham, North London, to be named John Loughborough.

The School was the first of its kind and attracted both positive and negative publicity at the time of its opening. It received interest from the BBC and was televised on several occasions. One of the many highlights was the filming of a scene

from the late Ingrid Bergman's last film (*A Woman Called Golda*) for which she won an Emmy at the Golden Globe.

Why different?

Religious Education, as every other subject, was taught by Adventist teachers. Black and Caribbean history was taught alongside the national curriculum. It provided the school's predominantly black Afro-Caribbean intake with insight and understanding into their own unique culture, paying homage to their great leaders such as Martin Luther King. In turn, this gave the students a unique confidence – 'Better Different we were' The motto came from Mr

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PRESENTS ...

Better Different

25TH ANNIVERSARY 2005 - 2006

THE JOHN LOUGHBOROUGH SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
& OFFICIAL SCHOOL REUNION

Date : Sunday 18th September 2005

Lord's Cricket Ground Banqueting Suite :
St John's Wood, London, NW8 8QN

Doors open : 3pm

*Come & celebrate the meaning of, "Better Different"
The Woolford Years . . .*

Register at the Better Different site www.betterdifferent.co.uk
to chat online with old school friends and fellow Loughbrians.

 In association with [vizononline](http://vizononline.com)

1 <
Woolford, who reigned as founding head teacher. He was seriously committed to his students and wanted each one to work hard to do better day by day, and to find the courage to believe in him or herself and to be proud, to be different. The 'better different' motto was his legacy.

The education gained prepared students for life, teaching morals and standards that gave them the drive to work hard to achieve great things.

The 'Better Different Committee', therefore, humbly invites and requests the support of all church members at the official 25th anniversary celebration and Better Different school reunion celebration. The Alumni weekend begins with a service to be held on 17 September at the St Stephen's Anglican Church, Enfield, EN1 2ET.

The Better Different School Reunion will be held at the Lord's Cricket Ground banqueting suite on Sunday 18 September and is wholeheartedly supported by the South England Conference.

Details about the event can be found at the Better Different website www.betterdifferent.co.uk, recently created and launched by past students as a way of communicating with and reuniting John Loughborough students. We call upon all members to visit the site to gain an insight into what we have achieved and encourage all past students to register and rekindle relationships with fellow students. Facilities on the website, to mention but a few, consist of a forum and chat-room where we encourage you to communicate securely with friends.

Tickets for the Dinner and Celebration are priced at £65 (plus a £3 booking fee) and are available for purchase online via our website at www.betterdifferent.co.uk/shop.html. Alternatively, members can call 07985 327 241 for tickets or 07092 008 346 and 07092 861 071. The festivities begin promptly at 3pm with a fruit punch followed closely by a three-course meal. Live gospel and musical entertainment, theatrical performances, poetry and an award ceremony for the teachers will form an integral part of the celebration. We will also be joined by key figures from the world of politics and the media.

Roundelwood Health Spa Manager sought

The British Union Conference is looking to appoint a new manager for the Roundelwood Health Spa, Crieff, Tayside. Candidates for the post should have a proven success in business management and be sympathetic to the ethos and mission of the Adventist Church. The position requires a team player with strong entrepreneurial and adaptable interpersonal skills with a flexible approach to work.

Please send CV to Health Ministries [Executive Secretary] Director, BUC Offices, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts. WD25 9JZ.
Telephone 01923 672251.

Closing date for applications: 30 June 2005.



Alumni reunited Stanborough School Reunion

Sunday 23 October 2005

Reunions are rare occurrences, so grasp this opportunity to make this one a very special occasion by inviting your friends and family to meet up with classmates and teachers. We are planning a full day with meal provided and opportunities to look back to the past and forward to the future.

There will be an optional informal evening function for those who want longer to socialise or need to stay overnight.

Tickets (including a two-course meal)

We do encourage you to book as soon as possible to help us with planning. To encourage you still further we are offering a significant discount for prepaid bookings. Individual tickets £15; or £20 for two prepaid bookings. On the day £20 per person and £25 for two.



Healthwise

A Case for Wartime Rationing?

The month of May saw the sixtieth anniversary of *Victory in Europe*, a war in which deaths were counted in the millions. People living during the war years had to endure many hardships, including food rationing. However, this latter proved to be a blessing in disguise, as people were generally healthier with rationing than at the present time, except where the diet was severely restricted.

Professor of Medicine Peter Nathanielsz states, 'The health we enjoy throughout our lives is determined to a large extent by the conditions in which we developed in the womb. How we are ushered into life is

the major factor that determines how we leave it. The quality of life in the womb, our temporary home before we were born, programmes our susceptibility to coronary artery disease, stroke, diabetes, obesity and a multitude of other conditions in later life.'

It was wartime rationing that put Nathanielsz's and other researchers' conclusions into perspective. Not surprisingly, wartime starvation and near-starvation levels affected the health of those concerned. In what has come to be called the *Dutch Hunger Winter* (September 1944-May 1945) the German forces imposed starvation as a reprisal for the airdrop of paratroopers at Arnhem

in Holland, and with interesting health consequences.

Male children born to mothers exposed to the starvation measures in the first third of their pregnancy had a greater tendency to obesity later in life; and to women starved in the final trimester of pregnancy a decreased likelihood of later obesity. In general, children conceived during the *Dutch Hunger Winter* had a higher incidence of diabetes and schizophrenia.

The 872-day *Siege of Leningrad* also had health consequences as a result of the food shortage experienced at that time. Babies conceived around or during the siege were later found to have a higher heart disease susceptibility.

It is not suggested that people today should adopt the severe dietary restric-

tions that are current in wartime, then or now. The average calorie intake by the Dutch during the occupation by the Germans averaged 1,500 calories a day. This dropped to 750 a day at the start of the *Dutch Hunger Winter*, and down to 450 daily by May 1945 when the people ate a little bread with turnips, potatoes and tulip bulbs!

We do not need telling that food is important to our health. Now we suffer a surfeit of food and often of the wrong type or proportions to safeguard well-being. As we have remembered Victory in Europe it would be a good goal also to remember Victory in Eating and make every day a VE celebration.



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

John F. Kennedy, for a time, had iconic status for my generation. But for the assassin's bullet, he might have been 88 this year. His father, Joseph Kennedy, had been the pro-Appeasement US ambassador to London in the 1930s. By contrast, John Kennedy was an interventionist campaigning vigorously for civil rights, labour union reforms, and increased US aid for what were then called 'underdeveloped countries'. If Kennedy gets a mention these days, however, it's usually in a conspiracy theory or a Marilyn Monroe connection. But in the early 60s T. H. White's book about Kennedy, *The Making of the President*, was a must read.

Similar analyses were written by White and White imitators about subsequent US presidents – and even about British prime ministers.

What *does* make a president or a prime minister?

The term 'prime minister' has been used of two prominent Old Testament characters, Joseph and Daniel, both of whom made their way to the top in countries in which Hebrews were considered aliens.

What made Joseph prime minister of Egypt and Daniel of, in turn, Babylon and Medo Persia? By no means the same things that propelled Kennedy, Thatcher and Blair to the top. There was a reason for that. God prepared Joseph and Daniel for leadership, not a sophisticated party machine. And God's idea of preparation for leadership is different from man's.

True enough, Daniel came from an educated political elite. Not Joseph.

Where did Joseph come from?

Read Genesis 40 and 41 and you might conclude that the day which ended with Joseph as PM began with Joseph in jail with no prospect of release.

God has an interesting way of preparing his people for top jobs!

Of course, Joseph spent the first seventeen years of his life as, arguably, a pampered son of a privileged family. We know from Joseph's dreams that God had marked him out for leadership, but we know from his lack of tact that he was a long way from being ready for it at 17. Even his dotting father may have been a little embarrassed when he went public with a dream to the effect that, one day, his parents and brothers would bow down to him. (Genesis 37:10.)

Joseph's brothers were furious. But it was their jealous fury that set in motion the train of events that, over a period of thirteen years, would be the making of Joseph. While Joseph was in the thick of those events, of course, it did not appear that they had any purpose at all.

The train of events began with his brothers plotting his murder. Plan A was abandoned, apparently, because a plan B recommended itself that would make them money. That was how Joseph fetched up as a slave in Egypt in the household of Potiphar. Potiphar, 'the captain of the guard' (Genesis 37:36), was described by Jewish historian Alfred Edersheim as 'Pharaoh's chief executioner'.

Potiphar did not need Joseph to tell him that God was with him. When he saw it for himself he made Joseph head of his household. All might have been well if Joseph had not attracted the attention of the

carnal Mrs Potiphar. Despite her making indecent proposals to him 'day after day' (39:10) Joseph staunchly refused to betray either Potiphar or God. When she avenged herself by alleging attempted rape, Joseph faced Potiphar's anger. However, given that ancient Egypt was by no means 'soft on crime', we may assume from the fact that he imprisoned Joseph rather than summarily executed him (chief executioner, remember) may have been indicative of his doubts about the situation.

In prison Joseph got to interpret dreams other than his own. Remember the cup bearer and the baker? Joseph's interpretation of the cup bearer's dream might have represented his out from the stinking pit that was the prison. Indeed, Joseph was human enough to say to the butler on his release, 'Don't forget me when you're back at court.' (See Genesis 40:14.) The cup bearer did remember him – but not for another two years. Not only was Joseph incarcerated during that period, he had every reason to believe he was forgotten.

F. B. Meyer believed that it was during that period of imprisonment that God turned the softness of the pampered son into the clear-thinking toughness of the man of vision Pharaoh was about to call upon to manage the world's food crisis. Privation and hardship can do what ease can never accomplish – in God's hands. Disappointed with man, Joseph stuck the more tenaciously to God.¹ Joseph crops up in a number of Psalms,² and Psalm 37:39-40 he could have made his own. (You, too, perhaps?)

'The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord; he is their stronghold in time of trouble. The Lord helps them and delivers them; he delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they take refuge in him.'

Joseph could have embraced (and been destroyed by) a victim mentality. But he embraced the alternative view. Day by day he did his work as unto God. He was faithful in small things. And God made him the manager – even of the prison!

Joseph's time came when Pharaoh started having visions. Right away, the cup bearer knew whom to recommend. Where had the Lord been during the prison years? Apparently, far away. In actual fact 'with Joseph' (39:21). God does some of his best work on us when we're in prisons made by us or by others.

Among the qualities God develops in us during our imprisonment phases is compassion. When the bottom drops out of your world you become acutely sensitive to others in need.

Joseph *could* have been destroyed like any other 'victim of circumstances'. If he had dwelt on the fact that his brothers had sold him into slavery. . . . If he had obsessed about the consequences of Mrs Potiphar's untrue accusations. . . . If he had concluded that God had gone AWOL from his life. . . . If ever

The making of the Prime Minister



with David Marshall

a man had scope to get bitter and twisted! Had that happened, you would never have heard of Joseph. In the event, he became the second most powerful man in the world.

'God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience and shouts in our pain,' wrote C. S. Lewis. Joseph chose to learn from his pain. The alternative was to be bitter, cynical and disillusioned. It was *his* choice.

In the depths of our despair, if we can make Job's affirmation, we'll come through: 'He knows the way that I take; when he has tested me, I shall come forth as gold.' (23:10.)

'There is,' writes Charles Swindoll, 'no hurry-up process for finding and shaping gold.'³ God made Abraham wait for Isaac. Noah waited 120 years for rain. Moses, even though his education was the best, was forty years in the wilderness before he was fit to lead God's people. Between the Damascus Road experience and the first missionary journey Paul had to learn how to wait for God in Arabia – for three years!

It's not for me to comment on the making of a Kennedy, a Thatcher or a Blair.

Newspapers can't get that right, so what chance have I? But think on this:

'Pain, when properly handled, can shape a life for greatness.'⁴

It was not the coat of many colours that made Joseph a world leader. It was his pain.

References:

¹F. B. Meyer, *Great Men of the Bible* (Marshall, Morgan & Scott, 1981), vol 1, pages 121-124. ²Including Psalm 105. ³Charles Swindoll, *Joseph* (W. Publishing, 1998), page 58. ⁴Ibid, page 55.

Wood Green: Three find faith

On Sabbath 18 December three precious souls committed their lives to Christ at the Wood Green church – Stania Leo, Cheryl Plummer and Irma Tomlinson.

Stania grew up in St Lucia with her grandparents who were Seventh-day Adventists. She eagerly looked forward to Sabbaths. She had wanted to be baptised at an earlier age but decided to wait until she was able to make her own decisions. When she was at school, she read

her Bible during break; others thought she was strange but this did not deter her in any way.

Stania arrived in England alone in 2004, and not knowing anyone in the country made life difficult. Then life took a different turn. She met Bernice Lansiquot, also from St Lucia, and an Adventist, who became a very good friend to Stania. Not only did she meet a good friend, but someone who shared her Christian beliefs. Stania began

attending Wood Green church with Bernice, and after attending church for only three weeks requested Bible studies. Then she made her decision for baptism.

Irma came from a Seventh-day Adventist family, but had not yet accepted the Truth. While on holiday in the Caribbean, she was speaking to her sister about a subject she liked, but her sister was not interested in the subject Irma chose. Instead, she took up the Bible and Sabbath School Bible Study Guide and pointed out certain facts to her. She then gave her three passages of scripture and asked her to read them when she returned home.

Her sister asked, Do you live near an Adventist church? If not, find one. She advised Irma to serve God fully. When Irma returned home, she prayed and thanked God for opening her eyes to the Truth as it is in the Bible.

Irma began looking for an Adventist church and found Wood Green. She began attending church regularly in 2004. It was not long before she made her decision to follow Christ.

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT



Back, left to right: Pastor Keith Boldeau, elders A. McFarquhar and T. Cuniah. Front: Elder P. Milltiadis, Cheryl, Irma and Stania.

All Nations' Day

On Sabbath 9 April a packed congregation of Coventry Central church took a giant step to celebrate and affirm the participation and contributions made by its members belonging to different nationalities, and to enable the realisation of the common cause and purpose of the Gospel for all its people.

It was a great sight to witness an array of cultural and national diversity as expressed in their national dress, literature, poetry, music, food and international flags. Represented were Africa, the Americas, United Kingdom, Asia and the Caribbean Islands. Pastor Ashwin Somasundram and Pastor Steve Palmer led the worship celebration throughout the day. Pastor Somasundram preached a powerful sermon on 'Kingdom Citizens', and throughout the Sabbath there was enrichment of music from the Filipino Choir of Birmingham.

It was a Sabbath day with a difference, praising God in our many cultural and traditional expressions of native tongues, traditional songs, and personal witness. It was a day to enable people to be proud of their national heritage and their culture,

Young elders

Holcombe Road church was full on Sabbath evening 12 February when two young men, Dudney Castello and Dean Johnson were ordained elders.

Four pastors officiated at the service: Pastor Michael Hamilton, Ministerial director at SEC who

presented the men with their vows, along with two former pastors of the church, Dr DeLisser and Pastor Steven McKenzie; the current pastor, Augustus Lawrence, was also on hand to officiate.

In presenting the keynote address Pastor McKenzie instructed the brothers on the full meaning of

being elders in God's church.

NICOLE PERANDA



Dudney Castello and wife Claire, Dean Johnson and wife Barbara



and appreciate their 'roots' and their diversity of gifts, which they offer to the Church and the communities in which they live.

DEO MEGHAN

Young people set example

Three young people set the example at Handsworth on 5 February when they decided that they would 'stay no longer, stay' outside the flock of

the crucified and risen Lord, but wanted to make Jesus their forever Friend.

The officiating and resident minister, Rainford Mackintosh, expressed his pleasure as he baptised the three candidates.

Jimmy Harhoff is the son of the first elder of Bournville, and has been attending the Bournville church for some time. Donna Chitiyo is 15 and again has been attending the Bournville church, but for only two months before she decided she

A hundred church planters

by John Surridge

On the weekend of 22-24 April over a hundred church members and pastors met at Stanborough School for the third and largest UK Church Planters' Exchange to date, representing thirty church planting or renewal projects in various stages of development from every section of the British Union Conference.

Pastor Cecil Perry, leader of the Adventist Church in Britain, set the tone of the conference with his focus upon the fact that the future of the church needs to be sown in the planting of new churches today. Case studies and other teaching throughout the weekend developed the concept of the 'incarnational church' – what it means to continue the mission of Jesus as he began it by creating worshipping communities within different cultural groups, rather than expecting people from those groups to come to us. Well known researcher and author Martin Robinson was the guest presenter on Sabbath afternoon, challenging planters to 'invade secular space' for God.

Building upon a strong Adventist heritage, church planting is gathering momentum in Britain, with more than forty new churches or groups having emerged in the past five years, and at least thirty more now in the planning stage – including the exciting 'Lights Across London' project. Church planting co-ordinators David Cox (BUC), Humphrey Walters (SEC) and Paul Haworth (NEC), are developing and providing ongoing equipping and coaching support systems for new churches and planters. Area 'Church Planting Awareness Days' are regularly organised to encourage more local churches to see church planting as a necessary part of the long-term growth strategy for every Adventist congregation.

Reflecting on the weekend, Pastor Cox said that he was encouraged to see an increasing number of new church initiatives being led by teams of self-supporting lay members, many of them young people. 'It's good to see that the UK is also experiencing the renewal that is taking place worldwide. News headlines of unprecedented events serve as signs of Christ's soon return; but the biggest news of all is what God is doing to prepare people for that event,' he remarked.

The next major church planting event is the Church Planters' Exchange to be held in Friedensau, Germany, 24-31 July. For details, contact your Union or Conference church planting co-ordinator.

and appreciate their 'roots' and their diversity of gifts, which they offer to the Church and the communities in which they live.

DEO MEGHAN

Young people set example

Three young people set the example at Handsworth on 5 February when they decided that they would 'stay no longer, stay' outside the flock of

wanted to have a part in the kingdom of Jesus. Born into an Adventist family, Donna has grown accustomed to the truths of Bible faith. Beverley Fiellateau came home as she reaffirmed her love and faith in Christ.

Their families, church members and the usual heart-warming sight of the children who crowd the baptistry on such occasions, supported all the candidates, together with various singing artistes including the Nightingales from Bournville.

N. BANTON

Handsworth: Hope for hurting relationships

The devil understands that to break up the peace within churches, he must attack the personal relationships of the members. If discord and strife exist among couples, this will infiltrate itself into the relationships that we have at church, and, ultimately, the relationship that we have with Jesus Christ.

This was the 'take home message' given to Handsworth on 2 April by Dr Rupert Bushner, a visiting pastor from America, here with Pastor Timothy Lewis to promote healthy relationships and healthy living.

The theme of the day was 'The Spirit in the Home', and Pastor Bushner told the fascinated congregation that if the Holy Spirit is present and on fire in the home, then resultantly, the church would be, too. The problem comes when members forget about communicating and sharing, and put themselves and their wants before others.

Pastor Bushner's sermon continued by focusing on marriages and why they can go wrong and, ultimately, fail. He outlined four stages and indicated their spiritual relevance:

Stage ONE – Co-operation.

Honeymoon love where communication is high and everything is shared. We are on fire for God, witness and have a healthy study and prayer life.

Stage TWO – Retaliation.

Something toxic has occurred in the relationship, but no one is prepared to talk about it. We sin, but feel that we can't talk to God about it, so our guilt makes us feel bad.

Stage THREE – Domination. The person who makes the least emotional input breaks the relationship because he has the least interest.

Pastor Bushner pointed out that this happened to Jesus who died on the cross for people who had little interest in his sacrifice (Romans 5:8).

Stage FOUR – Isolation. Couples live together, but their lives are separate. We come to church, but have no real commitment to God.

Pastor Bushner concluded with hope, hope that we as members will constantly invite the presence of the Holy Spirit into our lives, so we will not experience breakdown in our personal relationships. A continual invitation to the Holy Spirit to come and dwell in our hearts means that we will not suffer breakdown caused by 'An Inside Job' – the title of Pastor Bushner's sermon.

N. BANTON

Three baptisms and a baby!

On Sabbath 12 March the Southampton church was full to overflowing to witness the baptism of three young ladies and the dedication of a baby boy. Folk came from far and near, from Ipswich, Weston-super-Mare, Portsmouth, Winchester and the Isle of Wight. One young man even travelled from Switzerland.

Following a rousing praise session, it was an emotionally charged and a proud moment when our pastor, David Foster, took his grandson loan James Llewellyn-Foster into his arms and dedicated him to the Lord.

Given a few moments to regain his composure, the pastor then preached on 'Baptism – An Anchor Point'.

After being presented to the members of the church, the candidates were unanimously voted into membership.

Natalie Redman entered the water to be baptised by her mentor, Pastor Barry Alen, assisted by her father, church elder Phil Redman, who then assisted Pastor Foster to baptise his second daughter Charlotte.

Finally Pastor Foster was privi-



leged to baptise his own daughter, Becky. It was a truly wonderful sight when Becky rose from immersion and wrapped her arms around her father, and with a very big smile, laid her head upon his shoulder.

The entire congregation then gathered around the trio to offer gifts and good wishes before retiring to the hall for a fellowship lunch.

DAVID BRADLEY

Radio 4 at Leytonstone

The Leytonstone Adventist church community played host to BBC Radio 4's Mike Ford on Sabbath 5 February. A brief interview (which included a perspective regarding 'The Psychology of faith'), enabled our resident Pastor O. P. Chackothen to explain to Mr Ford how individuals of varying personalities/personality traits could conform to the principles of a formal organisation (church) with a view to functioning effectively as a group.

Avoline Graham welcomed Mr Ford and other visitors, for whose benefit she repeated the church's motto: 'Leytonstone church is small enough to know you, big enough to love you and strong enough to minister to you.'

Mr Ford captured different personalities in action when choristers Elaine Weekes and Denise Ingleton led the congregation in the praise and worship session under the direction of Fenn Braithwaite.

Jodian Forrester-McKenzie gave our children their weekly treat on lessons in love. She reminded them that God created all people, and that on no account should bullying be tolerated. She equipped them with strategies with which to counteract bullying by encouraging them to report incidences of bullying to parents or guardians, and to pray to God who always provides a solution.

LYNELLE P. COKER

Special Needs Camp 10-17 July

We have vacancies for carers and staff, and for medical, kitchen and laundry services. If you would like to work for a week in beautiful Aberdaron please contact Joy Bussey, 2 Shakespeare Street, Watford, Herts, WD25 5HF, Tel 01923 461044. Do not hesitate to contact me for more details.

Tailor-made for Teens

by Naomi Osei

Teens from all over met at Willesden church on Sabbath 23 April to see the London Youth Federation first Teens event. 'Bridging Da Gap' was an event that was trimmed, shaped and tailor-made to meet the needs of the teens of London.

The evening began with a vibrant session of praise and worship from the London Youth Federation Praise team. The host of the evening, Luke Whyte, LYF Teens representative, opened the programme with an ice-breaker which highlighted the fact that we can judge people on their outward appearances – and be so wrong. God looks on the heart.

Throughout the evening, we were blessed with the lyrical abilities of James Massiah from Balham, the vocal finesse of Ruth Whyte, and the miming talent of Danielle Shepherd from Willesden.

The guest speakers for the afternoon were Andrew Fuller of Balham, Naomi Osei of Holloway, and Sacha Gillin (LYF president) of Stratford. Everyone was touched by the presentations that each of the speakers made.

Andrew reminded us that God loves to use leftovers! So even if you feel that you have nothing to offer him, God can still work through you to do mighty things in his name.

Naomi highlighted the importance of having and maintaining a relationship with God. 'Being a Seventh-day Adventist doesn't mean that you are supposed to have a connection with God only on the seventh day!'

Sacha is a living testimony that God's love and mercy are unconditional. She shared the way in which God brought her out of a sticky situation unharmed even though she had gone against his will. This was to remind the teens that there is no situation you can get yourself into that is too difficult for God.

The day concluded with a prize give-away and free refreshments, and all who attended had a chance to fellowship and start friendships. The afternoon served as a wake-up call for the teens of London: 'Being a teen in these last days is not easy. The time has come to bridge the gap between you and God.' That was the emphasis, and the programme's aim was to encourage teens to remove from their lives anything standing

between them and God which blocks that vital connection.

If you wish to join the LYF mailing list to receive email notifications of future events that the Federation will be hosting, then please send your contact details to secretary@londonyouthfed.org.uk or 07956 688923.

Bible worker begets Bible workers

Camp Hill Bible worker Sandra Dawes has trained twenty-four people in her Bible training seminar and at present is training another fifteen.

One special feature of the course is that the students engage in a real life Bible study with a contact. Sandra Dawes says, 'We follow up contacts from the West Midlands campaign and from the Discovery Bible cards.'

The course is twelve weeks long and each student participates in an in-house Bible study as well as giving a seven-minute testimony.

Jackie Jordon-Crichlow from Newtown church comments, 'The course is excellent and provides the tools to present Christ more constructively.'

The course is so popular that people came from as far away as Kidderminster, and one person from the Baptist church, to attend Bible studies that were attached to the course.

PASTOR CARL FLETCHER

Books

The Family Book

Rave review by Karen and Ron Flowers, co-directors, Family Ministries department at the General Conference.

To hold *The Family Book* in your hand is to want to open it and take the afternoon off. Its four-colour illustrations and short bullet-style segments make reading 'just one more' as enticing as reaching into the bag for one more potato crisp. Far more importantly, however, the content stands up to the quality of its design.

This book is a strong blend of good family theory, sound theology and creative, practical ideas for enjoying family living even as you and your family stretch towards all God created you to be. Karen Holford's encouraging tone helps marriage partners, parents, and family members – on good days and bad – to laugh and love, care and grow, comfort and forgive. She is not afraid to tackle hard issues or to stand up and be counted for Christian values. Creative ideas for finding real intimacy in marriage, for growing responsible adults from 'seed', and for passing the torch of faith in the family circle multiply in her like rabbits left to their own devices.

Karen Holford is more than a good author. She is a committed wife and mother who puts her love for God into working clothes at home. We know the joy of Holford friendship and shared passion for ministry to families. We count it a high privilege to pass on to you, through our personal recommendation of this book, a piece of the blessing we have experienced as our family has touched theirs. *The Family Book* will make a strong addition to home bookshelves, church and school libraries, professional helping reference collections. It would brighten up the waiting area of any paediatrician, physician or counselling office and offer its own sound advice. See for yourself. You're bound to find plenty for today and something for tomorrow too.

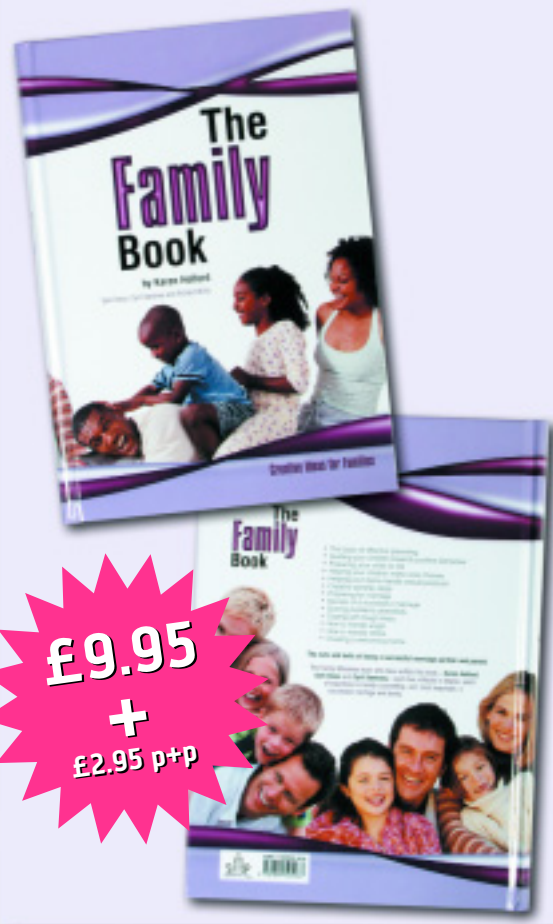
The Family Book

'A must for every Adventist family'

GC Family Ministries department

This family classic, published last year by the Family Ministries directors of the South and North England Conferences, is taking the world by storm.

Order it from your local literature-evangelist, or on the Adventist Book Centre's Credit Card Hotline 01476 539900.



THOMAS McKIBBEN 1919-2004 – d. 15 December. The Belfast church is sad to report the death of Thomas McKibben (known as Tom or Tommy), a faithful member for many years. Tom was born on 21 October 1919 at Hillsborough, Co. Down, but when he was 8 years old his family moved to a farm

50s Headliners feedback

The '50s Headliners' piece in the 22 April issue of MESSENGER brought back happy memories of my pastoral and evangelical experiences in the early 50s. Some of the privations we endured were obscured by the urgency to win souls. It makes me smile when I think back to the day I bought a second-hand bike for £4, and then had to sell it to buy food. Only senior pastors could afford cars. Many of us used Shanks's pony, bicycles or motorbikes paid for on the 'never never' to accomplish our visitation. My monthly salary was £24 before lithe was deducted, with a 'massive' rise of £2 a month one year later.

Dr David Marshall could have added to his list of evangelists names such as Lamont Murdoch, Fred Pearce, S. G. Hyde, George Roper, Roy Burgess and others who were immersed in evangelistic campaigns. Incidentally, when he mentioned billboards, newspapers and handbills used for advertising, he could have mentioned posters displayed in shop windows and occasionally streamers stretched from one side of the street to the other in shopping centres, containing details of the public campaign. E. H. Foster, who ran a campaign in Bracknell, got certain students to parade up and down the shopping centre donned with sandwich boards containing details of the imminent campaign.

Lamont Murdoch ran large campaigns in the West country, particularly Bristol's Colston Hall. Roy Burgess had good baptisms in Cornwall, and S. G. Hyde consolidated the work in cities like Ipswich and Oxford. It was my joy and privilege to study with contacts in Norwich as a result of George Roper's campaigns in the Stuart Hall. Through evangelism and pastoral contacts we had several very healthy baptisms. A number of those we baptised have been laid to rest, but others remain to tell the tale of George Roper's solid work over fifty years ago.

PASTOR KENNETH CLOTHIER

near the town of Ballynahinch about eight miles away. It was there that Tom lived and worked for the rest of his life. In 1958 he married Dorothy Anderson, and their happy marriage was blessed with five children: four sons (David, Brian, Clifford and Colin), and a daughter (Linda). Dorothy died in July 1983 after a short illness. Tom was a hard-working farmer who used his many practical skills widely and willingly to help others. Though he was a quiet man, shunning a high profile and disliking argument, he was not afraid to take a stand for his beliefs after committing his life to Jesus at an early age. Though a staunch Presbyterian, he was always open to attend meetings hosted by other churches. Thus, as a keen student of Bible prophecy, he started to attend Adventist meetings in the Belfast church. He loved what he heard, though the transition to Adventism was gradual. However, opposition from his local Presbyterian church did not prevent his baptism in August 1970, and Tom became a faithful member of the Belfast church, serving as a deacon for a number of years. He enjoyed excellent health throughout his life and was active to the last. He was working on the farm when he died almost instantly from a heart attack. On a beautiful, bright December afternoon four days later, the funeral took place in the family home, followed by the burial at a local graveside amid the rolling County Down countryside which he loved so much. On both occasions Pastor Mart de Groot shared a precious message of hope and assurance, and encouraged all present to place their trust in Tom's best friend Jesus. We offer our sympathy to Tom's children and their families. With them we look forward to the resurrection. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

PASTORS MART DE GROOT & DAVID McKIBBEN

EMILY LEURIA 1936-2004 – d. 16 December. Born in Belfast in 1936, Emily was the youngest in a family of four. Despite an early bout with TB, she grew up a happy, bubbly girl who accepted Jesus as her Saviour at the age of 17, when she was baptised in the Elim church. Her love for children and young people is remembered by several grateful young adult members in the Belfast church who were her Sabbath school students. One of Emily's favourite hobbies was listening to and watching her videos of the singing of the Gaithers, of which she had a respectable collection. More recently her health became less robust. On 16 December she woke up feeling unwell and was admitted to the Whiteabbey Hospital, where she died around midday. The church and her family, especially her eldest sister Kathleen who is blind and depended much on Emily, will miss her joyful presence and ready smile. We live in the secure hope of meeting her again on that joyful resurrection morning when Jesus comes to collect his jewels.

PASTOR MART DE GROOT & DAVID McKIBBEN

WINNIFRED ROESLIA SLEIGH (née Crutchfield) (1923-2005) d. 4 February. Winn was born on 13 May 1923 to Fred and Agnes Crutchfield of High Wycombe, the second child, sister to Arthur, Ron, George and June. After attending West Wycombe and Mill End Road schools, Winn trained as a nurse in Stroud Hospital, Gloucestershire, completing her training in 1947. Her distinguished nursing career took her to Slough, Wycombe, Amersham and Booker hospitals, the last-named as nursing sister on Frances Dove Ward before retiring in 1983. Her marriage to Dennis Sleigh produced three sons, Andrew (born 1949), Julian (1955) and Matthew (1961; born prematurely and surviving only seven days). When Winn was baptised she became a member of High Wycombe church, West Wycombe Road, and later Micklefield, before becoming a member of

Maidenhead church with her son Julian. Winn held many posts during her more than half a century in the church. During her life she travelled extensively in Europe, America, Australia and New Zealand. This wonderful lady was a committed Christian who was actively involved in her church and community; she took time to listen to all, old and young alike. She was a truly lovely lady who touched the lives of so many in both her professional and private life. She will be missed by all who were fortunate enough to have known her. Winn's last years were spent in a Home for Retired Nurses, where she was well cared for and loved to receive visitors. Many joined to remember and celebrate her life at the funeral service conducted by Pastor Vlado Godina at the Amersham crematorium. Our sympathies go to sons Andrew and Julian (Australia) and their wives, also brothers Ron and George (Florida), and not forgetting her two adored grandsons, Grant and Matthew. We look forward to that day when we will meet up with this wonderful Mum, Grandma, Sister, Auntie, Nursing Sister and Friend.

A SHARP

JULIE FENZ (1905-2005) d. March. Vienna is associated with beauty, culture, and music, but not generally with poverty. However, young Julie experienced all four in her formative years in her native country one century ago. You can imagine her delight on one occasion when she was rewarded with a gold coin (worth more than a week's wages at the time) for reciting a poem for the royal princess! Julie's father died before she had reached her teens, and this impacted seriously on the family's finances. Despite the inevitable hardships, the precocious little girl worked hard at her studies, and passed her exams. The royal house, aware of the poverty in Julie's family, offered to finance the young lady's further education but, typical of her altruistic nature, Julie forfeited this privilege in favour of her younger sister. At the age of 17 Julie was fortunate enough to find work in Vienna as an assistant cook in a large, wealthy household. She used her earnings to support her mother. At this point in her life Julie's direction was completely changed. She was befriended by one of the ladies in charge of the home where she worked, who happened to be a Seventh-day Adventist. This lady invited her to youth meetings and, despite Julie's Catholic background, her discerning mind was convinced about the Sabbath and other biblical truths. At the age of 24 Julie married Pastor Fenz, secretary of the Italian SDA Mission, and in the fullness of time Esther became their firstborn, followed by three boys, one of whom (Walter) graduated with the writer from Newbold Missionary College in the early fifties. Esther and her husband, Dr Edward W. H. Vick, graduated just a few years earlier from the same institution. Pastor and Mrs Fenz worked together in the delightful cities of Florence, Milan and Rome. Our dedicated sister found time to sell gospel and health literature to support the church as well as the education of her sons in the USA, to say nothing of the vegetarian classes she conducted (in which she became an authority) and the teaching of children's classes in the church which extended for half a century. In 1979 Julie, having lost her husband, moved to East Leake in Leicestershire to be near her daughter Esther and her family, and it was there that some of us were privileged to know and love this dedicated saint of God. Our beloved sister passed away in her one hundredth year, the funeral service being taken by the writer in the chapel of Radcliffe & District Funeral Services. Two sons, Walter and Emmanuel predeceased their mother. She leaves behind her daughter Esther and her husband Edward Vick, and her youngest son Hans, together with eight grandchildren and ten great-

grandchildren. We now await with great anticipation a joyful resurrection.

PASTOR KENNETH CLOTHIER

VIOLET ELIAS (1914-2005) d. 4 April. Mrs Violet Elias died after a short illness, aged 90. Latterly residing at The Birches Care Home near to the Crieff church, and aided by her family, Violet had regularly attended Sabbath services until a few weeks before she died. She was born in Glasgow and grew up as a member of the Church of Scotland, where she sang in the choir. In the 1960s she attended the city-wide evangelistic campaign held in Glasgow by Pastor Ken Lacey, during which she was baptised and joined the Adventist church in Queens Drive. The funeral service was conducted by Pastor Ernest Logan, assisted by the local minister and Scottish Mission president Pastor Llew Edwards. Violet's son Gordon, an organist of the Crieff church, played for the funeral service as a musical tribute to his mother. Pastor Logan gave a brief review of Violet's life and mentioned how much the church had meant to her. She had considered it a great honour to serve as a deaconess and when helping in the cleaning of the church, often did so singing happily. Pastor Logan reflected that she dearly loved her Lord, her church and her family. Violet was also known as a kind and hospitable person, and not just by her friends. Her family will recall how a tramp would occasionally call at their home and would always be given a place at the table with a bowl of homemade soup, a bread roll and a little package of food for the road. When asked why she did this, she said he had kind, gentle eyes which reminded her of Jesus and felt that she was serving her Lord. Violet was buried in the lovely Crieff cemetery where several church members are already laid to rest. Overlooked by the distant mountains and surrounded by the beautiful April flowers she loved, it was mentioned that this would be a most beautiful place to rise on resurrection morning. Following the committal, echoing the lovely food Violet had lovingly prepared for others throughout her long life, a tasteful meal was provided in the church hall for family, church members and friends. The church gives its love and sympathy to her three children, Violet, Sheila and Gordon, and to her seven grandchildren.

PASTOR BOB RODD

Wedding

SAWYER-BENNETT. 5 December 2004 saw the celebration of the marriage of Susan Bennett and Kelvin Sawyer in the Stanborough Park church in a service that included vocal and instrumental contributions from the couple's friends Sylvia Elmajian and Aleta King. The ceremony was conducted by Pastor Patrick Boyle in his inimitable style and left us all with much to remember. Kelvin's mother, sisters and sister-in-law had travelled from Australia to be part of the celebration and Sue's family were also able to attend, with nieces as bridesmaids and nephews as ushers. The reception was a relaxed event, full of personal touches from the bride and groom as well as their many friends, and featured much laughter and conversation. A great talking point was the table names used for the reception, as each one was an African country in which Kelvin has worked in his capacity as travelling fix-it engineer. Sue and Kelvin plan to continue with this work and we wish them God's blessing as they serve him in assisting with restoring hospital equipment to working order for the charity Adventist Health International.

DEBBIE SANDERS



Young people join outreach project in Spain

Over the weekend of 15-17 April, young people from the St Albans, Stanborough Park and Newbold churches took part in a small outreach project in Sagunto, Spain. On Sabbath morning, the group played a few songs for the morning worship and received an overwhelmingly positive response. 'Even though we were singing in a language that wasn't our own, audience participation was better than that of many of our home congregations,' said one of the members of the group.

Sabbath afternoon saw the group returning to the scene with a full set



of praise and worship music played to a very packed church. There was standing room only and again a wonderful response from those attending. Afterwards, many of the Spanish young people thanked the group and several said that the worship was just what they

had needed that day.

It wasn't just young people who responded. One gentleman, a local member of the Sagunto church and a doctor in the community, thanked the group profusely and said that that sort of thing was precisely what the church in Sagunto needed. The Youth director of the Spanish Union was so impressed with the group

an evangelistic campaign soon to be held in Valencia, the nearby major city.

Those who participated were Keren Eastwood, Peter Manners-Smith, Geert Tap, Andrew Kydd, Matthew Vincent, Daniel Surridge, Dejan Pujic, Simon Marie, Carolyn Cooper, Graham Pilmoor, Beth Holford, Jenny Rivera, Bobby Blyde,

that he didn't hesitate to extend the invitation for events later on in the year. The group has been asked to return in September for 'Musicalia', which is an event that explores different worship styles through music, and another person was hoping that the group might consider playing for

Chantel Richardson, Belinda Stojanovic, and Goran Stojanovic.

MATT VINCENT

Pathfinders' Passover

The Newbold Adventurer club had a special Easter treat. We went inside Moor Close to the Blue Room. We had to take off our shoes and socks before we went into the room, where Aunt Luisa and Mummy had set a low table with lovely food and big pillows to sit on and lanterns to light the room. But before we could sit at the table, we washed each other's feet and dried them.

We then sat at the table and celebrated Passover, just like Jesus did at the first Easter. Passover is a Jewish celebration about when the Angel of Death passed over the doors marked with lamb's blood before they left the slavery of Egypt. We had beetroot to remind us of the lamb, Matzos, which is a type of cracker, bitter herbs (ours was parsley) dipped in salt water to remind us of the Israelites' tears, charoset, which is a mixture of apple, nuts, cinnamon and

juice, to remind us of the mortar used by the slaves to build palaces in Egypt, an egg to remind us of new life, and four cups of grape juice (for thanks, the plagues, grace and redemption and praise), during the meal. The food tasted really good. We

also had a traditional hunt for the unleavened bread.

Then Aunt Luisa and Uncle Victor (Hulbert) told us how Jesus had changed Passover, at that first Easter, into a celebration of his sacrifice and our redemption. We remembered Jesus' death and thanked him for saving us.

DANIEL HANNA (8)



ABC BOOK SALES

June
6-12 SEC Camp Meeting, Camber Sands, Rye
20-26 NEC Camp Meeting, Southport

July
17 John Loughborough 10am-2pm
31 West Midlands 10am-2pm

July
21 John Loughborough 10am-2pm

Messenger

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Sunset

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

	Lond	Card	Nott	Edin	Belf
Jun 3	9.11	9.23	9.23	9.50	9.51
10	9.17	9.29	9.29	9.57	9.58
17	9.21	9.33	9.33	10.02	10.03
24	9.22	9.34	9.35	10.03	10.04

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