

Journal of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the United Kingdom and Ireland

# Messenger

9 September 2005 • Volume 110 • 20



**Connect One Million**  
**1,000,000 VOP cards in one week nationwide**

**Meet the BUC's Greatest Evangelist!**

- The evangelist who has been effective for 58 years.
- The evangelist who has year on year reached people others cannot reach.
- The evangelist who has put the muscle into reaching the unreachable.
- The evangelist who has annually achieved baptisms for Christ for over half a century.
- The evangelist who has won more souls than any other.
- The evangelist who has had a team of thousands.

by Dalbert Elias, VOP director

**Is it possible? Yes, it can be done!**

**The Evangelist? The VOICE OF PROPHECY!**

It is true. Since 1947 the Voice of Prophecy has been the Church's outstanding evangelist. Over the years *millions* have been contacted for Christ. Tens of thousands have taken the courses. Hundreds, even thousands, have been baptised. Not until Jesus returns will the full story of the Voice of Prophecy be told, both nationally and internationally.

The success of the British Voice of Prophecy is due to several factors, two in particular. Great

leadership and the loyal, devoted support of the British and Irish church members.

Two leaders of the VOP, now retired, are still held in high esteem and affection by hundreds of our members throughout the British Union. Pastor Fretson Taylor, with his mischievous sense of humour and ready laugh, developed a high-level ability to answer students' questions theologically and pastorally with sensitivity and skill. Pastor Michael Stickland, author and administrator, having experienced serious illness for years, has profoundly moved and inspired members everywhere with his consistency of faith and his devotion to God. Both men have

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**DISCOVER**  
**Love Hope Security**

**FREE Bible Guides that make a difference to your life.**

< 1  
**Connect One Million**

led the VOP magnificently. They stand in a line of strong, honoured leaders in the history of the Voice of Prophecy.

Unquestionably, without the magnificent, faithful support of the British and Irish members, the VOP would not have enjoyed its success down the years. In effect, the members have been a silent army, outstanding in battle.

**The silent army**

Volunteers of all ages have faithfully enlisted, year in and year out, to stand on the front line for Christ. Using Voice of Prophecy cards, the silent army has walked the streets of Britain. The magnificent volunteer army, working house to house, has reached the unreachable for Christ. Dedicated members have spent many years handing out the cards. Elderly members have found the strength to keep marching the cards. Young people, alive with energy and passion for life, have caught the vision and marched with the silent army by their thousands.

**Grace inspires generosity**

Members and non-members love the Voice of Prophecy. This is so absolutely clear. Hardly a day goes by without donations supporting the VOP arriving at the

Adventist Discovery Centre. The courses offered are free. Salvation is a free gift, but grace inspires generosity. Out of gratitude and affection for the VOP people give from five pounds to literally thousand of pounds supporting Britain's greatest evangelist – the Voice of Prophecy. With your continued generous and regular support, the VOP plans to attempt exciting exploits for God.

**VOP Rally Day**

Sabbath 24 September 2005 is Union-wide Voice of Prophecy Rally Day. It is VOP offering Sabbath. In anticipation of a splendid offering the VOP launches an exciting plan to reach 1,000,000 people for Christ in just one week. Yes, just one week!

Can it be done? One million 'Discover Cards' distributed in just one week?

Yes! With less than one hour's work, one million cards can be distributed before the next Sabbath following VOP Rally Sabbath.

Here's how. On Voice of Prophecy Rally Sabbath, 24 September 2005, every member throughout the BUC will be given an envelope containing fifty VOP 'Discover' cards courtesy of the Voice of Prophecy. Incredibly, with less than one hour's work, if we all hand out our fifty cards, the Adventist Church nationwide will have

connected with no fewer than one million people!

**Repeat distribution**

All we have to do is first pray and bless the cards, then distribute them in any way the Holy Spirit guides. The cards are now sacred. Don't leave them and forget them. Do not worry about putting cards more than once into the same homes. In Germany they have discovered more people respond when up to four cards, over several days, have gone into the same house. One hour's work and your cards have gone. If for, say, health reasons you are not able to hand out your fifty cards, ask one or more of the young people to do it for you.

**One million cards in just one week could mean up to 4,000 people asking for Bible studies. That's evangelism!**

Share the dream. Hand out your fifty cards right away. Use the donation envelope that comes with your cards. Give generously and Britain's greatest evangelist will be able to reach another million people for Christ with your help, prayers and affection.

The Voice of Prophecy has the vision. With your generous help the vision will become a reality through God's Spirit.

Thank you for supporting the Voice of Prophecy.

**With less than one hour's work, one million cards can be distributed in the week following VOP Sabbath 24 September.**

# Love Hope Security

**Healthwise**

**Repliee Q1**

Not a catchy name, but a name, nonetheless, given to a 'female' android the invention of Professor Hiroshi Ishiguro of Osaka University.

'She' looks human enough. Powered by 31 upper body actuators connected to an external air-compressor, she fools most people into thinking that she *is* human, fluttering her eyebrows, moving her hands, and by appearing to breathe. Repliee Q1's skin is a soft flexible silicone resembling human skin. It is a superficial resemblance, at best, since this big

form-fitting sack that we walk around in is possessed of detail beyond Ishiguro's wildest dreams.

Typically, *real* skin has, in an area about twice the size of a thumbnail –

- 13 cold sensors
- 20 blood vessels
- 78 nerves
- 78 heat sensors
- 165 pressure sensors
- 650 sweat glands
- 1,300 nerve endings

Fearfully and wonderfully made indeed!

Scientists have long dreamt of making a self-balancing, twenty-eight-jointed adapter-base bi-ped, containing an electro-chemical

reduction plant, with thousands of hydraulic and pneumatic pumps, with motors attached. Such a being would have some sixty-two thousand miles of capillaries, millions of warning, railroad and conveyor systems, crushers and cranes, and a universally distributed telephone system.

Someone needs to tell Ishiguro and the others that the design race has already been won. 'In the beginning God created . . . and made man[kind] in his own image.' It is said of Repliee Q1 that she can respond to the human touch, and that people soon forget that she is an android. Ishiguro wants to design an android that will pass

as a human being if only for a short period of time.

While not belittling the engineering achievement of Dr Ishiguro, and the fact that the design has a very long way to go before approaching anything like the humanity we know and love, the time might be better spent in improving humanity itself. We do not want robots to copy us as we are, we could not inflict that on them!



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



with Roy Adams\*

# You can rise above it

A strange emotion came over me as I drove alone one day in May. Apparently on purpose, someone had strewn trash all along one section of the roadway. Normally that would throw me for a loop – I hate trash with a passion! But that day something inside me quietly said: *I understand.*

Whew! I could hardly believe my thoughts! What on earth was happening to me?

Later I figured it out. It had to do with my experience earlier that morning in an office in downtown Washington, DC. One knows they exist: arrogant government bureaucrats – ill-mannered, uncouth, crabby, impersonal, seemingly utterly frustrated with the public they've been hired to serve. But actually meeting them is something else again. You leave such a place feeling cheap and violated, and you sense an urge to break things, to throw stuff. That's when you find yourself 'understanding' what before you'd utterly despised – like why someone would wilfully deface the environment by dumping their garbage along a public highway.

I grappled with the unusual emotion for a while, using it to understand why certain people respond as they do, behave as they do, think as they do. My mind travelled back to graduate school – to that day when I went to the office of one of my professors to ask clarification on an assignment he'd given. I remembered how his response – cold, formal, unhelpful – had soured my taste for the entire institution, indeed, for the entire church. The thought even crossed my mind as I walked away from his room: *If this is Christianity, I don't want it.*

In comparison with what others have experienced (and are experiencing), my experiences thus far have been pretty mild. Yet hurtful enough to serve as a basis from which to empathise with others who've suffered deeper wounds. The student, for example, suspended or expelled unjustly; the child denied acceptance at some school or club because of race; the office worker insulted and humiliated by the boss in front of others; the innocent passerby roughed up by some overzealous law-enforcement personnel. And even more egregious, the multitude of people today who as children had been abused or

molested by adults, including parents.

If with my hurts – comparatively minor, as they were that morning – I could feel like tossing stuff, breaking things, then how might these victims feel?

I learned at least two lessons: (1) There's a lot of hurt out there – some of it deep-seated and chronic – and those of us placed in positions of responsibility need to handle people with dignity and grace, so as not to exacerbate any congenial or cultivated negatives they may be carrying. A huge responsibility rests on us to model Christ's tenderness and compassion, for we never know when someone might be making decisions about him by the way we, as his representatives, handle them. It sometimes takes just one of us to poison a person's attitude towards the whole church – and God. (2) My emotion that morning helped me see how easily the rebel in us can surface, and how the unstable among us can feel like flailing indiscriminately against an apparently unfriendly world.

Not all hurts or resentments would fall within the purview of what I'm about to say. Some situations are so psychologically damaging that formal professional counselling or treatment may be needed. But for those suffering from the common insults, annoyances, and put-downs that so destabilised me that morning last May, time is the greatest remedy – time and prayer. God has so structured our psyches that hurts diminish over time, and insults gradually lose their sting. Even some (I say 'some') of the deeper injuries – injuries that leave unsightly footprints in their wake – can lose their wounding edge with time.

No, we do not have to act out our resentments; we don't have to break things or throw stuff. Time heals. So whether it's government bureaucrats that rile us, or some teacher, church administrator, police officer, or parent, *we can rise above it.* Our security in Christ, the sense of personal identity and worth we have in him, puts everything else in proper perspective. Said the ancient prophet: 'Those of steadfast mind you keep in peace . . . because they trust in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for in the Lord God you have an everlasting rock.' (Isaiah 26:3, 4, NRSV)

*Just one of us can poison a person's attitude towards the whole church – and God.*



\* Roy Adams is a good friend of the British Union. He is Associate Editor of ADVENTIST REVIEW where this feature first appeared as an editorial on 16 June.

# £3,000,000 church building for London Ghana church

An impressive ground-breaking ceremony has taken place for work to begin on a £3,000,000 church building project for the London Ghana church. The project, which is the most expensive church building project in the history of the Adventist Church in the British Union is being financed by members of the church and the South England Conference. When completed it will have ultra-modern church facilities, including a media, music and youth hall to enhance the worship activities of the church.

Blessed with the bright summer sun of Sunday 31 July the ceremony was witnessed by about 200 Adventists and friends of the church from across the globe, including delegates from the Ghana Union Conference in Accra.

In a keynote address the outgoing president of the SEC, Pastor Don McFarlane, observed that the project is not only significant in the history of the Adventist Church but also a blessing to the congregation. He praised the Ghanaian church members for their zeal and



Pastor Don McFarlane breaks the ground for the London Ghana building project

enthusiasm for the initiation of the project, adding that 'As you honour the Lord he will also honour you and bless your land.'

Pastor McFarlane reiterated that the SEC had guaranteed the biggest loan in the history of the conference for the London Ghana Adventist church basically because of the trust the conference reposes in the members of that church. Turning his

attention to why there is the need to build such an impressive church in London, Pastor McFarlane reminded the congregation that a church represents the presence of God among his people. Quoting from Exodus chapter 25:8 he said God asked his people to build a sanctuary so he could dwell among them. God therefore will have a proper place to dwell among the Ghanaian congregation

by Isaac Amo-Kyereme

in London when the project is completed.

'This church you are building should be a house of prayer not only for the members of the church but for the whole community. It must serve as a real place of refuge for the afflicted in society,' he added, finally charging the members of the church to illuminate to the world, and London in particular, that God dwells among them.

The senior pastor of the London Ghana church, Dr Emmanuel Osei, on behalf of his congregation, thanked the SEC for reposing such trust in the Ghanaian church. He also paid tribute to the pioneering spirit of a small group of Ghanaians who decided to set up a church in London some thirty years ago.

The building site, formerly known as St Cedds Church, is situated between Newham Way (A13) and Chadwin Road, London E16, covering 0.62 acres. It is being developed into an ultra-modern church complex by Roper Construction Ltd. When completed the church could seat 650 worshippers.

## Free health checks

Inspired by a mission to share Christ through health ministry, the Health Outreach Team (HOT) offered free health services during the two Filipino Barrio Fiestas held on 13 June and 16 July at Morden Park and Lampton Park in Surrey and Hounslow respectively.

A total of more than 326 people received free health checks such as blood pressure, weight and blood sugar assessments. Individuals found with abnormal results were referred to their local General Practitioners. Health-related magazines (health *FOCUS* and *LIFE.info*) and tracts were also distributed free of charge at these events.

### The class that eats together

The 'Sapphire' class at Leicester Central Sabbath School believes in togetherness. On Sabbath 24 July they ate together.

The meal was at the Fifield family home.

Sabbath School superintendent Silvia Ham-Ying stresses unity in the church by caring for one another.

'Mobile' Sabbath Schools have been introduced to meet the needs of the elderly and infirm. We have also undertaken VOP card distribution in the Wigston and Knighton areas of Leicester.

FREDERICK BANDA



health outreach activities, HOT welcomes anyone who is passionate, preferably with health and allied backgrounds, to join the team. Any enthusiastic church member may also contribute either as a sponsor, prayer intercessor or as a fundraiser of the team. For more details please contact the team co-ordinators, Florie at 02085345630 and Cynthia at 02085713303.

CYNTHIA TEJARES-CENAL

whose daughter Katie offered a musical tribute to one of the candidates.

However, the evening was to become even more eventful. Following the baptism of the six candidates, our minister, Pastor Nigel David Snr, announced from the pool that another person had decided to respond to the baptismal appeal, and indeed wanted to be baptised that very evening! Andrew Joseph, son of a long-standing family of Ilford church, emerged to spontaneous applause, clad in makeshift baptismal robes. Andrew had been putting off the call for some time, but decided that evening to resist no longer, and proudly took his stand for Jesus. His only regret, he later expressed, was that his father who had passed away a few years previously, could not witness his baptism.

We proudly welcome Benjamin Letang (10), Nqobile Mbano (13), Georgina Gittens (13), Dominic Husbands (15), Andrew Joseph, and husband and wife, Lyndrey and Beverley Holder into the family of God and membership of Ilford church.

COMMUNICATION SECRETARY



Baptismal candidates with Pastor Nigel David and ministerial team



Andrew Joseph affirms his faith

## Baptismal surprise

On Sabbath 23 July, six candidates publicly acclaimed Christ as their Saviour to a full and overflowing congregation of family and friends gathered at Ilford church. Our visiting speaker was John Mathieu. The candidates were therefore commissioned always to 'trust and obey'.

Following the exhortation by our head elder, Gladstone Austin, the congregation eagerly accepted the candidates into membership.

Pastor Humphrey Walters, a son of Ilford church and now currently serving as SEC Strategic Planning director, opened the service with prayer. His niece Georgina Gittens was among the candidates. We were also privileged to have with us Earl Ramharacksingh, SEC treasurer,



# Resources sent to every church district

LIFEdevelopment.info was recently given prominence at the General Conference Session in St Louis, Missouri, when Pastor C. R. Perry, our Union president, was interviewed by Pastor Bertil Wiklander during the Trans-European Division Report. With enthusiasm Pastor Perry held up a set of the *Evidence* and *Mind the Gap* DVDs. These series of programmes were produced as a resource for levels 2 and 3 of the LIFEdevelopment.info concept. The interview created a great deal of interest from around the world in the whole concept of LIFEdevelopment.info.

We want every church in the British Union to have a set of the *Evidence* and *Mind the Gap*, plus a copy of the Study Guide for *Mind the Gap*. This high quality production is an excellent series for using with unchurched, secular people. In August the Ldi team sent DVD sets to each district pastor in the British Union. These sets are for you to use. If your church does not have its own set speak to your pastor and contact the LIFEdevelopment office and we will be pleased to send you a set. The first set for your church is our gift to you. If you require extra copies of the Study Guide they are available at £5 a copy, and extra sets of the LIFEdevelopment.info DVD packs are available at a cost of £30 (including postage).

⇒ Those involved in 'Lights over London';  
⇒ those working with small groups;  
⇒ even those working on a person to person basis,  
now have access to some excellent material which you can share with unchurched friends. The *Mind the Gap* Study Guide has a chapter for each of the programmes in the *Mind the Gap* series and provides material for a group leader to continue the discussion.

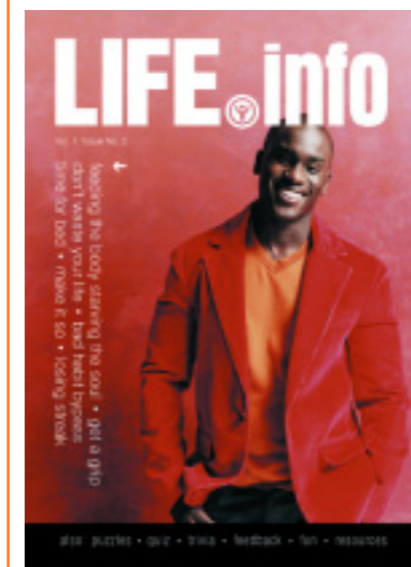
We encourage you to use this material. Don't leave it on the shelf. The programmes are designed to bring

unchurched friends to the point where they are ready to receive the stronger 'meat' of God's word and learn about the beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists. Resources for this level, entitled *Experiencing the Joy*, which will cover level 4 of the concept (the beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists) will be ready in 2006.

In the meantime, we hope you will find the material useful and that, as a result of its use, many individuals will find answers to some of the issues that affect us all. Most of all, we are praying that many people will come to know more about our God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.

If you or your church are just starting to use the LIFEdevelopment strategy and are wanting to make new friends among the unchurched in your area, why not order *LIFE.info* magazine? *LIFE.info* can help you break the ice with the people you come into contact with. The magazine is full of articles that make you think, make you laugh and help secular people to focus on some of the important issues of life. It's also great value at 20p a copy.

To order any of the items mentioned contact: LIFEdevelopment.info Office, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts, WD25 9JZ. Telephone 01923 672251. [ask@lifedevelopment.info](mailto:ask@lifedevelopment.info). Order online at [www.adventistresource.org.uk](http://www.adventistresource.org.uk).





## Make Up Your Mind!

opportunity to reconnect with God through the church's 'Make Up Your Mind!' campaign, which held meetings on Friday and Saturday

May was an especially exhilarating month at Tottenham (West Green Road) church. It was a time when the youth of the church had the

evenings, and relaxed discussions on Sundays.

Many hearts were moved by God's power through speakers Tony

Best, Pastor Eddie Hypolite, Sam Gungaloo and Vaughn Thorpe. Messages in song were provided by Devoted, Tottenham Youth Choir, and many others. A special feature of the campaign was the free CD and book giveaway. In addition, each of the young people received a copy of the much-talked-about DVD, 'The truth

about Hip Hop'. Each night, tens of young people indicated that they wanted to give their lives to God.

Many thanks to all who assisted with, or attended, the campaign – especially the young people of the Filipino church. To keep the momentum going, the church's Youth department has planned to have a short series of 'Make Up Your Mind!' weekends starting in October. Please log on to [www.tottenhamsda.org](http://www.tottenhamsda.org) for more details.

MAXINE DONOVAN

## Tottenham outreach

On Sabbath 23 July and Sunday 24 July the Community Ministries department of Tottenham West Green Road church, with support from other churches in the 6A and 6C areas, engaged with the local community through worship and a Community Outreach Day. On 23 July many people in the community and from other churches attended in response to personal invitations from church members, letters and flyers.

Elsie Staple, SEC's director of Health and Community Ministries, delivered the main message. Her theme was 'Knowing, Growing and

Showing'. We were reminded that whom the Lord calls he equips. She gave us the acronym SHAPE to reinforce this thought: S = Spiritual Gift; H = Heart (passion for something); A = Abilities; P = Personalities; E = Experience. Many visitors stayed behind and joined in the fellowship lunch.

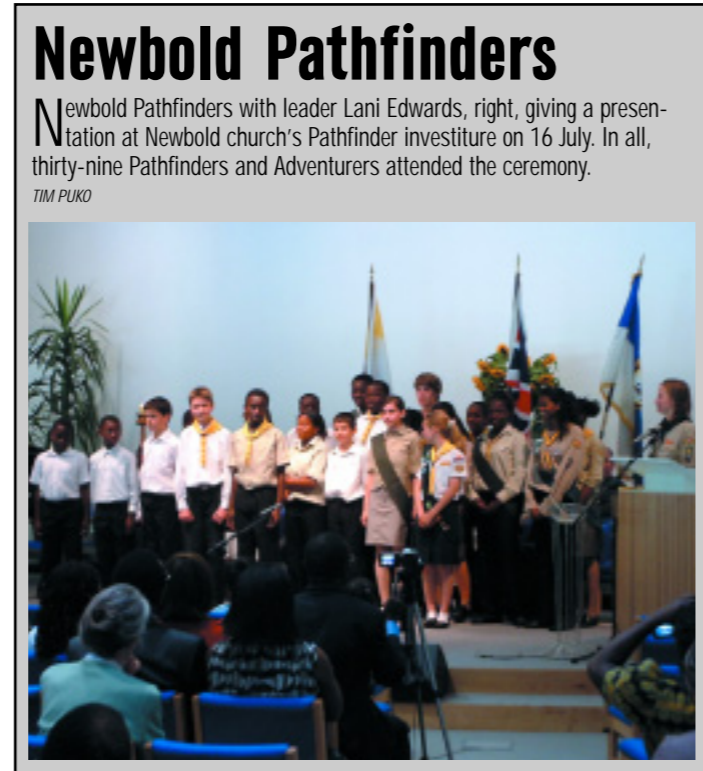
On Sunday 24 July the programme included a three-course meal, health checks, a presentation on diabetes, entertainment, clothing, food parcels, books and toys – all free of charge. Although the rain was pouring, many people attended. There was a mixed group of

people present: people from two local residential homes and also their carers, homeless people, members of the local community and members of Tottenham and other churches with their relatives and friends.

Community Ministries worked in

partnership with a number of departments to make the day a success. One visitor commented, 'I have enjoyed myself so much. I wish you had it every week.' He has since started attending church on Sabbath.

MAXINE DONOVAN



## Newbold Pathfinders

Newbold Pathfinders with leader Lani Edwards, right, giving a presentation at Newbold church's Pathfinder investiture on 16 July. In all, thirty-nine Pathfinders and Adventurers attended the ceremony.

TIM PUKO



## Retirees' Camp

Some retired workers take their holidays in exotic places or stay at home in their chosen retirement haven. When we saw the 'Retirees' Camp' advertised in MESSENGER we booked up immediately for both the June and September camps. We couldn't have been more satisfied with our decision.

The Lleyn peninsula is one of the most pleasant places to be at any time and Aberdaron camp site is very special. The six fine pine cabins are most comfortable, and have been granted 4-star status by the Welsh Tourist Board. The wonderful

service offered by Malcolm and Lorraine Hayles certainly deserves 5 stars.

It was an excellent time to meet old friends and make new ones. The round dozen of us all enjoyed the comfort of the fine food and the togetherness.

Bill and Linda Kitchen were our camp leaders. The worship times were a blessing to all. On Sabbath their leadership in our services was much appreciated and an afternoon walk down to Fisherman's Cove, where we sat on the rocks and watched the tide come in, was most enjoyable.

On Thursday, Friday and Monday we were all taken by coach first to Penrhyn Castle, then a tour of Snowdonia and finally a visit to Portmeirion and

then up to Betws-y-coed. On the way, the driver pulled into a lay-by and we had a fine view of Snowdon without its usual cap of cloud. On our final evening we were entertained splendidly by an accomplished Welsh harpist, a fine singer who sang traditional Welsh songs *a cappella*, and two charming young ladies, both playing harps, who were introduced to us by their mother. A most interesting and enjoyable evening.

Our sincere thanks are offered to our hosts, Malcolm and Lorraine Hayles, to Bill and Linda Kitchen for their kindly leadership, and finally to the North England Conference officers for this most enjoyable and relaxing holiday.

VIOLETTE AND GLYNNE MEREDITH

# Be there – for victims of violence

by Heather Haworth, Family Ministries department, BUC



'Dear Mr Jesus, I just had to write to you. Something really scared me when I saw it on the news – a story about a little girl beaten black and blue.' This song, sung by Sharon Batts in 1985, continues, 'Dear Mr Jesus, please tell me what to do. And please don't tell my daddy, but my mummy hits me too.'

This song about family violence had an unprecedented response. After playing it only once New York City's counselling hotline began getting 3,000 phone calls a day from people wanting to be listened to as they related their experiences of domestic violence.

Current international research indicates that family violence is a global problem.

Violence and abuse, especially in the home, appear to be increasing. It is possible, of course, that we are only now beginning to recognise the widespread prevalence of a problem that has been with us for centuries. Media attention and public outcries have riveted attention on child neglect and abuse, sexual violence, psychological maltreatment of children, rape, mate beating, and mistreatment of the elderly. Various observers have confirmed that these problems of abuse are not only getting more attention, they are getting worse.<sup>1</sup>

Regrettably, family violence occurs in Christian homes too. Whenever a traumatic event takes place it is inevitable that such questions come to mind as, 'Why is this happening to me and my family?' 'Why is God not answering my prayers for help?' 'Have "sins" in my past life caused me to receive this punishment from God?' The ultimate question will be, 'Is there a God?' If for no other reason than the

spiritual obligation, we have to help those with such questions. We should 'be there' for those in our 'household of faith' who are involved in family violence.

The example of Jesus to lift up those trodden down by the events of life is also a mark of his Church. 'If you love me, you will love one another,' said Jesus to his disciples. (See John 13:34, 35.) To help this to be enacted in our lifetime our Church has a Statement on Family Violence that was adopted by the annual council of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, October 1996. I highlight here certain aspects: It is our belief that the Church has a responsibility to:

- Care for those involved in family violence
- Strengthen family life through grace-orientated biblical beliefs
- Rectify cultural beliefs that justify or cover up family violence
- Accept it is our responsibility to be responsive to the needs of such families
- Declare such abusive behaviour as a violation of our Church's standards.

A question that you may have is, 'Why should one human being physically and psychologically abuse another?' Yes, we know human sinfulness is the reason, but what causes abuse to occur? The following are the most likely reasons:

### Environmental stress

We all respond to this. A pressured businessman snaps at his personal assistant; a frustrated tennis player throws

down his racquet; a frustrated parent hits out at the whining child. The physical violence caused by stress often occurs in three stages:

- Tension building.
- Violence erupts.
- Remorse for the act.

The latter act gives hope to the victim and so they stay in the relationship.

### Learned abuse

Children who are abused or who observe violence in their parents, often become abusers in later life. One study of elder abuse found that 1 in 400 children who are reared non-violently attack their parents in later life, compared with 1 in 200 children who are abused by their parents. Another report showed that children who are neglected never learn how to care for others, so they grow up to become neglecters of their own children.<sup>2</sup>

### Personal insecurity

Studies often show that abusers are people who feel insecure, impulsive and threatened: they generally hold low self-concepts. Sometimes wife beaters feel jealous, possessive, or intimidated by their wives, so the husband tries to boost his own feelings of inadequacy by being tough. Some child batterers feel inadequate as parents, so they attempt to manage their offspring with violence. Other parents have a low tolerance for the normal hyperactive behaviour of their children, so violence becomes a way to gain control.<sup>3</sup>

### Other Causes

Sometimes there are ongoing power struggles between the abuser and the victim. Recent research has shown that

sexually violent movies, pornographic materials and television programmes can and do promote violence, especially violence against women. Then there is abuse that comes from people who are overwhelmed by family responsibilities<sup>4</sup> and cannot cope, so hit out. For example, elder abuse.

The cycle of family violence does not have to continue. By understanding how the cycle of abuse works there are steps that we can take to help the abuser and the abused.

- **Run educational programmes** in church such as on the annual Abuse Prevention Awareness Day and the training programme for 'Keeping the Church Family Safe'.
- **Set up a Family support system.** Our church does this by running Family, Children's and Women's Ministries seminars plus 2 helplines: 0845 741 3602 – *South England Conference* 0161 740 3602 – *North England Conference*
- **Teach Interpersonal Skills** such as effective communication, handling conflict, dealing with feelings, solving problems, managing stress and crisis. An effective Men's Ministries is addressing especially this area as well as the Women's Ministries Certificate Training.
- **Social Action must take place.** 'Keeping the Church Family Safe' BUC Policy document must be more than a document, it must be put into action.

The song 'Dear Mr Jesus' is about a real-life happening. We can either 'switch off' its message or let those struggling with family violence know there is a caring God whose church – you and I – will listen and respond positively to their hurting hearts.

For contacts and resource details on Family abuse please apply to your Family and Women's Ministries departments for the leaflet 'Breaking the Silence'.

<sup>1</sup>Christian Counselling by G. R. Collins. Word Book. <sup>2</sup>Ibid. <sup>3</sup>Ibid. <sup>4</sup>Ibid.

## Book Review



Leighton G. Campbell's *Wine In The Bible and The Scriptural Case For Total Abstinence* is an opportune publication given that social drinking by Christians is on the increase. (Indeed, some formerly abstaining church organisations are even applying for liquor licences for church premises.)

Many Christians are unaware of the Scriptural foundation for abstaining. Campbell addresses the issues raised 'from a forceful but fair and thorough examination of the sacred Scriptures'. He

deftly rebuts the arguments of assorted ecclesiastics who have written in favour of alcohol use. The names of some of these may not be entirely familiar to the general reader, but give Campbell the opportunity to answer the various positions taken in biblical interpretation (a subject he deals with in the first nine chapters). Part Two – a further nine chapters – covers all aspects of 'alcohol' use in the New Testament.

Campbell's style lends itself to reading the entire book sequentially or dipping into chapters of specific interest to readers. *Wine In The Bible* can be read and understood by young people and adults alike, and does not need a medical understanding to be enjoyed. In fact, Campbell does not

cite either medical data or statistics. There is sufficient material in God's Word to undergird the position of total abstinence, and Campbell has made an efficient compilation and commentary of these.

The book is not the relentless hammering of a fanatic. Rather it is a labour of love born of a passion for holy living. I recommend it to anyone who, while abstaining, needs solid evidence to support their stance in various social situations where alcohol is usually called for.

Review by R. J. B. Willis.

*Wine in the Bible* is published by Brentwood Christian Press and is available at the Adventist Book Centre at £9.95 plus p&p.

### Headteacher Stanborough Secondary School

Required for January 2006  
11-16 Co-educational Church School

Stanborough Secondary School is a dynamic Adventist institution, with a Christian and international ethos. It is popular with both the Adventist constituency and the local community, and is housed in a modern, yet classic-type building, with up-to-date facilities to train and equip students to meet the demands of a technological and global environment. The school is set in landscaped grounds, which allow excellent space for recreation and sports, while providing a serene setting for day pupils and boarders alike.

The British Union Conference now seeks a suitably qualified educator and administrator to succeed the present headteacher Mr Rivers who has served the school successfully for over five years and contributed to academic and financial improvements.

The successful candidate will be a practising Seventh-day Adventist and is expected to demonstrate:

Vision and leadership skills to motivate and inspire the staff in fulfilling the mission of the school. Sound grasp of educational leadership and management principles and the ability to be an effective professional leader and team builder. The skills to manage and develop the curriculum to meet the needs of pupils, the expectations of the church community and national changes. The ability to work with governors in developing school policies, formulating the strategic plan and managing the school's improvement strategy for raising achievement. Evidence of adequate financial management and decision-making techniques. A successful track record in contributing to the creation of an effective teaching and learning school community. An understanding of and commitment to the Seventh-day Adventist philosophy and practice of education. Good communication and interpersonal skills.

Further details and an application pack are available from: Dr Keith Davidson, Education Director, BUC Offices, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts, WD25 9JZ.

Tel: 01923 672251; Email: [kdaavidson@adventist.org.uk](mailto:kdaavidson@adventist.org.uk)

Closing date for applications: Friday 16 September 2005

Interview date: Monday 26 September 2005

### Staff Vacancies at Stanborough Secondary School

Stanborough Secondary School in Watford has two vacancies they wish to fill for September.

- IT Manager: with qualifications in maintenance of Software and Hardware.
- French Tutor.

Interested in joining our team?

Then send your CV to [srivers@stanboroughpark.herts.sch.uk](mailto:srivers@stanboroughpark.herts.sch.uk)

Or phone 01923 673 268 for more information.

**Application deadline: 15 September.**

### JOB VACANCY AT ADRA-UK

ADRA-UK is seeking to appoint a **Finance officer**. Key responsibilities include providing day-to-day support to ADRA-UK implementing partners on financial management processes, financial compliance, and adherence to donor regulations and ADRA policies. Additionally, the Finance officer will be responsible for supporting the ADRA-UK Executive director and treasurer in drafting and revising donor financial reports, preparing ADRA-UK financial statements, planning ADRA-UK cash flow and developing project budgets.

The desired applicant will: hold a solid Bachelors degree in financial management or accounting (required); hold a Masters degree in finance, accounting, international development, or business administration (preferable); have at least two years accounting and financial management experience (essential); have experience of overseeing financial activities and personnel (preferable); have experience in development work or charity sector (desirable); have strong numerical, analytical, verbal and written communication skills (absolutely essential); have a passion for serving hurting people; be committed to ADRA's principles of development and Adventist beliefs.

ADRA-UK is offering this position in the first instance as a one-year contract. Salary will be according to the denominational wage scale. Job description is available upon request.

A letter of application together with a current CV and the addresses of two referees should be sent to: ADRA-UK director, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts WD25 9JZ. Tel/Fax: 01923 681723. Email: [director@adra.org.uk](mailto:director@adra.org.uk). The deadline for receipt of applications is **28 October 2005**. Interviews for suitable candidates will be held in November/December 2005.

Sponsored and organised by the BUC Youth Department

Are you perplexed and frustrated in knowing how to deal with and cope with your teenagers?

# TEENAGERS

A two day conference  
for Parents, Teachers, Youthworkers, Church and Community Leaders

19-20 November 05.

Special guest speakers include:

- O'Neill Smith
- WPC Rebecca Morgan
- Probation Services representative
- Melven Davis
- Paul Bolden
- Lyzibia Grant
- Pastor Eghan Brooks

Venue:  
Sturton Park,  
Sturton, Doncaster,  
Northampton.

Cost:  
£80 per person for the  
two days includes all meals  
and accommodation.

Limited places so please apply NOW with full payment

Subjects to be addressed:  
bullying, gang culture, parenting,  
drugs, anti-social behaviour, sexual health, young offenders

Contact [bucyouth@adventist.org.uk](mailto:bucyouth@adventist.org.uk), t. 01923 672251

#### CORRECTION

MESSENGER 110-18, 12 August 2005. We apologise to Sister Edith Mortimer that we omitted her name from the line-up of the photograph of the Slough Baptism on page 4.

#### THANK YOU

To all the campers for their help during our holiday at Aberdaron Family Camp, where I had a cycling accident. A special thank you to the medical staff, who assisted me daily with my injuries and took the time to care for me and my son. Finally, thanks and praise to our wonderful God who saw fit to spare our son any serious injuries. This was truly a miracle and something we will not forget.

Martyn Benton, Stoke on Trent

#### CONGRATULATIONS

To Ruth Lawford of the Barnsley Church who has been awarded a 2:1 degree in Mathematics and Oceanography by the University of Southampton.

Editor

#### The South England Conference

acknowledges with thanks, tithe of £150 from C/06.

#### BRADFORD'S 40TH

On Sabbath 8 October 2005 the Bradford church members will be celebrating the 40th anniversary of the building's dedication. If you attended the Bradford church, and have any memorabilia or old photographs of Bradford church or congregation that you can let us have for the occasion, please contact John or Christina McGoldrick on 0113 2587825 or email [jmcg44@ntlworld.com](mailto:jmcg44@ntlworld.com).

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

#### ABC BOOK SALES

September		
25 West Midlands		10am-2pm
October		
2 John Loughborough		10am-2pm
23 Sheffield Burngreave		Time TBA
30 West Midlands		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
Sept 9	7.29	7.41	7.34	7.46	7.55
16	7.13	7.25	7.18	7.28	7.38
23	6.57	7.09	7.01	7.09	7.20
30	6.41	6.53	6.44	6.51	7.02

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