

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

Messenger

FREE
with this issue
ADVENTIST WORLD

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ADRA-UK South Asia Earthquake Appeal

by Mark Castellino,
Acting director, ADRA-UK



Following the earthquake tragedy that struck South Asia, ADRA-UK has launched an appeal to raise funds to bring immediate relief to the victims. ADRA-UK is co-ordinating its efforts with other donor offices and ADRA-Trans-Europe to respond to this major disaster.

The ADRA network is focusing efforts on Pakistan, which has been most affected by the disaster. ADRA has had a long-term presence in Pakistan, providing development projects in the affected regions since 1984. The ADRA-Pakistan office has already commenced relief activities with the provision of food, medical supplies and shelter.

The ADRA network was mobilised into action within hours of the earthquake, which occurred at 8:50 on Saturday 8 October, and measured 7.6 on the Richter Scale. The writer was in contact with ADRA-International and Trans-Europe (which covers Pakistan as one of its field territories) by

> 16



95% of the buildings in Bagh were demolished by the quake



LIFE info

Improving your children's self-esteem
"angry waiting or happy waiting?"
parties without tears
bigger than Batman
almost
four

also: puzzles • poetry • trivia • feedback • fun • resources

There are people you know, people you meet every day, people you sit next to on the tube or bus, people you pass on your way to work, people who are lost.

Lost because they don't have a relationship with Jesus. Lost, perhaps, because nobody has told them about Him. These people are individuals – different backgrounds, different stories to tell.

So, if they are lost, how can they be found? They will take different pathways to God; there can be no 'one-size-fits-all' approach.

For some the written word will play a part in their pathway to God. LIFE info magazine seeks to provide some of those words.

Could you help? Might you be able to express the Gospel in relevant terms that could touch the heart of a non-believer?

Contact me for a copy of the writer's guidelines and a list of article topics.

Lee Gallaher, editor; lifeinfomag@mac.com



Christmas shoebox appeal

by Karen Platjes

For the last few years ADRA-UK has been sending Christmas packages to children around the world. This year the shoeboxes will be sent to Romania. It's an exciting way to help children experience the joy of Christmas, and for most of them it will be the only present they receive this year.

Shoeboxes can be filled with toys, clothes, sweets, toiletry items, school supplies, etc. and should be nicely wrapped and clearly labelled with the appropriate age and sex. Please do not include breakable items, food products (aside from sweets), toys that need batteries, medicines, or war-related items.

All boxes need to be received by 1 December in order to reach their destination by Christmas. Boxes can be delivered to ADRA, Stanborough Park, Watford, WD25 9JZ, during business hours (Mon-Thurs 9-5, and Friday 9-noon). There will be a pick-up in parts of the NEC, and details will be sent in late October. Please note that the NEC office is not able to store or deliver boxes this year.

A poster and flyer can be downloaded from www.adra.org.uk.

We'd like to have a record number of shoeboxes, so please help us by getting involved. More information can be obtained from ADRA-UK on 01923-681723 or by emailing secretary@adra.org.uk.



Pick up your free copy of *Adventist World*

by John Surridge

This week two editions of the brand new international Seventh-day Adventist Church magazine, *Adventist World*, will be distributed to all Adventist churches in the UK and Ireland. Around the world more than one million copies of each edition are printed in English, with additional copies being printed in Spanish and French. Altogether it is estimated that six million or more people will have access to the magazine. The cost of the monthly magazine is estimated at less than 2.5 million US dollars a year, which represents excellent value for money on a per-member basis.

According to *Adventist World* editor William Johnsson, the new magazine represents a strategic move for the Church and is part of an effort 'to foster the unity of the world Adventist family'. It comes with several elements in mind. All articles will be one or two pages in length, except for the cover story, which will run for four pages. It will focus on informing members about the world Church, while articles on Adventist heritage, Bible questions and a simple Bible study will also be featured.

An effort is also being made to find writers from all over the world, in an effort to enhance the international perspective of the magazine. General

Conference president Pastor Jan Paulsen says, 'We think it is critical to the Church, to the Church's witness, to the unity of the Church that we have a voice that can speak to the whole world Church, with the same message to all.'

Among the international writers contributing to the October issue of the magazine is Karen Holford, Associate director of the South England Conference Family Ministries department. Her article, entitled, 'Praying a New Prayer', comes under the heading of Adventist Life. Other sections include: Devotional, Focus, Feature, Fundamental Beliefs, Spirit of Prophecy, and Adventist Service.

Producing a world magazine presents some technical challenges and without the use of modern communication techniques this project would not have been possible. The editorial responsibilities fall on the *Adventist Review* team in Silver Spring, Maryland, with two additional editors in Seoul, Republic of Korea, adding strategic planning for the new magazine. The final publishing process involves sending electronic files of the magazine to four different printing presses, located in the United States, Korea and Australia.

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

Healthwise

Wolf Bite

If you are suffering five or more of the following: chronic fatigue, muscle and joint pain, hair loss, oral or nasal ulcers, chest pain, kidney problems, feverishness, stress, depression, anaemia, or headaches, you may be set to join the 50,000 *Lupus* sufferers in the UK.

Women of child-bearing age are at risk (1 in 750 women have *Lupus* and 90% of *Lupus* sufferers are women), but men (10%) and young children can be affected. The name *Lupus* – proper name *Lupus vulgaris* – describes the facial rash (once associated with

the condition but now rarely seen) resembling a wolf's bite.

Lupus can be triggered at puberty, after childbirth, through sunlight, during the menopause following a viral infection, through trauma, or as a result of a prolonged course of medication, and is particularly prevalent in Afro-Caribbean, Asian and Eastern races. The disease, which is neither contagious nor infectious, is incurable and results from a compromised immune system affected by the things listed above. *Lupus* may be treated symptomatically by GPs.

As the symptoms persist, rheumatologists, dermatologists or renal specialists may make the

Lupus diagnosis eventually. Although the condition is not curable it is treatable with medication over the long term. Steroids, anti-inflammatories or 'antimalarials' are usually prescribed, with the medication being adjusted from time to time as the condition allows. People with *Lupus* require rest, an understanding of their condition and the support of their family and friends.

There is an *Adventist Lupus Prayer Network* (ALPN) which will help to provide individual support, the organisers of which also conduct workshops on *Lupus*. You may call the ALPN on the following numbers: 0208 491 7168, 0796 103 1967, or 0794 129 8154. It is worth noting

during this *Lupus Awareness Month* that there are *Lupus* sufferers in the Adventist Church and that some have died as a result of *Lupus* complications.

Long-standing symptoms of any kind should be investigated. These might be masking *Lupus*. Prompt attention to the symptoms may help to make the worst extremes of the 'wolf bite' less likely to occur and hopefully, in the future, the disease will be as rare as the presence of wolves in the UK.



It takes a great man to deal with failure and defeat. It takes a very, very great man to deal with success and victory. David was not that great.

Victorious over the Syrians, military genius David felt so confident about capturing Rabbah (Amman) that he sent Joab to do it while he stayed home. The Bathsheba Affair ensued. Remember?

A glamorous woman was exploited. Her husband was deliberately sent on a suicide mission. David took advantage of Uriah's unquestioning loyalty to get him killed. Joab was made a party to the slaughter made necessary by the adultery; and, therefore, acquired a cynicism about his psalm-singing king that would influence his future loyalties.

Victorious over Philistines and Syrians, about to be victorious over the Ammonites, David was defeated by his own libido. Twelve months after the slaughter required by the cover-up made necessary by the adultery, David had still not come clean. He thought only Joab knew that the carnage at Amman and the king's subsequent marriage to Bathsheba were connected.

He was wrong.

'Surely the royal courtiers were careful not to mention the unfortunate cuckold or name the real father of the child within the earshot of King David and his new queen, but it is just as certain that the whole scandalous affair was the subject of hot gossip throughout the palace and beyond.'

'David's sin toward Bathsheba became known, and suspicion was excited that he had planned the death of Uriah.'

But even had there not been suspicion and hot gossip, David's squalid secret was known: 'The thing David had done displeased the Lord.' (2 Samuel 11:27.) David had behaved like an atheist but, no matter how many people do that, God doesn't go anywhere. He saw it all and was displeased by what he saw. David probably thought he had been subtle and shrewd. God thought he'd been bad and base, vicious and very blameworthy. And God acted on his judgement.

You recall Nathan's visit to the palace and the story about the rich man who stole a poor man's only lamb? And then David's judgement on the rich man? 'The man must pay and the man must die.' Then the dramatic pause before Nathan's: 'You are that man! The king had pronounced the death sentence upon himself!

I first encountered this story when, as a boy of 13, I was reading the Bible through for the first time. I so enjoyed Nathan's triumph. I enjoyed even more the prophet's warning that, because of what David had done, the sword would never depart from his house. The heart of that earliten was also warmed by David's repentance: 'I have sinned against the Lord.'

But I was totally unprepared for what followed: 'Nathan replied, "The Lord has taken away your sin. You are not going to die."' (2 Samuel 12:13.) NO! NO!

That couldn't possibly be right! David had passed sentence on himself: 'The man must pay and the man must die!' I wanted Nathan or God or both – or anyone! – to carry out that sentence. My youthful feelings were outraged. I went back to 2 Samuel chapter 12 one last

time to make sure I had not misread something. No. There it was. I read as far as verse 15 where it says that Nathan 'went home', and I thought, 'Right, that's it'; and I lost patience and closed the Bible, planning never to open it again.

'The Lord has taken away your sin.' That really stuck in my craw. I was scandalised and disgusted – *with God!* Was he fresh out of 'fire from heaven'?

I took the issue to the only Bible authority on hand, my mother. She told me that her father, my grandfather, had given up on the Bible – when he'd read that King Solomon had a thousand wives and concubines. He'd made it further than I had!

But at least he hadn't been disgusted with God. She said that all would come clear if I read Psalm 51.

I did. It didn't help, at first. It was, I read, a psalm of confession and repentance written by David following his encounter with Nathan. The sanctimonious tick that I was found the tone about right at first. In verse 4, however, I found something else to be outraged about. David said to God, 'Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.'

So what about Bathsheba? Hadn't the debauched king aged 50 sinned against the young woman whose body he had exploited? Hadn't he sinned, too, against her husband, his military champion Uriah? I thought of Uriah returning to the front carrying the sealed orders that contained his own death warrant. Hadn't the whole sordid business been an outrage by a king against his people – *all of his people?* Shouldn't justice come into it somewhere?

There were two verdicts. The first, David's own: 'The man must pay and the man must die!' The second, Nathan's: 'God forgives your sin. You will not die for it.'

I favoured the first!

God's persistent disappointment with the failings of humankind is perhaps the single most consistent theme of the Bible.

I was feeling an outrage that was a pathetic reflection of what God feels when we fail him and other people. God *is* keeping score. He holds both leaders and led to account. God's judgement is what makes sense of history.

But God's unswerving commitment to justice meets at the cross with that other major facet of his character. Grace.

God expresses hatred for the damage sin does and is unable, as with David, to interrupt the cause and effect sequence to which it gives rise.

But God's justice encounters God's grace at the cross: his undying longing to forgive, his insatiable appetite to redeem penitent sinners.

David's great psalm of repentance (51) anticipated Calvary: 'Cleanse me with hyssop.' Hyssop branches were used to sprinkle the lambs' blood on the doors and the lintels on the night of judgement. What made possible God's verdict –

Is God outrageous?



with David Marshall

'the Lord has taken away your sin' – as opposed to David's verdict on himself – 'the man must die' – was Calvary. Whether David knew it or not, he was saved through the death of the sinless One who would be born in his line.

What made that transaction possible was David's heartfelt repentance, and explicit in it the realisation that, even more than he had sinned against Bathsheba, Uriah, Joab and the nation of Israel, he had sinned against God (Psalm 51:4). Five of God's Big Ten had been broken. And as David belatedly stood penitent before God, the thing that loomed large was not the vulnerability of Bathsheba or the innocence of Uriah, but the judgement of the God whose wishes and existence he had ignored. David understood that when the secondary charges had been dealt with it was the all-righteous God against whom he had sinned.

The same all-righteous God would, in the fullness of time, provide his Son who 'emptied himself . . .' and 'humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross' (Philippians 2:7, 8, NRSV).

As a 13-year-old, I didn't understand that. All *did* become clear when I read and *understood* Psalm 51. God's Not Guilty verdict following David's repentance was made possible by the blood of God's Son shed where God's justice and God's mercy met.

'Many have murmured at what they called God's injustice in sparing David. . . . Whoever under the reproof of God will humble the soul with confession and repentance, as did David, . . . will find pardon. The Lord will never cast away one truly penitent soul.'

There. It's official. God IS outrageous! Believe it.

References:
Jonathan Kirsch, *King David: The Real Life of the Man who Ruled Israel* (Ballentine, New York, 2000), page 192. 'Patriarchs and Prophets', page 720. 'Patriarchs and Prophets', page 726.



A Countdown of Grace

by Pat Grant*
Is your congregation a safe place for God's grace?

assigned six tables in the middle of the ballroom. I had a great time getting to know some of the guests. It was a room brimming with authenticity.

The speaker came forward to welcome the crowd. She appeared to be in her late 50s. Her skin was tanned; deep wrinkles danced when she smiled. She possessed an affable personality and used it to command the attention of her audience. Her lavender blouse was tucked neatly into a crisp black linen suit. Her ring finger sparkled, her left wrist glistened, and the delicate pearl brooch pinned to her lapel harmonised it all. Her appearance and demeanour were immaculate, which made all the more impact on me when she spoke.

'Hi, my name is Mary,' she began.

'Hi, Mary,' the audience replied.

'I'm an alcoholic,' she announced. 'And I haven't touched a drink for eleven years.'

The audience applauded. 'Eleven years ago I was homeless,' Mary stated. 'I lost my children and my self-respect. Now, by the power of God and Alcoholics Anonymous, I've turned my life around.'

'This convention is one where we are brought together with a common purpose. We all admit that one time in our life we were powerless, but now through the strength in gathering together and calling on a higher power we will overcome.'

The audience applauded. 'Before we begin tonight, I'd like to acknowledge all of you,' she said. 'So if you've been clean and sober for 40 years or longer, please stand.'

Two older couples in the front row stood to their feet. The audience applauded.

'If you've been clean and sober for 39 years or more, I'd like you to stand.' Ten people stood up, and the audience applauded.

Mary then began the countdown

of grace. 'Thirty-eight years, 37 . . . 25, 24 . . .' With each announcement people stood while everyone else in the ballroom applauded.

I stopped serving and just stood against the wall, revelling in the experience. The power in the room was palpable. Fifteen hundred people were together in a room where nobody judged anyone, everyone recognised how far each had come, and there was acceptance and unconditional love.

What I witnessed next showed me forever what heaven on earth is like.

Just getting started

'Anyone been a year or more sober?' Mary asked. A few people stood. The audience applauded.

Mary counted down from six months to one month with no one standing. She continued.

'Thirty-one days sober?' No one stood. 'Thirty?' 'Eighteen?' 'Ten?' Nobody stood.

'If you've been sober for two days, please stand.' Nobody.

'If you've been sober since last night, please stand.'

Mary then remained silent. She waited; all of us looked around the room.

'I've been where you are,' she said. 'There will never be a better place to get help than here among people who understand.'

Mary paused again, and all of us hung on the silence.

In the back of the ballroom a teenager stood up. He was dishevelled, haggard, and worn. His head was down, his hair mangled. It wasn't hard to imagine how his life matched his appearance.

As soon as he stood up and everyone saw him, 1,500 people stood up and roared their applause. The kid fell to his knees and wept.

'Somebody tell that kid he's going to make it,' Mary said. The programme stopped as people surged to gather around him.

What would make a heaven on earth? What is an upright church in an upside-down world supposed to look like? It might look like the countdown of grace I witnessed that day in the ballroom.

* Pat Grant pastors the Cedar Home district in the Washington Conference. This article first appeared in 18 August issue of *Adventist Review* and is republished by gracious permission of Pat.



More and more families are developing the 'square eyes' syndrome. TV is, for many, a matter of life or death. Woe betide Johnnie if he forgets to programme the video for recording tonight's episode of *Eastenders*. Families are not appreciative of the fact that the TV has more influence on them than they think. Individuals have come up to me and said, 'Yes, I am a Christian and I see nothing wrong with what's on the box. After all, you can find the same thing in the Bible.'

True, we can find sex and violence in the Bible, along with almost every evil that devil-inspired people could think up. So why worry about what we see on TV and at the cinema?

1. The vast majority of programmes and films leave out the Bible's punchline
All the evil we watch and find enter-

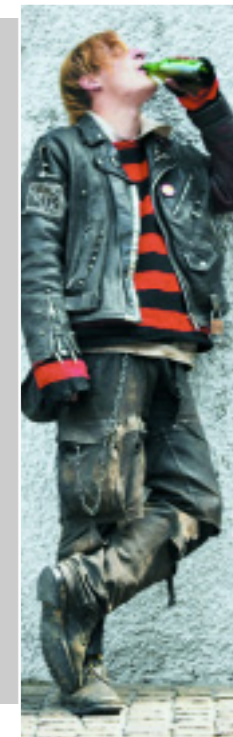
taining actually, in real life, leads to despair and pain, to physical and eternal death. TV and films stop short of God's solutions. They rarely show God's ways to a happy life – forever.

2. It will change you
At a time in young people's lives when they want to be left alone to make their choices, it is good to remember that media can wield a strong influence over them, and for a long time. What they expose themselves to now will stay with them for the rest of their lives. Their minds will replay images of graphic violence or perversion when they least want them to.

3. You have tougher choices coming later
For our young people, the act of deciding against watching a programme or film will help them make

Questions for reflection or for use in your small group

1. On a scale of 1 to 10 (with 10 the highest), how accepting of 'sinners' is your congregation? Give one example of someone whose life was changed by your congregation's acceptance of him or her.
2. What makes it so hard to be accepting and affirming of people who struggle with addiction of many kinds?
3. How do Adventist traditions make it either easier or harder to accept those who struggle?
4. How do you, as an individual, make sure people who struggle are welcomed to your church and its services?



IMPORTANT NOTICE

New date for Men's Weekend Retreat
18-20 November 2005
The Robinson Centre, Wyboston Lakes, Bedfordshire
£90 per person/two sharing room
£120 per person/single room
For details and application form contact:
Pastor Cyril Sweeney on 0115 9606312

difficult decisions in the future. If a friend of theirs slides into cocaine, shoplifting, pornography, sleeping around, they will go along if they have never objected to anything before. It becomes too hard to stop later. We should train our young people to become strong in making moral decisions. TV and films are easy ones to start on.

4. The devil packages evil to look like it's the 'in thing'
There's no doubt the evil one wants us in his corner. He's created a

desirable-looking trap. When Paul and Timothy wrote, 'Whatever is true . . . noble . . . right . . . pure . . . lovely . . . admirable . . . excellent or praiseworthy (Philippians 4:8), they weren't just sounding off a bunch of ideal virtues. They were telling us the signs to watch for. Programmes and films that don't measure up are better left ignored.

* Pastor Cyril Sweeney is the Family Ministries and Community Services director of the North England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

'Connect One Million' Success

Since one million VOP cards were sent in packs of fifty to every member within the territory of the BUC, the Adventist Discovery Centre has received a massive number of applications for the Bible courses.

The door-to-door distribution of VOP cards began at the end of September. By Thursday 13 October the Adventist Discovery Centre had received upwards of 1,400 applications.

ADC director Pastor Dalbert Elias is urging members to distribute any cards remaining in their homes and cars. 'The success of the campaign so far should convince all Adventists of the effectiveness of the traditional VOP card method of making contacts,' he said.

JOHN SURRIDGE

I used to think that God worked in strange ways. Then I discovered he's not the strange one – I am. My world is completely upside-down and backwards; he lives right side up and forward. God, in his mercy, gave me a vision of the world the way it's supposed to be. I found myself on my feet looking correctly through the eyes of heaven. Those moments were snapshots, flashes of insight sent straight to my mind, pictures that hang like a Michelangelo painting in my memory.

While I was studying for my Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Washington, I also worked as a waiter at a Sheraton Hotel. I dressed like one of those banquet guys with the penguin suits minus the goofy gait. I loved that job. It was one of those gainful employments where I got to move among the debonair and elite. I flashed a bow tie, just as they did. I used to pretend I wore a tuxedo and was a VIP instead of an employee.

I worked all kinds of functions: twelve-course dinners, auctions for the wealthy, little \$100,000 birthday parties, normal stuff. I've seen a lot

of events, but I cherish one in particular: one that took me from being upside-down to right side up in one stunning moment of glory and grace.

The Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous displayed all kinds of people. There were professionally dressed businessmen wearing pin-stripe suits, pressed cotton shirts, and high-gloss leather shoes. Standing next to them were heavily bearded bikers, with thick black boots, striped tattoos, and pressed denim jackets worn over leather vests. I watched young people conversing with the old white-collar worker, laughing with those who wore blue collars; Democrats and Republicans. All those congregated in the room had one common purpose: they had won the victory over a demon, and they had come to encourage and be encouraged.

Commence Countdown

I was working the opening meeting. The ballroom was packed. Every seat was taken, with a massive number of people standing on the periphery of the room. I served soft drinks and water, and had been

Ghana churches: rapid growth this year

The Reading Ghana church plant was organised by the Slough Ghana church, which was itself organised on 8 December 2001. On 26 March 2005, the Slough Ghana church organised a day of fellowship and a musical concert in Reading to launch the Reading Ghana church planting programme. The occasion was attended by about three hundred people, including the South East London Ghana Church Choir and Melodies (a singing group from SW London Ghana church) and a large number of non-Adventist Ghanaians and non-Ghanaians in Reading.

That day, four individuals, Festus Appiah (elder), Jacob Okyere, Vera Boateng and Kojo Bossman, were dedicated by the late Pastor William Ackah as the core members of the Reading Ghana church plant charged with the task of establishing the church and preparing the grounds for the autumn campaign through intensive visitation. The following Sabbath, 2 April, about forty people surprisingly turned up at the Bridge Hall for worship and since then the average attendance has varied between 50 and 70, sometimes increasing to about 200 on special occasions. Consequently, the group was forced to move to Kendrick

School Hall because of the limited capacity of Bridge Hall which was about 50.

The campaign

The Reading campaign was a joint programme of mother and daughter, the Slough Ghana church and the

Reading Ghana church plant. It was conducted from Friday 26 August to Saturday 17 September, with the theme, 'New Goal! New Life!' Dr Andrews Lawrence Ewo, the then Ministerial secretary and Family Ministries director of the West-Central Africa Division, but now the



speaker/director of the Bible Truth Foundation TV broadcast, Accra, Ghana, was the main speaker, with Dr Samuel Kofi Acquah as the health lecturer. About 300 people attended each night to hear the Word of God proclaimed. The Kendrick School Hall was packed every night and a video link was connected to one of the classrooms for the overflow. In all, about one hundred non-Adventists attended the meetings and many of them gave their lives to Jesus.

Two baptisms were held. Twenty-four were baptised on 10 September at the South Reading leisure centre swimming pool, and a further twenty-two on 17 September, a total of forty-six. Another baptism has been planned for the middle of November for the remaining fourteen candidates being prepared in the follow-up programme led by Pastor Stephen Oduro-Bimpeh.

'To God be the glory! Great things he hath done!'

PASTOR GEORGE DADEY

Women's Ministries at Wood Green

Women's Ministries is alive and well at Wood Green under the leadership of Edwina McFarquhar and her team. A Women's Forum began in January and is held on the fourth Sunday of each month, during which we have discovered a tremendous amount of talent. Women are encouraged to invite their non-Adventist friends too.

Birthday parties were held in which women who celebrated their birthday in each quarter were presented with a gift. There were other social events such as a boat trip along the River Thames.

The idea of having a 'Secret Friend' was put into action when each woman picked a name from a box and was encouraged to be friendly to that person in a not too obvious way. After months of keeping their friends secret, all was revealed on yet another enjoyable occasion.

The year culminated with a Women's Ministries day, the theme of which was 'Fearfully and Wonderfully Made'. There were portrayals of Hannah, Dorcas, Miriam, Rebecca and the poor widow. The virtuous woman (Proverbs 31:10-31) was the subject for discussion by a panel of men! Dress Department was the topic for the afternoon, which included a

2,000 at Area 5 Day of Fellowship

Area 5 day of fellowship on 24 September got off to a good start at the Globe Centre, Reading. The morning was sunny and bright, full of optimism, like a blessing rolled out from heaven. These blessings continued throughout the day as a lively song service hosted by High Wycombe church starting the proceedings. This was followed by a fitting Sabbath school which was interspersed with drama from Slough Ghana church, also special music from 3D.

Pastor David Spearing, the main organiser for the day, gave a very warm welcome, along with Pastor Everett Picart to start divine service, which then handed over to the guest speaker in the main auditorium. Pastor Don McFarlane picked up on the day's theme 'righteousness through faith' in his very stirring and thought provoking address titled 'A matter of holiness'. Practical advice was given on daily routines which could lead one to a more fulfilled and faithful life in Jesus.

This day broke new ground for local events by offering a separate youth service which ran parallel to the main service. Music was provided by the praise team, 3D, Nikki & Co from High Wycombe Sands and the Youth Federation Choir. Youth speaker Pastor Patrick Johnson addressed the congregation with a sermon titled 'Building a powerful church', in which he explained to the youth, in very literal terms, how a church becomes powerful, not simply through the minister's loud address on a Sabbath morning or the deeds we do, but through personal devotion and developing a true, deep and meaningful relationship with God. His address was very warmly received as young

PowerPoint presentation by one of our men.

Women were reminded of their importance to God by the following words: Created by God a creature of beauty, grace, intelligence and strength, you are an individual of phenomenal worth; you are God's woman.

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

people could be heard saying, 'He says it as it is!' By all accounts the service was a great success and the organisers, Nana Bonnie and Aline Hudson, deserve a big thank you.

After a picnic-style lunch where most people ate and socialised in the youth hall, the afternoon programme got off to a good start. It was in the form of a mini concert showcasing talent from the vast majority of churches within Area 5. The audience was not disappointed as a broad array of styles and content of performances was enjoyed.

The highlight of this mini concert was when the pastors, Don McFarlane, Patrick Johnson, Vlado Godina and George Dadey, formed a last-minute quartet and sang the final song of the programme to rapturous applause. Items were provided by Newbold Drama Group, High Wycombe, Slough, Reading, V4X, Russian Fellowship group, Oxford, Guildford, Reading community Sabbath school group, Wokingham and Area 5 Youth Federation choir.

The number of people attending was said to be more than 2,000, which is an increase on last year and is testament to the recent church growth within Area 5. To summarise, this event was well organised and God's presence could certainly be felt throughout the whole day.

ALAN HUDSON

Dublin baptism

On Sabbath afternoon 10 September, Dublin church was packed to celebrate the baptism of five people. All were blessed as the church



Welwyn: Celebration and Commitment

Sabbath 1 October was a day of celebration, commitment and change for the church plant at Welwyn Garden City in Hertfordshire. Taking part in this special worship service were Pastor David Neal, president of the Irish Mission, Pastor Victor Hulbert, Executive secretary South England Conference, and Pastor Jon Gendle. Pastor Gendle was welcomed as he takes over as our new minister.

It is just two years since our small group from St Albans Church, blessed by the Holy Spirit and under the leadership of Pastor David Neal, held our first worship service in the lovely old Quaker Hall in Welwyn Garden City. Within three months we had outgrown that hall and we were blessed when a large school nearby happily agreed to rent their large hall, with use of some other rooms and a kitchen each Sabbath.

Week by week our congregation grew, so much so that by our second birthday the time was right to organise into a company. So on Sabbath 1 October Welwyn Garden City Adventist Community church celebrated. A very special service was arranged for the occasion. There was a lively and joyful praise time, solo items and a very special item by the children. Throughout the service many of the members were asked what the Church meant to them. The sentiments most often repeated were: 'I feel at home here', 'I feel loved here', 'I like the friendly atmosphere', 'I love the Sabbath School discussions', 'I come for the hugs', 'I like the way people notice if I am not there', 'I always go away feeling uplifted', 'I love to see the children taking part'. There were also messages of support from friends as far away as Canada and Australia.

Although David Neal has already moved to Ireland to take up his duties as president there, we were all delighted that he returned to be with us on this special occasion. Pastor Hulbert gave a short but very inspiring address in which he challenged us to look in more depth at the diversity of characters and professions of the team of workers chosen by Jesus and how they were changed through knowing him. The Charter Commission was read by Pastor Neal and Pastor Gendle lead the congregation in prayer. This day of celebrations for WGCACC was rounded off with a wonderful fellowship lunch.

TRUDY YOUNG

worshipped and praised God for the dedication of all five candidates – in English, Russian and Romanian.

Pastor Douglas McCormac gave a rousing sermon on the importance of baptism and commitment, as well as a frank confession in regard to his life before Christ. The church was blessed when the candidates told their stories and testimonies.

Makcim Chikanchi told of his ten-year search to find Christ and the joy he felt as he entered the

waters of baptism with his mother Galina. It was wonderful to see two generations commit to Christ together. Eugene Chasovski was baptised as well, and Thembinkosi Ndloyu, origi-

nally from Zimbabwe, gave her life to Christ. She told how she went to church as a child with her grandmother who wanted her to be baptised when she was old enough to understand. Thembinkosi's journey took almost forty years, but she is grateful to God for his patience with her.

Warren McGregor recommitted his life to Christ after moving far from him. He was joined on the day by his sister and brother-in-law from London, who read a letter of joy from Warren's family in Cape Town, welcoming him back into God's family.

The baptism was conducted under the careful watch of the children who gathered close around to see, and the smiling eyes of the church. With lots of flowers, hugs and even some tears all five were warmly welcomed into the church family and we look forward to seeing them work in the most wonderful service in the world, fulfilling the gospel commission together.

STEPHEN WILSON

New president: new vision

Pastor Humphrey Walters, elected president of South England Conference in August, has shared his vision for the work of God in this field. Pastor Walters was the driving force behind the strategic plan that was voted by the delegation at the SEC Session in 1993: 'The Whole Church Taking the Whole Gospel to the Whole Community', and it is evident that he wants this to become a reality.

Pastor Walters believes that one of the ways the Church can become more mission-driven is for the ministry and the laity to work together more effectively. He has stated several times over the past weeks that 'everyone is a minister', and he is passionate and excited that we are 'workers together with Christ'. The method of outreach that is a key part of his vision is church planting, in particular the house church model. According to Pastor Walters, this model of ministry has not yet had 'significant expression within our territory'. A key benefit of this approach is that the 'house church model assumes an empowering approach which entrusts the planter with the freedom to develop culturally appropriate forms of ministry that accord with the requirements for his or her local context'.

Pastor Walters is quick to point

out that he has no intention of doing away with the traditional approach to church. He maintains that many people groups remain open and responsive to this method. However, we need to find supplementary forms of outreach in order to reach the wider community.

Assisting Pastor Walters to cast the vision in October were Bill and Jan Levin. Bill Levin is the Church Growth director for the Georgia-Atlanta

Conference. He and his wife Jan have planted many successful churches over the past few years. Their presentations were passionate, informative and challenging. Bill Levin makes no bones about the fact that, as Adventists, we should 'be desperate to see souls saved'. He illustrated this beautifully, with two clips from the film *Schindler's List*. Jan believes that the only way you can be desperate to see souls saved is to 'make yourself available to Jesus Christ'.

Pastor Walters shared his passion first with the Executive Committee on Tuesday 20 Septem-



ber, then with the departmental directors on Tuesday 27 September. The vision was presented to the ministerial workers at their quarterly meeting on Sunday 2 October at the Stanborough Centre and throughout the following week at various area gatherings.

The 'Church Comes Home' road-show ended with special seminars at the High Leigh Conference Centre, Hoddesdon, for lay members who have expressed an interest in church planting. In addition to Bill and Jan Levin, speakers were Miroslav Pujic, Aris Vontzalidis and Paul Haworth.

CATHERINE BOLDEAU

Golden Wedding on QE2

Ron and Dorothy Logan were given a wonderful surprise Golden Wedding anniversary present by their four children, who paid for them to go for a cruise on the *Queen Elizabeth 2* to the Norwegian Fjords. It is a requirement to dress formally for dinner on the ship, and Ron looked very resplendent in his kilt, which attracted some admiring glances, especially from the female passengers! The couple were married on 15 August 1955, the same year in which they both graduated from Newbold College. Since then they have served the church in many ways.

After graduating, Ron was a Bible teacher at the VOP, and also sang in the famous King's Heralds Quartet for a number of years. Dorothy taught at the Leeds and Stanborough Park church schools. They then returned to Glasgow and served the church there for many years, until 1996 when they moved to Crieff and again have been invaluable members of the Crieff church. Ron has been the treasurer and deacon, and Dorothy has held numerous offices.

They have been joined in Crieff by three of their four children and their families, so they have their four grandchildren living near them. Dorothy has also pursued her hobby of painting and has sold a number in various exhibitions and Ron still plays a competitive game of golf with the writer, or at least Ron says so!

BOB RODD



Drug awareness training for Youth leaders

On Wednesday 21 September Martin Perry, Deputy director of Hope UK, came to the BUC office in Watford to bring his fourteen years of knowledge and skills in drug education to the Church's Youth directors and sponsors.

This training in drug awareness is part of the ongoing strategy of the BUC Youth department to help keep the knowledge of the youth team up to date, and their skills sharp and focused.

Issues addressed ranged from the reasons why young people take drugs, to being able to identify some of the various substances that young people are using out on the street, as well as identifying signs of usage and abuse. For obvious reasons synthetic samples, rather than the real thing, were brought along for the training.

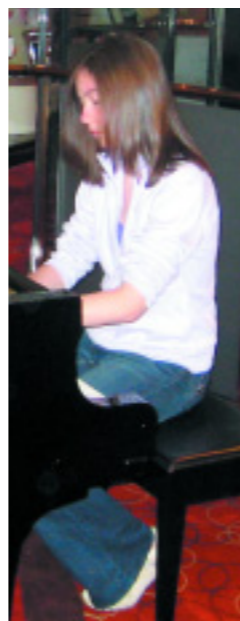
The BUC, in partnership with Hope UK, has organised further training for members wishing to become drug educators. This will commence in November and will run on Sabbath evening and all day Sunday once a month for four months. For further details, please contact Pastor Des Boldeau on dboldeau@adventist.org.uk. Phone 01923 672251.

JOHN SURRIDGE

Yvonne performs on *Queen Mary 2*

Fifteen-year-old Yvonne Bauwens, who attends the Crieff church, recently had the honour of playing the grand piano on the *Queen Mary 2*.

Yvonne was with her parents and brother as they crossed the Atlantic on the ship. Yvonne, who is a talented musician, entered an onboard talent contest and was then invited to play the piano in the ship's Grand Lobby. The voyage was a very special treat for the Bauwens family. Yvonne's father Gordon is a professional artist specialis-



ing in the painting of ships, and he had received a commission to paint four large pictures for the boat's maiden voyage. He was able to sign prints of his painting and also received another commission.

Yvonne has also used her talents as a composer and performer to produce a CD of some of her compositions and arrangements of well-known Scottish music. She sold over £1,000 worth of the CDs and was able to sponsor her brother David who went on the Project Romania. She was allowed to advertise the CDs at a school concert and on the Adventist church website. She sold £300 worth at the concert. Project Romania was organised by the Scottish Mission to help rebuild two houses almost destroyed in the April floods. Twenty-six young people went, each one having to raise £650 for their travel and building materials.

BOB RODD

After the bombing: Holloway's August campaign

by Roy Smith, Personal Ministries leader

The Holloway and Muswell Hill outreach programme came to a glorious climax with thirty-two new converts being joined to Christ and his bride – the Church. Most of the new members will be attending the Holloway church while others will be members of Muswell Hill, Stoke Newington, Chingford and Haringey churches.

The evangelistic thrust had been in its embryonic state for several months when Pastor Emmanuel Osei first informed the church board of his desire to evangelise for the month of September.

Although the board agreed without any hesitation, the Lord initiated a turn of events that dictated that the month of evangelism would be August. The Lord further placed it in the heart of the Personal Ministries leadership to hold the campaign at Finsbury Park under a marquee, from 6 to 27 August when the local community would be invited to attend.

I can testify to the many obstacles we faced before and during the programme, aimed at preventing the meetings from taking place. However, with nearly a third of the church membership engaging in prayer and fasting, the Lord caused us to surmount every obstacle. This included the Sabbath of 14 August when the Lord stopped the rain, allowing the Pathfinders and members to march around the park.

The fact that this was a campaign to build and restore good relationships made it especially appropriate so soon after the bombings which had been carried out in London. It was not by chance that the area of London chosen for the campaign was Finsbury Park, which was reputed to be significant for hosting many of the instigators of the terrorists' activities. It was hoped that the teaching throughout the campaign would make the difference in calming fears in the minds of some of the people.

The 'health checking' and 'stop-smoking' activities, which were promoted in the neighbourhood, found many people participating and others being referred to their GPs and hospitals for closer scrutiny of their

health. The community benefited to a large extent, not only from the checks on their health but from listening to the presentations on relationships. Observing the nurses and health workers labour under the leadership of Andrea Philip, the health leader of Holloway church, and Elsie Staple, the South England Conference Health Ministries director, it was inspiring to see the folk, young and old, heading to the small tent that was set up as a drop-in clinic, and to watch the compassionate, yet efficient and professional way in which the 'patients' were treated.

Added to this ministry was the eloquent style of the evangelist, psychologist, pastor, US Navy chaplain, lecturer, teacher and consultant, Dr Philip Willis, who held his audience spellbound for three weeks with the Spirit-filled presentations that accentuated each topic every night and Sabbath days. The 1,000-capacity marquee was nearly full each night, full on Sabbaths, although many stood by the flanges to peep in or to listen. The messages were just what London needed. Our wounds were not agitated by the frankness of Dr Willis's talks, inasmuch as he was able to convince the menfolk that 'generally men do not marry their wives for love in the first place'; that 'men read their newspaper or watch TV to avoid listening to their wives so as to avoid hearing too much unnecessary information'. Dr Willis explained and demonstrated how to detect when men are telling lies to their womenfolk and vice versa. Also, to know and to understand what body language is saying in relationships.

As the campaign drew to its close, it was sad to see the frank-speaking psychologist, psychiatrist, evangelist and pineapple-drinking Dr F. Willis deliver his last message on Friday night. It was a solemn message – the final one as he prayed for those who took their stand for Jesus and to be prayed for at the end of the Sabbath service, the morning of 27 August. It was then that Pastor Osei baptised the last twenty-three or so candidates; fruits for the Kingdom of God.

BOOKS BOOKS
BOOKS BOOKS
BOOKS BOOKS



Everyone loves a story!

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Books make perfect gifts.

Early Bird Reflections by Tony Spearing is beautifully illustrated and contains wise stories and humour of a soul-winning kind.

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Both of these hardback books are truly inspiring, yet moderately priced at **£7.95**, and can be ordered via the **ABC Sales line: 01476 539900, Mon-Thurs. Have your credit card details handy!**

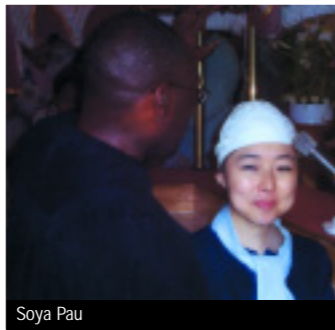


Stokey's 'From Conversion to Discipleship' Week of Revival

As is customary in Stoke Newington, every year we have a week of revival. This year was no exception, so from 17-24 September we were blessed and privileged to have Dr Ganoune Diop, professor of Biblical Languages, Exegesis and Theology at Oakwood College, spend the week with us. Dr Diop began by asking the question, 'What is discipleship?' Over the course of the week he proceeded to tell us exactly what discipleship is and how we can achieve it in our daily lives. 'Discipleship is simple,' he began. 'Discipleship is to focus on Jesus Christ. How do we do this? By being like Christ. Talk like Christ, walk like Christ.'

Every night Dr Diop presented

different ways for us to fulfil our role of being disciples of Christ. He acknowledged that so many of us may be baptised (converted) but do not necessarily live the life we have been baptised into. One thing that was made clear each night was that we must spend time with God daily



Soya Pau



Left to right: Mark Fredericks, Tamarie Douglas, Maxine Ford, Mathew Joseph, Paster deLisser



Bristol baptism

Baptisms are very special occasions, so the members of Bristol Lodge Causeway and Bath churches came together with family and friends to witness the baptism of Tim Douglas and young Frederick Masuku. Outside it was an overcast Sabbath afternoon,

but this was a time for rejoicing and inside the church it was warm and friendly with an air of expectancy.

Pastor Brian Martin introduced each candidate, who chose his favourite hymn, and a musical item was presented from both churches.

Before immersing the candidates Pastor Martin reminded us of the symbolism and importance of baptism, and emboldened us to continue to help and encourage one another, and to remember the immense challenges that face young people like Frederick today.

Tim was welcomed into the Bristol Lodge Causeway church by the pastor, elders, and Des Mills who has also been studying with Tim.

The pastor, elder and Frederick's very proud Mum, Precious, received him into Bath fellowship.

S. A. HATCHER

Shrewsbury's 40th Anniversary

Pastor Paul Lockham. His return brought back happy memories of his marriage to Helen Chambers who also attended the anniversary.

The divine service saw Pastor Richard Vine, Shrewsbury's minister between 1988 and 1995, serve up a delicious shaggy dog story for many visiting children before using the book of Isaiah to illustrate the Bible's case for Creation. Shrewsbury is the birthplace of Charles Darwin, but the sermon illuminated God's mastery over his own creation as set out in the book of Isaiah. Pastor Vine went on to show how it was an act of creation to build a house of God in the town where Darwin was born and lived.

Veronica Down, soprano, and the church's first bride when she married John Down in 1967, provided special music.

An enjoyable programme put together by David Parker, followed a lunch break, with no fish and chips. Pastors of yesteryear, Ian Cheeseman, Michael Walker, Leonard Lane, Paul Clee, Peter Sayers, Eric Lowe and Roy Burgess, all sent letters which brought back memories for many. The memories were interspersed with a guitar solo from Lisalife's Daniel Vine.

Shrewsbury has had a hand in raising scores of children, and it was a pleasure to see the church filled with a whole new generation of toddlers as young families returned to show their children the church where they had grown up.

VERONICA DOWN and DOROTHY HEATH

WEST IRELAND NEWS

Green Flag for Grianach

The final day of the school year took place before the summer holidays at Grianach House School, Galway. It was also the day for two important events, the graduation of ten students from sixth class and the presentation of the second Green Flag to the school. The ten students, who are going on to secondary school next year, were given a certificate by Mr Richard Maguire, Environmental Officer for Galway City Council. Four students were also given awards for not missing a day at school over the previous year; these were Sarah Trench, Joshua Fapohunda, Gloria Fapohunda and Dillon O'Malley.

Mr Maguire presented the second Green Flag to the school in recognition of its work in conserving water and power. The Green Flag is an international award which recognises schools' work in conserving the

environment. Grianach House School has an extensive environmental conservation programme which involves among other things: growing plants from seed, looking after the garden in the grounds of the school, having a worm farm and separating waste.

Outgoing school principal Esther Robertson said of the Green Flag programme, 'The whole idea is the training of children to look after the environment.' Energy conservation involves the replacement of the light bulbs in the school by long-life, low-wattage bulbs.

Presentations were made to Miss Robertson who returned to Australia in July after many years working at Grianach House School. Her replacement is fellow Australian Bob Flynn who started teaching in the school last spring. Also in attendance was the outgoing president of the Irish Mission, Pastor Curtis Murphy and his wife Vickie. They gave gifts and a bouquet of flowers to Miss Robertson in recognition of her work in the school as teacher and principal over the past number of years. Pastor Murphy closed the proceedings with prayer.

OLIVER MARTIN

Irish Country Shows

This year, in four country shows in rural Ireland, the Adventist Church has had a free bookstall. Evelyn Wilson, a member at Ballinacrow, again organised the witness in

Adventist meeting in Ballinasloe

Around ninety people who came from twenty different countries in the world gathered on Sabbath 16 July at Haydens Hotel in Ballinasloe in a meeting organised by Pastor Ashley Kongari, the district pastor of the Adventist church in the west of Ireland. The principal speaker was Pastor David Cox, head of Personal Ministries at the BUC. He spoke of the importance of house churches and showed a video about Andressa, a young Brazilian girl who has started up an Adventist church herself and works to help poor people in Brazil. Fourteen young people have been baptised so far in Andressa's church. The video was in Portuguese, but it was ably translated into English by 13-year-old Andrew Santos da Silva, a Brazilian member of the Ballinasloe church. Andrew and his parents Francisco and Gilmarlinda and sister Franciara are founder members of Ballinasloe.

Pastor Cox spoke also about the Kingdom of God. He said to those assembled, 15-20% of whom were non-Adventist, 'Our message should be the same as Jesus preached - the Kingdom of God is near.' He added, 'The

one prayer that Jesus asked us to pray was, 'Your kingdom come.'

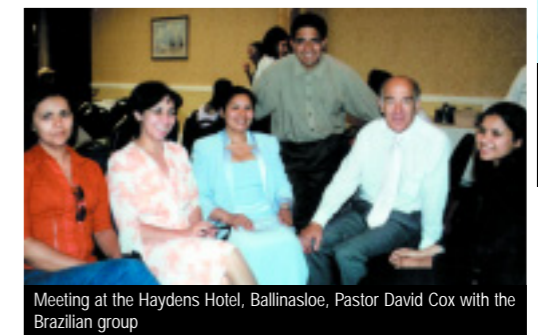
There is a new Adventist church in Ballinasloe, which meets every Sabbath. Most of the members of this church are Brazilian and they are delighted to be able to meet for worship in the west of Ireland. Many Brazilians attended the meeting in Haydens Hotel and they brought special Brazilian food for the meal after the morning service. There was also spiritual music at the meeting with the Divine Inspiration Choir from Dublin church, led by Edith Samambwa, and a Ghanaian choir who sang gospel songs, some in their native language.

The meeting lasted from 10.30am to 4pm and greatly encouraged the worshippers who came from Adventist churches in Ballinasloe, Galway, Longford, Newmarket-on-Fergus, Limerick, Ballinacrow and Dublin. Pastor Kongari hopes to organise a similar meeting in Longford later in the year.

OLIVER MARTIN



Left to right: Pastor David Cox Pastor Ashley Kongari and Tony O'Rourke from Ballinasloe



Meeting at the Haydens Hotel, Ballinasloe, Pastor David Cox with the Brazilian group

conjunction with the church in Ballinacrow and with support from Dublin church.

The stall contained a large variety of Adventist literature, many on practical issues such as the family, bereavement and books for children. Once a person showed interest in a book they were given a pack containing an ADRA-Ireland pen and brochure, a magazine about Adventists, a VOP card, and a LIFE.info magazine.

The shows were a success again this year, leading to many conversations and leaving something practical and useful in people's homes

where the Spirit can continue to work on hearts and minds.

The first show this year was in Athlone, Co. Westmeath, where 45 packs were given to the public. Then there was the Tullamore Show, in Co. Offaly, which attracts about 30,000 people, where 165 packs and over 500 books/magazines were taken to people's homes. Then we visited Tinahely in Co. Wicklow with 85 packs and Pilltown, Co. Kilkenny with a further 65 packs. In total 360 packs were given to interested people and over 1,000 books distributed.

STEPHEN WILSON

in worship, prayer and reading the Bible. Much focus was given to spending time with God's Word. Dr Diop encouraged us to read, read and re-read, dissecting the passage that we are reading till we understand what it means. 'Once we do this it will help us to understand fully what God is saying to us,' he said.

The whole week was a teaching session, not just for us to sit and hear someone talk, but interactive, with opportunity for all to ask questions. Dr Diop would also ask questions. You could see that God has given him the gift of teaching. He was able to explain things so that all who attended understood what he was talking about from the youngest member to the oldest.

At the end of the week a baptism was held and five individuals were baptised and received into fellowship (l to r) Mark Fredericks, Tamarie Douglas, Maxine Ford, and Matthew Joseph. On the right of the picture is Pastor Richard De Lisser. Soya Pau (pictured in the pool) was determined to be baptised although she was in hospital and had to return to hospital once she was baptised. Also received into fellowship was Maxine Ines.

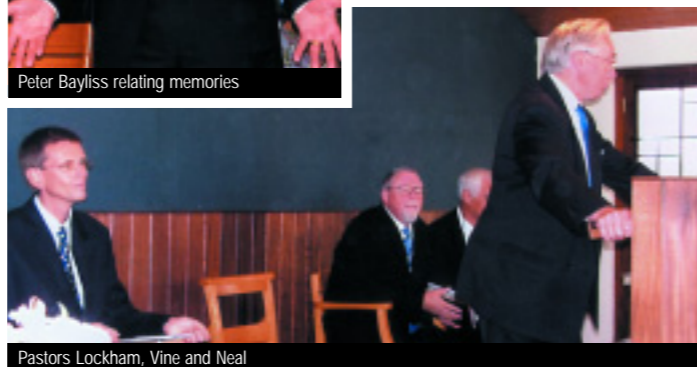
DONNA DOUGLAS



Peter Bayliss relating memories



Dr Daniel Vine on the guitar



Pastors Lockham, Vine and Neal



Spread your wings – and fly

'You raise me up like an eagle' was the theme for the Preston Youth Day, Sabbath 9 July, at the Plungington Community Centre, Preston. Part of the Sabbath School presentation was in the form of a sketch which outlined certain issues that young people face in today's society (partying, drinking, peer pressure). It highlighted the importance of making the right decisions in life and tied in well with the lesson study, 'Lord of our Priorities'.

In his presentation, Pastor Alan Hush, NEC Youth director, narrated the story of a farmer who found an eagle's egg and took it back to his chicken farm to look after it. Eventually the eagle hatched and the farmer treated it like one of his chickens. The eagle adopted the

habits of a chicken and believed he was a chicken. A visitor enquired from the farmer why he was treating an eagle like a chicken and advised him to release it into the wild. Several attempts were made to release the eagle but when the farmer scattered chicken seed for his birds, the eagle swooped back down to the ground and started scratching the earth once again like a chicken. The visitor never gave up on trying to free the eagle. It took some time, but eventually the eagle spotted another eagle and spread its wings and flew off into the sunset.

He reminded us that God has a plan for us to ascend on eagles' wings. Sin keeps us from God just as gravity keeps us from flying. To overcome gravity we need lift, move-

Historic Day for Long Eaton

A historic day dawned on Sabbath 23 July for the Long Eaton church. For the first time ever, the church held its own baptism locally. This was due to the kind permission granted to us by the Station Road Baptist Church, when they allowed us to use their beautiful church and its facilities.



Left to right: Novey Medley with Sue Waterall

Our baptismal candidate was Sue Waterall, a friend of John Kirk, one of our members. She has been attending church for the past two years. It was during our Bible worker Novey Medley's evangelistic series held in November 2004 that Sue made her decision to be baptised. So it was with great joy that Dr Patrick Herbert baptised her as her family and church brothers and sisters looked on. We pray by God's grace it will not be too long before we have another baptism in Long Eaton.

GWEN SPEAK

Busy year for Oxford Street Wolverhampton

The last two years have been busy for Oxford Street, Wolverhampton with many comings and goings. If you have ever visited us, you will have noticed two things. The first is the friendly greeting you get as you enter, and the second is we always have visitors, whether family, friends or people curious.

As a result of this fire, we have held three baptisms of such friends and family. On both occasions the already expanded church was filled to capacity as the first baptism saw eight souls won for the Lord, the second saw eleven souls and the third twelve.

If you want to know why such growth in Wolverhampton, why not come and visit?

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT



ment, thrust. God has high expectations of us. He has given us the ability to fly high spiritually, mentally and socially. Pastor Hush asked the question, 'What do you see? Horizontally, you see peer pressure, drugs, crime, sickness, death. Vertically, look high, point to Jesus.'

He continued, 'Satan wants to trap you and get you into a lifestyle that prevents flying. Always seek your direction from God. Time is short. Spread your wings. Distinguish between the wholesome and the unwholesome. Make God Lord of your life. Without him you can do nothing, without him you will struggle. We are not eagles, but in Exodus 19:4 God says, "You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings." The Lord is the eagle! In God's strength we fly. God wants men, women, boys and girls who do not fear to call sin by its name and who will stand for the right.'

JENNY JEFFERS

TEACHER NEEDED at STANBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

(Independent Church School – 120 pupils)
Year 3 Class teacher required, to start January 2006.

Must be suitably qualified, with experience in delivering National Curriculum and willing to take responsibility for a curriculum area.

Ideal candidate will be a practising Christian, responsible and reliable, a team player, creative and flexible, and committed to the values of the School.

Please send cv with two references to:
Head Teacher,
Stanborough Primary School,
Appletree Walk,
Watford, WD25 0DQ.
Tel: 01923 673291.

Closing date: 30 November.

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

Images of Praise – Life Changing TV

by Paul Weekes

In May, Milton Keynes church launched out in faith and produced a brand new evangelistic television campaign, *Images of Praise*. The programme was designed to introduce the non-churched to Jesus Christ in a new and relevant way. The programme featured sermons from special guest speakers Pastors Dalbert Elias, Stephen McKenzie, Don McFarlane, Stefan Burton-Schnull, and Colin Stewart. The programme was also blessed with music from the wealth of talent within Milton Keynes and guest singers including Paul Lee and Ullanda Alexander.

One of the aims of the programme was to give the viewers answers to some of the most common questions about Christianity with the vox pop 'A Question of Faith'. In addition, *Images of Praise* introduced the health message with Christianne Best in Health Matters.

The most remarkable thing was the way God warmed the hearts of the general public and opened the

doors so the film crew could record the programme in Morrisons Supermarket and Bourton Mill Leisure Centre. Many members of the public asked questions about the project: When would it be aired? Could they receive copies of the series to send relatives? Could they take part in the filming? To see the Holy Spirit move on the hearts of people was truly amazing.

The presenter of the programme, Maxine Bremner, made this comment:

'While working on *Images of Praise* I discovered a lot about the filming process, a lot about my strengths, my weaknesses and myself. I also had the privilege to be involved in what the team were delivering and found the series enlightening in terms of the things I did not know about the Bible, interesting to hear the views of people of all ages, colour and religions on the most common issues or questions raised when talking about religion.

'I also learnt about food and how it can not only satisfy your hunger

but also enrich your quality of life. I found food for the soul in the encouraging words and realised the joy of religion through song with the music from the



Left to right: Maxine Bremner, Maxine Dennis, Tabuda Ziyambi, Paul Weekes, Joy Hudson, Neville Bennett

young and talented singers. There are so many ways religion can be expressed and enjoyed and I found that *Images of Praise* encapsulated all of these. I hope you take the same pleasure from it as I did.'

The film crew volunteered their time and talents with the full support of the Milton Keynes church and Pastor Colin Stewart to make this

project possible. Few had any experience working in television but they were willing to allow the Lord to use them to create a wonderful series that will change people's lives.

The programme began transmission on Saturday 3 September at 8pm on Sky Channel 676.

Generation of Praise

Generation of Praise was the theme of Hackney's music day on 28 May. Male voice group Finity from the Stoke Newington church performed, and the Hackney praise team – who had participated in a music seminar in North America – led out. Special speaker for the day was Pastor Steve McKenzie who said, 'God desires the whole life of his people to be a life of praise.'

DARELL PHILIP



Golden Wedding

On Sabbath 1 October Bournemouth church celebrated with Daphne and Charles Richards their 50th Wedding Anniversary. During the service, which emphasised the God-given blessings of family and marriage, Charles and Daphne were presented with flowers and a card marking the occasion.

Following the service their daughter Deirdre and family surprised Charles and Daphne with a lovely anniversary cake, which was enjoyed by all present, along with drinks and a finger buffet. The actual anniversary

date was 2 October, when the happy couple left for a holiday.

Daphne and Charles continue to be very active members of the church, and we appreciate their bell-ringing performances at events throughout the year.

JUDITH CASSIDY



Long Eaton Golden Couple

Victor and Gwen Speak celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on 18 June. They were married at the parish church in Stapleford, after which they settled in Sawley, Long Eaton. They have been dedicated members of the Adventist church since attending Pastor Amos Cooper's campaign in the People's Hall, Long Eaton. They were baptised on 27 March 1965 in the North Sherwood Street church, Nottingham, by Pastor K. A. Elias, who was then president of the North England Conference. Since then this golden couple have been a part of the church family and indeed a blessing to the church family. On 23 July they were presented with flowers and best wishes as their church family celebrated this achievement. We trust God will continue to bless them.

MILLIE RICHARDS

EVELYN-EASTMAN. On Sunday 10 July the Cardiff church was the setting for the wedding of Reginald Evelyn and Hilda Eastman. Reg began attending the Cardiff church early in 2003. Not long after, he requested Bible studies. It was during these studies with the writer that Hilda and Reg announced that they were planning to get married. Following further Bible studies Reg was baptised in November 2004. Reg is a widower and originally comes from Barbados, and Hilda, whose divorced husband had passed away, is from Jamaica. They are both retired but in the autumn years of their lives love blossomed again to the delight of their families and church members alike. Hilda, who is serving as head deaconess at present, entered a sanctuary which was packed to the rafters with family, friends, neighbours and church members to strains of Wagner's Bridal March, on the arm

of her son, Colin Eastman. She was attended by chief bridesmaid and long-time friend Ivalyn Richards, with bridesmaids Tyra Jeffers, Dayna Jeffers and Leah Bertram (three of Reg's granddaughters). Reg's son Anthony Evelyn was the best man, and Luke Allen, Reuel Bertram (Hilda's grandson) and Sanchez Eastman (Hilda's grandson) were escorts. Tyrone Evelyn was the ring bearer. Dijon Moore, Josh Barber, Anthony Bertram and Neil Johnson acted as ushers. The bridal procession was greeted by Pastors Richard Vine (Ystrad Mynach) and Clyde Moore (Barry and Cardiff), and the congregation was blessed with a solo from Hermine Hanniford and a selection of musical items from Cardiff's resident choir, Charis. The marriage service was conducted by Pastor Vine. Pastor Moore, in his address to the couple, answered the question, 'What's Love Gotta Do With It?' The newly-married couple left the sanctuary to the strains of Mendelssohn's Wedding March, and the reception was held at the Coal Exchange, Butetown, Cardiff. Reg and Hilda are an integral part of the fellowship of the Cardiff church and we wish them God's richest blessings and guidance as they continue to serve the Lord together.

PASTOR CLYDE R. MOORE

Preston's Festival of Faith

As part of their festival of faith, the United Reformed Church, Leyland, Preston, invited the Zion Singers from Preston church to present a Gospel concert on Tuesday 7 June.

The choir master, Albert St Louis, decided to extend the invitation to the whole church so that a varied programme could be presented. The witnessing programme included songs by the Zion Singers, various youth groups and the children using the medium of mime and instrumentals. 'Proud Man's Progress' was the sketch that was performed. Although comical in parts, it conveyed a special message.

The atmosphere was one of joy as churches of different denominations joined together in a rousing song service praising the name of Jesus.

On this occasion we were not just spiritually fed but physically fed as the members of the United Reformed Church treated everyone to refreshments which included some delicious homemade cakes.

Thank you to all those who made this witnessing programme a huge success.

JENNY JEFFERS

WHITTINGHAM-HERON. Sunday 2 October was a memorable day for the North Manchester church, for in its nearly thirty years' history this was the first wedding ever to be held in the church. The groom, Peter Whittingham, ably supported by his best man Aeon Lattie, arrived early at the church and looked approvingly down the aisle as his bride Sylvia Heron, escorted by her father Herbert walked in to the music of Johann Pachelbel. The bride was supported by six bridesmaids, including her own sister Dawn as the chief bridesmaid, together with a page boy and flower girl. The wedding ceremony was conducted by the writer, a former pastor of the church. We wish Peter and Sylvia every happiness as they set up their home in Stretford, Manchester.

PASTOR BARRY STOKES

NEC STAFF VACANCIES

The North England Conference has two vacancies at its Campsite at Aberdaron, North Wales.

Site Manager – responsible for carrying out the plans of NEC for, and management of, the campsite and its operation.

Assistant to the Site Manager – responsible for the day-to-day domestic issues of the campsite under the supervision of the manager. Contact Pastor Paul Lockham, North England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 22 Zulla Road, Nottingham, NG3 5DB. Email: plockham@necadventist.org.uk. Closing date: 30 November.

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DORIS ROPER (1934-2005) d. 29 March. The Leeds church was saddened by the sudden death of Doris, a lifelong Adventist, who was born in Jamaica and came to England in 1957 to join her husband, Ben. After spending seven years in Sheffield, the Ropers moved to Leeds where Doris became an active member of the church, singing in the choir, where she was known for her fine alto voice. She was a lay preacher and for a number of years the Personal Ministries secretary. As well as being known for her style and elegance, she was a caring mother who always encouraged the young people in the church. The funeral service was conducted by Pastor Ian Sweeney, assisted by Pastors Gugleta, Mapp, Morgan, Rafferty, C. Sweeney, Scire and Brother R. Smith. Dr Herbert was also present, and musical items were rendered by Doris's children, Jean, Dorothy, Paul and Faith, the church choir and the Joybells. Doris was laid to rest at Lawnswood cemetery, alongside three of her sons who had previously passed away. She is survived by her husband, children, grandchildren and one great grandchild. We await the Lord's return.

J. ROPER

EMMANUEL LEWIS (1937-2005). On 2 April 1937, a sunny day in the beautiful isle of spice, Grenada, a bouncing baby boy named Emmanuel James Lewis was born to Elenora Helen Grace, deceased, and Joshua Lewis. Second of eleven children – five boys and six girls – this young man grew up to be a tower of strength and support to his siblings, relatives and other associates. He was a protector, supporter, encourager and leader. He was a very strict, disciplined person, but enjoyed a sense of humour to the point that, at times, it was hard to tell if he was serious or not. He loved playing cricket among other sports. Almost every weekend he and his family would visit with other family members. As a close unit, we spent many a night camping in each other's homes, which the children thoroughly enjoyed. Emmanuel loved his church and worked to help plant new churches both in Grenada and here in Reading. He was an active member, holding the offices of deacon, Ingathering agent and Community Services leader, as well as being a member of the

church choir. He was instrumental in the establishment of Soubise church in Grenada and Whitley church here in Reading. He witnessed to many people here and abroad, and readily made himself available to his extended family and friends. Before leaving for England on 25 July 1965 he married Mary Rose David. This union produced Matthew, who sadly did not survive to become an adult, and four daughters, Martha, Marion, Esther and Deborah, who produced six grandchildren, Alicia, Keisha, Danielle, Shakila, Karlela and Natasha. Emmanuel lived a good life and was loved by all who knew him. People were motivated by the way he deported himself. Left to mourn are his widow, Roselyn, his four daughters and six grandchildren, his sisters, Miriam, Meline, Pearl, Hermilin, Joanna and Janice, many nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends.

GEORGE DE SOUZA

META WEST (1910-2005) d. 1 July. Meta West (née Ellis) was born into a Presbyterian family. She became an Adventist in 1945, at which time she was employed as a secretary and was so good at her job that, rather than lose her, her boss was happy to give her Sabbaths off. Shortly after WWII, Meta bought a house in Sydenham Avenue in Belfast, where she lived with her sister Madge. Meta was the breadwinner while Madge stayed at home and looked after their invalid mother. Some time before 1954 she married Alec West who was a widower at the time with a young teenage son, David, who became an Adventist minister, at present in Ipswich. Alec died in 1995 in the Belfast church, where he was an elder; he had just sat down after taking the Sabbath School lesson that morning when he had a heart attack that ended his life. After Alec's death, Meta lived downstairs in her house, watched television regularly and took an interest in what was happening in the world around her, including the latest cricket scores! Just before Christmas (1999) Meta's neighbour, Mrs Dewhurst, who kept an eye on her, found her at home having suffered a stroke. In time Meta made a good recovery but was unable to live alone and so moved into Redburn Nursing Home where she continued to reside until her death. Meta was a faithful

Christian and church member, having served in several offices over the years including head deaconess. She had a sharp mind and a very gentle way. Even in her declining years, her graciousness was still a very evident part of who she was. Her faith was strong and we know that she was looking forward to that bright new dawn when age and infirmity will be gone and she will be with her Lord to whom she was so faithful.

VICTOR McCORMAC

DONALD PEARSON (1922-2005) d. 9 August. Born on 21 January 1922 Don died after a short illness in Luton Dunstable hospital. He lived a full and fruitful life and is missed by his family and friends. Born in the village of Amptill, Bedfordshire, he was a lifelong lover of the countryside. He served in World War II in Italy and experienced the siege of Monte Casino and, after re-entry to civilian life, worked as an engineer in George Kents of Luton. It was there he came in contact with Harold Hamlet and Tony Beardsall and under their influence he joined the Adventist church in Luton and was baptised by Pastor Watson Southcott on 11 May 1963. Don was a man of deep and sincere faith. After retirement he drove an ambulance for the NHS and also kept busy with meals on wheels for the WRVS. In this activity he was joined by Dora Olney, another Luton member. After his wife died, he found friendship with Gwen Olney a lifelong friend. He joined the Stanborough Park church in the early 90s. His funeral service was taken by Pastor Ian Sleeman, the minister of Stanborough Park, and the writer at the Vale crematorium, Luton. Don's serenity and his faith in Jesus as he faced death was an expression of true Christianity. He is mourned by his son David and family, his stepdaughter Susan and her daughters and Gwen. Like all true believers he waits for the return of the Lord he loved and served so faithfully.

PATRICK J. BOYLE

FRANCES BROOKES (1915-2005) d. 11 August. Frances Naomi Powell was born on 9 August 1915 in Hereford and passed away on 11 August, two days after her 90th birthday. Being the older girl and having a serious, very

spiritual nature, she became her mother's main help in the care of her three brothers and sister. When she was 16 and already a committed Adventist, she decided to take up nursing and entered the London Jewish Hospital where she would not have problems with the Sabbath. She completed her preliminary induction and was accepted for proper training. She was then given a vaccination for smallpox which unfortunately was defective and Frances and another nursing trainee became very seriously ill. She survived but was left so weak that she was not able to continue her training. By this time she was already a proficient shorthand typist and was able to become secretary to Pastor W. L. Emmerson, the editor at the Stanborough Press. She was baptised in 1936 at Stanborough Park church. She went to work for Granose, the health food factory, where she met a young man who shared her commitment to the church, and they were married on 10 September 1939. Life for the newly-weds became difficult as both earned very little since Hubert, a conscientious objector to the war, was sent to work on the land to support the war effort. In 1961 they came to Southampton. Frances was the head deaconess, a position she had already held in Stanborough Park church. They were the epitome of a Christian family. Hubert was a smart intellectual with a vast knowledge of the Scriptures, and Frances was a lovely lady and equally knowledgeable. She knew and could recite the significant passages of the Bible. Frances had a further dimension to her talents. She was a natural carer of the flock. She visited regularly the elderly members of the church and anyone in need or ill. The church minister in those days, Pastor Peter Stearman and his wife Vera, would often say that their ministry would have been difficult were it not for Frances's visiting ministry. Sometimes Hubert would take her visiting, but more often she would go alone on the bus. She collected pensions for those unable to do so. She did the shopping. She would do house chores for those too old or ill. That was Frances, God's ambassador to the poor, the old, the infirm and the needy. We shall meet Frances on that glorious morning of resurrection.

DAVID BRADLEY

MAGAZINE

Focus

What is this thing called Grace?

The Tsunami: Where was God?

For mass distribution in your community between now and New Year

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Has your church received a FREE Ldi DVD pack?

by Alan Hodges, Ldi co-ordinator

What plans and strategy does YOUR church have for reaching the unchurched? Are YOU making the maximum use of the LIFE.info magazine? Have YOU developed friendships among the unchurched in your community? Do YOU know what the LIFEdevelopment.info concept is? Are YOU serious about playing your part in hastening the coming of Jesus?

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Faith-builders must start right at the bottom, and that takes time, to bring the unchurched to the place where they can receive and accept the fundamentals of our faith.

Make sure you and your church have the resources for levels 1-3 of the LIFEdevelopment.info concept. The following are available from the LIFEdevelopment.info office, Stanborough Park, Watford, WD25 9JZ. **The LIFEdevelopment Handbook** – A fresh, contemporary approach to time-honoured Christian principles of outreach. **LIFE.info** magazine – a practical tool, providing relevant material to help you make friends in the community.

'Evidence' – a series of ten one-hour programmes you can invite your friends to watch, with presenters Dwight Nelson and Gillian Joseph. The programmes deal with the following issues: Love, Relationships, Forgiveness, Hope, Suffering, Meaning, Rest, Peace, Death, Justice. **'Mind the Gap'** – a series of ten one-hour programmes hosted by Dwight Nelson, where a panel of people from all walks of life discuss the following themes: Faith, Bible, Prayer, Jesus, Death and Resurrection, Second Coming, Holy Spirit, Human Nature, Healing, Community. **'Mind the Gap Study Guide'** – a 261-page study guide for you to use in connection with the 'Mind the Gap' DVDs so that the discussion can continue.

Resources for Level 4 –

'Experiencing the Joy' – will be available by the autumn of 2006.

If your church has not as yet received a



< 1 ADRA-UK South Asia Earthquake Appeal *continued*

the same evening to commence the process of responding to the emergency.

ADRA is working on a network-wide strategy to respond to this disaster, with funds already donated by a number of countries. In Pakistan ADRA is co-ordinating with the Commissioner for Rehabilitation for Kashmir to focus aid on the areas that require the most immediate attention, and has been granted authorisation to work in the Bagh District, where they have already established a field office, and are accumulating emergency supplies. The situation in Bagh is dire, with initial estimates indicating that 95% of the buildings in the area have been destroyed by the earthquake.

In addition, the Karachi Adventist Hospital has agreed to dispatch two medical teams to Kashmir, consisting of doctors, nurses, assistants and paramedical staff, to aid with the distribution of medical supplies and attend to the health concerns of those injured in the earthquake, in co-operation with ADRA.

complimentary DVD pack, call the LIFEdevelopment.info Office, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts, WD25 9JZ on 01923 672251 or email ask@lifedevelopment.info

If you wish to order your own personal pack for just £30 (inclusive of postage and packing) then contact the number above or order on line at www.adventistresource.org.uk



Due to the nature and location of the South Asia earthquake disaster, ADRA-UK will not be sending containers filled with aid supplies to the region. The supplies that are needed are available locally and it is far more cost effective to send funds and then request the local ADRA offices to purchase these items. This procedure will save money and, more importantly, will enable the victims to receive aid as quickly as possible.

ADRA supporters are therefore being requested *not* to collect any aid items or send them to the ADRA-UK office or warehouse in Watford.

Donations

For those unable to use the web donation system on the ADRA-UK website www.adra.org.uk, cheques for the Asia Earthquake Appeal can be sent to: ADRA-UK, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts, WD25 9JZ. Make your cheques payable to 'ADRA-UK' and if possible Gift Aid your donation by including a *signed* note saying, 'Please Gift Aid this donation.' Alternatively, you can send your gift through the regular Church channels. In all cases, please indicate that the gift is for the 'ADRA-UK South Asia Earthquake Appeal'.

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Messenger

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Sunset

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	Lond	Card	Nott	Edin	Belf
Nov 4	4.28	4.40	4.28	4.26	4.42
11	4.17	4.29	4.16	4.12	4.29
18	4.07	4.20	4.05	4.00	4.17
25	4.00	4.12	3.57	3.50	4.08

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THE STANBOROUGH PRESS LIMITED, based in Grantham, Lincolnshire, is seeking to appoint an Adventist Book Centre Sales Manager at its Grantham-based offices. Key responsibilities include the marketing of its UK sales portfolio which includes the oversight and hands-on management of new and existing products, its ABC outlets and its regular weekend book sales.

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Letter of application with current CV and addresses of two referees should be sent to The Manager, Stanborough Press Limited, Alma Park, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG31 9SL. Email: stanborg@aol.com.

Deadline 30 November 2005.

Interviews for suitable candidates will be held in December.