

Messenger

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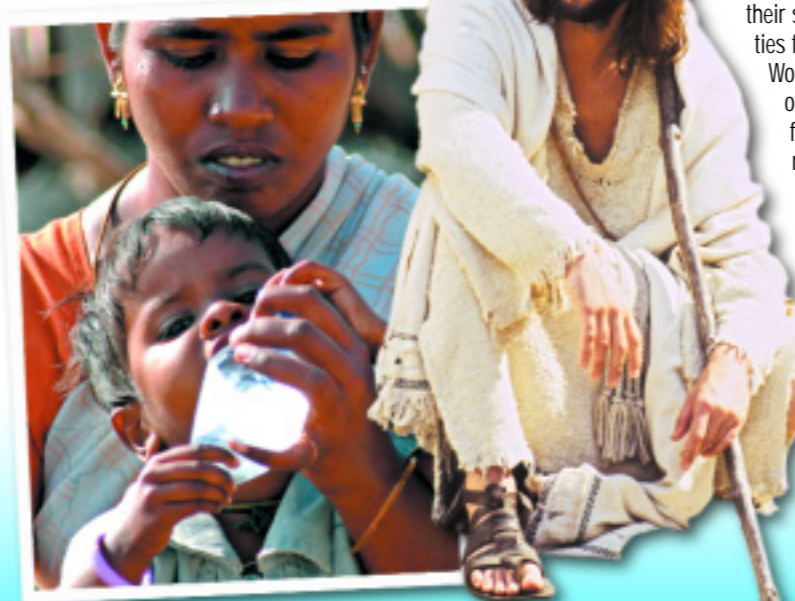
The needy through the eyes of Jesus

ADRA-UK Appeal 2006: 25 March-9 April

by C. R. Perry, president, BUC

Picture images can convey beauty, strong emotion and great need. Words are less effective but made more potent when accompanied by pictures of need and devastation. But these lines – these pictures – cannot adequately convey the true reality of human pain, poverty and emotional, physical and spiritual suffering.

The response to human need in times of natural and man-made disaster requires more from us than past generosity and sacrifice. The ever-increasing cycle of social, medical and educational deprivation is evident everywhere, especially in the developing world. We cannot escape the images portrayed in the media of hunger, starving children, abject poverty and the victims of life-threatening diseases and other human tragedies. These hurting people share our common humanity. They are our neighbours, morally and spiritually, members of our global village.



The Bible defines our spiritual act of service to others clearly: 'A genuine Christian looks after the needs of others, especially orphans and widows in distress, while keeping himself unspotted from the moral pollution of the world. This is the kind of religion that our heavenly Father accepts.' (See James 1:27.)

The 2006 ADRA Public Appeal, 25 March-9 April, gives us in the British Union Conference another opportunity to heed the command to love our neighbours as ourselves. The nearly 100-year history of Ingathering (ADRA Appeal) in this territory is a commendable one. We have not shrunk from our responsibility, year after year, of knocking on doors to solicit funds from a generous public. Some of our stalwart collectors have been overtaken by death. It is now left to the children, youth and remaining adults of the Church to continue the work.

We appreciate those who have made the half-marathon a part of their sponsored activities for the charity.

Wonderful! Hundreds of our youth and friends will be meeting in Hyde Park for the event at 9.30 on Sunday 19 March. The eliciting of sponsorship from non-church friends, workmates and associates is a vital part of raising funds. The half-

marathon gives the opportunity of doing both the traditional form of Ingathering and the contemporary.

The real success of the ADRA Appeal this year will not be how much we give or collect, but how much it has been driven by love and compassion for those in need. In 2005 we collected £572,853. Nevertheless the sky is the limit if, even if just for a moment, we see the needy through the eyes of Jesus. Working for the good of the needy and wretched as Christ did is a noble act of Christian service. True religion is working with Christ for the healing, feeding and restoration of fallen humanity.

The funds we collect this year can make a great difference to the lives of many as we seek to implement the eight or more worthy projects. Your help will:

- Provide water for the Tsumkwe Water Project which will help in sustainable living in Northern Namibia;
- Reduce child labour in Peru and empower parents to direct their future in the 'Working for the Working Children' project;
- Provide medical and social services to help reduce TB among prisoners in Kazakhstan;
- Alleviate poverty among women in Nepal and South Sudan;
- Promote Human and Women's rights awareness development in Ayacucho, Peru;
- Operate the Special Needs camp in Wales and ASNA programme for those with disabilities;
- Sustain current overseas projects and the sponsoring of mission trips overseas for church groups working on ADRA projects.

May I invite you to experience the blessing of being an active participant in the ADRA 2006 Appeal. Join me again on the humanitarian trail this year for ADRA-UK. Fifty years of collecting and I am not yet tired!

Hunger is not a description, nor is poverty a mere image. It is *real* people hurting in soul, body and spirit.

INGATHERING DATES: 25 March-9 April. London Greater Metropolitan Area, 25 March-16 April



The papers, TV and an MP help celebrate Irene's 103rd

by Rose H. Barker

Not many reach the age of 100 years. Even fewer reach 103 and are able to celebrate it over two days. That is what Mrs Irene Osborne did. Mrs Jean Spoor, manager at The Dell, had made all the arrangements for the two special days.

Day 1: 13 January. The Lowestoft Trinity Singers provided a lovely musical programme. There was prayer, an appropriate reading and recitations, as well as songs. Irene, too, chose

some of her favourite hymns to be sung. Pastor Michael Walker was invited to say a few words.

The local press arrived to take photographs and to interview Irene. The morning was much appreciated by the residents, the staff, and the friends who came especially. The usual 'Happy Birthday' was sung even though Irene's actual birthday was not until the next day, Sabbath. Drinks and refreshments followed.

Day 2: Mr Bob Blizzard MP visited early so

that Irene would be on time, as usual, for church. He brought her flowers and a box of House of Commons Victorian Mints. Irene was doing well, with presents and cards over two days.

Anglia Television's photographer arrived, and Irene's interview with Bob Blizzard was televised and featured on Anglia Television on the evening news of 18 January.

Irene gave the witness of her long life, saying how she had always put her trust in the Lord.

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

Healthwise

Name your poison

People who smoke and drink will not have to decide whether to buy cigarettes or beer in future. The choice has already been made for them! A new beer – *NicoShot* – combines alcohol and nicotine in one brew.

The beer, launched by *Nautilus* in Germany, contains 3mgs of nicotine. It is claimed by the brewers that *NicoShot* can help people who want to quit smoking rather than addict them to nicotine. Three cans of the beer have about the same nicotine content as a 20-pack of cigarettes.

Drinkers could get used to their alcohol/nicotine fix without all the

habits and secondary habits of smoking, says the company president, then reduce their intake and finally quit smoking. Smokers could also use the drink to offset withdrawal symptoms and to avoid relapse situations, it is claimed.

The beer is only available in Germany at present, but the company is seeking to get their product approved in the EU and the USA. As bad as they are, it is to be hoped that the nicotine levels will not be greater than the stated amount since the tobacco companies have been less than honest about nicotine levels in cigarettes.

Research shows that nicotine and tar level testing machines have

been giving misleadingly low results, and that the companies concerned maximised the disparities in their marketing campaigns. They advertised low nicotine and low tar content for cigarettes that were found to have higher amounts of the harmful ingredients.

Machines showing low nicotine and low tar, 'smoke' the cigarettes differently from human beings. Smokers using the low-tar and low-nicotine cigarettes take deeper and more frequent puffs of their cigarettes. This smoking behaviour delivers extra harmful constituents to the body. With one brand of cigarettes, smokers' exhalations were found to have almost twice the nicotine and double the tar content than that

analysed from the smoking machine.

The tobacco industry knew as far back as 1967 that there was a discrepancy between machines and smokers' tar and nicotine levels and said in its defence that it was only mandatory to report what the machine showed! Alcohol or cigarettes? Alcohol and cigarettes! As Sir William Empson said: 'Slowly the poison the whole blood stream fills/It is not the effort or the failure tires/The waste remains, the waste remains and kills!' It is poison by draughts.



The scandal of the Church

David Marshall

'The scandal of the church is that the Christ event is no longer life-changing, but has become life-enhancing,' said John Sentamu when he was inaugurated as the 97th Archbishop of York.

To me that statement is both true and profound. It echoes the final point in Paul's prophecy about the last days. People would be self-absorbed, money-hungry, profane, disobedient to parents, live in a dog-eat-dog society – and even Christians would have 'a form of godliness' but live lives denying God's power.'

Read Dr Sentamu's statement again, and think about it: Christians these days are happy to have Jesus improve (enhance) their lives, but will not permit him to change them radically.

Dr Sentamu continued: 'We have become mere consumers of religion instead of disciples of Christ.'

'But that's Anglicans, not Adventists,' some might say. And wouldn't it be great if they were right? Doubtless the 'archbishop' had Anglicans in mind primarily, but can we honestly say that the relevance of his comments was limited to the Church of England? Does the message of the Risen Christ to Laodicea apply only to the 'established' church? Or has our own communion been 'established' long enough for a touch of lukewarmness to have set in?

The daily papers that covered the Archbishop's sermon trivialised it. No surprise there. It was, however, a little disappointing that the Christian press did much the same. The fact that drums had been heard in York Minister was more important to them than the prophetic edge in what Sentamu said.

Do you know more 'consumers of religion' than 'disciples of Christ'? As long as we 'consume', Christianity works merely to 'enhance'. The moment we become disciples we commit to the revolution Jesus wants to work in the way we live. To do otherwise is to deny the miracle at the heart of Christianity. Those who are 'in Christ' become 'a new creation. The old has gone, the new has come.'² Remember?

Not merely the old creation 'enhanced' in some respects.

Not like the latest model of a Ford, the trim improved, the engine tweaked.

A Rolls-Royce? No. Better than a Roller. A new creation. So radicalised as to be transformed in vital and fundamental respects.

One of the icons of 60s youth was Che Guevara. Che was an Argentine of Spanish-Irish descent who became convinced that the only way to overcome the poverty endured by the mass of the people was violent revolution. In Cuba he helped Fidel Castro to seize power. In the Congo he worked with Lumumba. When he was captured

and shot in 1967 Che was leading a guerrilla force in Bolivia. In the five years following his death, posters of Che's image were almost as popular with Western youth as posters of the 'Fab Four'. One thing Che said lives on: 'If our revolution is not aimed at changing people then I'm not interested.'

By saying that, of course, he highlighted the weakness of his whole revolutionary strategy. The only person who preached Whole Person Revolution was Christ: not Mao, not Marx, Jesus. He not only preached it. He made it possible.

Jesus called on people to stop playing at religion. Not just to preach good news – but to be good news. His was not one of those modernising strategies that changes everything except the human heart. It changed everything by changing the human heart first.

People said of Jesus, 'What sort of Man is this?' Wouldn't it be great if they said of his followers, 'What sort of people are they? They are gracious people. There's something really wonderful about them. They talk about God's grace and goodness – and they live them. Let's get to know them better!'

What do they say about us? I've heard 'judgemental', 'moralising' and 'complacent'. To our credit, I've never heard 'boring' and 'dull'. But someone did say 'nice'!

Jesus was radical. Radical in his teachings, his attitudes, his actions and his living. There was never a 'gentle Jesus, meek and mild'. Never a 'nice' Jesus. Jesus was enough of a threat to the powers that be to provoke his judicial murder at their hands. The Sermon on the Mount has been called 'the most radical social-spiritual treatise ever recorded'. Yet it provided the marching orders for all who accept the challenge of being a disciple. It is the Manifesto of the Kingdom.

Am I giving you a guilt trip? No. I'm saying what Jesus said: 'Go and make disciples of all nations.' And just what did he mean? Disciple-making involved 'teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you.'³

The essence of Christ's radicalism is in what is called 'reverse teaching'. He advocated passivity when aggression would seem more effective. He called for forgiveness in situations that seemed to cry out for retribution. For the broken people, he held out far more hope than for those who thought themselves AOK, spiritually speaking.

In our 160-year history we've spread to the world and built many and big institutions. But where has the radical discipleship gone? Has our multi-runged denominational ladder become an end in itself and has it provoked in us the impulse to play political games that mirror state politics? How connected is the triangular ladder to church mission? Does its very existence engender wrong attitudes and diminish the importance of the grass roots contacts Jesus modelled so well?

Has the 'Take up your cross and follow me' radicalism of early Christians and pioneer Adventists leached away?

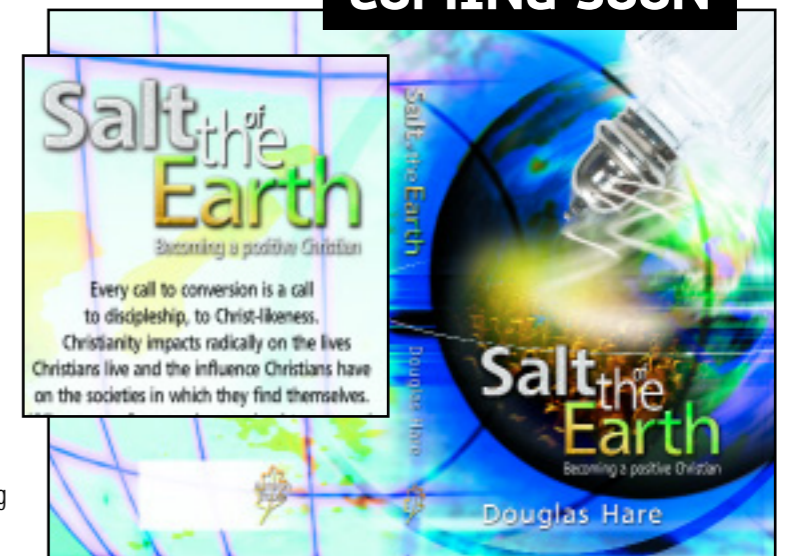
William Johnsson, editor of *ADVENTIST REVIEW*, international paper of our world church, thinks it has. In a message that makes even John Sentamu look like a tame lion, he says:

'It's time to quit playing at religion. . . . Time is too short, the night is too dark, for us to cruise along as Christians. . . .'⁴

Discipleship is more than life-enhancing. It's life-changing. If Christianity is anything less, it denies God's power. At the heart of Christianity is a miracle. You are that miracle.

References:
² Timothy 3:1-5. ³ 2 Corinthians 5:17. ⁴ Matthew 28:19, 20.
⁵ See *ADVENTIST REVIEW*, 19 January 2006, 'A Call for Radical Discipleship'.

COMING SOON





UPDATES Tell Southern England!

by Humphrey Walters, president, SEC

We are delighted to report that over 1,000 church board members participated in a series of regional consultative meetings* led by South England Conference officials. These gatherings are intended for local church leaders in general and were arranged as part of our *Tell Southern England* mission advancement plans. At these conventions our members and leaders expressed delight at the momentum this new mission emphasis is generating.

It began last October when, at a top-level meeting at our world headquarters, Adventist church leaders launched a new initiative to accelerate greatly the pace of our worldwide mission work. 'Tell the World' is the name that has been assigned to this new global endeavour. It embraces a scheme of plans that represent what our church is called both to be and to do if we are to fulfil faithfully our purpose and calling from God.

At the October meeting the General Conference established certain mission objectives for the world church. Our own Trans-European Division and British Union Conference have taken responsibility for fulfilling a scaled-down proportion of these overall objectives, reflecting their respective standing in our church organisational structure. As a subdivision of the British Union, the South England Conference is, for its part, also assuming responsibility for accomplishing a certain portion of these global mission goals.

By way of seeking to optimise the impact of the 'Tell the World' initiative within our territory, we are refer-

ring to this heightened expression of mission advancement as *Tell Southern England*. Pursuing a vision of glorifying God by proclaiming the special message he has entrusted to us for these last days, and with a view to expanding our work of disciple making, we are seeking to accomplish the following:

- Develop 226 outreach-oriented small groups to strengthen the growth of the church.
- Plant 66 new churches within our territory.
- Conduct 670 public evangelistic meetings – 10% of which will be run by youth.
- Challenge 5,400 members each to reach one person for Jesus.
- Connect with unreached people, postmoderns and people of other faiths, and bring them onto a discipleship path.
- At least 65% of our members to be nurtured by daily Bible study and prayer.
- Train and equip 660 leaders, pastors, and church planters for effective mission and witnessing.
- Retain 70% of all our children and youth by intentionally enhancing the impact of the Christian family, church and school.
- Creatively employ technology such as television, radio, the Internet and publications to share our faith within our conference territory.

Over recent weeks we have spent significant time in consultation with a range of various denominational workers, and church members in general, regarding the vision and objectives of *Tell Southern England*.

Such envisioning and consultative meetings have been held with all our conference departmental directors, all office support staff, all pastors, and church board members – to date, over 1,000 of them. It has been truly magnificent to witness the interest and excitement these mission-centred consultations have generated within our conference.

In keeping with the clear mission emphasis within the SEC, we continue to receive encouraging progress reports from all sections of our territory. (A sample of such reports is featured in this issue of *Messenger* for your information and interest.) Almost on a weekly basis we are informed of various church plants being proposed, small groups being launched, outreach campaigns being planned, lay evangelistic activities gathering momentum, and much more besides.

While *Tell Southern England* will undoubtedly be concerned with numerical growth within various areas of church life, significant attention will also be given to fostering our spiritual development as God's people. One notable indication that a spiritual focus will be at the forefront of our endeavours is the unprecedented proposal by our London ministers to conduct an all-night prayer meeting within the next few weeks. Although we are accustomed to hearing of all-night prayer meetings that attract a general cross-section of our members, so far as I can tell we have never before had an all-night prayer meeting in which the participants have been exclusively pastors. In many ways this is indicative of a recognition that as *Tell Southern England* is rolled out across our Conference, it will call for praying pastors and leaders mobilising praying, Spirit-anointed members who are ready to involve themselves in the mission work entrusted to us by God.

Right now, we can only begin to

imagine what God will be able to accomplish in us and through us as we make ourselves available to him for the salvation of the lost within our territory.

*In 4 different regional locations – a fifth and final meeting is yet to take place.



AREA 7 – THREE COUNTIES – HERTS, BEDS, BUCKS
Co-ordinator: Colin Stewart

Stanborough Park Church campaign on 14 March led by Brian Davison. Brian is a member of the church and also of the SEC Executive Committee. The campaign will run every Tuesday night for 18 weeks and the Stanborough Park Global Mission team, who have done evangelistic work most recently in Mauritius, will be taking the lead. The church also works closely with ADRA-UK and will send shoes to Cashmere in Pakistan for those who are less fortunate. The monthly alternative service 'Blue' continues to attract the unchurched.

The Church, Enfield Town started with three members. It has grown significantly in the last year and now has 13 members who

regularly go door-to-door with the church newsletter. The members of the church have been very successful in running the Alpha course and they are getting many contacts through this form of evangelism, so much so that there is a problem in finding enough people to follow up the contacts.

Luton Central held a baptism in December 2005 and three people were added to the church. Luton Central also runs a weekly friendship

club with help from the local Social Services.

Luton North continue their growth mainly from former Adventists; however, they recently received an invitation from the Methodist Church where they worship asking for information on Seventh-day Adventists.

On Sabbath 11 February the **Dunstable Community Church** started in the St Augustine Church on Oakwood Avenue, Dunstable.

St Albans church is trying to reach secular and unchurched people through Friendship Evangelism. It then seeks to introduce them into small groups. In addition to this, they start their Sabbath School programme with 15 minutes of prayer. Jonathan Barrett has 150 contacts in the area who regularly receive *LIFE* info magazine.

Bedford Asian is working with the youth of the church in getting them more involved in church life. Pastor Bairagee believes that the youth are the key to keeping the church alive. In addition to this, there is a plan to hold four services especially for the local community.



Milton Keynes Central Church has seen a revival in its witnessing through the food and community programme for the homeless. Every Thursday night between 6pm and 8pm a special ministry takes place where homeless people can come and receive a free meal, clean clothes, a couple of bags of food, and counselling. Amazingly, lives have been changed; many, over the course of the last six months, have attended Sabbath services and given testimony of life-changing experiences.

With regard to **West Bletchley Community Church**, a summer evangelistic programme in the park in Bletchley yielded many contacts and ended in a special Christmas production of 'Psalty', for the children. One person from the community has been baptised, with a few more who regularly attend preparing for baptism. A strong community presence is yielding great rewards.

AREA 6A – NORTH LONDON
Co-ordinator: Emmanuel Osei

2005 was an exciting year for the North London churches. Several of our pastors conducted baptisms in their local churches as a result of the efforts of the members. Evangelistic campaigns were conducted in **Barnet, Hampstead, New Life** and the **Hispanic** church. Although the **Central London church** did not conduct an evangelistic campaign, they were blessed with 18 baptisms. The **Holloway** and **Muswell Hill** churches held a major evangelistic campaign at Finsbury Park, where our guest speaker, Dr P. C. Willis, preached on how to build outstanding relationships. The tent was filled to capacity most nights

and overflowing at weekends. This three-week programme yielded a harvest of 35 souls.

2005 also saw the establishment of **Splash Radio**. This Internet radio programme is housed at the Hampstead church and is aired 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at www.splash-uk.org.

2006 promises to be even more inspiring! The youth of Holloway will be running the **Elijah Project in March**. The Elijah Project is a strategy that was created by the GC Youth department for the world church. It involves recruiting and encouraging young people to participate actively in the preaching of the Gospel via public evangelism. The resources (sermons and PowerPoint presentations) are provided as part of the resource pack to each church that applies. Further information can be obtained from the BUC Youth department, dboldeau@adventist.org.uk.

In August, the tent is to be pitched again in Finsbury Park, and it is hoped that a new church will be planted in that area. **Edmonton Central** will be running a Contagious Christianity Seminar before embarking on their two-week campaign. Two campaigns will be held in **Kings Cross** and **Haringey** areas respectively. **New Life** is seeking to plant a new church following their 13-week Revival series on the Seven Churches of Revelation 2 and 3. **Holcombe Road church** will also be participating in these meetings. There will be two more campaigns conducted in **Palmer's Green** and **Wood Green**. **Barnet** will be developing their Parents' and Children's Ministry twice a month. **Edmonton and Enfield** also have evangelistic plans for 2006.

TELL IT SEC Church Leaders' Conference

by Catherine Anthony Boldeau, director of Communication

On Sunday 8 January the South England Conference held its first Church Leaders' Conference under the leadership of the new administrative team, at the Stanborough Centre in Watford. The attendance of nearly 400 members was outstanding; most were board members from districts 6a (North London), 6d (West London) and 7 (Herts, Beds, Bucks) who stayed for the whole day.

The purpose of the meeting was threefold: visioning, training and accountability, and began with the rousing tones of 'Seeking the Lost', and a spiritual presentation by Aris Vontzalidis.

Using a multi-media presentation, SEC president Pastor Humphrey Walters passionately shared the South England Conference's strat-



egic vision. Quoting from the book *Gospel Workers* (page 352), he said, 'The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers.' This vision directly links with that of the wider Adventist Church – 'Tell the World' – which was launched at the end of 2005 by General Conference president Dr Jan Paulsen. The key element of this initiative is to 'involve the entire membership in a unified vision of sharing the gospel with every person by 2010'. *Tell Southern England* is the interpretation of this vision for the South England Conference.

SEC Executive secretary Victor Hulbert, and Church Growth director Aris Vontzalidis, gave further presentations, informing those present of the goals for the next five years and giving details of how the vision should be implemented. Immediately following this, each church held a 'mini board meeting' to contextualise the vision to their local needs. Each group was also encouraged to report on their discussions in the afternoon.

The second main element of the conference was training, with members being split into departmental groups for workshops with their respective Conference directors, co-ordinators or managers.

The third and final part of the day was the accountability session where the members present questioned the departmental directors about their work over the past two years. The majority of questions revolved around the operational side of the work of the conference, with finance, evangelism, and communication receiving most, if not all,

of the attention. Full details of the SEC mid-term report are available in the current edition of the *Communicator*, www.secadventist.org.uk

Those present sang, 'We have this Hope' to end the Conference, along with a prayer of commitment.

The Plymouth church hosted the 3rd SEC Church Leaders' Conference for members in the Cornwall Area. Around 40 people joined SEC president Pastor Humphrey Walters to discuss ways in which the church could be more mission-minded. The day ran in accordance with the previous two sessions, but with two exceptions. Area 1 is blessed to have several retired ministers from both the North and the South Conferences who truly understand that evangelism is key to the growth of the church.

Not all the directors from the SEC were able to be present at this event. The departments of Youth (Nathan Stickland), Communication (Catherine Anthony Boldeau), Family and Children's Ministries (Bernie & Karen Holford), were represented, as was the Secretariat (Victor Hulbert). Instead of Departmental training sessions, the directors gave an overview of the work accomplished during the past two years, their plans for the future and answered questions. Watson Southcott, retired Executive secretary of the British Union Conference, offered thanks on behalf of the attendees for 'taking time out to envision and empower the Church leaders in Area 1'.

The fourth Church Leaders' Conference was held in the newly-built Newbold church on the college campus. Two hundred people from Areas, 2, 3, and 5 shared their vision for evangelism with the

administrative team from the South England Conference.

Areas 3, 4, 5b, 6c by Sharon Platt-McDonald

Over two hundred and eighty officers converged on the Brixton church on Sunday 22nd January for the SEC's Church Leaders' Conference. In its dual agenda the event focused on reporting and assessing the work of the Conference over the past two years and plotting the way ahead to advance the work of evangelism. Each attendee received a comprehensive pack detailing the events of the day, information on the strategic plan for 2004-2007 and a new publication entitled 'Brief' – an Adventist Leaders' Newsletter.

The morning commenced with a devotional and prayer session led by Aris Vontzalidis. Recognising the call to prayer as the bedrock for success, Pastor Vontzalidis stated: 'It's our utmost need. Without God all our endeavours would be futile.'

In a heart-warming address South England Conference president Pastor Humphrey Walters reminded us of the privilege we have to 'Go and Tell'; to recapture what it means to be an Adventist, to remember the former days, revive our first love and reclaim the mission mandate.

Setting a challenge to church leaders, Pastor Walters stated that the work of the board members needed to be readdressed and a new sense of responsibility captured in order to transform mindsets and ensure optimum success in the mission of evangelism. He also highlighted the importance of spiritual renewal and effective leadership.

Under the caption 'The Whole Church taking the Whole Gospel to

the Whole Community', the Strategic Plan for 2004-2007 was presented with an implementation model of key strategic endeavours. These were detailed as Spiritual renewal; Outreach; Winning people to Christ; Church plant-

ing; Christ-centred, inspiring, culturally-relevant Worship Services; Spiritual growth; Families, Youth, Children's Ministries; Welcoming and thinking climate; Training for all leaders.

- Outlining the new Perspective for Church Growth Conference, secretary Victor Hulbert unveiled the evangelistic goals entailed in the following six objectives:
- Develop 220 small groups to strengthen the growth of the church
- Plant 66 new churches
- Conduct 670 public evangelistic meetings; 10% of which will be run by youth
- Connect with unreached people, postmoderns and people of other faith and bring them into a discipleship path
- Challenge 5,400 members each to reach one person for Jesus
- Train and equip 660 leaders, pastors, church planters for effective mission

A break-out session was held which facilitated group work, with each local church putting together a synopsis of the key outreach and mission achievements they had realised over the years. This was reported on in the afternoon via a feedback session entitled 'Tell Southern England'. It was very encouraging to hear the variety of initiatives which were operating successfully with active input from church members and good community response.

The SEC departmental directors led the workshop sessions for the church officers. These focused mainly on training the officers on key aspects of their role and the responsibilities they held as leaders. The workshops produced a lively exchange of information and advice from the facilitators, and searching questions, experiences, accomplishments and concerns from the church officers. Departmental packs and information sheets were distributed during the session which the attendees found an excellent resource.

The following departments and their facilitators were represented: *Family & Children's Ministry:* Bernie and Karen Holford;



Treasury: Earl Ramharack Singh; *Communications/Stewardship:* Cathy Boldeau; *Youth/Pathfinders/Teens:* Robert Hines and Japhet De Oliveira; *Personal Ministries and Sabbath School:* Dr Richard DeLisser; *Women's Ministries:* Julia Smith; *Community/Health Ministries:* Elsie Staple; *Pastors:* Victor Hulbert; *Elders:* Pastor Williams; *Prison Ministries:* Pastor Chisholm; *Deacons, deaconesses and other officers:* Pastor Walters.

In the final session for the day, the question and answer spot revealed an intriguing interchange of questions from the floor on aspects relating to church life, conference responsibilities, and our impact as a church in the face of societal and political changes. The Conference directors were challenged to respond to some tough questioning which they did with clarity, honesty and wisdom.

The day concluded in an act of commitment with the call for active and dedicated involvement in mission. Representatives from each church were called to the platform where they were encircled by the pastors and a prayer of commitment was prayed for the success of the evangelistic work.

Our gratitude goes to God for the successes of the past, the accomplishments of the present and our assurance of his guidance for future achievements. We pray that as a church community we will continue to move forward with courage and wisdom to make the appropriate changes that will positively impact our communities and finish the work as we undertake the great commission to 'Go Tell'.

An Evening of Music and Praise

Clive Malcolm and Sophia Nicholls

The Adventist Special Needs Association (ASNA) held its first fundraising concert of 2006. This annual event took place at the Wesley Methodist Church, Queens Road, Reading on 28 January to raise funds for its fifth Respite & Training Weekend which is organised to provide spiritual, social and emotional support for people living with disabilities. This wonderful evening raised over £1,390 towards ASNA weekend 2006, which will take place on 30 June -2 July at the Pioneer Centre, Kidderminster.

The evening was compered by Pastor Gifford Rhame and graced by a variety of performers including the Peckham Children's Community Choir, Jackie Gill, Resurrection, Sunbeam from London, Shiloh, Daniela from Watford, Raymond and the Luton Band, Sylvianne & Yves Senty from Newbold, Kindred from Bristol and a most memorable performance by Shayna whose rendition



of the classic song, 'Can't Give Up Now', symbolised the essence of the event. Nigel Nicholls, chairman of ASNA, said, 'This is what ASNA is about: letting people know that people with special needs can contribute. They can be an integral part of our worship services.'

The evening's success underlined ASNA's growing reputation for hosting quality concerts to support its aims in providing resources, education, support and training in disabilities and special needs. As one person put it, 'ASNA's concerts are always to a high standard. I enjoyed it very much.'



Shayna is a member of Peckham children's choir

ASNA would like to thank all the artists and supporters who contributed in making this event a success. For more information about ASNA events or to support the ministry, log on to the ASNA website www.asna.info or email asna@special1fsnet.co.uk.

Bolton's senior elder

Mrs Lesley Noakes, the senior elder for Bolton church in Lancashire, was ordained on 21 January this year.

Pastor Fred Mapp, Ministerial Assoc. Secretary at the North England Conference, led the service, recounting Moses' encounter with God to illustrate how God chooses leaders.

Leadership in church, Pastor Mapp told Mrs Noakes and the congregation, was all about the power of God's presence in the lives of men and women who are willing vessels in his hands.

Reading her testimonial, Bolton's Pastor Felix Jack said Sister Noakes was brought up in a close and loving Adventist home in South Wales. She is one of six children, and has been a teacher for over 25 years.

Pastor Jack said that Sister Lesley became an active Christian in the last four years. She drifted away from Christianity during her student days in Manchester, spending thirty years with different priorities, but the church heard how Sister Lesley met her husband Andy during that period. Their son Stuart attended the ordination service. One of the latest

blessings was the birth of a beautiful and healthy granddaughter.

The trigger that caused her return to God was the death of her brother-in-law Vince. Seeing how God cared for her sister and her family made her re-evaluate her own beliefs.

God has developed the confidence of this faithful lady from being shy and reserved so that today she can stand in the pulpit with only her knees knocking!

KONDWANI KANKONDO



Picture: Toni Cigu



‘Get on board as we tackle this issue of Booze Britain together,’

says Des Boldeau, BUC Youth director

What is Thirst for Life?

Thirst for Life is a positive campaign encouraging people to go forty days alcohol free from 1 March, promoting thought and discussion on the use of alcohol.

Thirst for Life came about because one person was worried about the binge-drinking culture in the UK today. He wanted people to become more aware of alcohol and the damage that it does to individuals, families, friends and society.

Imagine . . .

- . . . thousands of people going alcohol free for 40 days.
- . . . spare beds in casualty departments.
- . . . police with time to solve crimes.
- . . . town centres that are safe in the evening.

Get on board as we tackle this issue of Booze Britain together.

Facts and Figures

- In developed countries alcohol is one of the ten leading causes of disease and injury. Its use is responsible for nearly one in ten instances of ill health and premature deaths in Europe.
- The World Health Organisation found that drinking is the third most important risk factor after smoking and raised blood pressure. This places it ahead of high cholesterol levels and being overweight.
- Alcohol lowers resistance to disease. In the United Kingdom at least nine million people drink so much that they run the risk of serious long-term health problems.
- The Government’s Alcohol Strategy for England states that between 780,000 and 1.3 million children are suffering because of parental drinking.
- Alcohol-related hospital admissions for young people have risen by 15% in the past 8 years, from 4,173 in the year 1996-97, to 4,809 in 2004-05 for under 18s. Over the same period there was a 30% increase in the number of adults admitted to hospital for drink-related disorders, up from 35,740 to 46,299.
- In 1992 young women (aged 15) were drinking approx. 6 units per week and, in 2004, they were drinking at least 12 units. (Trust for the Study of Adolescence)
- Marriages where there are alcohol problems are twice as likely to end in divorce (Government Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy for England, March 2004)
- 32% of 16-24 year old males had drunk over 8 units of alcohol on at least one day in the pre-

vious week (defined as heavy drinking) compared to 24% of 16-24 year old females. (General Household Survey 2004/5)

- Half of all violent crimes are alcohol related. Alcohol misuse is associated with 150,000 hospital admissions each year. Around 70% of Accident & Emergency attendances between midnight and 5am are alcohol-related. 5.9 million people in England drink above the Government’s recommended guidelines (for the avoidance of health harm). (Choosing Health – Department of Health 2004)
- Did you know that all the time that alcohol is in the blood stream, it will affect the brain’s performance. You can still be under the influence the morning after!

DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH YOU, YOUR FRIENDS OR FAMILIES ARE DRINKING?

Calculating the Number of Units

1. Note down the % of abv (alcohol by volume) on your drink.
2. Work out the amount of liquid you have consumed in millilitres (ml). Then multiply A by B. Divide the result by 1000 and this will give you the number of units you have drunk. For example, a 35 ml shot of Vodka with a strength of 37.5% ABV: $37.5\% \times 35 \text{ millilitres} / 1,000 = 1.3 \text{ units}$

Body Matters

Alcohol is a depressant drug. A drug is a substance that alters the way our body works. Alcohol slows down the brain and thus judgement, reason, self-control and reaction time are all affected. Drinkers feel a false confidence and think they are funny and can flirt successfully. Alcohol’s effect on the brain depends on how much is consumed. It reaches the brain via the blood stream and will get there more quickly if the stomach is empty. Blood alcohol levels tend to be lower after eating food. Everybody’s reaction to alcohol depends partly on their mood, body size, sex, what they’ve eaten and the company they are with.

Why do people drink alcohol?

People choose to drink for a number of reasons:

- they like the effect and the taste
- their friends drink
- they want to drown their sorrows
- they think it’s big to get drunk
- to calm their nerves
- they think it is a great way to meet new people on a night out
- they may limit their drinking because of the



- potential for harm or as an example to others
- it’s a cultural thing
- makes it easier to fit in with friends and work colleagues
- to escape from other problems both real and perceived
- to celebrate an event or occasion

Others choose to be alcohol-free because:

- they may be at work or driving or in a situation where they need a clear head
- they may also want to help others by setting an example
- they may be recovering alcoholics
- they may be concerned about health issues or have seen the effects of alcohol first-hand in the lives of family members or friends
- they may have religious convictions
- they don’t want to be a part of the damaging and destructive culture they feel alcohol creates
- it’s easier and cheaper not to
- they just don’t like the taste

Alcohol makes you thirsty because it has a dehydrating effect. Alcopops, cider and sparkling wine have a quicker effect than still drinks because of the bubbles.

A small amount (no more than 10%) leaves the body as vapour in the breath or urine. The rest goes into the bloodstream and is slowly converted into waste matter by the liver. This process is not affected by exercise, cold showers or coffee. Most adults can get rid of one unit of alcohol in an hour. This takes longer for young and old people.

Experimental drinking can lead to severe intoxication which is more dangerous for children and adolescents than for adults. They experience coma at lower blood alcohol levels and can develop hypoglycaemia (low levels of blood sugar), hypothermia and breathing difficulties.

Drinking alcohol while pregnant carries risks. Foetal alcohol syndrome blights the lives of children, leaving them with learning difficulties, behavioural and health problems.

Heavy drinking is a common cause of high blood pressure and will increase the risk of strokes and heart disease in older people. Regular drinking can cause fatty deposits in the liver, eventually leading to cirrhosis, a medical condition where liver cells are destroyed by scar tissue. A liver damaged by alcohol cannot process nutrients in food, nor eliminate toxins from the blood.

Excessive drinking doubles the risk of cancer of the gullet, trebles the risk of cancer of the

throat and quadruples the risk of cancer of the voice box. There is evidence that it can increase the risk of breast cancer. Other problems include vitamin deficiency, obesity, sexual difficulties and infertility as well as muscle disease and skin problems.

How do you help a friend who might have a drink-related problem? How do you know if they have a problem?

This is not easy and asking for help is always a good idea if you have any worries. Remember that people don’t have to drink every day to have a problem. Binge drinkers can stay dry between drinking bouts. Some of the signs include: drinking throughout the day; mood swings; irritability; hidden bottles; weight gain; rosier complexion; feeling uneasy if a drink is not available; skipping meals.

AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) is the first practical tool you can use to assist such a person. You can also be a spiritual support for that person. You can encourage them to consider changing their lifestyle and habits to minimise the possibilities of going into situations that could encourage the habit. The AA commandments will also aid the motivation process.

Will you encourage your friend or family member to consider going alcohol free for 40 days?

Get involved by visiting www.thirstforlife.org.

This article was extracted from the ‘Thirst for Life’, and ‘In the know’ information about alcohol, both published by Thirst for Life.



Des Boldeau tackles ‘How to recognise Addictive Behaviour’ and Binge Drinking in the current FOCUS.

CHISWICK GOSPEL CHOIR

of the Chiswick Seventh-day Adventist Church

IN CONCERT

With Guest Artistes:
 Antonia Francis, Ullanda Alexander
 Blessed Voices, Pure Harmony
 Paul Boldeau, New Beginning
 Joint Praise, The Filipino Anklong Band
 and The Pathfinder Drum Corps

St Michael and All Angels
 Turnham Green
 Chiswick W4

Saturday 18th March 2006
 Doors open 6:00pm

Tickets: £7 in advance / £5 Children 4-14 / Concessions £3 at the door
 Venue: St Michael and All Angels Church, Turnham Green, Chiswick W4
 Directions: Train: District line to Turnham Green (take right out of station to Bath Road) / Bus: 94, E3, 272

For Tickets contact Gillian Francis-Musau 07886 623 318 or Lynda Saunders 07886 474 302

YLS

youth led service

experience God through st albans youth

Every 2nd Saturday of each month

bible discussion 9.50am
 worship 11.15am

121 St Peters Street, St Albans, Herts, AL1 3EL. 01727 832809



Pastor Elias at 90

The family of Pastor Ken Elias hosted a 90th birthday party at the Bournemouth church on Sunday 29 January. Dalbert, Michael and Lindsay, his three sons, and their families joined the church in celebrating his long and fruitful life. His daughter Judith, who lives in Canada, sent her greetings.

Tributes paid to Pastor Elias included one by Pastor Phillip Anderson, who spoke warmly of support given to him and his wife early in his ministry, while Pastor John Arthur (pictured on the left), former British Union Conference president, recognised Pastor Elias's administrative skills during the many years they served together. During Pastor Elias's lifetime service to the Church he was manager of Stanborough Press, and president of the Scottish Mission, as well as the then North British Conference. In retirement Pastor Elias served for many years as elder of the Bournemouth church, and this was recognised by Pastor Ian Lorek who, on a personal note, also recalled being baptised by Ken in Edinburgh.

Ken's three sons are all ministers, working in different countries – Germany, America and England – and each paid tribute to their father in their own unique way, with poetry and entertainment. Ken also spoke of his own ministerial experience, running large successful campaigns in the 1950s and 1960s, including Ireland, where ninety members were baptised. May God continue to bless Pastor Ken Elias in his ninety-first year.

JUDITH CASSIDY

SureWay Community A&P Trailblazers' Open Day

SureWay Community Adventurers and Pathfinders (A&P) Trailblazers was launched at the Clayhall Tiptree Estate to the sound of drums and clashing cymbals on Sabbath 14 May 2005. The Holloway Drum Corps led the procession followed by the marching of Walthamstow's Pathfinder Drill Team. An atmosphere of excitement and curiosity drew residents from their homes and

had children from the community marching behind the procession. As residents came out of their homes it gave us an opportunity to talk to them, give leaflets and remind them of the launch.

The Open Day commenced with prayer followed by a presentation of the aims and objectives of the clubs. Following a display by the Walthamstow Drill Team the children



of the community were invited to register and join the clubs. To conclude our time together refreshments were served, which gave residents an opportunity to ask questions and for us to meet the parents and children. A photographic display of Pathfinder events and exhibits, courtesy of Stratford's Pathfinder director, further enhanced the explanation of the Pathfinder experience. Ten children from the community registered on the day to join the club. This number, together with the Trailblazers team's own children, meant that we had twenty children when the clubs started on 11 June 2005.

DONNA JOSEPH

Tamworth: 7 Gen-Xers

On 5 November Tamworth church received into membership through baptism seven young people. The baptism was held at the local Methodist church as the Tamworth church building is currently under construction. The fact that Tamworth did not have its own building did not deter these young people from making a stand for Jesus and declaring their desire to be baptised. The church was filled with family and friends. Pastor Alan Hush, NEC Youth director, gave a short address, and Pastor Des Rafferty examined the candidates, who were baptised by our local minister Pastor Jude Jeanville. The candidates were Jonathan Reid, Trudy Rowe, Zhjneen Raphael, Winslow Raphael, Elisia Howell, Ashley Howell, and Leoni Howell.

Prior to the baptismal candidates' entering the pool, a short



York People First

On 21 January, the York church spent an afternoon on the theme of communication, which was prepared for them by York People First, a self-advocacy group for those with learning disabilities.

The afternoon began with learning the Makaton sign language to songs such as 'Steal Away' and 'The Streets of London'. The church members also put themselves in a disabled person's shoes as they prepared two skits highlighting some of the problems that might be experienced in the town and in the church.

We discussed with York People First ways of making our church



more welcoming and the service more understandable to those with learning disabilities, and the whole



programme generated some interesting ideas and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. LYNETTE ALLCOCK

Dudley's first ever Pathfinder Investiture

Dudley Pathfinder Club held its first ever investiture on 15 October. Pastor T. Thomas, NEC Pathfinder director, and John Bishop, area co-ordinator, assisted the club director Elizabeth Iheoma in giving out the various honours and awards for which the Eager Beavers, Adventurers and Pathfinders had worked hard.

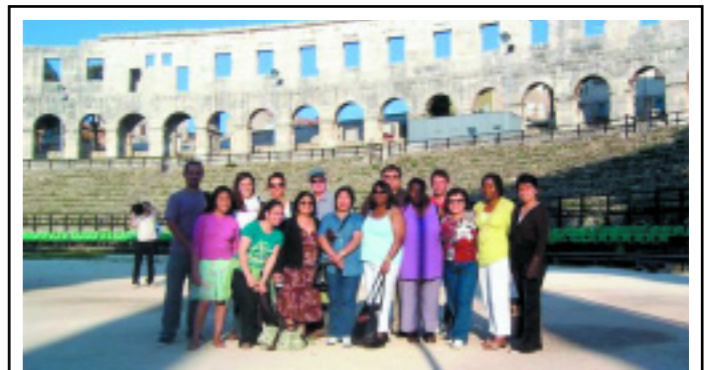
Pastor Thomas gave a thoughtful and interactive presentation that involved everyone (including the local church minister Pastor Malcolm Watson). The presentation encouraged the young people to make wise choices and to be faithful

modest start in February 2004 and, with the commitment of hard-working staff (Grace Walsh, Errol Tomlinson and Thandiwe Chilowa), and area co-ordinators Ken Burt (2004) and John Bishop (2005), the club has grown steadily over the last two years. Generous funding from external organisations and the local Adventist church has helped with resources and funding activities, which have included attendance at the BUC camporee in Northern Ireland, NEC camporee, annual NEC Pathfinder rally days, participation in community fund-raising events for hurricane disasters, carolling in care



to God. Sixteen-year-old Peter Nhera gave a moving testimony of how attending the NEC Pathfinder Camporee 2005 had helped him to decide to get baptised that year. We also had a drum corps team that added a prestigious flavour to the day. The drum corps team, who did a splendid job, consisted of Leon Fuller (Handsworth church), Anton Stewart, Aaron Stewart and Justin Bishop (Ladywood church).

Dudley Pathfinder Club had a



God's Kingdom knows no borders

This is exactly what Horley and Hackbridge church members rediscovered on their visit to Rijeka Adventist church in Croatia,

Between 21 and 26 September, Horley and Hackbridge enjoyed the hospitality of their brothers and sisters in Rijeka. The idea behind this project was to help Rijeka with their upcoming evangelistic programme and also to allow Hackbridge and Horley members to spend time together and deepen their relationships.

The extended weekend was packed with activities. After a good night's rest, Friday was spent sightseeing along the Adriatic coast and some mountain climbing. In the evenings Horley/Hackbridge members, together with their pastor, conducted a series of seminars under the title 'God – Invisible, absent or all present'. On Sabbath Horley/Hackbridge members had opportunity to take a part in the morning service and, among other things, they had a slide presentation about the God's work in the SEC. Rijeka members were inspired by church planting projects such as Lights Across London/Provinces and LIFEdevelopment.info.

Sunday was spent island-hopping and visiting a nearby ancient city of Pula with its fine Roman monuments such as a Coliseum and various temples, still intact, built in New Testament times, AD1.

PASTOR SINISHA HORVAT

Social Sciences Open Days at Newbold

Want to find out if you would like to do a Social Sciences degree at Newbold? Why not attend our open days on 27/28 March. To make appointment or for further information call Val Bernard, 01344-404-468.

homes and an educational visit to Stratford Butterfly Farm. The Club has grown so much that a separate Adventurer Club leader has had to be appointed. Dudley Pathfinder Club is now preparing to attend the TED camporee in Denmark this summer and looks forward to another exciting year of Pathfinding!

ELIZABETH IHEOMA

Choir witness in school

The Advent Singers, the church choir from Ipswich church, was asked to sing during assembly at a local primary school. It was the start of their 'Faith Week', a week when each day they were to examine the various faiths in England now.

The faith week at Claydon Primary School, in a village just outside Ipswich, was launched with 'Christianity' on 7 November. The Advent Singers were asked to sing three songs in the assembly, in front of the whole school, telling of God's love and the reason why they sing. The pupils sang enthusiastically for two of the songs and also participated in the actions that went with the words.

The songs were interspersed with a talk by Ben Wales, a youth worker from Ipswich-based Christian Youth Ministries (CYM) who talked with the children about God as Creator.

After assembly, the choir members were invited into one of the classrooms to share their faith and tell more about the Church to the children in year 6, and a further opportunity was given to sing songs where the children could participate.

PAUL KING

Ipswich choir: a new website

The Advent Singers have become the Ipswich Adventist Gospel Choir!

Based at the Adventist church in Rope Walk, Ipswich, the choir has been singing at community and church events in the area under the name 'The Advent Singers' for the past twenty years.

Following a fantastic year of performances, when the choir has sung to a high standard, it was felt that the new name would better reflect the church, its mission, and the make-up of the choir which sings a variety of gospel music from spirituals to classical.

This year they have performed at many community events including the Mayor's civic celebration, concerts, weddings and school assemblies, as well as church services. They also arranged a very successful concert at Ipswich school, raising money for the East Anglia's Children's Hospice. Choir leader Tricia Evelyn is proud of the choir's progress and hopes that the new name will better reflect everything the group represents.

A brand new website for the choir at www.ipswichadventistgospelchoir.org.uk has just been launched to enable people to keep in touch with upcoming events and provide further information about the choir.

PAUL KING

For the record

On Sabbath 28 January, at the Newport church, Sister Vera Machell was honoured for her long and tireless Christian service.

Pastor Cecil Perry, BUC president, assisted by Pastor Jan McKenzie, Newport's minister, made the presentation on behalf of the Newport church.

2006 is the first year that Vera has not held a church office, and on this occasion it was felt appropriate to recognise her work. Tribute was paid to Vera for having served for twenty-two years as church clerk in Newport and reputedly providing one of the best-kept records in the British Union.

Pathfinders, Sabbath School, Personal Ministries, Communications and Welfare have all had the benefit of Vera's leadership and encouragement. In a lifelong service to

humanity, with her husband Bill, she has also devoted much time and energy to the British Red Cross (life membership) and the work of the Salvation Army.

Vera always looks forward to Ingathering and, until recently, was able to collect large amounts for WWAM and then ADRA. She is also a member of the Newport Temperance Society and held the office of president for three consecutive years (the longest in their history).

Vera played down her achievements over the years and gave glory and thanks to God in allowing her to minister for him.

MARRICK SCHOONRAAD



Naaman the leprosy sufferer, and highlighted that sin is a spiritual leprosy that only the blood of Jesus can cleanse. As each candidate was immersed by Pastor R. McIntosh, families and friends gathered round to support them in their stand. At the end of this joyful service the candidates were charged to be faithful to the One they have chosen to follow, Jesus Christ, and they were reminded that they are now members of a world-wide church community.

Rachel, Claudia, Amelia and Adrian will be fellowshipping at Handsworth; Houston will be worshipping at Newtown; and Mithandazo will be attending African Fellowship. Please uplift them daily in your prayers as they continue in their walk with Jesus.

NATASHA GUNTER, Associate pastor

Let's make a difference

October was 'Let's make a difference' month, and the Tottenham West Green Road Community Ministries, with the support of other departments, decided to host an outreach programme at Broadwater Farm on Sabbath 29 October.

The residents of Broadwater Farm and members of the local community were invited to a free Gospel concert, compered by Devon Boyd. The programme was well received by those in attendance as they were entertained by high-quality singing and poetry from the Tottenham West Green Road Chorale, Sean Mitchell, Alan Charles, Damian Patterson, Michelle Boyd, the Wood Green Children's Choir, Kevin McLaughlin and others. Pastor Nick Butoi gave a short presentation about the inclusive Christ who would be returning one day for his people.

The Lord was guiding proceedings in a special way, although at the time we did not realise it. An intermission, which was planned in order to give us an opportunity to meet people, was announced and then cancelled at the last minute. As soon as the programme ended and we started to eat and meet those present, ear-piercing music started playing from the adjoining hall. If the intermission had gone ahead as planned, the rest of the programme would have had to be abandoned because there was no way we could have competed with the music next door. The Lord once again came to the rescue of his peo-

ple and defeated the devil's plan. Instead of disarray at the end, we had a wonderful time making acquaintances and sharing our books and food.

David Singh, community worker at Broadwater Farm for over twenty years, and his wife were present, and she commented, 'I hope this is not a one-off but the start of many more events in the future.' By God's grace Tottenham Adventist church hopes to make its presence known on Broadwater Farm Estate.

MAXINE DONOVAN

Grosvenor goes for gold

November 19 was Youth Day at Handsworth. It attracted youth from all the surrounding areas and, with the theme of purity in mind, the youth led out throughout the day. The Sabbath school lesson was an eye-opening eclectic discussion about the Church's position on abortion and what Christians should do in certain situations that would test them.

The divine service was creative, well presented, and holy. Sixteen-year-old Laurant Grosvenor from Manchester delivered the message. He reminded the church of a young Jesus in the temple who opened the Scriptures with maturity among the Scribes and Pharisees. Grosvenor preached like a man well above his years. He chose Mark 2:13-17 as his focus and gave the youth and all present hope in the message that Jesus mingled with the undesirables of the time, such as thieves and tax collectors; he mingled with sinners and understood them on their level, and so he will mingle with you; Jesus said to good and bad people, 'Follow me'; he is always prepared for you, so be prepared for him. Grosvenor also reminded us that we should endeavour to have our names in the book of life, not just on the church records.

NOVA BANTON

Tottenham participates in Haringey Faith Forum

Tottenham West Green Road church participated in the Haringey Faith Forum exhibition on 13 and 14 September. The exhibition, which was held at the Wood Green Library, was organised by the Haringey Peace Alliance as part of the celebrations of the Week of Peace, 11-

Leicester Central reaches out

Two new believers were added to Leicester Central church's congregation after a fortnight-long evangelistic outreach.

Tavonga Chikwenhere, 21, and Marilyn Zviuyo gave their profession of faith as Adventist Christians at the end of the evening seminars, revealing the essentials required for a relationship with Jesus delivered by London-based minister Dr Richard De Lisser. Both the new Christians were delighted with the prospect of being a part of the 250-strong church.

Zimbabwean accounting and finance student Tavonga said, 'I'm very glad. I'm thankful for the people who witnessed to me; Khaya, in particular, how he handled himself. I met him outside church in a group, yet he still managed to act differently from the others.'

Tav, as he is known to his friends, was encouraged to go to the Adventist stand at the Fresher Fair by an Adventist lecturer at the De Montford University. At the stand he was invited along to church and later received Bible studies. His spiritual ambition now is 'to be a light to other people my age'.

The campaign, which concluded on 15 October with the baptism of the new converts, attracted over fifty unchurched people, some of whom revealed troubled lives.

'Pradeep', whose roots hail from south-east Asia, was invited by church-going teenager Dexter Jordan, 18, after meeting him in the city centre one evening. 'He was so positive and smiling that we decided to come here instead of elsewhere,' admits 'Pradeep', who attended with his toddler daughter and girlfriend. He revealed that his father died of alcoholism, that he has a non-English-speaking Christian mother, and that he has had brushes with the law that have estranged him from the rest of his family. 'I wish I could get it together. I need something like this. My mother tried to explain Jesus but she can only speak Punjabi,' he says.

That night 'Pradeep' and his family went to the altar with prayers that he might one day come to know Jesus personally.

Leicester Adventist church continues to spread the news of Jesus in the most culturally diverse city in Britain, with more campaigns planned for this year.

W. GEORGIA DACRES

Baptism at High Wycombe, Micklefield

The culmination of eight months' intensive Bible study led to a celebration in the Micklefield church, High Wycombe, on 14 January.

George Aird, surrounded by his family and church members, made a public commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ through baptism.

Having attended church for some two years and been inspired by the district-wide Hope for Today campaign held in September 2005, George decided to make his profession of faith.

The ceremony was conducted by Pastor Michael Anim and, after making a stirring appeal, other members of the congregation indicated that they too would like to devote their lives to God.

Exciting times are ahead for Micklefield church, which is already planning future baptisms.

LEN WILLIAMS



Wash and Be Clean

'Wash and Be Clean' was the title of the message for the baptismal service held at Handsworth church on 26 November when six candidates made their stand for the Lord.

From the youngest to the more mature, each one answered affirmatively in response to the baptismal vows. The guest speaker, Pastor Samuel Appiah, presented to us



One of the baptismal candidates with Pastor McIntosh and head elder L. Fiellateau

Volunteers needed. Are you passionate about working with children? Can you inspire? Do you like a challenge? If the answer is yes, then we need you. An exciting venture needs volunteers to work with children during school holidays. There are no financial rewards. However, the reward is having a positive impact on the lives of the children you will work with.

It's that time of the year again - school holidays. Need a place for your children? Then look no further. Places are available at our Play Scheme for Easter (3-14 April). Please contact Barbara Robinson-Perry on 07952 632436 for application and further details.

LEWISHAM COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

Bristol Central: A 50th Anniversary – and two offspring!

On 10 September 2005 Bristol Central church celebrated its 50th anniversary. Ministers came from far and near, together with members past and present. The church looked resplendent, having been recently decorated and the old pews replaced by new comfortable chairs, complementing the new carpet.

Members of Bristol Central used to worship less than a mile from the church's present location. Worshipping in a very poor building, the members made a decision to move to a place that would allow for growth and better meet the needs of the congregation. Much of Bristol had been destroyed during World War II and land was difficult to obtain. However, with the help of a dedicated member and builder, Mr Miller, a site was found. For a sum of £400 the land, where two houses previously stood before the bombing, was purchased. It was dedicated on 2 July 1955 and was the second of two churches built in Bristol in two years.

The day began with a special Sabbath school which had as its focus Marge and Arthur King who were members at the time of the dedication of the church. They had been baptised in 1942 as a result of attending meetings held by Pastor O. M. Dorland, after finding a leaflet through their door asking the question, 'Are the angels spirits of the dead?' Fascinated by the title, they attended the meetings and in due time, after studies with Miss Guntrip a dedicated Bible worker who braved air raids to get to their home, they joined the church. Brother and Sister King said that they never

thought they would still be here fifty years later because they believed Jesus would have come long ago.

Members from Malawi, Jamaica, Slovakia and India who have joined us over many decades shared their impressions of Bristol Central. Video greetings from the General Conference were shown, including many messages from around the world. The sermon was very inspirational and brought to us by SEC president Pastor Don McFarlane.

Everyone was invited to a wonderful lunch. African, Asian, West Indian, English and European dishes provided a delicious vegetarian feast. A wonderful celebration cake was made by Yvonne Gordon, one of the members, and was cut by the oldest couple present, Marge and Arthur King.

The afternoon programme was presented by Pastors Richard Daly and Dalbert Elias, together with church elder Brenda Sabadin. Audio and video messages came from many pastors and elders who could not make it on the day. One, from New Zealand, came from Pastor Mel Trevena who had been an intern in Bristol in the 1970s. The church heard stories about ministers who were conscientious objectors and refused to take up arms in World War II. There was also much laughter as the church members were taken down memory lane.

Pastor Alan Hodges, the present BUC Ministerial secretary, who had been a child at Bristol Central, shared stories of his childhood and teenage years prior to going to Newbold College.

Pastor Michael Taylor shared his recollection of the biggest ever campaign to be held in Bristol. It was conducted by Pastor J. F. Coltheart, an Australian, and a team of ministers in 1968. Hundreds of eager souls flocked to the Colston Hall (the biggest hall in Bristol) to hear the good news. So many that there had to be three sittings! At the end of the campaign, approximately fifty new members were baptised.

Pastor Dalbert Elias (director of the Discovery Bible School) shared his memories of fund-raising cycle rides and fancy-dress parties and a large campaign held at the main railway station called The Gospel Express. Pastor Ron Edwards who ministered at Central prior to Pastor Daly, shared his thoughts of his time in Bristol.

In the last five years Bristol Central really has become truly international, growing from just a few nationalities to about twenty-two. People have come from all over the world to worship with us, from places as diverse as Africa, the West Indies, America, Australia and Slovakia. We welcome our brothers and sisters into God's family, and each year we celebrate our cultural diversity by holding International Weekends.

2003 was important in the life of Bristol Central, when we 'gave birth' to the North Bristol church, the first new church in Bristol for decades. Although we said goodbye to many valuable members, God has blessed us and multiplied our numbers.

By the grace of God we are still growing, going from strength to strength, and on 14 January we were delighted to report that a new group (South Bristol) will be meeting in the south of the city. As you can see, God has truly been with our church, and it gives us great hope for the future as we seek to hasten Christ's second coming, and prepare ourselves to be ready for him.

BRENDA SABADIN, IAN SABADIN and MILES CHAMBERS

Service of unity

Over the past few years our pastor, Melvin Ellis, has been meeting with the various ministers of the local churches in Sutton in Ashfield. It was decided that each church would host a Service of Unity.

On 22 January the Anglican Church of St Mary was to host the evening. Not only did they ask for an item from each church, but also asked us to bring something to put on a table that represented our beliefs. What an opportunity! We decided to have the Sabbath, the Sanctuary and the Health Message. These were represented by books, drawings and health foods.

The evening commenced with the Revd Tony Evans, Vicar of St Mary's, giving a warm welcome to all of us. Our singing group then gave a beautiful rendition of 'Learning to Lean', which received many words of praise.

After the service we were invited to a buffet meal. It was indeed a wonderful communal feast, allowing us to intermingle with our Christian brothers and sisters. But it was not until we were packing away the sanctuary items that we had several enquiries about it. We wasted no time in explaining it to them. All in all, it was a lovely evening spent with lovely people. We look forward to the next one so that, hopefully, we can spread a little more of our message.

MORAY STEWART

Crieff Pathfinders

Pastor Bob Rodd, a former Pathfinder director of the North British Conference, was glad to come 'out of retirement' for this special event even though he found his uniform had become a little tight in the intervening years and a different pair of trousers had to be worn! The Pathfinders sat around their

imitation log fire in front of the church and were asked by Grant Walker, one of their leaders, what they liked about their club and what had been special that year. It seemed that the majority liked the weekend camp the best, in spite of the cold nights.

After the presentation of certificates, the service continued with the baptism of Yvonne Bauwens, who is also part of the Logan family clan. Yvonne made her decision to be baptised at a youth weekend, and since then has had studies with Pastor Rodd. She is a very talented musician, and readers of MESSENGER

may remember the article, some months ago, giving an account of her playing the piano in the grand lounge of the Queen Mary 2. She also made a

CD and managed to raise over £1,000 to help fund her brother David's trip with other young people from the Scottish Mission to Romania to help rebuild two houses.

Yvonne had not been too well, and there was some anxiety as to how she would stand up to such an exciting and emotional day, but prayers were answered and she was able to enjoy her special day to the full. The church members were delighted to welcome her as their newest member, and they cherish her lovely Christian character and musical gifts.

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT



GENEVIEVE MARCELLA GUENIN (1913-2005). Genevieve was born in La Chaux-de-Fonds in the watchmaking region of Northern Switzerland, a child of the Heuganin family. There she grew up until in 1922 a slump in the watchmaking industry caused their move to London. There they attended the church group meeting in the Addison Hall in Finsbury Park. The grandparents had attended the first Adventist church to be organised in Europe, and had been among the first to be baptised in this church in Tremelin, Switzerland. When the Holloway church was built in 1927 the family became members there. In 1929 Pastor Roy Allan Anderson began his successful evangelistic meetings in Wood Green, and Genevieve was actively involved as a young helper and in the choir. She was the first candidate to be baptised by Pastor Anderson following the campaign. She said it was 'a time of great joy to be involved in this programme of evangelism and the baptism which followed'. Genevieve met Marcel Guenin in London and they married in the Holloway church in 1938. They were bombed out of their first home during the London Blitz, and later settled in Southgate where they lived together until the last years of illness. They came to Stanborough Park as a family in the 1970s and held a number of church offices, but the Sabbath School was always Genevieve's great joy. She was superintendent and class teacher in adult and children's departments until she suffered a stroke in 2002. The funeral service was held in the Stanborough Park church on 10 November and was conducted by the writer. Special music was played by the Ahn sisters on violin and piano, and David Cooper played the trumpet, 'The Trumpet Shall Sound' from *Messiah*, accompanied by Brian Cambridge at the organ. We extend our heartfelt condolences to Marcel and to sons Roland and Louis and their families. Genevieve, a mother in Israel, lived a life of faith and absolute trust in her Saviour, who at his coming will give new life to all who sleep in Jesus. She rests now in the North Watford cemetery. 'Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord. They rest from their labours and their works do follow them.'

A. R. RODD

school superintendent when he became the minister there eighteen years ago and will always remember her faithfulness, cheerfulness and willingness to help. Pastor Edwards summed her up as one who will be remembered for being humble, caring, reliable, honest, faithful, conscientious, humorous and cheerful. The Crieff members will certainly miss her, and confirm that this description is a true one.

A. R. RODD

MAURICE WALTER BROOKS (1951-2006) d. 2 January. It is with great sadness that we report the death of Maurice Walter Brooks. He was born on 10 February 1951 in Dublin, and spent his early childhood in Ireland. He was an only child, born to Walter and Betty Brooks. When he was 11 his mother, a recent convert to Adventism, decided to make an application for Maurice to attend Stanborough School. Maurice was accepted. He always looked back fondly at his boarding school years and said that they were some of the best days of his life. There he made many friends. After he graduated from Stanborough School, Maurice's work for Dave Balderstone as a landscape gardener gave him green fingers – and a keen eye for dahlias. Next he tried his hand at student-teaching in Bushey, where he found his life-long vocation. After taking a brief time out at Newbold College, he went on to Trent Park Teachers' Training College where he qualified as a teacher. From there his first job was at Stanborough Primary School. Soon after, Maurice was invited to take up a teaching position at Fletewood School in Plymouth. During his time there, his wife Frances gave birth to their first son Jeremy. Luke and Ashley were born a few years later in Watford. Plymouth was very short-lived and Maurice returned to Stanborough, this time to the secondary school. There he taught history and PE – the two subjects he loved most. Seventeen years ago Maurice moved to Bracknell to take the position of head teacher at Newbold School. He felt very privileged to work with the dedicated staff. He loved working there – so much so that every spare moment he had during the holidays he would pop in to see how things were, even if nothing was going on. He loved the school, the staff and, of course, the children. Maurice was a keen reader and used to devour books by the day. He was especially interested in the Arthurian legends. A very humble man who went about his business without seeking personal gain or glorification, he worked diligently, hoping that he could enable the school to reach its full potential. Maurice was a wonderful and loving husband, father and teacher. His family, friends and colleagues miss him terribly. The funeral service was conducted on 10 January by the writer at Newbold church which was filled to capacity. The hope of the resurrection was a very strong theme throughout the service. *"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will never die."* John 11:25.

PATRICK JOHNSON

LEONARD WESLEY HARVEY (1938-2006) d. 5 January. Wes Harvey has been one of the outstanding lay leaders and soul winners of the North Conference in the last half century. He was born in Jamaica and, though he moved to Wolverhampton at 20, he retained a great love for his native island and, with his wife Nerissa, had planned to retire there. Wesley's mother became a Seventh-day Adventist during his infancy and he took an active part in church activities during his childhood and youth. He was baptised at Wolverhampton Oxford Street church by Pastor John Freeman in 1971 following an evangelistic campaign. In addition to working

as a literature-evangelist, Brother Harvey was, at various times, a metal worker and master baker. Brother Harvey believed that God had called him and that the purpose of his call was soul-winning. He conducted lay evangelistic campaigns in Nuneaton, Burton-on-Trent and Wednesfield. At any given time he was giving Bible studies to a number of interests. In one year thirty-two of his interests were baptised. At his funeral Pastor Roy Morgan stated, 'A great light has gone out in this conference.' An upright and gracious man, Brother Harvey expected others to be upright and gracious, too. There were some things which were for him non-negotiable. He provided strong leadership to the Wednesfield congregation and had a vast knowledge of Scripture. Many hundreds of people were present for his funeral service on 19 January. Among them were many pastors and church leaders from the British Union and NEC. Pastors Egerton Francis, Richard Jackson and Richard Brooks conducted the service. Delroy Harvey gave a moving eulogy of his father and there were sixteen tributes. Pastor Brooks conducted the committal service. Nerissa and Wesley have given generous and warm hospitality to many at their Wednesfield home. When Wesley was diagnosed with his final illness that home was for sale and a splendid dwelling-place purchased in Jamaica. We take comfort in the hope that God has prepared even better homes in Heaven and the New Earth. Wesley is survived by his loving wife Nerissa and children Beverley, Winston, Patricia, Delroy and Neil. He has finished his course and kept the faith. Indeed, he has blazed a trail for that faith. He now awaits, in sleep, his eternal paradise home.

DAVID MARSHALL

Mrs Nerissa Harvey and the family wish to thank everyone who gave support by phoning, writing, sending flowers, contributing to ADRA-UK, attending the funeral and by their prayers. Please continue your prayer support of Sister Harvey.

EDITOR

MAUREEN CUTHELL (1935-2006) – d. 16 January. Maureen Simpson was born on 8 October 1935 in Sheffield to Hilda and Harry Simpson, the youngest of their three children. She was a gifted child and at 11 won a scholarship to the Sheffield High School for Girls, where she excelled as a pupil, although known on occasion to play truant to go and watch the Yorkshire County cricket team play. In 1953-4, when she was 18, Pastor Kenneth Elias and his evangelistic team held a campaign in the Sheffield city hall, and Maureen was baptised into the Adventist Church. No doubt she was attracted by the message, but there was another attraction. On the team was a young Scottish minister, just out of Newbold College, called James Cuthell. At the age of 21, Maureen could echo the closing words of *Jane Eyre*, 'Reader, I married him.' She was the first wedding in the Carter Knowle church in Sheffield. She had already attended teacher training college in Leeds, and for the rest of her life, was a minister's wife and for a substantial part of it a primary school teacher also. After Sheffield they moved to Leicester and then to Handsworth, where Maureen taught in a school in the Lozells area. There, one child asked her if she had a family, and another interposed, 'We are her family.' There were thirty of them, but his remark exemplified the close rapport Maureen had with her pupils. The Halifax district and then Coventry came next, after which James was posted to Glasgow to assist in the Kenneth Lacey campaign there. Still in Scotland, Dundee and Aberdeen were next on their itinerary and it was in the latter city that their daughter Helen was born. From Aberdeen, the family made what is almost the longest geographical transfer in British

Adventism – to Plymouth. Half a dozen London churches followed and, while there, Maureen took up her longest teaching appointment – twenty years at the Glebe School, Harrow. When they transferred to Oxford (James's last pastorate) the school was reluctant to lose her so she commuted by car five days a week to continue teaching there. In case of emergencies on the road, she equipped herself with a mobile phone, one of the earliest possessors of that device. Even while still teaching and when she might justifiably have wished to rest after her long weekday journeys, her hospitality knew no bounds. It was said that if one wished to find a large part of the membership of the Oxford church and visitors also early on Sabbath afternoon, one had only to go to Meadway, Kidlington. Half of them would be at Peggy Vine's at number 15, and the other half at the Cuthells' at number 19! There was plenty of good food and a like measure of good conversation too, for Maureen was an accomplished raconteur with an acute sense of humour. Three years ago, she was diagnosed with cancer, and there began a long drawn-out and courageous fight against that disease. The respect, admiration and love in which Maureen was held was demonstrated by the huge attendance at the Oxford crematorium on 26 January for the funeral service conducted by Pastors David Spearing and Paul Smith. Pastor Spearing quoted these words from a book which Maureen treasured, 'I only ask that... someone might be walking on a different path because of something I have done. And not just a different path, but a higher one.'

DENNIS PORTER

James and Helen wish to express their sincere thanks for all the kind messages they have received and for the many donations in memory of Maureen.

Bedwell Community Centre
Stevenage

ORIGINS:
DELIBERATE OR ACCIDENT?
SIX EASY TO UNDERSTAND SEMINARS
PRESENTED BY PIPER LEE ORRIDGE, CHRISTOPHER ANDERSON AND DEAN ALBERT A. WHITE
DEAN ALBERT A. WHITE
BOOKS SATURDAY 4TH MARCH 2006 AT 8:30PM

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SCHEDULE
Origins is a series of six seminars, each of one hour duration, presented by three speakers. The speakers are: Piper Lee Orridge, Christopher Anderson and Dean Albert A. White. The seminars are: 1. The Origins of the Universe, 2. The Origins of Life, 3. The Origins of Man, 4. The Origins of the Church, 5. The Origins of the Sabbath, 6. The Origins of the Bible. The seminars are presented in the order listed above. The seminars are presented in the order listed above.

FREE ENTRY - FREE SEMINARS

Religious Hatred Bill made Law

by Sharon Platt-McDonald

January 31st 2006 saw the proposed contentious Religious Hatred Bill become law. With it came the two key amendments that the House of Lords had drafted to preserve mainstream religious activities like evangelism and give some measure of protection for free speech. The changes to the Bill were introduced to soften the elements which might have restricted religious liberty and freedom of speech.

In two shock defeats for the Government, they failed to overturn the Lords' key amendments to the Bill. In the first vote the results were 288 in favour of the amendments and 278 against. In the second vote it was 283 in favour and 282 against. The passing of the Bill with its amendments is being hailed as a victory. This means that Christians still have the right to proclaim the Gospel without fear of reprisals.

In the three months leading up to the passing of the Bill over 35,000 Britons contacted their local MPs to register their objections to the Bill as it stood then. Among the objectors was the Chief Executive of Premier (radio) Media Group, Revd Peter Kerridge, who wrote directly to the

Prime Minister. In his letter he highlighted concerns about the Bill presenting a barrier to open communication on religious issues and endangering an individual's right to freedom of speech. He further stated: *'We have further concerns that due to the broad and confusing wording used in the Bill, it could potentially be misused. If applied with the wrong motives, the Racial and Religious Hatred Bill could undermine civil liberties in a democratic society; it could also stop Christians legitimately proclaiming their faith and expressing accepted Christian teachings.'*

Thankfully, with these fears seemingly behind us, we enter a new chapter in the course of Christian and political history, rejoicing that the Gospel mandate to 'go tell' will still be a reality; at least for now.

However, there is still a measure of caution. How far does one go in respect of free speech? In the wake of the worldwide outrage that has resulted from the publication of cartoons in a Danish newspaper featuring the Prophet Mohammed

many world leaders have condemned the caricatures as 'offensive to the beliefs of Muslims'.

In the furore of demonstrations, torching of buildings and death of innocent victims; and amid the resulting lawsuits and peace talks, comes the debate about freedom of speech as it relates to religion. Foreign Secretary Jack Straw launched a fierce attack on the decision by some media outlet to publish the cartoons. He states: 'There is freedom of speech – we all respect that – but there is not any obligation to insult or be gratuitously inflammatory.'

The Muslim Association of Britain in its press release on 3 February, responding to the cartoon stated: 'Such cartoons cause considerable offence... and therefore go beyond the realms of freedom of expression, to an act of incitement of religious hatred.'

For this reason the British press acted with caution against the publication of these images in its main UK publications. There is wide anxiety to bridge the chasm which has

opened up between the West and Islam as a result of this incident.

The Religious Hatred Bill in its amended version still spells caution for those who would speak out *intentionally* against the religious beliefs of other faiths. Threatening language and behaviour will be outlawed, but not words that are critical, insulting and abusive. In this final version of the law, individuals can only be found guilty if it becomes evident that they *intended* to stir up hatred.

In the present political climate Adventist believers are beginning to voice questions about how we present Revelation 13 and 17 in our public campaigns. The age-old advice to 'say it kindly' mirrors Ellen White's directive to speak the truth 'in love'. If we do our part to present in a Christlike manner the whole Gospel to the whole community, God will do his part in preserving his Truth until, as Revelation 11:15 declares, 'The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord, . . . and he will reign for ever and ever.'" (NIV.)

Balham History

Calling all who attended the Balham Adventist church, including those from other churches, in and after 1969, and who were part of its subsequent history! You are invited to a grand weekend reunion in Summer 2007. Just contact Joan Fuller, aldeanjuanita@hotmail.com, or telephone 01604 511242, soon.

ABC BOOK SALES

March

5 John Loughborough 10am-2pm
12 Manchester South 10am-1pm
26 West Midlands 10am-2pm

April

2 John Loughborough 10am-2pm

Messenger

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Sunset

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

	Lond	Card	Nott	Edin	Belf
Mar 3	5.44	5.56	5.47	5.51	6.04
10	5.56	6.09	5.59	6.06	6.17
17	6.08	6.21	6.12	6.20	6.31
24	6.20	6.32	6.25	6.34	6.45

MESSENGER SUBSCRIPTIONS

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS 2006

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST TRUST COMPANY LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that the twenty-fourth Annual General Meeting of the Seventh-day Adventist Trust Company Limited will be held on Thursday 22 June 2006 at 2pm in the Board Room of the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.
On behalf of the Board of Directors

M. K. Taylor (Secretary)

GOOD HEALTH ASSOCIATION LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that the hundred and third Annual General Meeting of the Good Health Association Limited will be held on Thursday 22 June 2006 at 2.10pm in the Board Room of the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.
On behalf of the Board of Directors

G. M. Bell (Secretary)

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST ASSOCIATION LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that the hundred and first Annual General Meeting of the Seventh-day Adventist Association Limited will be held on Thursday 22 June 2006 at 2.20pm in the Board Room of the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.
On behalf of the Board of Directors

M. K. Taylor (Secretary)

GOOD HEALTH ASSOCIATION (SCOTLAND) LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that the thirty-ninth Annual General Meeting of the Good Health Association (Scotland) Limited will be held on Thursday 22 June 2006 at 2.35pm in the Board Room of the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.
On behalf of the Board of Directors

G. M. Bell (Secretary)

ADRA-UK

Notice is hereby given that the eighth Annual General Meeting of ADRA-UK will be held on Thursday 22 June 2006 at 2.50pm in the Board Room of the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.
On behalf of the Board of Directors

B. Smit (Secretary)

THE STANBOROUGH PRESS LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that the hundred and twelfth Annual General Meeting of the Stanborough Press Limited will be held on Thursday 22 June 2006 at 3pm in the Board Room of the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.
On behalf of the Board of Directors

P. Hammond (Secretary)

Job opportunity – secretary to Communication director

The Trans-European Division is seeking an office secretary to the Communication director at the international headquarters of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, which covers the territories of Northern Europe, the Middle East, Pakistan and part of Africa. This is a full-time position in a busy and demanding department.

The job description includes, but is not limited to, editorial work, research work in connection with the production of material by the department, editing and publication of an electronic newsletter, the updating of the web page, assistance in pre-production work and publishing design as well as general secretarial responsibilities.

Professional qualifications required are secretarial training and experience, advanced use of Microsoft Office, Adobe Photoshop, HTML, Excel and Access programmes.

The successful applicant will be energetic and efficient, have good organisational skills, strong communication skills, good writing and editorial skills and be able to manage and organise documents for publication and news release. Furthermore, he/she will have loyalty and commitment to the ideals of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and to working harmoniously with others in a multi-cultural setting.

Salary and benefits are according to the Trans-European Division

Remuneration Scale. Details available upon application.

A letter of application together with current CV and names and contact details of at least two referees should be submitted by 17 March to Harald Wollan, Executive Secretary, Trans-European Division of SDA, 119 St Peter's Street, St Albans, Herts, AL1 3EY.
E-mail: hwollan@ted-adventist.org

British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Quinquennial Session

Notice is hereby given that a Quinquennial Session of the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held from Wednesday 26 July through to Sunday 30 July 2006 at Central Hall, York University.

Delegates should note that registration will commence at 10.30am on Wednesday 26 July. The opening of the Session is scheduled for 3pm.

Delegates are required to have registered prior to the commencement in order to participate in choosing members of the Recommendation Committee.

C. R. Parry, President
E. C. Lowe, Executive Secretary