

Festival of the Laity a 'splendid success'

As told to Catherine Anthony Boldeau

A hundred and ten delegates, both laity and clergy, attended the South England Conference Festival of the Laity at Hotel Splendid in Montenegro, Sunday 29 October to Sunday 5 November. The brainchild of Personal Ministries director Dr Richard de Lisser, the project was organised in partnership with the Ministerial Association and Church Growth departments as part of the SEC's ongoing evangelistic initiative, 'Tell Southern England'.

The teaching at the Festival encouraged those who attended to witness, and provided them with tried and tested evangelistic techniques. They also learned of the religious and societal trends and faith traditions that they may encounter.

The Festival opened with remarks from Pastors Walters, de Lisser and Miodrag Zivanovic, president of the South East

European Union, responsible for the church in Serbia and Montenegro. The keynote speaker was Dr Bertil Wiklander, president of the Trans-European Division. Dr Wiklander told his audience that they need a connection with Jesus Christ to enable them to 'Go'. He spoke of changes taking place in the mindset of individuals who are lost and who think differently today, while emphasising that God's truth does not change. Dr Wiklander emphasised the promise in Isaiah 41:10: 'Fear thou not; for I am with thee', encouraging members to go out and do God's work, wherever they are sent.

One of the successes of the Festival was the calibre of the

plenary and seminar presenters. The three guest speakers were Dr Peter Prime, Associate secretary of the General Conference Ministerial Association with responsibility for evangelism and church growth, Dr Derek Morris, Senior pastor of the Forest Lake church in Florida and adjunct Professor of Preaching at Southern Adventist University, and Mrs Ruthie Jacobson, Prayer Ministries co-ordinator for the North American Division.

In his lectures, Dr Prime challenged the delegates to be effective witnesses, but he emphasised that this can only happen if your life is in line with Jesus Christ. The mechanics of preaching was the dominant

theme of Dr Morris's presentations, while Mrs Jacobson not only spoke on her favourite subject, prayer, but led out in some of the prayer sessions during the week.

Our seminar lecturers were also experts in their fields. Pastor Richard Elofer, president of the Church in Israel and director of the General Conference World

Jewish Friendship Centre, spoke on how to minister and witness to Jews. In contrast, Pastor Petras Bahadur, co-ordinator for Adventist-Muslim relations, gave practical insight and instruction on how to connect with the Muslim community.

Many of the SEC department directors also gave presentations or

led out in worship during the week and were joined at the weekend by Pastor Don McFarlane, president of the British Union Conference, and Pastor Paul Clee, Personal Ministries, Sabbath School and Health director of the Trans-European Division.

Members from Montenegro joined the festival during the weekend, with the Adventist choir from Zelenika providing a musical introduction to the Sabbath, and some 120 members from the Podorica, Zelenika, Niksi and Bar churches attending the Sabbath morning worship.

Local media picked up on the success of the festival, which led to Dr de Lisser's being interviewed and broadcast twice on the television. Speaking to BUC News as he landed in England, he said, 'It was good to see our members so excited to "go" and fulfil the Gospel Commission.'



Pastor Humphrey Walters

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Annual Appeal Report 2006

ADRA-UK is extremely grateful to report that the total amount raised during the 2006 Annual Appeal has seen a good increase over 2005. The details are as follows:

Proceeds from collectors:	2005	2006
Donations sent to Office	4,458.25	1,018.90
South England	317,863.65	334,440.68
North England	213,925.92	204,868.87
Wales	13,933.30	15,016.87
Scotland	7,848.03	10,112.10
Northern Ireland	14,824.15	15,229.83
	572,853.30	580,687.25

We want to thank all those who have worked hard to accomplish this great result. Your efforts will help ADRA to continue its work to make a significant difference in the lives of some of the poorest people in the world.

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency is a humanitarian organisation providing assistance without regard to ethnic, political or religious association.

ADRA Needs *Your* Help

by David Balderstone

Jengre Hospital in Northern Nigeria is a small hospital established many years ago by the Adventist church. Doctors and nurses from the UK have served at the hospital in the past, but the hospital is now in urgent need of refurbishment and needs to replace its ageing equipment. ADRA-UK, together with its local partner ADRA-Nigeria, is looking at assisting the hospital by sending a container packed with appropriate equipment.

We need your help! Can you help us locate the following items: hydraulic hospital beds, an ultra-sound machine, an x-ray machine, sheets, blankets, pillow cases, baby incubators, sterilisation equipment, etc? All equipment needs to be in good working condition.

You can also donate funds to help us cover the cost of sending the container. Please send donations to our office (Stanborough Park, Watford, WD25 9JZ) or donate on-line at www.adra.org.uk.

If you can help, please notify us by phone immediately: 01923 681723. Alternatively, send an email to info@adra.org.uk.



Thank you, Pastor Willis

Every issue of MESSENGER since 13 April 2001 has contained one of R. J. B. Willis's good-humoured, topical 'epistles' under the heading 'Healthwise'. Below is Richard's characteristically humorous sign-off as he moves a few yards down the corridor to the VOP/ADC.

On behalf of his many enthusiastic and appreciative readers, I should like to thank Pastor Willis for his well-written, witty, informative and helpful pieces. On behalf of myself and Gloria, I should like to congratulate him on never having missed a deadline (and never having had to be reminded)! From time to time there have been last-minute adjustments of the schedule which have brought copy dates forward. Pastor Willis has invariably emailed a new piece within the hour!

In addition to his MESSENGER column, Pastor Willis has been a regular contributor to FOCUS and has published many books, mostly with The Stanborough Press/Autumn House. The Focus articles will continue, and there are more books in the pipeline. However, from our New Year issue 2007, this column will be written by Sharon Platt-McDonald, the new BUC Health Ministries director, who is well known to Focus readers.

EDITOR

Healthwise

Long in the tooth!

There is in Bid, India, a miniature shrine containing all the architectural features of a normal-size Muslim place of pilgrimage. Too small to enter, it contains a tooth extracted from Muhammad Shah (1336-37), a former ruler of India.

There is nothing worse than a toothache that will not go away. Likewise, I have been reliably informed that I have been around too long, and that the long-suffering saints need a change, so, like Muhammad's tooth, I have been removed. I can feel your relief already!

The removal brings to an end a six-year working partnership with Mrs Dawn Tompkins, who is also being redeployed. She has had the dubious opportunity of delving into the recesses of my mind – *terra incognita* (there be dragons there!), and has survived the adventure. I thank her wholeheartedly for her support and professionalism through those productive years.

My thanks also to Gloria Mallinson and Dr David Marshall at the Stanborough Press for the smooth transmissions of the 'epistles' and my FOCUS articles. I am reminded of the words of A. E. Housman:

'That is the land of lost content,
I see it shining plain,
The happy highways where I went
And cannot come again.'

I have tried through these MESSENGER articles to show that health is so much wider a topic than we think traditionally, and that healthy living can be fun! I have appreciated the feedback from your letters (and from readers around the world) and your comments as I have met you in your churches. Thank you for reading the articles and for inspiring me.

Like Muhammad's tooth, my pen and right arm have been removed and placed in a reliquary at the BUC

where I am assured they will be brought out and waved excitedly on High Days and Holy Days.

The doctor checked my ink levels recently and it appears there is enough for a few more books and articles running in my veins.

So until then, *adios!* Life is too serious a business to be taken too seriously, so make laughter your best medicine for the new year, along with healthy living, of course.

with Richard J. B. Willis



IstockPhoto/deadandliving



'Twas the night before Christmas

David Marshall

That Christmas Eve the shops were still open at 5.30pm and, not too long before the tills stopped ringing, I joined the queue at WHSmiths.

Ahead, at the checkout, the assistant looked exhausted; but still managed to be courteous to every customer.

Progress was slow. That enabled me to strike up a conversation with the elderly lady who was in front of me. She told me that it was many years since she had taken on the frenzy of the High Street but that she wanted to buy one last card. She showed it to me. It was, we agreed, very special. When she arrived at the till, she presented the card and envelope to the courteous till lady who, despite the fact that two security men had locked the shop doors some minutes before and were holding a final door open and looking meaningfully in our direction, beamed warmly at the old lady.

Encouraged, the dear soul, after fumbling in her handbag for a mega purse, proceeded to count out the change ever so slowly. Having completed the transaction, she responded to the assistant's dismissive, 'Have a *really* happy Christmas' by showing her an old photograph and introducing the grinning man in it as 'my Reg who I lost in 69'.

She was May, she explained. Then she said, without conviction, 'I'm looking forward to all the good telly over Christmas.'

By that time the young people behind me in the queue had given up, set down their purchases and walked out through the door. The security men proceeded to lock it behind them. The other till was silent. The counter assistants had melted away. The lights in the store were going out section by section. Just before they did I noticed

that 'SALE' signs had become prominent.

But May was in no hurry and, if the thought of being locked in Smith's over Christmas with the till lady, two security men and me worried her, it didn't show. Including us all in her confidences, she covered the circumstances of Reg's death so many years previ-

ously, her sister's death in more recent times, the address of her son in Australia (endearingly pronounced 'Horse-Strayllia'), announced that she was now 'ready to face Christmas at home [alone]', and walked quietly to the door.

Full marks to WHS: May was escorted by the two men who unlocked the door for her, ushered her onto the, by then, quiet High Street, and gave her the season's greetings as if she was the only customer they had seen all day.

After I had paid for my purchases and swapped happy Christmases, we noticed that the old lady had left behind the card she had paid for. Under its snow-heavy picture were the words 'Christmases long ago'.

The card, evidently, had not been the real purpose of the visit.

'Christmas is no time to be flying solo,' said a security man as I exited the door. 'I always make sure I'm in a relationship between 24 December and 2 January,' he added.

On the High Street there were signs of a frost.

* * *

'I'm a Jehovah's Bystander,' wrote Pete McCarthy. 'I believe in a Supreme Being – but just don't want to get involved.'

Because of the incarnation, that attitude is not among those optional for Christians.

God came here and lived among us. He didn't muscle in and take charge. He came as a tiny baby, vulnerable to local control freaks who slaughtered innocents.

He did not come as a ready-assembled adult. Unlike the first Adam, the second Adam was fed life through an umbilical cord, and didn't have the chance of a dignified entrance.

When the Word became flesh and made his dwelling-place on this planet, he did not come for a fortnight, to do the deeds necessary for our salvation and then leave in a hurry for the place from whence he came. He came among us as everybody does, was raised in a rough and tumble town – and he stayed for a generation. Humans had no room for him and no time either, but he lived his whole lifetime among those who would not receive him.

The first message of Christmas is: *God has time for us.*

And the first 'matter arising' from *God has time for us* is that, as a consequence, we must have time for one another. And 'one another' does not just mean those who live in our comfort zones. It means 'the least of these' who live on the periphery of our vision: alone in the holidays, and desperate for company; or starving or sick

for want of the basics whose images are beamed into our living rooms in pauses between entertainments.

Note the titles Paul gives to God in this wonderful prayer:

'Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.'

Now please don't miss Paul's pointed conclusion:

'For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows.' (2 Corinthians 1:3-5, NIV.)

The God of Comfort comforts us; 'As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you.' (Isaiah 66:13.) Unlike the gods of Greece, indifferent to human pain, the God of the Bible lived through pain – and overflows compassion to those in pain so that we, in turn, may overflow compassion to the lonely and the needy. Those who experience the God who was in Christ do not have the option of non-involvement. And the coinage of involvement is not just gift-aided pounds. So often the coinage of compassion is units of time rather than units of currency.

'His own,' you will recall, 'did not receive him.' And it's still happening. His own may not turn him away in person, but in the persons of those on the periphery of their vision – the lonely, the marginalised, those in want. For, as Albert Schweitzer wrote, 'He comes to us as One unknown without a name. . . .'

Whoever we are – we count with God. He has time and compassion for us. The heavenly switchboard does not give out the busy signal. God is always at home, and waiting for your call.

The 'Glory to God in the highest' anthem was premiered by Heaven's choir – for the benefit of a bunch of Bethlehem's shepherds, thought of as outcasts. To them 'the mightiest of the Lord's host' came direct from the divine presence to tell them, 'A Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.' (Luke 2:10, 11; *The Desire of Ages*, page 780.)

The power of God meets us at our point of need. That is the point, *the point of need*, where we must meet other people.

So let's stop our hurry. Pause. Look. See. Listen. Respond.

May the Father of Compassion bless you this season . . .

. . . and make you a blessing.

Harvest Festival at Brixton



Everyone stared in amazement and wonder as the bountiful produce grown by the hands of the church members of Brixton church was laid on the steps in front of the platform. God's natural produce came in the stunning deep purple colour of the aubergines, the mouth-watering red of the tomatoes, and the two-toned colours of the pumpkins. There was much to thank God for and, although we do not rely on the production of our own grown food to survive, we could still appreciate the many hours of hard work and tender care that it took to nurture the vegetables to full fruition.

Many of the members of Brixton have allotments and spend hours tenderly caring for their fruits and vegetables. During the farmers' presentation, cultivators such as Leslie Reid, Clovis Nairn and Roy Moodie spoke of the methods they used to grow their produce and the successes they had in growing vegetables in abundance and outstanding growth. This year Roy Moodie grew vegetables from the squash family that were nearly seven feet tall.

Pastor Akakpo reminded us of why we have the harvest and its importance, which reminds us of the final harvest of the Lord and the literal harvesting of food in its season as ordained by God. At the end of the service the food was taken to the Youth Hall and sold and food parcels were made up so that others could benefit from this labour of love.

VALERIE MOODIE

Brixton: Seventeen baptised after autumn campaign

The campaign at Brixton church thundered into existence with the arrival of Pastor Everett Smith, who had flown over from Jamaica to be our special speaker. The campaign started on 30 September and ended on 14 October. Every night, apart from Thursday, Pastor Smith, a giant of a man, yet so humble when he remembered his beginnings, revealed the Scriptures in his own unique and forthright way. His descriptive, everyday stories brought home to us the message of salvation and his catchphrase, 'not in England, but in Jamaica', brought

humour but also the realisation that sin is the same, not only in Jamaica but also in England.

Pastor Smith was not afraid to come off the platform to interact with the members and visitors, and neither was he afraid to cement his point with the trademark stamping of his feet and a plethora of gestures that brought every night to life. He had a genuine approach which worked well throughout the campaign.

The singing evangelist was our own Paulette Delisser-Marceny, whose singing touched our souls,



1919

Speech Night – Tradition and celebration

October 19 marked a formal celebration of two kinds: former students returned to Stanborough to pick up their individual awards, and current students got to go home because mid-term break was just about to start.

Speech Night is an annually held tradition where parents, alumni, and

especially when she sang 'We Shall Behold Him' before Pastor Smith preached his sermon on the final Sabbath morning of the campaign. The Spirit of the Lord was upon her. Paulette's choice of songs throughout the campaign enhanced each sermon preached and proved that there is unity whenever the Spirit of the Lord is working with man.

Pastor Smith's wife Margaret accompanied him for most of the campaign and he was later supported by his sister-in-law and her husband.

The campaign ended with a baptism of seventeen precious souls for the kingdom of heaven. One of those baptised was Sophie Badlou from Guadeloupe. She was born into an Adventist home but left home – and the message – because of difficulties there. She visited many churches and heard various messages but in the end realised that the Adventists had the truth, and began attending church on a regular basis. Since attending Brixton she felt impressed to be baptised and gave her heart to the Lord.

VALERIE MOODIE



old friends gather to honour achievements from the previous school year. In this year's edition Roger Murphy, the new headmaster, gave the traditional 'Year in Review', Pastor Cecil Perry gave the address, and Eunice N. and Christopher L. were the student speakers of Speech Night 2006.

Musical highlights included an excellent violin duet performed by current students Song-Ah and Michael C., and the Kirk Franklin



classic 'My Life is in Your Hands', beautifully sung by the Year 9 Choir.

On a side note, it seems like there's always enough room to honour the contributions of the former headmaster, Stephen Rivers. This time we expressed our thanks with a candid picture slideshow

that was as humorous as it was embarrassing.

All in all, Speech Night provided a good opportunity not only for visitors to see Stanborough, but also for old friends to come back, reunite, and catch up.

RAYMOND DALIAS



Meeting an international challenge

Twenty-three nationalities make up the international family of Bristol Central. That diversity was celebrated on Sabbath 7 October in a day that saw the various continents of the world leading out in worship services through the day. Brenda Sabadin organised a flag-waving parade of nations, while guest speaker Pastor Victor Hulbert took his theme from the story of Jonah, to show how the God of the Universe can use even an unwilling prophet to witness to pagan sailors and sinful foreign cities.

'Jonah was willing to be a

prophet to his own people, but God is looking for something bigger. God put Jonah outside his comfort zone to do a work for him. As an international church God may be asking the same of us.'

Bristol Central recently celebrated its 50th anniversary, but with the 200-member church packed to capacity, it has planted churches in the north and south of the city, the most recent plant being organised on Sabbath 4 November. A full report of this initiative will appear in a later

MESSENGER.
COMMUNICATION DEPT

Six baptised at Lincoln

Listen to some of their testimonies! One of them said, 'From the time I started attending church, my life has changed drastically. My thinking, things I do, my language, habits and the company I keep, my drinking and smoking habits – praise the Lord all are but things of the past. I've also realised that through prayer all things are possible. Yes, my life is transformed and I have gone back to the University.'

'I've seen the Lord raise my hopes and prosper me in my studies at school. I can hardly contain my joy at getting 'A' grades in my A-level subjects.'

'I was just hearing people talk about miracles. Now my own eyes have seen what prayer can do.'

It was a spiritually uplifting event on 14 October when six precious souls, all from Scunthorpe, were baptised at our Lincoln church. The occasion was also blessed with Joy Bells singers from Leeds church.

PASTOR G. MAPIKI

A Call for papers

The Behavioural Sciences department of Newbold College is planning to have a seminar/conference on 'Mental Health and Spirituality' in spring 2007.

The department is inviting practitioners, academics, service users, pastors, *et al*, to submit abstracts on any topics relating to the exploration of mental health issues within a Christian community.

Please send abstracts of around 250 words to dserbic@newbold.ac.uk.

For further discussion contact Val Bernard on 01344 407468 or email vbernard@newbold.ac.uk.

Closing date for submissions: 12 January.



Barnsley celebrates Creation

For the final quarter of this year, Barnsley church members are appreciating a beautiful appliqué worked by local member Jane Lawford. The Creation is depicted in a richly-coloured representation, showing the animals, birds, flowers, etc, and the scenes of the first week on Earth.

It is not quite as long as The Bayeux Tapestry, which commemorates the Battle of Hastings, but it stretches fully across a large alcove.

Jane began working on the design in 2002.

HAZEL SCHOLES



Middlesbrough Shoebox Appeal

by Pastor Peter Jeynes

When the ADRA poster promoting the annual Shoebox Christmas present collection arrived at the Middlesbrough church, and a large increase in the regular quantity was suggested, it is likely that people went home wondering if they could collect so many parcels. If so, they reckoned without the hard work that Judy Hamilton-Johansson put in with her small team.

Of course, the ADRA team had a lot of help. Our local shoe shop provided shoebox after shoebox – the manager wondering where they were all going! Our local newspaper, *The Gazette*, ran a story about our collection, which featured one of our younger children.

One of the reasons why we promoted this collection was to encourage our members to meet the locals. Each home in the street where the church is located was visited. Smiles were offered and promises were made. Many parcels arrived, and our members realised what pleasant people there were living on the street.



In total, 33 large cartons were collected for dispatch to Liberia. The shoebox count stopped at 300!

Golden Wedding

Sylvia and Colin Hawken reached the special occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 27 September 2006. A celebration took place in Plymouth, organised by daughters Julia and Davina. Guests enjoyed a special meal, reminiscences of 50 years ago, musical entertainment from various family members and a two-tier anniversary wedding cake, made to replicate the original.

The wedding service, which was held in Grimsby Adventist church in 1956, was recalled with photographs, the playing and singing of the two wedding hymns, and a written message from Pastor and Mrs Alan Norman, now living in Florida. Sylvia and Colin's was the first wedding Pastor Norman performed and he still has the notes.

The bridegroom of 50 years was again called upon to give a speech, and enlightened the gathered group of how he and Sylvia had met all those years ago, with Newbold College playing a part. Special events throughout the past 50 years were recalled, not only in word but in picture as well. Both Pastor Norman's message and Colin's speech concluded with the thought that, as happy as this celebration was, we can look forward to a greater celebration when we can all be together in Heaven.

DAVINA SLY



Five accept Jesus at Angaza

A public evangelistic campaign was held by Angaza church from 5 to 26 August at Tyndale Baptist Church, Reading, when God used lay-evangelist Amon Mukangara (from Dar es Salaam, Tanzania), mightily.

Betty Desouza steered us through health talks, which people really enjoyed, and David Aboagye gave free health checks.

Special music was brought to us by 'The Voice' singers from Dar es Salaam, which uplifted the souls of everyone, including Baptist church members attending their Sunday service.

Preparation for the meetings was made well in advance, including the booking for the hall as early as April, with payment made. But two days before the meetings were due to commence, we received a cancellation with full refund. All brains froze except God's, who sorted the problem out by giving us the Tyndale Baptist Church as our new venue for the meetings.

In the end, five precious souls accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour and testified to the world through the waters of baptism.

T. CHAMPANDA



'A far cry from the NHS in Manchester'

by Kish Poddar,
Executive-director, STOP International

What do you get when you put the vibrant energy of Adventist youth together with a physically challenging project in a tropical country? The answer is – an amazing experience of a lifetime.

This took place in July of this year with the STOP International charity. Fifteen young volunteers from the Wilmslow, Leamington and Stanborough Park churches, aged 15-24, together with five adults, travelled to India for two weeks. They raised their own fares – just over £8,000 – to travel to Hosur, near Bangalore, to build a dormitory for the boys of the BESSO orphanage. In addition to funding their own air fares, they raised the entire cost of the dormitory – £10,000. Having worked for months raising funds through sponsored 24-hour badminton, swimathons, sponsored bike rides and so on, they arrived in Bangalore on a British Airways flight to begin the construction.

The work began at the BESSO Orphanage site the day after they arrived, with piling bricks around the foundation which was made

ready for the volunteers by the local contractor. Human brick chains made easy work of this piling, and bricks flew through the air from one pair of hands to another until they were in position for brick-laying. Then the mortar had to be mixed by hand in barrow loads. Having been shown how to do this back-breaking task, load after load was mixed uncomplainingly. This was to continue day after day in the heat to supply the demands of the bricklayers.

Under the expert guidance of the local 'bricky', the team gingerly started laying bricks. Within minutes, the principle of laying bricks Indian style was mastered, and the walls began to rise surprisingly quickly. The local expert stretched a fine nylon line and a layer of bricks was laid flush against it. Then the line was raised and the next would go on, with the challenge of completing the next layer faster than the one before. By the end of the second day the building resembled more like something to live in, and by the end of the first week even the local contractor was amazed at the achievement. The walls looked straight, in proportion and sturdy. In spite of minor distractions such as heat, interesting bugs, a cobra, the lovely orphan children, and more heat, the work progressed steadily.

One volunteer rigged up his MP3 player to locally-purchased speakers to provide music while the team worked. This greatly enhanced the pulse of the brick-laying. The target was to build the walls up to lintel height before returning home, leaving the local contractor to complete the two-storey building. The energy

of youth is a marvellous thing. Not only did the team meet the target but, in addition, they concreted the floor of the whole building within the deadline. In spite of the fact that it was the monsoon season, not a drop of rain fell to delay the work of construction. However, as soon as the concrete floor was laid down on the final day and the celebration photographs taken, the heavens opened up and it poured for a few hours. It seemed to be a remarkable sign, just as the rainbow was a few millennia ago, that God had been with us all along and had blessed the efforts of this small band of willing and committed youth.

While the young people were constructing the boys' dormitory, Drs Andrew and Eileen Baildam and Annette Kowarin took two days out to conduct village clinics for the Ananth Ashram Medical Centre. This involved driving around from village to village in the mobile clinic. The main tropical illness that the villagers suffered was a mosquito-borne viral fever called chikungunia. Ordinarily, during a working day in Manchester the doctors would examine between 20 and 30 patients. They were not prepared for the 170 to 300 patients they treated in a day! The conditions were hot, humid, mosquito-infested and sometimes a little hostile due to the crowds – a far cry from the NHS in Manchester.

The enthusiastic youngsters put as much energy into completing the project as they did in absorbing the novelty of the tropics, the Indian customs, shopping in Bangalore and Mysore, sightseeing by Indian Railways, and competing with the lively orphan children at cricket, tug o' war and throw ball.

What motivated the team members, made up of school pupils, university students, doctors and a nurse, most of whom had never laid a brick in their life, to go out to India and work tirelessly to meet a building deadline? The unanimous response from the team members was the 'orphan children'. The children's uninhibited expression of love and happiness in a deprived lifestyle seemed to squeeze the altruism from within every individual in the team. It was inevitable and spontaneous and amazing to behold.

If you would like to find out more about STOP International, visit www.stop-intl.org.uk, or if you would like to go on a humanitarian trip next summer contact us at kishpoddar@onetel.com.



European ValueGenesis Survey ONLINE SURVEY

who's changing
the church?



Important information on how to administer
and complete this online survey

for 14-25
year olds

by Paul Tompkins and
Corrado Cozzi

When? 1-31 December

Suggestion to Youth leaders for launch of survey:
Organise a preliminary meeting on the first Saturday afternoon and Sunday in December, at a given and appropriate venue where several computers are available with access to Internet. Bringing all that age group together will create a sense of common mission fellowship. You could provide some refreshments like pizza, and maybe some videos.

Explain the aims of the ValueGenesis survey: what, how, when, etc. The information is on a PDF support on the page 'Materials': www.valuegenesis.com

1. The questionnaire will be online. It will be necessary to click on the small flag correspondent to your country.
2. The questionnaire will be online only during the month of December.
3. You will receive the passwords from your Conference/Union.
4. Distribute the password to young people who qualify (14-25).
5. Youth leaders who are responsible for administering the survey must fill in the Check List form: *it is important to write the name, age, and confirmation that they have received the password.* (Remember that this list is fundamental for the organisers and research company, because it is the sample reference base. Even if the youth provide names, the questionnaire is absolutely anonymous.) The Check List form must be sent directly to the organisation that has sent passwords – the Conference or Union.
6. Invite youth to fill in the question-

naire at once. As soon as the last answer to the last question has been given, the password will expire. The data is completely anonymous, and will be kept and analysed by a professional information company. The final analysis of the data will be edited by the ValueGenesis' scientific commission.

7. Check at the end of the month that everyone has completed the questionnaire.
8. If young people do not have access to computers, please arrange for this to be made available for their convenience and also to ensure that no one is denied the opportunity to participate in this valuable survey.
9. Keep in mind that there are some young people who may not have been to church for a while. If they are within the age range, please contact them and invite them to participate and to express their opinion too.
10. On completion of the survey for your church, it would be a good idea to organise an event that could bring them all together for a social function and there complete the feedback form which will be part of the package that will be sent to you.

You are.
Your mouse can change it!
Be our partner, be church.



Associate Director needed
ADRA-Sudan, Northern Sector, require an Associate Country Director (administrative officer in charge of general day-to-day operations), to locate in Khartoum. Applicants must have BA or Masters degree in field of development, administration or related areas, with at least three years administrative and/or international work experience.

Salary according to ADRA-Sudan wage scale and benefit package.

Letters of application, with current CV and email addresses of two referees should be sent to: Raafat Kamal, ADRA Trans-Europe Regional Director, 119 St Peter's Street, St Albans, Herts, AL1 3EY. Tel: +44 (0)1727 860331.

For further details please email: rkamal@ted-adventist.org, or visit www.adra-te.org/pages/experience.html.

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Dec 1	3.55	4.07	3.52	3.44	4.03
8	3.52	4.04	3.49	3.40	3.59
15	3.52	4.04	3.48	3.38	3.58
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29	3.59	4.11	3.55	3.46	4.05

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