

# Messenger

News to the churches • 26 October 2007 • Volume 112 • 23

## Harvest season in SEC

by Richard DeLisser, Communication director

Over seventy candidates baptised in over two weeks demonstrates that evangelism is alive and well in the South England Conference. Traditionally the months of September to November have always been the favoured time of year for the holding of major revivals and campaigns in our churches. This year is no exception.

Watford Town culminated its 'Mission of Mercy' campaign with a baptism on 29 September. Eight individuals were added to the Kingdom of God through the preaching of Pastor Michael Harvey, president of the North Jamaica Mission. Balham have just finished a two-week revival with Pastor Elwin St Rose, a chaplain in the US army. Pastor St Rose has just finished a tour of duty in Iraq and shared with the congregation many stories from this theatre of action. Six persons responded to his appeal to enlist in God's army and were also baptised last Sabbath.

Over the past three weeks the Portuguese churches in London have been conducting separate but concurrent evangelistic campaigns, culminating in bringing all four churches together at the Advent Centre for what is called 'Harvest Week'. The speaker for this special week is Pastor Nemuel Stina from Brazil. He is a former Voice of Prophecy speaker and now pastors one of the largest churches in Sao Paulo. Four people had already been baptised during the campaign and another large baptism took place on 13 October as the programme closed. On Sabbath 6 October a month-long series of meetings concluded for the Bristol district of churches. Pastor Richard Daly states that seven candidates are ready to be baptised.

The Croydon church has been holding a series of meetings with evangelist Pastor Hainsworth Joseph from the USA. Local church pastor, Dr Brighton Kavaloh, is very excited about the 40 candidates he has ready for baptism this Sabbath. The Clapton Community church began a two-week evangelistic campaign last Sabbath, with speakers Pastors Robert William, Bernard Akakpo and Michael Harvey. A baptism took place on 13 October. 'Finding the Christ in your Crisis!' is a two-week campaign being run by the Hackney church with evangelist Pastor

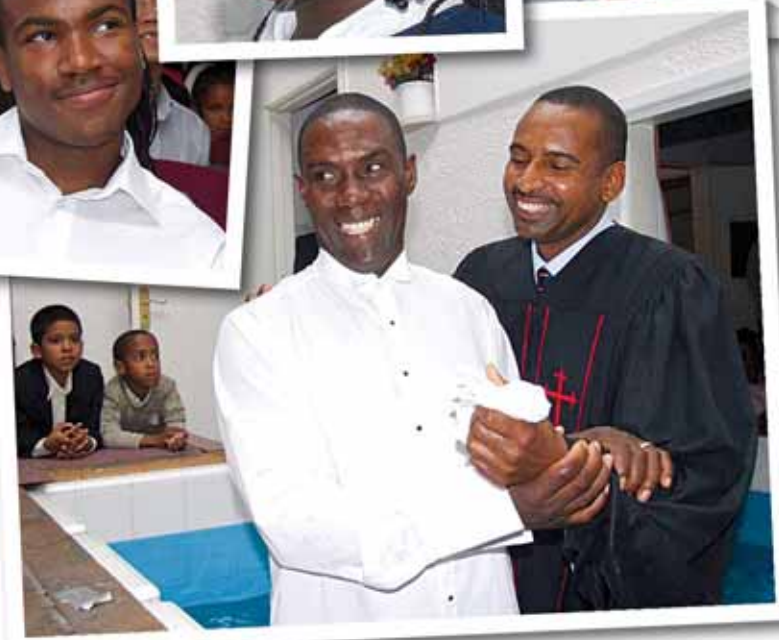
John Parker from the USA. The church has been full to overflowing every night and their baptism was also on 13 October.

This is just the beginning. Starting on 13 October Pastor Sam Neves shared 'Experience Freedom Beyond Your Senses' for two weeks at the Norbury church and also at the Wimbledon International church under the theme 'Something Missing'. Pastor Roger Morris from Trinidad and Tobago opened London District 6B's two-week campaign on 13 October at the Brixton church with singing evangelist Delina Roberts. Also starting on that date, Pastor Chiluba from Zambia began a series of meetings at the Beckton Maranatha church.

And finally the Plaistow church



begins a series of Prophecy meetings from 13-27 October with Dr Sharath Babu Nakka, a blind evangelist and Theology professor from India. Dr



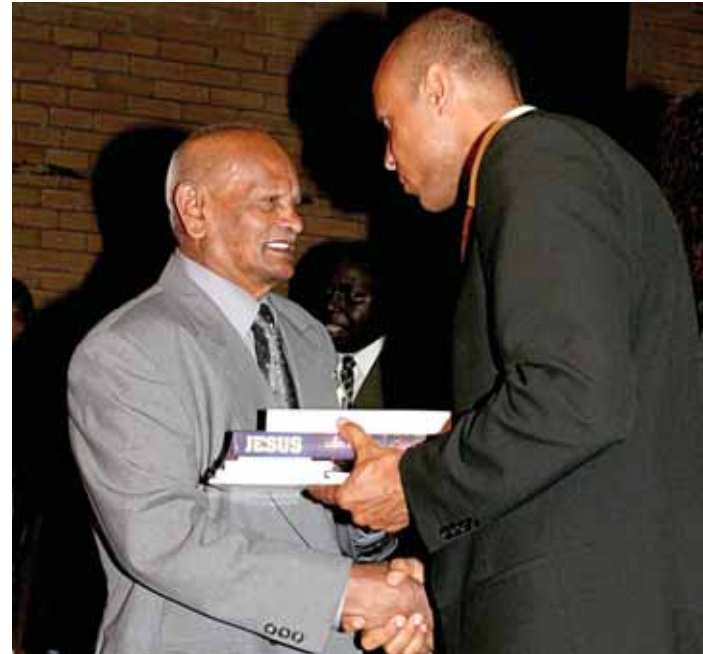
Nakka, blind since the age of 10, is an expert in eschatology as it relates to the books of Daniel and Revelation. He has served at Spicer Memorial College for more than 18 years and has conducted forty evangelistic campaigns all over India and three meetings in the United States. He is a God-fearing man who composes and sings Christian songs in his mother tongue.





## Images from the NW's Baptism and Day of Fellowship

(see report on page 9)



**VACANCY: ASSOCIATE TREASURER.** The British Union Conference is seeking to recruit a full-time Associate Treasurer for the Union office, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts. Applicants will be members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and have substantial experience and qualifications in Accountancy (ACCA/CIMA) as well as a broad knowledge of the Church and its affairs. This position is normally considered a 'call' appointment of the British Union Conference nominating committee and as such candidates should be prepared to be fully involved in the life of the Church including flexibility to travel and attend committees throughout the UK and Ireland. They must have the right to work in the UK. The salary package available is between £30-£35,000. Interested persons should send their CV for consideration to: BUC Executive Secretary, BUC Office, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts WD25 9JZ. Email: [elowe@adventist.org.uk](mailto:elowe@adventist.org.uk). Closing date for applications: **Wednesday, 14 November 2007.**

# Make it Autumn, *not* Fall

David Marshall



How does autumn strike you?

Some hate it because they associate it with death and decay. For others it's their favourite season. Perhaps what makes the difference is what we do with it.

The kids have gone back to school and left the high street and the shopping mall to the grownups.

The football season is under way.

At church we thank God for the harvest with big bunches of huge-headed chrysanthus, wheatsheaf-shaped bread, heaps of green apples and, best of all, the heady scents of the season.

There are crisp, frosty mornings when the front windscreen fogs. We drive under the cathedral arching of autumn-gold trees. But watch out! The police love to spring speed traps on these bright sunny mornings!

As if choreographed, the animal world moves into autumn mode. As the children return to school, the swallows and swifts assemble on the electric wires and, when everyone's arrived, set off south after a single swirl.

The squirrels get hyper as they store nuts for winter. Sluggishly (reflecting their summer diet) the hedgehogs check for a des res in a quiet corner of the garden in which they can spend winter. In the house, huge spiders tactlessly emerge from behind the drapes and my wife's screams oblige me to slay them. (Yes, I know. You don't do that. You collect them in cupped hands and deliver them out into the frost. Good for you!)

As God slowly, subtly orchestrates the transition from summer into autumn, the retail world is neither slow nor subtle. The 'Back to School' taunt that has been there since July is replaced by Christmassy tinsel.

The autumn rhythm finds its resonance in human life. Patiently God peers through the mist for the change to 'mellow fruitfulness' in our lives. Before the clocks change, before the storm clouds threaten a wintry tomorrow, God invites us to pause, take stock and ask ourselves, 'Well, how's it coming?'

Remember. No matter how you rate yourself in the 'mellow fruitfulness' stakes, it's the number, depth and strength of your spiritual roots that will determine your survival of the winter winds.

To the Christians in Colossae (2:9, NLT), Paul wrote: 'Let your roots go down *into him*.'

For the Christians in Ephesus (3:16, 17, NLT), this was Paul's prayer: 'that from his glorious unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. *Your roots will go down into God's love and keep you strong.*'

Autumn is time for reflection, not fall. And our annual week of prayer is as good an occasion for this reality check as any. And the reality check is about roots and rootage. Roots determine both the fruit harvest and survival through winter winds to God's springtime.

When I have 'mellow fruitfulness' worries (which is often), I find Paul's words to the Philippians a great help: 'I am certain that God, who began the good work within you will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Jesus Christ returns.' (1:6, NLT.) He started, so he'll finish. I like that. I find reassurance in that.

The really tough season for me is that four-month period after the clocks change during which I must both leave home and return home – in the dark. You'll be doing that, too, but for a shorter period. Not many workplaces have a 7.30-6pm working day, as we do.

During that winter's night of the year, I miss my garden and my walks. The only plus factor I can think of is that the lawn doesn't need mowing.

Survival of the night that separates October from March is down to roots. Roots that 'grow down *into him*'.

Week of Prayer – the first full week in November – is right on target, rootedness-wise. This year the eight readings are centred on the words of Jesus in John 14:1-3. In them Jesus was telling his disciples how to survive both the winter of their lives and the winter of the world. There had just been a clash of egos among his disciples. Peter had professed undying loyalty but from a divided heart. Judas had gone out into the night to betray him. Within the hour Jesus would be in the throes of Gethsemane's terrors. But his thoughts were not for his own ordeal but for the survival of his disciples – from then until now – of their spiritual winters.

'Set your troubled hearts at rest,' he began; then continued, 'Trust in God always; trust also in me. There are many dwelling-places in my Father's house . . . ; I am going to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I shall come again . . .' (REB.)

Surviving through your winter to your spring is not determined by how many times you have recited those words in Sabbath School, but how grounded your life is in them and how connected you are with the One who said them.

Make this your best Week of Prayer ever. Your survival may depend on it.



'Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness, Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun.'

To Autumn, John Keats, 1819.

'No spring, nor summer beauty hath such grace, As I have seen in one autumnal face.'

Elegy 9, John Donne, 1635.

## Enhancing Health

by Sharon Platt-McDonald RGN, RM, RHV, MSc, Health Ministries director, BUC

### STRESS Part 5b

#### THE FOOD FACTOR

Research shows that we can make nutrition and lifestyle choices that decrease vulnerability to stress, increase the ability to cope when stress occurs, and protect against negative outcomes of stress.

Maintaining a healthy, balanced diet is important as chronic stress can affect the body's nutritional needs, metabolism, brain function, mood, immunity and general health. It

also increases the risk of certain diseases and affects longevity.

The body utilises energy at a faster rate when stressed. This change has an impact on metabolism and, consequently, the requirements of nutrients.

Stress hormones accelerate heart rate; increase muscle tension; elevate blood pressure, cholesterol and triglyceride levels which increases the metabolic rate.

Increased metabolism can stimulate an increase in the use and excretion of carbohydrates, fats, proteins and nutrients such as vitamins A, B complex, C, D, E and K, and also minerals such as calcium, chromium, magnesium, phosphorus, potassium, selenium and zinc.

Nutrition choices can have a profound effect on the stress response:

Vulnerability to stress increases with poor diet and can impair brain function.

Skipping meals drops blood sugar levels, causing reactions in the nervous system, which can create feelings of anxiety.

Depressed individuals may crave sugary and/or fatty foods during times of stress.

Excess amounts of sugars and refined foods can diminish thiamine, niacin, B12, magnesium and calcium. Reduced levels of these nutrients can increase nervousness, anxiety, fatigue,

irritability and nervous system response leading to increased stress sensitivity and tendency to aggression.

Caffeine increases stress hormones, irritability, dehydration and encourages loss of calcium, magnesium and B vitamins.

Excess protein (particularly animal) creates metabolic stress and robs the bones of calcium.

A stress buster diet could consist of the following:

**Omega 3 fats** – have been suggested by research to have a calming and anti-depressive effect on the nervous system, enhancing brain health and mental well-being. Rich sources are flax seeds, walnuts and almonds.

**High-fibre diet** rich in fresh fruits, vegetables, nuts and whole grains maintains appetite satisfaction, discourages snacking and provides vitamins A, C, B6 and B vitamins niacin, thiamine, riboflavin and folate for good nervous system health. High-fibre diets improve mood and curb afternoon drowsiness.

**Minerals** such as magnesium, iron, selenium, zinc, phosphorus and calcium are provided by the above foods and result in significant stress protection, enhance energy and alertness and encourage good nerve impulse transmission.

**Eat well!**



# Middlesbrough Day of Fellowship

by Peter Jaynes

Come summertime and it's the season for Seventh-day Adventist days of fellowship. Middlesbrough arranged their second district day of fellowship on the first day of September to coincide with a baptism. Naturally enough, being the friendly north-east of England, we invited the churches north of us to participate in the whole event.

Sabbath School was the normal affair. Polish class? Of course. Multi-national? Of course. Divine service, arranged by the Newcastle pastor, Sandy Pairman and his team, included the Newcastle choir and their small orchestra. Passers-by, our outdoor greeters reported, were pleased to see so many cars and so many people with smiling faces. Dinner was the usual soup and rolls affair, along with Polish specialities, Asian delights and good old English home-cooking which saw the five thousand fed well.

Our speaker for the morning and the afternoon was Pastor Don McFarlane. The afternoon found us all preparing for a baptism. One candidate was a member of the McFarlane family. Monique, Pastor McFarlane's daughter-in-law, expressed her obvious trust in the Lord in baptism. Naturally, father-in-law was to baptise his daughter-in-law.

A special occasion made all the more special by the temporary church home used by Middlesbrough church – St Barnabas Anglican church in the parish of Linthorpe, Middlesbrough. While some Anglican churches conduct baptisms by immersion (St Barnabas among them), the baptistery usually has to be a portable version. The one we borrowed was a birthing pool – how appropriate!

Five candidates presented themselves that afternoon. Eric Hamilton-Johansson, a former matelot in the Royal Navy, was the first to

be baptised. Not so long ago Eric found the thought of church a frightening prospect. Prior to his baptism Eric had conducted Bible studies and led meetings on Church history – and will do more.

Lupi Mwanjoka, a teenager, followed Eric into the pool. After sharing his testimony on video we learned that a young man brought up in the Church can have a real story of a changed life that can be readily observed by his family, peers and fellow Christians. An impromptu chorus led by Lupi's mother signalled a rise in the spiritual temperature – and the sight of a young man with an enormous smile rising out of the water. Lupi joins the Darlington



church. Darlington, now a thriving church, runs an English language school for the local Polish community and regularly sees a full church building.

Monique McFarlane was next into the pool. Led by her husband, Mardon, Monique's family and friends gathered around the pool to witness this young lady express her faith. The congregation were able to see the event through the overhead camera, giving, as it were, an angels' view of a tremendous family event, and one could imagine the sounds of angels rejoicing.

Michael Watson originates from Sheffield, just around the corner from Sheffield Burngreave church. Michael went into the entertainment industry and never really left it, except that now he entertains to a spiritual purpose. His testimony, shown on the day of his baptism, can be seen on [youtube](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vm7rxWYY4-g):

Michael is the second person to be baptised from the Horden house church, with spiritual growth into the Kingdom of God a notable and regular feature of church life.

Ruth Mhlanga is a Zimbabwean physiotherapist. Bible studies with Pastor Peter and Jill Geldart, senior elder at Middlesbrough, have revealed two of the spiritual gifts that God has given to Ruth. One of these, a speaking ability, was demonstrated to the congregation in an excellent testimony. Perhaps the greatest testimony of the afternoon was seen in the appeal from the pool made by Pastor McFarlane – following which Ruth's twin sons, Rafael and Russell, asked for baptism.

# Baptism in Preston

It is always special when parents bring their children to be dedicated to the Lord and Sabbath 4 August was no exception. George and Lena Kuri brought baby Melita, and Nanvula Deen brought her baby Liywalii and 10-year-old daughter Sadia, to receive this blessing.

Today was a triple celebration for Nanvula because her parents were visiting from Zambia to attend her

sister's wedding. Also, they would witness Nanvula's baptism that afternoon.

Nanvula was born in Glasgow, studied Hotel and Catering Management at Blackpool and Fylde College and lives with her husband and two children in Cleveleys. She works for the Civil Service. Although she was born into the Adventist message, Nanvula said she never

really took her faith seriously enough until a few years ago. She used to enjoy going to clubs, smoking, and drinking, but the Holy Spirit was speaking to her. When she came to Cleveleys, she visited the Adventist church (then in Ashton, Preston) a couple of times but did not return. Nanvula began to listen to that still, small voice and she started to attend church again. Baptismal class was her first port of call to get her spiritual journey back on course.

The afternoon programme commenced with a rousing song service

and a very harmonious group song, 'Heaven is in my heart'.

In his sermonette, Brother Marwa spoke to the congregation about the walls in our lives that may hold us back from making our decision to follow Christ.

Pastor Kevin Johns proceeded to baptise Nanvula, watched by her parents, brothers, sisters, church family and friends. Approximately thirteen young people made their way to the front when the altar call was made.

JENNY JEFFERS

# Facing the Giants

Sometimes it's giants of fear; sometimes it's giants of failure; there are many kinds of giants threatening to overwhelm us in this life. But how do you learn to put your trust in God, face up to the giants and gain victory over them? Members and friends of 'The Church' learned how when they watched the film, 'Facing the Giants'. Afterwards they relaxed with a picnic in the summer sunshine at Forty Hall, their al fresco worship invigorated by the spiritual boost of their shared experience.

'Facing the Giants' is the story of an American football coach and his wife, coping with the challenges of life on and off the football field. It's the feel-good surprise movie of the season that has touched the hearts of more than one million people. This is a heart-warming story of faith, family and football, and whether you are an American



football fan or not, this film will lift your heart as it lifted ours. The 'wow' factor of 'Facing the Giants' is self-evident, as many continue to talk about it weeks after the film was aired, recommending it to friends and family alike.

The message of the film is simple: 'Never give up, never back down, never lose faith', for with God all things are possible. These sentiments are

also at the heart of 'The Church', a church plant designated by the South England Conference as a 'Majority population plant'. Working to further God's cause in this day and age, 'The Church' – which meets each Sabbath at St John's Methodist Church, Yews Avenue, Enfield – has taken yet another step in reaching the lost, a work which God is richly blessing.

JAN DUST

# West Bletchley baptisms

Sabbath afternoon 23 June saw the baptism of Precious Enos at the West Bletchley Community church.

The baptism was conducted by the minister of the Milton Keynes district, Pastor Alonzo Wagner III, who immediately captured the attention of the congregation by pointing out the paradox that we were present to celebrate a death: the death

of Precious's previous life, to be replaced by a new life in Christ.

The previous Sabbath was Camp Meeting, when Anne Ncube and her husband Bekithemba, made the public decision to follow Christ. Their testimony revealed that, while at home in Zimbabwe, Mr Ncube was involved in a most horrific incident which had far-reaching effects. Both

of them, having had thriving careers, found themselves unemployed overnight, Mrs Ncube having to give up work to care for her husband.

While going through their darkest valleys they have acknowledged the invaluable support and consistency of Seventh-day Adventists which led them to make further enquiries about the denomination and resulted in a decision to take Bible studies.

West Bletchley Community church met for the second time this year in our mother church, Milton

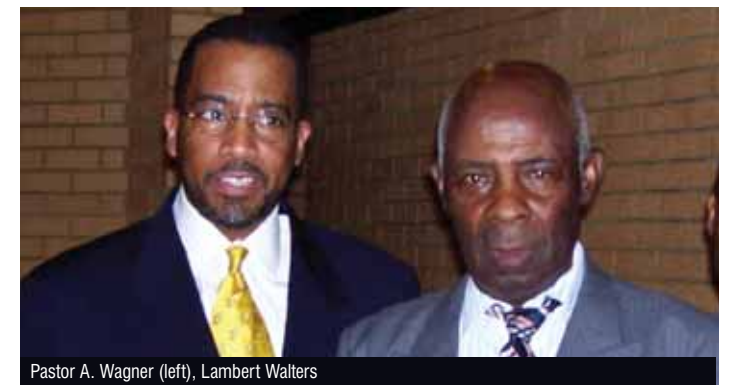
Keynes Central, to share in the delight of Lambert Walters, affectionately known as 'Wally', as he was baptised by Pastor Alonzo Wagner III. As usual it was a joyous occasion that attracted the support of family, friends and acquaintances.

The evening of Friday 27 July will remain a pleasant memory for some time as each person present renewed their commitment, along with Wally, to 'create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me'.

SYLVONIE NOEL



Left to right: Pastor A. Wagner, Precious Enos, Mrs & Mr Ncube



Pastor A. Wagner (left), Lambert Walters



## Is it harder or is it easier?

### John Wilby reports on a Scottish Youth Day of Fellowship

More than 100 youth from across Scotland came together in Aberdeen on 29 September for worship, reflection and a feast of gospel music for the Scottish Mission Youth Day of Fellowship. Josephine Eikum, Aberdeen Youth leader and her team, had put together a thought-provoking and inspiring programme with musical and other contributions from Aberdeen, Dundee, Crieff and Glasgow.

Addressing the day's theme, 'Making the Right Choice', Pastor Paul Tompkins, Trans-European Youth director, posed the question, 'Is it easier or harder to be a Seventh-day Adventist Christian today than it was for parents thirty years ago?' A straw poll of those present revealed that most thought it was harder. The paradox was, he said, that because it was 'easier' — we don't have as much in the world to ground us — it is 'harder'.

He related the choice made by Demas who, in 2 Timothy, deserted Paul because he 'loved the world'. He contrasted this with Mark who, when inclined to give up, was encouraged by Barnabas to continue. 'Who made the right choice?' he asked. 'Like Mark,' he said, 'whenever the going gets tough and we fall, we should get up and "finish the race".'

In the afternoon, a questionnaire circulated earlier sought comments on the following statements about life's choices: 'There's nothing wrong with breaking the law as long as it doesn't hurt anyone.' 'The Bible

isn't relevant to today's young people.' 'The philosophy for life is to do whatever feels and seems right as long as it doesn't hurt others.' 'Every religion offers a different explanation of the meaning of life and truth.' 'Freedom means being able to do whatever you wish as long as it's legal.'

In a world where youth are daily faced with difficult choices, the congregation's reaction to further questions produced some revealing responses. 'What would you do if you found a wallet with money in it but no address, or if given too much change at the supermarket?' 'Would you cheat on your tax return or, if pressed for time, get on a train with no ticket or park in a disabled bay?'

Summing up the day's deliberations, Pastor Tompkins said 'As Christians, choices are all about how we apply what we know — in the Bible — to our everyday living.'

### Pathfinder Networking

On Sunday 1 July the Erdington Pathfinder club commenced their Networking venture. This was the first step in an exciting project. It commenced with the link to Handsworth Pathfinder club.

Loretta Griffin, Handsworth club director, began by welcoming Erdington Pathfinders. As part of their devotional exercise the entire group was then called to repeat their respective memory gems.

Normal club preliminaries were

followed by division into respective classes for various club activities which included cooking, pioneering, Church history and reviewing class folders. During these tasks the children demonstrated their ability to work together productively, interact with one another and build new friendships.

At the end of the session the children re-grouped and discussed the morning's events. It was good to hear positive comments from both children and counsellors alike.

The session ended with a vote of thanks from Jenny Stoddart, Erdington Pathfinder club leader, commending both clubs for a successful and productive morning.

We look forward to the next one!

JENNIFER STODDART

### High day baptism at Handsworth

Even though the Sabbath in itself is a high day because of the sanctity that God has placed upon it, Sabbath 29 September had an extra special element to it.

It was Health Ministries Day and the church was blessed with the ministry of Adrian Roberts who, with his customary adeptness, pointed out a positive correlation between illness and faith as he urged us to try to reclaim the position we once held as exemplars of a healthy lifestyle.

The afternoon continued with the health ministries theme as the expert gardeners of the church were asked to share their knowledge of growing crops and the optimum conditions needed to produce good yields.

Then Handsworth went into rejoicing and celebratory mode as

Pastors Mackintosh and Almeida (acting intern) conducted a baptismal service. Albert Hutchinson had decided to begin a forever friendship with Jesus as he claimed him as his personal Saviour from sin. For Jean Douglas it was the heartfelt business of homecoming. Anne Marie Spence sang, 'No More Nights, No More Pain', which served as the meditative that prepared our hearts to receive the sermon entitled, 'The truth about baptism or what is stopping you?' This was delivered by church elder Michael Baker who had also been one of the keynote speakers in the outreach programme conducted the previous week.

In his address he asked, 'What hinders baptism?' He gave three possible reasons. The first was knowledge about the act of baptism itself — it must be by total submersion in water. Secondly, baptism is God-given — it isn't a manmade requirement but a biblical requisite. The third reason that might stop someone from being baptised is fear. Yet Elder Baker challenged us all to 'arise and be baptised' and urged the already baptised to recommit their lives to God.

Both candidates were baptised and accepted into the Handsworth church.

NOVA BANTON

### Tottenham: Walking with Jesus

Sabbath 15 September was a memorable day at Tottenham church. It was Pathfinders' and Adventurers' Day, the first for nearly four years. It was also the day when Winston and Suzette Rodgers, director of Pathfinders and assistant director

of Adventurers respectively, were accepted into the fold after transferring their membership to Tottenham. A special offering was collected to assist two church building projects in the Caribbean.

The theme for the day was 'Walking with Jesus'. The Pathfinders and Adventurers conducted the day's programme, assisted by Pathfinders and Adventurers from Chingford church. Upstairs the church was full. Members who were seated upstairs were reminded of their duty to be hospitable and give up their seats to visitors who were downstairs.

Divine service started with the Adventurers and Pathfinders walking up the aisle in twos, posting the flags and repeating their mottos and pledges. Elder M. Palmer from the Oxford Street Wolverhampton church delivered the message, based on Joshua 6:13 and Hebrews 11:30. He reminded the congregation that to walk with Jesus would bring sure victory. However, we cannot walk in God's camp and Satan's camp at the same time. We have to make a choice. When we choose God, he is a faithful rewarder. He who conquered sin and death is able to do 'exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think'.

MAXINE DONOVAN

### Live healthy

This was the theme of the Ipswich church's first healthy living weekend. The programme was put together by the health leaders Glenda Raquel, Verley Roberts and their team, with the support of Elsie Staple, the South England Conference Health director.

During the Sabbath morning worship service Dr Chidi Ngwaba delivered an informative, jargon-free health talk. The afternoon programme was a diabetic workshop led by Gloria Simon, a diabetic nurse specialist.

On Sunday the church opened its doors and greeted members and visitors by offering health checks. An estimated fifty-five people, of whom one third were non-Adventist, attended and were offered advice and checks on blood pressure, blood sugar levels, cholesterol and body mass index (BMI).

The response from those attending was very encouraging and requests have been made about future events. The health team hopes that this is the first

## LETS day at Preston

by Jenny Jeffers

Sabbath morning 26 May was the occasion of the LETS day of fellowship. Visitors and members alike were warmly greeted on their arrival in church.

In his sermon, Pastor Eglan Brooks, BUC Personal Ministries director, reminded us of the need for the whole church to become involved in evangelism and not to leave it all up to the pastor. He reminded us of the journey of Moses and the children of Israel to the Promised Land. Just when they thought they were getting near to their destination, Moses died. Sometimes in our Christian lives, we go through similar experiences when everything seems to be going fine, then something bad happens and our security falls apart. Pastor Brooks urged us to continue to move forward and leave the past behind.

'God has given us all we need to share the Gospel,' he said. To take the Gospel forward, we are to try new ways of sharing — simple things like having fellowship lunches, doing practical things within the community, trying something unusual. He encouraged us to pray more, fast more and be bold like Joshua and, most of all, always be prepared to do something for Christ.

The afternoon programme took on the form of workshops which included Health, Spiritual Gifts, Languages, Bible Studies, Revelation Seminars, Prayer and Footsteps. Feedback was given from some of the workshops:

**Spiritual Gifts** — We learned that spiritual gifts do not necessarily have anything to do with your individual talents but are really all about what God wants you to do.

**Languages** — Many members were unaware that there are at least 15 websites that we can visit. It was highlighted that we are supported by non-Adventists and that we need to get the word out. Also, different translations were available such as Urdu and Punjabi.

**Bible Studies** — Interpersonal skills, who to visit, tactfulness and Bible study skills were discussed.

**Prayer** — We discussed the power of prayer and asking

for the Holy Spirit without whose help we cannot pray effectively.

**Footsteps** — This is known as the least popular ministry. Our job is just to plant the seed and God will do the rest. The question was asked, Do you need to know the Bible? The answer was: Know a little — trust God a lot. We are his hands and feet. We were reassured that all who choose door-to-door ministry are trained and supported well.

Pastor Brooks outlined some major challenges facing our Church today:

**Love** — We don't love each other the way we should.

**Relationships** — We have poor relationships with each other and this demonstrates the relationship we have with God.

**Service** — Every member should be involved in service to the church and the community.

**Prayer** — We don't know how to pray and do not spend enough time in prayer.

**Mission-driven Church** — We are here to serve the community and should focus on Christ's love and example. The Mission belongs to the whole church and the association should be built upon a network of volunteers.

**Discipleship** — A requirement for every member. Don't just baptise and then leave the candidate, you need to help them in their spiritual development.

**Witnessing** — Every member needs to be a witness.

**Evangelism** — It is not an event, it is a process.

The day concluded with a 'High Praise' session, when people were given the opportunity to share their experiences through songs and testimonies.

This was a day when skills were shared to enable us all to be well equipped to be effective disciples for the Lord. What should we do now? Go, tell!



## An island chapter closes

On Sabbath 11 August, Pastor De Beer preached his final sermon to members and some welcome visitors from Kenya to the Isle of Man church. It was with sadness that Pastor De Beer preached on the remembrance of God for us. Paul and his wife Flo have been earnestly serving the Isle of Man company for the last eight years of 'retirement' and now, at 71, this is actual retirement for Paul and a well-earned break for them both as they go to visit family in Europe prior to emigrating to Australia in September.

Paul's ministry commenced thirty-seven years ago when the Lord called him into the Church and, ultimately, the ministry. Paul served the Church in Zimbabwe, South Africa, Switzerland and, latterly, the Isle of Man.

The company of the Isle of Man feel blessed at having had their love and care over their time spent here, and they will be greatly missed, fondly remembered and forever appreciated. The last sermon was followed by a fellowship pot luck lunch at their home.

F. CHADWICK

of many health weekends.

It was truly a positive event that was much requested and needed and is another way in which the Ipswich church is reaching out to the needs of the community.

TRICIA EVELYN

### Call to the Bar

In a momentous ceremony in July, Victor Ashley Gilbert John was called to the Bar at The Middle Temple, London EC4.

A son of the Chiswick church, Victor studied at Glamorgan University, where he completed both his BA and MA in law.

In a climate where there is much debate about the need of good role models in our society we are extremely proud of his excellent

achievements. Well done, Victor. To God be the glory! We wish you the very best in your future career.

G. JOHN





# BUC president quizzed at Welsh Mission Big Day

by John Surridge, Welsh Mission president

Photos: Anna Surridge

On Sabbath 6 October approximately 200 members and friends of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Wales gathered for a day of fellowship at the Pavilion Conference Centre in the beautiful mid-Wales spa town of Llandrindod Wells.

Guest speaker for the day was BUC president Pastor Don McFarlane who preached on the theme of 'hope'. Building on 1 Corinthians 13:13 Pastor McFarlane described 'love' as the supreme motive, 'faith' as the currency that we use to access the blessings of God, and 'hope' as the engine of life.

Pastor Ed Sammons, together with singers and a band, led the contemporary praise and worship which made a significant contribution to the atmosphere of the day. Pastor McFarlane described the music as 'moving' in both senses of the word, and expressed his appreciation for the young people who had taken the time to rehearse and bring their instruments and voices to enhance the day of fellowship.

In a special presentation during the morning service Welsh Mission president Pastor John Surridge paid tribute to the work of Pastor Roger Neal and his wife Marilyn. Pastor Neal came out of retirement to minister in the Shrewsbury and Telford churches three years ago but retired again at the end of September. After being presented with a card and a bouquet respectively, Pastor and Mrs Neal stayed on the stage as Pastor Brian Phillips prayed for them. In his response Pastor Neal spoke of how

much he had enjoyed his ministry in the Welsh Mission and pledged to continue supporting the work of the Church in his retirement.

In an innovative afternoon programme, hosted by BUC Communication director Pastor Victor Hulbert and filmed by Wes

the BUC president, Pastor McFarlane responded that the most important criterion for holding that particular office is that the person should be an ordained minister. Although women are not yet ordained as ministers in the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church, Pastor McFarlane



Kapon from the Adventist Media Centre, Pastor McFarlane faced some hard questioning from a panel of young people. The programme was unscripted and, although he had no prior knowledge of the questions, Pastor McFarlane dealt well with subjects ranging from Christianity and evolution to the role of women in the Church. Asked whether he thought a time would ever come when a woman could be



said that he personally felt that they should be. In response to a question on jewellery he pointed out that the Seventh-day Adventist principle behind this issue is actually 'modesty', and that Christian modesty should help to determine our entire lifestyle, not just what we wear. He did concede, however, that in the Old Testament many times of revival were preceded by God's people, en masse, giving up their jewellery.

The finale to the day was a 'Songs of Praise' concert which included congregational singing as well as musical performances that drew on a number of different styles.



# NW evangelistic campaign



Photos: Donald McKenzie

Every two years the members and ministers of the North West churches in the NEC mobilise their forces to put on an area-wide evangelistic campaign. In 2005 the area campaign was held in a tent in Platt Fields Park in the south of the city of Manchester.

This year, for the first time, the campaign effort was focused on the north of the city. Members in the north of Manchester have long waited for such an effort. The Abraham Moss Theatre, in Cheetham Hill, was the venue for the effort, and Pastor Orlando

Patterson, of the Central Jamaican Conference, was the evangelist.

On Friday evening 10 August, months of planning suddenly came to life as the venue filled with people and the programme got under way. The first baptism of eleven people was held on Sabbath evening 25

August, and the second baptism of a further nine souls took place in the divine service on 1 September. Of the twenty people baptised, fourteen joined Manchester North church, three Manchester Central, two

Liverpool Stoneycroft, and one Wilmslow.

We look forward to pulling together for another team effort for the next area campaign in 2009.

PASTOR BARRY STOKES

# Song competition at Langley

September 8 was a big day at the Langley church. The day included Sabbath worship and songs of praise in the morning and the afternoon included a song competition in which choirs, duets and solo acts participated. The event is held annually and is an opportunity for Asian worshippers from Pakistan and India to celebrate their talents through songs and worship. Participants, as well as worshippers, travelled from as far as London, Leeds, Leicester, Walsall, Bedford and Nottingham. The day brought a sense of praise and fellowship for all attending, some of whom had met for the very first time.

Among the participants were the Langley Adult SDA Church Choir, Crystal and Christien Masih, the Langley Children's Choir and the Oxford Choir.

ALFRED MASIH





## GBK's busy youngsters raise funds for local women's refuge

The lively and energetic Pathfinders of the GBK church worked hard and raised a grand total of £223.32. Their activities ranged from car washing, nail and hair care and a mini workshop with children's toys and books on display. The older youth got on with their projects while the tiny tots had fun on the two bouncy castles.

When energy flagged, refreshments were provided. More than one hundred people participated, enjoying the gathering, and were generous with their donations.

One proud Pathfinder showed off the neckerchiefs of which three were purchased from the total fund collected. The remaining £100 was donated to the



Haven Local Women's Refuge in Wolverhampton. Claire Heath, manager of the refuge centre, accepted the cheque presented by Wendy Watson-Teague and Pastor Roystan Smith.

DELVA CAMPBELL

\* 'GBK' is the affectionate nickname for the Great Brickkiln Street Seventh-day Adventist church, Wolverhampton.

## Diamond Wedding at GBK\*

John and Gwendolyn Campbell celebrated their diamond wedding day on 11 August. The couple was given a large bouquet of flowers from the GBK Sabbath School department. John Campbell, aged 84, served as head deacon at GBK Wolverhampton church for many years. He was recently presented with a gold award from the church Ministries department as a token of gratitude for the devoted hard work and Christian commitment shown during his period in office.

Mr Campbell's wife, Gwendolyn, aged 80, is still active in the Lord's service at GBK and is a member of the sanctuary choir. The couple enjoyed their special day surrounded by their loving family. They gave God



thanks that their eight children, seventeen grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren were able to witness that wonderful event. John Campbell sent a

message to the youth: 'Be sure your marriage is approved with God's blessing. Only then can it last a lifetime.'

DELVA CAMPBELL

## New at GBK

Paulette Perry, left, and Faith Hudson have been welcomed into the fellowship of 'GBK' — the Great Brickkiln Street church, Wolverhampton — following their baptism. The welcome was given by Pastor Fray and the church's heads of departments. Both women were baptised following the tent evangelistic campaign in June at East Park, Wolverhampton.

DELVA CAMPBELL



## Special Needs Camp 2007 by Joy Bussey

Special Needs Camp at Aberdaron was different in many ways this year, though, as usual, we were richly blessed.

We have been accustomed to wonderful hot weather but, as we all

know, this year has been unusual. The planning before camp had to be altered as the site was flooded and the tents had to be placed in the only dry area. But what a blessing that proved to be as it made it much

easier to care for our campers than when the tents covered a greater area. We looked in amazement at newspaper reports of flooding, hail, etc, and realised that we were being protected from the worst of the elements. The only outdoor events we had to cancel during the week were the sandcastle competition and the bonfire.

Each day Colin Bussey took a minibus full of campers and staff on short trips to places of interest. On Wednesday the whole group boarded a coach and visited a farm in Anglesey where the campers enjoyed stroking and feeding the animals. The braver ones had a cart ride around the whole farm. As usual, before returning to camp, a stop was made for dodgem rides.

We are very grateful to Alva Gallagher for the creative projects available in the Arts and Crafts sessions each day, and for his leadership of the Special Needs Drama group, which prepared an item for each worship session. Worships were led, as usual, by our padre, Pastor Curtis Murphy, and we felt the presence of the Holy Spirit during these times.

We were also very grateful to the kitchen team, led by Archie, one of our young people from Belfast, magnificently supported by Bernard Hunt, who provided us with attractive, healthy meals. Our thanks also go to Les Simpson, manager of the site, and his wife Tracey, who both went far beyond the call of duty.

Our last full day, Sabbath, dawned bright and sunny, which meant that the usual afternoon walk to Whistling Sands could take place. After evening worship Pastor Murphy led us to the garden where a shrub was planted and dedicated to the memory of staff and campers of Special Needs Camp who are now resting until the return of Jesus. The day ended with an Agape meal with the staff team, when we rededicated ourselves to service of our Lord.

I would like to express thanks to ADRA for their support of our camp and those who raise funds for the ADRA appeal each year. Thanks are also given to the members of the team who give their time each year.

If you would like further information about Special Needs Camp (6-13 July 2008), and would like to be considered for a place in the team, or as a camper, please contact Joy Bussey on 01923 461044 or [js.bussey@ntlworld.com](mailto:js.bussey@ntlworld.com).

## Invitation to the House of Lords

In recognition of her work as a local volunteer parent representative in Oxfordshire for Contact a Family (CAF), Sophia Nicholls, trustee and co-founder of ASNA (Adventist Special Needs Association) was invited to attend a reception and grand tour of the House of Lords and Commons on 14 September. This celebratory event was hosted by Baroness Jill Pitkeathly, the former Chief Executive of Carers UK. The day was in recognition of each volunteer's individual achievements and the continuing value of the Contact a Family scheme.

CAF is a national charity which provides advice, support and information for families with children aged 0-19 with any disability or health condition. CAF also enables

parents to get in contact with other families, both on a local and national basis. Each year CAF reaches at least 275,000 families. Rosey Foster, chair of Contact a Family, said: 'The volunteers show other parents that they are not alone in what they are experiencing and how they are feeling. They also help parents take those first difficult steps in accessing local services and make sure they are aware of their rights and entitlements.'

Sophia Nicholls has been involved in the field of disability for over ten years since the birth of her son Matthew Nicholls, now 11. Her involvement in disability and special needs spans three levels:

- Personal — as a parent.
- Professional — as a health care practitioner and academic.

Volunteer — as a co-founder and trustee of ASNA (registered charity providing resources, education, support and training in the disability field), trustee of South and Vale Carers' Centre, consultant to Oxfordshire Carers' Forum, carer representative to the Oxfordshire Carers' Strategy Steering group and volunteer parent representative for CAF in Oxfordshire.

Sophia says, 'Being involved in supporting families living with disabilities is not a job but a way of life for me. Since the birth of Matthew, I have used the support services made available by these much needed voluntary organisations and



feel honoured to give back my time and experience to support other families and professionals needing support and advice.' SOPHIA NICHOLLS

## Dundee Youth Baptism

There was great delight in the Dundee church family when four young people had the moral courage to commit themselves publicly to Christ and back away from the tabloid values of post-modern society. Baptism is a unique, once-in-a-lifetime experience and the promise of lifelong commitment made the baptismal service a lively and emotive occasion. In his address to the candidates on Sabbath 9 June, Pastor Marcel Ghioalda said that baptism was not only the first step in the Christian life and a symbol of discipleship of Christ, but also a washing from sin and an act of faith. Each candidate chose a supporter to lead them to the baptismal pool. The diversity of their selections was a wonderful demonstration of the power of Christianity to bridge cultural and ageism barriers. For their baptismal theme hymns, Lynn Kanyowa chose 'Oh let me walk with thee my God', Anastasia Reim chose 'I have decided to follow Jesus', and Ashley Kanyongo, 'This is my desire to honour you'. The charm of the occasion was heightened by the beautiful pastiche of flow-



Left to right: Lynn, Anastasia, Ashley and Mark

'Is it your Money?' Seems a strange question, doesn't it? But this was the question that was asked as we launched the new building fund at Peterborough Adventist church, Clarence Road.

Why such a question and why a building fund you ask?

Well, we can rejoice at Peterborough because we are growing, and growing rapidly. So much so, in fact, that we have had to start a branch Sabbath School at the Peterborough River Lane church.

This growth is twofold. Many are joining us from far-flung corners of the world. But this growth is complemented by some solid outreach that has resulted in many new visitors from the local area. The church is growing and all praise goes to God.

So now we have a giant to contend with. As

ers that framed the baptismal rebirth ceremony. After immersing the three young ladies Pastor Ghioalda urged the whole church to remember their own baptisms, re-commit to Christ and actively support the candidates in their future pilgrimage. Pastor Neal Robertson welcomed the respondents into full membership and prayed for the Holy Spirit to baptise each soul, guide them and lead them into the heavenly Kingdom. Mark Szallos-Farkas also studied with the Dundee baptismal group. He visited Romania later in the summer where he was baptised by his

## Peterborough Fund Drive

David had to fight Goliath, we have to fight the seemingly impossible task of raising £1,000,000 (that's right one million — buildings are expensive these days). Now we know full well that this would be unrealistic, if it was not for the fact we serve a God that specialises in the impossible.

Sabbath 14 July began with a presentation and a fund drive. One of the elders of the church asked some soul-searching questions and made some soul-searching points:

God desires to give us the funds if we are willing to do his work.

Money is a good tool but a bad master, so we are to let go and give it back to the Lord.

With 10 small churches (our eventual aim, God willing) rather than one large church, every Sabbath there will be 40 or 50 people in training for the Kingdom rather than 4 or 5 (this training consists of ministering to the church body).

Make it the purpose and goal to live God's way, including our financial means given into his hands.

After all, it all belongs to God and it's his money, isn't it?

To date we have raised £6,600, a small step but a large start.

We need your help. Help with fund raising ideas. Your presence would be a blessing here in Peterborough, if you have time to visit.

NEIL BLEST

father in a ceremony witnessed by his family. May the grace of God continue to transform these young lives as they study and work in the Dundee area.

JOHN WALTON



## Summer investiture at Stanborough Park

The Stanborough Park Adventurer and Pathfinder clubs held an investiture service during the summer, presided over by Pastors Des Boldeau (BUC) and Nathan Stickland (SEC). A total of 32 Adventurers (with 9 more receiving awards/reading certificates) and 19 Pathfinders (with 7 more receiving honours/attendance certificates) were invested, and a total of 255 awards were received by Adventurers and 70 honours by Pathfinders.

According to club director, Bernell Bussue, most of the children live in the local area, with some from slightly farther afield who attend Stanborough School. 'Currently around 75% of our children are from Stanborough Park', he says. 'Other children come from the local community, some of whom are not from Adventist homes. The remainder come from Adventist and other churches close by e.g. Luton and Harrow and as far as Chiswick, Willesden and the Wembley Church of God. In many cases the connection is because these children are also pupils at Stanborough School.'

Earlier this year the children undertook a ten-mile sponsored walk along the nearby Grand Union Canal towpath from Cassiobury Park, Watford, to Kings Langley. The walk and some activities at Pat



Adventurers, Pathfinders, leaders, Area Coordinator, Vernon Noel and officiating ministers Pastors Boldeau and Stickland

Walton's famed sales raised a total of £1462.80 for HEART (Harmonising & Empowering Africa to Regenerate Together), a charity introduced to the clubs by Pathfinder leader, Angelette Muller. The money raised was rounded up by the clubs and a cheque for £1,500 was given to HEART representative Fariozia Chineegadoo during the investiture service.

The club has since received reports that the money has been used to complete the building of walkway and stairs to allow the blind and disabled children in a suburb of Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to access the school safely, especially in bad weather.

Local government officials have been so impressed by the help of the



Pathfinder leader, Angelette Muller (left), who introduced the HEART charity to the club, with Fariozia Chineegadoo (centre) and Bernell Bussue

children from the Stanborough Adventurer and Pathfinder clubs, they have felt moved to assist further by giving funds and a long-term financial commitment to help the school. Mrs Julienne, who established the school and is herself blind, said she is overcome by the generosity of children from a

distant country willing to help people they do not know. Representatives of HEART, Paul and Fariozia Chineegadoo, intend to do a presentation in Sabbath School and the Adventurer and Pathfinder club so the children can see and hear about the impact of their efforts.

JUNE COOMBS and BERNELL BUSSUE

## Aylesbury church official opening

On Sabbath 1 September the Aylesbury town Mayor officially opened the Aylesbury Adventist church on Mandeville Road. Cllr Mrs Jenny Puddefoot ceremonially cut a ribbon that was tied across the platform during the celebratory church service in the morning.

The church was filled to capacity as the congregation and visitors gave thanks through music, worship and praise.

Pastor Bernie Holford preached on the theme for the day: 'Great is Thy Faithfulness'. He used the metaphor of a journey, saying that 'if we are to discover a God of faithfulness, we need to wait quietly.'

Ralph Applewhaite and Pauline Sterling gave moving presentations on the history of the Adventist presence in Aylesbury which began in the 1960s. The congregation worshipped in approximately nine different venues before finding their home at last at Mandeville Road.

PASTOR DAVID SPEARING



## Ice in summer

by Colin Stewart, SEC Youth director

From 22 to 29 July the Youth Leadership Convention was held in Entrepeis, Spain. Youth leaders from across the South England Conference and additional delegates from within the TED attended the annual retreat, now in its fourth year.

The principal speaker, Chaplain Roy Ice from Pacific Union College (PUC), set the spiritually inspiring tone of the week at the first evening worship session. The YLC community gathered and were told what living water means in daily discipleship and were challenged to allow God to be in full control of their lives and ministries. The theme, 'How to prevent burnout in Youth ministry', was followed throughout the week with Pastor Ice's storytelling linked to clear biblical principles.

The daytime schedule included workshops ranging from conflict resolution to puppet ministry. These inspiring sessions form part of an equipping track for level 1 and 2 youth leadership certificates, including Pathfinder ministry and

general youth ministry. These youth will certainly return to make significant impact on their churches and communities.

One of the highlights of the week was the special Communion service. Worshippers were invited to get their feet dirty in mud and dust and then wash each other's feet. This gave new meaning to the ordinance of humility and many of those taking



part were visibly moved. They were instructed by Pastor Ice not to eat the bread until they had considered what Jesus' death meant and could do so with insight. The service continued with a moving partaking of the emblems of bread and wine and a praise and worship session.

The theme 'Unite' was truly realised around the camp as a spirit of love and fellowship was seen among the convention attendees. 'How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!' Psalm 133:1.

## Thanks for your time

Kish Poddar reports back on his successful appeal following his recent trip to India

I was overwhelmed by the response of the STOP International watch appeal earlier this year. We received over one hundred watches which came, not only from the generous Watford community, but from as far as Colchester, Scotland and Devon. They were carried in the luggage of the thirteen volunteers who went out to India this summer to begin work on STOP International's Vocational Training Village.

While in India the volunteers visited the lovely children of the Love Home, BESSO and Captain Azariah Children's Home. I personally visited the children of the Blessing Home and STOP International treated the children of The Way To Life home to a trip to a wildlife sanctuary.

The children who needed the watches were not expecting them at the time of our visit, so the sight of these gifts caused great excitement. As

we put the straps around their wrists they patiently waited, trying to contain the thrill that was about to explode.

Once on their wrists, the pride of owning their personal watch was a sight to behold. Thank you to all who kindly made a generous donation of a watch to bless the life of an orphan child. May God richly bless you.

KISH PODDAR with JUNE COOMBS



## Ipswich choir sing in festival

The Ipswich Adventist Gospel Choir, led by Tricia Evelyn, together with choirs from parish churches throughout Suffolk, sang at the annual choir festival at Long Melford.

Over the last four years our Gospel Choir has gained a position of great respect in our community and in the region as a whole.

PAUL KING





## ADRA-UK News

by Bert Smit, Executive director, ADRA-UK

### Emergency responses see dramatic increase

During the summer of 2007 ADRA-UK consistently responded to requests for help following a series of major disasters that struck around the world. From responses to the floods that hit England to the recent immense floods in Africa to the Peru earthquake, ADRA-UK is willing to help. During recent months ADRA-UK has committed nearly £40,000 for immediate response to the needs of people in distress. Since ADRA-UK is part of a network, our joined financial assistance allows ADRA to respond quickly to most disasters.

### Flip-flops for Madagascar

The Shoebox Appeal is in full swing and we are planning for more than 5,000 gift boxes. Remember, you have up until 10 November to arrange for the gifts for the orphans in Madagascar to be delivered to ADRA.

### Somalia energy and livelihood project

October 1 saw ADRA signing a contract for the largest project it has ever undertaken with the European

Commission for Somalia. The 3-year project, valued at 2,000,000 Euro (£1,370,000), will promote the use of renewable energy options, such as wind, solar and modern biomass, in line with the global trend of seeking renewable energy to spur economic growth. The role of energy in reducing poverty is widely recognised as important. The project will also lead to increased access to clean water, health and education services. ADRA will be providing solar power systems, windmills and alternative cooking equipment. ADRA-UK will need to contribute 25% of the funding. This will be raised through the Annual Appeal and private donations.

### Transportation

Because of the high cost of shipping and changing needs, the ADRA-UK board recently decided to follow guidelines provided by the ADRA network to reduce significantly the intake and shipping of used goods. ADRA will plan to ship four containers a year to help overseas Adventist health clinics and hospitals, providing redundant medical furniture and equipment that can significantly improve health care provision in the developing world. ADRA would like to encourage its supporters to select local charities to benefit from used clothing.



ADRA-UK is active in flood relief in Northern Uganda

**Development experience trip**  
ADRA is planning an exciting trip for people aged 18-35 to a project co-funded with the European Commission in Burkina Faso. The trip will expose participants to the hardships of living in a remote village without electricity and running water while working in the dust of the desert during the day. Participants will help in

reforestation activities and the implantations of stone cordon dykes and help restore agricultural educational facilities. Participants are expected to raise funds to pay for their trip and for part of the activities. More information about this trip, planned for 23 June 23-10 July 2008, will shortly be available on our website.

Visit us at [www.adra.org.uk](http://www.adra.org.uk).

## New project in Myanmar (Burma)

A flock of goats and a series of dams and catchment ponds are among the schemes that will make a difference to one of the poorest and most vulnerable regions of Burma (Myanmar). The Magway Division in the centre of the country will benefit from an improved food security programme inaugurated by ADRA-UK on 1 August.

Despite the country having recently been in the news due to political unrest and demonstration, ADRA is able to provide 716,257 Euro of aid to an area currently assessed as one of the poorest and most vulnerable regions of the country. The majority of the population live below the poverty line. The average gross income of a small farmer household in the area is about 365 Euro (£250) a year.

In a new project co-funded with the European Commission and implemented by local partner, ADRA Myanmar, ADRA will provide improved food security, leading to poverty reduction for vulnerable households in the Pakokku township of the Magway Division. The project will last for three years.

ADRA will provide needed vocational skills training for landless labourers, seasonal migrant workers and women. The courses will include food processing and preservation, basic carpentry/cement construction/bricklaying, basic mechanics/welding, and basic sewing. This will enhance their capacity to earn an improved income rather than just being able to provide low-paid unskilled labour.

ADRA will also train small-holder farmers in sustainable dry-land farming techniques and improved livestock husbandry. This will increase productivity. A revolving livestock bank system will be created for extremely poor families based around an investment of 450 goats. Livestock act as a significant buffer in the event of a crop failure, as they can eat crop residues and graze on non-arable land vegetation. Surplus stock can be sold to cover income gaps.

ADRA will also construct rainfall catchment ponds (4500m<sup>3</sup> capacity each – imagine a football field flooded in water a metre high) and 'sand dams' for domestic water supply. The 30 units across 15 villages will not only improve the overall health of the community through access to clean water, but will also reduce the amount of work needed to supply the daily household water needs, especially in the dry season, thereby lessening the burden of women.

ADRA-UK will contribute 15% of the total budget.

BERT SMIT, Executive director



**First Disability Co-ordinators Conference**  
**Achieving Access**  
Empowering Leaders  
Equipping churches and their communities  
Embracing difference

on 4 November, 10am – 4.30pm

at St Albans Adventist church, 121 St Peters Street, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL1 3EL

Cost: £15 (£10 ASNA members)  
Refreshments and lunch provided

For further details contact  
ASNA 01491 833395 or  
BUC 01923 672251

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**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF**

**THE LONDON SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST YOUTH FEDERATION**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the London Seventh-day Adventist Youth Federation (the 'Federation') will be held at 7.30pm on 10 November 2007 at the Advent Centre, 37 Brendon Street, London W1H 5JE, for the purpose of electing of new officers.

A letter, together with a notice of the AGM, has been posted to all youth leaders in Area 6 (London), the South England Conference Youth directors, all Area 6 pastors, and is also available on the London Seventh-day Adventist Youth Federation website ([www.londonyouthfed.org.uk](http://www.londonyouthfed.org.uk)). By order of the Executive officers

**Nottingham banquet** There will be a banquet in Nottingham on 10 November at the Hilton Hotel. Price is £25. Dress code: smart formal. For more information and to reserve a place, contact Sister Taylor or Sandra at the Sunshine Cafe 01158 407227.

**WANTED:** Second-hand SDA Bible Commentary set. If you can help please call 07804 859976.

**WANTED: Photographs of the building of Salisbury Hall, Newbold College**

The Principal would like to borrow photographs of Salisbury Hall being built in 1956/57, i.e. photographs of the grounds before it was built, the different stages of the building process and the building on completion. If anyone has such photographs and would be willing to lend them to be copied (the originals will be returned to you), please send them to:

The Principal, Newbold College, St Marks Road, Binfield, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG42 4AN, or send them by email to: [dpenner@newbold.ac.uk](mailto:dpenner@newbold.ac.uk).

## EDWIN HENRY FRANCIS (1927-2007)

d. 13 September

When I heard that Ed had passed away the first thought that came into my mind was Ellen G. White's 'The greatest want of the world is the want of men...' quote. That quote describes the way Ed lived and handled his life under the great God in whose power he trusted and in whose arms he rests now awaiting the great Resurrection morning. Edwin Henry Francis, born 19 September 1927, was the eldest of four children, the son of Isaac and Clare Francis. We laid him to rest in the Stanborough Park church on his 80th birthday. He was born and lived to the age of 13 in Nairobi, Kenya, where Isaac, his father, worked as an engineer on the Kenya and Uganda Railways. The Nairobi of the 30s and 40s was by no means the Nairobi of today. It had not long been cut out of the African bush and the wild animals of the plains and forests had still not given up all their rights! It was a town of single storey corrugated iron roofed buildings and gravelled earth streets where herds of zebra and wildebeest were known to gallop through and where leopard and hyena roamed the leafy suburbs at night. Here Ed went to school, learned the local Swahili language and to play hockey, one of the many sports that he picked up along the way and that kept him so fit and well to the last. During the Second World War he was sent to Bellary, India, where he attended St Anthony's School and absorbed some of his cultural roots. Ed returned to Africa in 1946, this time to Tanga on the Tanganyika coast to join his parents who had been transferred there. Important things happened to Ed in the twelve years he lived in Tanga. He started work for

company called J. S. Davis, he met and in 1954 married Ruby, the daughter of his mother's best friend, and his first child, Lydia, was born there in 1955. Ed started working in 1958 with Gailey & Roberts – hardware and builders merchants in Nairobi. In 1960 an itinerant Adventist preacher came to town and held a series of lectures. The Francis family attended and by the end of the series were convinced of the veracity of these explanations of Scripture and decided to join the Adventist Church. Ed went to Gailey and Roberts and asked for Saturdays off. This was unheard of and they refused, giving him three months' notice of dismissal unless he changed his mind. Meanwhile Ruby and his parents went ahead and were baptised. Ed waited, not knowing whether he would be able to find another job with Saturdays off, as in the early 60s jobs were very difficult to come by. The last Friday of his three months' notice came up and he was in his office cleaning out and tidying up when his boss came in and asked him what he was doing. He explained, and then the boss said, 'Ed, we need men of principle and if you are willing to stand up for your principles even to losing your job, come back Monday, your job will be such and such and your salary will be such and such (suitably boosted)'. There was great rejoicing in the family and the church and Ed was baptised in 1961. I am sure that those of you who knew Ed well both in and out of the church recognised and appreciated his stalwartness and quiet determination, character traits which made him so much loved and re-

**ISMAI CLARKE (affectionately called 'Girlic') (1926-2007) d. 30 January.** It is with great sadness that the members, friends and family of Greenwich (formerly Deptford) and Lewisham churches in England and Pegwell church in Barbados say farewell to Ismay Clarke. Ismay, wife of Pedro Clarke, came to the UK in 1962, leaving behind her in Barbados five children in the care of relatives. She worked very hard in the UK, holding down two jobs, one of which was in the catering department of the famous Selfridges department store in London. She became an expert at cake-making and decorating and other associated culinary skills. Her diligence enabled her to bring her children to join her in London. In 1972 she accepted the Adventist message and was baptised by Pastor Mark Leeds at the Lewisham church in south London. She later transferred her membership firstly to Deptford church and secondly to the Greenwich church, when the former church and membership relocated to that area. Ismay held several church offices while at the Deptford and Greenwich churches, including head deaconess, Sabbath School superintendent, Lay Activities leader, Senior Choir leader, Community Services leader and, last but not least, the co-leader for the Greenwich Over 50s Drop-in Group. She was always an efficient and effective leader, leading by example, holding the standards of the Church in high regard. Her dedication and forbearance will long be remembered and appreciated by all who knew her and came under her wing. She leaves behind her five children, Marva, Nigel, Marcia, Ormand and Grantley; thirteen grandchildren; twenty-two great-grandchildren; two brothers; one sister and a host of other relatives and friends. May she rest in peace until that resurrection call of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

**FRANK MAGGS (1943-2007) d. 27 August.** Francis Stanhope Maggs was born on 6 March 1943 in Acton. The family moved

to the West Country in 1948, settling in Highbridge, Somerset. After attending a campaign in 1969 in Weston-super-Mare, Frank's mother and stepfather were baptised in 1970 by Pastor L. Barker. Due to their influence Frank received Bible studies from Pastor John French and was baptised later that year. Weston church is where Frank met a pretty young Bible worker, Frances Markham, and six months later they were married. Their marriage was blessed with a son Christopher and daughter Victoria. Frank, with Frances' help, ran his own engraving business and his work can be seen on many buildings in the area: he also supplied a memorial plaque for the BBC Blue Peter garden. The business grew and 'Maggs Commercial Engravers Ltd' had a reputation for integrity and honesty in all its dealings. Frank was also greatly involved in the church he loved and, as well as taking other offices, he faithfully served as head deacon for many years until ill health forced him to resign his office at the end of August 2006. As a very thoughtful man, Frank often put others before himself, and his friendly nature and varied interests, (including his love of all things mechanical with wheels or pistons, travel literature, photography, diverse musical taste and singing in choirs), enabled him to strike up a lively conversation with the people he met. He was also a man who gave encouragement to those close to him and often saw goodness in the personality of others before anything else. Although Frank lived with cancer for a year and a half it never crushed his will to live, his faith, or his love for those close to him. Even in the darkest moments he retained his strong sense of dignity, self-worth and sense of humour. His relationship with God sustained his inner spirit and his strength of character bore witness to the loving God in whom he faithfully trusted and impressed all who met and tended him during his illness. Frank's last weeks were spent at his home in Highbridge, the same house where he had spent many happy years growing up with his own parents. The family he loved so much

spected. Ed came to England in 1967 to start a new life. He joined the Granose Food Company in Watford, the family living on what in those days was called 'Holy Row'. The children attended Stanborough School and started the process of becoming English, including dealing with snow and cold winters. Ed made friends with many of those who worked at Granose and those who attended Stanborough Park church. By and by that church drew on his sense of right and responsibility and he became a respected leader in the church, serving often as deacon and elder as he had done in the church in Nairobi. In 1972 Ed went to work for United Builders Merchants and stayed with them until 1986 when it became Jewson and he was made redundant. Ed went then to work in London, commuting for three years until he took early retirement. He loved sports from an early age and played hockey, cricket, squash and badminton to a high standard, later even taking up bowls. He loved to hike and hill climb. He had a rich, melodious voice, enjoyed music and singing, and will be remembered for his laugh. His energetic work for a number of local charities will be missed. Ed went to sleep on Thursday night 13 September, a dearly loved and greatly missed father, brother, grandfather and friend. Lydia, Judy, Ken, Pat and his eight grandchildren look forward to seeing him in that grand getting-up morning.

DEREK BEARDSSELL

cared for him during that time and his passing has left a big gap in their lives. We extend our love and sympathy to his wife Frances, son Christopher and fiancée Emma, daughter Victoria and son-in-law Colin and Frank's young grandchildren Charlotte, Abigail, George and Isobel. On 5 September the funeral service was held in the full-to-overflowing Adventist church in Weston. Tributes were given by Peter Isaac, a life-long friend of Frank, and Pastor David Poster, a family friend. The address was given by Pastor Islwyn Rees, a former minister at Weston and family friend. Frank was laid to rest in Highbridge cemetery. A passage of Scripture that became precious to Frank during his illness was Psalm 46 – 'God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.' Frank trusted in Jesus and we look forward to seeing him on the great resurrection day when there will be no more partings and all things will be made new.

MAUREEN REES

**ELLIS BOWN (1915-2007) d. 19 September.**

The Wallasey church is saddened to report the death of one of its oldest members. Ellis Bown was born on 30 September 1915, and passed to rest at the Arrow Park Hospital on 19 September 2007. Ellis was just a few days short of his 92nd birthday. Ellis moved from Liverpool to Birmingham in the 1930s looking for work. This was in the providence of God, for in Birmingham he found not only work but also his future wife. Ellis married Hilda Hunt on 5 October 1940. Ellis died just a few days short of what would have been their 67th wedding anniversary. He was baptised by Pastor D. Masih at the Camp Hill church, and was one of the last people to be baptised in the old church before it was demolished to make way for the new building. Ellis is survived by his wife, Hilda, son Robert, a sister Marrie and brother Billy, and two grandchildren, Simone and Fabian. He was laid to rest at the Landican cemetery and awaits the call of the Life-giver.

PASTOR BARRY STOKES

## Golden Years

Who said that marriage is obsolete? In a world in which marriage and commitment seem to be things of the past, it's good to see that some people are still faithful and committed to each other.

On 1 July family and friends of the Walsall church joined with Mr and Mrs Lloyd Lawson to celebrate fifty years of marriage. The happy couple renewed their vows in the presence of God, family and friends. The ceremony was conducted by Pastors Jeffeth Nicholson and Patricia Douglas, with other pastors who had met and worked with the Lawsons during their time of service.

A sumptuous dinner followed the ceremony with speeches and good wishes from all in attendance.

MARK TAYLOR



# ADRA-UK starts new project in Somalia

by Bert Smit, Executive director

Watford, England – The Adventist Development and Relief Agency in the United Kingdom has secured its largest project co-funded with the European Commission to date. The 'Somalia Energy and Livelihood project' will start in Somalia on 1 November and will last for three years. Valued at €2,000,000 (£1,370,000), 75% of the funding is furnished by the European Commission.

Somalia is classified as a 'least developed country'. It is one of the poorest countries in the world with per capita income of less than £100 a year. Fifty-three percent of the population live below the poverty line. The situation has been exacerbated by the effects of war and lack of state authorities. This has led to the total collapse of social services.

ADRA's main objective is to contribute to overall poverty reduction in Puntland and Somaliland. The two states are self-administering entities committed to post-war development and recovery, and they have enjoyed relative peace and stability for some time. Between them they have a population of close to 5.3 million.

The role of energy in reducing poverty is recognised by the two states, and energy ministries have been established to coordinate related activities aimed at increasing access to energy services by the rural population.

The project, implemented by network partner ADRA Somalia, will strengthen livelihood strategies of the Somali people through promoting the use of alternative energy options to meet growing energy needs. ADRA will install windmills, solar-powered water systems and facilitate the pro-

duction and marketing of 10,000 cooking stoves as part of the project.

The installation of energy equipment will result in increased access to clean water. Health and education services will also be provided. This will be done by creating an awareness of the effects of bad natural resource management and promoting the use of renewable energy options, such as wind, solar and modern biomass. The intervention will be conducted in line with the global trend of seeking renewable energy to spur economic growth.



Alma gave thanks and praise to her Lord who has blessed her life to enable her to achieve this day.

ESME HURCULES

## African Fellowship

There was such an excellent array of music at the Handsworth Wood-based group's concert on Sabbath 6 October. With only a few days' notice, a packed line-up of groups, soloists and instrumentalists all presented their gifts of praise to God. What was amazing was the melodious and seemingly effortless singing of Joyous Symphony, 12-year-old Pamela, Emmanuel and many others. The concert finished promptly with a reminder of the group's need to acquire its own building as the terms of their agreement with the secondary school stipulate that they must vacate the premises at a fixed time each week. We need to pray that groups like the African fellowship continue to flourish and bring new members into a welcoming arena of fellowship, not hindered by the lack of their own facilities.

DR JACQUIE HALLIDAY-BELL

## Alma Jackson celebrates her 90th birthday

On Sabbath 28 July the Riverway church celebrated the 90th birthday of one of our founder members, Alma Jackson. After the morning service a fellowship lunch was enjoyed, during which Elder Creer paid tribute to Alma, and a celebratory cake was cut.

Alma was always an active member of the Bromley and Riverway churches, holding various positions and providing beautiful flower arrangements, until in recent years her sight began to fail, preventing her from keeping up with events. When asked if she felt 90 years old, Alma replied, 'No'.

Alma is truly a fine Christian lady: the church is still benefiting from her presence and we are delighted to see her reaching this milestone in her life.

### ABC BOOK SALES

#### October

28 Harper Bell 10.30am-2pm  
NEC/SEC  
Women's Retreats

#### November

4 John Loughborough 10.30am-2pm

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### Sunset

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	Lon	Card	Nott	Edin	Bell
Oct 26	5.46	5.58	5.46	5.47	6.01
Nov 2	4.33	4.45	4.32	4.31	4.47
9	4.21	4.33	4.20	4.17	4.33
16	4.11	4.23	4.09	4.04	4.21

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