

New principal for Newbold

by Helen Pearson

On 11 May, the Board of Governors appointed an American professor of political science as Newbold College's next principal. Since she earned her doctorate in 1999, Dr Jane Sabes has been teaching on the campus of Newbold's sister institution, Andrews University, in Berrien Springs, Michigan, where she has researched and taught out of her particular interests in the relationship between religion, politics and human rights. She recently received

the 2008 Spiritual Life award in recognition of her 'ever-strong spiritual influence on students and colleagues alike'. In 2005, she was voted 'Teacher of the Year'.

Dr Sabes brings the experience of an international curriculum vitae to the job. She has served as director of health services for the Seward Peninsula in Alaska, and has international work experience in China, Libya and Indonesia. In the 1990s, Dr Sabes worked as director of the Wyoming Department of Health, having a staff of 2,000 and



managing a biennial budget of \$600 million.

She has a broad experience of teaching and educational administration and has worked in educational administration and curriculum planning at both Kettering Medical Centre, Kettering, Ohio, and Clinical Faculty at Wright State University, School of Medicine in Dayton, Ohio.

Dr Sabes received her Bachelor of Science from Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, MD, her Master's in Public Health from Loma Linda University, CA, and a Master's in Public Administration from the University of Wyoming. In 1999 she earned her doctorate in political science with emphasis in international public policy and public administration.

Dr Sabes succeeds Dr David Penner who resigned last February after six years as principal. She is expected to visit the campus in June and, subject to visa arrangements proceeding smoothly, will take up her duties at the College in August. She will be the twenty-ninth principal in Newbold's 107-year history, the twelfth American, and the second woman.

Dr Keith Mattingly, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Andrews University, describes Jane Sabes as an energetic woman of many talents who combines tenderness of spirit with a clear calling to accountability. 'She is,' he says, 'one of those who look at challenges and create new and creative ways of doing things.'

Dr Bertil Wiklander, Chair of the Board of Governors, said: 'Jane Sabes brings to her new leadership role a rare combination of gifts which we believe will serve Newbold well. She combines an open outlook on the world with a deep involvement in the life and witness of the Church. We wish her and the Newbold staff well as they begin this new and critical phase of the College's history.'

Newbold's Spring Fair

What courses are on offer at Newbold? And what would it be like to study there?

From Streatham and Southampton, from Chiswick and Colchester, in temperatures creeping towards 30 degrees, they came to find out at Newbold's Spring Fair on Sunday 11 May.

First through the door were Michael and Desiré Lewis from Southampton. They said they were thinking about the Gap Year or the One-year certificate in Music and Worship, or in Social Sciences. They toured the stands set up in Newbold's Salisbury Hall by the various departments in the College and enjoyed the refreshments and entertainment on offer.

From a platform in the centre of the hall, Dr John Baildam, director of Academic Affairs, described the various courses on offer, focusing particularly on the new degree in Diversity to be offered from August this year. Musical entertainment from various students followed. As more prospective students arrived, they were joined by members of the Newbold College Board, also meeting at the College that day. Some of the would-be students were interested in degree courses (Business, Diversity) and, of course, in Theology at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. Simone Smit, director of Student Finance, offered them help with finding loans and other sources of financial support.

The visit concluded with a tour of the campus, which included not only the cafeteria, the classrooms and the halls of residence, but also the church, the gardens, the gym and the library. A particularly hospitable current student allowed the group to

ADRA expands emergency relief in Burma

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is committing US\$265,500 in emergency funds for immediate disaster relief, and providing food assistance and medical supplies to communities in the hard-hit Irrawaddy Delta region in southern Burma (Myanmar). These funds are complemented by an additional US\$100,000 from the Swiss Agency for Development and Co-operation (SDC). ADRA-UK's Mark Castellino is in Burma, helping ADRA Myanmar in Yangon prepare a master plan to make programme designing with the network and external donors more strategic and streamlined.

In an effort to assist survivors, the ADRA network is funding an emergency response project that will provide food rations (rice, pulses and salt), temporary shelter materials (tarpaulins, bamboo and nylon rope), five-gallon water containers, kitchen sets (bowls, spoons and cups), tool kits and hygiene kits to approximately 20,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs). Donors to this project include ADRA International, ADRA supporting offices in Canada, New Zealand,

Australia, Czech Republic, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Sweden, United Kingdom, Portugal, Netherlands, Japan, and HELP International.

Working in conjunction with the World Food Programme (WFP), ADRA has already distributed 25 metric tons of rice and power biscuits to an estimated 50,000 IDPs in Labutta, a rice-trading town, which has become a refuge for thousands of people. Additionally, the distribution of 45 metric tons of rice is currently underway in fourteen Labutta IDP camps where approximately 20,000 people have taken refuge. In the Piensalu islands south of Labutta, a separate ADRA food distribution programme has provided nearly 5,000lbs of rice and a supply of clean drinking water to affected villages. Food distributions are expected to increase in coming days.

ADRA International, through a partnership with World Emergency Relief (WER), is shipping twenty medicine packs containing medical supplies valued at approximately US\$129,000, to be used by a medical team already providing first-aid assistance to residents of an isolat-

ed part of the delta. Each pack provides about 1,500 treatments from mixed medicines, antiseptics and antibiotics. In a separate shipment donated by Heart to Heart International, ADRA has sent 150lbs of medical supplies, including broad-spectrum antibiotics, analgesics, vitamins, topical creams, oral rehydration salts, anti-amoebic drugs, bandages and disposable vinyl gloves. Additional donations include 250 medical kits provided by Germany-based Johanniter International Assistance.

ADRA has also received water

filtration units capable of providing clean water for 46,000 people a day, three small water systems that will help purify water for up to 2,000 people each, and one million water purification tablets.

Downed trees, debris, and widespread flooding have hampered transportation efforts to and from affected areas in the delta. In many instances, reaching villages has only been possible by boat.

ADRA's emergency response is centred in the devastated Irrawaddy Delta region, which suffered the most damage.

BUC NEWS

Aid for earthquake survivors in China

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is on the ground in China, responding to the needs of survivors after a deadly 7.9-magnitude earthquake struck south-western China on Monday 12 May, killing 40,000, and leaving millions homeless in Sichuan province alone.

An emergency response was underway immediately, targeting areas affected by the quake, which hit 57 miles from Chengdu, the capital city of the Sichuan province, destroying millions of homes. ADRA volunteers are in Dou Jiang Yan, one of the most accessible areas in the affected region, to conduct emergency assessment. The most urgent needs of survivors are water, food, blankets, shelter and first aid medical service. China's foreign ministry has appealed to the international community to provide tents.

Dozens of aftershocks rattled the area.

For more on this story or to donate, visit www.adra.org.uk.



Enhancing Health

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

Brain Health Series

Part seven/c

Nutrition and the brain

Eat the right fats

Continuing our focus on brain nutrients, we take a closer look in this issue at 'healthy' and 'unhealthy' fats and their impact on brain health.

The three types of fat found in our foods are: saturated (mainly from animal products and junk foods), monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fats.

Saturated fats are known to increase the risk of atherosclerosis (fatty deposits or plaque) which block the blood vessels in the brain, negatively affecting brain function.

The 'good fats' or 'essential fatty acids' usually

refer to two specific fats called omega 3 and omega 6 (polyunsaturated fats). Studies of these fats indicate that they can increase the number of brain cells, enlarge the brain and improve learning and brain function.

Omega 3 and brain nutrition

Medical studies have shown that omega 3 oils play an important role in brain development. Strong evidence also supports the fact that omega 3 fatty acids can help with the development of the nervous system and the reduction of blood cholesterol.

Foods rich in Omega 3

- The richest sources of omega 3 are found in algae, oily fish, broccoli, walnuts and flaxseed (ground/milled flaxseed or flaxseed oil is best). Flax oil is also available in vegetable capsules.
- Other sources of omega 3 are olive oil, leafy green vegetables, pumpkin seeds and soybeans.

Several recent news reports have indicated that there could be health risks associated with eating too much oily fish – in particular, salmon.

This is because oily fish contain a particular pollutant called dioxin and also PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyl). High levels of both these elements are known to be toxic to humans. A safer way to get sufficient omega 3 is to try alternating the food sources in the chart below.

Good sources of omega 3 fats

Flaxseed oil	1 tablespoon (14g)
Flaxseed, ground	1 tablespoon (24g)
Rape seed oil	1 tablespoon (14g)
Walnuts	1oz (28g)
Tofu	4.5oz (126g)

Advice:

- Eat more walnuts and broccoli.
- Include 4 to 5 teaspoons of ground flaxseeds, or rape seed oil in your diet.
- Do not heat these oils, as heating will alter the fat composition and reduce its efficacy.
- Add flaxseeds to foods just before serving. It is important that the flaxseeds are ground or at least crushed, as it makes the fat more readily available.

Good health!

Brother C says, 'Welcome home!'



David Marshall

I've been keeping an eye on the deacons recently. A friend of mine, a retired pastor, went to worship with a large congregation where he was not known. My friend is warm and irrepressibly sociable. Because of momentary inattention he inadvertently entered through the double doors into the sanctuary during the doxology. Before he realised his mistake, two burly deacons forcibly grabbed him by the elbows, lifted him so that his feet no longer touched the carpet and propelled him backwards through the doors through which he had come and deposited him by the coat racks. 'They were like bouncers,' he told me. 'I might have been a visitor off the street for all they knew!'

Another deacon horror story came from a congregation where reverence was interpreted as marching out of church, row by row, as soon as the final 'Amen' was said. Unfortunately, as we get older, we are less good at marching. Indeed, we are apt to 'dodder'. Some of us have other failings; we smile, and mutter words of greeting as we dodder. The deacon's victim in the horror story was newly back at church, having had a stroke. His 'doddering' was assisted by a tripod support at one side and the help of his wife at the other. He was making such slow progress between the rows of chairs that able-bodied members graciously stayed behind and whispered warm words of greeting and encouragement to him. Until, that is, a deacon bellowed from the preacher's mike: 'REVERENCE MY SANCTUARY!' Would anyone with even a slight knowledge of how the Jesus of the gospels related to the vulnerable and the infirm have done that? There are dangers in creating a monster apocalyptic 'Jesus' in our own image. There is one Jesus. We meet him in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. 'This same Jesus' will be the one who returns.

Deacons who confuse their role with that of a bouncer are rare. Deacons unacquainted with the Christ of the gospels are almost unknown. Most are warm, friendly and welcoming. However, when Brother A was appointed deacon, no one was sure how he would turn out. His testing time came

when Simon turned up at church.

Simon was well known in the local community as a young man who had done drugs. After years of addiction he had found the courage and the help – over the greater part of a year – to break the habit. During his years of slavery to a substance, he had often passed a large church, the members of which spilled out over the pavement on a Saturday. He resolved to give thanks for his freedom from drugs by worshipping at that church. His entry was inconspicuous and the deacons missed him. Though he was recognised by some in the congregation, no one knew why he had come to church, so no one made room for him in that packed sanctuary. Dressed in Levis and clean T-shirt, Simon made his way to the front. With no seats available, Simon sat cross-legged on the carpet facing the pulpit. He noticed that his knee was showing through a hole in his Levis. But Simon was at church to celebrate freedom from drugs, not Savile Row tailoring.

It was then that Brother A, the new deacon, spotted Simon. A, always a credit to Savile Row, slowly made his way up the aisle to where Simon was sitting. His face was solemn. As A and his squeaky shoes drew nigh unto Simon, there were some in the congregation who thought they were about to witness Simon's summary eviction, and a few who hoped they were. What they *did* witness was A in his striped suit sitting down cross-legged on the carpet beside Simon, putting his arm around Simon and saying, 'Great to see you, son. Jesus loves you.' That is why Brother A might win the Deacon of the Year Award from me.

It has to be 'might win' because Brother A would have competition from Brother C.

Brother Zechariah Campbell knows the One about whom his namesake prophesied. The Jesus of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John; not the non-biblical crypto-christ conjured up by the apocalyptic imaginations of the cultic. Brother C has known the authentic Christ for many years – and it shows. He would lose the Deacon of the Year Award to Brother A on a technicality. He's an elder.

When I visit the Doncaster church, he

always receives me with the same greeting: 'Brother Marshall, welcome home!'

There's an irony here. When I visit the congregation nearest to my home somebody or other always spoils my Sabbath morning by saying, 'Hello, v-i-s-i-t-o-r!' They count my absences against me! At Doncaster, where I show up no more than once a year, Brother C says, 'Welcome home!'

At Doncaster church there are members who, like Brother C, are in the *Windrush* tradition. More than half the congregation has arrived from Zimbabwe, the Far East or Eastern Europe in the last decade. There's a sprinkling of those whose ancestors come from Doncaster. There are some who are old, a great many who are young, and some who've stopped counting. To all of them, one by one as they enter, Brother C says, 'Welcome home!' As a consequence, they all *feel* at home. Because they feel at home, they are warm in their treatment of their fellow members. Multi-national, multi-racial, multi-generational: Doncaster works as a family.

Doncaster does not hose down returning prodigals. There's just the embrace of the Father and the warmth of the Father's House.

The Buddhists tell a version of the Prodigal Son story. In their version the father figure exercises proper caution. He requires the returning boy to *prove* that he is good. Only when proof is provided can the prodigal be welcomed home.

We go with the Luke 15 version at Doncaster.

The Gospel of Jesus makes a real difference.

There's the Father's embrace for the whosoever will. There's the best robe. There's the ring. There's the shoes for the prodigal's feet. There's the fatted calf. There's the celebration.

The Gospel invites us to a 'Come as you are' party. And it provides the Power so that we don't *stay* as we are.

Make sure that every returning prodigal meets the Father before any of the elder brothers with 'must be to qualify for entry' checklists.

Adventist-Muslim relations

Over the weekend of 12 and 13 April the Cardiff church hosted a special Adventist-Muslim Relations seminar. The main speaker for the weekend was Petras Bahadur, though he was assisted by his colleagues Emil Shelufumo and James Asif. Currently serving on the pastoral team in the Willesden church, Petras was called to Wales for the weekend especially

because of his knowledge and understanding of the Muslim faith. Interest in the lectures was high. Following the Sabbath morning service around sixty people stayed for the afternoon lecture, and for the two Sunday lectures more than thirty were present. This high turnout can perhaps be accounted for by the fact that the Cardiff church has many



Left to right: Emil Shelufumo, Amjad John, Petras Bahadur, Ryan Bahadur and James Asif

Chelmsford Pathfinders

On Sabbath 17 May Chelmsford Pathfinders gathered with friends and families at Roman Road church to celebrate a year of achievement. Pathfinder leader Althea Beswick called the young people to the platform, where they were questioned, and then they received their awards from BUC Youth department leader, Des Boldeau, supported by Master Guide Alisa Cooper. In his address, Pastor Des urged parents to continue to encourage their children to stay in the Pathfinder movement, and to the young people he said, 'You are the fruit of the vine, and in order to grow and flourish, you must stay connected to the vine that is Jesus.'

He then uncovered a wealth of talent when he asked all past and present Pathfinder leaders to stand, and then asked them to play their part in a great work. In closing, he expressed the hope of meeting with Chelmsford Pathfinders again soon at the forthcoming Camporee at Skreens Park Roxwell, Essex, from 27 July to 3 August 2008.

The service closed with a rousing rendition of the Pathfinder Song, and was followed by a fellowship meal for all.

TED SHIRLEY



Muslim neighbours, but it may also be because Adventists throughout the UK are becoming increasingly aware of the necessity of interacting with and relating to their multicultural and multi-faith environments in a proactive way.

The approach that Petras uses in encouraging Adventists to relate more positively with their Muslim neighbours is very practical. He teaches from the Qur'an! In the Cardiff church this raised more than a few eyebrows, especially when the Welsh Mission president joined in the action and read several passages that Petras had chosen to illustrate particular points.

Explaining his use of the Qur'an, Petras said, 'If we are to have a genuine dialogue with our Muslim neighbours, we need to start where they are.' He also pointed out that some Bible themes occur in the Qur'an. Demonstrating this, Petras found texts relating to angels, prophecy, Jesus, the final

judgement, and the Sabbath.

Much of Petras's time was spent underlining the importance of cultural understanding. 'An average Muslim associates the word "Christian" with those who follow aspects of Western culture, including things that Adventists would regard as immoral or unacceptable. We have to understand that "Christian" is a dirty word to Muslims.' Because this view is almost impossible to change, the traditional, confrontational approach used by many Christians in trying to relate to Muslims will not work. Instead, Christians need to adapt their language and behaviour, and try to see things through their Muslim neighbours' eyes.

During the lectures, practical advice given for helping to build bridges with Muslims included: using the word 'Adventist' instead of 'Christian', 'Movement' instead of 'Church', 'Holy Books' instead of 'Bible'. JOHN SURRIDGE, Welsh Mission president

Polish evangelism

'Jego autor I pisarze' was the wording on the first slide that Pastor Wladislaw Kosowski from the Polish Union used to start his short evangelistic series in the Darlington church over the weekend of 10-12 May.

The series was the brainchild of two active Polish Adventist laymen who live in Darlington. Jacek and Tadeusz Wiczorek meet and work with many of their compatriots and have opened up to them the friendliness of the local Seventh-day Adventist community through English language classes run in the church.

The programmes that Pastor Wlad conducted answered the question asked by many: 'Can the Bible be trusted?' In the first lecture we visited the caves of the Qumran area and learnt something of the Dead Sea Scrolls as we found that the text of the Bible really is authentic and reliable. While the audience was not large, we did have interested visitors who appreciated the presentation.

On the Sabbath, our Friday evening audience was joined by Polish friends from around the country, and so developed an impromptu day of fellowship where worship, food and social relationships, with an unusual conglomeration of African, European and Asian languages, combined to help us realise that the heart of Christian communication often revolves around sharing the Word of the Lord.

PETER JEYNES



Left to right: Pastor Mapp, Clarice and Omri and Pastor Smith

GBK wedding

On 18 November 2007 at Great Brickkiln Street church, Wolverhampton, the marriage of Clarice Dillion to Omri Lewis took place and was witnessed by a large congregation. The ceremony was conducted by Pastor Fred Mapp and Pastor Smith. Clarice is a devoted Adventist and member of the sanctuary choir. Omri is also a church member. After a happy and well-celebrated reception, the couple spent their honeymoon in the West Indies, which, ultimately, became their permanent place of residence.

DELVA M. CAMPBELL

Senior citizens and Pathfinders

On Sunday 23 December the Community Services department and the Pathfinders organised a banquet for senior members at Great Brickkiln Street church, Wolverhampton. Quite a number of senior members of the local community also attended. Most of the evening was spent with talented seniors singing folk songs known from their youth. Others gave dialect recitations and presented humorous stories from their native Jamaica. The flavour was pleasantly entertaining, while the young Pathfinders served a three-course meal to the senior citizens. The event ended with each visitor receiving a gift.

DELVA M. CAMPBELL



Civic Ambassador at Stratford Investiture

On 23 February Stratford church celebrated their Pathfinders and Adventurers Investiture. One of the highlights was the Stratford drum corps leading the Pathfinders and Adventurers into church. The church was packed and the investiture programme went well.

The distinguished guest who witnessed the programme was Councillor Omana Gangadharan, who is the London Borough of Newham's Civic Ambassador.

Also our new first elder June Gamble-Ashton was invested as a Master Guide. And we now have a new Pathfinder leader, Charmain Weekes. ERROL REID



Courtney's story

As a lay Bible worker at the Northfield church I was invited to a home to say a prayer of blessing for a new baby. Following this, the husband and wife began Bible studies. Both accepted the truths presented to them. At the conclusion of the studies, the wife, now known to us as Sister Doreen, was baptised. Although her husband accepted the message, he never requested baptism.

Some seventeen or eighteen years later, the couple decided to have a special celebration of their marriage, asking God for a blessing. This was held at Camphill church, Birmingham, on 10 July 2005, with Pastor Sawyers officiating.

A short time later, I attended the Pavilion of Hope Crusade Sabbath service. On entering the tent I found two vacant seats. I was impressed to let my grandchild have one of them, so that if anyone came, she could vacate her seat and sit on my lap. At the beginning of the song service I was impressed to look behind me. There was Sister Doreen, with her husband Courtney standing. The seat beside me was given to him.

The appeal came for candidates wishing to be baptised. Courtney said to me: 'I want to go up there, you know.' 'Would you like me to go with you?' I asked. 'Would you?' he responded. We went up to the altar and Courtney was told he could be baptised at a later date. But Courtney made it known that he wanted baptism there and then. He

said that he would go into the pool in his clothes and go home wet if there was no gown for him.

He was taken to the pastors who asked if anyone had put any pressure on him to make his decision. He provided evidence of his faith by declaring that he had made his decision years ago when he had accepted truths learned in Bible studies with Sister Astil and members of the Northfield church in the late 80s and early 90s. Now he was ready to make a public confession of his faith, and no obstacle was placed in his path.

I understood the necessity for his wife to be present. I found her with several members and supporters from Northfield, and together we returned to the baptismal pool. We sang, we laughed, we cried. Brother Courtney was baptised at the Pavilion of Hope campaign on 27 August 2005 and was received into the Northfield branch on 10 September. Officiating were Pastor D. Masih and Northfield's minister, Pastor Delroy Foster. Brother Courtney is now an elder at Northfield church and his wife a deaconess.

God asks us to sow the seed, and he will do the watering and bring the increase. Northfield members continue to sow the seed and are blessed by being allowed to nurture the increase. This is evidenced in the make-up of our congregation, some of whom also studied in the 80s and 90s.

ASTIL ASHBY

Coventry Central: no turning back

'I have decided to follow Jesus' was commitment in action as six young people passed through the waters of baptism at the Coventry Central church on Sabbath 19 April. They were: Martha Mutuka, Doris Mhlanga, Awakhiwe Mkwanzani, Awade Mkwanzani, Adile Maseko and Mabutho Mkoba.

Pastor Liburd was the speaker encouraging the young people to be wholehearted followers of Jesus. One of the young men, on being asked why he wished to be baptised, responded, 'I want a closer relationship with God and for the Lord to control my life.' This reflected the

sentiments of all the candidates. Pastor S. Palmer spoke from the baptistery, saying that baptism is the outward sign of inner commitment, and encouraged others to come forward for baptismal studies.

Favourite musical contributions from Coventry Central's singing groups 'Emanuella' and 'Emanuel' were sung prior to the immersion of each candidate.

Racquel Faircloth, a singing evangelist from Jamaica, graced the occasion with several inspiring songs, including 'Lord, You're Holy' and 'My God is Real'.

CHURCH CLERK

Agnes Poulton joins the 100 Club

by June Coombs

Recently the BBC 'Horizon' series broadcast a programme entitled 'How to Live to be 101', which featured Seventh-day Adventists among other groups known for their longevity. Stanborough Park church currently has two members who are part of our own current 100 Club, with another hoping to join them in October. The latest recruit is Agnes Poulton who celebrated her 100th birthday on Friday 25 April.

Agnes has been a member at Stanborough Park since 1975, when she moved to a flat near the church after the death of her mother. Before that she had been a regular member of Watford Town since joining the church at the age of 13.

Now housebound, she has been a resident at The Fairway in South Oxhey since 5 September 2003, where she celebrated her special day with a small tea party with some of the other residents, family members, friends and fellow church members.

She was born in Plumstead, southeast London. Her father, Henry, was a policeman, working initially at the police station in Lee Green (near Lewisham) and then moving to Willesden Green, where Agnes lived until she was 13.

Unable to obtain Sabbath privileges after joining the Church, he found employment in the Granose Foods factory. Agnes, then aged 13, her older brother Henry (Harry) and her mother followed once he got established. They set up home in a church-owned wooden building on part of the church-owned Kingswood Estate and farm, where they remained until the estate was sold to developers following the construction of the London North

Orbital Road through the farm which rendered it no longer viable.

Leaving school at 14, she went to work on the Kingswood farm until she was 16, when she joined her father at the Granose Foods factory, initially working packing food products. Later she moved to the despatch department, where she eventually took charge of organising and despatching the factory's orders and liaising with carriers. During this time she spent twenty years working as a volunteer with the St John Ambulance, helping out on the wards at the Watford hospitals.

Agnes never married, remaining in the family home. She left Granose after forty years, taking early retirement to care for her elderly mother who had been injured in a road accident. After her mother's death in 1975 (her father had died twenty years previously), she moved to a flat in a tower block near Stanborough Park, close to her niece, Barbara.

After Barbara died a few years ago Agnes became more dependent on her neighbours for help as she grew increasingly frail, and, finally, after a fall five years ago, where she lay all night without help, she was taken into hospital

and decided that the time had come to go into residential care. She has lived at The Fairway home in South Oxhey ever since. Although still mobile and in good health, she is a bit unsteady on her feet now and is essentially housebound, but seems to be quite happy there with visits

from church members and the few relatives who live locally.

Requesting that no great fuss be made of her special day, staff at the home organised a tea party with fellow residents of the home and a few friends, relatives and church members. However, she thoroughly enjoyed her special day which saw a succession of visitors, cards (including one from the Queen), presents and, finally, the tea party. Her special event also featured in a large article in the *Watford Observer*, published that morning.

She is quite proud of her achievement and was determined to make her 100th birthday. 'I don't feel as if I am 100,' she says. 'I can't believe it myself,' she adds, recalling that both her mother (born 1884) and her grandmother, who was born in the mid-nineteenth century, both lived to be 90. She is now looking forward to achieving living to be 101!



Treasures in Essex

In Colchester we are very well blessed with treasure. On thirteenth Sabbath our pre-teen girls, Nicole and Gertrude, brought us, along with their dedicated leader Ray Hornett, an entertaining summary of what they had studied that quarter. Nicole, who is musically gifted, also played a piece on the flute.

Later the same month it was the turn of our group of ten to twelve tinies. Each child had a balloon on which was written a text. The theme was 'Trees'. One child was the roots, one the trunk, two the branches and our twin girls were blossoms, and the last two fruit. It was an excellent programme, prepared with great care by Margaret Ottivannio and her helper Clara. Two of the little ones recited The Lord's Prayer and adults and children together raised the roof with 'Father Abraham'.

Another treasure in our church is our elder Mrs Nell Green. She has been a stalwart for Jesus in Colchester and Brightlingsea these many years, serving faithfully in nearly all departments of the church. She is well known to the local florists and bus drivers alike, with her armfuls of flowers and greenery from her garden to decorate the sanctuary. Nell was 70 last weekend. A wonderful day at church on Sabbath was followed by a large party of family and friends who celebrated in glorious sunshine at her home and garden the next day. Pastor Paul Smith and Cynthia Austin prepared a 'This is your life' book. It was wonderful to hear from Nell's sister from abroad via the telephone. Other sisters and an uncle joined with everyone else to make this a truly memorable day for Nell.

Another treasure is Rachel, who, after several years of being a much-loved member, has suddenly become a bright light. She has been taking part in the Sabbath School and divine service, but, completely out of the blue, she has discovered yet another way to serve the church and community. She can make wonderfully decorated cakes!

Oh, yes. Colchester is very well blessed with treasure, and we feel that this wealth of talent has given us the tools to move forward, onward and upward.

SUE INGRAM

Farewell to Ed and Shana Sammons

On Sunday 13 April around one hundred members and friends gathered in a hall at Singleton Hospital, Swansea, to say farewell to Pastor Ed Sammons and his wife Shana. Just four days later they were on a plane to California.

Ed grew up in the Newport church and then returned to Wales as a minister after completing his studies at Newbold College. He began his ministry in September 2000, serving his internship with Pastor Geoff Dennis in the Swansea, Port Talbot and Carmarthen churches. After completing his internship, Ed stayed on as the district minister and was ordained on Sabbath 27 August 2005.

In addition to his pastoral duties Ed also took on the role of Welsh Mission Youth sponsor — a role that made good use of his many talents and was well suited to his extrovert personality. Over the years he organised many youth programmes and events, and his skills in this area helped to bring many young people into a living relationship with Jesus.

Ed and Shana were loved and appreciated by the members in their district and by the youth throughout Wales. This appreciation was demonstrated at their farewell party through gifts, flowers, speeches, and a large cake! Mary Latchman, an elder of the Swansea church, spoke of how Ed and Shana had been adopted by the Swansea members and of how they had enjoyed watching them grow and develop over the years.



Some of the baptised members who were available a week after the baptism when the official picture was taken, with the Bible worker, Brenda Rutherford, on the far right

Brixton: Gospel Renaissance

As the people got off the bus and out of their cars at Brixton on 29 March, you could be forgiven for wondering where they were going. Was this yet another demonstration of support against gun crime, and had not one of our own members only recently suffered the death of her brother to this crime epidemic? However, this was different. The atmosphere was peaceful and tingling with anticipation as the crowd was making its way to Brixton church to witness the profession of faith of fifteen precious souls. Despite the problems of today, it is a testimony to us all that there are still people seeking for deliverance.

This was the culmination of the of the Gospel Renaissance Campaign where, under the leadership of Pastor Hamilton Williams, Pastor Ainsworth E. Joseph from New York delivered the message night after night for two weeks. He was joined by Racquel Faircloth, the singing evangelist from Jamaica, whose singing enhanced the message that was impressed upon the waiting congregation. One of the baptised members was so overjoyed to hear the message that she declared that, had she known the campaign was going to take place, she would have come earlier to hear the Word of God, but with the little she received she knew it was the truth and decided to be baptised. At the end of the campaign there was also a celebratory concert to express the happiness of the members and friends in what had taken place.

As a church we may be surrounded by trouble, and it may appear that the devil has wrapped a sheet of gloom over our communities, but our commission is to go out into the world and preach the Gospel and then allow the Holy Spirit to do his work.

VALERIE MOODIE

the future go with them — especially as they are expecting their first baby this summer. JOHN SURRIDGE



Sidney Rose at 90

by Dennis Porter

Among the friends present from Sidney's community were members of his regular Bible study group in the village in which he is well-known and well-liked.

In the Second World War two Adventist churches were demolished by bombing. The first was Wimbledon in November 1940. In the vestry, the only part left standing, a marriage took place amid the desolation. The bridegroom was Sidney Charles Rose. In the 1950s, he was instrumental in raising a new church on the site of the one bombed – the Wimbledon church as it is today. He was particularly well-suited to do this as he was a qualified quantity surveyor and by then elder of the church.

Sidney was born in January 1918. During the 1939-45 conflict he worked for the War Office, using his expertise in the location of sites for, and construction of, military facilities. This work of National

Service was not without its dramatic incidents. On one occasion, in the Brecon Beacons, in a restricted area barred to civilians, he was arrested by a posse of soldiers with fixed bayonets and taken before their commanding officer, who, before interrogating him, placed a loaded revolver on his desk. Fortunately, Sidney was able to convince him that he was not a Nazi spy dropped by parachute into Wales.

After the war, when massive reconstruction had to be undertaken, Sidney did not lack work. Indeed, he had opportunities to become a wealthy man, but, as an Adventist, had to forego them. In that he typifies the many unsung lay heroes of this movement, who, in days gone by, when it was difficult to obtain Sabbath privileges, put their faith first, in some people's cases (although not in Sidney's) even before food on the table for their families, a fact not always properly

appreciated by younger generations and seldom given due credit.

After a long and fruitful tenure as elder of the Wimbledon church, Sidney retired to Sussex, but his service to Adventism did not cease. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, it was felt by a number of concerned members that the standard of preaching and especially of Sabbath School teaching was not what it ought to be, and also that there was a dearth of opportunities for the discussion of oft-recurring issues of importance facing the Church. It was with that background that Sidney founded the Amersham study group to promote good teaching and preaching in a traditional Adventist way, and to provide a non-threatening environment for discussion of vital theological topics and the opportunity for those who attended to hear leading figures from both within and without the Church. That has now continued for over twenty-seven successful years.

Few members can claim to have done as much for the Adventist Church in a lay capacity as Sidney Rose.

We salute Sidney Rose on the occasion of his 90th birthday. A party was organised by his daughter Debbie and son-in-law Chris. It was attended by his son Duncan, wife Laura, and family from both the UK and the US. Also at the Roundabout Hotel at West Chiltington, Sussex, were many neighbours and friends of Sidney's from nearby Storrington, as well as some Adventist friends, including John Wilson and Arthur Campbell.

<1 Newbold's Spring Fair

visit his room to get an idea of student accommodation.

Twenty-four-year-old Johanna Edwards from the Kennington church was enthusiastic about her experience and tried out seats in the classrooms and the library 'just to see what it feels like. If you lose me on the tour,' she said, 'it's because I'd like to stay right now. I'm really excited at the thought of being here.'

Missed this chance to visit Newbold? Awards Ceremony on 7 July will offer another chance. And look out for Newbold staff and stu-

dents at camp meetings, camporees and other church events. Watch the college website for a Meet Newbold weekend next October.

For more details and pictures go to www.newbold.ac.uk.

HELEN PEARSON

ABC BOOK SALES

June	9-15	NEC & SEC Camp Meetings
July	6	Newbold Graduation
September	7	Press Open Day
ABC Shops		
	Advent Centre, Sundays	10am-2pm
	Watford BUC, 1 st & 3 rd Sunday	10am-2pm

NEWBOLD COLLEGE AWARD CEREMONY

Sunday 6 July 2008

11am

Newbold Church Centre
Speaker: Dr David Penner, Retiring Principal
Admission by ticket only

Contact Helen Savage
 T: 01344-407420
 E: hsavage@newbold.ac.uk

Coach to NEC Camp Meeting?

A coach will be leaving from the Midlands for the NEC Camp Meeting. If you would like to book a seat, phone H. Smiley on one of the following: 01384 213803; 07789 206171; 07940 538372.

New church plant

CORB Y, Northants,
West Glebe Community
Centre, Cottingham Road,
Corby, NN17 1S2.

PASTOR ADRIAN BROOME

LETS DAY OF FELLOWSHIP

Date: 5 July
 Time: 9.30am-6.45pm
(free gift for 9.30 starters)
 Venue: Handsworth Wood Girls' School, Church Lane, Birmingham, B20 2HL
 Content: Personal Evangelism Workshops
 Main presenter: A. Ramdin (Amazing Facts Connection)
 Contact person: R. Morgan,
 0115 960 6312,
rmorgan@necadventist.org.uk

LETS ANNUAL WORKSHOP

Dates: 13-17 August
 Venue: Manchester University, Victoria Park, Manchester
 Main presenter: Dr Patrick Vincent, international speaker from Florida
 Booking forms: North England Conference
 Enquiries: PM Department
 Workshops: Evangelistic methods that work

Messenger

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Sunset

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	Land	Card	Notf	Edin	Belf
June 6	9.14	9.26	9.26	9.54	9.55
13	9.19	9.31	9.31	10.00	10.01
20	9.22	9.34	9.34	10.03	10.04
27	9.22	9.34	9.34	10.03	10.04

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