

Messenger

News to the churches • 26 September 2008 • Volume 113 • 21



Severe weather warning for Open Day

BBC News 24 was broadcasting a severe weather warning for Lincolnshire for Sunday 7 September. But Adventists don't frighten easily. The Open Day crowd was bigger than

ever. The draw this year was Ken Burton's Adventist Vocal Ensemble and Nancy Van Pelt, world-renowned author of bestselling books on marriage and the family. AVE went down a storm and

sold out of their brilliant new CD. For two talks – one on marriage and one on parenting – Nancy held the marquee crowd in rapt attention. There were long queues when she signed copies of her new books

HIGHLY EFFECTIVE MARRIAGE and *TRAIN UP A CHILD*.

And the 'severe weather'? Nothing more than showers of blessing.

EDITOR



New students, new semester, new principal

by Helen Pearson, Newbold PRO

In her first two weeks at the College, Newbold's new principal has begun to meet many of the groups who form the Newbold community. She seems to be enjoying her new role in all its varied glory!

Dr Jane Sabes, Newbold's new principal, received her visa and arrived on campus in mid-August, in time to greet the incoming students warmly. She spoke briefly at *The Experience*, a student-led worship on the first Thursday of the semester, and shared insights from her life's journey. On the first Sabbath morning, she preached at two services attended by congregations of staff, students and community members in the Newbold Church Centre. She shared a meditation on the gospel stories of the cleansing of the temple – a house of prayer for all peoples – and encouraged the congregations at two services to make prayer central to their lives.

Later in the day, Dr Sabes and other staff and students, new and old, were invited to get to know each other better at two social events. The first was a traditional English cream tea in the sunshine of Moor Close Gardens; the second event was Scottish dancing in the gym. A visiting team of specialists successfully encouraged staff and students to try their hands (and feet and arms and legs!) at the ancient pastime!

On Sunday, the new principal joined a group of new students for a tour of London led by Management lecturer, John Crissey. 'English weather, but spirits high,' said John Crissey, 'and we burned some calories en route!'

At the first College assembly of the year, Dr Sabes focused on the first verses of Genesis 1. 'Just as the Spirit was hovering over the darkness and chaos in the beginning, so that same Spirit is hovering over each one of us now,' she said. 'We want to reach up to be touched by that Spirit.'



with Jonathan Barrett

'Muddy boots and high heels welcome'

That is the sign on the door of a cafe in Watford. It certainly made me look twice, as it was meant to. I went inside to talk to the person who had placed the notice to ask her thinking behind it, but the lady who seemed to be in charge, who was also the cook, said she was too busy to talk about it. At least the cafe was busy,

so maybe that is evidence the sign is bringing people in!

Would we have a sign like that at the entrance to our church? It is hard to imagine what it would say that would make us any more accepting than other places, as our society is good at welcoming people of all kinds, regardless of come-from, orientation, disability or whatever.

Are we as a church as welcoming to anyone that may come to us? I did hear recently of a vicar in Wales who dressed up as a tramp and surrounded himself with cans and syringes outside his church. He was largely ignored as people arrived at church, '... apart from a few who told me to get away from their cars,' he said. When he revealed his identity, 'Some were very embarrassed,' he observed.

There is a danger that although, in theory, we are supposed to be welcoming to all, in practice we are used to getting the same kind of people, who generally look the same, so when someone different comes along, we might not have open arms. It is difficult, isn't it, especially

MORE ON THE HOPE CHANNEL.

This summer's Pathfinder Camporee, the Faith and Learning Conference, downloadable versions of 'In Conversation' and much more are all available on the UK version of the HOPE TV website. Those without satellite can also watch the Hope Channel live straight from their computer. Visit www.hopetv.org.uk for more.

FREQUENCY CHANGE. The Hope Channel changed frequency on 24 August 2008. If you need to retune your desktop box, please visit our friends at JSD Satellite for detailed advice at www.jsdsatellite.co.uk, email them on info@jsdsatellite.co.uk or phone them on 0845 123 2919 for free, friendly tuning advice.

VICTOR HULBERT

when you get into a routine and have a certain expectation, to have that challenged.

People who come to our church may not always look like we do. Jesus had something to say, not about the way people dress exactly, but about the kind of people that his followers deemed acceptable. The context was a meal at which Jesus was eating with not just upright people, but with those who were not. So, the question was asked: 'Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?' (Tax collectors back then were dishonest and despised.)

'On hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."' (Mark 2:16-17, NIV.)

Now there is something for us to think about. Generally, we are not too bad at accepting visitors into our churches, as we want to grow, so there is nothing more pleasing to us than to have strangers in our midst. On the other hand, though, how good are we at accepting people who are very different or even difficult to be near? I was once pastor at a church attended by a person who didn't smell nice. People began to avoid sitting near this individual. Understandable, you may say. Yes, from our point of view, but what message of acceptance was that sending?

If we were to put the sign 'Muddy boots and high heels welcome' on our church door, we would have to mean it.



Ready, steady, go!

Don McFarlane

Hindsight, as we all know, is a wonderful thing. If we could all relive the past thirty years or so most of us would be healthier, wealthier and happier, or, at least, so we think. I discovered late in life that I was a very fast runner and with training might have been a better sprinter than Donald Quarry, a Jamaican athletic great. Now I must live with thoughts of what might have been, memories of dads' races at Stanborough Primary School and running against my 13- and 12-year-old foster children, who always ask me for a head start.

The recent Olympic Games were set alight by a truly magnificent sprinter, Usain Bolt, whose mother and grandmother, incidentally, are Seventh-day Adventists. What an athlete! Watching him and his fellow competitors on their starting blocks brought back to mind a statement that I heard while visiting the Southall church. We had an engaging discussion in my Sabbath School class regarding preparedness for the coming of Jesus. Later, when the superintendent asked a member from each class to give a summary statement, a wise-looking gentleman got up and said, 'One cannot always be in a state of readiness.' To illustrate his point, he referred to athletes on their starting blocks, and stated that they can only be in a state of readiness for a relatively short period.

I left Southall that day mulling over that statement. It is true that an athlete on her blocks can be in a state of readiness for only a limited period. If the gun does not go soon after she hears 'Get set', she most likely will abandon her 'ready' position after a fairly short time. But as Christians we are enjoined to be in a constant state of readiness. How can that be done?

If readiness is about being on high alert, watching everything we say, think and do, we most likely will be living in a state of anxiety and frustration instead of a state of readiness. Awaiting the coming of Jesus might just be a joyless and painful exercise instead of glad anticipation. We cannot live in a state of readiness if this is the approach we take. In fact, others looking on would have every right to conclude that Christianity was not for them.

The high-alert approach of watching every word, every action, every motive, leads to questions such as, 'If I told a lie or committed a selfish act and was killed in a car accident soon after, would I be in Heaven?' I have learnt over the years not to fall into the trap of answering such a question with yes or no.

A couple of evenings ago, after returning from

Stanborough Press Open Day and before sitting down with Mary to watch Andy Murray play Raffa Nadal, I took up Steven Mosley's book *Burned Out on Being Good* for a quick read. In the first chapter he writes about the time in college when he and some other young men were paid by the hour to get rid of weeds in certain fields on their college campus. It was a never-ending job. There were always more weeds to dig out. Each evening they went back to their rooms feeling dispirited, tired and numb. The kind of Christianity that requires us to live in a state of high alert is in many ways similar to hoeing weeds. It's tough, never-ending and joyless.

So is there an alternative? Yes, there is, and that alternative usually takes care of our words, actions and motives. It is to become wrapped up with God and what he is seeking to accomplish in our lives.

'We need a way of seeking God that expands our lives. When you want to know what healthy religion is really like, it's always useful to ask, "What did Jesus say the kingdom of heaven is like?" For example, look at this picture from Matthew 13:44: "The Kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all that he had and bought the field."

'... He sold everything. Why? In order to avoid the love of money? In order to make a big sacrifice? No, he wanted very badly to get this hidden treasure; it was worth selling out for...'

'We successfully get rid of the bad, avoid evil, by pursuing something good, something better. We are in hot pursuit of a relationship with Jesus Christ and so we get rid of stuff that gets in the way. That is healthy religion. You get less of the world, because you want more of God.'

So, living in a state of readiness is really to have a dynamic and intimate relationship with God in which we respond to his leading in our lives. We are excited about his love for us and about Jesus coming into our world to be our Saviour. We gaze into the face of our Lord as he hangs on the Cross and conclude, 'What amazing love! How can I not love and serve him? It is not "Will I be in Heaven if I told a lie and died immediately afterwards in a car accident?" Of course, we should not tell lies, but we do not start with the avoidance of telling lies. We start by allowing the floods of God's love to flow over us, and by responding to the gentle call of Jesus, "Follow me." We start by having a love relationship with Jesus.'

God specialises in relationships. The word relationship is anathema to some parts of our Church. They say that an emphasis on relationships is an attempt to water down the Gospel. If that is so, then we would all have to conclude that our Master did not know what he was talking about when he said, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind;' and, "Love your neighbour as yourself."

How could God describe David as a 'man after his own heart'? We are all aware of his heinous acts, of some of his presumptuous sins, yet God spoke of him so warmly and reassuringly. While we cannot excuse the wrongs that David committed, the fact that he had a love relationship with God seems to have been the cause of this commendation from God. When he felt far from God, he wanted to get closer; when he had hurt and embarrassed God, he wanted to make amends.

We can all live in a state of readiness for the coming of our Lord. If we couldn't, he would not have said, 'But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.'

To live in a state of readiness for the coming of Jesus is to be like the apostle Paul, who, when he came to understand the unfathomable love of Jesus, exclaimed, 'But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ - the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.'

We will be ready when God is the most important Person in our life, when the promotion of his Kingdom is our highest priority and the Second Coming our greatest obsession.

References:

¹Steven Mosley, *Burned Out by Being Good*, Pacific Press Publishing Association, page 16. ²Luke 10:27. ³Matthew 24:43, 44. ⁴Philippians 3:7-11.



Enhancing Health

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

Brain Health Series

Part 9c

Factors Influencing Emotional Well-being

Mental health challenges are usually the outcome of the varying experiences in a person's life, from early childhood onwards. Various contributory factors are considered when analysing the development of most mental health problems.

The following categories give an outline of causes and risk factors associated with mental and emotional health challenges.

Sociological/environmental

Serious early life losses or traumas - death of a parent in childhood, abuse, neglect, severe injury, war experiences.

Loss of social support - death of a loved one, divorce, estranged/moved away from family/friends, loss of job, loss of trust.

Chaotic, unsafe or dangerous environments - violent home, homelessness, abject poverty.

Physiological

Genetic causes - close family history of depression.

Chronic illness - dependent on medication and/or illnesses seriously restricting activity.

Hormonal changes - menstrual cycle changes and

life stage adjustments that affect mood.

Biological causes - imbalanced neurotransmitters like decreased serotonin known to affect thought processes and emotions.

Medical

Medication side effects - drugs used for chronic illnesses.

Experiential

Negative experiences that undermine self-confidence - work-related or relationship failures.

Negative thought patterns and learned helplessness - repeated or chronic stressful events resulting in feelings of helplessness, reinforced by lack of control over the situation.

Experiential

Substance abuse - depressive effects can result from use of alcohol and drugs. Additionally, the negative personal and social consequences of

substance abuse can also be a contributing factor to depression. It is still unclear, however, which comes first - attempting to control depression with substances, or the use of substances that then cause depression.

Tips for promoting good emotional and mental health

- List the things that are troubling you
- Prioritise your challenges on that list and deal with the ones that are easiest to deal with or the most stressful issue that you can give your immediate attention to
- Get adequate rest
- Eat a balanced diet
- Avoid caffeine, alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs
- Engage in physical activities
- Nurture your spiritual needs by prayer and reflection time with God
- Appreciate the beauty in nature
- Spend adequate time with people whose company you enjoy or those who are positive and upbeat
- Undertake a fun or relaxing activity, such as scenic walks, listening to music, reading a good book, watching a humorous video, talking to a friend, and so on.

Good health!



Young people take a stand

Leicester Central witnessed six of its young people publicly commit their lives to Christ on 30 August. Before their baptism each of the candidates made heartfelt testimonies as their loved ones and a wider church family proudly looked on.

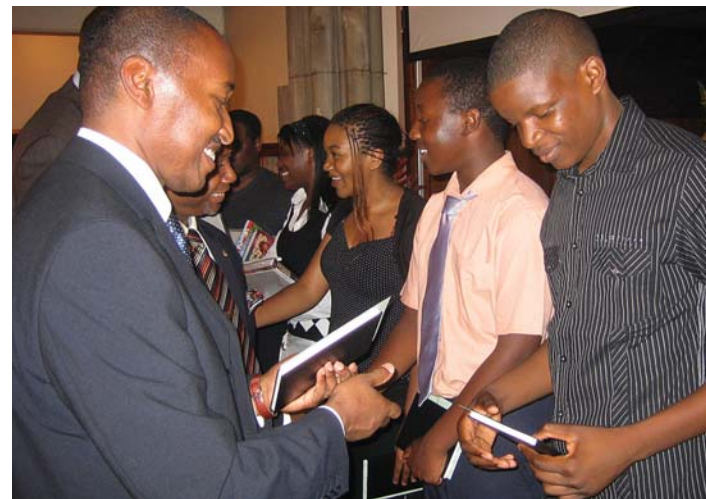
The young ladies, Thenjiwe Banda and Marilyn Mthimkhulu, barely left a dry eye in the house as they spoke about their love for their families and how important parents had been in guiding their lives.

Takudzwa Mazombe thanked the wider church family for supporting him with both encouragement and the necessary telling-offs he needed. Takudzwa Chiongotere just managed to compose himself as his mother spoke of her pride in seeing 'her rock' and the son who encouraged her take his stand for the Lord.

Dexter Jordan said he had been waiting for this day for a long time and that he was eagerly looking forward to Jesus' return. Pastor Cyril Sweeney baptised his youngest child, Lyndon, and said that having observed his son travel the country to attend friends' baptisms he was now overjoyed that Lyndon was finally accepting the call himself.

As most of the candidates were Junior Counsellors with the local Pathfinder, Adventurer and Eager Beaver Club, they decided to pay tribute to the important part the club had played in shaping their lives by being baptised in their uniforms.

There were tributes in the form of music from The Joy Bells, and Lyndon's brother and sister, Leah and Liam, formed a quartet with two friends to sing a medley of hymns.



Handsworth's Homecoming Day

August 9 had been circled on the Handsworth events calendar for months. It had taken the Sabbath School department months of preparation under the guidance of Winston Brown to bring together and to present the programme for Homecoming Day. It was a day that will never be forgotten by those who attended. Unchurched people were present, together with ex-members whose walk through life was no longer Christ-centred, and those who had moved away and were worshipping elsewhere. The visitors' welcome paralleled the opening ceremony in Beijing as the members of Handsworth heard the plethora of countries from which people had

travelled to attend this spectacular event.

The church has the capacity to seat four hundred people. Yet on Homecoming Day the head count in the sanctuary and downstairs where the programme was being relayed reached seven hundred and fifty with ease.

The Handsworth Youth Chorale re-formed for this event under the leadership of Oscar Stewart, former head teacher of the Harper Bell School. Brother Stewart caught a vision for a youth chorale back in 1973, and it was then that this choir began to worship God with their impressive vocal talents. After they had delivered their signature tune

'We Shall Behold Him', there were comments from the members and from the speaker that the hair stood up on their necks as they were transported to the scene of meeting the returning Saviour.

The speaker for the event was Adrian Roberts who delivered a sermon entitled 'Don't Join this Church' in his customary bold, relevant and informative style. He challenged the various categories of people present about the choices that they make. He pointed out that in Matthew 8:19 and 20 Jesus calls all people into the Church, and he will call those of other folds into the Remnant Church to do the work that is being neglected.

Brother Roberts gave a list of reasons why people should 'not join this Church' – cultural, spiritual and racial reasons, to name three. Yet he

astutely pointed out that even though there are problems within the SDA Church, it was the remnant church pointed out in Revelation 12:17. Therefore, he challenged the congregation about what they would do with the message of Revelation 12:17 and what choices would they make now.

After an enjoyable lunch, this spectacular day continued into the afternoon with a series of musical renditions by past groups of the Handsworth church. However, the congregation was treated to a number of songs presented by the re-formed Handsworth Youth Chorale that could only be described as an extravaganza. The musical items were pleasantly interrupted by the new NEC president, Pastor Ian Sweeney, who had come to introduce both himself and the new minister



for Handsworth, Pastor Gary Gordon and his family.

The Chorale brought this amazing

day to an end with Handel's 'Hallelujah Chorus'.

CLAUDINE JACKSON

Pastor Gary Gordon, Leicester's associate pastor from past times, and the newly installed NEC president, Pastor Ian Sweeney, were also on hand to offer words of encouragement to the candidates. They both reminded the church family how important it was to continue to nurture young people.

This was the last baptism that would be conducted by Pastor Paul Liburd at Leicester Central, as he was due to take up his new district the following month. Church members bade fond farewells to their outgoing pastor, Jeanetta his wife, and their girls, Abigail and Lydia, at the close of the service.

DENISE WILLIAMS

Asian Day of Fellowship

August 30 was one of the hottest Sabbaths this year – in more ways than one! Asian Adventists from different parts of the UK gathered in Watford at the Stanborough School auditorium for a day of Sabbath celebration, fellowship, and for some good Indian food. It was a time for some long-lost friends to cross each other's paths again. Many exchanged addresses, telephone numbers and email details, and made arrangements to visit each other.

The Sabbath School was taught by Pastor John Melki. The speaker for the divine hour was Dr Bertil Wiklander, president of the Trans-European Division. He spoke about the need for Christian unity based on our love for each other. Music was provided by Sunil Tete, Walter Bhengra and Rajiv Gill. After a delicious meal provided by Stella, Joyce, Raju and Dheeraj, the afternoon saw a musical programme in which old and young alike participated. All left with a renewed determination to encourage each other to stay faithful to the Lord.

Next year's meeting is on 29 August 2009 at Stanborough School auditorium. For further details, please contact Pastor O. P. Chackochen on 07748 417 460 or 020 8446 8809.

PASTOR O. P. CHACKOCHEN



Special Needs Day at Handsworth

Sabbath 30 August was designated Special Needs day. The day highlighted how the church must be equipped with the skills to witness to God's people who live with a disability. During the sermon from David Bendor-Samuels, we were informed that physical and mental disabilities are now overshadowed by disabilities that include, significantly, learning difficulties. He told us that it is people who live with learning disabilities who are the most excluded from society, rather than those who are living with mental or physical disabilities. The church was challenged to be a church for all people, and the buzzword for the day was 'inclusion'.

In the afternoon Nigel and Sophia Nicholls from ASNA (Adventist Special Needs Association) worked their way through an extremely informative presentation which accommodated questions from the congregation. The couple themselves have a visually and physically impaired son. The church was left with a number of suggestions and ideas as to how we can include the disabled in our worship services, and for that Handsworth was very grateful. Our appreciation was shown in a practical way, and the couple headed home to Oxford with over £200 derived from a church collection.

CLAUDINE JACKSON

Red carpet treatment for Jennie and Seanee

Jennie Logan and Seanee Bennett were two of the fifty-one representatives from Scotland who attended the recent BUC Pathfinder Camporee in Essex, and it was at this venue that they each had a life-changing experience. They listened to Bible-based messages by the guest speaker, 'Pastor AJ' (Grant from Australia), made many new friends, and participated in numerous youth-related activities. As a result they made a decision to be baptised.

A packed church at Crieff then had the joy of welcoming them into fellowship a couple of weeks later. In his sermon, the Mission Youth sponsor, Marcel Ghioalda, likened the experience of the young ladies to that of the blind man (recorded in Mark 10:46-52) who refused to allow Jesus to pass by without being healed.

'Jennie and Seanee were experi-

encing spiritual blindness, and Jesus passed by at the Pathfinder Camp!' said Pastor Marcel. 'And it was then that they asked him to restore their sight,' he continued.

Video clips of the actual baptism were shown, and tears of joy developed into hearty laughter as an excited Jennie came up the steps of the baptismal tank and then jumped down and flung herself straight into her dad's arms. It would appear that daughter and father Steve both then needed a change of clothing!

The despatch of a good size Scottish contingent to the camporee was very much a team effort on the part of all church members throughout

the Scottish Mission. Adult volunteers enlisted for a range of duties, and various fundraising initiatives took place beforehand. Also the local minister/Field president, Pastor Llew Edwards, had spent many hours discussing biblical topics with Jennie and Seanee prior to their baptism.

JOHN ARTHUR



Teaching your children how to forgive

by Karen Holford, Family Ministries department, SEC

'Oh Thomas, what a beautiful picture!' Yellows and pinks swirled together across the blue-mauve sky of a sunset, and the colours tinted the light on the mountains and reflected in the lake. Thomas had spent hours working on the picture for a competition at school and it was the best picture he'd ever painted. Mum was surprised. She didn't know that Thomas was so gifted at art, and she'd never seen him so dedicated to a school project. 'Let's leave the picture on the table to dry, so that the paint doesn't run or smudge,' she said.

Thomas carefully cleaned his brushes and washed out the water jar, and then he went outside to play

with his basketball.

Half an hour later he came back in to check on his painting. As soon as he saw the picture he began to yell, and then tears poured down his face. Mum and Dad came to see what was wrong, and they stared in horror at Thomas's painting.

Torn shreds of painted paper were strewn under the table.

A healthy process for forgiveness
In order to help your children learn to forgive, you must understand the healthy forgiveness process yourself.

- Be a good example of offering healthy apologies and forgiveness.
- Support the child who needs to

forgive and the child who needs to be forgiven – they both need coaching and guidance.

- Allow them time to calm down and think about what happened before you encourage them to follow the apology and forgiveness process.
- Make sure that the forgiveness takes place on the same day as the offence, where possible, or as soon as you can afterwards.
- The person who has caused the hurt needs to hear how much the other person was hurt by their actions, otherwise they probably won't fully understand what they are apologising for.

One way to help the hurt person talk about how they feel is to encourage him to follow this simple structure:

'In this situation (when I had worked so hard to paint a picture for the competition) . . .'

'When this happened (and you tore it up) . . .'

'I felt (I felt sad and angry because I had spent so long trying to get it just right, and I . . .'

Then invite the person who caused the hurt to repeat back what they heard the hurt person say. 'So when I spoiled the painting you'd made for the competition you felt sad, because the picture was ruined after all your hard work. And you also felt angry, because I wasn't being respectful of you and what you had made. Is that right?' This helps the person who caused the hurt to understand more about the pain they have caused and it helps the person who was hurt to know that the other person has heard their feelings.

Then 'I'm so sorry that . . .'

Family worship activity on forgiveness

You need: a Bible, string cut into long lengths – 3 metres for each person, felt-tipped pens in different colours, scissors, fruit juice cocktails for the final celebration of forgiveness.

Invite each person to take a piece of string and use a felt-tipped pen to add some colour to each end of the string.

Hold the lengths of string and tie them all together with a

knot at one end.

Invite each person to hold the loose end of their string. Then the fun begins! Each person is to weave around and under the others, holding their string all the time. Be careful that no one gets caught in the web of string, and continue twisting and tangling it as much as you can. When the string looks very snarled, ask each person to pull their end as tightly as possible so that you have a big messy knot.

Take out the pair of scissors and ask everyone what you should do to sort out the mess. The quick fix solution would be to cut through the string to untie the knot, but then all the string would be damaged.

The better solution is to sit down together and slowly untangle the knot. That way all the string is kept safe, and nothing is permanently damaged.

As you work together to untangle the string, talk about times when other people forgave you and how good it felt, or when you confessed and a relationship was healed. Also read Psalm 103 and talk about God's forgiveness and how wonderfully complete it is.

Sometimes in life we hurt each other. That's very normal. We are all different and see things differently, and we're not always aware of how other people are feeling, or we may say something quite innocently that hurts someone else because we don't know all of their life experiences, fears and deep sorrows.

When you have finished untangling the knot together, give each person their original length of string and ask them to make a shape or a word that illustrates how they feel when they have been forgiven.

Hold hands in a circle around the shapes you have made with the string and take it in turns to say a brief prayer of thanks to God for his forgiveness. Also pray that God will help you as you live together wisely and lovingly, trying not to hurt each other, but knowing that God can help you untangle the knots when they happen through his healthy process of forgiveness.

Celebrate together with a refreshing fruit juice cocktail or a simple meal after your worship time.



Cambridge singles ministry

by Althea and Delocia White

On Sunday 17 August thirty-five Adventist single adults converged at Cambridge church for its first Adult Singles social event – a Singles' Barbecue. The age group ranged from early 20s to over 50s, representing various nationalities of never-married, divorced and widowed singles. Sharon Bruno-Augustine, Cambridge Family Life director, warmly welcomed everyone and commended the Singles Ministry for organising the event and extending invitations to singles in the SEC. We enjoyed a variety of delicious barbecue dishes and engaged in informal chats as we became acquainted with each other. It was

amazing how easy conversations were! It was as though we had known each other for a long time.

The highlight of the barbecue was a passionate and engaging discussion. Men and women eagerly shared thoughts on singleness and qualities they desired in potential partners. Our senior singles voluntarily imparted words of wisdom, and others shared resource materials that they believed were helpful for singles. The discussion, although eliciting much laughter, was very sobering, and it highlighted the tension between expectations of the ideal and an acceptance of the reality, which so often differs according to culture.



The Afro-Caribbean Community celebrates the 60th Anniversary of the Windrush

Willesden church will also be celebrating on Sunday 26 October with a fundraising concert followed by a buffet.

Cost: Adults £15, Children from 12 yrs £5

Were you a passenger on the Windrush? Do you know someone who was on the Windrush or another ship voyaging to England sixty years ago?

**We need to hear from you NOW
Call Michelle on 07852941246**



Evance Eustace Hector (1937 -2007) d. 21 September. Evance Eustace Hector was born on 11 November 1937 in sunny Antigua. He came to England in 1961, transferring his membership to the Walthamstow church which he supported both as a faithful member and elder, and he later served on the South England Conference Executive. It was at Walthamstow that Hector met his wife, then Sheila Stewart. They married there and subsequently the children's Sabbath School welcomed their three sons, Timothy, Ronald and Edwin. In later years they were blessed with four grandsons and three granddaughters. He was sadly missed at his granddaughter's dedication in Walthamstow in August. We deeply regret the loss of Hector, whose warm, welcome, bright smile and lively sense of humour cheered all who knew him. His love of singing and strong, steady voice blessed those who heard him both at church and through his participation in the Male Voice Choir. He was an energetic cricket enthusiast, playing for British Telecom and captaining Walthamstow church's team. He fell asleep in Jesus on 21 September 2007. His funeral service was held in and outside of Walthamstow church, as it overflowed onto the surrounding streets. A man of principle, he is sadly missed and greatly loved.

SHEILA HECTOR

Full-time Secretarial Vacancy at the NEC Office
Closing date for applications: Monday 20 October

From the beginning of January 2009 the North England Conference is seeking a new secretary to add to our secretarial pool, a person with good secretarial skills and a commitment to the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The responsibilities will include, among others, secretarial and data entry tasks; preparation of workshop/seminar materials, and so on. The position will require a competency in the use of a PC as well as the use of Microsoft Office or comparable software packages and desk-top publishing.

Previous secretarial experience preferred.

Salary and terms of employment will be in keeping with denominational policies and are available on request.

Interested individuals are invited to send a CV and to request an application form: Paul Haworth, Executive Secretary, North England Conference, 22 Zulla Road, Mapperley Park, Nottingham, NG3 5DB. Email: admin@necadventist.org.uk.

Self-catering flat for SDA members visiting Jamaica. Mandeville area. Tel 001 876 904 8612.

DON'T MISS
Adventist Vocal Ensemble on Songs of Praise: The Big Sing, Sunday 26 October
Adventist Vocal Ensemble on Songs of Praise: Christmas Gifts, Sunday 14 December, BBC 1

First SEC 'Joint Voices' Choir Festival

Date: Saturday 22 November
Venue: Watford Colosseum, Rickmansworth Road, Watford, WD17 3JN
Time: 5.30pm

This is a FREE event which will include specially invited world-class conductors, along with a massed choir performance. This will be a celebration of the human voice.

Further information on how to get involved will be available on our website: www.secadventist.com.

Look out for further information which will be mailed to your local churches.

This event is an SEC Music department initiative.

CHISWICK GOSPEL CHOIR

of the Chiswick Seventh-day Adventist Church

IN CONCERT

With Guest Artistes



**St Michael and All Angels
Turnham Green
Chiswick W4**

Saturday 18th October 2008
Doors open 6:30pm
Start 7:15pm

Tickets:
£2.50 Adults
£5 Children 4 - 14 & Under
£5.50 Overseas

Venue:
St Michael and All Angels Church
Turnham Green
Chiswick W4

Directions:
Train: District line to Turnham Green
(take right out of station to Bath Road)
Bus: 94, E3, 272

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

£1.99 per copy + p&p

Wonderful Words

Compiled by **Tammy Griffith**

COME TO THE QUIET
THE STORY ESCAPE TO GOD LEFT OUT
JIM HOHNBERGER
WITH TIM & JULIE CANDERSON

Wonderful Words

by Tammy Griffith

Tammy Griffith was diagnosed with a brain tumour at the age of three. It was removed, but had re-grown within seven years. When her chemotherapy was aborted, Tammy was discharged from hospital on a programme of palliative care.

Under these circumstances Tammy took her 'A' levels and became a student at Newbold.

This amazing little book represents a collection of the wise words Tammy has found a source of inspiration and empowerment.

Order 10 copies of *Wonderful Words* at £19.90 + p&p and receive 2 copies of *COME TO THE QUIET* (foreword by Randy Maxwell), absolutely FREE.

Credit card hotline:
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With the retirement of Helen Savage

Newbold College

is seeking to appoint a full-time PA to the Senior Management Team

To commence by 1 December, or earlier by mutual agreement.

The successful candidate will have:

- A range of well-developed executive secretarial skills
- A range of office management skills
- A mastery of relevant computer software
- An ability to maintain confidentiality
- An ability to communicate with other church agencies
- A good manner with staff, students and visitors
- A willingness to be flexible about working hours

The successful candidate will:

- Perform the general duties of a PA
- Maintain office records
- Act as a liaison with staff and students
- Liaise with a range of external agencies
- Perform a range of tasks relating to the general operation of the College
- Be in sympathy with the ethos of the College

Salary is according to the denominational scale. Applicants must possess the right to work in the UK prior to appointment. A letter of application, together with a current CV and the names and contact details of two referees, should be sent to: The Principal, Newbold College, St Mark's Road, Binfield, Bracknell, Berks, RG42 4AN.
Tel: +44 (0)1344 407400
Email: jsabes@newbold.ac.uk
Fax: +44 (0)1344 407404

The deadline for receipt of applications is 30 September.

REPENTANCE

Is it the path to mission and unity?



Dr Denton Lotz
Former General Secretary of the Baptist World Alliance

The Beach Lecture 2008

Moor Close Chapel,
Newbold College
Tuesday 7 October 2008
at 7:30

for more information, contact:
Helen Pearson
helenpr@newbold.ac.uk
01344 407480



tel: 01344 407407
fax: +44 1344 407405
www.newbold.ac.uk

ABC BOOK SALES

October

5	Harper Bell	10.30am-2pm
12	John Loughborough	10.30am-2pm

ABC Shops

Advent Centre, Sundays	11am-3pm
Watford BUC, 1 st & 3 rd Sunday	10am-2pm

Messenger

Volume 113 • 21 – 26 September 2008

EDITOR: D. N. MARSHALL

DESIGN: DAVID BELL

COPY FOR No. 23 – 6 October 2008

Copy should be sent to the Editor, *Messenger*, The Stanborough Press Limited, Alma Park, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG31 9SL. Tel: (01476) 591700.

Fax No: (01476) 577144.

Email: Editor@mac.com

Send high resolution pictures to:

dbell@stanboroughpress.co.uk

ABC Sales line: (01476) 539900

Mon-Thurs only, 8am–5.30pm.

www.stanboroughpress.com

The Editor may alter, clarify, précis or expand articles sent to him if he thinks it necessary. Published fortnightly on Fridays by the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Printed in Denmark.

Visit the BUC website at: www.adventist.org.uk

ISSN 0309-3654

Sunset

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

	London	Card	Nottingham	Edin	Belf
Sep 26	6.49	7.01	6.53	7.00	7.12
Oct 3	6.33	6.45	6.36	6.42	6.54
10	6.18	6.30	6.20	6.24	6.37
17	6.03	6.15	6.04	6.07	6.20

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