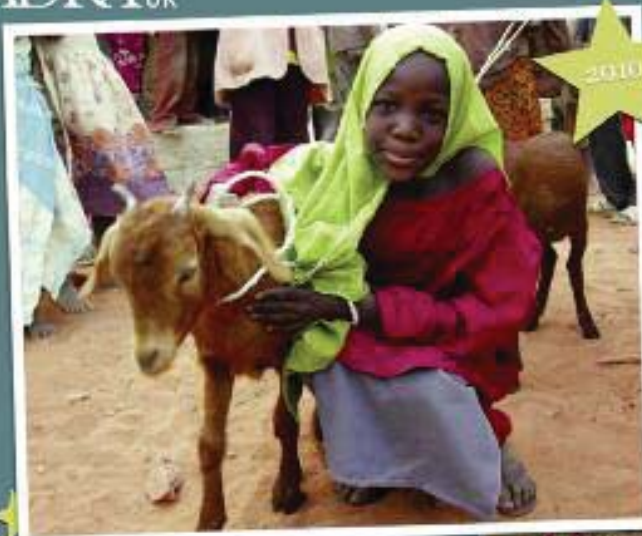




## SHOEBOX APPEAL

Give A Smile To A Child In Niger



### Gifts for Children in Niger

A serious famine is threatening the lives of tens of thousands of children in the world's poorest country Niger. To help the survivors and bring a little hope in their lives, ADRA-UK is planning to send the 2010 Shoebox Appeal to Niger. Beneficiaries will include orphans and impoverished children, ages 5 to 12. Please commit to help right now!



- ☑ Pack school supplies and a personal hygiene kit.
- ☑ Add £1 to help with the shipping cost and delivery.
- ☑ Arrange for delivery of your shoeboxes to ADRA-UK in Watford.
- ☑ Final date for delivery: Sunday the 14th of November.

For more information contact Hilary at 01923-681723 or visit our website!

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



# Shoeboxes for Niger

## ADRA-UK Shoebox Appeal 2010

by Bert Smit, executive-director, ADRA-UK

A serious famine is threatening the lives of tens of thousands of children in the world's poorest country, Niger. To help the survivors, and to bring a little hope into their lives, ADRA-UK is planning to send the 2010 Shoebox Appeal to Niger. Beneficiaries will include orphans and impoverished children aged 5 to 12.

Because the shoeboxes are going to Niger, we want to be more specific about what you can pack. When the shoeboxes arrive in January, Niger will have just come out of the biggest famine it has ever faced in its history. The surviving children will need encouragement and a little token of our care. We are asking you to pack school supplies and a personal hygiene kit.

School supplies can include items like pens, pencils, notebooks, and so on. In each box, please include soap, washcloths, a toothbrush and toothpaste. Flip-flops are also good items to include.

Please do not pack any food items or sweets, or anything that will melt; for example, crayons.

Any kind of *small toy* is fine, but secondary. No battery-operated toys please.

ADRA-UK is working with its local partner, ADRA-Niger, for the distribution of the shoeboxes.

### Now, here are some important instructions:

1. Please plan to have the shoeboxes delivered in Watford by **14 November** for shipping to Niger that week.
2. Wrap each box and mark clearly if it is intended for a boy or girl, and the age group. Please consider making gift boxes that can be given to *either* a boy *or* a girl, as this will help in the distribution.
3. It will take about six weeks for the container to arrive in Niger, with distribution taking place in January 2011.
4. Shipping the container to Niger will cost £6,500. We are asking for your help with this. Please include £1 for each shoebox you have prepared, by taping it firmly to the outside of the box. ADRA-UK will pay for the custom duties and distribution in Niger.

For more information please contact Hilary on 01923-681723 or email her at: [info@adra.org.uk](mailto:info@adra.org.uk)





with David Marshall

# What does being a Seventh-day Adventist mean to you?

An email from the General Conference reminds me that this month marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the name 'Seventh-day Adventist'. In October 1860 our pioneers, after prayerful consideration, chose that name over a number of alternatives. The GC wants to know what it means to me to be a Seventh-day Adventist. That question has let loose all manner of thought currents, and I need to impose some sort of discipline on them.

The first thought that came to mind was something said by a Conference youth leader when I was a teen. He admitted that the Church and its name had been a source of embarrassment to him in his teenage years. So much so, in fact, that on Sabbath mornings he would slide out of his front door, his body flat against the wall, and peer down the street as if he were about to commit a felony, and then, if the coast was clear, he would try to complete the half-mile between home and church in under two minutes. His aim was to travel between home and church — and back again two and a half hours later — without being recognised!

Ruefully, I remember telling him that that had never been an option for me. We lived in a village in which everyone knew everyone else, and everything about each other. Even had that not been so, we were, as a family, much given to door-to-door witnessing of various kinds and, in the autumn, often ran evangelistic campaigns in the church which we made sure were well advertised. Ours was an advert kind of Adventism. Some doubtless resented us for it. However, when the bombs were falling on a nearby city during the Blitz, forty non-Adventists crowded into the ground floor of our house on a weekly basis to hear Pastor R. D. Vine explain, with the aid of Daniel 2:43, 44, why Hitler couldn't hope to win the war.

Of course, the teenager who could cover half a mile in two minutes was the victim of peer pressure. He matured to be a fine pastor and church leader. By then he was proud to be an Adventist.

So I confront the question again. What does it mean to me to be a Seventh-day Adventist?

Casting around, I have found an article by George Knight about 'where Adventists come from and what their name means'. For Elder Knight, it has much to do with William Miller, Joseph Bates, the true

based doctrines, I believe that the sunburst of the Good News exploded among Adventists in and after 1888. Some still resist it, but here it is: Salvation comes by grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone. We don't and can't deserve it. It comes because Jesus offers it and, by faith, we accept it. The decisive, irreversible victory in the conflict of the ages was won of the death and resurrection of the Son of God.

- My Adventism says that I am joyfully obedient to God's commands not in order to be saved, but as a love response to the One who gave all to save me. The same Adventism accepts the law as given by God for man's good. The Sabbath was made for man and mankind has always needed it — but never more so than in our demented world. The Sabbath has always been a blessing to me. It causes me to pause and take in distant vistas — and to hear the Voice of God. In a two-hour TV broadcast about our beliefs, I heard an outspoken opponent say that he envied Adventists their Sabbath.

- My Adventism has Jesus at the centre from first to last and puts great emphasis on a constant study of the four Gospels. It is in the Gospels that the authentic Christ is to be found. Jesus is the perfect revelation of God. God is Christlike and in God is no unChristlikeness at all. The imperative of my Adventism is this: 'Lift up Jesus, you that teach the people . . . Let all your powers be directed to pointing souls, confused, bewildered, lost, to "the Lamb of God" . . . Let the science of salvation be the burden of every sermon.' (*Gospel Workers*, 160).

Hey! I'm out of space and I've only just got started!

What does being a Seventh-day Adventist mean to you? Write under 700 words and email them to [Editorial@mac.com](mailto:Editorial@mac.com), or post them to the address in the colophon.

meaning of Daniel 8:14, Hebrews 9 and Revelation 14:6-12. He's right of course. But is that what Adventism means to me? The Adventism that is at my core was not learned from an Adventist College. It emerged from home, church, school and university, and ripened during the ten years in which I taught and engaged in church planting in the '70s.

- My Adventism is the Adventism 'that won the war! It is a movement of destiny, called out for a special purpose and given a prophetic schema, through which we can have confidence that behind, above, and through all the play and counterplay of human interests and power and passions, the agencies of the all-merciful One (are) silently, patiently working out the counsels of His own will' (*Education*, 173). Our prophetic and apocalyptic background tells me that the world is more like a ship than an iceberg. Scenes of misery below-decks notwithstanding (which those of us on deck are responsible for improving), our prophetic context enables me to believe that God's hand is on the helm, and that the heavenly Harbour awaits our arrival. When we reach the Harbour all wrongs will be righted. The very best is yet to be.

- My Adventism is built upon the Book. The critical skills I acquired as a historian have been applied to the Book, more especially to the New Testament books, and I am convinced of their validity as first-century documents written by personal witnesses to the Jesus story. Their evident inspiration and the truth of what they contain compel me to believe both their narrative and the explanation (largely provided by Paul) of what that narrative means. We call the meaning of the narrative the Good News. After centuries in which only a few had a glimmer of the Gospel, the great subburst of its message came with the Reformation. After decades of absorption in formulating sound, Bible-

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## Enhancing Health

by Sharon Platt-McDonald RGN, RM, PhD, MSc Health, Wellbeing, Lifestyle, & Q&A

### Boosting Energy Part 8

**Emotional and social impact** How much impact do our emotions have on our energy levels? Research demonstrates that negative emotions drain our emotional, physical and mental energy.

**Anger** The ways in which anger is expressed can be damaging. Aggressive outbursts stimulate the autonomic physiological reaction, producing adrenaline, which places the body in a state of distress. This constant 'fight or flight' response puts the nervous and immune systems under pressure, which zaps energy.

**Worry** Constant worrying drains the brain of energy and of its ability to focus. Excessive worry releases stress-related hormones which, over time, drain the body's energy reserves.

**Resentment** Holding on to resentment causes stagnation, bitterness and a critical spirit which saps the joy of living.

**Social impact** Have you ever spoken to someone and, at the end of the conversation, felt tired, drained, or even depressed? Identify 'toxic' individuals who pull energy from you by their constant complaining. Help them to see that God loves them, and share Christ's love with them.

**Recharging emotional energy and social connection** Letting go of grudges is health-enhancing as well as energising. According to a study in the journal *Psychological Science*, nursing a grudge stimulates the mind and body to react as if under chronic stress. This increases your heart rate and blood pressure, and can impair your immune system and exhaust you over time. However, practising empathy and forgiveness helps to regulate your body's stress response.

Komaroff, the editor-in-chief of the *Harvard Health Letter*, states that discussing negative feelings with another person reduces the ability of those feelings to sap your stamina.

Afrustic actions can put pep in your step. A study cited in the *Journal of Health and Social Behaviour* found that individuals who engaged in volunteer work had higher energy levels and experienced greater happiness and physical health, and a better mood. Our Church offers several opportunities to volunteer. However, [volunteermatch.org](http://volunteermatch.org) and [charityguide.org](http://charityguide.org) are other outlets for volunteering.

Reduce stress. Identify stressors in your life, and issues which zap your energy. Develop a strategy to reduce over-exertion and emotional stress. Acquire resources on stress management to assist you.

**Good health!**

# Youth and Finance Conference

A report from the SEC

How many people in the world exist on 'one dollar a day'? How many people in the UK are in debt? And what is the current state of the British economy? Did you know that the money you own or earn does not belong to you, but ultimately to God? How do you feel about wealth and poverty?

If you were interested by these and many other questions concerning money, wealth, debt, motivation, career choices and enterprise, you would have enjoyed the first SEC Youth and Finance Conference held at the Advent Centre. The event was sponsored by the SEC Stewardship Department and the London Adventist Credit Union, and was organised by Dr Richard de Lissner, SEC Stewardship director.

Among the distinguished speakers for the day was Cliff Hinton, Men's Ministries associate director of the SEC, who delivered the morning devotional. The title of the presentation was 'Change you can believe in'.

Following Cliff was Herta von Steigel, an internationally renowned tax lawyer and banker, who is also a member of the Central London church. Herta opened her presentation by speaking about the biblical view on money. 'Money is a neutral entity – a force for good or for evil depending on the emphasis that is placed on it by the individual who handles it', expounded Herta. In her seminar, she also spoke about materialism – the undue regard for the material, rather than the spiritual or intellectual, aspects of life. According to Herta you are a materialist if you serve wealth (Matthew 6:24), love wealth (Hebrews 13:5, 6), or want wealth (1 Timothy 6:9-11). She went on to say that you are not necessarily a materialist just because you have a lot of money, work hard for your money, or make a lot of money. She concluded this section of her talk by stating that you are not necessarily a materialist just because you enjoy material things or have nice things, and

asked direct questions of the young people regarding their possessions.

Principles of Personal Money Management was the final part of Herta von Steigel's seminar. The focus centred around strong Adventist stewardship principles:

- God is the owner of everything
- The purpose of our lives is to glorify God
- Timing is an antidote to materialism
- When you give, you have an opportunity to let go
- Unmanaged debt is dangerous
- God wants us to prosper

At the end of the question-and-answer section of the first session, Paul Thompson (a company director and member of the Institute of Credit Management and Institute of Directors) gave a dynamic presentation on debt.

Paul's thesis was based on the concept that money is the new 'fruit', like that offered to Eve in the Garden of Eden. He went on to discuss the biblical view of debt as described in Proverbs 22:7, Deuteronomy 8, and parts of Deuteronomy 28. Paul also stated that one of the new forms of slavery is debt to which many in the Western world have fallen victim.

In this presentation Paul asked some very direct and challenging questions concerning debt and our Christian experience. After an interactive session with the young people, Deborah Harris (a chartered accountant, CEO of DHJ Associates and the chair of the London Adventist Credit Union) spoke in her usual passionate way about the need for financial management.

Following a hearty lunch, K. T. Abbeque, a retail bank manager for the HSBC group, led break-out groups with the youth, asking the



Top: Herta von Steigel, an internationally renowned tax lawyer.  
Above: K. T. Abbeque, bank manager for the HSBC group, and Financial Advisor Allied Office. These are the first three speakers to the youth conference at the Advent Centre.  
Right: Chartered Deborah Harris.

question, 'Is wealth or poverty a result of circumstance or behaviour?' The question sparked much discussion and debate among the youth and adults present.

'I believe that it is time that we educated our youth in the twenty-first century to be financially literate. These are our upcoming title payers and wage earners', said Dr de Lissner, reflecting on the day, 'and we need to encourage them not only to achieve but to dedicate their talents and the money they earn to God'.

## Abuse and AIDS

Dear Editor  
Regarding the articles by our president, Don McFarlane, I agree that we must be understanding of all faiths, but I would not have welcomed Pope Benedict XVI because of other reasons: his cover-up of the abuse and rape of children, which was committed by some of his priests, and his irresponsible attitude towards the AIDS crisis.

MRS ROSA LANGSKI  
GOSHAMPTON

## The Children's Pages

Dear Reader  
Have we succeeded? Is there a better way of giving our children a sense of ownership? Do they need a little paper of their own? Is the best way to give children a sense of belonging to involve them in church services?

We have had lots of feedback about the Pope. Can we hear some of our children's pages – at least, about our children's pages – and his irresponsible attitude towards the AIDS crisis. We may serve them!

Email me at: [EditorJMW@mac.com](mailto:EditorJMW@mac.com).

## Letters

year, they were prepared by Anne. Abigail does the graphics. Heather has asked for a third year of children's pages from Anne and Abigail. Anne has asked me what sort of feedback I have had and I have given the answer: None.

The reason why the Children's Ministries department asked the Editor for the centre spread of alternate issues, and the reason why the Editor said 'Yes', is that we want to give the children a sense of belonging and importance in the Church.

The children's pages were prepared by Karen. The children's pages were prepared by Karen. The children's pages were prepared by Karen.

## The Church and the Pope

Dear Editor  
I am writing in response to the article by the BUC president, Don McFarlane ('Can the Adventist Church Welcome Pope Benedict to Britain?', 17 Sept).

While I agree that many Roman Catholics are sincere Christians who are deserving of our utmost Christian love, does the Pope have the same character as his followers? Isn't it important for Protestants not to be deceived into 'joining hands' with the beast power?

I do not believe for a moment that Christ would welcome the Pope. Go to any of the Gospels to see his continuous rebuke of the Pharisees (and they were his own religious leaders) yet he led his compassion on the people because of their ignorance.

The Catholic Church as an organisation, and the Pope as its leader (and most powerful person on the planet), are fully aware of both the plan of salvation and the plan of Satan. He has chosen his path. We must not side with the enemy.

JANEY DITTEY, WILKESHAMPTON

eternal life, however uncomfortable it may be.

Our emphasis is usually on the change of the Sabbath, but other false teachings regarding St Peter, baptism and transubstantiation are highlighted in this booklet.

KEN CLOUTIER, TEGMOUTH

## The spirit of Antichrist

Dear Editor  
I agree with what you say in the early part of your Editorial (1 October), but not with what you say at the end, 'You said that the Reformers did not identify the Pope as 'the antichrist'. You are wrong. They did, and I will not let you get away with it.

MAURICE ASHLEY THORLEY, WELLSBOROUGH

Editor: You would be right not to let me get away with it had I, in fact, said it. I didn't. The Reformers called the Pope 'antichrist' and a number of names that sounded even worse. Indeed, name-calling flowed the correspondence of even the best reformers (such as William Tyndale) and the best Roman Catholics (such as Sir Thomas More).

At long last (centuries) before the Bishop of Rome put on his triple crown, the Apostle John, the only Bible writer to use the term, said 'many antichrists' and 'the spirit of antichrist' had already entered the Church (1 John 2:18, 22; 4:3). That suggests to me that 'antichrist' is about more than the Pope. My Editorial paraphrased the words of the SDA Bible Commentary

who opposed the visit, based on a long list of legitimate concerns and deeply painful grievances. A whole search of 'Protest the Pope' yielded 7,620,000 entries. Despite the 'Protest the Pope' rally organised by the National Secular Society and attended by an estimated 10,000 to 20,000 protesters, the Pope visit was to all intents and purposes a resounding mass-media public-religious success. Papal visits are planned years in advance at the highest levels of government. Despite their pomp, pageantry and popularity, such visits are nonetheless filled with disturbing, far-reaching significance, and will no doubt impact the nation in last-day events according to our understanding of prophecy. The seeds have been sown, the harvest is on the way.

DR PASTOR CLAUDE LOMBART, DARTFORD

## Re: Pope's visit

Dear Editor  
Dr McFarlane's article in 17 September issue and the editorial in 1 October issue both have merit. However, the words of Ellen White in the book *Educators* (in which she admonishes us to stand for the right though the heavens fall) are also apposite.

The Roman Catholic Catechism of Christian Doctrine (available at most book-stalls in Catholic churches for about £2) is a real eye-opener. How should we react for instance, to the statement 'The Pope is the Spiritual Father of all Christians?' Or what about 'The Church, meaning the Roman Catholic Church, is the one Ark of Salvation for all?' The booklet mentions that 'The wicked shall live and be punished for ever in the fires of hell.' That sounds to me like

(Vol. 7, page 644) on 1 John 2:18, where it reads, 'John did not have any one particular manifestation of antichrist' in mind, but classed all heretical opponents of truth as 'antichrists'. On 1 John 4:3 the Commentary affirms 'that the prophecy concerning antichrist was even then, already, being fulfilled. Down the centuries a great many popes have displayed 'the spirit of antichrist', but so have others who have never worn a triple crown.

My name is Gillian Mapp and I am completing my doctoral training in Counselling Psychology at City University, London. For my thesis I am investigating the effect of persistent bedwetting. I am looking for individuals who have been woken from a young age into adulthood. They do not currently need to be woken the bed, but would need to be willing to share their experience of bedwetting in a confidential, audio-recorded interview lasting approximately 60-90 minutes.

The research is being supervised by Dr Jaquie Farrants. Email: [j.farrants@city.ac.uk](mailto:j.farrants@city.ac.uk) tel: 020 7040 0172. It has gained ethical approval from the university. It also abide by the conduct of the British Psychological Society.

GILLIAN MAPP [gillmapp@cpul.ac.uk](mailto:gillmapp@cpul.ac.uk)

## Redeemers in the NEC

Dear Editor  
The comment that 'the NEC was obliged to make painful cuts to its workforce'

Issue before I retire. I'm glad you think I've gone out with a bang!

D. M. FINNIS, WARRINGTON

ensure a healthy finance' (MESSAGE 17 Sept, page 11) puzzled me. The current Coalition Government would appear to be doing likewise. 'The cost of servicing the needs of the membership has far outstripped [the Conference's] income. Did no one see the problem coming, and take corrective measures earlier, before such radical ones were necessary?

Because of what has hit the British economy, two million people are unemployed. How many NEC members are laid off to save the £400,000 mentioned as the sum needed 'to balance the books'? Would it make more sense to have Adventist finance experts turning things rather than pastors?

GARFIELD MCINTOSH

## FOCUS, Vol. 31, No. 3

Thank you for the wonderful transformation you have made with FOCUS. It will be a really practical facility to interest people in our beliefs. I have just received No. 3, Vol. 31. Together with my MESSAGE I dated 17 September, in view of the excellent articles in FOCUS I am ordering a supply for my missionary endeavours.

D. M. FINNIS, WARRINGTON

## Dear Editor

Sorry, Garfield. I've had to dial) you down a bit. I hope I've kept the sense of what you were saying.

Dear Editor  
The evening began with a fellowship lunch prepared by the members of the church. This was followed by a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the key events of Pastor Michael and Pearl's ministry, and a quiz in which they answered questions related to their past. Then there were speeches, in which various members voiced their appreciation for Michael and Pearl's support. The evening was attended by several friends of the church, including

pastor Walker.

Pastor Michael has been a minister of the Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft district for five-and-a-half years. During this time, he ran a two-and-a-half year evangelistic campaign in both towns, which resulted in many friendships and bridges being built, one baptism and one regular attendee. Additionally, he conducted six baptisms, one of which took place in the local prison. He was very involved in the prison ministry as well as in the health outreach.

Michael Walker has been known for his evangelistic campaigns, both in Britain and abroad. He took an archaeological approach to proving the validity and authenticity of the Bible. Pastor Walker planted several churches, and baptised many people. He worked closely with ADRA and on several occasions took a long fall supplies to Slovenia.

Pastor Michael will be remembered, not only as a hard-working minister, but also as a supportive one. Moreover, he has been known for his sense of humour, a characteristic essential in the ministry. Pearl has been an exemplary minister's wife, supporting Pastor Michael in everything he did. She was actively involved in the campaigns by leading in discussions and acting as a secretary. Her friendly and cheerful personality helped to build good rapport with the campaign interests. Additionally, many people of Great Yarmouth heard about Jesus through the VOP cards that Pearl has been putting through their letter boxes.

Michael and Pearl Walker brought many people to Christ. Only in Heaven will we find out the true extent of their ministry. We would like to give God thanks and glory for their hard work, and wish them a happy and well-deserved retirement.

CAROLA CLARY

## Well-deserved retirement

On Sunday 12 September, members of the Great Yarmouth church arranged a retirement celebration for their minister, Pastor Michael Walker, and his wife Pearl.

The evening began with a fellowship lunch prepared by the members of the church. This was followed by a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the key events of Pastor Michael and Pearl's ministry, and a quiz in which they answered questions related to their past. Then there were speeches, in which various members voiced their appreciation for Michael and Pearl's support. The evening was attended by several friends of the church, including

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CAROLA CLARY





# ASI-UK re-launch

by Jim Cunningham, president ASI-UK

Members and friends of ASI met at a conference centre in Denham, Buckinghamshire, on Sabbath 18 September. The aim of the meeting was to re-launch ASI-UK (which has been without a president since November 2009) and to re-affirm our commitment to share Christ with our work colleagues. Laudable as this objective may be, it is not without its challenges, including national indifference to religion and a climate of militant atheism.

The main focus of the morning session was a sermon from Pastor Sam Neves, who is the pastor of the Wimbledon church as well as the padre for ASI. Pastor Neves, in his own inimitable style, reminded us of our God-given responsibility to share the message with our colleagues at work. 'Go out and prophesy again', was the theme of his message. A challenge; a duty; a phrase to shake us out of our complacency, or discouragement, or whatever barrier has dimmed our sense of mission. It was encouraging to hear reports in this session of projects which ASI has supported in the past,

and which have made a significant difference. The spirit of generosity which underpinned this was highlighted by a pledge to support a major *Edge TV* project to transmit the Gospel message into many homes. The offering of £7,700 reflects the eagerness which members have to explore any means which may successfully convince our nation that our message is life-changing.

The afternoon session was different; first of all, the new president, Jim Cunningham, was introduced to the members. Jim, a retired head teacher, has taken up the challenge of moving ASI-UK forward. Special guest Angel Duo, president of ASI-Europe, gave a presentation on the way in which different chapters across Europe affect the spread of the Gospel. They have different cultures, resources, talents and outcomes, but we all share the same goal. We are extremely grateful for the financial support they have given to the 'Youth for Jesus' programme, which is led by a student member, Charlotte Bramble, who has a passion for giving young people in our



land a truly life-changing hope. SEC Personal Ministries Director Terry Messenger's presentation reminded us that our Christian influence in the workplace could be transformative, depending on how we react to our professional responsibilities, colleagues and managers, and the difficulties that may affect us. We spend enormous amounts of time with our work colleagues. They may not always be receptive to what we say, but they cannot ignore what we do.

How impoverished our lives and conferences would be without music. *Recazi*, Victoria Balan and Henrys Sterling enriched our conference with their musical gifts. After a period of socialising, members and visitors returned home, perhaps more reflective, aware of the enormous challenge facing our movement. They appreciated the companionship and shared fellowship, but were reminded of the charge given to us by Christ 2,000 years ago.

Dr Herbert used such titles as 'You Know', 'When the Music Stops', 'Refusing and Choosing', 'Dead but Speaking' and 'You Can't Touch This', all of which heightened the listeners' curiosity and drew them to a fresh understanding of God's Word.

Throughout the two weeks, numerous gifts were given out as we were blessed with an abundance of regular visitors. We are praying that, through this venture, they will in time become members of our church.

On Sabbath 2 October, the beginning of the Baptism Month in the West Midlands, there was

joy. Five souls – Daran Edwards, Kuda Gonyora, Fiona Mantack, and Shane and Sean Williams – made their decision for Jesus Christ by walking through the waters of baptism. This was a particular surprise as three from one family (Fiona and her sons, Shane and Sean) made their decision after going home and considering Friday night's message, *Payday Someday*.

Donna Haslam helped us to put the baptism of her sister, Fiona, into perspective by telling us a little of Fiona's journey. We were told that Fiona's journey into the Breath of Life church started over ten years ago. Even though she took a break from the church, she came back and has been a regular visitor for the past six years.

Donna, who is also a member of Breath of Life, had to testify that it was during Fiona's ten-year journey that she herself gave her heart to the Lord. She told us that, when Fiona was seriously ill, she (Donna) felt impressed to go to the church and pray for Fiona. After asking Fiona which was her church, and finding out that it was Breath of Life, Donna found herself there praying for her sister and never stopped coming; she made her stand for the Lord several years ago.

What a story! One sister leads another sister to the Lord in spite of illness, and now today both are truly 'sisters in Christ'.

COMMUNICARION SECRETARY

# 'Holy people scare me!'

The annual Welsh Mission Day of Fellowship is held every autumn at the Pavilion in Llandrindod Wells. This excellent venue, situated in beautiful mid-Wales, is in just the right location to allow members from both north and south Wales to get there in a reasonable time.

Our speaker this year was the North England Conference president, Pastor Ian Sweeney. As the Welsh Mission's nearest neighbour, we have always had a good relationship with the North England Conference, regularly benefiting from their lay preachers and enjoying the company of their members when they visit for holidays and the like. However, it was a special privilege to have Pastor Sweeney worship with us and to learn directly from him something of the challenges that the NEC faces, as well as the vision that he has for the future of the Church.

In his morning sermon, entitled 'Holy people scare me', Pastor Sweeney told the gritty real-life story of a family that had been torn apart by religious fundamentalism. A woman, who was believed to be denigrating the family religion and its traditions, was murdered by her brother in order to 'preserve God's honour'. 'When people strive for holiness they can become very dangerous', Pastor Sweeney said.

Using the Genesis story of Cain and Abel, together with a wide range of personal anecdotes, Pastor Sweeney pointed out that living a holy life is not necessarily a rewarding experience, in fact it can leave you with absolutely nothing. Particularly within the Seventh-day Adventist context, holiness can 'leave you without a job, friends, or even a spouse', he said. 'Our holiness doesn't obligate God to us in any way.'

'Striving for holiness can also lead directly to sin,' Pastor Sweeney continued. 'Saul killed Christians almost as an act of worship. The Phantasees plotted to kill Jesus because he threatened their religion. In our own churches we see arguments, strife and division, all over this issue of holiness.'

Despite the negatives, however, holiness is something that all Christians are to pursue. Pastor Sweeney said, 'God knows the truth about every one of us. One day he will intervene and then everyone will know.'

Mrs Jennifer Sweeney attended the day with her husband, and got the children involved in telling the story of the Good Samaritan. Other participants included Pastor David Foster (who led out in the Sabbath School), Pastor and Mrs Clyde Moore and their team who provided innovative activities for the younger children, and Pastors Jeremy Treener and Jovan Adamov (who, with the help of the youth, gave an entertaining report of the English Language School project that they ran in Serbia this summer).

Dr. Then Gokah, elder of the Cardiff North company, hosted the concluding musical part of the day. Featuring praise and worship songs from the Swansea *Afterglow* team, as well as solos, group items and concert piano pieces, there was something to suit all tastes.

More than 150 pictures from the day can be seen on the Welsh Mission website at: [www.adventistswales.org](http://www.adventistswales.org)



Pastor and Worship Leader Dhane Simbars from the Swansea *Afterglow*



Guest speaker, NEC president, Pastor Ian Sweeney



Anita-Zahna Frazier from Rhyl talks about the youth trip to Serbia



Sabbath School discussion group

# Men of excellence — come to Chatham!

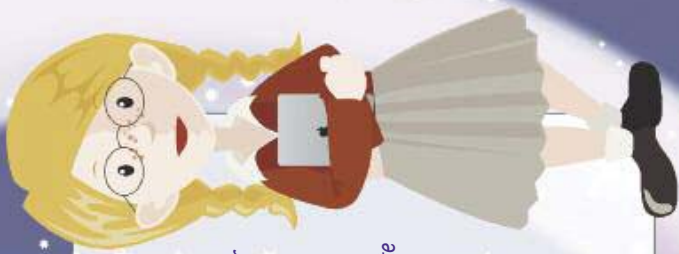
Sabbath 22 January 2011 will be a big day at the Chatham church. Local members are currently going door-to-door throughout the community, inviting men to our men's day, which will last



PHOTO: M. T. WINE

from 9:30am to 6pm. We would like as many Adventist men as possible to come. Pastor Ian Sweeney will be our speaker. His theme: Men of Excellence – Standing tall in a fallen world.





**Count how many times Jo said thank you:**  
 'Thanks, Mum', Jo said, when her mum gave her pancakes for breakfast.  
 'Thank you', Jo said, when her teachers told her she was a very good speller.  
 'Thanks, that hit the spot', said Jo, when Sam gave her a share of her granola bar.  
 'Thank you', Jo said, when the lady at the shop helped her to find a basket.  
 'Dear Uncle Ted, thank you for the new iPad. I feel very lucky', Jo wrote in her email.

**What do you think made Jo a grateful girl? This is what she prayed in her prayer last night. . .**  
 'Dear God, thank you for the fun I had at school today. Thank you for my new iPad. Thank you for Uncle Ted, amen.' Have you said thank you to anyone today? I am sure most of you have.  
 Jo knows something very important - God gives us everything we have. Like her, will you remember to say 'thank you' to him too?

H E T H D E R M E D  
 E V W H N E E I E M E  
 S E I L F L L A K  
 G T N L J I E A E N  
 T L S U L P S S E A  
 E F O A E A U E E H  
 N T G R A N G R D T  
 T H S A Y C B E M N  
 F A I T H K E J D H  
 I M S A M A R I A T  
 FAITH MERCY  
 GALILEE NINE  
 GLORY SAMARIA  
 HEALED TEN  
 JERUSALEM THANKED  
 LEPERS VILLAGE

**A wordsearch with a hidden message from Luke 17**  
 Find the words in the grid. Words can go horizontally, vertically and diagonally in all eight directions.  
 When you are done, the unused letters in the grid will spell out a hidden message. Pick them out from left to right, top line to bottom line.

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**Thank you, thank you, thank you**  
 One day when Jesus lived on earth, he saw ten men who all had a sickness called leprosy. Jesus made them all well, but only one man said 'thank you' to him. Have some fun reading the story for yourself in Luke 17:11-19 and then try this craft activity.

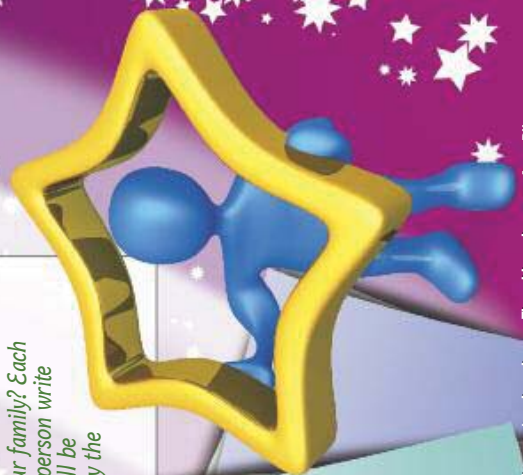
**You will need:**  
 Eleven plastic spoons, felt-tips, an egg carton for a dozen eggs and scissors.

**What you need to do:**  
 Use the felt-tips to draw faces on the backs of the spoons. Give them different hairstyles and colours, beards and moustaches to represent each of the lepers and Jesus.  
 Remove the cover of the egg carton and turn the bottom section over, then slide a spoon handle into the centre of each eggcup. Place Jesus in an end cup.  
 Use the spoon puppets to tell the story of Jesus and the ten lepers. Let these spoons remind you to thank God for his gifts to you.

**Thankful heroes**  
 You could also make a list of all the events in the Bible you can remember where someone said thank you or showed their gratitude. Then make another list of all the events in the Bible you can remember where a person or group forgot to say thank you. I wonder which will be the longer list?

**A family thank-you list**  
 How about starting a thank-you list with your family? Each night after dinner, take turns by letting one person write something for which they are thankful. You'll be amazed to read through all your blessings by the end of the week.

**A thank-you note**  
 Write a thank-you note to your pastor, or Sabbath School teacher, or someone else who shares God's love with you.  
 Post it and see what a blessing your note will be.





# The God Debate at Newbold

The God Debate came to Newbold College's Salisbury Hall on Tuesday evening, 5 October. Writer and broadcaster Rabbi Jonathan Roman, minister at the Maidenhead Synagogue, delivered the 2010 Beach Lecture – a Jewish response to scientist Richard Dawkins' best-selling book, *The God Delusion*. The rabbi's audience consisted of Adventists from the Newbold community and other Christians from the Binfield, Bracknell and Wokingham Churches. There was a small group from the local Bahá'í community and a sprinkling of agnostics. If there was a professing atheist in the 300-strong audience, he or she didn't speak up!

In this sympathetic context, Rabbi Jonathan began with a concession to Dawkins – the recognition that there are 'dinosaurs and lunatics' in all religions. He described as 'my lunatics' those Jerusalem Jews who stone a work-ambulance on the Sabbath. On the other hand, he suggested, religious people have enhanced the world by founding charitable organisations like the Red Cross, Alcoholics Anonymous, the Samaritans, and Amnesty International. 'There is something powerful in religion that can be used for enormous good and can help average people rise above themselves,' he said, 'the problem with some religion is not religion itself but the people who adopt it'.

The rabbi discussed some of Dawkins' arguments and looked at the conflict between atheistic scientists and religious people. He suggested that they are engaged in two entirely different tasks – tasks which are not always understood by those in the opposite camp. 'By and large people believe because they believe,' he suggested. Atheists can marshal an orderly package of 'atheist theology' but are still unable to convince religious people that their experiences with God, as they sing religious songs together or watch a blood-red sunset, are anything but real and everlasting.



Top: Rabbi Roman with Newbold's Mike Madson, the rabbi, who writes and broadcasts, continued the discussion informally. Above & bottom: There were many contributions from the audience.

The most fascinating part of the lecture, for many in the audience, was the final section dealing with the Jewish attitude to Dawkins' atheism and suggesting that, to Jews, many of Dawkins' questions are almost irrelevant. 'Do you believe in God?' is a non-Jewish question,' said Rabbi Jonathan, 'with what to do than with what to believe. He suggested rather wryly at one point, 'To be a good Jew, you don't have to believe in God, you just have to do what God says. What most matters is not what you believe but what you do in God's name!'

The Rabbi described Jews as being 'very relaxed about defining God, believing that it is a form of arrogance to do so.' Much more important than defining (and therefore limiting) God are the godly tasks undertaken as an expression of belief: supporting the weak, healing the sick, rescuing the prisoners. He reminded his listeners that 'Israel' literally means, 'He who struggles for "a prince" with God.' Jews have spent centuries wrestling with God, doubting God, arguing with God, questioning God – but never giving up!

The Beach Lecture\* was founded to build ecumenical bridges – to make Newbold a place where Adventists and local Christians come together to exchange ideas. An hour after the lecture had finished, the Salisbury Hall caretaker, coming in to lock the building, found several groups of college staff, students and visitors still standing around, discussing the subject. There's no doubt that the God debate will go on!

HELEN PEARSON

\*The Beach Lecture was endowed in 1996 by Dr Bert Beach, former Newbold governor, and Mrs Elaine Beach.

## Donutman @ Newbold

On 26 September, all roads led to a packed Newbold church, where the Cornerstone Bible Fellowship Association (CFBA) hosted the 'Donutman concert'. CFBA is a gathering of Nigerian Seventh-day Adventists in the UK.

The theme of the light-hearted concert was a presentation of Jesus Christ as a prolees Friend to children and their families. The event was co-ordinated by Anu Molomo of the Children's Department, leader of CFBA, and Toyn Aworinde.

Preparations involved fasting and prayer, and numerous rehearsal sessions with CFBA children, who doubled up as backing singers.

Toyn's teenage daughter has been a fan of the Donutman since



in this project; it was fantastic' were just some of the comments.

We thank all those who contributed towards making the event an outstanding success. To our heavenly Father, Jesus Christ, we give all the glory and honour. The organisers are lauding with Rob Evans, the Donutman, for a comeback soon. For more on Cornerstone's activities, visit [cfba.org.uk](http://cfba.org.uk).

MR DAVID DAVE, PFA & MEMBERSHIP CO-ORDINATOR, CFBA

## Campers, carers and bouncy castles Special Needs Camp 2010

by Lee Gallaher

I have known about Special Needs Camp for several years, because my brother has been volunteering there since the early nineties. I have even visited for the day on two occasions, but this year's camp was the first I had attended for the full week. The following are my impressions:

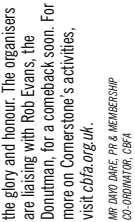
One of the first things one encounters at Special Needs Camp is the enthusiasm of the campers. From the very first day, it is apparent that campers do not return year-on-year because it is their only option for a holiday, but because they love it! Camp is, without a doubt, one of the highlights of their year. As I observed the camp that, for many campers returning for another year, their expectation was that camp would be exactly what it had always been: a welcoming, safe, happy holiday, with familiar friends (campers and staff) and familiar routines (mealtimes, bedtime and activities) that they would enjoy afresh with the same level of excitement and joy that they did last year. This year, once again, the campers old and new were not disappointed.

The second thing I noticed about Special Needs Camp was that the enthusiasm and excitement of the campers matched the dedication and care displayed by the staff. One can only be impressed, and remove one's proverbial hat in salute, because of those good folk who give their time to provide this most excellent service. As a first-timer at Special Needs this year, I was in good company; there were eight people who had chosen to take on the challenging role of carer for the first time. Being a carer at Special Needs camp is not

when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters... 'Refreshingly, I believe, though the world might consider them so, not a single one of the campers at Special Needs Camp considers themselves to be 'least', and as such their enthusiasm for life – and camp – is infectious. If you'd like to 'get infected', and experience a glimpse of the abundance of God's Kingdom for yourself, then why not consider volunteering at Special Needs Camp for 2011?

For more information contact Joy Bussey at: [j.s.bussey@ntworld.com](mailto:j.s.bussey@ntworld.com).

John 10:10, NLT, Matthew 25:40, NLT

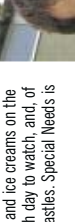


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John 10:10, NLT, Matthew 25:40, NLT







David Ferguson and Naida Hanna with Chicago and Lake Michigan in the background. Cycling in 47°C temperatures through the Mojave desert, the heat caused many punctures: it all but melted the tyres!

## 3,300 miles for Operation Smile UK

Grantham church member David Ferguson and his friend Naida Hanna (a member of the Christian Orthodox Church) undertook an incredibly tough cycle ride of over 3,300 miles across the United States this summer. The trip from Los Angeles to New York was completed in just under seven weeks in July and August, and raised funds for *Operation Smile UK*, a charity that provides surgery for children born with a cleft palate. Cycling in 47°C temperatures in the Mojave desert, traversing the Rockies, diverting by the Niagara Falls, and often sleeping in tents or disused barns to reduce personal costs, these second-year medical students succeeded in raising over £1,300 for a very worthy cause. Every penny raised has gone to the charity; David and Naida paid the considerable travel, food and accommodation costs from their own pockets. The opportunity is still available if you would like to make a donation to *Operation Smile UK*. Simply go to [www.justgiving.com/cyclingteam](http://www.justgiving.com/cyclingteam) and follow the instructions. Alternatively, if you would prefer to contact David's dad, please call 01476 594 800.

DAVID J. FERGUSON

## Local Council backs Newport Health Fair

by John Surrledge

Health fairs run by local Adventist churches are pretty popular these days, but it's not often that they get sponsored by the local council. However, thanks to a good track record, and the campaigning efforts of local members, this year's Newport Health Fair received a subsidy of £1,000 from the Newport Festival 2010 fund. As a result of this, the event, which was held on Sunday 19 September at a school just over the road from the church, was considerably bigger than the one the church ran two years ago.

Adventist volunteers, including doctors and nurses from churches in the area, and a team from the local council, were present. The fair was held at 11.30am, and for the next four hours or so more than two hundred people browsed the exhibits, picked up information leaflets, had

various health checks, and sampled a wide range of healthy foods. Among the many stall holders were representatives from the Stroke Association, Newport People's Panel, Zumba Fitness, Newport Temperance Society, and Sigt Support (previously Gwent Association for the Blind). Another major attraction was a fire engine from the Maidees Fire Station in the rear car park – a real hit with the younger visitors, and one or two of the older ones who were prepared to climb up the steep steps and into the back of the cab.

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Laura Davies and Zumba Fitness

## Holloway baptism

On the evening of 11 September, four people – Janet Gayle, Donique Lindsey, Dawn Daley and her mother, Joy Alexander – all decided to give their lives to Christ. Pastor Richard Holder spoke words of wisdom and encouragement. Following these, they made their baptismal vows before the church members.

The first candidate to take the dip was Janet Gayle (17). The pastor commented on how wonderful it was that Janet resisted the temptations of street culture, unlike many young men her age, by joining the family of God.

Following Janet were Joy Alexander and Dawn Daley. This was a heartfelt moment as the two are mother and daughter. It was beautiful to see them together in the pool to witness one another's dedication to the Lord, and it is encouraging to know that they will have the support of one another in their spiritual journey.

The final candidate was Donique Lindsey, a 19-year-old woman. Our Bible worker, Sister Rutherford, declared how excited she was to see Donique in the pool, as they formed a good relationship while Donique attended Bible study classes.

On behalf of the Holloway church I welcome these new members into the family of God.

NEZA HEPBURN




*Lay Bible Worker's Retreat*

**26-28 November 2010**  
from £130 per person

Venue:  
**Lafimer Place**  
Chesham, Buckinghamshire HP9 1UG

*share the word...*





*Lay Bible Worker's Retreat*

**Main Speakers**



**ANDREWS EWOS** PASTOR WESTERN REGION



**WAYNE KAISE** PASTOR WESTERN REGION

Andrews Ewoos is the Senior Pastor of Amsterdam Ghana Church in the Netherlands Union Conference.

Wayne Kaise is the Pastor of the Central Coast Community Church (CCCC) and Director of the Centre for Church Planting in the South Pacific Division.

A number of Conference Directors will be offering sermons on various topics relating to Bible Work within their departments.

More than 150 photographs from the event can be seen at: [www.adventistwales.org](http://www.adventistwales.org)

To register your interest or for more information contact the BUC Personal Ministries Department on 01923 672251 or email [apm@adventistwales.org.uk](mailto:apm@adventistwales.org.uk). Alternatively visit [www.adventistwales.org](http://www.adventistwales.org).

All advertisements are reproduced as supplied.







## Job vacancy at ADRA-UK

ADRA-UK has a vacancy for the position of Chief Programmes Officer.

The Chief Programmes Officer leads the Programmes team and will take responsibility for actively investigating, sourcing and monitoring funds from government, public and private donors; supporting ADRA-UK's implementing partners on proposal development, donor compliance, monitoring & evaluation, and donor reporting.

A Masters' degree in international development, international relations or a related subject is preferable. Applicants should have at least four years' direct experience in development work, preferably in a developing country, and proven understanding of development issue: theory and practice. Strong analytical, verbal and written communication skills, as well as proven management skills, are absolutely essential.

ADRA-UK is offering this position in the first instance as a one-year contract. Salary level: £33,413 to £36,612 (dependent on qualifications and experience).

All details of the position, together with an application form, are available on the ADRA-UK website: [www.adra.org.uk](http://www.adra.org.uk). Alternatively, email [info@adra.org.uk](mailto:info@adra.org.uk) or write to Recruitment, ADRA-UK, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts. WD25 9JZ, England.

Applicants should have the right to work in the UK prior to submission of the employment application.

**The deadline for receipt of applications is 2 December 2010**

## LOW story

When Angela and John Anderson returned to their hotel at Shanklin, on the Isle of Wight, from their holiday in January 2010, they were horrified. While they were away the water pipes had burst, and about sixty percent of the hotel was in a sorry state.

Ceilings were collapsed, walls ruined, and furniture and carpets destroyed. Most people would have given up on hotel life: but not these two! They took everything in their stride.

Calmly, they assessed the situation and called in the insurance people. They came and informed the Andersons that their insurance would cover the cost, and that they would be put up in accommodation for six months while the repairs took place.

At church, they were very com-posed and collected. Time went by, and, finally, after six months, every-thing was in its proper place and the couple were once again in business. They could tell of many miracles and blessings that came their way in March 2010: they received a letter from the Vegan Society, letting them know that in 2009 they had been voted as providing 'the best accommodation and vegan food in the whole of the UK'.

JOHN HEMMING

## STANBOROUGH SCHOOL VACANCIES

### Modern Foreign Language Teacher (French): January 2011

We are seeking an enthusiastic individual to teach French in our MFL department. The qualified candidate will be capable of teaching Key Stages 3, 4 (GCSE) and 5 (International Baccalaureate). The ability to teach girls P.E. would be an advantage.

You will prepare and deliver appropriate learning materials and carry out assessments of students and their work. You will contribute to the curriculum development, including the planning and implementation of existing and new programmes.

### Information Communication Technology (ICT) Teacher: January 2011

Qualified teacher required to teach ICT. The qualified candidate will be capable of teaching Key Stages 3, 4 (GCSE) and 5 (International Baccalaureate).

Stanborough School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff to share this commitment. All successful applicants will be required to undertake a criminal record check via the CRB before they can be appointed.

Applicants should be able and willing to support the Christian ethos of this Seventh-day Adventist school.

Salary commensurate with denominational scale according to qualifications and experience. The offer of employment in respect of these posts will be sub-ject to a satisfactory disclosure certificate from the Criminal Records Bureau.

### The closing date for applications is 19 November 2010.

If you think that you have the drive and vision to fill these positions, and you have the teaching qualifications, relevant experience and authorisation to work in the UK, please complete the application and person specification forms available on our website ([www.spsch.org](http://www.spsch.org)) and email them with your C.V., addressed to the Head Teacher, Mr R. Murphy, at: [jmckie@spsch.org](mailto:jmckie@spsch.org). Alternatively, post them to: Stanborough Park, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD25 9JT

## NEWBOLD SCHOOL HEADTEACHER

Required for January 2011

NOR 70

Age range 4-11

Salary will be approximately £34,284pa

The South England Conference wishes to appoint an inspirational and committed, practising Seventh-day Adventist headteacher to lead Newbold school. Our aim is to provide a holistic education and develop the talents and abilities of every child.

### Our school community is looking for someone who:

- Has a clear vision and commitment to the Seventh-day Adventist ethos and the inclusion of all learners
- Has a strong personal faith which will enrich the life of the school
- Has proven leadership skills that encourage, support and challenge students and bring innovative initiatives and programmes to further improve our practice
- Is an effective communicator with good inter-personal skills who will support and inspire pupils, staff, governors and parents/carers
- Will continue to build links with the community and manage use of the school's facilities
- Has experience in the UK school system
- Has the right to work in the UK

### Our school community offers:

- A rich and diverse intake of children and their families
- A friendly, dedicated staff team committed to the school and its community
- A supportive governing body, Church conference, and adjoining Adventist tertiary college
- An exciting opportunity to lead in shaping the future of the school

Visits to the school are warmly welcomed.

For an appointment, please contact Mrs Pat Eastwood at  
Newbold School on tel: 01344 421088

For an application form, job description and person specification please e-mail:  
[jcrawford@secadventist.org.uk](mailto:jcrawford@secadventist.org.uk)

**Closing date for applications: 16 November 2010**

The South England Conference is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff to share this commitment. All successful applicants will be required to undertake a criminal record check via the CRB *before* they can be appointed.



### New book of the week

## A Fishy Tale

A story about Jonah

by Anne Pilmoor

This book is a simple retelling of the story of Jonah. Children will enjoy this classic, with its bright, lively illustrations, and will come to understand Jonah's unforgettable lesson.

Contact ABC Sales on  
01476 539900  
to purchase your copy at  
£3.95 plus p&p.

## ABC BOOK SALES

### October

31 Wolverhampton 10am-2pm

### November

7 Harlow 2pm-5pm

13 Dublin Sunset-8pm

21 Ipswich 10am-2pm

### ABC Shops

Watford, BUC.

9am-5pm, Monday-Thursday.

**(Closed for lunch 1pm-1.30pm)**

9am-12pm Friday. **Closed on Sundays**

Advent Centre

Sundays 11am-3pm

## Messenger

Volume 115 • 22 – 29 October 2010

**EDITOR: D. N. MARSHALL**

**DESIGN: DAVID BELL**

COPY FOR No. 24 – 8 November 2010

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

Fax No: (01476) 571444.

Email: [Editordnm@mac.com](mailto:Editordnm@mac.com)

Send high resolution pictures to:

[dbell@stanboroughpress.co.uk](mailto:dbell@stanboroughpress.co.uk)

ABC Sales line: (01476) 539900

Mon-Thurs only, 8am-5.30pm.

[www.stanboroughpress.com](http://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 the UK.

Visit the BUC website at: [www.adventist.org.uk](http://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	Belfast
Oct 29	5.39	5.52	5.40	5.39	5.54
Nov 5	4.27	4.39	4.26	4.24	4.40
12	4.16	4.28	4.15	4.11	4.27
19	4.06	4.19	4.04	3.59	4.16

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