

Messenger

News to the churches • 24 June 2011 • Volume 116 • 13



Béal Feirste

The editor's personal reflections on his first visit to Belfast, Northern Ireland.

I was there as guest speaker for their day of fellowship – something I had looked forward to. This was my opportunity to get to know the Irish Adventists, and I was not disappointed. These are my reflections . . .

The Belfast church complex

Firstly, the Belfast church is a place to be proud of. The building has been under renovation by the members (see p.14), and they have a justified sense of pride in their handiwork. They have dispelled the dinginess that often clings to older, inner-city churches, creating functional spaces that are bright and welcoming.

A slick affair

Secondly, the programme was a slick affair: things ran to schedule, the audio-visual equipment worked well and the music was great.

In the afternoon the pastor, Adam Keough, and the choir led us through a beautifully planned service that culminated in the testimony and baptism of Alan Austin. This was moving stuff, and the members stayed to enjoy it.

The IAIP

Acronyms seem to flourish among the Irish, and visitors can get confused. For example, just take this list of political parties and affiliates: CLMC (made up of the UVF, UFF/UDA and RHC), DUP, FF, FG, INLA, IPLO, IRA, IRSM, LVF, PUP, RSF, SDLP, TOM, UDP and UKUP!¹

Given their passion for acronyms, I have decided to add one more – the **IAIP**: the *Irish Adventist Indoor Picnic*! We had one that Sabbath afternoon, and it was a great affair – with no brollies needed. Each family brought food for themselves, with the church also providing a supplement of soup and rolls. The large hall was soon bursting with good aromas and the chatter of warm fellowship. Just the place to introduce people to Adventism!

There are challenges

Listening to David Neal (Mission president) and some of his pastoral team made me aware of the challenges to evangelism in Northern Ireland, one of which warrants a brief comment: *the rapid secularisation of Northern Irish society*.

This may seem strange in a part of the UK where church attendance is still comparatively high, and where, just sixty years ago: *'The 1951 census recorded only 221 freethinkers and sixty-four atheists, amounting to 0.02% of the total population.'*² But the research goes on to show that by 2005 secularisation had *'progressed as far in Northern Ireland as anywhere, despite the religious nature of the society'*, and if trends continue *'secularists will represent the second or third largest religious group in Northern Ireland society by the time of the next census, in 2011.'*³

The research suggests that *'disaffection from politics has been a motivation to reject religion'*⁴ which supports the fact that, where religious groups align themselves with political parties or policies, they face a loss of support when those policies flounder.

An opportunity

Disillusioned people, rejecting their sectarian traditions and thinking independently, also provide an opportunity for evangelism, don't they? May God give the Irish Mission all the gifts necessary to reach as many as possible.

Slán agus beannacht⁵

¹'Glossary of Irish Terms and Acronyms', taken from <http://irlnet.com/mlist/acros.html>. ²'Driven to disaffection: Religious Independents in Northern Ireland', <http://www.ark.ac.uk/publications/updates/update41.pdf>. ³Ibid. ⁴Ibid. ⁵'Goodbye and blessings'; the title is Irish for 'Belfast': <http://www.irishcultureandcustoms.com/3focloir/Written.html>.

Megapixels of creation



Exton, Rutland.

David Bell, Fuji S200EXR

MESSENGER is currently running a four-part series over a twelve-month period entitled *Megapixels of creation*, offering you the opportunity to see your pictures in print.

The spring deadline of 21 June is fast approaching, so now is the time to send in your pictures.

Whether you are a 'casual snapper' or a 'budding pro', it doesn't matter. Just send me your finest-quality nature photos – landscapes, wildlife, flora and fauna, cloud formations, close-ups – anything in the UK that you think demonstrates

God's creation at work. Please include a caption for your picture, and what equipment you have used. If your submission is really good, it might even appear in our devotional calendar.

This is not a competition, and the only reward will be to see your photography in print!

Please send your photography to me at:
dbell@stanboroughpress.co.uk
Happy snapping!

DAVID BELL, MESSENGER DESIGNER



The Giant's Causeway.

Weiers Coetser, Samsung S850

gas-producing food such as most beans, onions, sprouts, nuts, and raisins until the gas subsides, then reintroduce slowly. They are best avoided if you are to attend a social event!

Constipation: this is the delayed passage of waste through the lower segment of the large intestine, with the subsequent discharge of dry, hard fecal matter. Occasional or temporary constipation can occur as a result of disruption of one's regular activities, through travel or through changes in one's sleeping or eating habits. Regular constipation can be due to poor abdominal musculature or a weak pelvic floor, making it difficult to generate effective pressure for defecation. Poor lifestyle habits related to diet, lack of exercise and stress are also implicated. Ongoing constipation, however, needs investigation to rule out more serious disorders or illnesses.

Remedies: increase water intake, exercise more, implement abdominal massage with warm applications, and ensure adequate fibre and raw food in the diet. Some bowel conditions, however, can be worsened by too much dietary fibre or excessive raw foods.

Ageing: as we age we tend to experience more digestive imbalances and food intolerances. This is partly due to the decreasing amount of hydrochloric acid in the stomach. This acid lines the entire digestive tract and is the first line of defense for our immune system, as it kills off any ingested bacteria or parasites (see also Matthew 15). The stomach lining becomes more susceptible to damage with age and the increasing use of prescription drugs, particularly in older adults, can further damage the stomach lining. Ageing is also associated with bacterial overgrowth in the small intestine, and poorer absorption of some nutrients.

To improve digestion: eat more plant-based foods, don't skip meals, avoid allergy-producing foods, avoid heavy meals in the late evening, get regular exercise, and keep stress levels low.

Good health!

Enhancing Health

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

Knowing your body – part 4b

Digestive health

Among the disorders that can adversely affect the digestive system are the following: Congenital defects which affect swallowing; inflammatory disorders that affect muscles, nervous tissue and mucous membranes; bacterial and parasitic infections; and benign growths, tumours and cancer. Ailments such as gastritis and irritable bowel syndrome can also affect digestion, producing uncomfortable symptoms.

Here are some factors to consider with regard to digestion:

Intestinal gas: this consists mostly of swallowed air and the by-products of digestion, which form gas that can become trapped within the abdomen.

Remedies: chew food adequately and eat slower to reduce the amount of air ingested; reduce your intake of carbonated beverages and whipped foods which contain air bubbles; avoid

editorial



Julian Hibbert
Editor

The Darwin Awards

A few years ago my son introduced me to the *Darwin Awards*. Now let me do the same for you, unless you already know about them.

The official *Darwin Awards* website lists scores of nominees who have successfully (and tragically) ended their lives through the sheer stupidity of their own actions.¹ Few of these macabre stories bear repeating – especially in a *MESSENGER* editorial – but there is one that perfectly illustrates the point I wish to make today.

'Lawn chair Larry'

Lawrence Richard Walters, also known as 'Lawn chair Larry', received honourable mention in the *Darwin Awards* for his escapade on 2 July, 1982, even though he survived.

*'Walters had always dreamed of flying, but was unable to become a pilot in the United States Air Force because of his poor eyesight. Walters had first thought of using weather balloons to fly at age 13, . . . Twenty years later he decided to do so. His intention was to attach a few helium-filled weather balloons to his lawn chair, cut the anchor, and then float above his backyard at a height of about 30 feet (9.1 m) for several hours. He planned to use a pellet gun to burst balloons to float gently to the ground.'*²

Forty-five eight-foot weather balloons later, Walters had risen swiftly to 15,000 feet, and crossed into the controlled airspace near LA International Airport – leaving at least one airline pilot speechless! There he sat, strapped into his lawn chair, staring at the circling jumbo jets, and too terrified to use his airgun in case he unbalanced himself.

After forty-five minutes of this he burst a few balloons, then accidentally dropped the weapon overboard. Slowly, fortunately for Larry, the chair began to descend, until the trailing wires of the burst balloons snagged a pylon 'causing a blackout in a Long Beach neighbourhood for twenty minutes'. Walters was then able to climb to the ground, straight into the arms of the law and a \$1,500 fine!



'He wants us to be restrained by grace!'

What was his real crime?

What was Larry's real 'crime': breaking civil aviation laws, or causing damage to the electricity supply infrastructure?

I think it was more mundane than that: **failure to anticipate the consequences** of his hare-brained scheme. And here Larry has company. Far too many of us blunder through life making the same mistake. We act impulsively, with scant regard for the consequences of our words and deeds.

From the word go, we teach our children to anticipate consequences and avoid trouble. Surely this must be one of the commendable core objectives of the socialisation process. And yet, as adults, we don't always practise what we preach. Like Larry, we don't always take the time to imagine what could happen next.

Playing with death

As a boy, I remember helping my friend Rory take live ammunition apart. Yes, we had acquired some .22 and .32 calibre rounds from somewhere and wanted to see what was inside – what gunpowder looked like. We jammed the brass cartridges in a table vice and pulled out the lead slugs with a pair of pliers!

Our curiosity was satisfied, and we survived any injury, but a few years later one of my acquaintances was not so fortunate. He tried something similar with a detonator and blew part of his hand away!

Real maturity

I believe that one of the signs of real maturity is the ability to **anticipate the consequences** of our words and deeds, and **show restraint** when they are potentially negative or harmful to others.

Restraint is probably a good synonym for 'self-control', and self-control is one of the virtues the apostle Paul mentions repeatedly, at least fourteen times. The following remarks from Titus 2:11-12 (NIV) are typical: *'For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age . . .'*

An outcome of grace

I like the way J. B. Phillips uses the term 'responsible' in place of 'self-control', because it sounds more positive.³ Most of us would probably prefer to be known as 'responsible' people, rather than just good at 'self-control'. In fact, in the minds of some, 'self-control' may sound a bit like DIY religion.

So, it is important to remember that this **self-control, restraint** or sense of **responsibility** is an outcome of **grace**, not just perspiration or mental pressure! Paul is clear that it is *'the grace of God that brings salvation'* that teaches us this virtue.

In a nutshell then: God want us to live responsible lives, in which we anticipate the consequences of our words and deeds, and show restraint when they are potentially negative or harmful to others.

He wants us to be **restrained by grace!**

¹<http://www.darwinawards.com>. ²http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Larry_Walters. ³*The New Testament in Modern English*, J. B. Phillips.

BUC restructuring

Owing to the number of detailed and lengthy responses we received to Pastor Don McFarlane's restructuring proposal in the *MESSENGER* of 13 May 2011 – far too many to be published in the limited time and space available before the forthcoming session – the BUC administrators decided to publish them online at www.adventist.org.uk. We invite all interested parties to view them there, and to submit comments to the same site via info@adventist.org.uk.

EDITOR

Synergy is a term used often today, especially in the IT industry, but what does it mean? Of all the available definitions, I thought that Wikipedia stated it best: 'Synergy, in general, may be defined as two or more things functioning together to produce a result not independently obtainable.'¹

Basically it means just what the Greek root says it does: 'working together.'² And that is exactly what is happening in the town of Wellingborough, Northamptonshire. Two entities are working together to produce a 'result not independently obtainable'. The local congregation and granoVita UK Ltd have combined forces to facilitate the growth of the Adventist Church, and this is the story in brief. . . .

Poor prospects
A decade ago the Wellingborough congregation was in trouble:

membership was declining, the facilities they used at the Quaker centre had only two parking spaces, and worshippers from the area preferred to visit the Northampton and Kettering churches. Eventually there were only six to eight regular members in attendance, and no youth.

granoVita's offer
GranoVita's management, aware of the congregation's plight, invited them to occupy one of their buildings on Sabbaths – rent-free and with ample parking. They were reluctant to accept the offer and the matter lay dormant for a while.

Then, towards the end of 2004, a group of eighteen or so members decided to accept Granovita's offer and were formed into a company by the NEC. Just eighteen months later they were organised into a



Synergy

church, and now they have sixty-eight members. In fact, on a good Sabbath attendance rises well above the 100 mark.

Lapsed members have started attending again, there are lots of youth, and the church now has its own Pathfinder club. They have held three baptismal services, two of which were at the church itself, and they have developed a special relationship with a nearby Methodist church, where they preach and hold special music programmes at least twice a year.

A new development
The facilities set aside by granoVita for the Wellingborough church are used exclusively for worship, and the equipment and furnishings are of a high standard. The church, by its own choice, has been paying rent to the company for the past eighteen months.

The latest development between the company and the church is a plan to expand the existing facilities to comfortably seat around 200 members. The façade of the commercial



Left: The 'church-within-a-warehouse' which is to be expanded to seat 200 people. Right: Charles stands at the lectern in the Youth hall. Below left & right: Members of the Wellingborough congregation.



building will not be changed – all the upgrading will take place on the inside (see the accompanying photos for more detail).

The two entities are working closely with the BUC and the Seventh-day Adventist Association to ensure that both are properly protected by a

memorandum of association – and, while granoVita will fund the project, the church will increase its rent in order to repay the company within five years.

Surely, that is 'synergy' personified!
¹http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/synergy. ²Ibid.



Top: Charles talks with Julian. Above: Samples of the food products produced by granoVita. Left: Charles Gamble standing next to granoVita's newly-installed soya yoghurt production line. Below: granoVita UK.



David Bell, MESSENGER designer, was present during the visit to granoVita UK Ltd, and took most of the photographs for this feature.

For more information about granoVita UK Ltd, or their parent company, please visit: www.granovita.co.uk. The company has products available for vegetarian, vegan, and gluten- and yeast-free diets.

The MESSENGER editor talks to Charles Gamble, CEO of granoVita UK Ltd, about the place of faith and witness in his business strategy.



Editor: 'Charles, thanks for giving us a chance to talk to you. Firstly, how does your parent company in Germany feel about your involvement with the Wellingborough church? Won't they see it as a diversion from your core business?'

Charles: Julian, they back us all the way! In fact, they have done the very same thing back in Germany. You see, being an Adventist-run network of companies means that we share a common vision for the business. And that vision includes supporting the mission of the Church wherever we can.'

Editor: 'I believe that the Wellingborough project is not granoVita's only involvement with the programme in the BUC. Is that so?'

Charles: 'Yes, we try to do what we can. That includes the sponsorship of college students, and equipment for schools and churches, here and abroad. We provided three log cabins for the Aberdaron youth camp, to help with their training events. And ADRA is close to our hearts too – we regularly provide them with food aid for Africa.'

Editor: 'Charles, as a supplier to the retail market, you must meet lots of business people. Do you find opportunities to witness to them, or is that taboo?'

Charles: 'Julian, for me, business is not an end in itself . . . it is a means to mission! When the bank managers pop around for a visit I show them everything, and we end up at the church. When I do our business presentations to potential customers, I link it with the health message and the Church. You will be surprised how many people are Christians – or have a Christian connection. I think that we are often just too shy to speak about faith.'

Editor: 'Charles, finally, I believe that you are a member of ASI-UK; is that right?'

Charles: 'Yes, I think it is a great forum for business persons to nourish their faith.'



nurture

Aiming for greatness

Did you see that item on the news recently? There is a government scheme to give careers advice to 7-year-olds. The BBC reporter went to a school, asked, 'What do you want to do when you grow up?' and analysed the answers the children gave him. Twenty-three percent wanted to win *X-Factor*, 22% wanted to win *Britain's Got Talent*, and 21% wanted to be Wayne Rooney. None of that surprised me. What did surprise me was that three bright, fresh-faced 7-year-olds were astonishingly sensible and decisive: 'I'm good at arithmetic,' said one girl, 'so I want to be an accountant.' 'I want to be a vet', said a second. 'I want to be a police officer', said a third: and, by the look of him, he'll end up heading Scotland Yard!

A 'spokesperson' said, 'We're trying to make them see the point of school by harnessing their dreams.' What is it that drives you? Do you have dreams and goals? Or are you just living from day to day, hoping to serve? To make a difference?

At a job interview more than thirty years ago I was asked, 'Where do you expect to be in five years' time?' I became aware at that time that I simply don't think that way. 'What is your vision for the Church in the future?' and 'Tell me about your dreams' are things I have heard church leaders say to young people; and I have often been impressed by the answers they received. But any dreams and visions I had for the Church as a young person have had such radical and so frequent revisions – as the Church has changed beyond recognition – that they bear no relationship to current realities.

So, in a rapidly changing church/society/world – *what is it that drives you?*

You'll be aware that Darwin answered that question for the whole human species in terms of surviving by being 'the fittest'. Was he wrong?

Karl Marx also answered for everyone in terms of greed, acquisitiveness and economic necessity. Sigmund Freud said, 'Everything you and I do springs from two motives: the sex urge and the desire to be great.' When Dale Carnegie wrote *How to Win Friends and Influence People* he quoted Freud's words as if they were self-evident truth. ARE they?

Charles was 18 and felt a call to train for the ministry. He applied for a place in Regent's Park College. The head of the college arranged to interview him at the Cambridge home of the wealthy Macmillan publishing family.



Dr David Marshall

Upon arrival he was shown into the parlour by a servant. Charles had risen early for the appointment and spent time in special prayer seeking God's guidance.

But the young man was only human, and after waiting two hours he lost patience and rang for the servant again. He was horrified to discover that the servant had failed to announce his arrival and totally forgotten that he was there. As a consequence the principal of Regent's Park College, having waited to conduct the interview in a room elsewhere in the building, had also grown impatient. He had acted on his impatience and caught a train back to London!

Charles' instinct was to catch a train in pursuit of the principal. Understandably, he was deeply disturbed. Deciding that he needed to calm down, he took a walk. As he walked, he thought. Was this God's roadblock for his way to ministry? A verse began to turn over and over in his mind: 'And seekest thou great things for thyself? Seek them not!' (Jeremiah 45:5, KJV.) It seemed to him that God was saying, 'Don't worry about the confusion. I don't do confusion. No need to shoot off to London. Carry on.'

Charles never did go to college. Believing that God had gifted him as a preacher, he kept on doing what he was doing. To do it well, he studied. Then he studied a whole lot more. He mastered all the disciplines to which he would have been introduced at college – and then some. Indeed, Charles Haddon Spurgeon became the greatest preacher of the nineteenth century, very much a century of great preachers. When chapels became too small to hold his congregations, he was obliged to hire big public halls. In 1861 the Metropolitan Tabernacle was built for him; it held 6,000 people. It was more than a venue for his powerful expository preaching. It was a social centre and an educational centre. Spurgeon never went to college, but he founded a college for pastors. He deeply believed in 'colportage', the sale of Gospel literature from door to door. He wrote many books and published his sermons on a weekly basis. He 'a thousand times thanked the Lord very heartily for the strange providence which forced his steps into another and far better path' (the words of his wife in an introduction to Spurgeon's autobiography published after his death in 1892).

Dreams, visions and aspirations have their place. But, if only to avoid a wasted lifetime, we need to be sure what drives us,

issues

Adventists and the environment

Seventh-day Adventists around the world are concerned about the environment. Climate change, global warming and carbon emissions are the daily diet of many news editors. The headlines grab our attention and arrest our thoughts and imaginations: will we have a viable planet to pass on to our children, let alone our children's children? New space frontiers are being sought, just in case the prophets of doom, death and destruction are right. Back here on Earth, politicians, presidents, pontiffs, and prime ministers convene conferences, issue joint declarations and set targets to steer the world clear of disaster, asking us to think globally and act locally. But what organisation is better placed to rise to this challenge than the Seventh-day Adventist Church?

Enshrined in our twenty-eight fundamental beliefs is the doctrine of stewardship which outlines the Church's green agenda: **'We are God's stew-**

to identify the gifts God has given us, to develop those gifts and to use those gifts to advance God's Kingdom.

Those who, though Christian, find themselves driven by the pursuit of darwinian 'fitness' or freudian 'greatness' may need to pause for a Jeremiah 45:5 reality check. We disprove evolution as we are driven by higher ideals to greater, more unselfish service. We don't have to worry about doing something great. The challenge is to be great by doing what we can where God has placed us.

South England Conference quadrennial session

Notice is hereby given that a quadrennial session of the South England Conference will be held at the Butterworth Hall, Warwick University, between Thursday 1 September and Sunday 4 September, 2011. Registration of delegates will take place from 11am on Thursday and the business sessions are due to commence at 1:20pm.

Notice is also given that proposed changes to the South England Conference Constitution will be considered and have been circulated to delegates.

PASTOR PAUL LOCKHAM,
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



Dr Richard de Lisser*

your area to protect the environment and work with them.

Recycle:

Our Church must endeavour to recycle, remodel, reuse, reclaim, repair and practise restraint in the use of the world's resources.

Organise:

Churches need to be decisive. Our efforts for the environment must be outcome-driven. This is not just a corporate responsibility but a personal one.

Nature:

Our planet must be treated with respect: we are to work as close to nature as possible. There is much to learn and there are many benefits to be derived from spending time in God's creation and working with it. God made *'the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water'* (Revelation 14:7, NIV). Let us enjoy God's creation, work with it and use it for his glory.

Manage

We are called by Christ to be custodians and caretakers of time, opportunities, abilities, possessions, and the blessings and resources of the earth. These gifts must be managed well, as ultimately we will all have to give an account to our Maker!

Energy-efficiency:

How many churches have energy-saving light bulbs, solar panels, water-saving devices or wind turbines? Are we being as energy-efficient as we could be?

Needs assessment:

What does your church really need? Upon close inspection, our 'needs' are often unrealistic. In helping to save the environment, we need to re-evaluate our needs. Its future sustainability depends on it. How many churches with much will help those with little?

Temperance:

Too much of one thing is not good for anyone. Some may 'go overboard' in their approach to saving the planet, but this is just one aspect of our stewardship. We must be balanced and temperate in all that we do. Saving our environment is one thing, but saving men and women's souls (along with our own) is the ultimate objective.

*Dr Richard de Lisser is the stewardship director for the South England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

ards, entrusted by him with time and opportunities, abilities and possessions, and the blessing of the earth and its resources. We are responsible to him for their proper use . . .'

God has placed us on this earth to look after and manage the environment faithfully. Seventh-day Adventists believe that our preservation and nurture of the environment is intimately related to the way we serve God.

We advocate a simple, wholesome lifestyle, in which people do not step on the treadmill of unbridled over-consumption, accumulation of goods, and production of waste.

Practical steps:

What practical steps can our churches take? Here are a few:

Economise:

As a Church, there is need for us to cut down on what we use. How much time and fuel is consumed through needless travel to meetings, when technologies exist whereby video conferences can enable the Church to do business in a more environmentally friendly and cost-effective manner?

Nurture:

The future of our planet lies in our hands. As a Church, we have the opportunity of teaching future generations to think environmentally by what we do now. How can we help our young people to change the way they view the world and move them from consumer to conservator?

Value:

We will never fully appreciate what we have until it's gone. It is necessary, therefore, to value what we have now and pass on the planet's legacy to our children and our children's children.

Initiate:

Set up 'green teams' to deliver the Church's environmental agenda and give regular reports at board and business meetings as to the churches' progress or need for progress. Find out what other organisations are doing in

the Berean column

with Andrew Puckering



All in the family part 2

Aaron had four sons (Leviticus 10:1, 6), who are fairly well-known – perhaps less well-known is their mother, Aaron's wife, Elisheba the daughter of Amminadab and sister of Nahshon (Exodus 6:23). If you're thinking that those names sound familiar, that's because they should! Nahshon the son of Amminadab, unlike Aaron, was not a Levite – he was descended from Hezron, the grandson of Judah (1 Chronicles 2:4, 5, 9, 10).

Nahshon was the leader of the tribe of Judah during the time of the Exodus, and he was the head of his father's household (Numbers 1:4, 7). His tribe was foremost among those (including Issachar and Zebulun) that camped along the east side of the Tabernacle (Numbers 2:2-7), and so Nahshon was personally responsible for the 186,000 Israelites who always broke camp first (Numbers 2:9). When we read through Numbers 2, we see that his was the biggest tribe, and his group of tribes was the most numerous, and they were always in the vanguard whenever the Israelites moved (Numbers 10:14). He was also the first of the tribal leaders to present an offering to dedicate the altar (Numbers 7:12-17). Suffice it to say that Nahshon was a very important and well-connected man!

However important Nahshon was, though, he – along with all the Israelites of that generation except Joshua and Caleb – must have perished during the forty-year period of desert wanderings (Numbers 14:29-35). His son Salmon (also called Salma in 1 Chronicles 2:11) made it through to the Promised Land, though, where he married Rahab (very possibly the same Rahab who was spared from the destruction of Jericho in Joshua 6:22, 23, the harlot who helped the spies in Joshua 2); their child was Boaz, who married Ruth and had a son called Obed, who in turn had a son called Jesse (Ruth 4:19-21; Matthew 1:5) – and Jesse, of course, was the father of David, who became the king of Israel and the ancestor of Joseph, the husband of Mary, the mother of Jesus (Matthew 1:6-16).

The family into which Nahshon's sister Elisheba married, however, was less august. Although Aaron's brother, Moses, had been the prince of Egypt, he then fled after committing murder (Exodus 3:10-15). Furthermore, Aaron and Moses came from the tribe of Levi (Exodus 6:16-20): this tribe was cursed by Jacob, Levi's father, because of the cruelty Levi and Simeon showed to Hamor and Shechem and their whole city – the punishment for the tribes of Levi and Simeon was to be scattered, with no fixed inheritance in the Promised Land (Genesis 34; 49:5-7). Elisheba was marrying into a doomed tribe of cruelty and murder, not to mention incest (Exodus 6:20).

When Elisheba married Aaron, though, in that very generation, changes came upon Aaron's family and the whole tribe. Aaron became first the spokesman for his brother Moses, by whom the LORD delivered Israel from slavery in Egypt (Exodus 4:14-17), and then the high priest for the whole nation (Exodus 28:1, 2). Aaron was clothed with glorious and beautiful vestures (Exodus 28), and all his sons were to be priests to God throughout their generations (Leviticus 8-10; 21). The whole Levite tribe became dedicated to God, and even their dispersal throughout Israel – originally the fulfilment of Jacob's curse – enabled them to demonstrate God's holiness to the entire Israelite nation (Numbers 3; 4; 18).

The symbolism in this relationship is profound. A family that had been cursed for its cruelty and murder changed, when it encountered the family of Jesus, into a holy family, a blessing to everyone around – just as Jesus changes the hearts of all who come to him.

- What relation was Amram to Jochebed?
- How old was Levi when he died?
- How long did Amram live?
- How many sons did Levi have?
- What were the roles of their families? (Numbers 4)





Hello Christian Stars!

One of the rarest fruits of the Spirit, which we will look at this month, is PATIENCE. Many mistakenly believe some people are simply more patient than others – that it is just the way they are. From the Bible we learn that we cannot be patient just because we want to be that way. Patience is an important trait of God's character. He alone gives us the gift of patience towards other people or ourselves, or when things go wrong. People who are patient understand that God sees the whole picture. They believe that he is in control. They wait for God to work things out his way and in his time.

Most of us are impatient. We want things right now. We don't want to wait until our birthday (which can be months away) for that promised bike, or that skateboard. Advertisements in magazines and on television tempt us think that we can and must have things right now. However, many have learned that waiting patiently brings great blessing. How sad it is, then, when we so willingly give up on that blessing!

I like the definition of patience I found on the internet because it is so true:

'Patience is not a virtue achieved, but a character received.'

Why do you think this statement is true?

Traffic-light answers to prayer:

Have you ever prayed in a cave? David did. You can read his prayer in Psalm 142. God had promised that David would be king. That made Saul, the bad king, so angry that he spent years trying to find David to kill him. God gave David the gift of patience to help him wait until Saul died before becoming the rightful king. Fill in the blank spaces next to the traffic lights with these words: NO, WAIT, YES.



Like King David we sometimes need to see that God's answer to our prayer is a lot like the message of the traffic lights.






Patient heroes in the Bible: Match the character to the description.

- NOAH
- JACOB
- ABRAHAM
- JOB
- DAVID
- JEREMIAH
- JESUS

- I waited for more than ninety years before my promised son was born.
- I was patient with Peter.
- I waited patiently for God to carry out his warning to the people doing wicked things.
- I worked for fourteen years without pay so I could marry the woman I loved.
- I waited for God to tell me when it was the right time to become king.
- I was ill and had lost everything. I refused to curse God.
- I waited for 120 years for the rain to fall.


Danny's disastrous day:

It was Sunday. Danny was excited. He planned to bake a , make a loaf of  and paint a .


Danny liked keeping busy.

First he measured out the ingredients for the , then he mixed it all together in a large .

He poured the batter into the pan. Then he remembered he had forgotten to turn on the oven. The oven was still cold: but Danny was impatient. 'I'll turn on the oven now and just put the cake in the oven. I don't have time to wait for the oven to warm up.' Danny popped the cake in the oven.

While the cake was baking, Danny started to paint his . Danny would give the painting to his grandma for her birthday. He knew hyacinths were Grandma's favourite flowers. He would paint pink and blue hyacinths in a beautiful vase. The painting was taking a long time and he was beginning to get bored. Danny noticed the paint hadn't dried properly, but he wanted to finish it quickly. 'It's almost dry,' he said to himself, 'I'm sure it will be fine.' He added the green paint. The  did not look that good anymore. He added some more and before long the beautiful painting had become a messy dirty colour. 'I should have been more patient', he sighed.


































Danny checked the oven. It was beginning to smell nice. He was hopeful. Perhaps the cold oven did not matter after all. Carefully he opened the oven door. The cake was as flat as a biscuit. It was over-cooked on the outside and it was all sloppy in the middle. 'What, another disaster? I should have been more patient', he concluded.

Danny realised he had made nothing but a mess so far. Surely he would take extra care when he made the loaf of ? Danny enjoyed kneading the dough until it was a nice spongy ball. He covered it with a clean towel and left it in a warm place to rise. After ten minutes Danny peeped at the dough and thought, 'It will rise faster if I put it in the oven.' He watched the loaf rise quickly in the oven. 'Wow, it looks so cool', he said. Five minutes later he came to check the oven. What a mess! The dough was bubbling over and falling in bits all over the oven. 'I've done it again. What a disastrous day! Why am I always so impatient?' he cried.

Have you ever had disastrous days because you were impatient? Now imagine you had been patient. How might the day have turned out had you been patient?

A fruity text:

Use the fruit icons to work out the special Bible text:

										
A	B	E	H	I	L	N	O	P	T	W
										
										
										

1 Thess. 5:14

Till next time Christian Stars, take this text from Psalm 37:34 (ESV) with you: 'Wait for the LORD and keep his way, and he will exalt you to inherit the land ...'



The fight for your life

The Brixton church conducted a two-week evangelistic series in April, called 'The Fight For Your Life', and set out to claim lives for the Kingdom of God. The speaker was Pastor John M. Scott, alongside singing evangelist Elder Norwill Simmonds. Both evangelists grew up in the Caribbean and are based in Toronto, Canada, where Pastor Scott leads the Kanisa fellowship.

Each night our hosts Simone Clarke and Petrian Menzies cheerfully guided the proceedings and Halcy-Ann Platt's feature, 'Making it Real', looked at practical ways to overcome trials and temptations.

Pastor Scott traced the fight for our lives through God's plan of salvation and prophecies that show we are living in the end time and looking forward to Jesus' Second Coming. The Holy Spirit is working in our lives today, and at the end of the series twelve precious souls decided to give their lives to Jesus. Other candidates who answered altar calls are presently doing further study.

DUANE WRIGHT
PHOTOS: NICHOLAS BLACKBURN



news

Barnsley children get to know their Pilot

On Sabbath 26 March, Barnsley Youth leader Rachel Haworth invited children to take a seat on a flight with ETERNITY AIRLINE 4 EVA, with Jesus as their pilot. There were several safety announcements: • If you would like to leave, tell the Pilot. • There will be no emergency landings; if there is turbulence the Pilot will see us through. • Do not take the controls; leave the navigation and flying to the Pilot. On a long flight it is important to keep moving, so choruses were sung, John 14:6 was read, in-flight refreshments were served by the children, passengers were shown a film based on Matthew chapters 4, 8 and 9, and the children and congregation were asked to suggest words which describe Jesus to create a prayer of praise. HAZEL SCHOLES



'Now I am uplifted'

These are the words of Ornel Downer, who was baptised into the Fulham church on 30 April: a committed young man who, in his own words, is: 'hungry for the Spirit. I want him for myself. The Holy Spirit is my Armour and



Gloucester baptisms

Gloucester Church turned out in force on Sabbath 23 April to welcome into fellowship three new members through baptism. Pastor Ian Sleeman baptised husband and wife, Ron and Iris Burrows, and Sister Xoliswa Mvula. All three gave powerful testimonies: Iris's testimony was in song, and Ron recounted a turn-around of his 'colourful' life, influenced by Iris, and getting to know the Lord through her. Ron and Iris had been baptised previously by another denomination and had been accepted into the Gloucester church previously through the hand of fellowship. However, now they have 'found their true home'.

Sister Xoliswa told of how she had come to Gloucester Church through her daughter's friendship with Gloucester members, and was immediately welcomed by church members. This led to Bible study, and the conviction that she wanted to follow Jesus, with no doubt that this was the place to be.

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT



the Bible my Sword.' Having experienced difficult periods in his life, he has come a long way. 'My heart was hard',

he said: 'When I was discouraged, I prayed to the Lord. The Lord was my Comforter.' After his baptism Ornel said, 'I

am happy and proud that I have made this move. My life has been ups and downs; now I am uplifted.' DEBORAH EARLE

Twenty baptised at Greenwich campaign!

Pastor Hamilton J. Williams recently led Greenwich's evangelistic team in a successful campaign in which twenty individuals were baptised: Emma Chula, Charmaine Thomas, Michelle Delargy, Natasha Dockram, Adozinda Peres, Aleximae Reeves, Pamela Kokomane, John Williams, Placide Laurent, Keston

Spence, Rinalds Vecvagars, William Fitzpatrick, Kenechi Aghara, Carlton Wade, Michael Huynh, Kemlal Dookram, Neil Walker, Denise Brown, and Vivien Mwanakaaba. Pastor Shian O'Connor, Family Ministries director of the Cayman Island Conference, was the featured speaker in the two-week

programme, 'Countdown to the End'. On the second Sabbath of the campaign there was standing room only! The congregation was blessed every night with the voice of singing evangelist Stephanie Johnson, from New York. All this, said Pastor Williams, is just a precursor of an even bigger campaign planned for August. Join us as we focus on Kingdom business! TIMON FERMIN



Jamaica's Governor General at Hampstead Church

BUC president, Pastor Don McFarlane, former president Pastor Cecil Perry, the Governor General of Jamaica Sir Patrick Allen and his wife, Pathfinders, the London Male Voice Choir, the Millenium Brass Ensemble, and Tenna Drysdale all joined the Hampstead church for a Sabbath themed on 'The Royal Wedding' on 30 April, swelling the congregation to more than 500. Local minister Humphrey Walters delivered a sermon on Jesus'

parable of the wedding garment. Sir Allen had witnessed to world leaders while attending the wedding, he said, and during the wedding service he was looking forward to worshipping during Sabbath at Hampstead. He is fully capable of discharging his duties as Governor General and remaining a faithful Sabbath-keeping Christian. His passion is to help young people serve others.

DEREK MORRISON



The frontier mission walk

The Dundee section of the great mission walk, a sponsored relay hike around many Celtic and Reformation sites taking in all the Scottish Mission churches, was scheduled for Sunday 20 March. Inch by inch it is raising money for mission work among the unreached peoples of Central Asia.

We walked by the newly-restored Morgan Academy (originally erected as a hospital for the less fortunate), and Baxter's Park, where Mary Shelley (author of Frankenstein) once walked; then Jute Mill and the old site on which stood our Seventh-day Adventist church during the 1950s-70s. It's now a pleasant public garden with benches, grass, and flowers. Nearby we admired the panoramic view over the River Tay and the once-pristine waterfront.

Soon we arrived at Wishart Arch and Wishart Church, where religious reformer and protestant martyr George Wishart used to preach. Finally we gathered for a prayer under the Tay Bridge, just yards from the site of the forth-

coming Victoria & Albert Museum. In spite of the cold, it had been a very rewarding experience. Christianity is still completely unknown to the Turkic peoples of Central Asia.

Please uphold frontier missionaries in prayer; if you would like to sponsor a missionary, contact Pastor Marcel Ghioalda (tel: 01738 850 399; mob: 07814 009 063; email: marcel@sdscotland.com).

ARTHUR GALL



Baby dedication after the Royal Wedding

On Sabbath 30 April, the day after the wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton, baby Ahyron Fletcher Bryan was dedicated by Pastor Des Boldeau, a family friend of parents David and Donna Marie, at the Stanborough Park church. The entire Fletcher family was there to celebrate, including Grandfather Charles and Grandma Claire, Uncle Daren and Auntie C.K., their children Amelie and Luca, and Uncle Wayne and Auntie Nina and their son Hudson, who had flown in from New York to attend this ceremony. A special song of dedication was performed by Ahyron's sister, Semira, and Arianne, daughter of Des, with Cathy Boldeau on the piano.

JOHNSON WONG



Going down!

On Sunday 17 April probation officer and Middlesbrough church member Vee Chisanga dangled 200 feet above the River Tees from the Transporter Bridge, before jumping off it (attached by a bungee rope!) to raise over £500 for ADRA-UK. She had never done anything like this before, but was driven to it by her

passion to help those in need.

She was supported by her husband, Ben, and their young daughters, Hannah and Abigail. The charity she assisted, ADRA-UK, operates in more than 120 countries around the world.

JUDY H.

Aberdaron balloon release

During a weekend at Aberdaron this April, members of Loughborough Church released forty balloons from the beach on Sabbath afternoon. Attached to the balloons were tags inviting anyone who found them to request a free DVD. On the reverse, the children, who are always keen to share their love of Jesus, had written simple messages; 'Jesus loves you' and 'Jesus is coming soon'. We hope that these words will help someone to learn about the love of Jesus.

VIVIENNE BARRATT-PEACOCK



Torquay Church gets busy for Christ

Members of the Torquay church used a variety of activities to raise £1,841.97 for ADRA-UK this year!

Members went out with collecting tins and took part in a sponsored walk around Paignton Green on the sea front. The two youngest walkers – 8-year-old Danielle Clarke and her sister, 11-year-old Denesia Clarke – walked the most laps with their mum and won an Easter egg each for walking around the green fifteen times (10 miles). The walkers also gave out leaflets to the public.

Two ladies who had not crocheted for years, Jen and Evelyn, were sponsored to make and sell baby blankets; Jackie made and sold cakes; and the rest of the funds were raised through car boot sales and individual donations. Hopefully, the Gift Aid on some donations will push the total up to the church's £2,000 target.

JEN READ

Asian day of fellowship

Asian Adventists of all ages from across the UK and Europe packed the church in Manchester for their spring gathering during the weekend of 22-23 April. It began with a Friday Vesper Service, taken by Pastor Ashley Kongari from Finland, and continued on Sabbath morning with a well-planned Sabbath School dramatisation of the story of Joseph and his brothers, organised by Sekar Babu. Reeta Rayavarapu organised the children's activities; the Divine Service was organised by Joy Paul, and the preacher for the service was Pastor John Melki, who challenged the congregation to be ready for the Lord's coming. Prabha John, Pastor Malcolm and Naomi Watson, Wilfred Masih, John Varghese, Prem Wilson and a number of helpers all helped to make the day a success with food, music and a health seminar.

A recurring question from the attendees was: 'When is the next meeting like this?' The answer is: '27 August in Watford!'

PASTOR O. P. CHACKOCHEN



ADRA-UK song competition



Poverty affects everyone. It ruins individual lives and affects entire communities. To increase awareness of poverty, its causes and its effects, ADRA-UK plans to release a new music video to promote its work.

Young UK musicians are invited to write a new, modern song (with lyrics) that reflects the work that ADRA-UK does. The competition is open to young artists/bands/groups (18-35 years). The deadline for submissions is 30 September, 2011.

More information about this competition is available from the ADRA-UK website. Alternatively, write an email to info@adra.org.uk and we will send you the details.

BERT SMIT, CEO, ADRA-UK

Easter agape feast at St Austell

As a change from the usual Easter service, St Austell Seventh-day Adventist Church held an agape feast on 23 April.

Tables were arranged in a Celtic cross, and part way through the service hot soup and rolls were served, during which the account of the Last Supper was read from the Gospel of Mark. People were also invited to share testimonies.

After reflecting on the meaning of Easter, the service concluded with Communion. The congregation was reminded of just what Jesus has achieved for us.

STEVE GREAVES



Love will be our home

While Prince William and Kate Middleton were still preparing for their wedding, nineteen couples at Newcastle Church decided to go first on 17 April in a ceremony to reaffirm their wedding vows, under the theme: 'Love Will Be Our Home'.

Five couples took the opportunity to have a formal church blessing, having originally married in civil ceremonies. Among the participants, Pastor Sandy and Jessie Pairman had been married the longest – for forty years! The most recently married were Melo and Randel, who are expecting their first child in November.

Pastor Sandy Pairman played a dual role during the occasion, both as a participant and as the officiating minister. He said the reaffirmation of vows was important for their children, too, because they need to be inspired about the importance of the biblical format of marriage in twenty-first-century Britain.

Families were provided with an excellent free photography service by Gemmalyn and Gerald Junior Narciso, and the event was witnessed by church members, friends and visitors. A special buffet-style reception banquet followed at a hall in Gateshead.

DR VICTOR SAMWINGA



Cords of love in the SEC

The SEC 'Cords of Love' marriage retreat took place over 22-24 April at Latimer Place, Buckinghamshire, and was led by Pastor Les Ackie and his wife, Irma. They provided an opportunity to discuss personal backgrounds and experiences, including history as a couple together, how to build emotional awareness, how forgiveness can build through increased tolerance, and the recognition that character differences can actually enhance marriages!

It was a time to reflect on Jesus' words in Mark 10:9 (KJV) – 'What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.'

MICHELE DANTZIE



Today an Easter party; tomorrow a Pathfinders club!

Monday 25 April was the day nearly 100 children and adults in the Stanhope ward of Ashford Borough celebrated their annual Easter party, an event sponsored by the Ashford church and MOAT Housing. No child was turned away, so the hall was packed to capacity! Vita Martin and her team prepared both the hall and the food, and activities included a bungee run and a bouncy castle. Parents and children alike were keen on the bungee run, and all the children were treated to a bag of goodies. The church has now been invited to run a Pathfinders club for the children in Stanhope!

KAREN LEARMOND

Arise and shine!

The newly established men's ministry at London Ghana celebrated their first organised ministry in East London at the end of April, clad in red ties, black suits and white shirts. Pastor Kofi Agyei, guest speaker at the event, said, 'The black suit represents sin, red symbolises the blood of Christ, while the white shirt indicates victory in Christ.'

The new men's ministry leaders, Mr Kwabena Oteng Mensah and Mr Daniel Obeng Appiah, were dedicated by Pastor Fergus Owusu Boateng, head pastor of the church.

RICHARD ANTWI

PHOTO: ATTA POKU



Belfast rebuild

The Belfast church has grown so much in recent years that it became necessary to extend the church building to accommodate everyone! The work, which took seven months, was held up by World War Two bombing rubble, but members could still worship every Sabbath. The work is now complete, and youth and Christians Against Poverty are making good use of the new space! The Irish Mission supported this project with a gift of £65,000. More parking spaces are planned.

See more at: www.belfastchurch.org.

HEATHER KEOUGH

obituaries



William (Bill) David Beamish (1938-2011) d. 13 March.

Bill was born on the East Coast in Lowestoft, but not into an Adventist family. He was the oldest of three siblings and his father was a fisherman. Very sadly, Bill lost his father at the age of 17, as a result of a fishing trip. His introduction to the Adventist faith came soon after this, and was predominantly due to the influences of his best friend at school, Alan Crowe, and the young lady who was later to become his wife, Doreen Cady.

Following his introduction to Adventism, Bill went on to study Theology at Newbold College, after which he married Doreen in 1962, and embarked on nearly forty years of service to his Lord. His roles, mainly treasury, took him to the Stanborough Hydro, Liberian Mission, South England Conference, Stanborough School, and finally the North England Conference (where he served for thirteen years).

Bill, however, also should be remembered

as a family man and for his involvement with his local communities.

His marriage of more than forty-eight years to Doreen was full of joys and challenges. They were blessed with three boys – Mark, Paul and Michael. Mark's autism presented challenges, but Mark also brought much joy prior to his unexpected death in 2004. Mark's special need was also a key factor in Bill's involvement with the Special Needs camps for several years.

At Bill's funeral, tribute was paid by Paul on behalf of all of the boys for the significant role their dad had played in their lives. Particular note was made of his sense of humour, something that many who knew him appreciated.

The other very special people in Bill's life were his four grandchildren, who really gave him a lot of pride and joy. The two grown-up granddaughters, Lauren and Kirsten, each paid their own personal tributes about the wonderful times they had shared and the lessons he had taught them. The two younger grandsons, Robin and Rowan, also offered their special memories of their grandad with the help of their dad. In particular, Bill had impressed on his grandsons the 'thumbs up' means of communication during his illness,

which was to typify his approach to life during his final months.

During Bill's illness, Doreen cared unstintingly for him and was a tower of strength even when the going was tough, and there was no doubt that Bill appreciated the care and love that were shown to him.

The funeral service was led by Pastor Egerton Francis, a close colleague of Bill's at the NEC office for nine years. He reflected on his working relationship with Bill, highlighting his generosity and sense of humour. He also emphasised our hope in the Resurrection.

In particular, the family wish to give thanks for the wonderful care Bill received at the John Eastwood Hospice in Sutton-in-Ashfield, and the wonderful support shown by so many friends, and the local church family at Sutton-in-Ashfield, both during Bill's illness and following his death. In addition the family would also like to acknowledge contributions received for the John Eastwood Hospice in memory of Bill.

THE FAMILY

Riitta Hornett (1948-2011) d. 7 May.

Friends and family came together to the Chelmsford crematorium to celebrate the life of Riitta, a loving wife, mother, grandmother and friend. The day was sunny and warm, just as she was, and there was standing room only, as so many people wanted to pay their respects to a lady who touched everyone's hearts the moment they met her.

Pastor John Ferguson started his address

in Riitta's native language, Finnish, while the service was being relayed to family and friends in Finland who couldn't make it to Britain.

The service was continued in Christ Church URC (United Reformed Church), where friends and family celebrated the life of a lady who was gentle, compassionate, selfless and non-judgemental – just a few words used to describe a remarkable lady, who would do anything to help others. Even though she had to retire early with sciatica and arthritis, and suffered with breast cancer three times, she never complained. She was the first person to give others all the love and support they needed, even though she needed it more. Work friends recalled how she always did that little bit extra for other people in her job as a social worker. In church she was very active, and would always agree to take on different offices and offer help to whoever needed it. Her husband Ray spoke with love as he remembered his wonderful wife, who didn't want praise but deserved it for being so supportive.

In Pastor Sam Ouadjo's address, he said Riitta would tell us, 'Miss me, but let me go.' She has no pain now and can rest in peace, waiting for our Saviour's return. We are looking forward to seeing Riitta running barefoot through the woods of Heaven, just as she did in Finland as a young girl, and when we see her on that glorious day she won't be in any more pain.

ELIZABETH MARSHALL

Zambian Adventists unite

The UK Zambian Adventist Fellowship, launched on 23 October 2010 during a day of fellowship led by Zambian-born Pastor Geoffrey Mapiki, held a second event in London on 30 April.

The arranged venue suddenly became unavailable just two days before the event, but, trusting that God would provide, organisers rapidly secured a nearby alternative venue.

In keeping with the previous day's Royal Wedding, 'the midnight cry' was the theme. Zambian-born Pastor Namushi Namuchana preached on Matthew 25:1-13 and challenged his 300-strong audience to remember God as Seventh-day Adventists filled by the Holy Spirit in preparation for Christ's return.

Organisers were pleased to welcome worshippers from Botswana, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Kenya, Tanzania, Ghana, Nigeria, Barbados, New Zealand, St Lucia, and Bulgaria.

After an afternoon musical concert, the interim chairman Brian Nsonga presented a brief overview of the organisation's history together with the possibilities for the future. Anyone wishing to make any suggestions or receive information on future events can get in touch with the secretary on: ukzafcommunications@gmail.com.

DR VICTOR SAMWINGA



Hot or cold?

Visitors augmented the growing congregation of Brighton and Hove for the church's youth day on Sabbath, 30 April, swelling it to 200 and delighting Pastor Leslie Hill.

Ramona Howson and Bunnet Gumpo guided not just a youth day, but an outreach event. Prayer and fasting had prepared members before they invited non-Adventist friends and many local university students who had never visited an Adventist church before, including a Muslim student. The church handed out Christian CDs and literature, including *Steps to Christ*, *He is Coming* and the Gospel of Mark.

Andrew Fuller, whose message in the main service was 'Hot or Cold? Whose Side Are You On?' encouraged young people to choose between Christ's and Satan's kingdoms, and to walk with Jesus rather than just talking about it.

In the afternoon Michael Dantzie called for a renewed commitment to Jesus, and local youth gave inspiring testimonies. Check out the church website for photos:

<http://brightonandhove.adventistchurch.org.uk>.

HAYLEY MCKENZIE-SEALY

New day dawns in Southport

On 5 March Michael Simpson led a team from the NEC Church Planting department that conducted a four-week 'Prophecies of Hope' seminar (extended from four weeks by popular demand).

Twenty-one guests attended the opening night, along with twelve Seventh-day Adventist guests from Loralwood Academy, based in the US. There were four Pioneer Taskforce volunteers (whose mission it is to conduct evangelistic programmes in unreached areas), along with Val Sutcliffe, who was baptised



eighteen months ago.

When the seminars came to a close, nine people requested baptism! On Sabbath 23 March, Matthew, Patricia and Mary were baptised: the first baptism ever held by the church in Southport.

Pastor Michael Simpson, head of the NEC Mission Possible programme and seminar presenter, hopes that Project Southport shows the way for the NEC Church Planting department.

M. SIMPSON AND J. NICHOLSON

Live the change at Chapel Porth

While millions of eyes were focused on the Royal Wedding, at Chapel Porth Youth Campsite, LIVE: St Austell and Devon and Cornish youth held their second youth camp, doubling their numbers from last year. Guest speaker for the weekend was

Tamar Joyeux, an MA Theology student originally from St Lucia, who is a keen surfer. The theme for the weekend was 'Making LIVE live'; 'LIVE' being an acronym for Living Intentionally Versus Existing.

Two morning talks were given

by Victor Hulbert, who used his skills as BUC Communication director to share how God's 'great expectations' for us can grow through reading the Bible, praying and fellowshiping.

Other activities included basketball, surfing, walking, and a Sunday night concert starring Philippa Hanna and Roo Walker.

Diana stated, 'I really enjoyed every single bit of my time there.' Dan stated, 'I didn't know food could taste so good', while Trina stated, 'It was awesome, I am truly humbled to have met such nice people!' Chris, who has only recently met Adventists, was impressed with the whole atmosphere, the worships and the new friends he made.

Photos from the weekend are on the BUC picture gallery, and a BUC News video report featuring Tamar Joyeux (and some good surf) is also available.

See the video report online at: <http://www.hopetv.org.uk/content/media-library/media-story/ml/buc-news-media-archive/west-country-youth-camp-chapel-porth/>.

STEVEN HULBERT

Kenya Youth Mission Fund Raising Concert

Artists include:-

- Chiswick Gospel Choir
- Adu-Darko Sisters
- A New Beginning
- Chiswick Junior Gospel Choir
- Oakington Manor School Choir
- Ashley Benjamin
- 311N
- NIC Voices
- Golden Chords
- Paulette Prendergast and others....

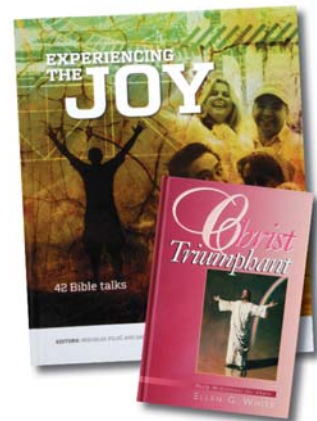
7.00pm
2nd July 2011
Chiswick SDA Church
Stamford Brook Road
London W6 0XW

Free
Please bring a generous offering
Hosted by the Music Department of the Chiswick SDA Church

Joint school fair at Stanborough

The Stanborough primary and secondary schools will be holding a joint fair on Sunday 3 July to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the secondary school.

Parades, games, face painting and much more will be on offer, as will brilliant books, clothing and toys!



New book of the week **Experiencing the Joy** 42 Bible talks

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Messenger

Volume 116 • 13 - 24 June 2011

Editor: J. G. Hibbert
Contributing Editor: Dr D. N. Marshall
Proof Reader: Andrew Puckering
Design: David Bell

COPY FOR No. 15 - 30 June 2011

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@stanboroughpress.co.uk
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 the UK.

Visit the BUC website at: www.adventist.org.uk
ISSN 0309-3654

Sunset

Sunset times are reproduced with permission from data supplied by HM Nautical Almanac Office.

	Lond	Card	Notf	Edin	Belf
Jun 24	9.22	9.34	9.35	10.03	10.04
Jul 1	9.21	9.33	9.34	10.02	10.03
	8 9.18	9.30	9.30	9.57	9.59
	15 9.12	9.24	9.23	9.49	9.52

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Cost to members supplied in bulk to churches £6.
Single copy subscription by post £13.
Overseas airmail £27.50