

Messenger

News to the churches • 14 September 2012 • Volume 117 • 19



 **LightFM**

The SEC radio ministry

Light FM profile

If you've attended the SEC camp meeting in recent years, you'll be familiar with the inspirational music and informative content of Light FM, the radio ministry of the SEC. Each year, Light FM broadcasts to the local community around the SEC camp meeting, as well as keeping the campers informed about events on-site and further afield. Those who cannot attend camp meeting can also get a flavour of each day through their special highlights packages, available on the internet.

But the story does not end there. During the rest of the year you can access Light FM 24/7 via their online stream from www.lightfm.net, and every Friday night between 8 and 10pm you can engage with the live show, *MySong*, in which presenter Mike Johnson plays a selection of the best in Gospel from across the decades.

MySong

According to Mike, 'The show is called *MySong* because it's for the listeners to request songs they love, and also to encourage others through dedications. Listeners can connect with the show via emails to radio@lightfm.net or by texting LIGHT plus their message to 81025 (standard network text charge applies).'

In addition to the live show on Fridays, visitors to the Light FM website can access a number of specialist streams according to their musical tastes. Channels include Southern Gospel, Fresh Mix (more contemporary releases), Retro (from back in the days of vinyl), Worship, World, Vocal and On-demand, and there's also a Learning channel that will feature sermons and Bible studies.

Public face

Whenever the Conference meets in public, Light FM will be there, representing its work and purpose to the local population. It will also be the means of connecting the wider Church with news as soon as it happens.

Opportunities

Light FM is an ideal platform for those who are studying media to develop their skills in radio production and presentation, social media marketing, web development and much more. Mike Johnson, the SEC Radio sponsor, says, 'We want to develop a broad spectrum of programmes, and we want to hear from those who would like to produce programmes that can impact listeners of all backgrounds.'

Local outreach

Light FM is also available to provide training and production skills so that local churches can develop their own radio outlets by producing programmes that are relevant to their immediate community. The use of 'on-demand' listening is an important tool in reaching the mobile generation, and radio should be seen as one component of the overall outreach strategy.

Background

Light FM has morphed out of ARMK (Adventist Radio Milton Keynes) which was formed by Pastor Mike Hamilton and Mike Johnson back in the '80s. It was the Church's main outreach tool, broadcasting on FM between Christmas and New Year when it was 'The voice of hope for the local community' – and it was well received.

Mike Johnson, who is both station director and presenter, said: 'Our name is an expression of our purpose. We recognise that there are people in our towns and cities who are going through dark days. We want to bring some light into their lives – to show them an alternative and better way. Jesus said He's 'the Light of the world', and that's the Light we will be presenting.'

These are some of the recent responses from Light FM listeners . . .

'I'm enjoying the message and songs on Light FM. Can you direct me to more information on Seventh-Day Adventists? I would like to visit one of your churches – please let me know if there is one in my area.'
– Annette

'Thanks Mike, I am up and running now, and enjoying your show so much. I tell everyone who is into Gospel music about it! Once again, thanks for the blessings your show is providing.' – Leonie



Enhancing Health

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

Golden eight — part 9 Maintaining health during illness — a personal perspective

'Pure air, sunlight, abstemiousness, rest, exercise, proper diet, the use of water, trust in divine power — these are the true remedies.' Ellen G. White, *Ministry of Healing*, page 127.

This final instalment of the Golden Eight series examines the importance of pursuing a healthy lifestyle during recovery from illness.

My story:

Following a head injury in October 2011 I was diagnosed with protracted post-concussion syndrome. Medical guidance prescribed that I was to rest and spend no more than 10 minutes at a time at the computer, watching TV, or reading — avoiding small print. (It was during these 10-minute allocations that I compiled my *MESSENGER* articles in an attempt at keeping my brain active!)

However, when my concussion symptoms persisted, I decided to review the 'Golden Eight' presented in my current *Enhancing Health* articles as the 'natural remedies' referred to in *The Ministry of Healing*. Due to the extent of my injury, several areas of my health had been compromised. I was not getting the exercise I was used to; had less

exposure to sunlight and fresh air; and was experiencing alterations in sleep, diet and mood patterns.

The real impact of my enforced sedentary lifestyle became evident when I ventured out with a family member one Sunday for a short trip to one of the local shops. As my consultant neurologist had recently advised me to commence some outdoor exercise, I tried on an item of clothing which I thought would be suitable for this purpose. When, to my surprise, I couldn't fit into the garment I checked the size on the label and concluded that the manufacturer had made a mistake. I then tried on another identical garment, and when that didn't fit either I tried to convince myself this time that the designer had got the size wrong! Eventually, I reluctantly purchased the next size up, realising that six months of inactivity had added extra adipose tissue to my body.

Returning home I logged on to the Blue Zone Vitality Coach programme (which mirrors the Golden Eight principles) designed to get individuals fitter within six weeks (www.bluezones.com). It assesses current health status and subsequent projected longevity; provides a corrective programme; and calibrates daily progress. Having diligently adhered to the programme and implemented the 'Golden Eight', I'm regaining lost ground. The sunshine and fresh air have boosted my mood and sleep, and the exercise is enhancing my levels of alertness, reducing the drowsy episodes and that extra fat! Thank God for nature's best!

Keep the faith!



editorial



Julian Hibbert
Editor

A passion for space travel

The transistor radio crackled, hardly audible above the chugging of our train through the African night. Its tiny aerial battled to pick up the elusive short-wave broadcast of Voice of America.

It was 20 July, 1969. Millions were listening with us across the globe. Why? Because two brave Apollo 11 astronauts had just landed on the Moon — and we were waiting for one of them to make the first powdery human footprint on the Sea of Tranquillity.

We strained to hear what was happening 384,400 miles above our heads. Then, faintly, the voice of Neil Armstrong announced the making of history . . . 'One small step for [a] man; one giant leap for mankind.'

He was well trained

Neil Alden Armstrong, who died quietly in Cincinnati, USA, on 25 August this year, had trained hard for that moment. It took him years of technical, physical and mental preparation for that trip — preparation that paid off as they neared the lunar surface. According to Reg Turnill, the BBC's aerospace correspondent at the time:

'He was very highly trained and had a great ability to make split-second decisions. When Apollo 11 reached the point of hovering over the lunar surface Neil Armstrong had 20 seconds to decide whether to continue or abort. He had to be decisive.'

What many don't know is that Armstrong had noticed that they were heading directly into a dangerous landing area, strewn with large rocks, so 'he took over manual control of the LM' bringing it skilfully to rest in a safe zone.² His years as a top military test pilot, constantly exposed to the unexpected, had paid off.³

A great explorer

That he was a great explorer — among the greatest — cannot be denied. That he was a person of extreme courage goes without saying. But, for Bible-believing Christians, the recent statement of Charles Bolden, NASA's administrator, about Neil Armstrong contained an important technical error:

*'As long as there are history books, Neil Armstrong will be included in them, remembered for taking humankind's first small step on a world beyond our own.'*⁴

The honour of taking that 'first small step on a world beyond our own' actually belongs to someone else — to Enoch, who qualified for his historic 'astronaut' status on vastly different grounds: 'Enoch walked faithfully with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.' Genesis 5:24, NIV.

The author of Hebrews takes up the story, confirming the extraordinary circumstances of his disappearance: 'By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience

death: "He could not be found, because God had taken him away." For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.' Hebrews 11:5, NIV.

God had taken Enoch into space, to a 'world beyond our own'.

A major difference

Along with Armstrong, I suppose we could call Enoch an 'astronaut' too. There's one major difference though. Like all other astronauts, Armstrong went in search of the unknown, the unexpected. He went out to discover whether there was life in outer space, and what that life was like.

By contrast, Enoch knew there was life beyond the pull of gravity. He had already made friends with the Source of that life. For years they had been developing a close friendship.

When Enoch left this earth it was not 'for exploration', but 'by invitation'. He went to be the guest of God!

A major similarity

The Australian of 28 August published this on the passing of Armstrong:

*'The sad passing of Neil Armstrong has brought into sharp relief the passion for space travel that existed in the days of the Apollo programme.'*⁵

Besides their superlative skills and intense training, it seems that the Apollo astronauts were also imbued with the 'passion for space travel'. They were not just curious or casually interested in space travel; they had an intense passion for it!

And this is where the similarity lies: as with the astronauts, believers like Enoch, Moses and Elijah all got very close to God. They were men with a passion to be near Him. They had a reason and a passion for biblical 'space travel'!

Do we?

A universal law of gravity

Since my first shaky infant steps I have been experimenting with the universal law of gravity. It has a tendency to get one down!

For the typical astronaut gravity is overcome by sheer, brute kinetic energy. Safely ensconced in his space suit and capsule, he is forcefully ejected from Earth's grasp.

For us, Christians who have been invited to travel to God's Kingdom, the process is radically different. Remember that young man who asked Jesus for the recipe for eternal life? Jesus first referred him to the test of the Ten Commandments, which he had apparently kept since boyhood.

Then Jesus dealt his complacency a body blow:

'Jesus looked at him and loved him. "One thing you lack," he said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.'

'At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.' Mark 10:21, 22, NIV.

It was not his wealth that was the problem. It was the 'hold' that it had on him. He was in the grip of avarice — the 'gravity' of wealth held him down. Jesus loved him and wanted him to be free — just as He wants us all to be free — like Enoch and Elijah!

Are you ready for your adventure into outer space?

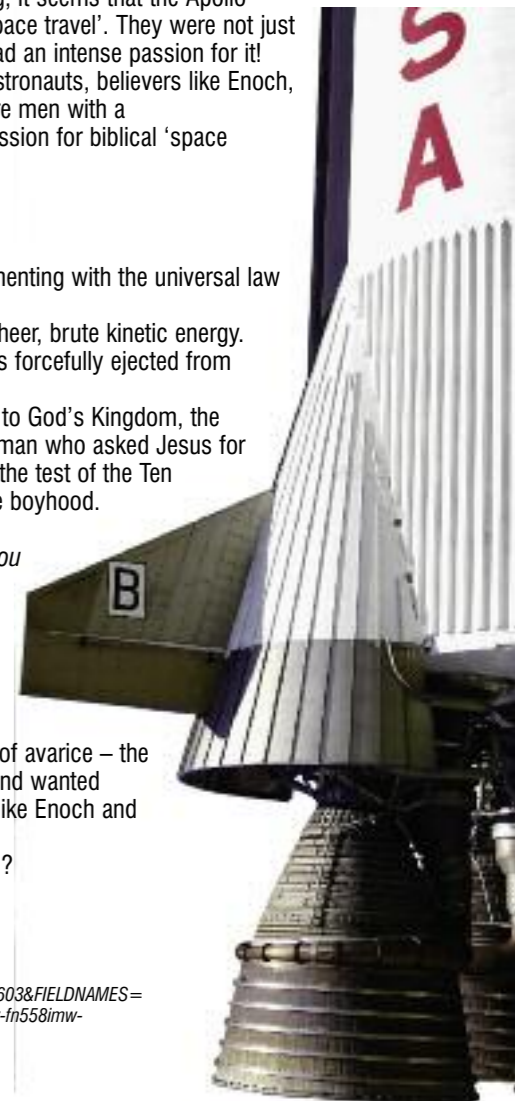
¹<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-19383368>

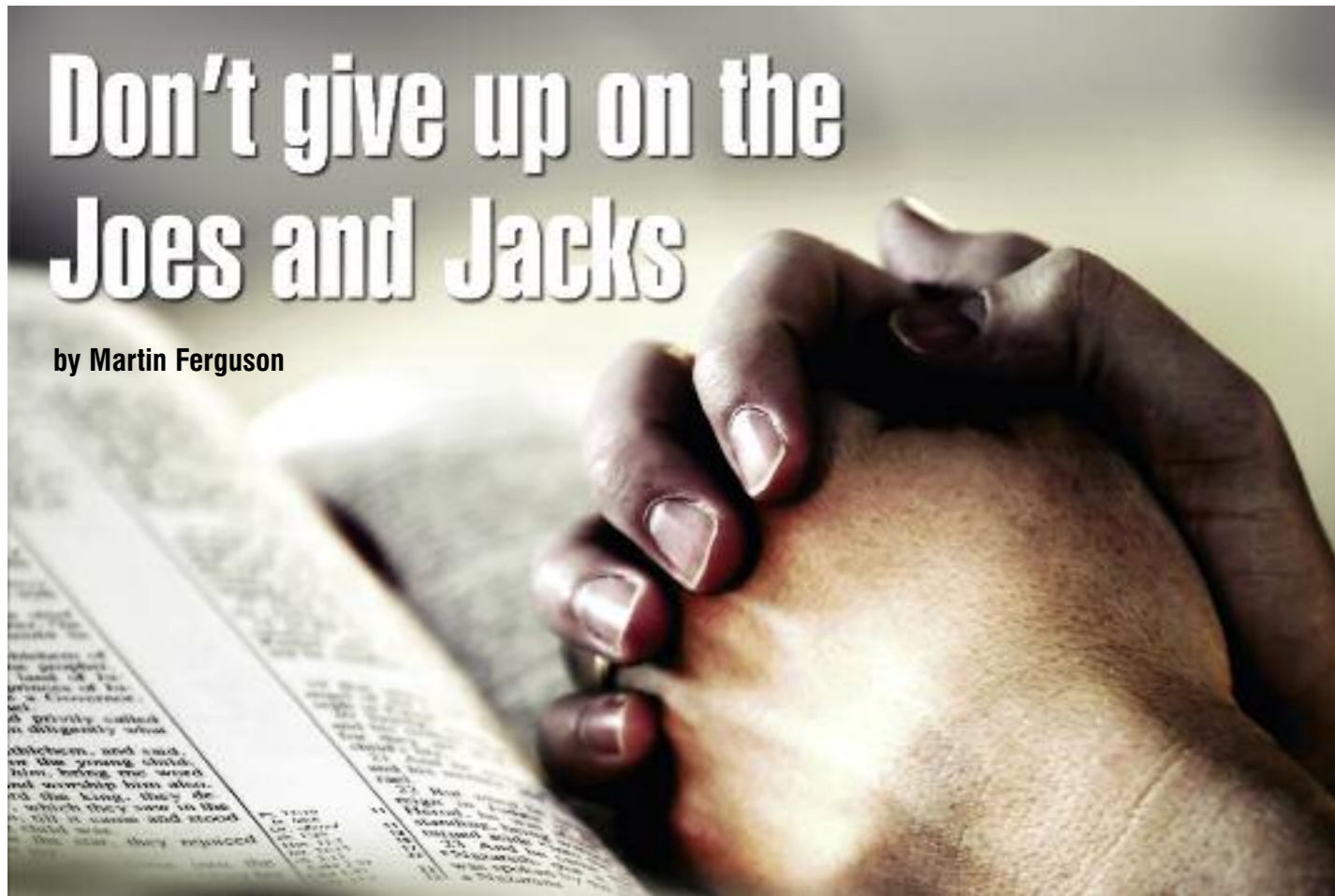
²http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neil_Armstrong

³Ibid

⁴http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/news/display.cfm?Print=1&News_ID=40603&FIELDNAMES=

⁵<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/opinion/passion-for-space/story-fn558imw-1226459294013>





Don't give up on the Joes and Jacks

by Martin Ferguson

A young man's testimony about the power of prayer and friendship.

At university the minds of the young people are open, perceptive, ready and willing to try new things and listen to new ideas. It may therefore seem that the potential to witness is immense. Perhaps it is, but that does not necessarily make things any easier, and, as God would have it, He did not see fit for me to become close friends with anyone on the verge of conversion. Rather, from my two closest friends, Jack is a staunch atheist and Joe, in his own words, an 'agnostic at best'.

It is Joe, the 'agnostic at best', that I am going to give a short testimony on. He was by far my best friend at uni. When things got deep, dark and depressing, as they often would, I could count on him, without fail. Now, he and I would often talk into the night, and invariably our conversation would stray onto my belief and his lack thereof. Joe could not and still cannot bring himself to believe that there is a God. He understands a lot about the arguments for and against religion and the Bible, but for a reason that God is yet to overcome, he just does not believe.

Joe despises any self-pity, but compared to most people he has had things pretty

rough. In his teens he was diagnosed with an illness that, among many other things, can be extremely painful and give rise to heavy tiredness: something that hasn't made his university life the experience that most people have. His parents went through a very messy divorce a few years back, which led to his mum being institutionalised with depression. Joe isn't the kind of guy who can dust things off to one side either; he takes them to heart – whatever affects his mum, or his brother, affects his personal state of mind.

So, while going through a low point with his illness last winter, with the pressure of exams building, to hear from his mum that she was being made redundant put Joe in a bad place. More than anything he was concerned for his mum and how it would affect her.

We talked a lot about the whole situation, and – while it might appear to have been a great opportunity to witness – in reality, when people are going through a hard time, it can be, in my opinion, a bad time to try and tell them about God's love and care for us. With Joe this especially seemed to be the case, as his objection to faith has at its core the fact that so many people suffer.

However, as He often does, God steered our conversation towards religion and I bit the bullet and told Joe that, for what it was worth, I'd pray that his mum would find a job. But, while searching for a job for his mum and helping her with applications, Joe held out little hope. Given the economic climate and his mum's record of time off work with depression the prospects looked very bleak. However, those who come to prayer meeting here were also praying, and prayer does work. After only a few weeks, his mum had been given a job in a leading role at a prestigious girls' school. To Joe, who often views the world with a cynical eye, this was too good to be true. To him, it should simply not have happened. To say that his spirits lifted and his illness improved would be an understatement.

I didn't mention anything further to him about the fact that I and others had been praying for her. Several weeks on, however, while we were talking about the whole thing and about how well his mum was settling in, Joe apprehensively said something that has stuck in my head:

'Mate, I don't really know how to say this, but the only way I can describe her getting that job is a miracle. You know I find it hard to believe in God, but I know you were praying, so the next time you're speaking to Him say "thank You" from me.'

Now I don't know if Joe will ever come to

Free church pews? Never!

Dear Editor
After reading this week's offer of free pews to any church in the *NEC Communicator*, I was shocked that someone would give away something so valuable!

Three years ago, while we were still in rented accommodation, our pastor told me to take all our chairs from the church we'd sold and put them in the skip!

It is not in my nature to throw things out, as I am a believer in the old saying, 'One man's muck is another man's gold'.

I then went instead on the internet and found a company who were selling church chairs: after a quick exchange of photos of the chairs we settled on a price for them to buy ours.

Arrangements were made for collection on a Sunday morning and I was given £500 cash for fifty chairs that nobody wanted! A welcome boost for the church building fund.

The name of the company, should anyone else be interested in turning their rubbish into cash, is UK Architectural Antiques, based in Staffordshire, but they will collect nationwide. Their

contact details are 01543 222923 and info@ukarchitecturalantiques.com.
JUDY HAMILTON-JOHANSSON,
MIDDLESBROUGH CHURCH

Re: Obituaries

Dear Editor
Thank you for listening to Violet Hay's request (*Messenger* 17, p. 7) for more readable obituary text. This is a step in the right direction. However, there are other issues with respect to readability.

As a lecturer in computing (now retired), one of the many subjects I taught was Human-Computer Interaction. Within this discipline, a well-established principle for readability is to provide a strong contrast between foreground and background. The same principle applies to printed text. Sadly, there seems to be a fashion for using multiple colours that ignores this principle, making some printed items very difficult to read – in fact there is sometimes an item I do not even try to read because of this problem. I am sure I am not alone in this.

A second problem is the use of large passages of italic text. Again, it is well established that italic text is considerably more difficult to read than regular text. In fact I have given up reading the mission stories at the end of each week's Sabbath School lesson – it is far too much of a strain for me, and again I am sure I am not alone in this.

I realise you have to make your printed material attractive. However, if in doing so you lose readers, then what is achieved? If all materials were printed such that people with fading eyesight can read them, then people with good eyesight can surely have no complaint.

It remains simply for me to repeat Violet Hay's plea that senior members of the Church should be considered, not to mention younger people who have poor eyesight.

CHARLES LAMONT, WORCESTER CHURCH

Change of address: The Dudley Seventh-day Adventist church now congregates at the old Methodist church, Parkes Hall Road, Woodsetton DY1 3SH. Sabbath services start at 10am, and the number 82 bus stops very close by. For more details, phone Hubert Smiley on 07868288310.

believe in God, but to me, the fact that he put himself through the uncomfortable conversation of asking me to thank God from him, for now, is more than enough. If anything, it shows that he knows how important my relationship with God is to me: and I also believe that it signifies that, somewhere within his lack of belief, there is at least a confusion as to *whether, why and how* prayer works. And, I'd like to believe, *whether, why, and how* there can be a God who loves him.

So this isn't a testimony that shouts of heroic conversion. But to me personally, that one chink in Joe's armour of agnosticism has been the most rewarding evangelism experience I have had.

So thank you to those of you who prayed. For anyone who is interested his mum has had a promotion and pay rise after only a few months, and is doing better than she has done for years.

To close I would ask you all to pray for both Joe and Jack, that one day they will come to know and love God.

with Andrew Puckering



A real prophet

Jehoiachin was only 18 years old when he became king over Jerusalem (2 Kings 24:8), and he inherited many problems. For one thing, his father Jehoiakim – who had first been put on the throne by Pharaoh Necho of Egypt, then forced to serve King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon – had decided to rebel against Nebuchadnezzar prior to his death (2 Kings 23:34-24:1). This turned out to be a bad move, because Nebuchadnezzar in his fury was about to send an army to crush him, and help from the Pharaoh was completely absent (2 Kings 24:7, 10, 11). The second problem Jehoiachin inherited from his father was that he was evil, and the LORD sent raiding bands from multiple nations against his country as a result, as He'd warned He would through His prophets (2 Kings 24:2, 9). God was going to give him over to his enemies, and he would die in Babylon (Jeremiah 22:24-30).

Perhaps the biggest problem Jehoiachin had, though, was that he didn't know which prophets to trust. There were many prophets in Jerusalem, but not all of them were from God, and most of them were leading God's people astray (Jeremiah 23:9-15). God told His people not to listen to them, saying they were speaking their own words, and not His – giving a message that everything would be alright, when in fact it really wouldn't (Jeremiah 23:16-20). This was an issue that wouldn't go away. Even after the three-month reign of Jehoiachin ended with his captivity, his successor Zedekiah (2 Kings 24:17) faced the same problem – Hananiah, a false prophet, tried to say that the captives would return and Nebuchadnezzar would be vanquished, but God through Jeremiah told him he was giving the people false hope (Jeremiah 28). The house of Israel was rotten all the way through, and it needed pulling down completely before God could rebuild it – plastering over the cracks, as the false prophets were suggesting, just wouldn't do (Ezekiel 13:1-16).

With so many conflicting messages, though, how did one recognise a fake prophet in Jehoiachin's time? Prophets could be male like Moses, or female like his sister Miriam, or Deborah, or Huldah (Exodus 7:1; 15:20; Judges 4:4; 2 Kings 22:14). They could be rich like Abraham, or poor like Jeremiah (Genesis 13:2; 20:7; Lamentations 3:17). They could be young, or old, or have no previous history of being a prophet (1 Kings 13:11; Jeremiah 1:6; Amos 7:14), or even be married to a prostitute (Hosea 1:2). How to discern the true and reject the false? Well, Moses anticipated this question, and gave the answer that a prophet's message could be proven false if what he prophesied didn't come to pass (Deuteronomy 18:21, 22). Under this definition the people of Jerusalem, at least after Jehoiachin had been taken captive, had a good idea of which of their prophets were false!

There's more, though – even genuine prophets can be deceived, and lying prophets can sometimes speak the truth (Numbers 22-24; 1 Kings 13). Who do we believe in these cases? Even if a prophet's message comes true, if he's speaking against God or trying to lead people away from God, we should steer well clear of him – no matter how many signs he gives (Deuteronomy 13:1-4)! This is something we'll have to bear in mind for the last days, when many will be deceived by lying wonders (Matthew 24:11, 24), as we wait for the return to Earth of the best and truest Prophet of all (Deuteronomy 18:15-19), who cannot lie (Titus 1:2): Jesus Christ!

- Did any of Balaam's prophecies come true?
- Would it be right to call Balaam a 'true prophet'?
- How many false prophets (of Baal and Asherah) did Jezebel have? (1 Kings 18)
- Which of the prophecies in 1 Kings 13 came true?
- Can a genuine prophet ever be mistaken?

Making God known in Europe

by Julian Hibbert

Once every five years the Trans-European Division (TED) convenes a special leadership summit for its pastors, the European Pastors' Conference. The one for this quinquennium was held in Rogaška Slatina, Slovenia, between 21 and 26 August, with around 725 pastors, Bible workers and other types of missionaries in attendance. The total attendance at the EPC went up to around 1,200 once the pastors' spouses, support staff and daily visitors were counted in.

This was a major international conference by any standards – involving participants and presenters from twenty-two European countries and the USA. The practical organisation, programming and presentation of the event was a slick operation from start to finish, which was quite remarkable considering this was all achieved more than 800 miles from the TED's St Albans head office!

The theme

The theme of the event was 'Making God known in Europe' and Bertil Wiklander, TED president, put it across like this:

'We offer this conference to you, the leaders in the Church, with the intention of inspiring and equipping you to lead your church in making God known, understanding that this is our calling as Adventists, and seeing that a relationship with God is the deepest need of people in Europe.'

Careful planning had obviously gone into the selection of subject matter for the event, and as the conference unfolded the presentations, both the plenary sessions and the workshops, faithfully unpacked different aspects of how to make God known in postmodern Europe.

The balance and blend

Two of the most difficult things to achieve in a conference of this sort are: a) the **right balance** of programme ingredients, and b) a **good blend** of diverse presenters. The conveners were successful in both departments.

In their planning they balanced solid, inspirational preaching with zesty praise and worship. They deftly wove moments of pathos, sober reflection and fresh humour

through the plenary sessions. And above all, they showed through brief, well-acted video clips and live drama that it is possible to make core Christian values appeal to postmoderns.

The blend of diverse presenters was impressive. From the homiletic precision of Laurence Turner to the pony-tailed, atypical German pastor, Dennis Meier, there was variety enough to sustain our interest throughout.

The Lord's Supper

Pastors are usually involved in the organisation and serving of the Lord's Supper – they are seldom on the quiet, reflective, receiving end of things! Their administrator colleagues – presidents and departmental directors – are often away from their churches when Communion is celebrated! Both groups tend to miss out on the deep blessing of just being humble participants at the Lord's Supper. So, on the Friday evening, the tables were turned on the pastors, and they enjoyed a really joyful and moving Communion Service served to them by others.

An 'unusual' delegate

Soon after the beginning of the conference a young man took the seat next to me, and it wasn't too long before we started chatting.

'Where are you pastoring?' That was my opener – I expected him to be a young ministerial intern. He wasn't. He is a 21-year-old 'preacher's kid', Michał Rakowski, who saw the programme and asked his father to sponsor his attendance at the conference. Wow!

'And how are you enjoying the EPC, Michał?' Without a moment's hesitation this sociology student from Krakow, Poland, said: *'I knew that it was going to be great – a blessed time. And I wasn't wrong. The programme is full of great lecturers, preachers, testimonies and music. God is blessing me so much that every workshop I choose is magnificent!'*

Well, if this 'unusual visitor's' comments tell us nothing else – they certainly suggest that the EPC programme was highly stimulating and relevant! Bravo TED!



Behind the scenes at the EPC

An interview with Miroslav Pujic, TED Communication and Media director, conducted on 23 August in Slovenia, takes readers behind the scenes at the EPC.

Question: Miroslav, why does the TED hold these conferences?

Answer: Every five years this division brings our pastors, and as many of their spouses as possible, together for spiritual growth, nurture and professional sharing – but above all, to deepen their knowledge of the changes taking place in European society. In the last thirty years there have been huge paradigm shifts on the continent and they are hard to keep pace with. It is important that we share and discuss models of outreach that are working – and find new ones to meet the needs of people in our own mission field.

Question: Why did you choose this theme for the conference: 'Making God known'?

Answer: Europe is a Christian continent and today it is popular, even trendy, to say: *'I believe in God and spirituality is important to me.'* However, this doesn't mean that such people have a true knowledge of God or – most important of all – a relationship with Him. Sadly, in most cases there is no relationship. But this can apply equally to Adventists – are we really any different to them if we have the knowledge but no relationship?

Question: How many people are at this conference?

Answer: We have accommodated 1,100 registered guests, of which 725 are pastors and the balance comprises mostly spouses. Oh, there are also quite a few daily guests.

Question: How big is your support team for the event?

Answer: We have over 200 people in that team, ranging through the technical support, ushers, 'huggers', 'smilers', musicians, and so on. Some are also working at the exhibition booths. Most of my technical team are not full-time video or audio specialists – they are pastors who are multi-skilled – which is an enormous cost-saver.

Question: Please share some interesting EPC facts and figures with our readers.

Answer: Julian, I am sure that this will surprise you. For this event we booked 700 rooms at ten local hotels. Those hotels will serve our delegates close on 20,000 full buffet meals! By the



way, the head chef at the main hotel tells me that our Adventist groups eat less than most of their other patrons. According to him, some of the groups that he caters for *'eat up to five times'* what we do! He has also noticed that *'Adventists don't waste food the way many others do!'*

Question: There is one last question that many members may want to ask us: why are we here in Rogaška Slatina, Slovenia, and not somewhere else?

Answer: Well, Julian, not only is this a beautiful country, but it is also very central for our division as far as travel is concerned. In addition to this, because of the good relationship we have built up with the local hotel management since our first visit in 1997, their prices are very reasonable.



Statement on Women's ordination to the pastoral ministry

Presented at the TED European Pastors' Conference, Rogaška-Slatina, Slovenia, 25 August, 2012

by Bertil Wiklander, TED president

The Trans-European Division is a division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. This means that it follows General Conference policy, except in cases where we request, and are given, permission to apply a variance to the common world-church policy. The eleven unions within the TED are all members of the General Conference (and the TED) and in their constitutions and by-laws it states that their faith, church order, and working policies shall be in harmony with the GC/TED policy. These regulations in our church law explain the position taken by the TED executive committee on women's ordination to the pastoral ministry.

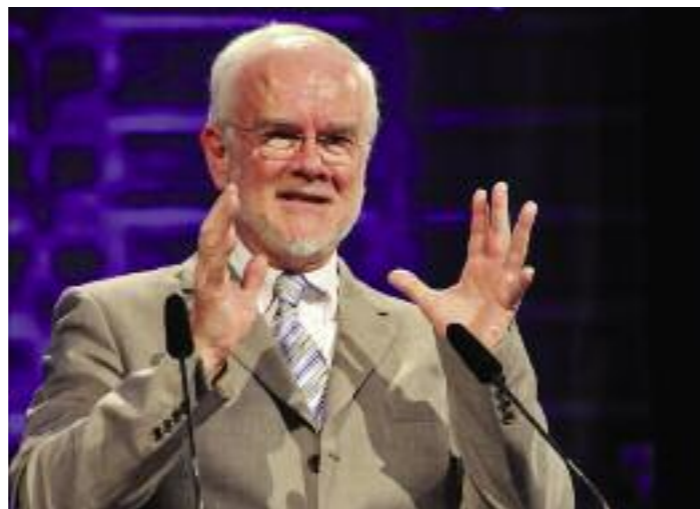
The matter of women's ordination for ministry has been under discussion in the TED at least since 1982. In the 1980s, the issues were usually about women being ordained as elders and deaconesses. The former ordination was accepted by the General Conference session in 1990 and the latter in 2010. In May, 1989, a survey of our unions regarding the ordination of women was undertaken and a clear majority were then not in favour of actually ordaining women as pastors, although they may not have considered it biblically wrong to do so.

The policies of the General Conference since 1990 have allowed for ordination of women as church elders; employment of women as associates in pastoral care (if they were ordained as local elders); and also commissioning of women in ministry to pastoral type of work in a union. This has gradually led to a

greater openness and even a sense of strong need for ordaining women to the Gospel ministry in the TED. This was the case in some unions more than in others, possibly depending on the cultural context in which we live and work.

In response to this development, the TED has for several years organised regular councils for female pastoral workers. We have seriously looked at recommendations from this group. Thus, salaries, employment conditions, titles, and job descriptions for male and female pastoral workers have been made more and more equal in many unions. On 18 November, 2009, the TED executive committee voted unanimously to provide 'Revised Guidelines for Commissioning' where it did all that was possible to do within policy to create equality between the genders in pastoral ministry.

In January-March, 2010, the General Conference president, Jan Paulsen, initiated a survey among the thirteen world divisions regarding their position on women's ordination. The TED invited all its unions to take part. The outcome was that all our unions unanimously accepted that there are no biblical reasons for not ordaining women and that it would not be a problem if the General Conference granted the TED authority to grant unions, who so request, the right to ordain women as pastors. Of all the eleven unions in the TED today, only one union president stated that his union would not at present ordain women as pastors, even if it were permitted, but he had no objection to this being done in other unions.



However, a majority of world divisions did not share our view and the GC leadership therefore decided not to discuss the matter at the GC session a few months later.

The issue was, however, raised on the floor at the GC session in Atlanta in June/July, 2010, in connection with the discussion and acceptance of the ordination of deaconesses. It was voted that the Church would study the theology of ordination and seek a better biblical understanding of what ordination really means: If the Church can ordain women as church elders and deaconesses, then why not also as pastors? We now have a detailed timetable for this study, and it is clear that it is going to be a very comprehensive work that includes women's ordination and all aspects of ordination in the Church. Each division has been asked to provide a report through their biblical research committee, getting input from their unions, voting it in their executive committee, and sending it to the GC Biblical Research Institute. The TED is now fully engaged in this work and our executive committee will be asked to authorise our research report in November, 2013. A co-ordinating body at the GC will then study the research from all thirteen divisions and provide a report which will go to the GC leadership in the summer of 2014. If recommended by the GC Annual Council in October, 2014, a motion will go to the floor of the GC session in San Antonio in 2015. We take the view in the TED that we should actively participate in the study of ordination and then wait and see what the outcome will be, believing that the Spirit of God will lead this matter to a good solution for His Church.

In November 2010, the TED executive committee voted a document called 'The Leadership and Ordination of Women'. Its purpose was to address the tension between the extraordinary mission challenges facing the Church within our territories and the need to mobilise all our members, male and female, on the one hand, and church policy on the ordination of women, on the other. Four requests were made to the General Conference. Those requests and the responses were as follows:

1. To request that the study of the theology of ordination, as voted at the General Conference session in Atlanta, is prioritised. The General Conference has granted this.
2. To request the General Conference to review and amend General Conference policies, so that the wording is gender-neutral and that all leadership pathways are open to male and female. No formal response has been received, and we will continue to work with the GC secretariat on this point.

3. To request the General Conference to grant a variance to the model constitutions and by-laws to accommodate the unique needs of the Trans-European Division with the insertion of "conference and union presidents should be ordained/commissioned ministers" in its policy language. We feel that this is a matter of some urgency and respectfully request that this be dealt with as soon as possible but no later than General Conference Annual Council 2011. This was brought to the floor in October 2011, but it was not voted on formally, since a similar variance only relating to conference

presidents was requested by the NAD. Their request was voted down, and by common consent the TED motion therefore also failed.

4. To request the General Conference for permission to ordain women to the Gospel ministry within the Trans-European Division, thereby creating parity between female and male ministers and following the same process and procedure that currently applies to ordained men and credentialed ministers. This point is in abeyance awaiting the outcome of the study on the theology of ordination.

In November, 2011, following the vote at Annual Council, the TED prayerfully considered how to respond to it. We consulted widely and received input from the unions. We recognise and understand that we are part of a global Church and need to listen to and be in harmony with the decision of the Church at large. The committee voted:

1. To affirm again the role of its women leaders, pastors and lay members.
2. To pro-actively work to support the development of women in leadership within the TED and to present a road map to the TED spring meeting 2012 as to how this could be done. This work is ongoing.

The big question is of course what the Bible says about women's ordination. We will provide an answer from our perspective in November, 2013, based on our very comprehensive research. In the meantime, I would ask you all to pray for this study. Without the Spirit of God and of Jesus Christ we can do nothing. But I would add that you can do more than praying. You can also study the matter for yourself, so that you understand what the Word of God teaches on this point.

One way for you to get acquainted with the matter is by reading Pastor John Lorencin's booklet on women's ordination – it is available in English with the title, *Priestly Ministry in the Old and the New Testament: Should Women Be Ordained?* (2012). Pastor Lorencin was the Yugoslavian Union president until 1994 and was very much opposed to women's ordination. He admits that he held a traditional view and was under the

influence of his culture where there were three main religions: Orthodox Christian, Roman Catholic Christian, and Islam.

He had not formed his opinion on the basis of the Bible, so when he retired he decided to study ordination in the Bible. In his book, as a pastoral Bible reader, in simple language, he goes through the whole Bible. He finds that in the New Testament, Christ has taken over the sacrificial priestly office from the Old Testament, so it is no more. Instead, Christ has fulfilled the sacrificial system and become our High Priest in Heaven where He now offers His benefits to God for us. As our High Priest, He is also the Head of the body of Christ, the Church, which consists of the priesthood of all believers, which makes no distinction between male and female. He also points out that there is no word for 'ordination' in the Bible. It is used in the King James Version from 1611, but it is there based on old Roman Catholic translations from the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. In fact, Pastor Lorencin warns against letting the pastoral ordination be influenced by the Roman Catholic, unbiblical practice, which is rooted in the pagan Roman system of being promoted (Latin *ordinatio*) to a higher 'order' (Latin *ordo*) in the state offices. Any sense of the rite of ordination conveying a special status or character that is not already there through the gift of the Holy Spirit is unbiblical. Ordination is therefore a work of the Spirit and only recognised and confirmed by the Church. Many of the points raised here have also been pointed out in the *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia*, in the article on 'Ordination' (1996).

And there is also other literature on the topic. The teachers at Andrews University collected a number of papers on the topic in a volume called *Women in Ministry* (edited by Nancy Vyhmeister, Berrien springs, MI: Andrews University Press, 1998), and this valuable book is still available. I can also mention that Dr Jan Barna, one of our esteemed teachers at Newbold College, wrote his doctoral thesis in 2009 on this topic and he is in negotiations to have it printed. His emphasis is the view of the Bible and the hermeneutics being applied in dealing with the matter of women's ordination.

I want to say to you that I

have never made a secret of my own personal conviction. I accept women's ordination as being biblical and appropriate. But I am also very concerned that we manage this important matter in harmony and co-operation with the world Church. I know that the Lord will bless our joint efforts to explore His Word and to share it with our brothers and sisters worldwide. And I think the best thing we can do is to pray for the

Spirit of God to lead His Church to understand this matter in harmony with His will. As keepers of the heritage of the Protestant Reformation, let us see this matter from a spiritual perspective and ask God to lead us to an understanding of His truth. And let us do it in a spirit of respect for each other, knowing that we all seek the truth and that Christ has promised that the Holy Spirit will 'guide us into all truth'.

Women pastors meet, share and pray at the EPC

by Kirsten Øster-Lundqvist, South England Conference Communication & Media director

At the TED European Pastors' Conference our women clergy traditionally take time off to meet and greet each other. This year was no different. On Friday 24 August, fifty of the sixty women pastors and leaders from across the division met to share and pray.

Some of these women are in leadership, but most are congregational pastors. Some women were single, others were married, some were young and others were grandmothers. Some had worked for twenty years while others were just starting. The women came from all over the division except Poland, which is a 97% Roman Catholic country. Women from Norway, Sweden, Iceland, Finland, Denmark, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia, Hungary and Albania were all represented. One thing all the women shared was that they were clear that God had called them to minister and that they were following His leading in their ministry, whatever the situation and challenges they encountered in doing so.

Pastor Chris Oberg, senior pastor at La Sierra University Church, USA and one of the EPC speakers, made this observation: 'Among the highlights of being with pastors in the TED was an hour of hearing the voices of women clergy scattered throughout the division, faithfully responding to God's call. I am impressed with how many of these women are solo pastors, leading two, three or four congregations. Their experiences are diverse, and they show strength of character and unwavering conviction to serve the Church. Such an inspiration! May God be praised!'

Pastor Karin Wiczoreck made the purpose of this meeting plain: 'We are here to support and pray for each other.'

Before the meeting closed Pastor Audrey Anderson, TED executive secretary, broke the good news that there will be another council for the women clergy of the division next year.

The TED currently employs 601 pastors and, according to Dr Daniel Duda (TED Ministerial and Education director), there are currently sixty women in pastoral work in the division – 10% of its pastors.





Hello Special Stars!

You feel good when you are not the last to be picked to join a team game. Imagine how great it feels when you are chosen to represent your country in the Olympics. How much more wonderful it would be if God chose you, not just once but a couple of times, to represent Him. This is what happened to this man. See if you can find out who he is!

Start at the arrow and cross out every Q. Then fill in the blanks with the letters you did not cross out.





Look up Exodus 19:1, 2. How many months did it take to get to the mountains of Sinai?

It was here that God called Moses to climb the mountain and be given the Ten Commandments. Aaron was left to look after the people. Aaron had felt brave when with Moses. Now he was by himself, Aaron forgot to ask God to help him. Some bullies wanted to worship the Egyptian gods. They surrounded Aaron in such a threatening way he was too scared to say no. What should Aaron have done in this situation?

- Find the words hidden in the grid of letters.
- The words are hidden vertically, horizontally, up and down.
- The words can be found reading both forwards and backwards.
- Some letters will be used more than once.
- Lightly cross each word out, one letter at a time, so that you are still able to read the other words that could be using the same letter.
- When you have found all of the words and crossed them out, write down the leftover letters, in order, from left to right and moving downwards one row at a time.
- These letters, in order, form the answer.
- We have found two words to help you get started.

T N E M H S I N U P N
 N O R A A ~~G R E A T~~ W
 W M O I R T P Y G E O
 G O L D E N C A L F D
 N U M O S E S S H I D
 I N A L E V I T E S E
 R T N S C P G O D O W
 E A G N A T I O N N O
 F I E D A N C I N G B
 F N R L S Y B O C A J
 O S E T I L E A R S I

Israelites	Golden Calf	Jacob
Isaac	Bowed	Egypt
Mountain	Down	Great
Idols	Punishment	Levites
Aaron	Nation	Anger
Offering	Moses	Dancing

To read what special job Moses' older brother was called by God to do, rewrite the next sentence backwards, starting with the last word:

mouth. Moses' were he if as be will it and you for people the to speak will He Exodus 4:16.

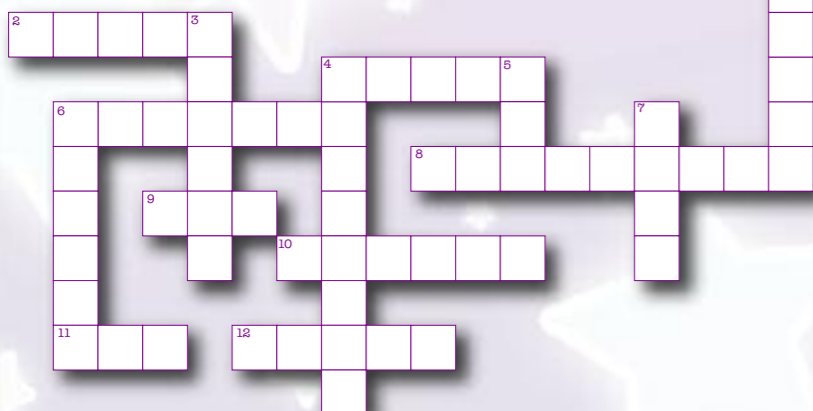
The story of the escape from Egypt by the Jewish slaves was masterminded by God, but He wanted Moses and Aaron's help. They made a good team: Moses the leader and Aaron the spokesperson.

Crack the code to see the message Aaron was to say to Pharaoh.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	*	4	7	2	9	1	*	9	5	3	0	6	*	8	3	7	8	5	3	4	7
A	D	E	G	L	M	O	P	S	T	Y																				



Finally, Pharaoh let God's people go – but, like most bullies, he decided to have one last go at hurting others. Fill in the crossword and find out what happened. Read Exodus 14:5-31, 15:1-21.



ACROSS

- 2 trust (in God)
- 4 found in the sky
- 6 title of the Egyptian King
- 8 people living in Egypt
- 9 big wet area
- 10 sister of Aaron
- 11 colour of blood
- 12 good to drink

DOWN

- 1 brother of Miriam
- 3 four-legged animals
- 4 charioteers' vehicles
- 5 opposite to wet
- 6 holds up buildings
- 7 breeze

If you are bullied, remember to pray for God to help you find someone to help you. Ask your school teacher, or phone Childline 0800 11 11 or Kidscape 08451 205 204, or look up www.kidscape.org.uk for more information on how to stop bullying.



ASN ADVENTIST STUDENT NETWORK
SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE

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Dejan Stojkovic
CHAPLAINCY DEPARTMENT
Phone: 07919 172 178
Email: dejanstojkovic@adventist.org.uk

Residential Family Weekend
26th – 28th October 2012

SNAP
SUPPORT NETWORK FOR ADVENTIST PARENTS

Venue: Hill House Christian Retreat Centre, Otterhampton, nr Bridgewater, TA52PT

- Short presentations on topics relevant to Christian family life
- Group discussion time
- Family activity time
- Relaxing rural surroundings
- Self-catering arrangement, with 2 simple, warm meals provided

The Presenters:

Dr Wayne Prosser, Dr Jacques Winkler, Mike & Vicky Beamish

Cost: Adults and children age 12+ - £25 each
Children age 6-11 - £18 each
Children age 4-5 - £12 each
Children age 0-3 - FREE

E-mail: snap.sda@tesco.net or Tel 01242 890566

REQUIRED: Additional staff to assist in children's activities (up to age 15) at the Support Network for Adventist Parents (SNAP) Family Weekend on the weekend of 26 to 28 October at Hill House Christian Retreat Centre, Otterhampton, Bridgewater, Somerset. Staff must be CRB-checked for Seventh-day Adventist church activities. All reasonable expenses will be re-imbursed. If interested, please contact Mike & Vicky Beamish as soon as possible on 01242 890566, or by email – snap.sda@tesco.net.



The greatest Olympian

On Sabbath 14 July 2012, Edmonton Central Church celebrated the baptism of 9-year-old Lucy Simpson, Bright Mzila, Jason Watts and Derrick Grant, following a week-long evangelistic campaign themed on the Olympics. The evangelist was Pastor Valentine Roach, resident pastor of Edmonton Central, and a nightly Bible quiz and health spot were regular features of the campaign. Lucy was inspired by the message entitled, 'The Battle of the Olympians', and believes Jesus will help her overcome any 'hurdles' in her life. Bright, a young man, shared: 'As long as I have Jesus in my life I can win the race of life.' Jason, another young man, was searching for the true Sabbath day and sent an email on this question to Pastor Victor Hulbert, who responded. Jason subsequently visited Tottenham Church and began receiving Bible studies. Derrick, a frequent visitor at Tottenham Church, decided to get baptised after a series of Bible studies.

LIZ FARRELL

Community health expo

On 24 June 2012, Edmonton Central hosted a well-attended community health expo at St James' Open Space, Edmonton, partly funded by a grant from Enfield Council to purchase medical equipment. This expo, specially designed to focus on children's health, started with a march led by the Pathfinder drum corps of Holloway Church, Pathfinders from Tottenham Church and members of Edmonton Central. Members of the community came outside to observe, while others watched from their windows.

The Mayor of Enfield, Councillor Kate Anolue, officially opened the event, welcomed by Pastor Roach. Liz Farrell, the event organiser, presented the mayor with a gift of *The Ministry of Healing*. The mayor was shown around each station and was very impressed by the available health information, particularly in the children's section, and enjoyed the drumming and the natural fruit juices, as did adults and children from the community.

Carol Horne co-ordinated the children's health section, and the adult health section was co-ordinated by Mary Onyeanus, with medical professionals from other Adventist churches providing support. Members of the community were impressed by the sports events, bouncy castle and certificates of achievement for the children, and by more than fifty *Great Hope* books handed out, and many ADC Bible study and health correspondence cards.

One attendee emphasised the value of our letterbox invitations: 'I don't normally read junk mail – but when I got this invitation I didn't consider it to be junk mail, and decided to come along to see what it was all about.'

LIZ FARRELL



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Celebrating Sabbath with the Muslim community

It's not every day that you get the chance to share the Sabbath day with a couple of Muslim believers, let alone thousands of them – but on 13 July Middlesbrough Church members became the first Christian group to hold a stall at the Middlesbrough Mela, an Asian festival visited by 30,000-40,000 people over a two-day period.

What an amazing opportunity to mix with the local Asian community and talk about Christ!

Marion and John Pace had a stall with free literature and CDs, along with a box for prayer requests. Thirty-two prayer requests were taken from the Asian community, along with a request for a Bible, and email addresses were left by people who want to know more about Jesus – these are being followed up!

The following Sabbath two visitors turned up at church after visiting the stall at the Mela, and stayed for the Bible study as well as the Divine Service.

One young man, after sharing his story, gave me his mobile phone number to continue giving him support. One young man from Iran talked about how he'd seen Jesus in a dream as a child, but as a



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Muslim was not allowed to talk about it in his home country. Now in England he is reading the Bible, but needs someone to explain it to him – this will be followed up by our pastor, Colin Woodford.

We were also approached by one of the radio stations to talk about who we are, why we were there, and what effect we were having.

It was an amazing experience, and we will be taking part in next year's Mela; it far exceeded our expectations and we give thanks and praise to God.

JUDY HAMILTON-JOHANSSON

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STANBOROUGH ADMINISTRATION

Hymn singing festival

Halifax Church invites you to its hymn singing festival on Sabbath 6 October, between 10am and 5pm.
Guest speaker: *Dr David Marshall*
St Hilda's Church, Gibraltar Road, Halifax, West Yorkshire, HX1 4HE

SECTEENS MINISTRIES PRESENTS



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Erdington picnic

Erdington's Family Ministries department, under Joyce Holder and Jean Hamilton, invited Erdington members and families to a picnic at Cannon Hill Park in Birmingham on 29 July 2012.

The young people, particularly, were so excited to enjoy the train ride, boating, tennis, badminton, squash, football, walking, rounders and just sitting down!

The young enjoyed rounders because of its intense competitiveness: with Olympic fever gripping the country, they were keen to compete with honour and to win.

The fitness regime was incorporated in the day's activities after everybody had enjoyed the picnic, inculcating a sense of healthy living. *'Mens sana in corpore sano'*, as the Roman poet Juvenal wrote in *Satire X* - 'A sound mind in a sound body'.

This idea must start with our young people. We must encourage them to exercise the mind and the body, not only for their own preservation but for glorifying God in worship.

Joyce Holder likes to thank the Pathfinders/Adventurers' leaders and counsellors who organised the picnic and field events for our youth.

JOHN OSEI-BEMPONG

Medical missionaries and supporters needed

Yahway Health and Wellness is looking for medical missionaries interested in being part of a new Wellness Centre project: Adventist doctors, nurses, pastors, cooks, maintenance personnel, drivers, seminar instructors, assistants, and anyone who can give legal advice. If you have a heart for medical missionary work or would like to support this work financially, please contact Richard on 07955 864 371 or visit our website: yahwayhealth.org.

obituary



Patricia Margaret Bone, née Watts (1938-2012) d. 9 June. Pat was born in Risca, Monmouthshire, on 15 October 1938 to Tudor and Violet Watts, members of the Cardiff church. A year before she was to sit the 11-plus she developed rheumatic fever, but despite this setback she passed the examination and went on to Lady Margaret's High School for Girls in Cardiff.

She had always wanted to become a nurse and marry a doctor, but her doctors insisted she'd never be strong enough for nursing. However, to Pat's great delight, when she was 17, the cardiologist said she was fit enough to become a nurse. Pat would later describe this as a miracle. Being too young to start training, she did a one-year pre-nursing course at a unit specialising in treating children with rheumatic fever.

Pat was due to start training at Guy's Hospital, but was persuaded by her parents to train at Watford Peace Memorial Hospital instead. She started her training in 1957, was baptised by Victor Hall at Stanborough Park Church in 1959 and qualified as an SRN on 27 July 1960. In November 1961 she qualified as an SCM, and worked as a community midwife for nine months, using a bicycle for transport. By this time Pat had met Peter Bone, a member of Stanborough Park Church, where they were married on 27 July 1962, the officiating ministers being Matthew Murdoch and John Woodfield. In September they moved to Newbold College, where Peter trained as a minister, and from where Pat travelled daily to a health visitor training course in Oxford, qualifying in 1963. She then worked as a health visitor in Wokingham for two years, now feeling she had found her true vocation.

Peter graduated in 1965. However, in 1964, with Pat's encouragement, he had been accepted to study medicine as a mature student. Pat had already been the only salary earner for three years and was now happy to carry on for a further six. So they moved back to Watford, where Pat worked as a health visitor for a further thirty-three years. Andrew, their son, was born in 1968. Peter qualified in 1971, and, when he entered general practice in

Watford in 1974, Pat was the attached health visitor.

Pat embraced life to the full. Not only did she throw herself with dedication into her work, but she also enjoyed a fulfilling life away from work. She served as a deaconess at Stanborough Park, only retiring when poor health intervened, and she loved her spell teaching in the Cradle Roll. She loved to travel, and enjoyed walking holidays both in the UK and abroad. She was an expert knitter and had a passion for cross-stitch. When, in the early years, there was little money, she made many of her dresses.

In 1998 Pat retired after forty-two years of full-time NHS service, thirty-five of them as a health visitor, the job she loved so much. Peter retired in 1999. In 2002 Pat and Peter travelled to California for the wedding of Andrew and Audrey. Sadly, in late 2003, Pat was diagnosed with the rare condition, primary progressive aphasia. This meant not only her speech but all communication skills were gradually being lost. This did not stop her enjoying most of her many interests. With Andrew and Audrey now in Kenya working for World Vision, Pat and Peter were able to go on many safaris. She was there in 2005 for the birth of her first grandchild, Sophia Patricia Rose. But by the end of 2010, following a visit to see her second grandchild, Annabel Violet, in California (Andrew and Audrey having settled there), it became clear that travelling was no longer possible.

With the onset of fronto-temporal dementia Pat became house-bound. As always, she was delighted when friends and family visited - and, although unable to communicate verbally, her smile and infectious laughter said it all. Early in 2012 her health deteriorated, and at the end of March Pat was temporarily admitted to a nursing home for respite care. Here her condition declined very rapidly, and when she passed to her rest it came as a blessed release from the suffering she had endured for so long and with such courage. Pat loved her Saviour Jesus and, even when so ill, she would smile and nod in agreement when reminded that Jesus loved her and would soon return.

The memorial service at Stanborough Park Church and the committal at North Watford Cemetery were conducted by Pastors Roy Burgess and Paul Clew.

Pat's death has left a huge void in the lives of her husband Peter, her son Andrew, his wife Audrey and their children Sophia and Annabel; Marilyn, her younger sister; and all the family. Yet they rejoice in the sure knowledge of the imminent return of Jesus, who has conquered death and promised His faithful followers resurrection to eternal life.

PETER J. S. BONE

Newbold alumni reunite

The Newbold College Alumni (1970-85) Reunion began quietly with Vespers in Moor Close Lounge on Friday 17 August, as Newbold College alumni and staff who hadn't seen each other for more than thirty years struggled to recognise faces. Vespers speakers, Drs Harry Leonard and Mike Pearson, focused on the importance of asking good questions.

Honoured guests were Kari and Jan Paulsen, whose time at Newbold, when Dr Paulsen was a lecturer in Theology and later principal, coincided with the student years of many alumni present. 'You don't have to park your intelligence outside before you enter the church,' he said on Sabbath. Hear the full sermon online at: <http://vimeo.com/47873353>.

On Sabbath afternoon, alumni gathered for a cream tea in Moor Close Gardens before the banquet in Salisbury Hall. The live-streamed programme, conducted by Victor Hulbert, included testimonies, messages and reminiscences - as well as allegations about various student pranks!

This reunion was organised by the director of Student Life, Pastor Henrik Jorgensen, a 1982 graduate. Taste more of the flavour of Newbold and the weekend at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/195239577242347/>.

Anyone who wants to be involved in organising an alumni weekend should contact: alumni@newbold.ac.uk.

HELEN PEARSON



Happy birthday, Francis!

On Sabbath 4 August Bradford Central Church wished Francis Constance a happy 80th birthday: she has been a great influence in Bradford for many years, and was presented with flowers from the church and from the Children's department. Francis regularly visits the sick, even though she herself hasn't been in the best of health.

LYDIA CHINCHIO



Photo: Adam Swaine

back page



Kilkenny's first Vacation Bible School

Kilkenny's first Vacation Bible School was held during 23-28 July, using the *Friends Forever* series. At the start there were twenty students, of whom only ten were from Seventh-day Adventist families. Four more children joined in during the week. We were pleased to see our young people using their talents for God, and the children really enjoyed themselves. Some even asked, 'Can we have this for two weeks?' and we have been assessing the week to see if it's possible. It is a good way to make friends and reach out. God blessed us with good weather, a good atmosphere and satisfied children. We're looking forward to our next Vacation Bible School with God's help and guidance.

EVELYN WILSON

Kimberly brings her mother to church

Young Kimberly is 7 years old, and has been coming to Holmewood Church without her parents. She has been challenging her mother, who attends a Sunday church, to come and join her in Holmewood. Her mother, on the other hand, has been trying to make her come to her church.



The other day I met her in Morrisons shopping with her mum, whom I had never met. As we were introduced, I learnt how young Kimberly teaches her mum everything she learns from church.

The other Sabbath they had booked tickets to go to the sea-side, but Kimberly refused so she could go to church on Sabbath.

We had a children's day on 4 August; young Kimberly was presenting Sabbath School, having worked hard the whole week for this event, and by God's grace the mother made it to church to see her child participate.

Now she has promised to come to church every Sabbath with her daughter.

ISAAC TAFATATHA

BENEFIT CONCERT
Contemporary Gospel Concert
in aid of the homeless

will be presented by
Palmers and Friends

29 / 09 / 2012

6:00 pm till 8:00 pm
The Venue will open from 5:30 pm

£2.50 adult | £1 child

Conc'd help to support our local charity
CAMAARHUS by buying your ticket,
refreshments at church, home or work.
www.camaarhushouse.org.uk

WHERE: MAY HALL, TRENT COLLEGE, DERBY ROAD, NG10 4AD

OBTAIN YOUR TICKETS AT EITHER OF ANDERSON'S TEA ROOMS, 30 MARKET PLACE, LONG EATON, NG10 1JL
OR 12 ELAND LANE, BREACON, DE72 3DW ALTERNATIVELY EMAIL: TW.DOF@HOMELESS-PL.NE.CO.UK

CAMAARHUS DOESN'T ONLY PROVIDE AN ACCOMMODATION, BUT HELPS EACH INDIVIDUAL CLIENT TO REEL IN THEIR LEADS
TICKETS ARE SOLD AT A NOMINAL PRICE. COLLECTION DURING THE PROGRAMME WILL ALLOW YOU TO DONATE MORE TO MAKE NO.



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11am-3pm, Sunday

Advent Centre

Mondays & Wednesdays - 6.30pm-8.30pm
Sundays - 11am-3pm
Saturdays - November, December,
January: After sunset

Messenger

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Sunset

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

	Lond	Card	Nott	Edin	Belf
Sept 14	7.17	7.29	7.22	7.32	7.42
21	7.01	7.13	7.05	7.14	7.24
28	6.44	6.57	6.48	6.55	7.06
Oct 5	6.29	6.41	6.31	6.37	6.49

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