

Waka Waka

Based on a news release from ADRA-UK

In the developing world many people live with a perpetual energy crisis! They reside in areas where electricity is scarce, intermittent or unavailable; where traditional renewable energy sources like firewood are under threat; and where they have no option but to use paraffin (kerosene) powered illumination.

This dependence on such highly flammable fluids for household lighting in poor urban and rural communities may be traditional, but it is also costly and dangerous.

The danger of fire

Firstly, there is the obvious danger of fire, which often spreads very rapidly in slum areas where dwellings are close together and made of highly combustible materials. According to a recent ADRA press release '6 million are burned every year because of kerosene accidents.'

Paraffin poisoning

Secondly, there is the problem of paraffin poisoning. According to the World Health Organisation:

*'Young children are at greatest risk of paraffin poisoning. Because paraffin has the consistency and appearance of water and in some places is stored in reused beverage containers without child-resistant caps, unsupervised children are at high risk of consuming it.'*¹

Restricted learning

A third problem associated with the use of paraffin is the restriction it places on learning. For example, research by the World Bank in Southern Sudan indicates that a move from paraffin to solar-powered LED lighting had a direct influence on the student pass rate: 'With kerosene lamps this was a mere 57%. Two years after introduction of the solar lamps the pass rate reached 100%.'²

In India studies have shown 'that children who were able to use portable solar lamps studied 2.7 hours per evening instead of 1.5 hours. Here, too, there was an immediate positive effect on school results.'³

The ongoing cost

Paraffin can cost up to 20% of a struggling family's monthly budget, a figure that can be reduced drastically by an innovation called the *Waka Waka* solar lamp (*Wakawaka* means 'shine bright' in Swahili). This device has been engineered specifically for conditions in the developing world, and it uses the very latest technology to provide 8 hours of bright ambient light and up to 80 hours of night-safety illumination – all on a one-day solar charge.

ADRA

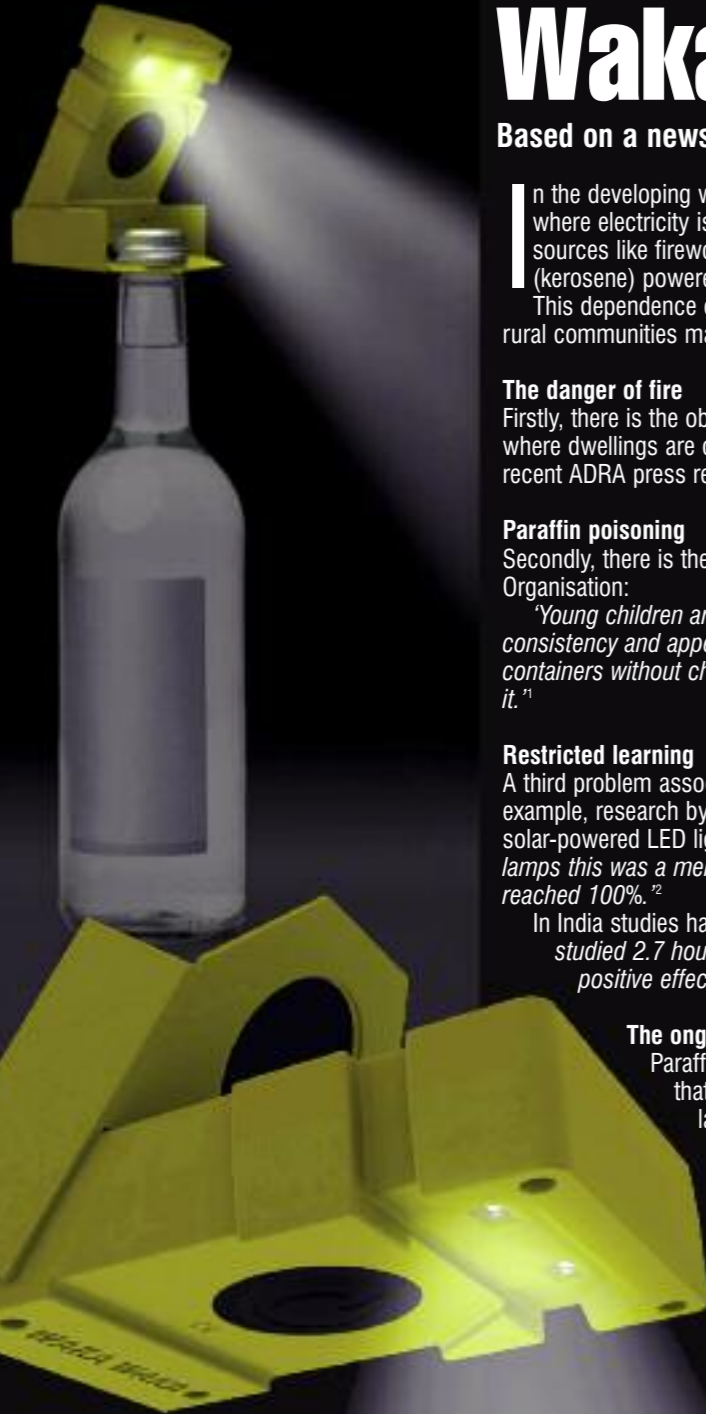
ADRA-UK has recognised the value of these lamps and, thanks to a generous donor, it will be distributing them to twenty-four disadvantaged 'off-grid' families with children in Burkina Faso. This is a pilot project, and if it is successful they want to roll it out on a much larger scale.

If you would like to bring light to an 'off-grid' family then let ADRA help you achieve this. For just £20 you can donate a *Waka Waka* solar lamp that will reduce their living costs; decrease their risk of fire and pediatric poisoning; and help their children extend their hours of study.

Check the ADRA-UK website to donate: www.adra.org.uk.

¹<http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/87/9/08-057505/en/index.html>

²<http://www.wakawakalight.com/wakawaka/better-school-r/> ³ibid



Megapixels of creation

Fancy being published?

I love this picture of a buzzard (*I think*), taken by Andrew Stephens on a Canon EOS 550D.

Please keep sending in your photos for *Megapixels of creation*. We are due to run another spread soon. Pictures of nature – landscapes, wildlife, water, close-ups. You never know your luck, you may get in print. Send them in to me at: dbell@stanboroughpress.org.uk.

Just remember to keep them 'hi-res'. Happy snapping!

DAVID BELL, MESSENGER DESIGNER

To see more of your images, go to: <http://adventistwebministries-org-uk.adventist.eu/megapixels>

Enhancing Health

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

The problem with pain

What do you do when you are in constant pain, waiting for a hospital referral to investigate the cause of the discomfort, but the appointment is several months away? Most people go to their GP, who usually puts them on pain-relief medication. If the pain is severe they may be prescribed a variety of medicaments. In fact, one bewildered patient recently complained to me about the three different types of pain medication stated on her prescription. It is not uncommon to find a chronic pain sufferer on more than one analgesic, plus anti-inflammatory tablets and nerve blockers, in an attempt to bring some pain relief.

However, the long-term impact of a cocktail of drugs, or even a single medication prescribed to manage pain, has come under scrutiny. An online article posted on 19 September 2012 in *Huffpost Lifestyle* carried the caption: 'Painkiller "The Cause" of Headaches, NICE Warns'. Raising concerns from the health watchdog, the article

highlights how common painkillers could be causing people to have headaches. It states: 'People who regularly take medicines such as aspirin, paracetamol and triptans could be causing themselves more pain than relief, the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) said.'

A spokesman added that medication 'overuse' was a likely contributor to the headaches people experienced, especially if they had been taking medications such as those described above for up to 15 days a month over a period of 3 months. NICE estimates that one in fifty people suffering from headaches experience this discomfort due to medication overuse.

However, while clarifying the efficacy of pain medication in the short term and for specific maladies, NICE indicated that common over-the-counter treatments are indeed effective for easing the pain of occasional headaches. However, the use of these same medications for tension-type or migraine headaches was found to actually reduce their level of effectiveness, and in fact cause further pain. Subsequently, NICE has now issued new guidelines to health professionals alerting them to the fact that different headaches require different treatments, so a correct diagnosis is crucial.

According to NICE, more than 10 million people in the UK experience regular or frequent headaches. This accounts for one in twenty-five GP consultations.

With long NHS waiting lists for hospital referrals and concerns about the side effects of long-term pain medicine, people are turning to other measures to try and manage their pain. In the next issue we explore some natural, evidence-based remedies for pain relief.

Good health!



editorial

Just like those girls!

Julian Hibbert
Editor

It was a night we would never forget. For soon, darkly dressed figures moved stealthily up our front stairs and silently infested our building.

It had been a beautiful summer's evening – long, warm, still. The sun was reluctant to set, but finally it stepped aside and the stars popped out.

Eventually silence settled over the campus. The last few lights in the men's residence faded out before midnight. It was a night we would never forget.

For soon, darkly dressed figures moved stealthily up our front stairs and silently infested our building.

They worked in teams

They worked in teams, starting at either end of each floor, lashing our door handles tightly to each other with strong packaging string. I can only imagine that those feral shadows must have smiled broadly as they watched their crisscrossing web meet in the middle of each corridor for the final 'granny' knots!

On all three floors, every room suffered the same fate – and we slept deeply through it all.

Mission accomplished, the shadows left the way they had come, quietly gathering next to the row of tin garbage cans that had mysteriously appeared in front of our building.

It was a night we would never forget.

Moonlight 'sonata'

Then the shadows struck those cans in unison. They beat them. They abused them – and their voices too – in one of the most dreadful moonlight 'sonatas' of all time!

Such was the cacophony that not even the dopest male in that residence remained in bed. We were at our windows in seconds. And a great masculine cry of outrage went up at the sight and sound of these trespassers from across the campus.

In the surge of adrenaline that then swept through old Salisbury House, some struggled to find their shoes – others their clothes – while the rest reached instinctively for their door handles . . . and what followed gave a new meaning to the term 'tug of war'!

It was truly a night we would never forget.

The male ego

The male ego is both immensely powerful, and unbelievably fragile. In the harsh light of the next day those shadowy figures became smiling, smirking women again. They teased as they pleased, and we had no defence against them!

We were beaten, conquered, humbled – but how? Was it by the plans of cunning female strategists; or by their overwhelming numbers and Amazon-like force? No, I don't believe that any of those things was the cause of our downfall that night.

We were simply beaten by the unexpected!

The power of the unexpected

The unexpected has caused more defeats and disasters than we can ever imagine.

Noah's generation was a nonchalant one.

They scoffed at the idea of water falling from the skies. They couldn't visualise themselves fleeing from rapidly rising floodwaters. In fact, Scripture describes them as 'eating, drinking, marrying and being given in marriage up to the day Noah entered the ark. Then the flood came and destroyed them all.' (Luke 17:27, NIV.)

They fell victim to the unexpected.

As did Belshazzar that fateful night he chose to humiliate Israel's God. That was the night 'they brought in the gold goblets that had been taken from the temple of God in Jerusalem, and the king and his nobles, his wives and his concubines drank from them. As they drank the wine, they praised the gods of gold and silver, of bronze, iron, wood and stone.' (Daniel 5:3, 4, NIV.)

Belshazzar felt unassailable. They were safe in Babylon – that impregnable city designed to outlast any siege. But that night the Persians diverted the Euphrates River and waded quietly into the heart of the city through its undefended river gates – and Daniel was there to record the event: 'That very night Belshazzar, king of the Babylonians, was slain . . .' (Daniel 5:30, NIV.)

He and 1,000 of his nobles fell victim to the unexpected.

Jesus and the unexpected

Interestingly, the New Testament is full of Christ's warnings about the danger of the unexpected. Do you remember His teaching about the man with an abundant harvest?

'Then he said, "This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry."'

'But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?"' (Luke 12:18-20, NIV.)

We can never take life for granted. No matter how tranquil and idyllic our circumstances, the awful unexpected may only be a moment away!

Expecting the unexpected

Perhaps the most blunt warning of all relates to Christ's return:

'Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.' (Matthew 24:42-44, NIV.)

The apostle Peter had a bit to say about this too: 'Above all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation."' (2 Peter 3:3, 4, NIV.)

Noah's contemporaries scoffed at the idea of rain. Belshazzar scoffed at the Persian siege. Rich men scoff at the brevity of life. Millions scoff at the imminence of Christ's return.

Ultimately, in every case, fate will write one epitaph for them all: 'They were not ready!'

Preparing for the return of Jesus is all about expecting the unexpected. As Jesus said: 'So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.'

Just like those girls!



Loyalty – with integrity

by Pastor Ron Surridge

These are the words of Jesus as He spoke to a large crowd of people in the precincts of the temple: *‘When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will realise that I am who I say I am, and that I do nothing on my own authority but speak simply as my Father has taught me. The one who sent me is with me now: the Father has never left me alone for I always do what pleases him.’* (John 8:28, 29, J. B. Phillips.)

Jesus was always loyal to His Father. His Father’s will was always His paramount concern. He was loyal to His Father in the face of derision and scorn. He was loyal to His Father when He was forsaken by His friends and followers. Even the pain, the shame and the cruel torture of a Roman crucifixion could not break His resolve. *‘Father, not My will but Thine be done’* was His determined purpose.

A universal virtue?

Loyalty is universally considered to be a virtue, but in his book *The*

Christian Mind Harry Blamires suggests that very often it is a sham virtue and that, in many cases, it can be evil. For instance, seventy years ago those of my age witnessed how the people of a great nation, renowned for its cultural excellence, allowed themselves to tolerate a charismatic leader who brought chaos and destruction to much of the world.

Many throughout history, including large numbers of Christians, have condoned abuses and atrocities because of blind loyalty to their leaders.

Today we see how certain church leaders have covered up the criminal behaviour of some of their priests. Loyalty to the Church seems to have claimed priority over their loyalty to God and their responsibility to the children and young people in their care.

We should be careful, too, and ask ourselves if we are guilty of this type of loyalty. For instance, have we perhaps voted with the majority just to remain in favour with, and appear loyal to, those in

our peer or ethnic group? The most shocking words I ever heard from a Christian minister were: *‘It does not matter whether I am right or wrong; I just know that my people will vote for me anyway.’*

Integrity – always a virtue

Integrity should always be regarded as a Christian virtue, but indiscriminate loyalty can result in devastating consequences. When we choose to follow Christ, it surely means that we will follow His example regardless of the circumstances or consequences it may involve.

We could give endless answers as to what is involved in ‘Christ’s example’. It can, however, be understood in a nutshell from John 8:29, particularly these words: *‘I do always those things that please [My Father]’* (KJV).

That, and that alone, is following Christ’s example! It is not without significance, therefore, that the prayer used most frequently by Christians throughout the world contains the words, *‘Thy Kingdom*

come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.’

The Kingdom of God is where the will of God prevails, and this is what we pray for in the Lord’s Prayer: *‘Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.’* What we are saying is, *‘May You be our King of kings now in this world’* – the only One to whom loyalty can be given, without fear of it ever being misplaced.

At times there will be a conflict of loyalties. It may be between our love and regard for our earthly families and our loyalty to Christ. When we read Matthew 10:37 it leaves us in no doubt as to who should receive our highest loyalty: *‘Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me’* (English Standard Version). However, we should never leave any member of our family feeling that we love him or her less because we have come to love Jesus more. It may be that we have been rejected by our family because of our Christian beliefs. Despite that, we must reassure them of our love and affection for them, and that our loyalty to them remains undiminished – unless that loyalty challenges the higher loyalty to God.

We can be sure that such a loyalty will be acceptable and pleasing to God, but there is always a risk that it may place the believer in a dangerous or perilous situation. This is because with true loyalty there is no room for compromise. A soldier, once he has sworn allegiance, knows that he may face dangers that involve the ultimate sacrifice. Those of us who have pledged loyalty to our Lord and Saviour King should also be prepared for challenges where there is no room for compromise with anything that will bring dishonour to His holy name. Ellen White wrote this in the book *Education*, page 57: *‘The greatest want of the world is the want of men [and women] who will not be bought or sold . . . who in their inmost souls are true and honest . . . who do not fear to call sin by its right name . . . whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole . . . who will stand for the right though the heavens fall.’*

I don’t think that in the world of literature you will find a better description of what loyalty involves. Sometimes our loyalty is eroded because we think that we will miss something if we stay

totally loyal to God. That certainly was true of Lucifer and Eve. They were not satisfied with the wonderful lives God had given them, and they wanted to know what it would be like to have the power and the glory that belonged to God alone.

The disturbing conditions in the world today are a testimony to their folly. The Bible, however, is replete with stories of people who have been very loyal to God. Think of Joseph, for instance. Sadly, not even King David was willing to miss out on the kind of thrill Joseph was offered. The manner in which Joseph rebuffed Potiphar’s wife is a wonderful example of loyalty to God: *‘how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?’* (Genesis 39:9, KJV.) He must have known what would happen next. He was, of course, immediately thrown into prison.

Even so, his loyalty was not misplaced. God honoured the faith and the loyalty he displayed, and the man with a prison sentence against his name, amazingly, became the prime minister of the most powerful nation in the world of that time. Think about the answer Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego gave when Nebuchadnezzar threatened them with death by burning if they did not worship his god. *‘O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not worried about what will happen to us. If we are thrown into the flaming furnace, our God is able to deliver us; and he will deliver us out of your hand, Your Majesty. But if he doesn’t, please understand, sir, that even then we will never under any circumstance serve your gods or worship the golden statue you have erected.’* (Daniel 3:16-18, The Living Bible.)

What loyalty to the God of Heaven! Not only were they saved, but they were blessed to hear the king utter these words: *‘Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, for he sent his angel to deliver his trusting servants when they defied the king’s commandment, and were willing to die rather than serve or worship any god except their own. Therefore, I make this decree, that any person of any nation, language, or religion who speaks a word against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego shall be torn limb from limb and his house knocked into a heap of rubble. For no other God can do what this one does.’* (Daniel 3:28, 29, The Living Bible.)

Just think about that – loyalty and integrity could have no greater reward!

Sometimes there are rewards

The next verse goes on to say those brave and loyal young men were promoted in the service of the king and prospered greatly in the province of Babylon. The story of Daniel provides us with the same example of loyalty, and the same kind of honour was afforded him by the king. The Lord is no man’s debtor! He will honour those who honour Him!

When we come to the New Testament, however, we may be tempted to think that God appears to be dealing with His loyal servants in a rather different manner. Have you ever wondered why many of the disciples, including the amazing apostle Paul, died violently? If God is no man’s debtor, why did they die like this? I have come to believe that the manner in which they died was of little consequence to them because they had become followers and intimate friends of the Messiah. They realised that He was the Christ, the Son of the living God. He was the world’s Creator and their wonderful Redeemer. He was the One who had conquered death and sin itself, and they were His best friends! No honour the rulers of this world could bestow could ever compare to their being close friends of the King of kings.

Death, in whatever form it came, could be looked upon now without any foreboding whatsoever. Knowing all this, it was in Christ and Christ alone that the disciples placed their trust and loyalty. They knew they would always be loyal to Jesus, their Lord and Saviour, whatever this world might bring!

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The real question

From time to time we all need to stop and ask ourselves the questions: *‘Are we really friends of Jesus?’* and *‘Where do our true loyalties lie?’* Irrespective of when our lives may end, we should be able to echo the apostle Paul’s words to Timothy:

‘. . . the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.’ (2 Timothy 4:6-8, KJV.)

Just think about that – loyalty and integrity could have no greater reward!

with Andrew Puckering



Unity in the home

The last words of the Old Testament paint a brilliant picture of God’s plan for the family, and also a warning: *‘And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse’* (Malachi 4:6, NKJV). The ‘he’ in this passage is identified in verse 5 as ‘Elijah the prophet’, a preacher whose coming was still in the future in Malachi’s time, whom Jesus later identified as John the Baptist (Matthew 11:12-15) – which suggests that John the Baptist’s teachings helped to reconcile family members previously at odds. This fits in perfectly with his altruistic, other-centred teachings recorded in the Gospels – to give to others, not to take more than you need, and to be content with your wages (Luke 3:10-14). More specific teachings on family unity may have been included among the ‘many other exhortations’ not listed in the Gospels (Luke 3:18, NKJV).

The ‘I’ of Malachi 4:6, on the other hand, seems to be ‘the LORD of hosts’ (Malachi 4:1, 3, NKJV), whose ‘winnowing fan is in His hand’ according to John the Baptist (Luke 3:17, NKJV). This of course was Jesus the Messiah; and, although John didn’t recognise himself as ‘Elijah’, he did recognise Jesus as the Christ (John 1:21, 29-36). Christ, therefore, was the One who warned Malachi that He would judge His people if they refused to be reconciled to each other.

It seems uncharacteristic, then, to hear Jesus saying, *‘If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple’* (Luke 14:26, NKJV). He told His followers in Luke 12:49-53 that He came not to bring peace, but division in families – and that He was keen to be getting on with it! What’s going on here? Is there a contradiction?

It might seem that way at first, but Matthew gives us a little more context to these words, recording Jesus as saying: *‘He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me’* (Matthew 10:37). Jesus had just been describing the way in which His teachings on love, unity, and forgiveness of sins would not be accepted by everyone in every family, and that unconverted family members would betray their believing loved ones to the authorities (Matthew 10:16-22). In this scenario, it was vital that the persecuted confess Christ as Lord – in spite of their families (Matthew 10:25, 32, 33). It could even be that God’s message to Malachi that families be united was necessary to limit the extent of the division and persecution that Christ’s loving teachings would provoke.

In reality, Jesus wished – and still wishes – for all His followers throughout time to be united and harmonious, to be one (Luke 9:49, 50; John 17:20-23). He wishes those who are not yet in the sheepfold of believers to be united with them (John 10:16), and commands His followers to bring them in (Matthew 28:18-20): but when this message of love and unity meets, inevitably, with resistance, even violence (John 15:18-16:4), then it is to be answered with kindness and peace (Matthew 5:43-48). Divided houses may fall, and two may not walk together unless they be agreed (Amos 3:3; Luke 11:17, 18), but the response of the Christian must be to honour his father and mother (Deuteronomy 5:16), but also to acknowledge that God’s sovereignty is higher than theirs, and not to be afraid (Luke 12:8-12). In the crunch, we must choose Christ.

- What does Paul say about unity in the Church? (1 Corinthians 3)
- Did Paul ever have arguments with believers? (Acts 15)
- What divisive topics should we stay away from? (1 Timothy 1)
- In which passage does Christ command us to be reconciled before coming to worship?
- Did Jesus’ family always accept His ministry?

The most shocking words I ever heard from a Christian minister were: *‘It does not matter whether I am right or wrong; I just know that my people will vote for me anyway.’*



Servanthood: our Christian calling

by Pastor Claude Lombart, D.Min



People love titles, even in Christian circles. Whether it is Pastor, President, Professor, or Pope, titles are common in the Church's vocabulary. Inherent in some of these titles is the concept of hierarchy, authority and privilege. The use of these titles often exposes the soft underbelly of our church politics.

A classic example of this is the Church of Rome. According to the Vatican yearbook the Pope has eight titles: 'Bishop of Rome, Vicar of Jesus Christ, Successor of the Prince of the Apostles, Supreme Pontiff [Pontifex Maximus] of the Universal Church, Primate of Italy, Archbishop and Metropolitan of the Roman Province, Sovereign of the State of the Vatican City, Servant of the Servants of God.'

Diakonos

In stark contrast to all of that is the apostle Paul's favourite title, 'Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle' (Romans 1:1, NIV).

'Servant' (*diakonos*) is a key word in the New Testament and it nails down our calling and status as Christians. In fact, it is one of the biblical titles par excellence, which all followers (disciples) of Jesus Christ ought to carry with humility and dignity. This is not a term applicable just to deacons and deaconesses. (Incidentally, there is no Greek word for deaconesses in the New Testament, since *diakonos* is both a masculine and a feminine noun.)

Diakonos occurs 31 times in 29 verses in the Greek concordance of the King James Version. It means someone who executes the commands of another, especially of a master – someone who is a servant or attendant.

In our church usage, a deacon or deaconess is set apart by the laying on of hands and carries out a number of duties listed in our *Church Manual* (2010 edition, pp. 76-79).

In Acts 6 we read that seven men were set apart by the laying on of hands. Their most important qualifications were that they were filled with the Holy Spirit and had a good reputation within the church community. They were highly spiritual, and two of them, Stephen and Philip, went on to serve in amazing ways.

In Acts 7 we read of Stephen's first and last sermon. He didn't mince his words. He was not a crowd or congregation pleaser or a prosperity-gospel, 'feel good factor' preacher. His Spirit-filled preaching drew a large crowd who, instead of saying a loud 'Amen' at the end

of his powerful sermon, took him outside the city and stoned him to death.

One sermon and you are dead! Stephen's servanthood ceased abruptly, but his reward will never end.

His brief stint as a preacher shaped the ministry of the apostle Paul. Let's never underestimate the impact a Spirit-filled servant of the Lord – yes, a church member, a deacon turned evangelist – can make.

In Acts 8 we learn of Philip, who travelled up to Samaria and planted at least one church there. He was such a faithful servant of the Lord Jesus that God chose him to convert and baptise an important Ethiopian official. An 'ordinary' church member – a deacon turned evangelist and soul winner – who baptises. And there are many scholars who believe this Ethiopian may have influenced the spread of Christianity in Africa.

Servanthood is what the Church is all about. It provides our vitality and fuels our growth. It is the modus operandi of our mission to the world. How beautifully this is illustrated and evidenced in the lives of New Testament deacons and deaconesses, the servants of Jesus Christ.

Servanthood as exemplified by Paul, and by Jesus Himself when He knelt down and washed His disciples' feet, is what makes the Church of the living God the



uniquely effective and vibrant Body of Christ.

When I went to San Francisco Theological Seminary in California to study for my D.Min, it took me a little while to get used to the seminary's culture. It was a place where they lived out Paul's words in a very practical way: 'There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus' (Galatians 3:28, NASB).

We were all on a first-name basis – president, professors, office staff and students. Men and women pastors and lecturers functioned as equals, serving one another. Quite a few of them were eminent scholars and theologians in their own right – people who had authored textbooks, contributed to encyclopedias, and earned doctorates from prestigious universities such as Harvard and Oxford.

Where such a simple but beautiful spirit of equality prevails, the spirit of servanthood thrives too.

Whenever I have served my Church in different parts of the world, in various capacities, I have consistently asked to be called by my first name. At times when I was introduced as, 'Pastor, Doctor, President . . .', I would stand, express thanks for the kind words of introduction, then state that I prefer to be addressed by my first name only.

When nominating time comes around and the Church elects its 'officers', at any level of church organisation, we would do well to remember that what we often call church office, with its respective titles, is actually a ministry gifted to us by the Holy Spirit, and recognised and acknowledged by the Church.

More importantly, no ministry is higher or more prestigious than another. At the foot of the cross, where we all take our various mantles of servant leadership, the ground is level.

The General Conference presidency is not more important in God's eyes than the servant ministry of the little old sister who visits her neighbour once a week to give her a Bible study, or a loaf of freshly baked bread to show God's love in her time of need.

If we fully embrace the biblical title of 'servants' of Jesus Christ, at least three things will happen: we will diminish the politics and power struggles in our midst; we will rejoice and prayerfully support those who are asked to be servant leaders in any capacity, paid or unpaid; and we will make an impact on our world, as did those 'servants' – Stephen, Philip, Paul, and others.

review of:

Dinosaurs: an Adventist View, by David C. Read

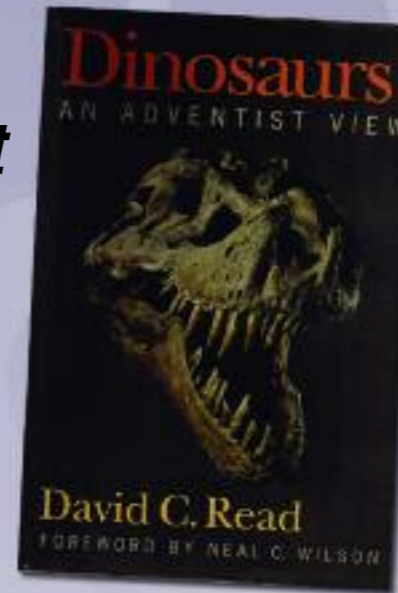
by Colin Mitchell

This is an important book that merits wide circulation. It has a foreword by Neal Wilson, former president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, who praises the author's scholarly approach and convincing arguments. David Read, the author, is a lawyer who brings together references to the Bible, a wealth of scientific facts, and some remarkable statements by Ellen White, to question the pervasive acceptance of darwinian evolution and to present a convincing alternative view.

The book is bulky: 684 pages, with many pictures, including one of the vast *Tyrannosaurus Rex*, with its powerful jaws packing sixty teeth. But, while centring on dinosaurs, the author achieves nothing less than a Bible-based scientific explanation of our current world. He traces the history of fossil-hunting and shows how Charles Lyell's uniformitarianism led to the darwinian belief in a slow evolution of life in a multi-million-year-old earth, which contrasts sharply with the Bible's one-week creation and young earth subjected to a disastrous worldwide flood.

Most scientists today reject the Scriptural account of Earth's origin, and accept an 'old earth' view on the evidence of radiometric dating. Read shows the unreliability of this method, pointing to Scripture as dating the flood some time between 3,600 and 2,300 BC and quoting Ellen White's statement that the earth was around 6,000 years old.

He quotes and supports the basic Creationist views: that natural selection cannot create new species; that most fossils appear suddenly in the sedimentary sequence and then remain unchanged or disappear; that mutations cannot explain



apparent evolutionary advance; and that the fossil record shows no truly transitional forms or graded series anywhere in the world, not even of the horse.

He shows that the post-flood situation led to the Ice Age: then argues that evaporation from oceans heated by underlying rock meant cooler summers in high latitudes. This increased snowfall and brought an ice covering which lasted until the seas had cooled enough to reduce the snowfall and allow the ice covering to melt.

He counters the evolutionary view of ape-like human origins by stressing the superb intelligence of earliest men, as shown in ancient works such as the solar and lunar alignments of Stonehenge and Callanish, and the advanced design of Egyptian tombs and the Sphinx. He shows that this view of early human sophistication accords with Scripture.

Ellen White seems to have mentioned dinosaurs in her book *Spiritual Gifts* without giving them that name, stating that very large, powerful animals existed before the Flood, but no longer exist. She also states that the most outstanding sin which called for the destruction of the race by the Flood was 'the base crime of amalgamation of man and beast which defaced the image of God, and caused confusion everywhere' (*Spiritual Gifts*, vol. 3, p. 64).

Read develops this view of amalgamation by pointing to the widespread modern use of 'genetic engineering' to 'improve' or modify species. He argues

that if the dinosaurs were a product of such gene manipulation by ancient man it helps explain why they were all rejected from the ark and destroyed in the flood, leaving no living descendants. All we know of them is from their fossilised remains in geological sediments. The use of the term 'after their kind' in Genesis 6:20 and elsewhere links this with the same term in the Creation story to suggest that the only kind of animals accepted into the ark were unmodified descendants of those originally created.

These arguments make a strong potential contribution to our understanding of origins. Not only do they offer an elucidation of some of Ellen

White's biblical interpretations, but they increase our understanding of ancient history by linking these interpretations to the abilities and activities of early man.

To summarise: *Dinosaurs: an Adventist View* is highly recommended as combining a wide critique of uniformitarian geology, an explanation of the biblical Flood, and a comprehensive analysis of the place of dinosaurs in Earth's history.

The Stanborough Press doesn't stock this book, but we invite you to purchase it on Amazon (www.amazon.com). Its full details are: *Dinosaurs: an Adventist View*, David C. Read (Clarion Call Books, Keene, Texas), 2009.

Further reading

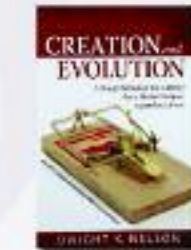
Origins: Accident or Design?

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Edited by Dr Bryan W. Ball, this large compendium of scientific and Scriptural arguments provides compelling evidence for a literal, six-day creation. £13.45 plus p+p



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Ariel A. Roth, former director of the Geoscience Research Institute, examines such theories as progressive creation and theistic evolution. £17.25 plus p+p



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Special Needs Camp

A report based on material supplied by Joy Bussey, who has enjoyed a long and close association with this special ministry

'The test of the morality of a society is what it does for its children.'

Those are the words of the Christian martyr, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and they are true for every community, society and civilisation. The way we treat our children – the way we meet their varied needs – measures the quality of our collective social conscience.

Yes, Jesus got it dead right when He *'called the children to him and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."*' (Luke 18:16, NIV.) Those words were a finger in the face of the adult-centred world of His day, including the likes of His burly disciples.

And when you combine His concern for children and His eagerness to help the disabled of His day, you just know that Jesus would have supported projects like the Annual Special Needs Camp – a camp that 'exists to provide a safe, caring, fun-loving holiday in a Christian environment for people with special needs, while giving respite to their carers.'

History of the project

The Special Needs Camp was started under the guidance of Pastor Martin Anthony in 1978, with just six campers, four of whom still attend. Pastor Martin reckons that it was the best thing he has ever done.

The camp has been held annually at the Church's Aberdaron site in Wales, except for one year when an outbreak of foot and mouth disease closed down everything in the area.

Things have changed

Over the years the attendance has grown to around twenty special needs campers per annum, and the age limit of 30 has been raised because of the ongoing needs of some of them. The camp now admits campers who are not directly connected to the Adventist Church, but during their assessment visits these campers (and their families) are told about the principles by which the camps are run – including the daily worship sessions and the 'veggie' food served in the kitchen.

Joy Bussey faithfully keeps contact with

the campers and their families, even after they no longer attend or have passed away. Interestingly, she finds that some families notice a positive difference in their child's health because of the dietary changes and then introduce some of them at home.

The project also uses some non-member staff these days, and they are also required to adhere to Adventist principles during the camp and participate in the worship sessions.

Camper individuality

The individuality of each camper is respected, and although there are a few fixed activities, campers can choose to do something different with staff assistance, as long as it falls within our Seventh-day Adventist guidelines for the camp. (There are definitely no pub visits!)

The staff members try to harness the campers' individual abilities, expecting them to do as much as they can themselves, even if it is in a slightly different or unconventional way.



Interns

For the past few years the project has been taking on interns, giving these young people a chance to develop their skills in working with the disabled. For some, their work at the annual camps has helped to steer them into one or other of the caring professions.

In fact, according to Joy, one of these young people has just finished the first year of Newbold's ministerial degree. During the past summer he was busy with a project to put the main teachings of our faith into a format that would be more meaningful to the disabled.

There are also quite a number of married couples around the UK who met each other while assisting at these camps, including the current managers of the Aberdaron campsite, Les and Tracey Simpson! Another heart-warming development is the number of camp staff offspring who follow in their parents' footsteps by offering their services these days.

Help is appreciated

Through the years many businesses, churches and individuals have contributed tangibly to the development of the camp, helping to make the venue more suitable for those with severe disabilities.

There is one church that has gone the proverbial 'second and third mile' in support of the camps. Among other things, the Erdington congregation's generous gifts have bought two bouncy castles and sponsored numerous campers who would

otherwise not have been able to attend an SNC.

It is a ministry

Special Needs Camp will always be a ministry – a way of letting the love of Jesus touch the lives of the disabled who attend. That 'touch', brief as it is for many campers, can and does change lives.

Joy remembers *'two young non-Adventist ladies who were sponsored to attend the camp by one of our churches. They both had life-limiting health conditions and were wheelchair bound. This took place before we really had things designed and equipped for such people. But despite this inconvenience, they seemed to enjoy the camp experience.'*

'A few weeks after the camp I received a beautiful bouquet of flowers and a letter of appreciation from one of them, thanking me for showing her Jesus and helping her learn how to talk to Him. She said that she talked to Him every day, and that He had made a difference in her life. She died a few months later!'

The camps not only change campers – they also influence the interns spiritually. Recently Joy heard that one of them from her own church had requested baptism and was considering a career in ministry. According to the young man, it was working at the camp that had led to his decision!

If you are looking for a life-changing SNC adventure, why not get in touch with Joy

Bussey? If you would like to help someone else – someone with special needs – enjoy the 'touch' of Christ's love, Joy would love to hear from you. If you think you could do something tangible to improve the facilities at Aberdaron, Joy is ready to steer your resources in the right direction. For any of the above, contact her at: js.bussey@ntlworld.com.

Kristina Gilbert's testimony . . .

'I always had an interest in the caring professions but was unsure of how to develop it into a career. I started attending Special Needs Camp at age 15, where I was given lots of different experiences with different campers, both as a day carer and as a night carer. I was able to enjoy the job and learn as well about client-centred care and other key aspects of the carer's role. From this I could explore different career options such as LD (Learning Disability nursing) and OT (Occupational Therapy). I decided to train as an OT and soon found I was one step ahead of others on the course, having some real-life experiences behind me. It also benefited me greatly from having someone to write a reference about the skills I had developed and how I could use them practically. I qualified several years ago, and, although I work with a different client group now, I will always be thankful to SNC and the influence it has had on my life and career. This is why I make sure I have annual leave to attend every year still!'



Croscombe health expo

Croscombe members, who have been sharing their faith with their neighbours in the village, in Shepton Mallet and in Wells, hired a large tent at the Mid-Somerset Show in Shepton Mallet for free health checks.

On Sunday, 19 August, in an expo conceived by Martin Pugh and supported by Pastor Vince Dranca, members set up tables and equipment, surrounding a table with much Adventist literature to be offered free of charge to the attendees. Elsie Staple and two helpers travelled from London to give expert guidance and help – which were needed, as this was Croscombe's first attempt at this ministry! They also had help from members from Bristol and Bath.

In the feedback forms, 70% rated the event as 'Excellent' and another 20% rated it as 'Good'.

Each attendee was given a flyer with the location of the Croscombe church, and a brief summary of our basic beliefs, with special emphasis on our desire to bring better health to our neighbours. One attendee wrote that she 'also keep[s] the Sabbath, as it is one of the ten commandments'!

SEGFRIED EDWARDS

'All in Favour' of the Days of Fellowship

On 4 and 11 August, the SEC assembled great speakers, artists and contributors at London venue the 'Troxy' for their SEC Days of Fellowship, including an evening concert from the Heritage Singers and Larnelle Harris.

Pastor Sam Davis, SEC president, said the churches' dedication to their communities showed the relevance of the Conference.

The audience grew from over 1,000 on 4 August, to 2,500 for the evening concert on 11 August. The auditorium was packed: Paul Lee, organiser and SEC Music director, commented, 'It's been a very long time since a concert of this calibre has been featured in London... the Troxy was the place to be!'

Enoch Adu stepped in on the first day for speaker James Doggette.



Successful summer school at Plaistow Church

Plaistow Church has conducted another oversubscribed summer school for 6-14-year-olds for the third year running. Forty-seven children, the overwhelming majority of whom were from the local community, attended the two-week event from 23 July to 2 August.

Lessons in maths, English and science were led by twelve competent volunteers comprising qualified teachers, professionals and higher education students.

The scheme was wholly sponsored by the local church and free at the point of delivery. Participants were supplied with exercise books, pens, pencils and other basic learning equipment. Healthy light refreshments were also provided at lunchtimes.

Plaistow Summer School is putting the church on the local map and developing friendship between church members and members of the local community. One Muslim parent who enrolled her two children also volunteered to assist in supervision, and intends to help in future activities.

Oliver, one of the participants, commented: 'I will dearly miss summer school; everything was fun!' Bishnu, a parent, remarked: 'This is a great initiative. You don't need to advertise next time. We are going to tell our friends and neighbours about you guys – but please, extend it to three weeks for us!'

We thank God for the success achieved, and we pray for His continued guidance in the future.

E. AMO-ADJEI

Young people crowded the stage as he called for recommitment to God. 'The young people rose to the occasion,' said Steve Thomas, organiser and SEC Youth director. Denzil Fourie was the speaker for day two.

Abdalla Makalla, an Adventist physiotherapist for the Tanzanian Olympic team, came to the second Day of Fellowship, saying, 'I was looking for a church in which to worship and I met someone trading pins who told me about today's worship; all is God's plan.'

Adding final touches to the days were young original artists like Carii Stewart, a skilful performance by the Pathfinder drum corps and a private screening of *Fired Up*, by Mervyn Weir. Sam Davis commented, 'I really want to see greater artistic expression, as well as to continue engaging with our communities; I'd love to see that continue until the next Olympic period!'

KATIE RAMHARACKSINGH

Health message comes to town

The Romford Seventh-day Adventist church heard the health message recently from Karen Jordan-Nicholls, who works alongside Holistic Emotional Education (HEE), a charity whose mission is to spread God's Gospel in health by providing information that promotes mental, spiritual and physical health and well-being. This programme allows participants to identify eleven lifestyle goals, one of which is covered each evening to get an in-depth level of understanding. Karen's fun, light-hearted, focused approach touched many in her very first campaign. The family-based discussions were both inclusive and practical. Holistic Emotional Education has worked with several organisations; their primary focus, however, is to promote the health message across the Adventist family in the UK. Would you like to know more? (Email: info@emotionaled.com.)

EMILY KAPANDE LUMPA



Manchester mayor visits health expo

At the Business Expo 2012 in the heart of Manchester – an event celebrating Jamaican independence and the Diamond Jubilee, and linking buyers, distributors and potential trading partners in business – a health expo was organised by the NEC and Manchester Seventh-day Adventist churches to give free health checks for both exhibitors and visitors.

The mayor visited, and was impressed by the professionalism of the volunteers. Professionals also visited, including a pilot and a medical doctor: it was humbling to see these professionals taking advice from another doctor (Etaluku Oro) who was covering the Trust station!

Health expos don't have to take place only once a year. A true, effective health expo is not just an event, but a series of events, or a process – this keeps the church alive, dynamic, and in touch with the community it serves.

Through systematic assessment and thoughtful planning, the health expo gives the local church a meaningful outreach into the community. There should be clear objectives, supported by an action plan and a series of programmes to bring the church in contact with its neighbours.

The evangelistic steps of preparation, sowing, cultivation, reaping and discipleship should be understood to be cyclical, not linear: something ongoing, keeping your church always in touch.

Are you looking for a powerful tool you can use to motivate the members of your community to begin living healthier lives? Then you need to begin with the health expo!

GRACE WALSH (NEC HEALTH MINISTRIES DIRECTOR)

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Loughborough Adventists outnumbered two to one

Usually we prefer not to be in the minority, but on Sabbath 11 August Loughborough rejoiced as the thirty-five in usual attendance were joined by about sixty-five people from the local community: many of whom had never been to a church service before!

The special service marked the end of Loughborough's Holiday Bible Club, which was attended by fifty-two children this year. Visitors enjoyed watching their children act out Bible stories and sing some of the songs they had learnt during the week, then stayed to share lunch afterwards.

Five-year-old Robert went home and told his parents very excitedly, 'Did you know Jesus loves me all the time, Mummy, even if I'm naughty?' Olivia (5) was pleased to learn that Jesus would always help her and that she could tell Him about anything that was bothering her.

Kyle, aged 11, was due to come, but was in hospital following a nasty accident. Five-year-old Travis, despite not knowing Kyle, was so touched by Loughborough members' prayers that he gave the craft item he had made that morning for Kyle to help him feel better.

Many prayers were written by children from a non-Christian background, showing that Jesus has become real and approachable to them.

The indigenous white people around Loughborough are very open to any form of evangelism involving children. The church's club was running to capacity for the space available this year, and the positive response from families is overwhelming. Many of the families ask Loughborough's members to pray for them at times of need.

If you want to reach out to your local community, why not plan something for children? You might be surprised at the results!

VIVIENNE BARRATT-PEACOCK



NEC Community Service day

On Sabbath 28 July Manchester Central hosted one of many NEC Community Service days, themed: 'Equipped to Serve'. In attendance were brethren from Birmingham, London, Wolverhampton, Sheffield, Preston, Liverpool, Manchester and Stockport, as well as Grace Walsh (NEC Community Services, Health and Disability Ministries director) and the host pastor, Acquoi Karbah.

Guest preacher Elder Stephen Cooper reminded congregants to reach their communities with the Gospel of Jesus. The day concluded with a presentation on community outreach by Pathfinder director Trevor from Birmingham.

PASTOR ACQUOI KARBAH



Tract distribution by Manchester Southern Asia

Every Sabbath, after praise and worship at the church, members of Manchester Southern Asia – both grown-ups and young – participate in outreach by way of tract distribution, covering around 250-300 doors. A special mention goes to the young church members, who are very active. They're always willing to participate in tract distribution, giving inspiration to the adults!

SANJAY SATHE



From left to right: Annette Lawrence, Ricky Lawrence, Pastor Milan Gugleta, Steve McIntyre and Heather McIntyre.

Tamworth ordination

On Sabbath 19 May at Tamworth Church, family, friends and members witnessed the ordination of Brother Steve McIntyre and Brother Ricky Lawrence as deacons. Pastor Milan Gugleta led out in this special ordination service. May God bless Steve, Ricky and their families as they serve Tamworth Church.

PAULINE NEWTON

Inspire Share Witness

Two TV channels to share the best of British and International Adventist programmes with your friends:

Revelation TV (Sky 581 or Freesat 692) A Christian TV channel sharing Adventist programming twice a week: Thursday 8:30pm, repeated Sunday 1pm.

Hope Channel Europe (Hotbird 6: 11642MHz, www.hopetv.org.uk) Thirteen hours of English programming daily:

English	midnight – 2am
Russian/Ukrainian	2am – 8am
English	8am – 2pm
Russian/Ukrainian	2pm – 7pm
English	7pm – midnight

Highlights from the UK include:

'In Conversation' – sharing inspiring life journeys: Monday, 12:30am, Wednesday, midnight, Friday, 8pm & midnight, Sabbath, 9am and 7:30pm.

'ViewPoint' – discussing issues of life and faith: Monday, 9:30pm, Wednesday, 8am.

Faithtalks – Tackling the basic issues of faith and Christianity. Thursday, 12:30am, Friday, 8:30pm.

ALSO visit the Hope TV UK website for on-demand programming and exclusive BUC News reports and features: www.hopetv.org.uk



Heaven rejoices twice over Fartown!

The 'Jesus is the Way' weekend meetings conducted by Pastor Micah Campbell of the Fartown company concluded with the baptism of Mercy Dengure, Mombe Nguuluwe and Christianna Bahindwa on 28 July, following Bible studies for each candidate. Members' hearts were warmed by the personal testimonies and items presented by the candidates and family members.

The overwhelming joy continued on 8 September as members, family and friends witnessed the baptism of Raeisha Batten, whose mother and close friends shared their delight at her decision to follow Jesus. Raeisha, a student, offered a special rendition of the song 'Lord of All'.

We pray that God will continue His favour: all glory, honour and praise to Him!

FARTOWN COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT





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obituaries

Pastor Derek Crowther Beardsell, PhD (1934-2012) d. 24 July.



Pastor Derek Crowther Beardsell died on 24 July 2012, two days before his 78th birthday. Born of British missionary parents Sidney and Vera (née Ball) in Suji, Tanzania, Derek was the second of three children, with sisters Lenora and Myrna. He grew up in East Africa, moving to South Africa in his early teens. He met Joy Barrett while they were students at Helderberg College. They married on 7 August 1955, and soon after – at the of age 21 – they found themselves in charge of starting a secondary school at the isolated Ikizu Training School in Tanzania. Derek's dream had been to return to work in East Africa, and he was delighted to be back. Although he used to call England 'home', in truth his heart was always in Africa, where their children Eileen, Beryl, and Robert were also born.

Derek had made a commitment to follow the call of God. Consequently his life was an adventure of frequent moves between missions, countries, continents, cultures, and peoples. He worked in Swahili, Luo, French, Urdu, and Icelandic-speaking cultures and could preach fluently in Swahili and Luo.

From 1955 to 1970 Derek served in the Trans-Africa Division at Nanchwa, Kenya, as a school inspector, and in Nairobi, as Youth and Education director. He bought and developed the wonderful youth camp at Watamu near Mombasa for the youth of Kenya. From that time Joy usually worked as his secretary in a wonderful partnership. In 1966 Derek completed his MA degree, then moved to the Central African Union to work in Rwanda and Burundi for three years. In 1970 the family returned to Britain, where Derek served at Newbold College as dean, then as Union Youth and Education director. From 1976 to 1980 he returned as president to the Tanzania Union, where his father had started his own working life.

In 1981 Derek worked briefly in Cyprus as Youth and Communication director for the Afro-MidEast Division, then as interim pastor on the Isle of Wight while arranging for his self-funded doctoral studies in Education and Administration at Andrews University. They then returned to Britain, where he pastored from 1983 to 1988. In August 1988 they moved abroad again, this time for him to serve as president in the Pakistan Union until 1991. Derek was then called as principal of Newbold College until August 1997. His last assignment was as president to the Iceland Conference, where they served until retirement in 1998, after forty-three years' service. In addition to being a teacher and academic historian, he was an accomplished administrator. But it was his ordination to the Gospel ministry that was his most treasured experience, and it is as a preacher that most people will remember him.

Nora Stronach Myles (1921-2012) d. 21 August.



Nora Myles was one of the best-liked, most trusted and most influential of all Dundee church members. She achieved this not by bossing others about, but by the genuine interest she took in people of every class and culture. Her lively mind would recall events from your life and your family and opinions you expressed, years later, with genuine kindness and concern for your welfare.

She was born into a hardworking family in Dundee, struggling in the Great Depression of the 1930s. She saw an intriguing advert for Bible prophecy in 1932 and attended campaign meetings with her parents. Eleven-year-old Nora was fond of writing her name on anything available, and innocently wrote it on a visit request card! The family received several visits from the church pastor, who persuaded her parents to allow her to attend the children's Sabbath School on Saturday mornings. Nora felt drawn to these

The greatest monuments to his work are the countless lives that he influenced through his preaching and story-telling, as well as his personal friendships. He had a big heart and a natural way to make new and lasting friends quickly. He looked to bring out the best in people. To him, all were equal in God's sight and he treated them accordingly.

Throughout his life he studied how things worked, and developed a vast range of practical skills. At a very young age he was already building canoes out of corrugated iron, renovating cars and repairing engines. He was not afraid to 'get his hands dirty' or averse to doing what others might consider a menial task. Once he identified a need he would set about finding a solution.

He managed the building of many large projects, including the national headquarters of the Tanzanian Church. He also facilitated many donor-funded aid programmes in East Africa and Pakistan, and, on a personal level, he and Joy have sponsored many children

meetings, and nothing could stop her attending. Mrs Helen Barrie, one of the founding members of Dundee Church, often invited Nora to Sabbath lunch. This hospitality and friendship – especially in near-famine times – made a lasting impression. In later life Nora emulated this, and was known for her hospitable and welcoming way of life.

She had to leave school at 14, when her father lost his job, and started work to help feed her sister Chrissie (later Mrs Lorek) and the rest of the family. She had a succession of jobs in the next few years, including shop message girl, working in the bindery of Beano publishers DC Thompson (which she left when required to work on Sabbaths) and for confectioners Keillers.

Nora was baptised in 1940, and met piano tuner and organist Alf White at church. The two became sweethearts and got engaged in 1941. They were both swept up into war work in those dark days and, as conscientious objectors, were sent to farms. Alf White was tragically gored by a young bull on a farm in Fife and died from his injuries. In 1942 Nora started work as a poultry maid for leading Scottish

through school, encouraging many others to do the same through their children's fund.

Derek and Joy retired in Cheshire near their children and six beloved grandchildren: Jonathan and Michael Beardsell, David and James Emm, and Timothy and Antonia Baildam. Derek was always active in the local church, supporting the local minister as senior elder for most of his retirement and preaching further afield whenever he was asked. He also supported many activities at the Aberdaron campsite, acting as padre for many camps and as leader for the retirees' camp. In 2011, he and Joy found a lovely country church for the Wilmslow and Sale church fellowship, and he was enjoying helping to shape the mission of this new church.

He was fascinated by God's powerful creation, and loved nothing more than to be outside – hiking up mountains or crossing the African plains – it gave him relief from the huge stresses of his work. It was clear how much he had missed Africa when, after a 30-year absence, he returned to Tanzania for a

holiday in 2011. He was immediately back home!

He also enjoyed man's inventions, particularly steam trains, diesel engines, fast cars and tractors, and on retirement he restored an old Land Rover. Derek lived life to the full – waterskiing, potholing and hillwalking right up to his last few months. It was a shock when Derek became ill earlier this year, but his courage was a testimony to all who knew him.

Both he and the family were touched to receive many tributes and messages of love and consolation from people all over the world in his last few weeks. The family thank all those who sent these lovely messages and donations to the East Cheshire Hospice on his behalf. His last sermon to two nurses in his room was that through the experience of his life he had come to know that the most powerful witness is to show love to others – the love of God. Derek went to sleep confident that his Friend Jesus will awaken him soon to embark on the greatest journey of all – to Heaven!

EILEEN BAILDAM AND BERYL EMM

church member she could, especially when they were sick, even though she had to use public transport. She had a beautiful singing voice, and many will remember her lovely solos. She loved to make covers for everything, from hymn books to keyboards. She regularly entertained large groups from church, together with her sister and brother-in-law, befriending visitors on Sabbaths and taking them home for a meal, music and conversation. She held the offices of deaconess, pianist, church clerk and treasurer, and took a great interest in church doctrine. At her funeral, Pastor Ghioalda drew attention to her love of people; her love of Jesus; and the hope she had of seeing Jesus face-to-face. She was laid to rest in Barnhill Cemetery alongside her beloved sister and brother-in-law. Her life was a testimony to the power of God. Her faithfulness and kindness were inspirational and she will be greatly missed by all in the Dundee church, by her nephew Pastor Ian Lorek, and particularly by her great-niece Margaret Robb, who cared for her devotedly as she grew frail.

JOHN C. WALTON

Health expo at Fartown

On 7 May, Fartown members held a health expo right in the heart of the community. The doors opened at 10am and closed well after closing time, as the response from the community was immense!

There were many health stands for the health-conscious, and three volunteers were qualified massage therapists. Participants also took away



freebies such as books, DVDs and magazines.

The comments from participants were extremely positive, with one person asking, 'When will you have another

health expo? I wish we could have one at least once a month.' Another said this was the third expo she had attended in Fartown with her children.

FARTOWN COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT



Middle East, and the Vatican in prophecy.

Church members said, 'The Holy Spirit really moved,' 'All of us in the family plan to tell someone about Jesus during each week,' 'You must plan to have a follow-up!'

Part two of the programme saw Dr Brighton Kavaloh (BUC Ministerial director) present an intriguing insight into the Sunday Law and European laws.

JOY ANNE ANDREW & SOPHIA NICHOLLS

Fulfilment of Bible prophecy

An exciting and informative two-part seminar was held in the Oxford church on 2 June this year, organised by Dr Joy Anne Andrew, a member with an interest in end-time events and Bible prophecy. Dr Cedric Vine and Christopher Banks spoke on false christs, Jerusalem and Babylon, blasphemy of the Lord's name, the UK and the EU, the



Congratulations to Gladys Adshead, a founder member of the Newark company, who celebrated her 89th birthday on 14 July.

UK Zambian Adventist Fellowship

You are Invited to a DAY OF FELLOWSHIP

Date: 20th October 2012
Time: 09:30 to 13:00

THEME: THAT THEY MAY BE

ONE

Lots of Music

An inspiring message

Meaty of Zambian Food

Adoption of the Constitution

Networking with fellow believers

SPEAKER

Pastor Julian Hibbert,
Editor of Stanborough Press

VENUE:
Cloughton Community Centre
Blowers Green Road
Dudley, West Midlands.
DY2 8UZ

RSVP: Elias Chola Kalumba
Tel: 07967515750 or
email: cakzafcommunications@gmail.com



The big picture at Brecon Camp

by John Surridge

During the weekend of 7 to 9 September, Brecon Camp visitors came to hear astronomer-turned-pastor Dr Mart de Groot speak, by the gentle waters of the river Usk, on astronomy and the great controversy.

'We live in a restless universe,' he said, in the middle of which God gave us a simple guide for obtaining rest: the Sabbath. As the stars came out on Friday night, the Brecon campers experienced that rest for themselves.

During the children's story on Sabbath, Dr de Groot talked about how coins are made: hot metal has to be stretched, rolled, and reheated before the image of the Queen can be imprinted on to its surface. So it is with us: trials may seem hard to understand, but all are part of the process God uses to change us into His likeness.

More mind-boggling astronomical images got the congregation thinking on Sabbath evening, with colliding galaxies illustrating the interstellar conflict between God and Satan. The biblical concept of the Fall does make some sense of the decay, death and destruction that we see around us.

In the final meeting on Sunday morning, Dr de Groot pointed out that our universe is a very wet place: water actually being one of the most common molecules in the universe. This led into a detailed discussion of the Flood.

Not surprisingly, over the weekend there were numerous questions from the campers. Dr de Groot, though, said that in

the end it's the big picture that counts: are we willing to see the image of God in the universe and allow Him to impress that image on us?

More pictures can be seen on the Welsh Mission website at: www.adventistwales.org.

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, Bridgwater, 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.



Good PARENTING 2012
PARENTS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

EVENTS:
OCTOBER 6 LAUNCH
OCTOBER 7 GOOD PARENTING COMMUNITY FORUM AND EXPO
OCTOBER 13 AND 14 PARENTING WORKSHOPS
OCTOBER 19-23 SMART PARENTING SEMINARS BY NANCY VAN PELT
OCTOBER 21 LAUNCH OF COMMUNITY PARENTING SUPPORT NETWORK

FEATURING SESSIONS ON:
SELF WORTH HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD FEEL LIKE SOMEBODY!
CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT TURNING FRUSTRATIONS INTO RESPONSIBILITY
COMMUNICATION SKILLS HOW TO TALK SO THAT YOUR CHILD WILL LISTEN
DISCIPLINE SECRETS FOR GETTING OBEDIENCE
HOW TO TALK ABOUT SEX 'N' STUFF!

ADVENTIST CHURCH SW4 7QG
REGISTRATION INFO VISIT: WWW.GOODPARENTING.ORG.UK
CONTACT NO. 0207 274 8283

FREE ADMISSION



New book of the week

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Karin and Torben Juhl, illustrated by Jakob Kramer

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10am-2pm, Friday

Birmingham Aston-Newtown

11am-4pm, Wednesday

4pm-8pm, Thursday

9am-1pm, Friday

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.

	London	Card	Nott	Edin	Belf
Oct 12	6.13	6.25	6.15	6.19	6.32
19	5.58	6.10	6.00	6.02	6.15
26	5.44	5.56	5.45	5.45	6.00
Nov 2	4.31	4.43	4.31	4.30	4.45

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