

Beyond mere words

by Julian Hibbert, Editor

Megapixels of creation has been a familiar and popular feature in *MESSENGER* since 15 April 2011 when it first appeared. Since then 108 of our readers have submitted 760 photos for possible publication, of which approximately 126 have graced our centre spread. Three of those photos were so good that they will be used in our 2014 calendar. One of them was used in our annual Directory of Churches for 2013.

These photos were submitted in response to this simple invitation:

'Whether you are a "casual snapper" or a "budding pro", it matters not (and neither does your age). All you need to do is send us your finest-quality nature photos – landscapes, wildlife, cloud formations, close-ups – anything in the UK that you think shows God's creation at its best.'

They say a photograph is worth a thousand words – too true! For nothing seems to capture the majesty, intricacy and delicate detail of God's handiwork better than these 'snapshots'.

Keep 'snapping'!

Editor's note: The Megapixels pages are the work of *MESSENGER* designer, David Bell, himself an avid nature photographer and committed creationist.

1. **Mushrooms.** *David Anderson, Canon PowerShot G2.*
2. **Foxglove.** *Esti Pujic, Canon PowerShot SD950.*
3. **Stag, Belton Park.** *David Bell, Fuji S200EXR.*

Please visit: http://adventistwebministries-org-uk.adventist.eu/photo_albums/1661 for more pictures.



International development: it's our responsibility

by Victor Pilmoor, BUC treasurer

Several years back I had the fortune of visiting an ADRA-UK project in a country that was my home more than fifty years ago. In every respect it was a pleasant homecoming.

The Senanga district is 500 miles to the west of Zambia's capital city on the banks of the Zambezi flood plain, bordering Angola. While one can always identify sociological reasons for poverty, the principal cause of the development deficit in this instance is geographic isolation. These people live the length of Britain from the nearest significant economic hub. Even if they had all the skills for any given enterprise, they would struggle to compete. In these circumstances, our ADRA project was to identify factors restricting their progress. For some it was lack of agricultural equipment; for others it was a lack of seed money; for many it was poor skills. Yet there was more.

I was taken to one particular village surrounded by enormous mango trees. Seeing this as a natural opportunity, I asked the farmer

why he didn't plant more trees. He described how they took baskets full to sell on the roadside, but suggested that expansion would be pointless because 'the traders will cheat us'. In another village, I found an aged widow supporting her orphaned grandchildren. She had fields of maize, ground nuts and other fresh produce grown and physically carried to the market 7 miles away, where she sat all day with similar vendors, only to come home with a pittance. I asked her why it was necessary for her to be both a producer and a vendor. She replied that there was no one she could rely upon to give her a fair return for her efforts!

Research observes that traditional communities are rich in family trust. Mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, uncles and aunts form the fabric of reliance. When these are disrupted through disease, natural disaster or deep-rooted poverty, that network of trust and co-operation disintegrates. Wealth and prosperity correlate to societies rich in voluntary organisation – so, where there is no community trust and organisation, wealth

and prosperity are difficult to generate.

This is one of the many complex reasons why international development projects are needed. People want to help themselves, yet there are circumstances outside of their influence that prevent them from doing so. Projects, such as those run by ADRA, can help put systems in place to counter these circumstances and provide a springboard for local initiatives.

In the UK, we are in a fortunate position in that we have the opportunity to help people to help themselves. We just have to care enough to do so, and to realise that, as Christians, we have a role to play in the eradication of poverty. Jesus was once asked by a rich man as to what he should do to inherit eternal life. Jesus responded that he should sell all he had and give it to the poor! However we wish to interpret this passage, we can be certain of two things: Jesus had deep concern for the poor, and He offered a correction to those whose hearts are so self-centred that they experience no empathy for those less fortunate.

Our ADRA Annual Appeal is a precise response to this narrative. Our purpose is to draw attention to the needs of communities for whom poverty is endemic, and to give our neighbours here the opportunity to join us in making a difference. Jesus, without a blush of cynicism, observed that 'it is better to give than to receive'.



Annual Appeal 2013

30 March – 14 April, UK
(extends to 21 April in London)

Stanborough Park, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD25 9JZ, England
Tel. +44(0)1923 681743, Fax. +44(0)1923 681744
Registered charity 1074937 (SC037726 – IOM1101)

www.adra.org.uk



Enhancing Health

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

Cancer: the facts – part 3a

Examining causation and risk factors

In the previous *Enhancing Health* column we had an opportunity to review the data highlighting the key risk factors and causes of cancer in the UK. In this and subsequent issues we take a close look at the international picture on cancer, as well as putting the suggested risks and causes under the microscope to distinguish fact from fiction.

Let's commence with a brief look at how cancer develops. Cancer begins with changes in a cell, or groups of cells, when cells start to divide and reproduce out of control. Normal body cells have the ability to reproduce themselves exactly, stop reproducing at the right time, stay together in the right place and become specialised, mature and self-destruct if they are damaged. None of this happens with cancer cells. They don't stop reproducing, don't obey signals from other cells, don't stay together, are neither specialised nor mature, and don't die if they relocate to another part of the body (<http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/cancer-help/about-cancer/what-is-cancer/cells/how-cancer-starts>).

Over the years many of us have heard numerous 'reports' as to the cause of cancer and what raises its risk. Cancer UK lists the following

causes and risk factors, which can be found on its website at www.cancerresearchuk.org:

Age – some cancer risks increase with age.

Alcohol – it is related to specific cancers: for example, breast cancer.

Bacterial infection – such as helicobacter pylori (H. pylori) infection, which affects the stomach lining.

Body weight – this is linked to specific cancers, with some higher risks for females.

Carcinogens – things that help cancer to develop: for example, tobacco smoke.

Diet – a regular lifestyle of eating foods high in salt, fats, red meat, processed foods, lack of fibre and few or no fruits and vegetables.

Environment – tobacco smoke, overexposure to the sun, natural and man-made radiation, workplace hazards and asbestos.

Genetic makeup – the BRCA1 and BRCA2 breast cancer genes are examples of cancers relating to genetic predisposition.

Immune system – compromised immune systems like those found among HIV patients or individuals taking an immunosuppressant to prevent organ transplant rejection.

Physical activity – lack of exercise.

Smoking – related to lung cancer, but also to other cancers where smoke passes over other organs: for example, mouth and nasopharyngeal cancers.

Viruses – human papilloma virus (HPV), hepatitis B and C viruses, human T-cell leukemia virus and the Epstein-Barr virus (EBV).

The next issue will reveal more.

Good health!

editorial

In recent weeks we have heard in-depth coverage of certain legal 'events' – namely, the Philpott, Huhne and Pryce trials, and the bail hearing of Oscar Pistorius. With each having shocked us in its own particular way.

Mr Justice Sweeney

The Vicky Pryce trial became a talking point over Mr Justice Sweeney's discharge of the jury because 'they had not grasped the basics of their task.'¹ Which, in turn, has led to some very healthy debate on whether the jury system should be dropped in favour of 'trial by judges alone', or whether it's just the 'process' of jury selection that needs rethinking.

There are pros and cons to both systems, and I am sure you have your own opinion on the matter.

Oscar Pistorius

The bail hearing of Oscar Pistorius was a massive media event, to which the BBC devoted swathes of its prime time. In fact, I heard more comments, questions and opinions about this event than the Pope's resignation and the horsemeat scandal combined!

The unfolding story had everything a news editor could wish for: famous and beautiful people; violence, mystery and suspicion; a bumbling and tainted lead investigator; wild, unsubstantiated allegations; a remorseful fallen hero; and a full audio recording of the bail summation and verdict. Powerful stuff, indeed!

Baffling blunders

Hilton Botha, initially the lead investigator in the Pistorius case, is a policeman of twenty-four years' experience, with sixteen of them as a detective. But despite this, Botha chalked up a series of baffling forensic blunders during his brief tenure in charge of the case, culminating in this under-oath admission that the state has 'no evidence challenging the double-amputee Olympian's claim [that] he killed his girlfriend accidentally.'²



Two essential principles

Are we any different?

I know we don't hold dreadful 'religious' trials any more, such as the Inquisition in Europe and the Salem witch trials in colonial Massachusetts, but are all our formal discussions always above reproach?

I fear that there are moments within our Church when the two great principles of natural justice (in English law) are forgotten, to our shame.³

Nemo iudex in causa sua is the first of these, and simply means: 'No person can judge a case in which he or she has an interest.' This is the rule against bias, which is easily forgotten or ignored.

For example, when a member of my immediate family, or a relative, comes up for discussion during a nominating committee, this rule against bias demands that I excuse myself from the room. Failure to do so creates the conditions for a biased discussion. My presence may stifle frank dialogue, simply because other committee members don't want to embarrass me, or themselves, by saying anything negative.

Once, during a very robust discussion about a project that had gone wrong, I realised with shock that a close relative's actions were about to be discussed. No one seemed to connect me with this person – and I could probably have sat quietly through the very revealing comments that were to follow. But, sensitive to the situation, I felt compelled to disclose my potential bias.

The rule is infinitely more challenging than this, though. What if, as chairman, I have three quotes for new church carpeting before me, one of which is from a firm that has also given me a good quote on a job at home? Do I admit my bias to myself and consciously strive for a fair presentation of the facts, a free discussion and a vote from which I deliberately abstain? Do I ask someone else to take the chair?

Bias is an insidious, elusive evil that stalks chameleon-like through our thoughts and plans. I have seen it lead to meetings at 'short notice' (to reduce representation), or having them deliberately called when the outspoken are 'out of town' – and a number of similar tricks!

Ruthless honesty is the only defence against bias! As Polonius said:

*'This above all: to thine own self be true,
And it must follow, as the night the day,
Thou canst not then be false to any man.'*⁴

Audi alteram partem is the other great principle of natural justice, and it means: 'Hear the other side too.' 'It is most often used to refer to the principle that no person should be judged without a fair hearing in which each party is given the opportunity to respond to the evidence against them.'⁵

Have you ever sat on a church board when it discusses a case of discipline or censure? How often do you hear comments like: 'I wonder why she did that? Has anyone asked her?' How often do you see someone insisting that we 'listen to the other person's point of view' before we reach any conclusions? Not always – not as often as we should!

This is not just a principle of natural law; it is a feature of God's dealings with us. From the word go, the God who could excuse Himself on the grounds of His omniscience makes an attempt to 'hear the other side too'. He asks Adam and Eve to tell Him their side of the sin story: *'Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?"'* (Genesis 3:13, NIV-UK.)

Are we a listening Church? Are we patterning our ministry after that of Jesus? Are we open to the lonely woman at today's well? Can we listen to her narrative, and love her in spite of it? Can we join the sharp businessman at his home, listen to his narrative and rejoice in his penitence?

Conclusion

So we have two 'new' essential principles to govern our next committee meeting: 1) **nemo iudex in causa sua** – remember that 'no person can judge a case in which he or she has an interest'; and 2) **audi alteram partem** – please just 'hear the other side too'.

¹<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2013/feb/20/vicky-pryce-retrial-jury>

²http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/02/20/oscar-pistorius-case-police_n_2728964.html

³http://www.lawnotes.in/Principles_of_Natural_Justice

⁴Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, Act 1, Scene 3, 78-80

⁵http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Audi_alteram_partem



Julian Hibbert
Editor

devotional



How much worse can it get?

by Elize Hibbert

*It happened before; it can happen again.
It happened elsewhere; it can happen here.*

By the time we joined the Division office staff in 2003, inflation was officially up to 598.75%. Our salaries continually lagged behind, as salary re-adjustments were voted only every couple of months. In between these adjustments, we were sometimes given cash top-ups to keep us going. When receiving our salaries (in cash, because there was a severe limit on daily bank withdrawals), most of us would spend whatever we could and change the rest into hard currency to keep its value. There were plenty of currency dealers about.

Inflation

As conditions deteriorated, the basis of the economy – agriculture – was systematically destroyed and many thousands of jobs were shed. Businesses couldn't survive the harsh conditions and folded one after another, leaving increasing numbers of desperate urban jobless roaming the streets. Printing presses ran night and day, printing money. Inflation roared ahead.

For instance, one year we bought three return air tickets to London for 47 million local dollars, and took the cash to the travel agency in three suitcases, where it was counted by counting machines. The sale of counting machines soared.

Now and then over a weekend, we would tackle the 600km journey to the border, replenish our grocery supplies in the dusty, unglamorous cross-border town, and return early on Sunday, having tasted economic normality for a brief interlude.

Hyperinflation

We didn't know it then, but those were the good times. In 2006 the local dollar was re-denominated at the rate of 1 dollar to 1,000 local dollars. After three more re-denominations, by 18 July 2008 one egg cost 50 billion dollars, and cash withdrawals were being limited to 100 billion dollars per day: not enough to buy a loaf of bread! The estimated inflation rate was 40-50 million percent, and difficult to calculate due to the shortage of goods in the shops by which to make comparisons. By

December 2008 inflation was estimated at 6.5 quidecillion novemdecillion percent (65 followed by 107 zeroes). We left at the end of 2006, so we didn't see the worst of it.

Desperation

What happened to the ordinary people living through these extra-ordinary times, many of whom were elderly? Many had lived frugally and saved what they could. Others built up businesses, invested and planned for a comfortable retirement – only to be made paupers by inflation! There were those who received a monthly pension that was less than the cost of a loaf of bread.

Some of the ordinary people who were badly affected were young, and they saw their prospects for employment or study vanish into thin air. Many people were struggling just to survive. Pavement gardens flourished. Any open space was cultivated just for survival, something to eat. Those who could, left. Legally and illegally. Those people who could help themselves, helped themselves – in various ways – but, as always, there were those who were particularly vulnerable.

Ordinary people

In a neighbouring country, an ordinary person started a fundraising initiative; with funds donated, he bought basic foodstuffs and other necessities, and crossed the border with his convoy of pick-ups, from old-age centre to old-age centre, a trip of 4,000km at a time, distributing tinned and dry goods, flour, tea, toilet paper, soap, toothpaste – things we take for granted.

Tears flowed as the goods were received. Those who donated time, money and goods were ordinary people, not government agencies. Not international aid organisations. Those who received them had never dreamed that life could throw such deprivation at them.

Inside the country another group of

ordinary, unremarkable businessmen formed an alliance with a view to channelling funds to the struggling elderly (since they found that other needy groups were targeted by other charity organisations). Other ordinary people assisted those in need around them in different ways, paying a medical bill here, importing goods that could be sold, paying school fees, struggling to keep an orphanage going. . . . Not everybody gave up and left – some

expressly stayed, even though life would have been so much easier elsewhere – because they couldn't bear to abandon the helpless to their fate.

Those ordinary people – those who needed help, and those who provided it – were caught up in whirlwinds that were not of their making or choosing. Not in their most dreadful nightmares could they have seen themselves in such a situation. Not there; not them.

Something ominous lies ahead

Could it happen to us? Could it happen here? Around us are sounds of international economic panic – we hear words of foreboding on the news – from experts. We read about it in the papers. This financial pack of cards could come tumbling down very quickly – just as we experienced first-hand.

It has happened before. Sometimes in places we consider far away, or imprudent, or improvident. Surely, here and now, we will survive; the imprudent, or improvident, will be stopped! This is what we hope. But there are sinister portents, even in the Bible, and we know there is a time coming when people will not be able to buy or sell unless they have a certain mark in their forehead, and in their hand (Revelation 13:17). And we are given a powerful image in Revelation of how the merchants of the earth will weep to see the destruction of that power with whom they used to trade (Revelation 18:11-19). We do not presume to know every detail of how these prophecies will be fulfilled – but there does seem to be a portent of coming economic ruin – whether in observable events as they unfold, or whether as predicted by prophecy. We would be wise not to put our faith in the economy, not to base our security on banks and financial systems, not to depend on our investments – even on money under the mattress! Experience has shown that all of these can crumble, devalue and become worthless – and it can happen very quickly!

I hope you and I – ordinary people – do not become victims of such extra-ordinary circumstances. But if we do find ourselves in the middle of such turmoil and chaos – with or without the means – I hope we will join the ranks of the ordinary folk who make a difference. And I hope we will be among the ordinary folk who know Him in whom we can trust, whatever the circumstances.

Let's take these words to heart: *'Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."*' Hebrews 13:5, NKJV.



inbox



Dear Editor

I would like to endorse Charles Lamont's comments in the *MESSENGER* of 14 September (vol. 117, iss. 19) regarding readability, but in a much broader context, as I feel every Seventh-day Adventist church has a proactive role to play in making its activities accessible to all people. At Derby Chester Green Church we produce a Sabbath 'bulletin' with a minimum character size of 14 point, as recommended by the RNIB (Royal National Institute for the Blind), and although we have yet to print this on yellow paper, again as recommended by RNIB for easier reading, it is our intention to do so in the near future. Organisations such as 'Churches for All' and 'Through the Roof' recommend the use of symbols for the benefit of people with learning difficulties, and this is something we have also introduced to our bulletins. Unintentionally, the use of symbols has proven to be helpful to churchgoers whose first language is not English. Additionally, symbols can encourage children to feel more involved in the church by providing visually interesting content that may encourage their

interest. For people with more severe visual impairment we provide large-print (A3-size) bulletins and a large-print Bible.

For mobility-impaired people we have a number of chairs interspersed in the sanctuary with armrests, as well as spaces for wheelchair users, again interspersed between the regular seats.

In February of last year our church installed a fully compliant accessible toilet, with excellent wheelchair user access and handrails with highly contrasting backgrounds, to assist mobility-impaired people who may also have visual impairment.

Although we have used portable front entrance ramps for a number of years, a planning application has been submitted to the council for the installation of a permanent, fully compliant ramp with handrails and so on.

We have budgetary constraints, as do many churches, but it is our intention to include a loop system for hearing-impaired people, and data projectors – particularly, but not specifically, for visually impaired people – large-print hymnals, and so on.

On the wayside pulpit, we have placed individual impairment-specific symbols to enable people to see which impairment needs we primarily provide for, with the intention of adding to this as progress is made.

I should like to take this opportunity to encourage all Adventist churches to undertake a survey of their access needs. Some local authorities have an 'access officer', often located in the planning department, who will visit the church and provide guidance.

RICHARD SHAW

Welsh Mission Triennial Session. Notice is hereby given that the Triennial Session of the Welsh Mission of Seventh-day Adventists will be held on Sunday 9 June 2013 in the Cardiff Seventh-day Adventist church. Registration will take place in the church from 8.30 to 9.30am, and delegates must register before participating in the proceedings of the session.
J. SURRIDGE (PRESIDENT) AND P. LOCKHAM (SECRETARY)

BOOKSALES	March		
	10 Coventry Central	10am-2pm	
	17 Manchester South	10am-2pm	
	24 Bedford	10am-2pm	
	April		
	7 John Loughborough	10am-2pm	
	7 Croydon	10am-2pm	
	ABC Shops		
	Watford, BUC, Monday-Thursday - 12.30-5pm, Friday - 10am-2pm.		
	Birmingham, Aston-Newtown, Wednesday - 11am-4pm, Thursday - 4pm-8pm, Friday - 9am-1pm, Sunday - 11am-3pm.		
	Advent Centre, Mondays & Wednesdays - 6.30pm-8.30pm, Sundays - 11am-3pm, Saturdays - November, December, January: After sunset.		
	Order on our Sales Hotline		
	01476 591700	sales@stanboroughpress.org.uk	

the Berean column

with Andrew Puckering



Gratitude

Picture a baby, filthy and writhing in its own blood – unloved, unpitied, born to foreigners, and thrown into the field. That baby, said God to His prophet Ezekiel, represented His people (Ezekiel 16:1-5). God saw His people, and loved them, and made them grow and thrive, and become beautiful, and they became His own (Ezekiel 16:6-14). Then – horrifically – they took His food, His clothing, His jewellery, all that He had given them, and used it to cheat on Him with foreign gods – even sacrificing the children He had given them to idols (Ezekiel 16:15-34). What is God alluding to here? How is God glorified in this passage?

We can get some idea in Psalm 106: God's people were sinners, and He rescued them from Egypt (Exodus 12:31-42) – but they didn't understand, and rebelled against Him by the Red Sea (Psalm 106:6, 7). They saw the Egyptians coming after them, and panicked. Were there not enough graves in Egypt, they said, that the LORD brought them out to die in the wilderness? Surely, they said, it would have been better to stay in slavery (Exodus 14:10-12). Nevertheless, God saved them (Psalm 106:8-12).

Then they travelled for three days without water, and when they eventually found some it was bitter. Forgetting that the LORD had just demonstrated His power over water, they murmured – but nevertheless, He made the water fit to drink (Exodus 15:22-25). Then they complained about the food, saying again that they should have stayed in slavery, where they could eat as much as they liked (Exodus 16:1-3). God took it patiently, and gave them food (Exodus 16:13-15). Later on, they rejected God's food, the manna from Heaven, and craved the food of slavery again instead (Numbers 11:4-9). God was angry, but He gave them meat, although it didn't do them any good (Numbers 11:31-35). He gave them laws for their benefit, and delighted in them (Deuteronomy 10:12-15). They responded by making an idolatrous cow (Psalm 106:19, 20). There's a very definite pattern here! God's longsuffering goodness is cast back in His face, seemingly non-stop.

God knew this pattern would continue in the Promised Land, and He warned them that when they had eaten and drunk, when their hearts were full, when they were satisfied with His good things, they would be in danger of forgetting Him (Deuteronomy 8:7-17). Moses prophesied that they would in fact do this, and charged them with remembering his words (Deuteronomy 32) – and as it turned out, they did forget God, and did sacrifice their children to idols and demons (Psalm 106:35-39). God was angry, and did punish them – for correction, as a good father would his children (Deuteronomy 8:5; Psalm 106:40-43). Then we get that wonderful word 'Nevertheless' again. 'Nevertheless He regarded their affliction . . .' (Psalm 106:44, NKJV). 'Nevertheless I will remember My covenant with you in the days of your youth . . .' (Ezekiel 16:60, NKJV). In spite of their crimes, He returned to them, and healed them.

God was at pains to stress to the Israelites that He wasn't blessing them because they were 'righteous'. They weren't (Deuteronomy 9:4-7). They had always been rebellious (Deuteronomy 9:24). God blessed them because He *loved* them (Deuteronomy 7:7, 8). It's a similar story with God's people, Christians, today. We're not saved because of our 'righteousness', but through His grace in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 2:7-9). True love is revealed, not so much in our love for God, but in His overwhelmingly exorbitant love for us (1 John 4:9, 10). How much more reason than the Israelites do we have to be grateful!

- From what slavery might we need to be released? (Romans 6)
- Do we ever yearn to return to slavery? (Romans 7)
- To what do a dog and a pig return? (2 Peter 2)
- How might the Christian's heart be 'lifted up' to forget God?
- What promise is given in 1 John 1 to those who confess their sins?



By chance or Intelligence: What does science really say?

by Albert A. C. Waite, PhD

Towards the end of 2012, I walked the beaches of the Algarve, Portugal, randomly collecting *pretty* shells. Back at the villa I spread them out, in no particular order, on a garden table to dry – a random arrangement.

I then deliberately arranged them in a line from the largest to the smallest. In the line there were shells of different colours and no colour (opaque), differing numbers of rings and different shapes. Could I conclude from this arrangement, with respect to size, that the largest shell was the oldest and the smallest the youngest?

I then arranged the shells in another line according to *colour intensity*, with the darkest colour at the top, and gradually getting lighter to colourless. Again there were shells of different shapes, numbers of rings and sizes appearing randomly in the line. Could I now conclude that the darkest shell was the oldest and the lightest the youngest?

Finally, I arranged the shells according to their *numbers of rings*, from most rings to no rings. Once again there were shells of different shapes, sizes and colours appearing randomly in the line. Did I now have adequate information to conclude that the shell with most rings was the oldest and no ring the youngest?

Charles Darwin was a meticulous observer of nature, and carried out some fascinating comparisons in his day. His work on the Galapagos Islands, where finches showed differences in beak shape that matched the type of food they ate, contributed to his theories of common descent and variation in life through the process of random mutation and natural selection.

Darwin's conclusion – that the observed variation in the beaks of

finches suggested that they all descended from one pair of finches (common descent) – is in agreement with Scripture: 'And God created . . . every winged fowl after his kind' (Genesis 1:21, KJV). However, Darwinian biology extrapolates backwards from the first pair of finches to an imaginary first cell that supposedly arose by chance from nothing. This concept is taught to unsuspecting students as scientific fact, and is strongly supported by Richard Dawkins in his various books.

In contrast, Michael Behe, Professor of Biological Science at Lehigh University, summarised¹ the findings of many twentieth-century scientists thus: 'The only way to get a realistic understanding of what random mutation and natural selection can actually do is to follow changes at the molecular level.' (Behe, p. 10.) A review of many scientific publications over many years provides Behe with the information to conclude: '. . . there have been absolutely no studies that document that large animals [including finches] change in the way Dawkins supposes.' Behe comments further on the reality of random mutation: 'Darwinian evolution cannot pursue a future goal.' (Behe, p. 112.) That is, Darwinian evolution cannot predict and pursue any development from a simple cell to a complex organism.

Behe applies the available scientific data to the probability of humans evolving by chance from a simple cell, and comments:

'The likelihood that *Homo sapiens* achieved any single mutation of the kind for malaria to become resistant to chloroquine [an anti-malarial drug] . . . , the likelihood that such a mutation could arise just once in the entire course of the human lineage in

the past ten million years, is miniscule. . . .

'On average, for humans to achieve a mutation like this by chance, we would need to wait a hundred million times ten million years. Since that is many times the age of the universe, it's reasonable to conclude the following: *No mutation that is of the same complexity as chloroquine resistance in malaria arose by Darwinian evolution in the line leading to humans in the past ten million years.*' (Behe, pp. 60, 61.)

That being so, we concur with Behe that the elegance we observe in biological systems, and more so at the minute cellular level, 'did not arise by random mutation and natural selection'. It is therefore not scientifically valid to expect the 'unintelligent' process of random mutation and natural selection to produce the complexity we see in the 'wonders of life' around us. Neither is there any scientific support for Darwinian common descent of living organisms through simple random steps.

Behe is emphatic about this: 'Time and again, by intentionally reasoning about animal life on Darwinian principles, the best minds in science have been misled. They justifiably expected randomness and simplicity, but discovered depth of elegance, order, and complexity.' (Behe, p. 190.)

Returning to my shells, they show variation with respect to size, colour, and number of rings. Nevertheless, a case can be made for common descent from an original shell producing the variety observed, and in the same way we argue that all human beings have common descent from Adam and Eve guided by *informational input* (intelligence) from God (Genesis 1:28; 2:7, 21-23). The sciences have not provided any

evidence to refute this account.

The other two experiments with the shells provided information which confirmed that size and age are not related. It would therefore be wrong of me to conclude only from my line of shells, arranged according to size, that the largest is the oldest and the smallest the youngest.

The theory of evolution, as proposed by Darwin, and which eliminated the need for an intelligent Creator, is based on some simple untested observations similar to my line of shells arranged according to size. But according to Behe et al, science has produced evidence to show that the Darwinian principle alone could not account for all variations seen in nature.

I have listened to first-year Biology students 'preaching' the doctrine of evolution, based on the one-step random mutation process taught as scientific fact by their professors. What their professors have not told them is that it requires imputed information (intelligence) to produce complexity. There is no scientific evidence to show that beneficial changes beyond the one-step mutation have been demonstrated. On the contrary, rigorous science, as demonstrated by Behe et al, has demonstrated that there could be no complexity in life without an intelligent input of information.

The Bible is *not* primarily a scientific book. Yet in Genesis it deals with origins and the foundation of science. The orderly creation testifies to the presence of a guiding Intelligence, and a result unachievable by Darwinian speculation.

As Christians, we can be confident with, 'In the beginning, God'.

¹All page references are from: Michael J. Behe, *The Edge of Evolution: The Search for the Limits of Darwinism*, Free Press, 2007.



Great plans for Prague

The forthcoming European Health Conference in Prague, Czech Republic, promises to be an outstanding event. Here the *MESSENGER* editor quizzes TED Health director, Stephen Cooper, about it.

Editor: Steve, tell our readers what you have planned for Prague.

Stephen: It will be the Church's first all-European health conference, and it will be sponsored by the Trans-European, Inter-European and Euro-Asia Divisions. It will take place from 29 April to 4 May this year.

Editor: What will the conference cover?

Stephen: The overall theme is: 'Healing – Perceptions, Expectations and Facts'. It will be explored through science, faith and culture, with a strong spiritual emphasis. The various topics will be discussed in plenary sessions and in workshops, and will include: Depression Recovery, Forgiveness and Healing, Healing Ministry in the Community, Nutrition in Health and Disease, Genetics and Healing, Lifestyle in the Prevention and Treatment of Disease and Healing in the Family. Reports will be given on the neurobiology of the body clock, advances in prevention and treatment of cancer, pharmacology, the healing properties of plants and alternative healing methods. There will also be opportunities for those in the healing professions to share

thoughts on the philosophy, mission and challenges of serving in the twenty-first century. The reports of our healing ministries in the various countries served by the three Divisions will also be of great interest.

Editor: Why is this emphasis on health so important?

Stephen: Firstly, according to Scripture there is a close link between physical and spiritual health: 'Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.' 3 John 2, NKJV. Paul also reminds us: '. . . do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?' 1 Corinthians 6:19, NKJV. All attending will find principles and techniques which will help in their own personal life and give guidance as they help others. Secondly, through the writings of Ellen White this Church received its marching orders on health. She said, 'We should not be silent upon the subject of health, but should wake up minds to the subject.' EGW Letter 4, 1863. In other instances she counselled that it is the 'right arm' of the message. This blended ministry is very important as plans are laid for our mission to the cities.

Thirdly, worldwide we have 167 hospitals

and sanitariums, 351 clinics and dispensaries, and 132 nursing homes and retirement centres appearing in the official records of the Church (*Yearbook 2011*) and countless other institutions run by dedicated, independent, supporting members. It is wonderful to note the commitment of this huge band of workers. Our professionals have also kept on the cutting edge of knowledge and technology. Many studies demonstrate the validity of the messages God has given us, and the world is recognising the advantages of following this counsel.

Editor: I am sure you have some top-notch speakers arranged?

Stephen: Yes, we are thankful that many excellent health professionals have been able to arrange their busy programmes so that they can speak at the conference.

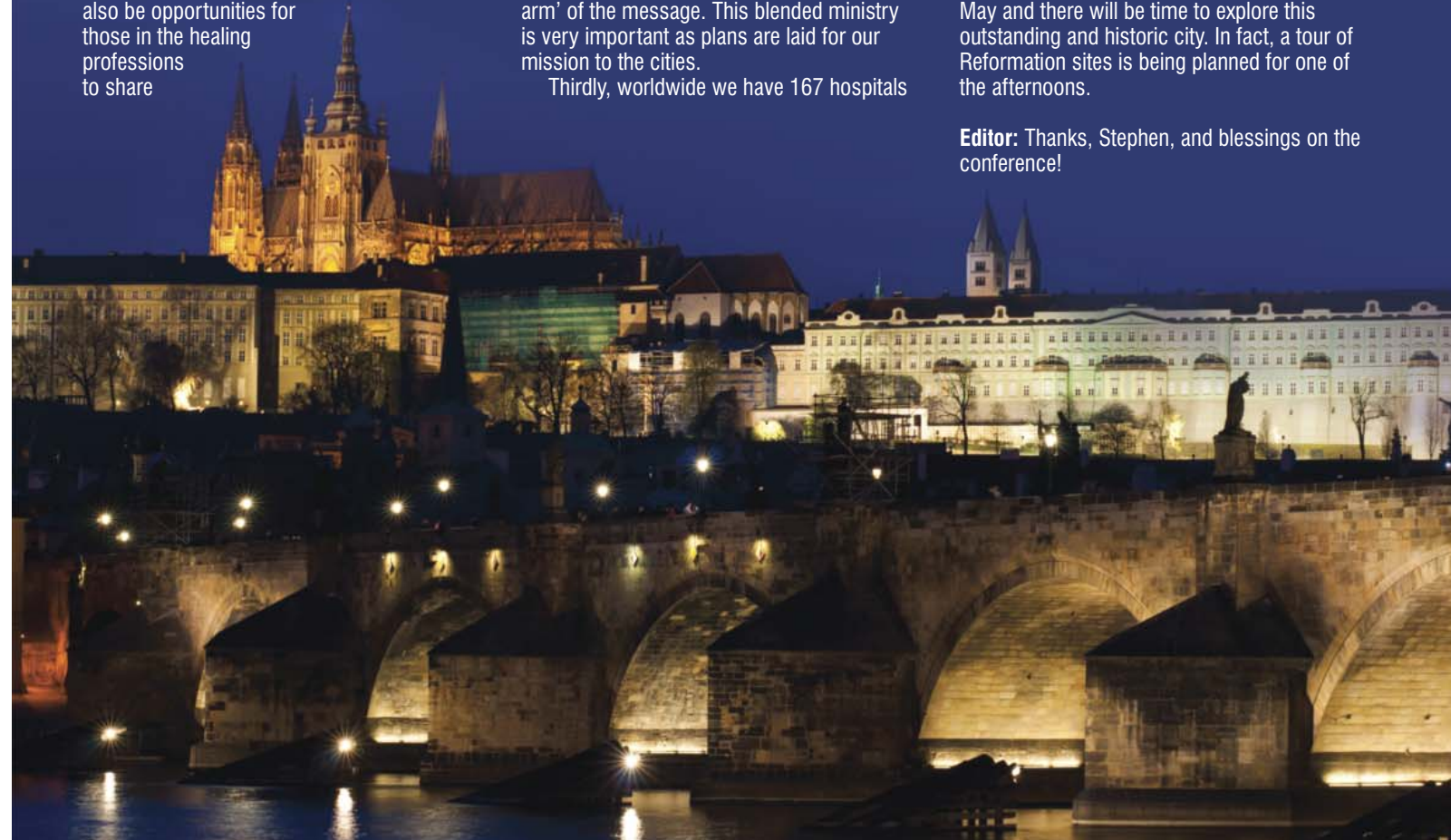
Editor: What should our readers do for more information about the event?

Stephen: Please go to www.european-health-conference.org. There you will find details regarding the presenters, summaries of the topics being presented in the workshops, and video messages from the various presidents and health directors. It is also the place to register for the conference.

Editor: Stephen, anything else our readers should know?

Stephen: Yes. We want our members to know that all are welcome to attend this important conference, whether health professionals, pastors or laymen. This investment of time and means will have untold benefits for each one personally and to the church, institution, or family represented. Prague is beautiful in May and there will be time to explore this outstanding and historic city. In fact, a tour of Reformation sites is being planned for one of the afternoons.

Editor: Thanks, Stephen, and blessings on the conference!





John Loughborough School

by Opal Johnson-Christie, SEC Education director

This is a summary of the official report on the efforts being made by the South England Conference to retain the John Loughborough School.

In **December 2011** the John Loughborough School (JLS) was placed in the Special Measures category for the second time in recent years. Once aware of this, the SEC administrators and the Conference's Education director arranged a meeting with the Haringey Local Authority (LA) for **20 December**. The purpose of the meeting was to ascertain the LA's commitment to the future of the school, and to discuss the idea of a transformational plan that would prevent the issuing, by the Department for Education (DfE), of an order to close JLS.

On **5 January, 2012**, a further meeting was held with the LA during which the Board of Governors (BG) presented a transformational plan aimed at keeping JLS open as a

voluntary-aided Seventh-day Adventist school. The plan included the engagement of a consultant head teacher with a proven record of rapid school improvement. Another meeting between the various parties and the LA was held on **24 January** in order to further clarify certain matters relating to the forthcoming LA review of the school.

Then on **16 February** the JLS governor and head teacher, the consultant head teacher and a LA representative attended an Ofsted meeting to be informed about the actions and procedures that are taken by the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) relating to schools in Special Measures. Two church representatives were invited to a further meeting with the LA on **29 March**, this time

to clarify what the LA review was intended to achieve.

The review took place between **19 April and 22 May**, with four panellists representing the Church. The discussion was about the future of JLS and options for its improvement, with the SEC representatives strongly opposing closure of the school. They were only able, however, to get an agreement to seek Academy Status as an alternative to closure, but the date set for the disclosure of the review findings was set for **September 2012**, so as not to negatively affect the pupil numbers for the 2012-2013 academic year.

The conclusion drawn by the LA – that JLS was not financially viable, in spite of contributions made by the Church – was challenged, leading to the amendment of the report.

Further meetings were held with the LA (**1 August**), and the DfE, the LA and one of the prospective sponsors (**6 September**). Then, on **10 September**, the prospective sponsor met with the SEC Education director, the JLS head teacher and a school governor to discuss the school's improvement plan, and to ensure that the sponsor's proposals reflected the needs of the school.

There were three meetings with the DfE at which proposals were presented and discussed with officers in the Office of School Commission (OSC) at the DfE. Further DfE concerns were addressed during a meeting between the sponsor and the SEC executive committee on **21 September**, which in turn led to the drafting of a Memorandum of Understanding between the SEC and the potential sponsor (**26 September**) that was carefully vetted for 'legal soundness' by the SEC legal representative, and by the SEC president to ensure that it protected the denomination's 'distinctive beliefs'.

This sponsor's application has been unsuccessful. Since then, there has been ongoing telephonic, email and personal contact between the sponsor's representatives, the SEC Education director, the JLS head teacher and the chair of the Board of Governors, in order to ensure that everything is done for the best good of the pupils and the school.

In addition to the above, public awareness of the value of John Loughborough School is being promoted through the services of a professional PR company, the parent body and alumni participation, and direct communication with the larger Adventist community, including the London Area Advisory Council.

By the time you will have read this report, the school will have undergone another monitoring visit by Her Majesty's Inspector. We continue to solicit your prayers and support for the preservation of our school. During the second period of consultation, which ended on **18 February**, the governors and other stakeholders put forward other proposals. We await the outcome of the LA's decision at the end of April 2013.

A comprehensive and more detailed report is available from the Education department of the South England Conference.



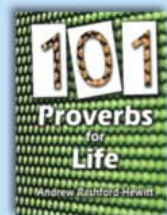
Top ten Year 11 GCSE students 2011-12:

1: Eleven subjects (six A*, five A). 2: Eleven subjects (five A*, five A, one B). 3: Eleven subjects (five A, five B, one C). 4: Eleven subjects (two A*, one A, four B and four C). 5: Ten subjects (two A*, four A, three B, one C). 6: Nine subjects (three A, four B, two C). 7: Nine subjects (three A, two B, four C). 8: Ten subjects (one A, four B, five C). 9: Nine subjects (five B, four C). 10: Eight subjects (two A, six B).

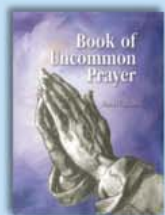
Over the last five years, the school has attained similar results. In particular, the attainments of a significant group of Seventh-day Adventist students attending JLS, which have surpassed those of other students in the borough and in local churches.



Adventist
Book Center.com



101 Proverbs for Life
978-1-903921-58-6
Pearls of blessing and insight for people of all ages.
£1.99



Book of Uncommon Prayer
978-1-903921-02-9
Inspirational quotations demonstrating the power in prayer.
£1.99



Getting Through Grief
978-1-907244-08-7
Practical words for those who grieve.
£1.99



God's Little Book for Parents
978-1-906381-51-6
Help to become a more positive, affirming parent.
£1.99



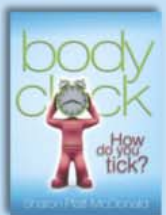
God's Little Book of Bible Promises for Children
978-1-873796-85-6
Promises and inspiration for children.
£1.99



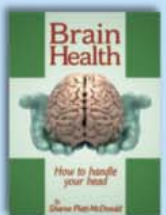
God's Little Book of Encouragement
978-1-873796-89-4
Gems of encouragement from the Word of God.
£1.99



Body Beautiful
978-1-907244-13-1
Build & maintain good physical, mental & social health.
£1.99



Body Clock
978-1-907244-14-8
Understand your internal body clock & maintain energy levels.
£1.99



Brain Health
978-1-904685-88-3
How to keep your mind active, sharp & creative.
£1.99



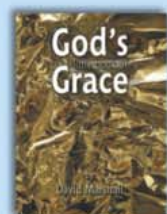
Credit-Crunch Christian
978-1-907244-35-3
Tips on how to stay financially healthy.
£1.99



Eco Health
978-1-907244-10-0
Healthy living in a safe environment.
£1.99



Fascinating Facts About Health
978-1-906381-75-2
Healthy tips to live a long & fulfilled life.
£1.99



God's Little Book of Grace
978-1-903921-32-6
Little gems to help prioritise grace in our lives.
£1.99



God's Little Book of Hope
978-1-906381-38-7
Learn to live positively, joyfully, victoriously.
£1.99



God's Little Book of Peace
978-1-903921-12-8
Feel inspired to experience God's peace in your life.
£1.99



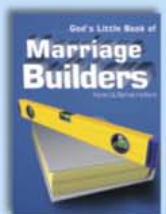
God's Little Book of Prayer
978-1-903921-03-6
Selection of Scripture to help enrich your prayer life.
£1.99



God's Little Book of Promises
978-1-903921-24-1
Inspirational promises on which to build a foundation for life.
£1.99



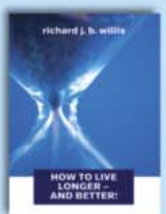
God's Little Book of Wisdom and Caring
978-1-906381-99-8
Words of promise and hope when the going gets tough.
£1.99



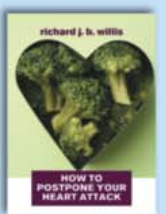
God's Little Book of Marriage Builders
978-1-906381-52-3
Scripture gems for building a happy, fulfilled marriage.
£1.99



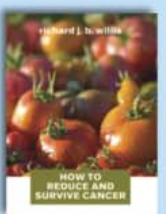
Healing Hearts Restoring Minds
978-1-904685-81-4
An A-Z of emotional well-being.
£1.99



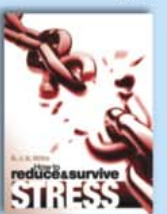
How to Live Longer - and Better!
978-1-906381-60-8
Enjoy a higher quality of life through better health.
£1.99



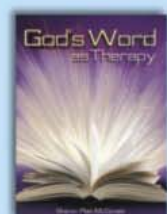
How to Postpone Your Heart Attack
978-1-906381-61-5
Tips to help maintain a healthy heart.
£1.99



How to Reduce and Survive Cancer
978-1-906381-59-2
Diet and lifestyle tips to help beat cancer.
£1.99



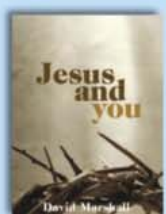
How to Reduce and Survive Stress
978-1-906381-83-7
How to combat stress and enjoy a more relaxed lifestyle.
£1.99



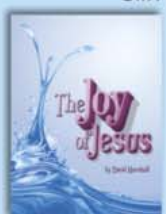
God's Word as Therapy
978-1-907244-11-7
Through life's experiences, God speaks to us through His powerful Word.
£1.99



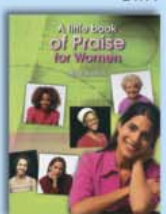
Heart-lifting Moments
978-1-906381-73-8
Spiritual nutrition, wit and wisdom for busy women.
£1.99



Jesus and You
978-1-906381-55-4
How to build on your personal relationship with Jesus.
£1.99



Joy of Jesus
978-1-906381-56-1
Discover the secrets of finding true joy in Jesus today!
£1.99



Little Book of Praise for Women
978-1-903921-05-0
Praise God in different ways using Scripture as a springboard.
£1.99



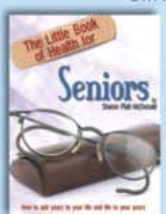
Little Book of Prayers for Parents
978-1-903921-15-9
Encourage your children through the power of prayer.
£1.99



The Little Book of Health for Children & Teens
978-1-904685-90-6
Healthy guidelines for the younger generations.
£1.99



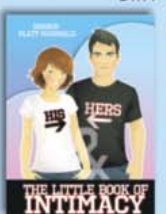
The Little Book of Health for Men
978-1-904685-87-6
Health tips for men to help avoid serious illness.
£1.99



The Little Book of Health for Seniors
978-1-904685-82-1
How to add years to your life and life to your years!
£1.99



The Little Book of Health for Women
978-1-904685-86-9
How key health issues impact your well-being.
£1.99



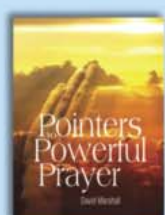
The Little Book of Intimacy
978-1-907244-12-4
Must-have tips for couples & those preparing for marriage!
£1.99



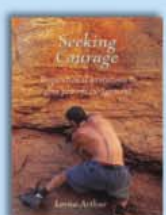
Must-Know Health Facts
978-1-906381-76-9
How to know enough to live a long and fulfilled life.
£1.99



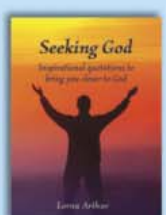
Little Prayers for Tough Times
978-1-903921-47-0
Help for those times that are difficult and stressful.
£1.99



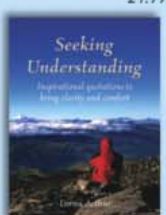
Pointers to Powerful Prayer
978-1-903921-56-2
The power of prayer through the inspired Word of God.
£1.99



Seeking Courage
978-1-903921-35-7
Inspirational thoughts to give you encouragement.
£1.99



Seeking God
978-1-903921-34-0
Inspirational thoughts to bring you closer to God.
£1.99



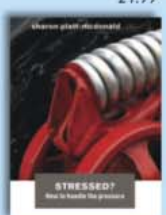
Seeking Understanding
978-1-903921-36-4
Inspirational thoughts to bring clarity & comfort.
£1.99



Treasures for Men
978-1-906381-07-3
Gems of encouragement for men.
£1.99



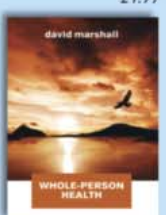
Sound Mind
978-1-907244-34-6
Promises from the Bible to help give you a healthy, sound mind.
£1.99



Stressed? How to Handle the Pressure
978-1-906381-54-7
Rest as an essential ingredient of a balanced life.
£1.99



These Facts Can Make You Healthier
978-1-906381-74-5
Essential facts for healthy living!
£1.99



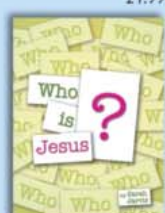
Whole-Person Health
978-1-906381-57-8
How to enjoy physical, mental, social & spiritual well-being.
£1.99



Why We Need Rest
978-1-907244-15-5
The importance of rest for physical and mental health.
£1.99



Treasures for Women
978-1-906381-53-0
Gems of encouragement for women.
£1.99



Who is Jesus?
978-1-906381-62-2
Quotations in which the writers define what Jesus means to them.
£1.99



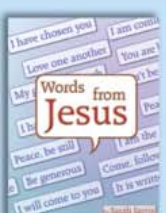
Wisdom for Men
978-1-907244-16-2
Gems of wisdom from the Book of Proverbs.
£1.99



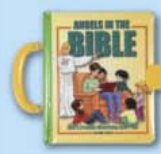
Women Love to Pray
978-1-904685-79-1
Innovative gems to help strengthen & enrich your prayer life.
£1.99



Wonderful Words
978-1-906381-04-2
Wise, inspirational words to help lift the spirits.
£1.99



Words from Jesus
978-1-906381-70-7
A collection of sayings of Jesus.
£1.99



Angels in the Bible
978-1-903921-74-6
Illustrated angel stories, from Genesis to Revelation.
£4.95



Baby's First Bible
978-1-906381-92-9
Attractive board book with ten Bible stories & activities for toddlers.
£4.95



Birth of Jesus Puzzle Block
978-1-906381-77-6
Complete the puzzles and learn about the birth of Jesus.
£4.95



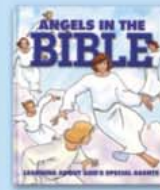
Carry Along Bible
978-1-907244-36-0
23 Bible stories retold in simple sentences for young children.
£3.95



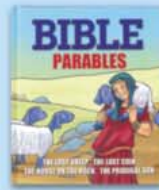
Fishy Tale
978-1-906381-90-5
A bright and lively re-telling of the story of Jonah.
£3.95



God Saves Daniel Puzzle Block
978-1-906381-79-0
Complete the puzzles and learn about Daniel in the lion's den.
£4.95



Angels in the Bible
978-1-904685-23-4
These stories show how important angels are for salvation.
£3.95



Bible Parables
978-1-904685-20-3
Well-known Bible parables simply retold & beautifully illustrated.
£3.95



Bible Stories to Colour book 1
978-1-907244-47-6
Children will enjoy colouring in these classic Bible stories.
95p



Bible Stories to Colour book 2
978-1-907244-48-3
Children will enjoy colouring in these classic Bible stories.
95p



Bible Stories to Colour book 3
978-1-907244-49-0
Children will enjoy colouring in these classic Bible stories.
95p



Bible Stories to Colour book 4
978-1-907244-50-6
Children will enjoy colouring in these classic Bible stories.
95p



Life of Jesus Puzzle Block
978-1-906381-78-3
Complete the puzzles and learn about the life of Jesus.
£4.95



Little Child's Bible Treasury
978-1-906381-63-9
Collection of Bible stories & prayers in three small board books.
£6.95



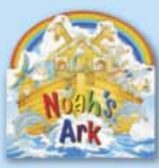
Lost Little Larry
978-1-906381-43-1
A colourful re-telling of the parable of the lost sheep.
£1.95



Moses and the People of God Puzzle Block
978-1-906381-80-6
Complete the puzzles and learn about Moses.
£4.95



My Bible Counting Book
978-1-906381-89-9
Children will enjoy this book as they develop their counting skills.
£2.95



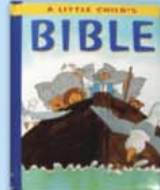
Noah's Ark
978-1-906381-84-4
This enjoyable large board book contains flaps to lift & windows to peek through.
£5.95



Bible Stories
978-1-904685-21-0
Classic Bible stories simply retold & beautifully illustrated.
£3.95



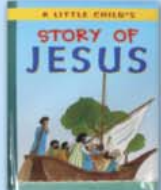
Fish Don't Need Snorkels
978-1-906381-96-7
A wonderful reminder of the love of God for His Creation!
£2.95



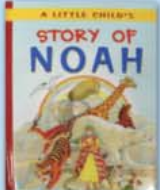
Little Child's Bible
978-1-903921-98-2
A perfect introduction to the Bible. Simple, lively and bright!
£4.95



Little Child's First Prayers
978-1-903921-97-5
A collection of prayers for young children. Simple, lively and bright!
£4.95



Little Child's Story of Jesus
978-1-903921-95-1
The life of Jesus made simple for young children. Lively and bright!
£4.95



Little Child's Story of Noah
978-1-903921-96-8
The classic Bible story for young children. Simple, lively and bright!
£4.95



Noah's Ark on Wheels
978-1-906381-06-6
This classic Bible story in a fun edition for the children!
£4.95



Parables of the Bible
978-1-903921-73-9
Well-known Bible parables, simply retold & beautifully illustrated.
£4.95



Stories of the Bible
978-1-903921-72-2
Well-known Bible stories, simply retold & beautifully illustrated.
£4.95



Sturdy Books for Little Hands - New Testament
978-1-906381-65-3
Set of nine books in simple text & bright illustrations.
£6.95



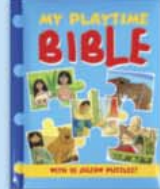
Sturdy Books for Little Hands - Old Testament
978-1-906381-64-6
Set of nine books in simple text & bright illustrations.
£6.95



My First Bible
978-1-904685-23-4
Easy-to-read Bible character stories. Simply retold & beautifully illustrated!
£3.95



My Own Handy Bible
978-1-903921-93-7
Forty of the most loved Bible stories with Scripture verses.
£6.95



My Playtime Bible
978-1-906381-39-4
Ten well-loved stories, each with a jigsaw puzzle illustration.
£6.95



People of the New Testament Sticker Book
978-1-903921-40-1
Complete the stories of Jesus' life with these stickers.
£2.95



People of the Old Testament Sticker Book
978-1-903921-41-8
Complete the stories of Bible characters with these stickers.
£2.95



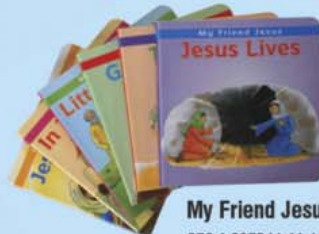
Wonder Bible Storybook
978-1-906381-85-1
12 Bible stories for little people with helpful practical applications.
£3.95



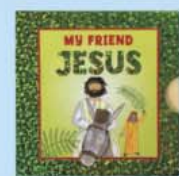
Bible Stories
978-1-907244-40-7
Well-loved Bible stories for toddlers. Six board books in an attractive slip case.
£3.95



My First Prayers
978-1-907244-43-8
Simple everyday prayers for toddlers. Six board books in an attractive slip case.
£3.95



My Friend Jesus
978-1-907244-41-4
Simple stories of Jesus for toddlers. Six board books in an attractive slip case.
£3.95

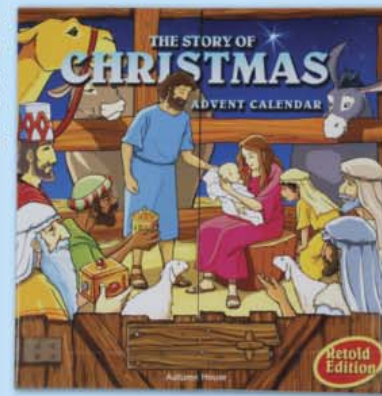


Stories from the Old Testament
978-1-907244-42-1
Well-loved Old Testament stories for toddlers. Six board books in an attractive slip case.
£3.95



Story of Christmas Advent Calendar

978-1-903921-81-4
25 small numbered books with texts from Matthew and Luke, teaching children the true story of Christmas.
£9.95



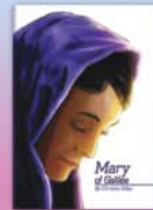
Paul's Life and Journeys
978-1-906381-72-1
Follow Paul's amazing adventures with this collection of small board books within an imitation travelling case.
£7.95



Jesus
978-1-907244-31-5
A fresh, thought-provoking story of Jesus helping you cherish our Saviour more than ever!
£1.95



Judas
978-1-907244-28-5
Peel back the layers of Jesus' betrayer to try and understand his actions.
£1.95



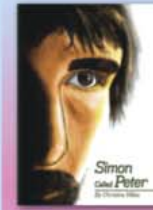
Mary of Galilee
978-1-907244-27-8
A dramatised account of the life of Mary, the mother of Jesus.
£1.95



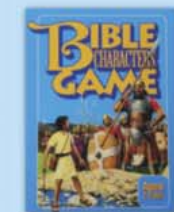
Mary of Magdala
978-1-907244-30-8
Unfold the story of Mary as seen through the eyes of her maid-servant Samantha.
£1.95



Saul
978-1-907244-29-2
Behind the mind of the man whose life and world were turned upside-down by Jesus.
£1.95



Simon Called Peter
978-1-907244-26-1
He pledged to leave it all, fled to save his skin; but it didn't end there!
£1.95



Bible Characters
978-0-8280-1320-8
Test your knowledge of Bible characters with these engaging card games. 8+
£6.95



Bible Scramble
978-0-8280-1000-9
An action-packed word game for the whole family!
£12.95



Matchless
978-0-8280-1321-5
Reinforce your knowledge of Scripture with this challenging card game. 6+
£8.95



Miracles and Pitfalls
978-0-8280-1413-7
Exciting Bible knowledge board game for all the family. 5+
£17.95



Where Jesus Walked
978-1-873796-26-9
Learn about Jesus' life & journeys in this challenging board game. 7+
£12.95

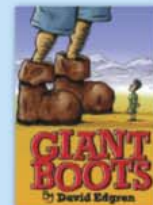
Games



Bible for Children
978-1-56148-362-4
200 treasured stories lovingly and skilfully told and illustrated.
£9.95



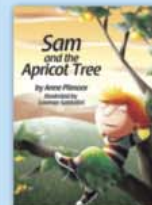
Family Bible Flip Quiz
978-1-906381-45-5
Over 1500 Bible questions, varying degrees of difficulty.
£9.99



Giant Boots
978-1-906381-91-2
An exciting allegory addressing the values of humility, responsibility & trust.
£1.95



Looking After God's World
978-1-906381-95-0
Learn the benefits of looking after the environment during a day at the beach.
£3.95



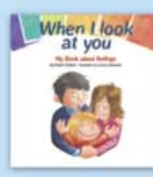
Sam and the Apricot Tree
978-1-906381-58-5
Teach lessons on forgiveness in this thought-provoking story.
£5.95



Saying Thank You to God
978-1-906381-42-4
Learn about giving offerings to God. With practical activities.
£5.95



What Shall I Dream About?
978-1-906381-66-0
This book will help sleepyheads drift off to a peaceful night's sleep.
£5.95



When I Look at You
978-1-906381-97-4
Help children understand their feelings, with Bible verses & engaging illustrations.
£3.95

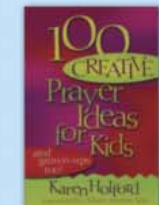


Your Angel
978-1-906381-67-7
Children learn to handle frustrations and understand God's love through angels.
£5.95



Bible Brain Teasers
978-1-906381-86-8
Selection of Bible puzzles for all ages.
£2.95

Ages 8-10



100 Creative Prayer Ideas for Kids
978-0-8163-1968-8
Suggestions that are guaranteed to make time with Jesus interesting.
£8.75



100 Quick and Easy Worship Ideas for Kids
978-0-8163-2051-6
Ideas to help transform family time with Jesus.
£8.75



100 Creative Ways 2 Learn Memory Verses
978-0-8127-0505-8
Activities to make learning real and exciting for kids.
£9.25



Face to Face with Jesus
978-0-8280-1362-8
Easy-to-use Bible study guide. Ideal for small groups.
£3.75



Search for Certainty Lesson Set
978-0-8280-2600-0
30 Bible studies to bring hope and encouragement.
£6.45



Gospel According to Paul
978-1-906381-44-8
A plain man's study guide to the Book of Romans.
£6.95



Gospel of John
8-8060-1000-01-8
Film version with word-for-word dialogue from the Good News Bible.
£14.95



Matthew
978-0-9674-3972-3
Film version with word-for-word dialogue from the New International Bible.
£14.95



Sharing Jesus in the Workplace
978-1-907456-07-7
The people you see every day need to hear the Good News.
50p



Who Do You Think You Are?
978-0-8163-2415-6
Discover who you really are, and who you can become through Christ.
£1.95



Christian Race
978-1-907244-32-2
Using a sporting theme, this book inspires Christians in their journey through life.
99p



Origins - Accident or Design?
978-1-904685-60-9
Creation/Intelligent Design made more accessible and easy to understand.
£6.95



978-1-873796-21-4



978-1-873796-37-5



978-1-873796-49-8



978-1-873796-60-3



978-1-873796-88-7

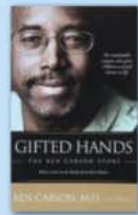


978-1-907244-25-4

Hidden Words Books 1-6
Here's a really great way to find your way around the Bible stories. It's fun, it's instructive and it's challenging! For all ages.
£1.99 each or 6 volume set for £10.50



Inspirational Cards
Delightfully illustrated cards to suit all occasions. Whether for encouragement, comfort, inspiration or hope, there is an uplifting promise for everyone!
£1.00 each



Gifted Hands
978-0-310-21469-4
World-renowned surgeon, Dr Ben Carson's own story, struggles and faith.

£3.99



Think Big
978-0-310-21459-5
Inside these pages lie the keys to recognising the full potential of your life!

£3.99



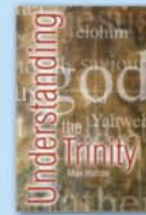
Take the Risk
978-0-310-25973-2
Tips on how to dispel the fear of risk and reap rewards you would never imagine!

£11.99



Understanding the Holy Spirit
978-1-873796-73-3
Classic narrative on the Person and role of the Holy Spirit.

£5.95



Understanding the Trinity
978-1-873796-93-1
Classic easy-to-grasp defence of the doctrine of the Trinity.

£6.95



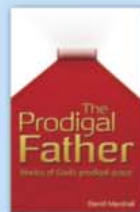
Loneliest Grief
978-1-873796-27-6
Practical and emotional help for parents who experience the grief of miscarriage.

£3.95



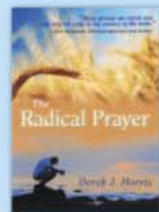
Messiah
978-0-8163-1978-7
A modern contemporary narrative on the life of Christ.

£3.95



Prodigal Father
978-1-906381-87-5
An understanding of grace through the Parable of the Lost Son.

£5.95



Radical Prayer
978-0-8127-0487-7
Experience a life-changing encounter with Jesus through the power of prayer!

£1.95



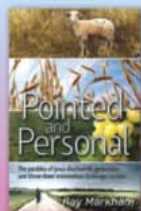
Radical Protection
978-0-8127-0508-9
Understand the reality of cosmic conflict for your soul!

£1.95



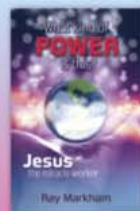
Greater Expectations
978-1-907244-39-1
A look at challenges presented by the Sermon on the Mount.

£6.95



Pointed and Personal
978-1-907244-38-4
An examination of the cutting-edge teachings of Jesus in the parables!

£6.95



What Kind of Power Is This?
978-1-907244-44-5
Understand how the miracles of Jesus demonstrate God in action!

£6.95



Miracles Happen
978-1-903921-37-1
New insights into the ministry of healing and its role within Christian leadership.

£6.95



He's Listening So Talk to Him!
978-1-873796-98-6
A classic narrative on the benefits of a rewarding prayer life.

£6.95



Love Out Loud
978-0-8280-2514-0
365 devotions for women by women; watch & listen for God's love in action.

£12.95



Word From Home
978-0-8280-1905-7
A daily devotional for women; sense God's presence, and love.

£11.95



God Can When You Cannot
978-1-907244-24-7
A Spirit-filled devotional of thoughts & prayers for women.

£5.95

Please Note
All prices are subject to postage and packing charges.

Check out our new items
For your ease of reference, all our latest titles are highlighted!

Order on our Sales Hotline
01476 591 700
sales@stanboroughpress.org.uk

ASI update

ASI-UK annual update

The editor speaks to Jim Cunningham (president) and Deborah Harris (vice-president) of ASI-UK about the latest developments in their organisation.

Editor: Jim, you have just held a very successful ASI-UK convention. Please tell our readers about it.

Jim: Yes Julian, it will be a pleasure to do so. Our convention had three clear objectives: to be intellectually, spiritually and socially stimulating.

Dr Laurence Turner helped us to achieve the first one through his excellent seminar on the first chapter of Genesis. Pastors Ian Sweeney, Victor Hulbert and Julian Hibbert gave thought-provoking sermons on three successive days, addressing the second. Members representing the ethnic diversity of our British Church mingled with each other, some late into the evening, thereby achieving the third.

Editor: I know that, under your leadership, ASI has tried to remind the Church that more needs to be done to reach the indigenous population of the UK with our message. How do you rate your success?

Jim: As a Church, our success at

reaching the indigenous people has been abysmal. We've had a little success in raising awareness among some of the membership. However, we have been greatly encouraged by the lead given by Pastor Ian Sweeney, who sees it as a prime reason for the Church's existence in this country.

Editor: ASI-UK also seems to support a Creation model that involves short timescales – one that is true to the Genesis account. Do you have anything special planned in this regard?

Jim: Julian, I found Laurence Turner's explanation of Genesis chapter 1 during our recent conference fascinating. It is based on textual evidence set in the cultural context of the time when Genesis was written. To add to that, in partnership with Stanborough Park Church, we are organising an Intelligent Design seminar for the afternoon of 1 June, to be presented by Professor John Walton and Dr Alistair Noble. This will be held at the Stanborough Park church.

Editor: Will non-ASI members be able to attend this seminar?

Jim: ASI's approach to all of its sponsored events is that they are open to everyone. I'm particularly keen that those in their teens and twenties attend.

Editor: Deborah, thanks for being part of the interview. You are the fresh new face of ASI-UK. Please tell us who you are, and what you think you can do to 'build the ASI brand'.

Deborah: Julian, I've actually been involved with ASI-UK since 2010, having first been introduced to the association the previous year. I'm a member living in London and now serve as vice-chairman of the organisation. I currently attend Central London Church and I am really excited by ASI's plans for the future.

Editor: Knowing that you are well-known within the London Adventist community, can we expect to see more ASI recruits from that vibrant section of the Church?



Deborah: Church members have often had the mistaken perception that ASI-UK is a clique of senior business people, or that its main focus is on the churches outside of London. I hope that the committee, under Jim's dynamic leadership, will plan to start a London chapter – or at least arrange some events that will target the churches there.

There are a lot of members who would benefit from the community and the centres for discussion that ASI provide each year. We've seen a good number of new members already, and I'm looking forward to seeing how this can engage even more people from London.

Editor: Well, Jim and Deborah, thank you for keeping our readers up to date with developments in ASI-UK.

For more information about joining ASI-UK, either contact Christine Manners-Smith at christinemanners_smith@yahoo.com or visit their website at www.asi-europe.org.





Portsmouth baptise nine

On 26 January 2013 nine candidates were baptised at Portsmouth Church, six of them teenagers. Pastor Dejan Stojkovic, SEC Youth director, was the speaker, and Pastors Tihomir Zestic and Robin Lewis did the baptising.

One candidate, Kristof from Bognor Regis, had been a Catholic for fifty years, and emigrated from Poland eight years ago. He knew nothing about Seventh-day Adventists, and drank and smoked 'without a care in the world'. He met one of the church members in 2010 while working as a hospital chef. One day Kristof asked Phil if he knew any local churches, but, not realising that he meant Adventist churches, Phil said 'No.'

Then Kristof started searching for a church and found the truth when he stumbled across an online presentation on the Ten Commandments. With his background this was new to him, but he continued reading the Bible until he found out about the Sabbath. He then stopped working on Saturdays, and Phil found out about this. Kristof said he was now a Seventh-day Adventist and was looking for an Adventist church. Phil introduced Kristof to Andrew (an elder) and Pastor Lewis. The rest is history, and as Kristof learnt more about the Bible he decided to get baptised. He says no one witnessed to him or knocked at his door – it was God who led him to the truth, and he is not looking back!

MPHATHISI NCUBE



A double at Lowestoft

Lowestoft Church shared in both the baptism (24 November) and the marriage (2 December) of Andrew and Valentina Jenkins late last year – joined by members from Norwich and Great Yarmouth.

The marriage service was conducted by Pastors Rio Espulgar and Bertie de Nysschen.

JOHN SAMPSON, COMMUNICATION SECRETARY

Youth baptism at GBK Church

On Sunday 16 December, 2012, Great Brickkiln Street Church buzzed with 'baptismal' excitement as Pastor Steve Palmer baptised two of its precious youth: Jordanne Hudson-Allen and Rhiannon Jackson-Hyatt.

DELVA CAMPBELL



Four young lives for Jesus!

Recently Oxford Church accepted four young new members into their fellowship: Jesse Victory, a young musician who has grown up in the Oxford congregation; Jonathan Svensson, originally from Spain, where his fiancée led him to the Lord; Angela Chiurugwi, who learnt about the Adventist faith on the internet; and David Lee, a former member who is back.

Pastor Ian Sleeman performed the baptisms.

SOPHIA NICHOLLS



Luckyboy raised to 'life'

Bradford Central and Holmewood churches met on Sabbath 21 January to see Luckyboy Tozana raised from a watery grave by Pastor Dan Dachin, who was supporting Pastor Isaac Liburd.

The roads were snowy and the landscape wintry, but nothing daunted the members that day. In addition to the joyous baptism they held their 2013 Pathfinder induction service, with thirty-eight Pathfinders and Adventurers present.

CHRISTINA MCGOLDRICK

Wakefield grows

The church-plant in Wakefield, West Yorkshire will celebrate its ninth birthday in November 2013. Not only has it benefited by members moving to the area, but during 2012 it recorded the baptism of five precious souls, and is eagerly looking forward to becoming a company.

The candidates were Metiya Ikowa (formerly a Baptist); Serumu Adjenughure; Chiyevo Nyamayedenga; and mother and daughter, Ruth and Naya Deacon. Naya played a key role in her mother's return to church.

Pastors Micah Campbell and Barry Stokes officiated.

BARRY STOKES



God still heals

At Newbold Church I witnessed (2 February) the testimony of Clebson Braga from Brazil. This young man has come to study for the ministry at Newbold College. His daughter, held in his arms, had been

miraculously healed from leukemia. Together with his wife and two other children, he gave thanks for God's gracious intervention in her life.

BRIAN PILMOOR

WANT TO BE BETTER EQUIPPED TO COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY?

SECmedia



ACADEMY 2013

FOR MORE INFO, SCHEDULES & TO REGISTER VISIT www.secmedia.org



SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

WWW.MASTERGUIDECAMP.EU
APPLY AT YOUR LOCAL UNION OR CONFERENCE



THE FUTURE TOGETHER IV



7 -10 June 13
Woodland Camp, Essex, England

A camp, only for leaders and Master Guides, where you can share your Master Guide experience with others, discuss relevant issues to pathfinding in Europe and learn new leadership skills.



The SEC Family Ministry
Marriage Retreat



Strength to Love
Spiritual Foundations for Marital Unity



Presenters:
Les & Irma Ackie

An exploration of practical solutions for the inevitable challenges that threaten spiritual and emotional harmony

Date: 22nd - 24th March 2013

Venue: Hellidon Lakes, Hellidon, Daventry, Northamptonshire NN11 6GG

Cost: £230 per couple (subsidies available for early booking)

Register at www.secnews.org.uk or call Anna McLarty on 01923 232 728

Pastor Johnson's vision

According to the NEC Communication director, Pastor Peter Jeynes, their president has cast a vision for the next few years of his administration. Pastor Lorraine Johnson calls it the 'Nehemiah principle', and it is about 'rebuilding people, restoring relationships and inspiring excellence'. Through it he and his team of enthusiastic pastors want to promote optimum spiritual health in the NEC.



Although the programme may take a while to fully draft and then promote among the churches, Pastor Johnson is clear about this important fact. Its first aim will be to encourage everyone to build a 'real' relationship with God by reading the Bible and other spiritual literature – including the books of Ellen White. According to him: 'If the Library of Congress in Washington can keep a copy of *Desire of Ages*, and regard it as the best commentary on the life of Christ, then we should surely be using her books too!'

The vision appealed to the pastors too. Pastor Samuel Appiah felt that 'This is the way for spiritual growth in our conference,' while Ikwisa Mwasumba said the plan was: 'Very spiritual. Unless we are focusing on the basics – on the Word and on prayer – we will not be able to progress higher.'

PASTOR PETER JEYNES, NEC COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR



Langley dedication

On 12 December last year the Langley church witnessed the dedication of Jesiah John Joseph by Pastor S. M. Gill.

ROHEET SUBRAI



Christmas parties

In December 2012 Nottingham Central Church held two parties. On Sunday (16 December) they had a church party, and this is how Arabella Douglas, one of the smaller partygoers, saw things:

'My mama and papa took me to a party at church. I loved the music. It made our games of musical chairs, pass the parcel and musical statues lots of fun. I dressed as Queen Esther for the fancy dress competition. I didn't win. Mama face-painted the children. There were angels, animals and other colourful faces. I'm glad my mama could help. The party was fun and made me very happy.'

A few days later (18 December) the church held a successful senior citizens' party for its Tuesday Club members.

WENDY FORESTER



Welsh Mission Triennial Session

Notice is hereby given that the Triennial Session of the Welsh Mission of Seventh-day Adventists will be held on Sunday 9 June 2013 in the Cardiff Seventh-day Adventist church. Registration will take place in the church from 8.30 to 9.30am, and delegates must register before participating in the proceedings of the session.

J. SURRIDGE (PRESIDENT) AND P. LOCKHAM (SECRETARY)



Creating champions

From every corner of the South England Conference, they came – more than 450 youth – all heading for the Young Adventists' Leadership Banquet, at Trunkwell Mansion House, Reading.

The young people came dressed for the occasion and it went far beyond their imagination. They enjoyed a waiter-served three-course meal, first-class spiritual entertainment and a glittering awards ceremony.

The purpose of the banquet was to celebrate the achievements of the many volunteer youth leaders and their teams around the South England Conference. Dr Steve Thomas, SEC Youth director, assisted by his wife Lurline, handed AYS appreciation awards to each youth society, with an 'Outstanding' award to the Lewisham church. There were also leadership awards; lay preachers' plaques; and recognition of the outstanding youth projects of 2012: JAM Ministries (Area 6b), Prayer and Faith Conference (Thames Valley Youth Federation), ABCDE (Homeless Project), PULSE (Thames Valley Youth Federation) and the New Life Church Youth Club.

Pastor Kevin Johns, SEC Pathfinder director, gave an award to the Hackney Pathfinder club as the outstanding club for the year, and the Pathfinder of the Year award was received by Adeleen Satchwell from Luton.

'It was an amazing event!' 'Out of this world!' 'I can't wait for the next one!' Such comments say it all.

Reflecting on the evening, Dr Thomas said, 'I applaud the dedication and hard work of the volunteers who commit so much time and energy to the work of youth ministry in the SEC. . . . Tonight we invested in the future of our Church by creating champions!'

CATHY BOLDEAU



Winter concert raises almost £2,200

Minyoung Bae and Victoria Balan, two talented Adventist music students, gave a concert at Stanborough Park Church on the evening of 19 January, helping to raise almost £2,200 towards the church's building fund.

They are both studying at the Royal College of Music. Victoria is in her final year, studying the violin, and Minyoung is a third-year student studying the piano. Minyoung, originally from South Korea, has lived in England since the age of 10, and Victoria is from Moldova.

On this occasion they were persuaded to perform an entire concert, with Minyoung playing piano works by Mendelssohn, Chopin and Prokofiev, Victoria playing violin works by Mozart, Szymanowski and de Falla, and friends performing piano and guitar accompaniments.

JUNE COOMBS



AMR CERTIFICATE COURSE 2013

A four-part training series that will enable you to witness to Muslims and help you give effective Bible studies

Why should we reach Muslims?

- Islam is the fastest-growing religion.
- Islam has much common ground with Christianity.
- The love of Jesus needs to be shared with everyone.

We will be sharing practical, informative resources and inspiring testimonies from excellent worldwide speakers.

10 February • 2 June • 1 September • 8 December

10am-5pm@The Advent Centre, Crawford Place, London W1H 5JE

The price has been heavily subsidised by the AMR department and includes lunch on all four days. For more information and an application form, contact: zbishop@secadventist.org.uk

only £20 per person

Cheques should be made payable to 'South England Conference' and sent to AMR Department, 25 St Johns Road, Watford, WD17 1PZ with the completed application form as soon as possible.

www.facebook.com/adventist.muslimrelations



NEC PATHFINDER'S DEPARTMENT PRESENTS
SNOWDON SPONSORED CHALLENGE
 16 JUNE - 8.30AM

PATHFINDER

HAVE A GREAT DAY OUT AND RAISE MONEY FOR YOUR CLUB FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT THE PATHFINDER WEBSITE AT WWW.NECADVENTIST.ORG.UK

SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE
Ministry of Healing and Prayer
 (MOHAP)
 'Ministering to the terminally ill and those with chronic illnesses'.

Sunday 31st March '13
 Registration 9.30am, Start 10.00am

Fervent Prayer
Health Presentations
 Sharon Platt-McDonald
(BUC Health Director - Emotional/Mental Healing)
 Angelette Muller
(Consultant Nutritionist - Physical Healing)

Discussion & Time for reflection
Devotional - Pastor Simon Martin *(Dunstable)*
Praise & Worship
Testimonies
One-to-one Pastoral Counselling
Prayer & Anointing

Balham SDA Church
83 Elmfield Rd, Balham, London, SW17 8AD

Download booking form at:
www.secnews.org.uk/events
 For queries contact Janet Hamilton:
mohaprayer@gmail.com or 07407 692 256

Health expos work in the NEC

The North England Conference Health Ministries director reports that their health expo programme is delivering very positive results, especially in Blue Coat Academy where it has been run for four consecutive years.

At this school the health expo is used as a powerful tool to motivate the students to begin living healthier lives, and to augment the Health and Social Care curriculum with the NEWSTART principles. The teacher concerned is thrilled with the excellent results she is getting in her GCSEs. During their fourth annual health expo in November last year, the school had more than 200 participants from among the students and the staff!

According to Yvette Saunders at Blue Cote school: 'The health expo provides various aids that assist the students in achieving a high grade in their exams, because it gives them the practical aspect to the theory that they study.'

GRACE WALSH, NEC HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND DISABILITY MINISTRIES DIRECTOR



Fifty years

Fifty years of independence for Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago were celebrated by the Oxford church on 15 December last year. Pastor Cecil Perry was the morning speaker, and after a brief history of the islands he preached a stirring sermon on the blessed hope of the Lord Jesus Christ.

This was all followed by a scrumptious lunch and an afternoon programme centred around the lives of Caribbean professionals living in the UK.

SOPHIA NICHOLLS



Weston for Waka Waka

When Alva Gallaher read the Waka Waka appeal in 2012's 12 October MESSENGER he asked the children of Weston Church if they would like to help. All the boys and girls eagerly got together, and through November and December found various ways of raising funds. Donations of their pocket money and sales of their own arts & crafts, along with sales of donated items, resulted in the children raising £238.50 for ADRA. Now that the cost of a lamp is only £10, their efforts mean that twenty-four more families in Africa can live safer and their children study longer!

J. NASH

PHOTO: LEN SITTON

obituaries

Alana May Cameron (1929-2012) d. 19 December.

Alana Cameron was born on 28 September 1929 in Retreat

Mountain, St Mary, Jamaica. She attended Retreat School, but due to lack of opportunity she had no formal professional training in those days. However, she more than exceeded her potential.

Alana married Titus Cameron and they were blessed with Lionel, Linton, Valentine, Glenmore, Lewis, Joy and Iain. Titus emigrated to England ahead of his family, but before Alana could join him she was baptised as a Seventh-day Adventist, as she had already been attending the church for some time. In 1957, on the day of her baptism, her pastor gave her a lift to the baptism on his motorbike. It was held at the church in Port Maria, Parish of St Mary, some 15-20 miles away.

In 1957 she joined Titus in the UK, but she returned in 1962 to care for her four sons, whom she had had to leave behind.

Two years later Alana returned to Titus in Northampton with a view to bringing their family together as soon as possible. They succeeded in purchasing a home in 1965. Sadly, Titus pre-deceased her in 1990.

Alana had a very active church life and she was very disciplined in her faith, never deviating from its principles. On Sabbaths there was no TV, sports, or cooking before sunset in her home.

In 1995, at the official opening of Highlands Avenue Church, Alana was given the honour of cutting the ribbon to mark its church status.

She did not relish being in the spotlight; therefore most of her work was performed behind the



scenes. She coped with all the housework herself, and if that was not enough she held down a second job outside of the home. Alana was definitely a 'Supermum'. In addition to all this, she served as treasurer and deaconess for many years.

Some of her happiest moments were on Friday evenings, while preparing for church the next day. She reminded her family of an excited child getting ready for her first day at school.

The family never broached the subject of religion in the house, as they just knew this was a losing battle. She knew and understood Scripture very well. They were regularly reminded that God rested on the seventh day of the week, and that they should worship and praise Him on that day.

Alana was a lovely person, very caring and compassionate. She loved her seven children, eighteen grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren equally, and enjoyed having them round her. She was their best friend, their sister, and, most importantly, their sounding board. The family adored her, and life will not be the same for them without her.

Alana had an admirable love for walking, covering incredible distances, especially in the summertime. That's how she kept fit, and when the roads got too slippery for her, she went Northampton General Hospital to walk in the warmth of Hospital Street. She was indeed a legend.

Her sudden death shocked both her family and her church friends.

Alana's life was celebrated at her funeral service at Highlands Avenue Church at 10am and Queen Grove Methodist Church at 11am on 11 January 2013. Pastors Cyril Sweeney, Aster Bruce, and John Ferguson conducted the most beautiful service.

Diamond wedding

Leonard and Ann Taylor of Bodmin Church celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary (sixty years) on 15 December last year. Two days later the church members honoured them at church with flowers and a gift. The Taylors also received a special congratulatory card from Her Majesty the Queen.

A. BLACKBURN



Alana sincerely loved her Saviour and had great faith in Him. She always attended church and did not miss a prayer meeting. She basked in the belief and hope in the second coming of her Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

ANASELLA MORRIS, COMMUNICATION LEADER, NORTHAMPTON CHURCH

Ken Hammond (1926-2013) d. 4 January.

Ken Hammond was born on 4 August 1926, in Fareham, Hampshire, son of proud parents Bill and Elsie. Elsie, Ken and his younger sister Beryl regularly attended the Portsmouth Seventh-day Adventist church, and this set a pattern for Ken's lifelong commitment to the church he loved and the Christian faith that shaped his values and identity.

In 1944 Ken was called up and sent to Northumberland as a 'Bevin Boy', where he worked in coal mines deep under the North Sea. The following year, he went to University College, Southampton, to study French. Here he met a Barry girl, Esmé Leach, and they were married in August 1949, after he had completed his teacher training. Ken's professional life began as the junior French master at Thetford Grammar School in Norfolk, where he won the respect of fellow staff and students alike with his efficient organisation, excellent discipline and enthusiastic involvement in school life.

After the birth of his two daughters it became clear that a teaching salary was insufficient to support a family, so in 1957 Ken began what was to become an illustrious career with the company Thomas Hedley, later Proctor and Gamble. He quickly made his mark as a salesman, and the family became accustomed to the peripatetic lifestyle that followed. A promotion for Ken required a move to Newcastle

upon Tyne, where Proctor and Gamble had their HQ, and four years later the family moved to Ascot, the base for Ken's new position as sales director in Sweden.

His horizons widened again in 1974 when he was asked to set up the company in Japan, and he and Esmé moved to Kobe for two years. Here Ken learned to speak Japanese and they enjoyed new friendships with Adventist members in Osaka, in particular the young student missionaries teaching at the English language school. Back in the UK, they returned happily to their old haunts in the north-east and their friends at Newcastle Church. When Ken retired in 1985, still in the prime of life, he left behind a successful career with one of the world's best-known companies. His reputation as a Christian gentleman of integrity, ability and humanity was evident from the many tributes he received at the time.

Ken and Esmé chose Lyndhurst for the first home of their retirement, and during those years Ken gave valuable service on many national and international church committees, sharing the management skills and wisdom he had gained from his years in the world of business. For Ken's remaining years he and Esmé were much-loved stalwarts of Southampton Church.

In 2005 Ken and Esmé decided it was time to downsize, and selected a lovely flat with spectacular views across the Solent at Milford-on-Sea. Rich and active years for them both were still to follow, as they shared many happy times together with their cherished family. On the first Thursday of the New Year, Ken arranged a meal to mark a special anniversary where the family met together to celebrate, little knowing that these were to be the last moments they would share with him. Ken passed away on 4 January.

At his committal on 25 January, led by Pastor James Huzzey, family and friends fondly remembered Ken, much-loved husband of Esmé, father of Penny and Rebecca, grandfather of Kieran, Bridie and Ben, and friend and mentor to many. His favourite Bible text now seems so fitting:

'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. . . (2 Timothy 4:7, 8, KJV.)

PENNY MAHON

NEC PATHFINDER'S DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

WILDERNESS CAMPING WEEKEND

28 - 30 JUNE

AN EXPERIENCE NOT TO BE MISSED FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT THE PATHFINDER WEBPAGE AT WWW.NECADVENTIST.ORG.UK

MOHAP's first retreat of 2013

The first Ministry of Healing and Prayer (MOHAP) retreat for 2013 took place at the Advent Centre in central London on 27 January. Approximately 130 attended from across the UK. Many came with a burden of sickness, but departed at the end of the day with a lightened load, as they were encouraged throughout the day to cast their cares on Jesus and to trust in Him.

Pastor Cecil Perry reminded those present that the One who wields power over sin is the same One who has power over all sicknesses. Dr Chid Ngwaba's presentation stressed that prevention is better than cure, and provided guidance on improving one's health using a natural approach. Marlene Levy's presentation focused on the importance of prayer, with regards to the emotional and mental aspects of wellness and healing.

Pastor Simon Martin encouraged attendees to pair up with a person previously unknown to them and pray for that person's needs. In the afternoon Pastor Bertie De Nysschen provided an opportunity for individuals to engage in quiet meditative prayer. It was wonderful to witness people thoughtfully and earnestly praying for their own needs and for those of others.

Pastor Humphrey Walters explained the biblical purpose of the anointing service, and eleven pastors from around the SEC provided anointing, pastoral counselling and prayer in a very reverent and Spirit-filled atmosphere.

The next MOHAP retreat is on 31 March at the Balham Seventh-day Adventist church. Information will soon be available on <http://www.secnews.org.uk/events>. For queries, contact: mohaprayer@gmail.com or phone 07407 692 256.

JANET HAMILTON



Stanborough School vacancies

Stanborough School, an independent Seventh-day Adventist Christian co-educational school with a strong and established academic tradition and a family atmosphere, seeks to employ the following volunteer staff:



Volunteer ICT Technician, commencing 15 April 2013

General responsibilities:

- Provide hardware and software technical support;
- Help assess the technical and functional capability of existing systems and contribute to the strategic plans of the department;
- Maintain the IT department's asset register;
- Administer daily backup of networked data and assist in the restoration of same;
- Help maintain the department's intranet;
- Undertake additional duties as required by the IT manager.

Volunteer Assistant Dean, Boarding School (Boys), Volunteer Assistant Dean, Boarding School (Girls), commencing 21 August 2013

General responsibilities:

- Caring for all sick boarders and coping with any emergencies or accidents in the boarding house;
- The routine organisation of all aspects of the physical care of boarders, and sharing the duties of the boarding house with the other Housemaster/Matron;
- Assisting the Housemaster/Matron and resident staff to plan and carry out a varied programme of activities for boarders after school and on weekends;
- In an emergency, caring for day pupils may be required;
- Providing support for the Housemaster/Matron and maintaining a safe, pleasant environment for boarding pupils;
- Maintaining a warm, friendly atmosphere in the boarding school so that parents, governors and school visitors feel welcome.

Stanborough School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff to share this commitment.

Successful applicants will be entitled to £175 per month stipend, necessary expenses, accommodation and free meals.

Interested applicants please contact: dwilliams@spsch.org.

Closing date: 5 April 2013.

Messenger

Volume 118 • 5 – 8 March 2013

Editor: J. G. Hibbert
Contributing Editor: Dr D. N. Marshall
Design: David Bell

COPY FOR No. 6 – 21 March 2013

Copy should be sent to the Editor, *Messenger*, The Stanborough Press Limited, Alma Park, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG31 9SL. Tel: (01476) 591700. Fax No: (01476) 577144.

Email: Editor@stanboroughpress.org.uk
Send high-resolution pictures to: dbell@stanboroughpress.org.uk

ABC Sales line: (01476) 539900
Mon-Thurs only, 8am-5.30pm.
www.stanboroughpress.com

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

For general enquiries, email: info@stanboroughpress.org.uk
Printed in the UK.

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

Sunset

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

	Lon	Card	Notf	Edin	Belf
Mar 8	5.53	6.06	5.56	6.02	6.14
15	6.05	6.18	6.09	6.17	6.28
22	6.17	6.30	6.22	6.31	6.41
29	6.29	6.41	6.34	6.45	6.55

MESSENGER SUBSCRIPTIONS

Cost £25 per annum for 24 issues.*

*Postage will only be charged for single copy subscriptions and overseas airmail.

Four Month Evangelistic Training
28th May to 29th September



peace

Practical Evangelism and Adventist Christian Education



ENABLED TO SHARE • EMPOWERED TO SERVE • EQUIPPED TO EVANGELISE

For any queries, or to request an application pack, contact us at

(+44) 1159 606312
info@peacecentre.eu
www.peacecentre.eu