

Messenger

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London

by the editor

A tourist magnet for many – for others, just a sprawling city to be avoided. Saturated with history and pageantry for some – wet, drab and expensive for others. But, no matter how we see it, London is home to 8,173,941 people and host to upwards of 27 million overnight visitors annually. Mind-blowing, isn't it. No wonder there's a congestion tax!

Back in 1811, London became the first city to reach a population of more than one million, and it held that top spot as the world's largest city until overtaken by Tokyo in 1957.

Londoners

The city is architecturally diverse. On the one hand it boasts the Houses of Parliament with '1,000 rooms, 100 staircases, eleven courtyards, eight bars and six restaurants – none of them open to the public'. On the other, it found space for a tiny house – just three and a half feet wide – part of Tyburn Convent, Hyde Park Place.

Such facts aside, London is really about Londoners – in all their grand diversity. And diverse they are. According to a survey done in 2005 there were already more than 300 languages being used in London, and 'fifty non-indigenous communities with a population of more than 10,000' in the city.

In 2011 the Census recorded that 2,998,264 people, 36.7% of London's population, are foreign-born, giving the city the world's 'second-largest immigrant population, behind New York City'.

The same census revealed that the city's religious profile was as follows:

- Christians 48.4 per cent
- No religion 20.7 per cent
- Muslims 12.4 per cent
- No response 8.5 per cent
- Hindus 5.0 per cent
- Jews 1.8 per cent
- Sikhs 1.5 per cent
- Buddhists 1.0 per cent
- Other 0.6 per cent.

A mission field

From the perspective of Revelation's 'third angel', London is a mission field, a great battleground for souls – where the eternal destiny of millions is to be decided. Perhaps it was such a perspective that drove the nineteenth-century poet, Francis Adams, to write this poem:

*CRUEL City, London, London,
Where, duped slaves of devils' creeds,
Men and women desperate, undone,
Dream such dreams, and do such deeds:
London, London, cruel city,
By day serpent, by night vampire –
God, in thy great pity, pity,
Give us light – though it be fire!*

Our London Adventist churches are about to answer Adam's plea for light. See pages 10-13 for more exciting details.

Sources used:

- <http://www.poemhunter.com/poems/london/>
- <http://www.standard.co.uk/news/london-40-fascinating-facts-7296777.html>
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Francis_Adams_\(writer\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Francis_Adams_(writer))
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demographics_of_London
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ethnic_groups_in_London
- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/London>

A tourist magnet for many - for others, just a sprawling city to be avoided!

For *MESSENGER* reporters only . . .

by the Editor

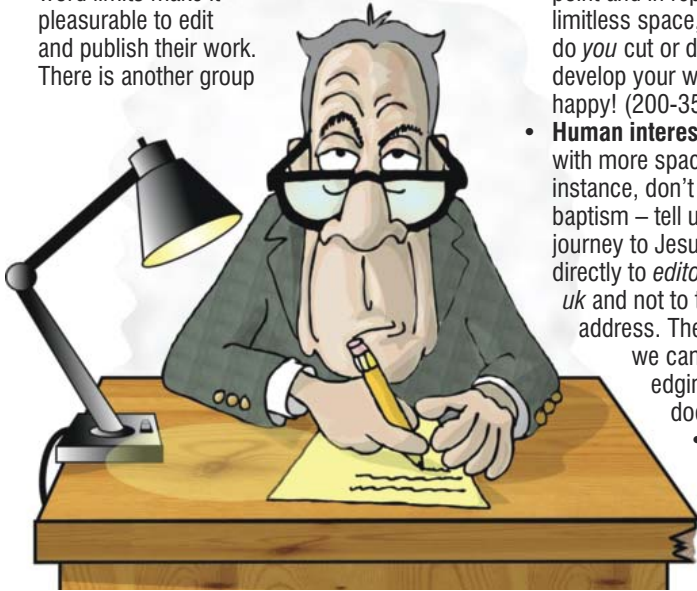
Thanks for the flow of news from our churches and institutions. Without your hard work there would be no *MESSENGER*.

The quality of the news reports we receive has improved, and those who stick to the word limits make it pleasurable to edit and publish their work. There is another group

of our reporters, however, who shouldn't give up their day jobs just yet!

No matter into which group you think you fall, please take note of the following:

- Your news reports are to be **brief**, to the point and in report style. We don't have limitless space, so the choice is simple: do you cut or do I? If you do it, you will develop your writing skill and make me happy! (200-350 words maximum.)
- **Human interest** elements will be rewarded with more space than bare facts. For instance, don't just tell us about the baptism – tell us a bit about the person's journey to Jesus. All copy is to be sent directly to editor@stanboroughpress.org. uk and not to the editor's personal email address. The reason for this is so that we can have one person acknowledging receipt and compiling the document file for each issue.
- **A good photo** is worth a thousand words. So make sure your photos are in high-resolution format and sent in **with** your reports. Sending us



Enhancing Health

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

Cancer: the facts – part 3b

Examining causation and risk factors

Part 3a of 'Cancer: the facts' (*MESSENGER*, 8 March) identified twelve factors that cause or increase the risk of cancer. We examine the first four in this issue.

Age – Some cancer risks increase with age. This happens because changes that make cells cancerous may take a long time to develop. In fact, a number of these changes to the genes within a cell occur well before it becomes cancerous. Cell changes could happen accidentally at the time of cell division, or because the cells have been damaged by carcinogens, and then pass on that 'damage' to future cells when they divide. With longevity comes the higher risk for these genetic mistakes to occur within our cells.

Alcohol – Alcohol use increases our risk for a number of cancers. Cancer Research UK undertook a review in 2011 which suggested that 4 out of 100 cancers (4%) were linked to alcohol. These cancers were: breast, bowel, laryngeal, liver, mouth, oesophageal, pharyngeal and

throat cancer. Researchers found that even the moderate use of alcohol raised the risk. In the case of women, even those who drink only one or two drinks per day have an increased cancer risk.

Bacterial infection – Increasing research* shows that individuals who have helicobacter pylori (*H. pylori*) infection of the stomach develop inflammation of the stomach lining. It is this inflammation which increases the risk of stomach cancer. Continuing research is seeking to investigate whether substances produced by specific digestive system bacteria can increase the risk of stomach lymphomas and bowel cancer in some individuals. It is suggested that the way to reduce the risk of these bacterial-related cancers is to treat the infection promptly.

Body-weight – Cancer Research UK have identified that overweight or obese individuals have an increased bowel and pancreatic cancer risk, possibly due to their tendency to have higher insulin levels. Obesity is identified as being 25% overweight. Cancer Research UK data have also indicated that breast cancer in females and gallbladder, kidney, oesophageal and uterine cancer were associated with being overweight.

Research to identify why being overweight increases cancer risk is still ongoing. One suggestion is that some cancers linked to hormones, for example breast cancer, are impacted by the levels of oestrogen and testosterone. An enzyme called aromatase is produced in fatty tissues. The balance between oestrogen and testosterone is affected by aromatase, and this, researchers suggest, may explain why being overweight increases the breast cancer risk. Maintaining a healthy weight throughout life is important, as the breast cancer risks increase with age.

Good health!

*References to 'research' can be found at www.cancerresearchuk.org.

photos and reports weeks apart from each other is not smart reporting and it causes us unnecessary administration. All photographs are to be sent to our designer, David Bell, at dbell@stanboroughpress.org.uk with a copy to our editorial secretary, Elize Hibbert, as a backup.

- Please **don't send us late news** items. News is news – not ancient history – and should reach us within thirty days of the event. The editor reserves the right not to print late news, and he has begun to bin items that show signs of 'mould'!

Now for something about adverts: *MESSENGER* has become very popular for church advertising and we need to have a clear policy in this regard. So from now on we will welcome **your adverts** under the following conditions. That they are:

- Designed in portrait format
- Fully legible when reduced to A6 size
- Properly proofread and corrected before we get them
- Sent in the highest resolution of PDF possible
- Sent in well in advance of the event date
- Not for personal (marketing your image, skills or products for gain) or local matters (concerts, fundraisers, and so on) affecting just a few churches in one small area. We are also not going to advertise on behalf of private ministries not linked directly to, or fully endorsed by, one of our conferences or missions.

Happy reporting

editorial

Last week, on 28 February, Pope Benedict XVI officially renounced 'the ministry of Bishop of Rome, Successor of Saint Peter' because he no longer had the 'strength of mind and body' to exercise his office. This was unexpected – something not seen, but once, among his predecessors. Instead of clinging to his 'holy office' until death relieved him of it, he chose to recognise his incapacity to 'adequately fulfil the ministry entrusted' to him . . . and he resigned.¹

Not the first time

This is not the first time there has been a 'papal resignation'. The clearest previous example of this occurred more than 700 years ago in 1294, when Celestine V resigned after just five months in office.²

The resignation has raised a few problems for the world's biggest church, though. Some feel that he has betrayed Christ by resigning. He has 'come down from his cross', instead of staying in office irrespective of the circumstances he faced. The result, they feel, will disassociate the Pope from Christ and destroy the 'mystique of the papacy'.³

Some of the faithful are worrying about 'what it might mean to have both a pope and a former pope alive at the same time' living in close proximity. It was expressed in www.cathnews.com as follows:

*'There is a real danger of splitting the loyalties of hitherto faithful Catholics, particularly if the new Pope does things, as he is more or less bound to do eventually, that depart from the policies of his predecessor and near neighbour.'*⁴

Confined to base

Well-informed but anonymous sources, quoted by Reuters, have suggested that Joseph Ratzinger's decision to remain within the Vatican during his retirement will protect him from 'arrest over sexual abuse in the Catholic Church'. As a Vatican citizen he will enjoy the protection of the 1929 Lateran Pacts in which Italy recognised the Vatican City as a sovereign state – he will have immunity from prosecution in a 'neutral and inviolable territory'.⁵

According to Reuters, back in 2010: *'Benedict was named as a defendant in a law suit alleging that he failed to take action as a cardinal in 1995 when he was allegedly told about a priest who had abused boys at a US school for the deaf decades earlier.'*⁶

Some may also remember how the atheist duo of Richard Dawkins and the late Christopher Hitchens paid British lawyers to investigate the possibility of prosecuting the Pope for 'crimes against humanity' during his 2010 visit to this country. This was based on a letter dating back to 1985 'in which the then Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger urged that a paedophilic priest in America not be defrocked for the "good of the universal church"'. They were hoping to



Julian Hibbert
Editor

Rome on the ropes?

proceed on the basis that the Vatican was not a fully recognised UN state and that he was, therefore, not immune from prosecution.⁷

The US case has since been withdrawn, and the UK atheists' efforts came to naught, but in the light of such threats, one can understand the Vatican's reluctance to have their Pope Emeritus on a long leash!

A church in distress

The Roman Catholic Church is in distress at the moment. It has been mauled by a variety of disgusting scandals that have exposed its pious clergy – some reaching back for decades. The latest of these is the resignation of the disgraced Cardinal Keith O'Brien, who 'fled Scotland before sensationally confessing his wrongdoing in a bombshell statement' in which he finally admitted 'sexual conduct that has fallen below the standards expected' of him.⁸

This is not the Vatican's only recent source of distress. For in early 2012, a report by the American State Department's International Narcotics Control Strategy listed 'the Holy See as one of sixty-eight countries including Yemen, Algeria and North Korea, describing it as a "country of concern" for money laundering or other financial crimes'.⁹

Then we must not forget 'Vatileaks' – the scandal surrounding the theft and publication of some of the Pope's confidential documents that broke last year. His butler was implicated in the theft, tried and given an eighteen-month sentence.

But this has not stopped the shockwaves caused by the revelations. Neither has it satisfied the cardinals who are gathering to choose his successor, one of whom called the leaks a 'profound crisis'. A growing number of them are now pressing to see the confidential report of the Vatican's own investigation – something Benedict 'decided last week would be shown only to the next pope, not to the cardinals entering the conclave to choose him'.¹⁰

Such revelations make the 'Holy See' look as profane as the rest of the world – don't they?

On the ropes?

Let's not be deceived though. Behind the scandals, the financial chaos, and that stooped figure with a gentle voice and frail wave, there is still a formidable force.

There are at least 1.2 billion Catholics today – just 10 million or so less than India's population and 150 million less than China's – 17% of Earth's population.¹¹ For physical organisation and fixed assets this church is still in a league of its own. And let's not forget that it has 412,236 priests, 54,665 religious brothers and 721,935 religious sisters under its command – 1,188,836 of them!¹²

We must not make the mistake of thinking that this mega-church is as impotent and frail as its elderly pontiffs often appear. Beneath the rust, Rome is as strong as ever. The popes come and go, but its doctrines are cast in iron – as inflexible now as they were during the Inquisition.

In fact, it is in those very doctrines that the Vatican's greatest strength lies. Rome apologises here and there, but it does not retract!

It makes occasional cosmetic changes, but still clings resolutely to those teachings that grievously offended the Protestant reformers. Far from compromising anything, the Vatican has taken its self-ordained religious 'authority' to an extreme in the modern era through its dogma of papal infallibility, legislated by the First Vatican Council of 1869–1870.¹³

If Rome is on the ropes – it's only to catch a breath!

¹<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/the-pope/9862278/Pope-Benedict-XVI-resigns-pontiffs-statement-in-full.html> ²<http://www.inquire.net/48053/when-a-pope-resigns> ³<http://www.cathnews.com/article.aspx?aeid=35157> ⁴<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/02/15/us-pope-resignation-immunity-idUSBRE91E0Z120130215> ⁵<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2010/apr/11/critics-trial-pope-benedict-xvi> ⁶Read more: <http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/4822830/cardinal-keith-obrien-admits-sexual-conduct-had-fallen-below-standards.html#ixzz2Mc0Z91zz> ⁷<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2112159/Vatican-classed-likely-involved-money-laundering-Yemen-Algeria-North-Korea.html#ixzz2MfXxltcy> ⁸http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2013/03/05/Cardinals-want-more-Vatileaks-details/UPI-14291362472200/#ixzz2Mfgu5PHC ⁹http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_population ¹⁰<http://cara.georgetown.edu/CARAServices/requestedchurchstats.html> ¹¹First Vatican Council (1869-1870), Session 4, Chapter 4, point 9 (<http://www.ewtn.com/library/COUNCILS/V1.htm#6>)

Beneath the rust, Rome is as strong as ever.



God up-close and personal

by David Marshall

As a befreckled primary school boy I was permitted to run free to an extent that parents these days would find surprising. Our playgrounds were unpaved country lanes, fields with cows (and the occasional bull), and even, once I had learned to ride a bike, two nearby disused aerodromes left over from the war. I went home at bedtime, of course, and often for meals, but spent much of my time in the homes of friends.

However, my mother knew she could be sure of my presence in the house at specific times because my devotion to certain radio programmes was only slightly short of abject: the weekly *Take it from Here*, *Hancock's Half Hour*, Peter Brough and Archie Andrews (*Educating Archie*), and the daily *Children's Hour*.

Between 5 and 6pm every weekday my ear might as well have been glued to the big brown Bakelite Bush radio. Some programmes were along the lines of TV's much later *Blue Peter*, whose presenters were known to us only by their Christian names, very occasionally prefixed by the title 'Uncle': broadly speaking these programmes could have been described as 'educational', but, unaware of that, I enjoyed them anyway.

The programmes I enjoyed the most were

drama serials. Some of these were about the Famous Five. The serial which left me with the strongest recollection was *The Mistine Mutation*. It occupied the Wednesday programme for weeks, maybe months. In the story *Mistine* was a chemical substance which, when ingested by certain life forms, notably spiders, caused them to grow to hundreds of times their normal size. The pictures that conjured themselves into my imagination have caused me to pursue a zero tolerance of large spiders ever since!

When TV came to the homes of my friends (it never came to mine), it was, of course, black and white, and could not compete with the full-colour images radio gave rise to. In the very early days, children were not served well by TV. Many of the programmes were amateurish and experimental, and children these days would laugh them off the schedules.

One example was a show that featured cowboys. It kept my attention for the greater part of a week. After that I gave up on children's TV. Permanently.

Monday's show was hosted by a cowboy wearing a Lone Ranger mask. The presenter made a big mystery of his identity and teased his young viewers a great deal. There was

something about him that was rather familiar and we wondered if, behind the Lone Ranger mask, was a high-octane, A-list celebrity.

Ratings for that programme soared when the presenter promised that on Thursday's programme he would remove the mask and show us who he really was. That Thursday, along with a whole pack of my friends, I crammed into the sitting room of Paul Dawson's house (at that stage, only *his* parents owned a TV), and we waited for the cowboy TV presenter to reveal his true identity. He left his self-revelation until the end of his time-slot. Then, reaching behind his head, he untied his mask. Just at the instant the mask dropped, he presented the back of his head to the camera, the screen flashed, and went black, and the show was over.

Children's TV took five years to recover from that audience's disappointment. But – great news! – we all returned to *Children's Hour* on the BBC Home Service, thus extending its lease on life. By the time it was taken off air in the early 1960s I had passed 16 and probably thought I'd 'outgrown' it.

When God revealed Himself as Jesus at the turn of the eras – the hinge of time when BC became AD – there had also been something of a build-up. Prophets had seen to that. But when His face became visible there was surprise, amazement, even shock – but no sense of anticlimax.

It was not that He came in scary thunder as to Moses. Though He redirected history, He didn't stop the clock as He had for Joshua. There was no terrifying Holy Terror when God became Man.

The Son of God, who had enabled three Hebrew men to walk unsunged by the fiery furnace, became Son of Man in the womb. He was born as we are all born, except in rather more humble circumstances. Not many of us burst into the world in an outhouse or were ever placed in an animal feed trough instead of a cradle. But a heavenly choir notified the shepherds, who came running to worship Him. Daniel's seventy-weeks prophecy had given the approximate time, but the wise men who brought gifts when He was born on the tick of prophecy were non-Jews from Persian lands afar.

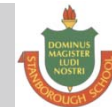
In Jesus, God revealed Himself as He really is. God looked straight at the camera. Hebrews 1:3 (KJV) says Jesus Christ is the 'express image' of God's person. Colossians 1:15 (NIV 1984) says, 'He is the image of the invisible God'; 'We look at this Son and see the God who cannot be seen. We look at this Son and see God's original purpose in everything created . . .' (1:15, 16, MGE). In Colossians 2:9, it says, 'In Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body' (NLT). 'Everything of God gets expressed in [Christ], so you can see and hear him clearly. You don't need a telescope, a microscope, or a horoscope to realize the fullness of Christ, and the emptiness of the universe without him. When you come to him, that fullness comes together for you, too. His power extends over everything' (9, 10, MGE).

The enfleshment of God in Christ is itself an unfathomable mystery – but, says J. I. Packer, it's a mystery that 'makes sense of everything else'.



Stanborough Park School

. . . has a vacancy for a Modern Foreign Language (French) and Female Games Teacher (Key Stages 3 and 4).



Salary range: 78-94% of the BUC salary scale according to qualifications and experience.

Commencement date: **September 2013**.

Applicants must be enthusiastic about teaching French in our MFL department and games for girls. The qualified applicant will be capable of teaching French to Key Stage 3 and GCSE French. The MFL department achieved a 100% pass rate in GCSE French grades A*-C in June 2012, and we seek to appoint a teacher to build on the strengths of the department.

The successful applicant will be able to prepare and deliver appropriate learning materials; carry out student assessments; and contribute to the curriculum development, including the planning and implementation of both existing and new programmes. The ability to teach Spanish to Key Stages 3 and 4 will be an advantage.

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

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

The closing date for applications is 16 April 2013.

If you think that you have the drive and vision to fulfil the position; hold the requisite teaching qualifications with relevant experience; and have authorisation to work in the UK, please email the head teacher's PA, dwilliams@spsch.org or telephone 01923 673268 for Job Specification and Application forms.

The offer of employment in respect of this post will be subject to a satisfactory Disclosure Certificate from the Criminal Records Bureau.

Newbold School

Popeswood Road, Binfield, Berkshire, England (UK) RG42 4AH



Head teacher required for December 2013

NOR 70

Age range 4-11

Salary will be up to £39,356 depending on experience and qualifications.

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

Our school community is looking for someone who:

- Has a clear vision and commitment to the Seventh-day Adventist ethos that includes all learners;
- Has a strong personal faith which will enrich the life of the school;
- Has proven leadership skills that will challenge and support the work of the school, and lead to innovative programmes to further improve our practice;
- Has ability to manage the school's budget and other financial operating issues;
- Is an effective communicator with good interpersonal skills who will support and inspire pupils, staff, governors and parents/carers;
- Will continue to build links with the community and manage the use of the school's facilities;
- Has experience in the UK school system;
- Has the right to work in the UK.

Our school community offers:

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

Visits to the school are welcomed. For an appointment, please contact Mrs Ruth Ohman at Newbold School on tel: 01344 421088.

For an application form, job description and person specification, please email: jcraward@secadventist.org.uk.

Closing date for applications: 30 April 2013.

The South England Conference is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff to share this commitment. All successful applicants will be required to undertake an enhanced Criminal Record Check via the CRB before they can be appointed.

with Andrew Puckering



'Rights' – or privileges?

The children of Israel were about to enter the Promised Land on a military campaign to destroy nations practising utterly heinous crimes, including child sacrifice (Deuteronomy 9:3; 12:31). God promised that they would have His full support (Deuteronomy 7:17-23). As part of the general rules for conducting warfare, He told them: 'When you go out to battle against your enemies, and see horses and chariots and people more numerous than you, do not be afraid of them; for the LORD your God is with you, who brought you up from the land of Egypt.' (Deuteronomy 20:1, NKJV.) The priest was to tell them, 'Do not let your heart faint, do not be afraid, and do not tremble or be terrified because of them; for the LORD your God is He who goes with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you.' (Deuteronomy 20:3, 4, NKJV.) What a wonderful promise of divine protection in the face of imminent danger!

Later on, God repeated this promise to Joshua personally, through the Angel of the LORD (Joshua 1:5-9; 5:13-15), and he won mighty victories with God's help (Joshua 23:1-5). David trusted in God's help to slay giants and gain victories for Israel (1 Samuel 17:37-52). More than once, the LORD helped Jehoshaphat to win a victory – first over the Moabites (2 Kings 3), and then over a 'great multitude' of warriors from Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir. He was so confident of victory, with the LORD's help, that he even set singers praising God in the front ranks of his army – and his men didn't even have to lift a finger to fight! (2 Chronicles 20:1-30.) Then, of course, who can forget the time the LORD delivered Jerusalem from the Assyrians after the prayer of Hezekiah (2 Chronicles 32:1-23)?

With such examples in mind, we can understand the response of God's people in Jerusalem when the Babylonians came knocking (Jeremiah 6:22, 23): they had 'the temple of the LORD', and trusted that He wouldn't let any harm come to them there – not there, surely! (Jeremiah 7:4, 14, NKJV.) Even after their king was captured, they believed it was only a temporary setback, and God would, as before, certainly give them victory in the end (Jeremiah 28). They were a chosen people, after all, loved by God (Deuteronomy 7:6)!

Poor Jeremiah had to burst their bubble – this time, God would not be rescuing them. This time, *He* had sent their attackers (Jeremiah 20:4-6)! Jeremiah's people thought he was speaking treason, and hated him for it (Jeremiah 20:7-18).

The thing was that God's promise of victory was conditional – He would help His people if they truly followed Him: but, if they didn't, He wasn't obliged to protect them (Deuteronomy 4:25-29). The very God who promised them victory when they followed Him was the same God who warned of their doom if they shrugged off His protective law (Deuteronomy 28:7, 25). They were still God's people, and He still loved them unconditionally, in spite of their sins – but if they chose life without Him, they'd get death without Him, too – because He was jealous for them (Deuteronomy 6:10-19).

Is there an application here for Christians today? You bet there is! God's love for us, like His love for Israel, is not based on our merits – His care for us, as expressed through Jesus Christ, is unconditional (Deuteronomy 7:6-8; Romans 3:21-28). However, His forgiveness of our sins doesn't give us a blank cheque to cast His mercy back in His face through sin (Romans 6:1-4). God will not be mocked: if we reject the Spirit, we'll be rejecting eternal life (Galatians 6:7, 8). Salvation for us, as for the Israelites, is given to those who actually want to live in a sinless universe.

- Does every setback mean that you're a sinner? (John 9)
- Can the LORD use problems to correct us? (Zechariah 1)
- Shall we continue to sin that grace may abound?
- 'Men and brethren, what shall we do?' (Acts 2)
- Did God have mercy on Israel after their captivity?



The 2520

by Steve Wohlberg

The 2520 'movement' appears to have originated with Jeff Pippenger, a former member of the Newport church in the Upper Columbia Conference, USA. This view has apparently taken root in the UK and a few of its proponents wrote to us in response to Pastor John Surridge's *MESSENGER* articles of 23 November and 7 December 2012.

There are a number of online essays about the 2520 that are worth reading,* but I have chosen to publish this one by Steve Wohlberg, one of the elders of the Newport church, because it is of a suitable length. I sincerely hope that it will prove useful to you if you encounter this view in any form.

The '2520' was being discussed in my home church. After reading arguments on both sides of the controversy, here are my views.

First, those who support the 2520 conclude:

1. It is a divine prophecy embedded in Leviticus 26.
2. Leviticus 26:18 says that if Israel disobeyed God, He would punish her 'seven times' for her sins. Those 'seven times' should be interpreted as 'seven years', or 2,520 days (based on a 360-day Hebrew calendar year), and then, based on the day-for-a-year principle, viewed as 2,520 prophetic years.

3. The 2520 began in 677 BC (William Miller's view, when King Manasseh of Judah was taken to Babylon), and ended in 1844.
4. The 2520 'prophecy' is a 'second witness' to the 2,300-year prophecy because both end in 1844. This 'second witness' is necessary to maintain the integrity of the 2,300-year prophecy because 'In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established' (2 Corinthians 13:1, KJV).
5. Adventists have lost sight of the 2520 and should start teaching it again.

Some of the main arguments used to support the above conclusions are:

1. Ellen White wrote that God led William Miller in his studies in the early 1800s.
2. William Miller believed in the 2520 based on his study of Leviticus 26.
3. Ellen White wrote that God led in the publication of the 1843 and 1850 Millerite charts, and both charts contained the 2520 prophecy (based on Miller's views).
4. Ellen White also



Uriah Smith



William Miller



James White

stated that those charts fulfilled Habakkuk 2:1-4.

After reading arguments on both sides of this controversy, here is my (present) position:

1. I have read Leviticus 26 many times in the last month or so and my honest evaluation is that the chapter itself does not easily support the teaching that 'seven times' represent 'seven years', or 2,520 days, or 2,520 years. In four instances (verses 18, 21, 24, 28) God says that He will punish Israel 'seven times' for her sins if she disobeys Him. The wording implies that these will be four separate, sequential 'seven times', each falling with increasing severity if the preceding punishment fails to produce repentance. Additionally, the original Hebrew word translated 'seven times' (*sheba*) is an adverb (indicating intensity), not a noun (indicating duration). Thus the proper translation of the word '*sheba*' in Leviticus 26 should be 'sevenfold', not 'seven times', representing 'seven years'.
2. Numbers 14:34 is the first time the day-for-a-year principle is mentioned in the Bible. But in Leviticus 26 it isn't mentioned, or even hinted at.
3. The book of Judges reveals that many of the curses listed in Leviticus 26 had already started falling on Israel long before 677 BC.
4. The 70-week/2,300-day prophecy begins with a clear and easily recognisable 'commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem' (Daniel 9:25, KJV). Leviticus 26 contains no such clear starting point for a supposed 2520 prophecy.
5. Leviticus 26 is also filled with conditional 'if . . . then' statements (see verses 3, 4, 23, 24, 27, 28, 40, 42). 'If' Israel obeys, blessings come. 'If' not, curses will follow. Thus free will is involved. This strongly suggests that God's 'I will punish you seven times' warning cannot be a day-for-a-year prophetic timeline with clear starting and ending dates. By contrast, the 70-week/2,300-day timeline is unconditional, with easily identifiable starting and ending points.
6. In Babylon, Daniel realised that Israel's prophesied seventy-year captivity was soon to end (Daniel 9:2). His prayer (verses 3-19) recognised that the curses recorded 'in the law of Moses' (verse 13) had overtaken Israel, yet he hoped they would end soon and that Israel would be restored (verse 17). Such hope would be impossible if Daniel thought the Leviticus 26 curses would continue for 2,520 years! During the rule of Persia, the curses were reversed, Israel returned home, and once again God placed His 'tabernacle' (see Leviticus 26:11) among them. Now blessings had come.
7. When the next prophecy 'chart' was published in 1863 (the year the Seventh-day Adventist Church was organised), the 2520 was left out. From 1863 until today the Adventist Church has never officially recognised the 2520 as a real prophecy at all.
8. One reason for this is because James White rejected the 2520. In a 26 January 1864 *Review* article he stated that the '2520' theory was unbiblical. Uriah Smith, in the

appendix of his book, *Daniel and the Revelation*, pp. 784, 785, agreed with James. Both believed the adverb '*sheba*' meant intensity, not duration, that the 2520 prophecy lacked biblical support, and that Adventists shouldn't preach it.

9. In *The Great Controversy*, chapters 18-24, Ellen White wrote in great detail about the life of William Miller, about how he discovered the 2,300-day prophecy, and about the history of the Advent Movement, and yet she never mentions the 2520 even once. If such a prophecy did exist and was significant, then why didn't she mention it in her most important work when discussing the Millerites? Not only that, but during her entire seventy-year ministry she never mentioned it anywhere.
10. I have seen no convincing proof that the 2,300-year prophetic timeline must have a 'second witness' to validate it, or that this witness must be the 2520. The original 'in the mouth of two or three witnesses' statement applied to civil court cases (see Deuteronomy 17:6), not prophetic timelines. Other biblical applications don't apply it to prophetic timelines either (see John 8:17; Matthew 18:16; 2 Corinthians 13:1). But even if the 2,300-year prophecy should require a 'second witness' to its validity, it seems to me that Revelation 10 and 14, plus the existence of the Adventist Church itself (which grew out of the 2,300-day prophecy), would more than suffice. Then there are the 1,260, 1,290 and 1,335 time periods (Daniel 12:7, 11, 12), which, when linked together, also point to 1844, providing even more support. The fact is that from 1863 until today, Adventist evangelists haven't needed the 2520 to validate either the 2,300-year prophecy or the Adventist movement in general.

2520 proponents may still argue: 'But Ellen White said that angels guided William Miller. Miller believed the 2520. The 2520 prophecy is on the first two charts. Ellen White endorsed both charts, plus she said the Millerite charts fulfilled the prophecy of Habakkuk 2:1-4. Therefore the 2520 must be an important prophecy from God!'

This chain of arguments sounds good, but the biggest problem I see is that its final conclusion (that the 2520 prophecy must come from God) lacks even one clear 'Thus saith the Lord' to support it. Such reasoning also neglects the core issue that Leviticus 26:18, 21, 24, 28 doesn't really support the 2520 in the first place. 'There is no prophetic period in Lev. XXVI,' wrote James White in the *Review*, and trying to 'imagine that such a thing exists' is 'beating the air'. Uriah Smith agreed. Yes, Ellen White wrote that angels guided William Miller, and that God's hand was on the Millerite charts, but she also wrote that angels of God guided James White and had 'oversight' of the *Review*.

'I saw that the paper [*The Review and Herald*] would go and that it would be the means of bringing souls to a knowledge of the truth. I saw that James had not borne the burden alone, but that the angels of God had assisted and had oversight of the paper.' *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 8, p. 221.

Additionally, concerning the Millerite charts being a fulfilment of Habakkuk 2:1-4, notice carefully what Ellen White actually wrote in *The*

Great Controversy, p. 392:

'As early as 1842, the direction given in this prophecy to "Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it" had suggested to Charles Fitch the preparation of a prophetic chart to illustrate the visions of Daniel and the Revelation. The publication of this chart was regarded as a fulfilment of the command given by Habakkuk.'

Look carefully. Habakkuk 2:2 says, 'Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables,' and Ellen White clarified that the main purpose of the 'prophetic chart' was 'to illustrate the visions of Daniel and the Revelation'. The 2,300-day prophecy is part of a 'vision' given by God (see Daniel 8:1, 2, 17) which qualifies it to be a fulfilment of Habakkuk 2:1-4. But there is no 'vision' in Leviticus 26. All of this suggests that Ellen White's support of William Miller, the early charts, and even the 'figures' on the charts, primarily concerned the 2,300-day 'vision', not the 2520. And in her explanation in *The Great Controversy* of these details, this is what she focused on, without mentioning the 2520 even once.

The Adventist Church's biblical mission is to proclaim Heaven's 'sure word of prophecy' (2

Peter 1:19, KJV) and the three angels' messages to the world (Revelation 14:6-12). To do this effectively, our facts must be solid. Yes, God led the Millerites, but then in 1844 He also began giving direct guidance to Ellen White, whose counsel always pointed back to the Bible; and in her seventy years of public ministry, she never specifically mentioned the 2520 even once. It's obvious that Adventism as a whole no longer believes the 2520, and it seems to me that there are two possible reasons for this: 1) the 2520 was lost sight of due to an Adventist failure, or 2) advancing light and careful Bible study led Adventist leaders to realise that the 2520 was really an unbiblical, unnecessary, and unfortunate distraction away from our core biblical message. Presently, I favour the latter, and hate to see people divided over this issue. One thing's for sure: 'Preach the Word' (2 Timothy 4:2) is our mandate.

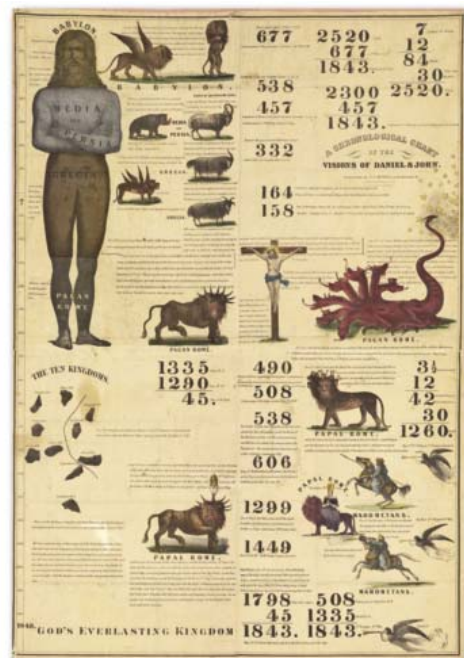
This essay is reprinted from <http://www.weaffirmsda.com/tag/division>, where it first appeared online just over a year ago.

*Editor's note: You will find a number of useful documents at <http://www.weaffirmsda.com/tag/division> and I would particularly recommend the following: 'An Evaluation of the 2520' by Ty Gibson and 'The 1843 Chart and the 2,520 years' by Gerhard Pfandl of the Church's Biblical Research Institute.

The movement that is advancing the 2520 holds this teaching within a larger package of ideas, which includes the following:

1. That the 9/11/2001 terrorist attack is a fulfilment of the 'third woe' brought to view in the seventh trumpet (Revelation 11:14);
2. That the judgement of the living began on 9/11/2001, beginning with the Seventh-day Adventist Church, for whom probation will close before it closes for the world;
3. That the latter rain began to fall from 9/11/2001 onward;
4. That the discovery of the 2520 is a vital part of the 'new light' brought to us by the latter rain;
5. And that the 2520 is, therefore, the 'testing message' for Seventh-day Adventists. Those who accept the 2520 are thereby receiving the latter rain and successfully passing the inspection process of the judgement of the living, and those who reject the 2520 are rejecting the latter rain and thus failing to bear up under the judgement of the living. Probation is closing for Seventh-day Adventists individually and finally for the corporate body by our acceptance or rejection of the 2520 and the attending package of ideas listed above.

TY GIBSON (FROM 'AN EVALUATION OF THE 2520')



Miller's prophetic chart



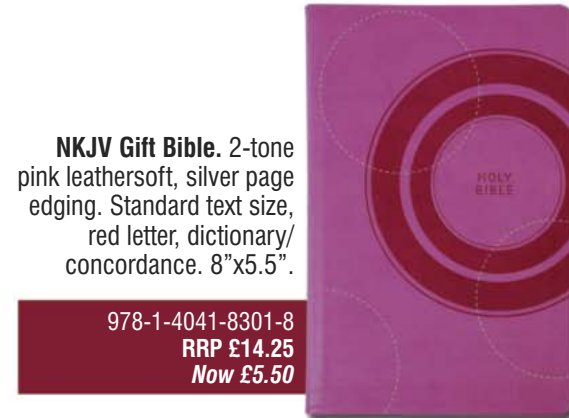
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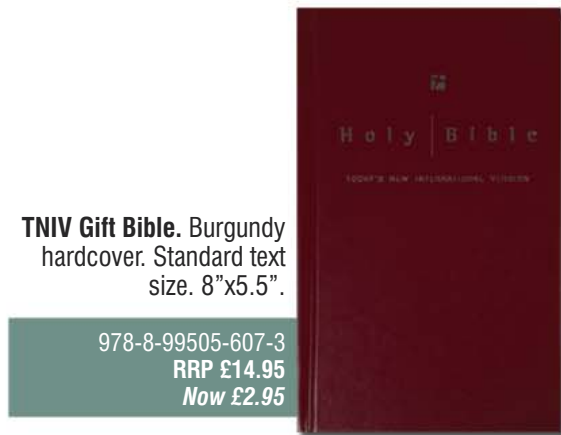
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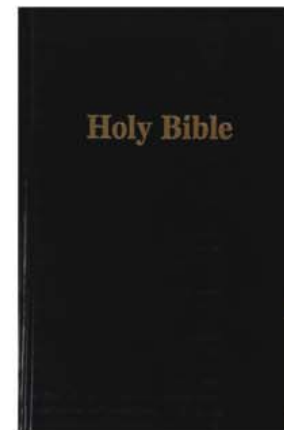
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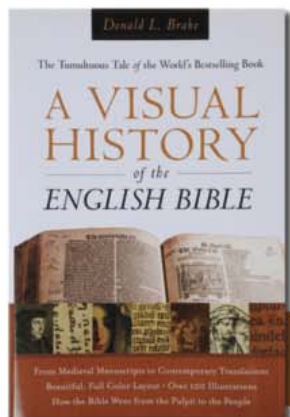
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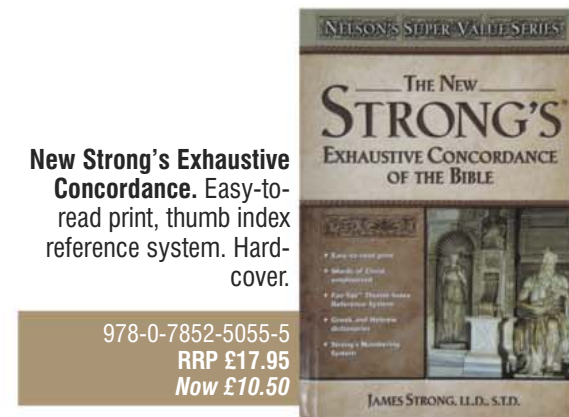
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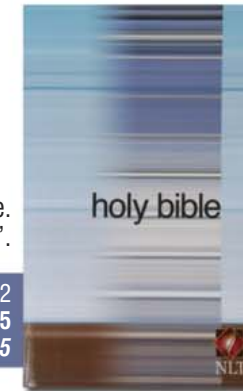
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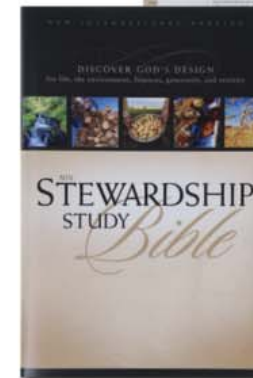
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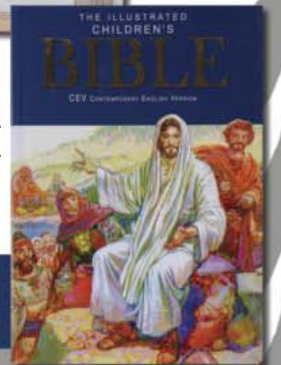
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The *MESSENGER* editor chats to Pastor Sam Davis, South England Conference president, about the prospects for one of the most exciting Adventist outreach events in decades.

Editor: Pastor Sam, thank you, on behalf of our readers, for taking the time to tell us what 'Mission to the Big Cities' is all about.

Pastor Davis: It's my pleasure, Julian. 'Mission to the Big Cities' is a General Conference initiative strongly supported by our world leader, Pastor Ted Wilson. It recognises, correctly, that the majority of the world's population is now to be found in its biggest cities. These big cities are the modern economic hubs, and for that reason people gravitate to them.

The General Conference chose New York as its designated city and asked the various world divisions to choose their own. The Trans-European Division has chosen London as its target city for 2013.

Editor: Pastor Sam, that's quite an honour for us – and it is right in the heart of SEC territory.

Pastor Davis: Yes, but it's a partnership between the TED, BUC and SEC. While London has been chosen as the TED's designated city, every union has also been asked to choose its city for next year. The BUC has chosen Dublin as its target city for 2014.

Editor: How does this partnership work then?

Pastor Davis: Julian, the General Conference

has allocated \$250,000 towards this initiative – for all the European cities, that is. The TED has kindly apportioned the larger amount of those funds towards the London project – for which we are truly thankful.

On top of that, the BUC has earmarked £50,000 spread over two years, and the SEC has voted £50,000 for 2013. There are also some other pots of funding that will be made available towards this project. In total the budget will be over £300,000.

Editor: That's a lot of money, Pastor. How are you planning to use it?

Pastor Davis: It sounds like a lot of money, Julian, but I can assure you that it still falls short of what we need in order to achieve the targets that we have set for ourselves.

Editor: Are you in a position to tell us more about these targets?

Pastor Davis: Yes, certainly! Our members need this information. Initially we decided to have three areas of focus, but one of our areas, 6D, decided that they could not afford to be left out of the action, and subsequently asked to be included.

So we now have four areas of focus. The first is south London, where the main evangelistic centre will be the Brixton church.

The second target area will be our young people. Meetings will be conducted for them at the Advent Centre under the leadership of our Youth director, Pastor Steve Thomas. The third area will be Potter's Bar, where we will be targeting the host community of this country.

Editor: I don't know Greater London that well, Pastor Sam, but I don't think Potter's Bar is part of it.

Pastor Davis: You are right, it isn't; but we have chosen this town for a very specific reason. In this initiative, we want to ensure that a part of our effort will focus on the UK's host community.

I'm not sure if our readers are aware of it, but the majority of people now living in London (55%) are from ethnic minorities. This is what the recent census has revealed. Potter's Bar is a town just outside of London where we can intentionally target the host community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The town's population is 92% white.

Editor: Pastor Sam, your team is clearly in touch with the country's changing demographics. It will be interesting to see the methods used in Potter's Bar – perhaps they can also be applied elsewhere.

Pastor Davis: Julian, they are already being applied and we hope to emulate them. We currently have several initiatives targeting the host community. They are in Southampton, Devizes, St Austell, Dunstable, and Enfield. Various methods of engagement are being

employed and Potter's Bar will be using similar methods of engagement.

We will use a leader and a taskforce who will employ different methods of engagement to win people for Christ. This will be a long-term project.

The fourth area of focus will be the planting of a new group in Uxbridge, and this will be spearheaded by Area 6D.

So you can see the budget that we have is really not a large one. We will need over £100,000 for Potter's Bar alone. There will be training initiatives, ground preparation, advertising, venue hire, and so on – all of which costs money!

Editor: I can see that a lot of thought and work is going into this project – but there is one question our readers will want an answer to: how well has it been received in the local churches? Are you getting the support you need from our members?

Pastor Davis: Good questions. We launched the initiative during the Evangelism Expo in January at Newbold College, in partnership with the TED and BUC, who were represented by Pastors Janos Kovacs-Biro (TED), Raafat Kamal (TED) and Ian Sweeney, our Union president.

The launch drew more than 800 attendees from around the conference and was well received by our members. In fact, I would say that our members and our pastors are on board and eager to work to ensure that this project is a success.

I don't think they see it as just another 'evangelistic fad'. Evangelism is at the heart of the Church. We live and breathe evangelism. We must always be coming up with new and interesting ways of presenting the Gospel. I personally welcome MTTC (Mission to the Cities) and the opportunities that it gives to us to work in partnership with our colleagues at the TED and BUC. This is the first time in my twenty-eight years in ministry that we have ever worked so closely on a project, and I believe that God is going to bless our combined efforts.

Editor: Isn't it possible that this could be seen as a 'top down' initiative?

Pastor Davis: We have done everything possible to ensure that it is not perceived as such. For example: from the very outset our Area co-ordinators have been involved in the planning and strategising; and we have kept our pastors and members abreast of developments so that there would be maximum 'buy in' from them. I think I can truly say, from what I have seen, that our pastors and members are on board and praying for the success of this programme.

Not only has this initiative motivated our London members and pastors, but it is true to say that even in the provinces pastors and members are also gearing up for evangelism.

Editor: Well, Pastor Sam, thank you for a really stimulating, in-depth interview. I am sure that many of our readers will be praying for the success of MTTC – London.



The Trans-European Division has chosen London as its target city for 2013

MTTC budget

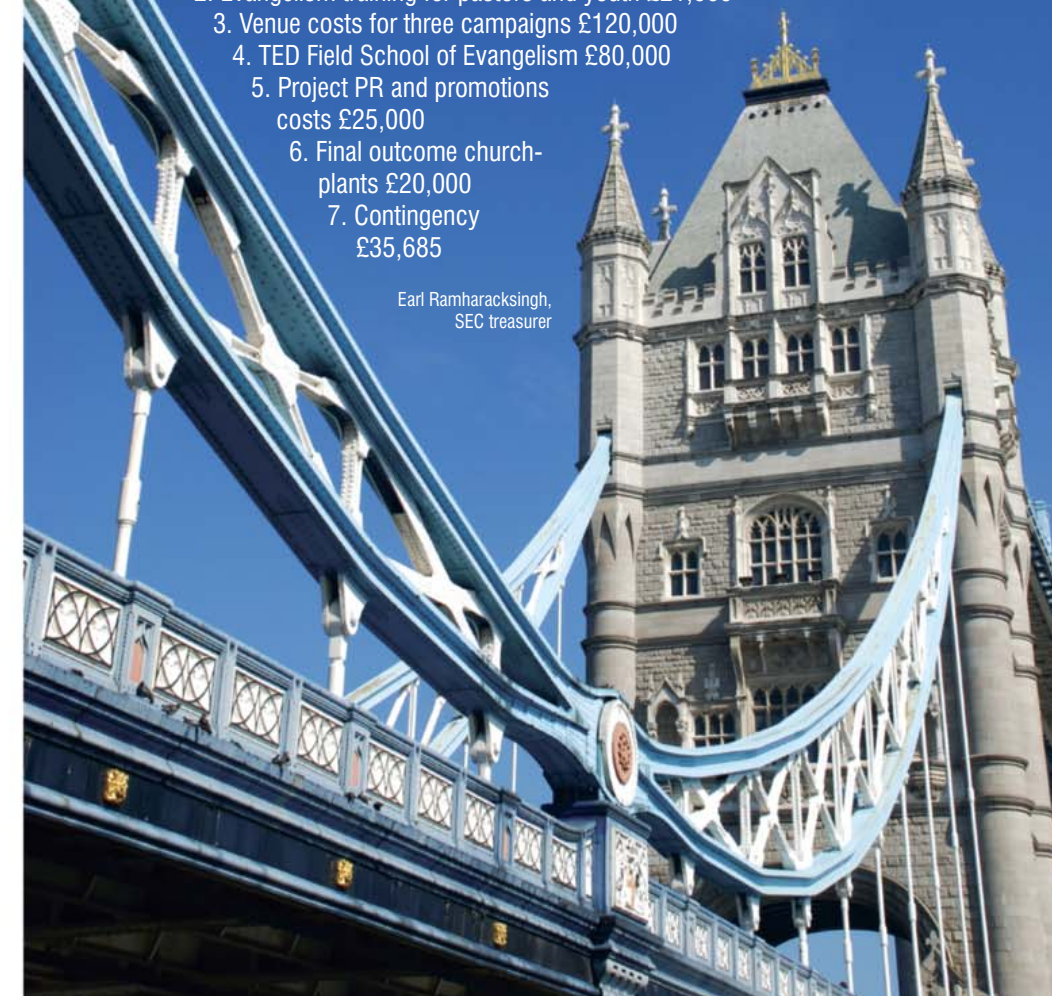
The funding is as follows:

1. GC funding £144,700
 2. TED funding £70,225
 3. TED funding for Field School of Evangelism and youth evangelism £50,000
 4. BUC suggested £50,225 (£25,000 for each of 2013 and 2014 approved)
 5. SEC funding £70,225
- Total funding £384,925

Summary of expenses:

1. 10 taskforce volunteers £53,240
2. Evangelism training for pastors and youth £21,000
3. Venue costs for three campaigns £120,000
4. TED Field School of Evangelism £80,000
5. Project PR and promotions costs £25,000
6. Final outcome church-plants £20,000
7. Contingency £35,685

Earl Ramharacksingh,
SEC treasurer



SEC directors share MTTC departmental plans

Family Ministry: 'Connecting Lives for Eternal Living'

Family ministry remains one of the great untapped resources for evangelism in our cities. Like health evangelism, it can be a great entering wedge for the Gospel, especially through premarital and marital support, parenting seminars, and family finance initiatives, which are some of the options available. Mission to the Cities will provide the opportunity to capitalise on the fact that relationships are the most successful avenue for effective soul-winning.

LESLIE ACKIE



Personal Ministries and Sabbath School:

1. Our department has compiled a list of the Bible workers and lay preachers trained over the past four years. From this database of more than 500 names, Bible workers can be chosen for the various MTTC evangelistic events. The pastors can access this for workers in the various areas.
2. The 'Go SEC' School of Evangelism is currently involved in training more than 200 lay people in six areas of evangelism, with the support of the union and the division. They will be available for the Mission to the Cities and all future evangelism in the SEC.
3. The departments are working with the areas of London to deliver training, and training materials, and to co-ordinate the various activities.
4. We are collaborating with the union and the division in the training of pastors, especially in London. A three-day training retreat is planned for March.

KIRK THOMAS



Youth:

Our primary departmental mission is to lead our youth to Christ, then on into discipleship.

During the MTTC, we will assist our youth federations in the planning of a number of social evangelistic ministries through JAM (Jesus and Ministries, London); Gospel Red



Bus outreach; iSaveLife (giving blood and thus providing life, which is in the blood); and Impact London on Global Youth Day (16 March), when our youth will meet up at the Advent Centre for ITAP at 7pm. This will be a time of praise, testimony and recommitment to mission. In addition, the Youth department and federations will equip our youth at the BE (Bible and Evangelism) Youth Conference, 8-11 August (see www.be-sda.com), in preparation for MTTC and beyond.

The department, in partnership with the Personal Ministries and Church Growth departments, will also provide training for our young people at the John Loughborough School, commencing 17 March. Camp Meeting will also be utilised as a training opportunity for our young people.

This will all culminate in an outreach series (5 October-2 November) to be run by the Youth department and London Youth Federation under the guidance of the MTTC committee and TED Youth Ministries director, Pastor Paul Tompkins. There will be at least seven vacancies for paid youth Bible workers during this period.

STEVE THOMAS

Health Ministries:

The Health Ministries department aims to equip and empower the residents in the town of Potters Bar to be responsible for their health and well-being: the main outcome being restoration to optimal holistic health, and the focus being on prevention. This will be achieved through health expos and health checks, which encourage one-to-one health counselling and education. The events will be accessible, culturally sensitive and of a high standard, as recommended by the National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE). They will be delivered by competent, qualified health professionals or those in allied fields of expertise.

Community Ministries:

In each community there are always social needs. The Community Ministries department aims to cater for some of those needs as we work in partnership



The Advent Centre, London

with the local authority and local organisations. The demography of the area indicates a high percentage of people over 65 years, approximately 25 percent; therefore this group will be targeted.

The rising level of unemployment is contributing to a decrease in living standards. It is hoped that a Food Bank will assist in meeting this need. There will also be a clothing bank, especially to cater for children in the area. To engage all ages there is a proposal that we form a community choir. These events are sustainable and will enhance the success of the Mission to the Cities initiative.

ELSIE STAPLES

Pathfinders:

The aim of the Pathfinder movement is 'The Advent Message in my generation'; the motto, 'The love of Christ compels us'. The 'Mission to the Cities' initiative gives Pathfinders a further opportunity to put our aim and motto into a practical event as we join others to meet this object. Pathfinders are what I call 'front-line evangelists' due to our physical uniformed presence, which does attract public attention when we are out on the streets. People always ask, 'Who are these young people?'

The Pathfinder department will work to support all outreach initiatives initiated by the SEC through our uniformed presence at MTTC events. Whenever our smartly uniformed youth are out on the street or at an event they naturally attract positive community interest. What we would like to see in the designated outreach areas is a community-based Pathfinder programme focusing on the needs of young people in those areas.

KEVIN JOHNS

Church Growth and Evangelism:

The Church Growth department is always working to extend God's Kingdom through the planting of new, healthy churches and the revitalisation of existing ones.

The planting of a church at Potters Bar has been voted as the third project under the 'Mission to the Cities' initiative, and our department will manage it until a project leader has been appointed.

The Potters Bar 'Mission to the Cities' committee has so far made progress in setting up a prayer network; clarifying its vision; studying the demographics of the town; drafting an event timeline; working out a budget; and contacting our members in the area.

Potters Bar is an affluent, middle-class, majority-population town of about 25,000 inhabitants, which makes it a hard, long-term challenge, so please pray for our project.

ARIS VONTALIDIS



Adventist Muslim Relations:

Muslim immigration is growing in the UK, and many of our Adventist churches are in communities in London, where the Muslim population is on the increase. In the light of this, our Mission to the Cities team is arranging to train our members and pastors to reach them. Our Adventist Muslim Relations department will do this training throughout the year, and during the TED School of Evangelism in October. We have planned four days of AMR training, during which an average of fifty people will be trained each time, including five pastors from London. We will also have an Adventist Muslim Relations weekend summit at Croydon Church on 26-28 April. This year churches are getting behind this mission, and more than thirty churches have appointed local AMR co-ordinators to organise their outreach to the Muslim community.

Ministerial and Prayer:

The MTTC committee has given the Ministerial Association an opportunity to meet the SEC elders for a brainstorming exercise to consider various methods and strategies for evangelism in London. Those whose churches are not located in London also contributed by suggesting activities they could do to assist in this mission. The Prayer Ministries department set aside two days of prayer and fasting for all the MTTC evangelistic plans. The first of these was 24 February and the next will be 28 July. An initiative such as Mission to the Cities is a mammoth task that



can only be successful if prayer is the foundation of every plan and strategy. The department will also stream live prayer meetings every Tuesday evening from 9 to 10pm, beginning on 12 March. Individuals can watch the service from the comfort of their homes and submit their prayer requests, which will be read and prayed for in 'real time' during the service. These meetings will continue throughout the year.

EMMANUEL OSEI

Communication and Media:

The media build-up to Mission to the Cities has already begun. The division has tasked pastoral intern Vili Costescu to project-manage the media for Mission to the Cities. He is working closely with the SEC to ensure adequate media output. A Facebook group is up and running with information, inspiration, photos and videos. Specific training in digital evangelism for those churches and pastors involved in Mission to the Cities is planned for 24 March. This will include digital outreach, news coverage and online outreach. One of the projects is the online prayer ministry that will commence on 12 March at 9pm on: www.missiontothecities.co.uk.

Throughout Mission to the Cities the Communication department will report on a variety of initiatives and projects, through news and inspirational stories.

KIRSTEN ØSTER-LUNDOVIST



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* Please note – first named person must be over age 18. Special requests not guaranteed. Maximum persons in 2 bedr'm Apartment is 6.

Address of First-Named on Booking Form:	
Name:	Home Tel:
Street:	Business Tel:
Town:	Email Address:
County:	Post Code:

Special Needs/Requirements Section:

Wheelchair Accessible apartment

Ground Floor apartment

Please note all requests will be dealt with on a first come first served basis.

**** OFFER CODE: SDAN ****

Nb. 1½% admin charge applies to all card transactions.

Declaration:
 I agree on behalf of all persons named above to abide by Pontins' conditions. I accept the charges for accommodation and agree to pay the balance 58 days before the holiday date. By entering into a contract with you I understand that the details I provide will be used in booking and providing my chosen holiday. **(PLEASE sign here)**

Church Name: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

MAKING GOD KNOWN

SEC CAMP MEETING 2013



LAWRENCE DORSEY SNR



ERROL NEMBARD



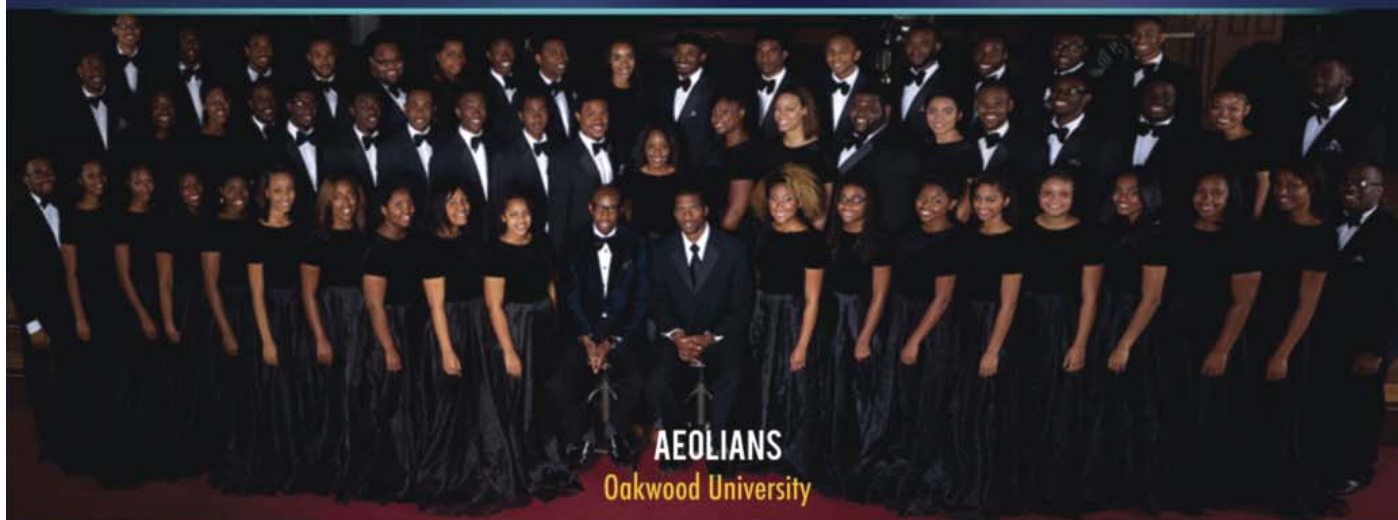
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TEL: 08714 742765

Accommodation:											
Booking ref _____					Holiday location <u>Prestatyn Sands</u>					Number of apartments	
Arrival date <u>24 June 2013</u>					Departure date <u>30 June 2013</u>					Club: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
No. of nights <input type="checkbox"/>					Total persons <input type="checkbox"/>					Total no. apartments/rooms <input type="checkbox"/>	
Number of people between the following ages (age at date of holiday)					Self Catering:					Popular: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
Total					60+ 45-59 26-44 18-25 12-17 8-11 5-7 2-4 Under 2					Classic: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
										(K) 1 bedr'm 2 bedr'm	
										Popular: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
										(P) 1 bedr'm 2 bedr'm	
										X	
										Beds: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
										Single Double Twin	

Prices	C1 Club	C2 Club	K1 Classic	K2 Classic	B1 Popular	B2 Popular
	1 bedroom apartment for up to 4 persons (min 2)	2 bedroom apartment for up to 6 persons (min 4)	1 bedroom apartment for up to 4 persons (min 2)	2 bedroom apartment for up to 6 persons (min 4)	1 bedroom apartment for up to 4 persons (min 2)	2 bedroom apartment for up to 6 persons (min 4)
Discount to 28/2/13	£500.00	£635.00	£415.00	£535.00	£320.00	£415.00
From 1/3/13	£525.00	£665.00	£435.00	£560.00	£335.00	£435.00

Party Details:									
Title	Initial	Surname	No. of Rooms	Age*	Title	Initial	Surname	No. of Rooms	Age*

* Please note – first named person must be over age 18. Special requests not guaranteed. Maximum persons in 2 bedr'm Apartment is 6.

Address of First-Named on Booking Form:	
Name:	Home Tel:
Street:	Business Tel:
Town:	Email Address:
County:	Post Code:

Special Needs/Requirements Section:

Wheelchair Accessible apartment

Ground Floor apartment

Please note all requests will be dealt with on a first come first served basis.

**** OFFER CODE: SDA1 ****

Nb. 1½% admin charge applies to all card transactions.

Declaration:
I agree on behalf of all persons named above to abide by Pontins' conditions. I accept the charges for accommodation and agree to pay the balance 58 days before the holiday date. By entering into a contract with you I understand that the details I provide will be used in booking and providing my chosen holiday. **(PLEASE sign here)**

Local Minister's Signature: _____

Print Ministers Name: _____

Church Name: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Why Huddersfield?

Huddersfield, a northern town halfway between Leeds and Manchester, is larger than many a small city. It embraces a vibrant and diverse multi-ethnic community, and has one main Adventist church, possibly dating back to the nineteenth century, and a relatively new company in Fartown – both striving to reach out to those in need.

On Sabbath, 23 February, Adventist churches in Area 3 of the North England Conference joined forces in Huddersfield to attend their launch of the General Conference initiative, 'Mission to the Cities'. This was supported by the local ministers and was an opportunity to promote the evangelistic commission that God has given us to reach out to those in our cities.

Area 3 is made up of the whole of Yorkshire south of Scarborough. Both Huddersfield and York have been specifically selected to receive targeted attention under this initiative, although all churches in the area will receive some support.

The use of new technology and creative ways to promote the Gospel was a major feature of the day. However, listening to the powerful testimonies of two young people with the experience of witnessing in a 'big city' highlighted that, even in this 'post-modern' time, older methods of door-to-door witnessing, street witnessing and small groups still remain as effective as ever in promoting the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

It was with enthusiasm and conviction that Sarah Dixon, a newly baptised member from the Fartown church, talked about her enjoyment of street witnessing, and how God has helped her to overcome her fear of this through prayer and her appreciation of Scripture. As a means of



Pastor Michael Simpson

encouragement to others, she cited Isaiah 52:7 (NIV), 'How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"'

Sarah wished it to be known that she was introduced to Christ as a result of someone bringing the Good News to her through door-to-door witnessing.

Naythan Grant, youth leader of the Huddersfield church, articulately shared his testimony of street witnessing in Manchester's city centre. Naythan recalled how, in spite of being encircled by a group of Hare Krishna devotees chanting around them, he and the other young people were determined to share the Gospel and boldly sing the songs of Zion.

Following a presentation about the growth of the Fartown company, Edith Batten, also newly baptised, shared the benefits of being part of a small Bible study group to help lift her spirits, share experiences of the week, study God's Word and enable her to make a commitment to Him.

Pastor Augustus Lawrence, minister of the Milton Keynes district of churches, preached on 'God Relocates in Babylon', based on Jeremiah 29:1-14. He challenged the congregation to be obedient to God's will and to tell people about God, even though sometimes we may find it difficult to sing the songs of the Lord in a strange land. Pastor Lawrence referred to God also positioning Daniel in a place to influence the people, as He wished to save the Babylonians, in the same way He wishes to save all people.

During the afternoon service, Pastor Michael Simpson explained that the Adventist Church is a growing 'movement', living in very exciting times, with a mission to evangelise the cities using Christ's methods of mingling with men.

The motive for the call to work earnestly for the cities of the world comes as the churches of the world realise the efficiency of working where many people live. Pastor Simpson then moved on to demonstrate that we would most effectively do this as we show an interest in people by ministering to their needs, winning their confidence and then showing people how to become Christians.

The question was asked, 'What has God laid upon our hearts to do?' The call is out for all of us: Will we initially run, like Jonah – or allow God to use us in a mighty and powerful way?

FARTOWN COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

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)



Christmas baptism

On 22 December Wimbledon International Church rejoiced at the baptism of Alrid Twinda Selladore. She had moved to the UK in 2009 and began attending Wimbledon Church, where she became a valued part of the congregation.

First baptised at 11, she soon realised that it had not really been her decision, and she has now put that right the second time!

Here she is seen with Steve Greaves, who prepared her for baptism, and Pastor Sam Neves, who baptised her.

TAMMY GRIFFITH



'Floods' at Oxford

'I could not believe the number of people flooding out of Oxford Church!' said a surprised member after the baptism there on 9 February. More than 200 came to see the baptism of Chichi Mudenda (16), Christopher-James Nicholls (14), Nicolas Victory (13) and Antonio Dell (13).

Pastor Ian Sweeney preached the sermon while Pastor Ian Sleeman baptised the group. Pastor Dejan Stojkovic was also there to rejoice with them.

SOPHIA NICHOLLS

Young professionals witness

A three-part health series, sponsored by ASI-UK, was presented at Grantham Church during November by five young medical professionals, four of whom attend the Grantham Seventh-day Adventist church. Dr Katie Cunningham led the team, assisted by Dr Sam Cunningham, David Ferguson and Jenny Holden (nutritionist) of the Adventist church, and Dr Yasmin Al-Asadi, who is of the Muslim faith.

They covered three main topic areas with the intriguing titles of 'Combating Anxiety and Depression', 'The Silent Killers' (heart disease, diabetes, cancer and inactivity) and 'The Dark Side of a Party Lifestyle' (substance abuse).

The workshops were well prepared and well presented. The average attendance each night was about sixty. A number of magazines and books relating to the topics were taken by the attendees.

ELISABETH CARNELL



Awards for Lewisham youth

Lewisham Adventist youth were recently given special recognition for the good work they have done for the community.

Her Majesty's Lieutenant of the City of London visited Lewisham Seventh-day Adventist Church on Saturday 23 February, specifically to recognise work done by the youth.

Simon Duckworth presented certificates of recognition to those who had acted as stewards or played in the drum corps during the 2012 Olympics. He made the presentation on behalf of Steve Bullock, Mayor of Lewisham. He not only recognised the good work the church's youth did during the 2012 Olympics, but urged them to continue with work that benefits the community as part of the Pathfinder club. Mr Duckworth was at Lewisham Church for the group's annual investiture day.

During his speech he mentioned that he was happy to see whole families as well as youth in attendance at the church service, and remarked that our society would be all the better if more people followed their example.

JUSTIN VICTOR

NEC PATHFINDER'S DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

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MASTER GUIDE & PLA 1:
MARCH 8-10 SHUGBOROUGH HALL

MASTER GUIDE AND PLA 2:
APRIL 26-28 BEAUDESERT

MASTER GUIDE AND PLA 3:
JULY 5-7 WALESBY

MASTER GUIDE AND PLA 4:
SEPTEMBER 20-22 WALESBY

MASTER GUIDE AND PLA TRAINING FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT THE PATHFINDER WEBPAGE AT WWW.NECADVENTIST.ORG.UK

NEC PATHFINDER'S DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

DRILLING & DRUMMING BOOT CAMP

7-8 APRIL 2013

SO SIGN UP FOR THIS SPECIAL BOOT CAMP FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT THE PATHFINDER WEBPAGE AT WWW.NECADVENTIST.ORG.UK



NEC Area 1 youth retreat

During the weekend of 22-24 February, Area 1 of the North England Conference held its youth retreat with close on eighty young people in attendance. The theme was discipleship – 'Here I am, Lord, send me!' and it was expanded on by good speakers: Joseph Philpott and Pastors Curtis Murphy, Colin Wood, Noel Apugan, Roman Smejkal, and Sidney Almeida. They challenged the participants to build a closer relationship with Jesus and use their talents in sharing the good news with their friends, acquaintances, and loved ones.

The accommodation was excellent; the messages on such topics as spiritual gifts, witnessing, and creation vs evolution; and the Saturday night banquet memorable. Talents were shown through music and speeches from our young people. The banquet was followed by a social activity where bonding became more complete. To conclude the retreat

the group committed to use their time and talents to share Jesus' love with others. The non-members who attended were so impressed that some are enquiring about the next one!

J. R. NARCISO, YOUTH LEADER (NEWCASTLE)



NEC PATHFINDER'S DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

APLA TRAINING

17 FEBRUARY | 14 APRIL | 12 MAY

ADVANCED PATHFINDER LEADERSHIP AWARD FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT THE PATHFINDER WEBSITE AT WWW.NECADVENTIST.ORG.UK



International Choir Festival

One of the highlights of the London Community Gospel Choir's thirty-year anniversary is the planned gathering of at least thirty choirs from all corners of the world over the weekend of 4 to 6 May 2013. The event will include expert workshops, unique performance opportunities, a Guinness World Record challenge and a mega-concert at the Royal Festival Hall, Southbank Centre. This will be the choral version of the Olympics, with choirs from France, Italy, Ireland, Spain, Sweden and all over the UK already confirmed.

Another highlight of the concert will be a Guinness World Record attempt to break the record for the greatest number of people in a gospel choir singing together in concert conditions. The current number is 1,138, and at least 1,200 voices are expected to participate.

The concert will take place at the Royal Festival Hall on Sunday 5 May. To take part in the Guinness World Record attempt you must be available to attend the rehearsal the same afternoon.

Further info: Choirs and individuals looking to take part in the festival can sign up now at: 30choirfestival.com.



Focusing on health

At the heart of a weekend where the focus was on health and lifestyle, Leicester Central Church had Dr Mpfu as their guest speaker. He emphasised that the human body is not the product of accidental forces, but of intricate design by an all-knowing and wise God.

Dr Mpfu advised that for good health there should be a careful monitoring of the balance between what is eaten, daily physical exercise, and a knowledge of the facts relating to cholesterol, blood pressure, and an awareness of family medical history. This will be enhanced when there is regular conversation with a doctor about these matters. He urged all to avoid a sedentary lifestyle, where there is little exercise, too much of the wrong food, a high salt intake and too few fruits and vegetables in the diet.

According to him, working in collaboration with a doctor while doing your part to maintain a healthy lifestyle, with your finger on the pulse of knowing your cholesterol and blood pressure figures, watching your waistline and doing something to control its expansion or contraction, may keep you in a peaceful frame of mind and good health.

PHILIP HERBERT, COMMUNICATION



BOOKSALES

March	24 Bedford	10am-2pm
April	7 John Loughborough	10am-2pm
	7 Croydon	10am-2pm
	21 Wolverhampton	10am-2pm
	28 Holloway	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.

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National Annual **Asna**
Adventist Special Needs Association

Respite

Family Weekend

Connecting people, Changing Lives

Aim of event: To bring people living with disabilities together for peer support, spiritual support and respite from caring.

Speaker: **Pastor Leslie Ackie**

26th - 28th April 2013 at WYBOSTON LAKES
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Standard price **£85** | ASNA members **£80**
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price includes accommodation, resources and all meals
activities for children include zip wire, spider mountain, segways and more

Weekend provides opportunity for further training for Disability Ministry Coordinators in the BUC



healing

Perceptions, expectations and facts;
An exploration through science, faith and culture.

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- FAITH AND HEALING

SPEAKERS:
Ted Wilson, Allan Handysides, Peter Landless, Gary Fraser, Winston Craig, Gary Hopkins, Duane McBride and many others

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APRIL 29 - MAY 4, 2013

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
Intra-European Division
Euro-Asia Division
Euro-European Division
Previously Euro-Asia Division

health MINISTRIES




Careers fair – Sunday 16 December 2012

The London Adventist Credit Union (LACU) sponsored its first careers fair (for secondary school-aged students, supported by the SEC Stewardship department) on Sunday 16 December 2012, at Edmonton Church Hall, near Edmonton Church.

Pastor Richard de Lisser, SEC Stewardship director and pastor of Edmonton Church, welcomed the attendees warmly.

The opening address was by Iris Walkinshaw, the first Caribbean head teacher in the ILEA and a founder member of the earliest after-school educational programme for Adventist children in the 1970s.

Shalisa Anthony, author of *She Who Walks Alone . . . with One*, hosted the event on behalf of the LACU's Marketing department.

The LACU and the SEC Stewardship department are grateful to the professionals who shared their knowledge and work experience with our young people who are planning their future careers. There were Adventists from Anderson Young, IBM, KPMG, and The Royal Marsden Hospital, and from the civil, chemical engineering and pharmaceutical industries; and also educators who provided advice on GCSE and A-level selection, and information on the Russell Group universities. There was also information on internships, scholarships, and work experience placements.

Attendees were also able to apply for LACU membership – a good start for prudent financial planning.

For those who missed this one, the LACU plans another careers fair for **14 July 2013** at the **John Loughborough School, 10am to 4pm**.

Also to come:

Sunday 14 April – **Interviews: How to distinguish yourself from the competition.** Venue: John Loughborough School. Time: 10.30am-4pm (15-plus age group).

Sunday 7 July – **Surviving university** (for young people intending to attend university in 2013). Venue: Edmonton Church Hall, near Edmonton Church, 8 Houndsfield Road, N9 7RA. Time: 10.30am-4pm.

The LACU's 27th anniversary on 11 May. Venue: Holloway Seventh-day Adventist Church; time: 7.30pm. Hear the London Male Voice Choir, Chiswick Gospel Choir, Yolanda Alexander, Joshua Roberts, the Hampstead Adventist Choral Society, Millennium Brass, Tennae Drysdale and the London All Sax Ensemble, among others.

For more information about LACU events and services please visit: www.lacu.co.uk or email info@lacu.co.uk.

LACU MARKETING DEPARTMENT AND SEC STEWARDSHIP DEPARTMENT

Interested in Prison Ministries?

We are developing a new team for Her Majesty's Prison in Stafford, West Midlands.

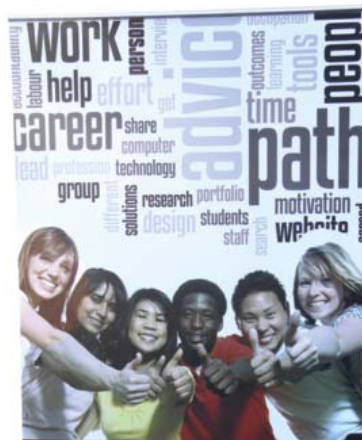
ANCHOR Prison Ministries need to hear from you if you are:

- Able to commit *time* (minimum of four hours a month) • 18 years old or above • Willing to share your talents in the community.


We need:

- Musical artists • Qualified counsellors • Individuals interested in mentoring
- Bible workers • Lay preachers, elders and pastors • Individuals with a thirst to share the love of Christ.

Want to make contact? Email: prisonministry@anchorcc.org.uk or text 0793 1538528 for further information and a registration form.



The longest day has an end.
The sooner you start,
the sooner you finish.



obituaries

Herbert Thomas Fraley (1924-2012) d. 13 November. Herbert (Bert) Thomas Fraley was born in Liverpool in 1924, the only child of Herbert and May Fraley. In 1935 Bert, together with his parents, attended evangelistic meetings in Wallasey, held by Pastor William Maudsely. What Bert heard there he took to heart, and he was baptised on 3 October 1936, at the age of 12, along with his parents. As a family they helped to get the newly established congregation at Wallasey on its feet. The present Adventist church building at Wallasey was discovered by Bert, who alerted Pastor Kenneth Elias to the opportunity to purchase it for £2,000.

Becoming Adventists meant some changes in lifestyle, one of them being Mr Fraley senior recognising that smoking was injurious to his health. He returned home from work one evening and threw his packet of cigarettes on the fire, and never smoked again. The most startling and abrupt change, for young Herbert, was for him to find himself in church on Sabbaths instead of attending the football matches on Saturday afternoon, which until then had been the love of his life. He never lost his love for football, and, not liking television, would regularly follow match commentaries on his radio, if they were not on Sabbath.

At 18 Bert, as a conscientious objector, began working in a hospital, and most of his working life was spent as a hospital orderly.

Following his mother's death, and later his step-mother's death, Bert shared a home with his father for fifteen years at Bedminster, Bristol, until his

father passed away in November 1980. In 1983 Bert moved to Weston-super-Mare, where he lived for the remainder of his life.

Bert loved Ingathering and was a champion at it! He regularly collected for the ADRA Annual Appeal and would faithfully trawl the shops each year to solicit funds. He earnestly looked forward to Jesus' Second Coming, and thought we ought to preach more about the times in which we are living. Bert was a regular distributor of religious tracts and magazines, and continued to do this while resident at his nursing home.

Among the tributes to Bert was one from former BUC president and TED ADRA director, Pastor John Arthur, who said that, when he and his mother joined the Wallasey church in 1964, it was Bert who introduced him to colporteur work. Each Sunday they would be engaged in door-to-door missionary work on both sides of the Mersey. Said Pastor Arthur, 'I will always be grateful to Bert for putting me on the right track.'

Right up until his death, Bert was a faithful member of the Adventist Church. The highlight of his week was to be at church on Sabbath morning, and he was able to attend until the last eighteen months of his life. Due to a respiratory ailment during the last years of his life, Bert became unable to care for himself. He had to sell his bungalow and move to Highcroft Nursing Home in Weston, where he had the best of care and attention from the staff.

Bert's funeral service was held at Ebdon Road Crematorium in Worle and taken by Pastor Wayne Erasmus. The text Bert had

chosen for his funeral service was John 14:1-3, a promise Bert accepted as a certain reality. He believed this with all his heart.

PASTOR ISLWYN REES

Elizabeth 'Betty' Coombs (1938-2013) d. 5 January. Betty was born in Glasgow, the youngest of the three McCondichie children. She was only a toddler when World War Two began, and, after a narrow miss during a bombing raid, the family were evacuated to Ayrshire. After the war Betty had another close shave with death, when at the age of 8 she was knocked over by a car, sustaining a fractured skull.

After leaving school she worked in the office of the Vale of Leven Laundry, but, unable to obtain Sabbath privileges, she moved to Stanborough Park at the age of 18 to work at Granose Foods. She quickly made new friends, one of whom was Dudley Coombs, whom she married in 1958. The couple went on to have two sons, Malcolm and Graham.

Betty loved Ingathering time and always did well in the local pubs and clubs – but, unfortunately, she fell and broke her hip in 2005. Then, just as she was recovering, she was struck down with a form of Guillain-Barré syndrome, from which she never fully recovered. This left her unable to walk and reliant on a wheelchair.

As the years passed she gradually became more disabled, and eventually was bed-bound. Throughout this time, despite the disappointment of not being able to do the things she wanted to and see as much of her family as she would have wished, she tried her best to remain positive. She was greatly comforted by her friends sharing prayers, tracts and poems with her. Her faith in God and the thought that one day she would be able to walk again in Heaven kept her going.

She passed away peacefully in Watford General Hospital on 5 January. Her funeral was conducted at Stanborough Park Church by Pastor Karin Wiczorek, assisted by Pastor Ian Sleeman. This was followed by cremation at West Hertfordshire Crematorium.

Betty is survived by her sons, Malcolm and Graham, their wives Nikki and Hazel, grandson Matthew, sister Anna, brother Bill and her nephews and niece, and their families. The family wish to thank all who sent messages of sympathy and support.

GRAHAM AND JUNE COOMBS

Elzbieta Chalecka (1968-2013) d. 22 January.

Elzbieta Chalecka of Cambridge Church has passed away suddenly, aged 44. She was born in Poland on 13 June 1968, and took up dance from the age of 7 – first ballet, then ballroom and Latin. Elzbieta went on to study choreography in Warsaw, where she trained under some of Europe's leading teachers, before settling in Cambridge, where she made good friends. Her family, church members, and friends have described her as 'a special, unique and devoted Christian who loved the Lord and loved to teach'. She was 'very energetic, full of good spirit and encouragement'.

Elzbieta Chalecka was an asset to the Cambridge church and community, and she became a friend to all her students of the World Dance Company, where she taught ballroom and Latin dancing in many venues around the city and surrounding towns, including children's classes. She inspired the community with her faith, sharing Jesus and praying with all the students who attended her classes.

Sadly, Elzbieta passed away in her sleep, with no signs of pain. Just an hour before her death she was in touch with her friends.

She was a regular attendee at Wednesday night prayer meetings, and was always one of the first through the door of the church. 'Dancing gave her strength, and she shared this strength with her students. She was always smiling, and her smile made us smile back to her.'

She will be missed by her friends, family, church members and all her students, but we rest in the hope of meeting her again one day soon.

COLIN STEWART

Farewell to Pastor Bruce

The Northampton Highlands Avenue, Harlestone Road and Rugby churches said farewell to Pastor Bruce and family on 30 December 2012, after five years of loyal service. He had come to them fresh from the Caribbean islands of St Vincent and the Grenadines, and it was clear that his strength was evangelism. Thus, the churches grew as the result of numerous baptisms, the last being the week before when four were immersed and one accepted by profession of faith.

His favourite quotation was from Ellen White's book *Education*, page 173: 'But in the word of God the curtain is drawn aside, and we behold, behind, above, and through all the play and counterplay of human interests and power and passions, the agencies of the all-merciful One, silently, patiently working out the counsels of His own will.'

He now pastors the Handsworth, Great Barr, and Chelmsley Wood district.

ANASELIA MORRIS, COMMUNICATION, NORTHAMPTON





STOP International raises £2,000-plus

Watford-based charity, STOP International, which helps children in orphanages in southern India, recently raised over £2,000 during an Indian evening held in the Stanborough Centre.

STOP International was founded in 2000 by Kish Poddar, a teacher at Stanborough School, and it helps children in orphanages in Tamil Nadu, southern India. During the evening Kish promoted their project: setting up a sewing room at the Vocational Training Centre in one of the orphanages STOP supports. His appeal for self-supporting volunteers to assist him was positively received.

The evening, which was attended by eighty people, consisted of a three-course vegetarian Indian meal with spoof 'Bollywood-style' dancing, led by Joanna Swain and her husband Carl, who have been involved in some of the charity's projects in the past.

Following the meal there was an auction of promises which sparked some lively bidding for fifteen lots, including sailing in the Mediterranean, a week in north Wales for six, and private tuition.

JUNE COOMBS

One man and his dog (part 1 of 3)

This story began one cold night in 2012. A shabby man and his friend came into Oldham Church during choir practice, talked about God, and, after a wide-ranging conversation, went away.

The next time they visited something prompted someone from our community services to ask: 'Would you like something to eat?' The man's eager response showed this to be the right question, and a plate of hot food was conjured up from lunchtime leftovers. On smelling the food, his until-now quiet companion became very excited. 'She's smelt the meat!' he exclaimed, unaware that there was no 'meat' on the plate. We asked if he wanted some food for her too, and with his agreement, Stella the dog was fed and watered.

Over the years we have had various individuals coming for help and have developed a policy of providing no money, only goods and services such as food, clothing, top-up of gas/electric meter cards, a saucepan, toiletries and so on – but we had not fed a dog before!

Kevin and Stella left after being fed and watered. Some months later, David and Andrew came looking for a hot drink and food, having been told of the kindness of Oldham Church by Kevin (and maybe Stella too!). And so, by word of mouth we have seen many others coming to the church on a regular basis. We have had to set a time, between 6 and 6.30pm, to manage the process. Each person receives a drink and is given a plate of hot food to either eat or take away with them, and a bag of cans and packets to help them through the week.

What about Kevin and Stella? While we haven't seen them in some time, Stella hasn't been the only dog to 'come and dine' at Lord Street, Oldham.

The Bible cautions us to entertain strangers, because thereby we may entertain angels unawares.

MAUREEN CLARKE, COMMUNITY SERVICES



To be continued . . .

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Sunset

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

	Lon	Card	Notf	Edin	Belf
Mar 22	6.17	6.30	6.22	6.31	6.41
29	6.29	6.41	6.34	6.45	6.55
Apr 5	7.41	7.53	7.47	7.59	8.08
12	7.53	8.05	7.59	8.14	8.22

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