

Messenger

News to the churches • 8 November 2013 • Volume 118 • 23



God leads Hyland House into the twenty-first century!



In September 2014 we will see Hyland House Seventh-day Adventist School in a new location at the Holcombe Road site, London. Until recently the home of the John Loughborough School, this site will be tailored to create a 'state of the art' learning and teaching environment for Hyland House students and teachers.

Gina Abbequaye, long-standing head teacher of Hyland House, expressed herself like this: 'After ninety years of the school being located in Waltham Forest, I never envisaged our school moving to the Holcombe Road site. However, my staff and I accept that God's ways are not our ways, and where He leads we will follow! The vision is for specialist contractors to consult and



work in partnership with staff, parents and children to achieve a learning facility fit for the twenty-first century and beyond.'

It seems that the whole school is buzzing with excitement about the move!

'The students are able to see the potential of such a large location,' said the Early Years co-ordinator, Karen Clarke. 'Our main concern is not *why* we've ended up with that site, but *how* we can utilise it for outstanding learning.'

The children are looking forward to specially-tailored classrooms that provide for ICT, Science, Food Technology, Art and DT, a special music centre and a school kitchen providing hot meals.

'I like that we will have a bigger space and big classrooms,' commented Year 5 student, Alicia D'Aguilar. 'We can go to separate rooms for Art, ICT and Cooking; I like that! We can do after-school clubs and make so many things; even our parents could come if we let them in!'

'We will eat cooked food for lunch at the new place,' added Year 6 student Jerome Phillip. 'No more packed lunch: only when we choose!'

'I can understand the concerns in moving,' commented Dean Palmer, a father of students in Years 1 and 4. 'People might feel standards could drop or feel it may be too harsh an environment, but they're moving staff that we trust and they will continue that standard – nothing will change except the location. The growth and development of the new school can only benefit our children as they gain more areas to learn and play.'

SEC president and chair of the governing body of Hyland House School, Pastor Sam Davis, commented, 'The Holcombe Road site is vacant and has great facilities. It has been built up for educational purposes and the Hyland House School have been looking for a new building for over twenty-five years. Now that a location we already own has become available, it will be a great fit and good to see this opportunity pursued.'

For more information about the Hyland House Primary School, please visit their website at www.hylandhouseschool.org.



Time extension for church photo competition

BUC News has received some excellent contributions to its church photo competition, but needs more participation to represent churches from every region and style of church across the UK and Ireland. 'Winning entries will represent the Church on our website, demonstrating to the wider community that this is a place of worship that they will want to visit,' states competition organiser, Victor Hulbert.

He encourages budding photographers to take a look at the most recent entries on the *BUC News* Facebook page, then get the camera out this Sabbath and see if they can produce something even more special. 'The photo should include some aspect of the building and must include people,' Victor adds. 'It should also be a landscape photo that will look good on the front page of the Adventist Church website.'

Entries should be submitted before 18 November, and prizes will be awarded for the winner and runners-up. Full details and entry requirements are available on the Adventist Church website at: adventist.org.uk.



Victor Hulbert
BUC Communications director

editorial

MI spent an hour or so on the phone last Friday morning doing the unavoidable – arranging my motor vehicle insurance for the next 12 months – not something I enjoy doing at the best of times. Especially when I know that our premiums are being pushed skywards by unscrupulous practices within the insurance industry.

For example, the Insurance Fraud Bureau (IFB), 'a London-based industry organisation', is 'currently investigating more than 90 criminal gangs involved in "crash-for-cash" fraud' scams here in the UK. Scams that presently cost innocent and honest policyholders like us a cool £392 million!

How do they do it?

How do these fraudsters do it? How do they pick our pockets through these 'crash-for-cash' scams? Recent court cases in England and Wales have exposed widespread collusion between claims companies, drivers and passengers during a series of carefully staged minor collisions.² In at least one incident the court found that the bus driver and a number of his passengers were also in on the scam!

Bluntly put, although some may view this type of insurance fraud as a 'victimless' activity, it is nothing less than organised crime.

How big is organised crime?

Well, the most recent figures I could find date back to mid-2011, when police estimated 'that organised crime involves 6,000 groups, up to 38,000 people and that it could cost the UK economy between £20bn and £40bn a year.'³ Now take a deep breath . . . because the larger of those two figures is enough to provide 6,983,484 basic UK state pensions!

But there are costs that can't be tallied on a calculator – the human costs. Organised crime is notorious for its involvement in the illegal trafficking of drugs, alcohol, tobacco and human lives (especially for the purpose of prostitution).

What's it got to do with us?

By now you may be asking this question: 'Just what has organised crime got to do with us? We are law-abiding Christians.'



Organised crime



Julian Hibbert
Editor

'We don't do crime.' My thoughts exactly! That is, until I recalled what was going on in Jerusalem during the time of Jesus.

To understand the times we have to get to know the protagonists. Firstly, there were the **Sadducees**, a sect that enjoyed high social status, both for their religious roles (many of them were serving priests) and for their key positions within the Jewish administration of the day.⁴

Secondly, there were the **Pharisees**, another influential group that functioned as both a religious sect and a political party. They had some strong doctrinal objections to the teachings of the Sadducees and this led to conflict between the two groups. As a sect they were obsessed with man-made rules (particularly those involving ritual purity) and very judgemental of ordinary 'sinful' people.⁵

We shouldn't forget that the members of both groups were highly religious. Both respected the Scriptures; were fastidious in their temple worship; brought the prescribed sacrifices; gave tithes and offerings; prayed publicly; and awaited the Messiah's coming. They were also the movers and shakers of the Jewish 'church' – the ones who refined its doctrines; banished lepers and tax collectors from its fellowship; and incited its members to stone the promiscuous.

Effectively, these men formed the administration of the church that Jesus grew up in. They sat on its boards and formed its committees. They were the beating heart of its organisational structure.

Now listen to them . . .

Jesus had just raised Lazarus from the dead. Public excitement was running high. Many now believed in Jesus. But not all were happy. According to John 11:47-50 (NIV):

'Then the chief priests and the Pharisees called a meeting of the Sanhedrin. "What are we accomplishing?" they asked. "Here is this man performing many signs. If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and then the Romans will come and take away both our temple and our nation."

"Then one of them, named Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, spoke up, "You know nothing at all! You do not realize that it is better for you that one man die for the people than that the whole nation perish."

So there we have it. In the boardroom, at the highest level of the church of Christ's day, we see **expedience** pushing **principle** aside. We hear the chairman ask the wrong questions: 'What is best for the church? What is best for the nation?' Those can never be the deciding questions. 'What is best?' can never be a substitute for 'What is right?'

Then we hear Inspiration unfold the narrative to its ghastly conclusion (verses 53 and 57, NIV):
'So from that day on they plotted to take his life', and the 'chief priests and the Pharisees' gave "orders that anyone who found out where Jesus was should report it so that they might arrest him.'

From that moment, their organised religion became organised crime!

To those who sit . . .

For those of us who sit within the circles of organisational or administrative authority, irrespective of the level (be it congregational or higher), whether as volunteers or employees, John 11 is food for thought.

But, from my experience, the unofficial 'Sanhedrins' are often the most dangerous. Why? Because their membership is usually based on long-standing allegiances and mutual interests; they are places where we can speak freely, passionately, with little fear of contradiction; and they are free from the accountability that record-keeping imposes on us. They can happen during a Sabbath lunch, or while sitting in the sun at a church picnic. They may seem innocuous, but their consequences can be toxic.

All this demonstrates how easy it is to let the end justify the means; how easy it is to do what is expedient rather than what is right; and sadly, how quickly planning degenerates into plotting!

¹Read more: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2432593/Gang-deliberately-crashed-bus-500-000-cash-crash-scam-guilty-fraud.html#ixzz2YUdAnls> ²ibid ³<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-14318162> ⁴<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sadducees> ⁵<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pharisees>



Enhancing Health

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

Mad cow disease – more cases on the horizon

A BBC News online report on 15 October 2013, by editor Michelle Roberts, carried the headline: 'Estimate doubled for vCJD carriers in UK'.

Variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD) is a rare and fatal human neurodegenerative condition which progressively attacks the brain. There is currently no cure for it.

WHO facts:¹

- The consumption of food of bovine origin contaminated with the agent of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE – more commonly known as 'mad cow disease'), a disease of cattle, has been strongly linked to the occurrence of vCJD in humans.
- 175 cases of vCJD were reported in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from October 1996 to March 2011.
- Following the successful containment of the BSE epidemic in cattle, the number of cases of vCJD in the United Kingdom has declined since 2000.

In a new report from the BMJ² (*British Medical Journal*), researchers suggest that twice as many Britons as previously thought could be carrying the human form of 'mad cow disease' (vCJD). The report estimates that one in 2,000 people in the UK is a carrier of the disease, which is linked to the eating of contaminated beef. These figures were reached following the study of more than 32,000 samples of human tissue from 41 hospitals between 2000 and 2012.

Lead researcher, Professor Sebastian Brandner, states, however, that it remains unclear whether any of these carriers will ever develop symptoms. 'Will these people develop disease and can they transmit it? There are many questions we still do not know the answers to,' he said. Professor Richard Knight, director of the National CJD Research and Surveillance Unit in Edinburgh, agrees that the answers might not be known for decades.

There have been strict controls to prevent meat from infected cattle from entering the food chain following the discovery in 1996 of the link between vCJD and BSE. But because we don't know how long it takes for the symptoms of vCJD to occur after initial infection, as the report suggests, those people exposed to infected meat before the food controls were introduced continue to develop variant CJD, and may spread it to others.

The disease may be transmitted from human to human via blood, and there have been three reported cases of vCJD associated with blood transfusions in the UK.³ Blood donor services do, however, take measures to ensure blood is not infected. Scientists are also currently working on a test to screen for vCJD.

Good health!

¹<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs180/en/>

²<http://www.bmj.com/content/347/bmj.f5675>

³www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-24525584



Dreams

by Stuart Sly

**'And it shall come to pass afterward
That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh;
Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
Your old men shall dream dreams,
Your young men shall see visions.
And also on My menservants and on My maidservants
I will pour out My Spirit in those days.'**

Joel 2:28, 29 (NKJV)

Dreams are funny things, a collection of seemingly random imaginings that occur during our sleep and usually seem to make no sense – that is, if we can remember them when we wake up. The *American Heritage Dictionary* defines dreams as follows:

*'Dreams are successions of images, ideas, emotions, and sensations that occur involuntarily in the mind during certain stages of sleep.'*¹

A colleague told me a few days ago that I had appeared in one of his dreams, and a strange situation it was that he described to me. I then suggested that maybe he should have labelled it a nightmare, rather than a dream!

Joseph's dreams

It did make me think, though. How many times in the Bible do we see dreams occurring which have some significance, sometimes with life-changing results? There is the naive young Joseph and his dream of the sheaves of wheat, where all his brothers' sheaves bow down to his sheaf. It certainly didn't go down well in the household!

Then later on, having been sold as a slave and carted off to Egypt, he ends up in jail listening to more dreams. This time they are the dreams of Pharaoh's

baker and the butler, with drastically varying fortunes as their outcomes. Finally, it is Pharaoh's own dream that provides him with a way out of jail and a complete change of fortune. But despite these significant instances of inspired dreams, the vast majority of our dreams seem to have absolutely no deeper meaning for our lives. They are probably just the brain filing away all our records and occasionally being interrupted by the troubles and concerns that we were pondering as we went to sleep.

'Real' dreams

But there are some dreams that do have significance for our lives. Not the sort we experience just before we wake up in the

morning, but the dreams or aspirations we have for our lives. We use the word 'dream' in the context of 'a dream home' or 'a dream holiday', to define the pinnacle of what we would really hope to achieve. And it's good to have hopes and aspirations of better things – so long as we keep them in context. We need to beware, as the saying goes, of what we hope for in life, as it may be all we get.

I was wondering about our Scripture reading from the Book of Joel – what dreams are these 'old men' going to have? Will it be like the divinely inspired visions that the 'young men' will have, visions of God's plans that we can join in with and share the joy of working with Him?

In the context of these thoughts on dreams, in a previous *MESSENGER* article (5 July, p. 6) I mentioned my dream of a time when the people of the United Kingdom will experience that tremendous end-time thirst for the knowledge of God. At the same time we will be prepared, through the leading of the Holy Spirit, to help them quench that thirst through our words and the example of our deeds. We may wonder how we are going to complete the Gospel Commission here in the UK, but He has the plans to achieve that – plans that defy our imagination.

His dream

This makes me wonder whether God also has dreams and aspirations of better things for us here on Earth? Yes, I believe He does. Listen to Jeremiah 29:11 (NKJV), where God intimates that He wants the very best for each of us:

'For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.'

Sadly, we don't always accept His 'thoughts' and plans for us, do we? God desperately wants us to experience 'peace', 'hope' and a positive 'future', but He refuses to force His plans onto us when we are unwilling.

Our dream?

God's aspiration for Earth – His dream, as it were – is that everyone gets to spend eternity with Him. Notice this declaration of His expectations in 2 Peter 3:9, NKJV: *'The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.'* (emphasis supplied.)

Unfortunately, we know that that particular dream will not be fulfilled for everyone – many will choose their own plans, dreams and aspirations over His perfect one. But it doesn't need to end like that for you and me. We can see His visions and dream His dreams . . . and receive an eternal 'future and a hope'!

¹The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition, 2000.



Adventist Frontier Missions

In the 25 October issue of *MESSENGER* we made a mistake that may have created the impression that Adventist Frontier Missions is a department or subsidiary of the General Conference. The byline contained the wording, *'General Conference Adventist Frontier Mission director, Pastor Conrad Vine, reports . . .'*, when it should have read, *'Adventist Frontier Missions director, Pastor Conrad Vine, reports . . .'* We apologise for any problems this may have caused.

Adventist Frontier Missions is an Adventist supporting ministry working in close co-operation and consultation with the General Conference and its Divisions, worldwide. By way of further clarification is this information, taken directly from the AFM website at www.afmonline.org:

Q: What is AFM's working relationship with the Seventh-day Adventist Church?

A: From the very beginning, AFM has had a policy of working closely with the Church at all levels. We greatly value the assistance and guidance provided by church leaders. We appreciate the positive working relationships we have with leaders and fellow missionaries around the world. It is our goal to plant Seventh-day Adventist churches, so we are committed to partnering with our brethren in Church leadership. AFM is also happy to have a General Conference representative on our board of directors – Rick McEdward, Director of Religious Study Centres.

THE EDITOR



Ever had questions about our faith, doctrines or practice that you want to see resolved? Each week I'll be hosting Q&A in an effort to answer them.

Andrew Puckering

'Is it true that the Sabbath was instituted only at Creation, and that it did not exist before that?'

Paulsen Yesudian

A: Apparently, yes – Genesis 2:2, 3 (NKJV) states: 'And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.' This is clearly talking about the Sabbath day, as is made clear by Exodus 20:11. The reason given for the sanctification of the Sabbath day is God's rest on the seventh day after creating this world in six days. Therefore, it seems not only that God instituted the Sabbath at Creation, but also that there was no reason for it to have existed prior to Creation. Besides which, how could every seventh day have been kept holy before the first day had been created?

Nevertheless, some Adventists maintain that it existed before Creation, quoting Ellen White as follows: 'The moral law was never a type or a shadow. It existed before man's creation, and will endure as long as God's throne remains. God could not change nor after one precept of His law in order to save man; for the law is the foundation of His government. It is unchangeable, unalterable, infinite, and eternal.'¹ This being the case, and with the moral law including the Sabbath as part of the Decalogue, they understand the Sabbath to have existed from eternity.

However, Ellen White apparently excluded the Sabbath from the laws that 'existed before man's creation', because she also wrote: 'The Sabbath was hallowed at the creation. As ordained for man, it had its origin when "the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy." Job 38:7 . . . Because He had rested upon the Sabbath, "God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it".'²

Did she contradict herself here? I don't think so. Even when this world passes away, and new heavens and a new earth are created, we will still be keeping the Sabbath (Isaiah 66:23). Therefore it's clear that the Sabbath, while being a part of God's eternal law, is eternal with respect to lasting forever, from the moment of Creation. It might not be 'from everlasting', but it is 'to everlasting'.

Our fundamental belief on the Sabbath is expressed this way: 'The beneficent Creator, after the six days of Creation, rested on the seventh day and instituted the Sabbath for all people as a memorial of Creation. The fourth commandment of God's unchangeable law requires the observance of this seventh-day Sabbath . . . God's perpetual sign of His eternal covenant between Him and His people.'³

¹Ellen G. White, 'The Righteousness of Christ in the Law', *The Review and Herald*, 22 April 1902; also quoted in 'God's Law Is Linked With His Throne', 13 March reading in *God's Amazing Grace*, p. 80, and Ellen G. White comments on 2 Corinthians in the *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 6, p. 1,097 ²Ellen G. White, 'The Sabbath', *The Desire of Ages*, p. 281 ³Ministerial Association of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 'The Sabbath', *Seventh-day Adventists Believe . . .* (2006), p. 281

Do you have a question you'd like to see answered in Q & A? Why not send it in to us at: editor@stanboroughpress.org.uk? If your question doesn't appear in the next issue, don't despair – we will deal with it in due course.

Adventist Services and Laymen's Industries UK (ASI) Convention

31 January – 2 February 2014

Venue: Staverton Park De Vere, Daventry

Guest speaker: Dr Daniel Duda, Education director & Ministerial Association associate director, Trans-European Division

Also: Gifford Rhamie, lecturer in Pastoral Studies (Newbold College) and Pastor Obinnaya Iheoma

Music: Paul Lee and company

To book, or for further information, please contact Christine Manners-Smith at: rovingcms@gmail.com or 07790 452920. ASI-UK website address: www.asi-uk.info

Weekend cost:

1 night = dinner/b&b/lunch/conference
2 nights = dinner Friday to lunch Sunday/conference
All bookings include all-day refreshments & spa

Members: 1 night £65 per person/2 nights £130 per person
Non-members: 1 night £70 per person/2 nights £140 per person
(but if you join ASI-UK at weekend same as members)

Children (5-12 yrs): Half adult fee (4 and under free)
No supplement for single booking

Sabbath only:

(Including conference, refreshments, lunch, dinner, spa)
Members: £35 (with dinner), £25 (no dinner)
Non-members: £40 (with dinner), £30 (no dinner)
Students: £35 (with dinner), £25 (no dinner)
Children (5-12 yrs): Half adult price (4 and under free)

Saturday evening dinner only: £19.95

Pre-booking only for these prices



In search of excellence

by Dr William Ackah

The South England Conference Camp Meeting of June 2013 will live long in the memory of those who experienced the brilliant musical elegance of the Aeolians from Oakwood College, USA. The controlled power and majesty of those young singers was a sight and sound to enjoy. But, just two weeks earlier, I had been equally mesmerised by musical excellence in less grand surroundings and before a much smaller audience. The London Adventist Chorale performed in front of 200 people in a small community hall in Luton. They raised the hearts of the audience towards Heaven with a wonderful rendition of spirituals, and in the process they enabled a group of Pathfinders to raise much-needed funds to go on a mission trip to Jamaica. We are used to being wowed by preachers and singers that come to the UK from overseas, but the sustained excellence, dedication and service of the Chorale over such a long period of time is something of which the UK Church should be immensely proud.

Last year I convened an international academic conference on religion and race at the University of London, and needed quality music for the distinguished academics and church leaders who attended. The Chorale performed at this event in Central London on a weekday evening without charge and proved to be a wonderful witness, not only in their singing, but also in their demeanour and positive engagement with the conference delegates. A few weeks after that event the Chorale, along with other London-based Adventist singers, performed with the world's premier jazz trumpeter and composer, Wynton Marsalis, at the Barbican in a stunning performance of the Abyssinian Mass, which was composed for the bicentenary of the world-famous New York Abyssinian Baptist church. On a Friday evening, in a secular concert hall, in front of a predominantly white audience, a group of predominantly black British Seventh-day Adventists sang African-American jazz-influenced gospel and took a secular audience on a spiritual journey that transformed the concert hall into a church. As one *Guardian* newspaper reviewer put it:

'The choir's skill and unselfconscious joy communicated directly to a packed hall, with a sound infectious enough to make the most agnostic listeners temporarily wish they were believers.'

In Ken Burton, the Chorale and the other groups and choirs that have emerged from the same stable, the Church has a special treasure that is recognised nationally and internationally. But the question that could be asked is whether we recognise the treasure that we have in our midst? Are we celebrating it sufficiently, nurturing it and taking steps to ensure that such musical treasure as the Church possesses is passed down to the next generation?

That is not to suggest that it is easy to reproduce such talent en masse. Genius is invariably impossible to reproduce or replicate, hence its rare quality. The Church can, however, foster and share a sense of excellence in what it does within its walls and for the wider community, and we can learn valuable lessons on how to do this from the example of the Chorale. What I particularly admire about them is that, whether performing before royalty or the common man or woman, their performance is always of a high quality. Whether in a packed concert hall or a half-empty church, their dedication and commitment are always obvious. Can the same be said of the quality of our church services? Not just our worship services, but all the events that take place in and outside of church that have the Seventh-day Adventist label. Do we inspire and cultivate a sense of dedicated service, and a striving after excellence in all that we do? Are we leaving a legacy of service that people in the wider community can recognise and acknowledge? I was in Ghana recently attending an academic conference on church responses to twenty-first-century slavery. At the event I was approached by a British-based Methodist minister who, upon learning that I was a Seventh-day Adventist, lamented the demise of the John Loughborough School, saying that its closure was not just sad for the Church,

but 'a tragedy for the black community'.

For communities that are starved of resources, role models and organisations, it is a tragedy to lose such an important and iconic institution. Will we learn any lessons from this about creating and sustaining institutions of excellence? Do those of us who belong to minority ethnic communities recognise that our achievements and failures are those not just of the Church, but also of the wider black community in this country? Although our Church is a multi-ethnic, multilingual community it is also, by default, one of the largest black-majority-led organisations in the UK, if not the largest. With that knowledge should come a sense of responsibility, not just to the Church, but to the wider community of which we are an important part.

The London Adventist Chorale has bequeathed the Church a tremendous legacy with its joyful witness in song to people of every race, religion and culture. But as a wider Church, have we considered what legacy we are leaving for the next generation to emulate and build on? In February this year, I was an invited speaker at the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference in Dallas, Texas, the key gathering of progressive African-American churches in the USA. The keynote speaker at the opening of the conference was a Dr Gail Christopher, who spoke eloquently about the work she was doing in tackling racism and injustice in the US and around the world. She was doing so with a 100-million-dollar fund that the foundation she was vice president of had authorised her to utilise for this monumental task.

The foundation she works for is one of the largest philanthropic foundations in the world, and its name – surprise, surprise – is the Kellogg Foundation, established by a legacy from the Seventh-day Adventist cereal pioneer and rancher, Will Keith Kellogg. Currently it has assets of over 8 billion dollars and is engaged in a wide range of community development work in the US and around the world. Wow: a Seventh-day Adventist who was passionate about the second coming of Christ, and committed to the welfare of others, left a legacy that is still changing lives and transforming communities long after his death. We may not have the resources of W. K. Kellogg, but we do share his faith – and through faith, positive action and a genuine love for the broader community of which we are part, we can create a culture of excellence and achievement right here in the United Kingdom: and leave a legacy befitting of our God. I challenge you today, as I challenge myself, not to settle for average or the OK – but to strive for the most excellent way!



touchscreen

... a forum in which to ask questions or share information about apps and all things digital that may enhance twenty-first-century spirituality, hosted by David Bell.

John McGoldrick writes: I read with interest the article and letters about Christian apps. I have recently purchased an iPad and it would be an excellent witness if we could have a website with Adventist and other Christian apps; or do we already have one? God bless, *John*

Thank you John for your letter. To my knowledge, there is no 'SDA Church' specific website just dealing with apps, ... perhaps there should be. However, a quick search on the iTunes Store, using the word 'Adventist', revealed a whole raft of content for both the iPhone and the iPad. The same search on Play Store (Android) or at <https://play.google.com> gave similar results.

If anyone can offer any further suggestions, please let us know.

DAVID

'Appy Sabbath!'

It trips off the tongue so easily: 'Happy Sabbath!' But it could now take on more meaning if we employ new technology.

Pastors and church leaders often express concern about Sabbath School attendance and contributions, and parents sometimes despair at retaining their children's focus on things spiritual. But help is now at hand. A wide range of internet apps (applications) are available free – or for a few pence – to download

to our personal smartphones and tablets. With all we need literally at our fingertips 24/7, no longer can we claim insufficient time for study or church catch-up. In addition to live broadcasts on the established church websites, such as 3ABN, Amazing Facts, Central Study Hour, Sabbath School U and the SEC Media live-streamed UK church services, you can now access spiritual support from icons on your device.

The Sabbath School 3 app

delivers all the study guides, and highlighted texts are immediately accessed. Invited comments can be typed in and stored for subsequent Sabbath School discussion. Add to this the Ellen White (EGW) apps, with all her writings, and you have a powerful tool to aid 'the hope that is within you' in your outreach activities.

In this year of Revival and Reformation, the InPrayer app offers a daily devotional and automatic reminder to join the

worldwide Church in prayer at 7am and 7pm. The map reveals those locally who are joining you!

So, if you are away, looking for the nearest Adventist church, forgot your *Advent Hymnal*, have a short break to prepare for Sabbath School, or want to watch a spiritually uplifting sermon, get 'tappy', go to the *iTunes Store* or *Play Store* for *Android* and have a spiritually enriching 'Happy Sabbath!'

SUBMITTED BY JOHN WILBY



Sabbath School 3
Free



Adventist Church Finder
Free



EGW Writings
Free



Hymnal SDA
£5.49



8 floral praise

The Stanborough Park church recently (13-15 September) played host venue to a stunning exhibition of floral praise. Each arrangement was carefully and lovingly crafted to express the sentiments of a Christian hymn.

The forty floral artists responsible for these magnificent tributes to the love and grace of God were drawn from a variety of Christian confessions. Despite their diverse doctrinal viewpoints these men and women were together, working to the glory of God, in an Adventist church. The main display was arranged by world-renowned floral artist Rev. William McMillan of Northern Ireland.

The exhibition convenor, Audrey Balderstone, is a highly regarded floral artist whose exhibitions have raised over £100,000 for various worthy charities since 1981. This festival, entitled 'Ode to Joy', raised over £11,000, to be shared between Keech Cottage Children's Hospice (Luton) and the church's development fund.

We hope you enjoy these works of floral art. May they lift your heart in worship of our majestic, omnipotent Creator.

ADAPTED FROM A REPORT BY JUNE COOMBS

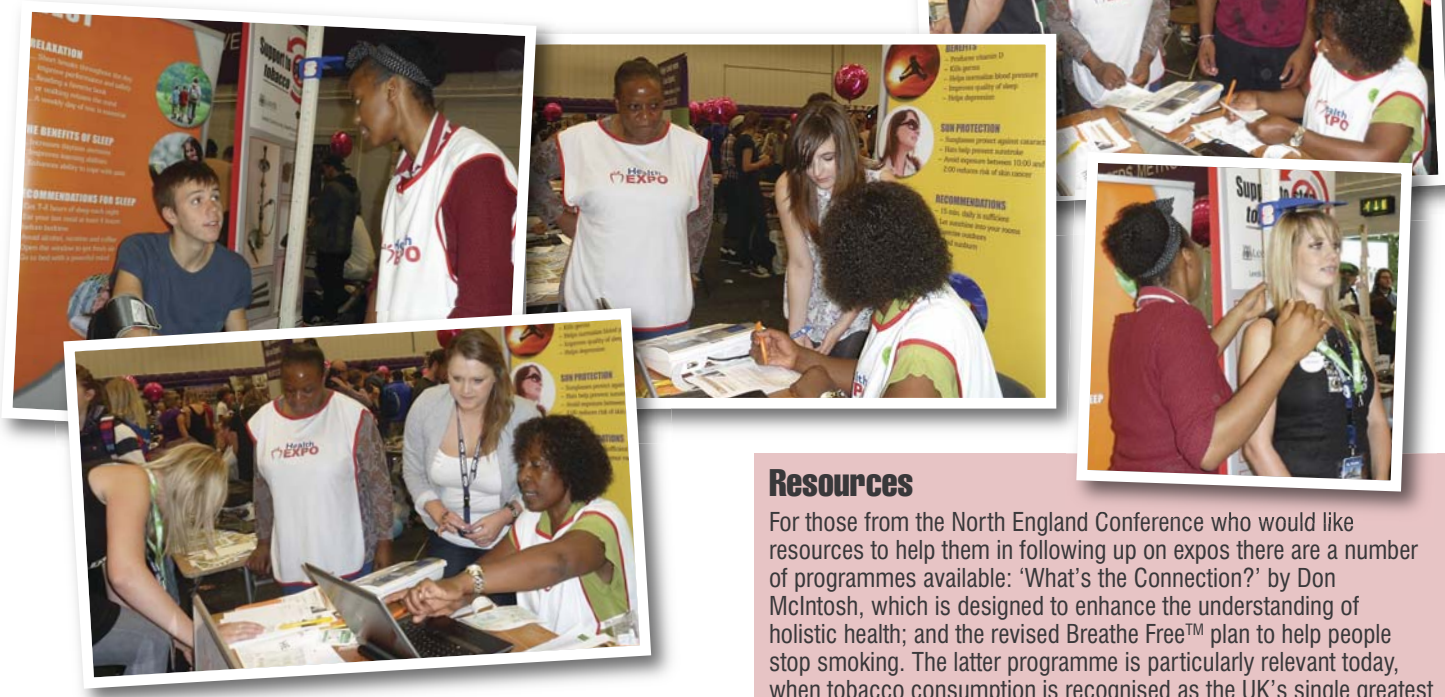
Photography:
S. Anderson & I. Hooker



1. **Eternal Father, Strong to Save.**
Carol Hill – Watford Floral Society.
2. **All Things Bright and Beautiful.**
Madalina Petrov, Estelle Elias, Emma Stickland – Stanborough Park Church.
3. **How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings.**
Christine Gardiner – All Saints Church, Leavesden.
4. **Rock of Ages, Cleft For Me.**
Brenda London – Secretary, Home Counties Area NAFAS.
5. **He's Got the Whole World In His Hands.**
Vikki Traherne – NAFAS area demonstrator.
6. **O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing.**
Billie Jordan – Stanborough Park Church.
7. **What a Friend We Have In Jesus.**
Edwidge Turner – Stanborough Park Church.
8. **Soldiers of Christ Arise.**
Victoria Balan – Stanborough Park Church.
9. **Be Thou My Vision.**
Cathy Guenin – Stanborough Park Church.
10. **Majesty.**
Kirra Moser – Stanborough Park Church.
11. **Day Is Dying In the West.**
Sheila Bishop – individual member, Home Counties Area NAFAS.



health expos work in Leeds



During the freshers' fair week, Leeds Church was on the go, taking health assessments of the students at Leeds University. On 11 September the health expo team saw 200 students from Headingley Campus, and on 18 September they saw 150 students from City Campus. For a number of years, Leeds Church has had a presence at Leeds University's freshers' week, during which they have put a considerable amount of work into developing the health expo concept, which can be adapted to any community, while keeping true to the general principle undergirding its operation.

There is no other religious body that has health and health ministry tied in so closely to its belief system as does the Seventh-day Adventist Church. As Ellen White put it, 'The gospel of health is to be firmly linked with the ministry of the word. It is the Lord's design that the restoring influence of health reform shall be a part of the last great effort to proclaim the gospel message' (*Medical Ministry*, page 259).

The health expo has proved to be a wonderfully effective entry event at Leeds University, allowing Leeds members to engage with the students, attracting persons from different parts of the world. The students were challenged to pay attention to their health status in a simple, non-threatening manner.

The expo emphasises the eight main factors related to disease prevention: Nutrition, Exercise, Water, Sunlight, Temperance, Air, Rest, and Trust in divine power (NEWSTART). The eight factors are addressed in some detail, using health panels combined with up-to-date scientific information, health assessments (screenings) and health counselling.

It is important to keep track of attendees by having proper records. Leeds members ministered to more than 100 students during the health expos, and they intend to follow up the students with several programmes: for example, healthy cooking; twelve steps to recovery from addictions; and weight management. The health expo is the beginning of a 'cycle of friendship', which leads participants to attend other health-related seminars. In fact, the university is so pleased with the health expo that they are willing to provide a venue at the university for follow-up programmes. This will provide Pastor Ikwisa and his team from Leeds Church with an opportunity for contact with the students in another non-threatening atmosphere. It will further break down barriers, destroy prejudice, and build friendships, as well as giving students a chance to implement the lifestyle ideas learnt at the expo.

GRACE WALSH, HEALTH MINISTRIES, COMMUNITY SERVICES & DISABILITY MINISTRIES DIRECTOR, NEC

Resources

For those from the North England Conference who would like resources to help them in following up on expos there are a number of programmes available: 'What's the Connection?' by Don McIntosh, which is designed to enhance the understanding of holistic health; and the revised Breathe Free™ plan to help people stop smoking. The latter programme is particularly relevant today, when tobacco consumption is recognised as the UK's single greatest cause of preventable illness and early death.

If you are interested in delivering this programme, contact Grace Walsh or Orlene Dunkley at the North England Conference on 0115 960 6312.

MTTC update

JAM gives birth to CRAVE

Established by a group of friends during the summer of 2008, JAM (Jesus and Ministries) is a Bible study/fellowship ministry with an average weekly attendance of thirty-five members. The ministry has become an open forum where young people can come together to study, pray, share, worship and fellowship. Entering its sixth year as a ministry, JAM is now more than just an in-reach programme. It is now one of the biggest evangelistic tools of any denomination in south London, let alone the London Youth Federation area of 6B. In fact, for many of its non-Adventist members JAM is a church. There are also few Bible studies where you get a free meal consisting of (for example): a plate of Jollof rice; a salad; and a drink. So JAM represents a place to be spiritually and physically fed. This is the core ethos that drives the ministry: recognising that, as well as preaching, Jesus always met the needs of the people through healing, feeding and companionship – hence the name, 'Jesus and Ministries'.

On the evening of Saturday 7 September, JAM celebrated five years in ministry at the Salvation Army Regents Hall, Oxford Street, supported by members from all over the British Union Conference, ministers from the South England Conference and some of the UK's best-talented gospel artists.

Also marking this significant milestone was a two-week evangelistic series (supported by SEC funding) and delivered by Pastors Anthony Fuller and Victor Acquah. As the series closed, four young people were baptised.

CRAVE Campus Ministry . . .

On the same night a brand-new university campus ministry called CRAVE (a joint venture between JAM, the London Youth Federation and the South England Conference Youth department) was launched.

The mission of CRAVE Campus Ministry is to evangelise public colleges and universities. Sadly, the Seventh-day Adventist Church is the only mainstream Christian denomination in the United Kingdom that does not have a ministry presence on most public campuses.

The Centre for Reaching Adventists & eVerybody (CRAVE) was described by Pastor Steve Thomas (SEC Youth director) as a joint venture between JAM and the SEC Youth department (Mission to the Cities) with an initial funding of £8,000. The establishment of CRAVE is the foundation of an aggressive plan to promote public campus ministry across the South England Conference.

It aims to develop a sociological, Bible-based model to evangelise and nurture the faith of students, faculty, and staff on secular university campuses. CRAVE aims to provide a platform that will allow Adventist students to remain active within ministry during their time on campus, while at the same time utilising innovative approaches to evangelism.

In its first academic year (2013/2014) CRAVE will establish itself at three universities based in south-east London: London Southbank University, Greenwich University and Goldsmiths College. One of the key stages in setting up this ministry at these campuses was the provision of a presence at their respective freshers' fairs and registering an interest in the ministry from the students.

To prepare for this, the CRAVE leadership team, consisting of Michael Agyei, Shereen Rodney and Seth Owusu-Ansah, conducted a training session for the SEC Youth Mission to the Cities taskforce.

As of Friday 27 September 2013, phase one of CRAVE Campus Ministry was successfully completed. More than 700 students across the three campuses expressed an interest in the ministry. The next phase for the ministry is to establish CRAVE as a society on each campus.

Be on alert! There could be a CRAVE Campus Ministry society coming to a university campus near you!

ADAPTED FROM A REPORT BY SETH OWUSU-ANSAH AND SHEREEN RODNEY



For more information about CRAVE Campus Ministry feel free to contact Shereen Rodney: shereenrodney@hotmail.co.uk, Michael Agyei: iagyei@aol.com or Seth Owusu: sethowusu6@msn.com.

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From left to right: Andrew Omondi, Derron Castello, Daniel Ottaviano, Samuel Ottaviano, Nicole Omondi, Steven Bell and Kathleen Bell. Far right: Pastor Patrick.

Come dine with me

Pastor Ray A. Patrick's novel methods resulted in a successful evangelistic series during the last two weeks of September. Each night the Colchester church was full of members and visitors who would first have dinner with Pastor Patrick at 6pm, and then attend his meetings at 7pm. The attendance was also supported by a radio stream on www.medianetgospel.com, which reached a listenership high of 600. Pastor Patrick is a well-known radio host, with a daily programme running between 7am and 9am.

On Saturday, 21 September, the listeners were treated for the first time to a live commentary, aired from the front attic of the church, which houses their Communication department. The commentary and interaction sessions before and after the sermon had such positive feedback that Colchester Church has been allocated a morning session (9am-10am), and an evening slot aimed at youth and students (7pm-9pm) commencing on 7 October.

The results of this novel evangelism were most gratifying. In total, seven were baptised by Pastor Andrew Davis, two of them as members of the Heathcourt church plant.

TAKU HAKATA (ARTICLE) AND GERTRUDE ASANTE (PHOTOS)



Chingford and Wood Green baptisms

On 12 October the Chingford and Wood Green congregations gathered to baptise six new members at the Wood Green church. Who are these new members?

Front row, left to right above: Jackie Stennett, who gave her life to God through Bible studies with Wood Green members and the encouragement of Pastor Steve Roberts; Lisa Herbert and Rob Fry (a former atheist), both from a New Age background, who attended evangelistic meetings held by Pastor Roberts last year; Jade Williams, the youngest candidate, whose reason for baptism was beautifully simple: 'I love Jesus!'; and husband and wife, Gloria and Roderick White, who left their former church due to the support of the Chingford congregation during a family bereavement.

ANGELA AUSTIN, CHINGFORD



Left to right: Jasmine Smith, Agnes Phillips, Owen Francis, Pastor Everett Picart, Glenda Jackson, Malachi Duncan, Wendy Francis.

Baptism at Hanwell

On 28 September, Hanwell Church rejoiced over the baptism of six new members, each with a special story. The youngest, Malachi Duncan (8) was determined to get baptised. His parents thought he was a little too young, but felt he was mature enough to make his own decision for the Lord. Next was young Owen Francis, who had seen his dad, Wayne, baptised last year and wanted to follow his example. He was not to be denied. His parents and the Children's Sabbath School studied with him. He wants to be a doctor or a minister of the Gospel – praise the Lord!

Glenda Jackson has attended Southall for fourteen years, but on 31 August she responded to Everett Picart's sermon with a decision for baptism, to the joy of Flo Thomas, who has been working with her over all those years. Jasmine Smith had started to attend Northolt Church when the son of a former member met her in a local library and invited her to church. After her Bible studies she was eager for baptism too. She is not from an Adventist background, and so was a great witness to her family and friends, who all came to support her. Agnes Phillips was so excited when she learned that a baptism was to be held that, without hesitation, she let the pastor know her decision.

Last was Owen's mother, Wendy Francis, who joined Southall Church on profession of faith. She had been actively helping out in the Children's Ministry department for some time, and so it was a natural progression for her to join the Southall church family.

HANWELL COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

The UK Chapter of Adventist Guyanese

presents its annual Banqueting Evening

Come and experience festive celebration in an exceptionally rich multicultural atmosphere with rapturous entertainment & international cuisine!

Date: Sunday 24 November 2013

Time: 4pm

Venue: Parliament Hill School Hall, Highgate Road, Kentish Town, London, NW5 1RL

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For more information please contact Terrence Blackman on 07507 643366, Florence Allen on 07533 629479, or Winslow Hunter on 07949 125430

Proceeds in aid of projects being sponsored by UCAG



Wolverhampton baptism

On 6 October Pastor Rainford McIntosh baptised two young people at the Great Brickkiln church: Miranda, daughter of Adrian and Verona Roberts, who has been a devoted Pathfinder through the years; and Philissa Bowen, from a non-Adventist background.

Both of these young women are an asset and a joy to their congregation.

D. M. CAMPBELL

Brothers baptised

On 3 August, at the Tottenham church, three souls were baptised by Pastor Roach before a joyful audience of members, family and friends.

Two of the candidates were James (9) and Nathanael Awotwi (14). They, along with Marley Taylor, had made their decision for Christ during the church's recent 'Mission Impossible? No! Mission Possible' evangelistic series.

James and Nathanael were raised by Adventist parents, Joseph and Maureen Awotwi, who were thrilled at their sons' decision.

COMMUNICATION TEAM



Nottingham's grand finale

Sabbath, 12 October was the grand finale of a two-week seminar series at Nottingham Central, entitled, 'It's All About Him'.

Along with Pastor Curtis Murphy's message each evening, there was also a health presentation, co-ordinated by Dr Greg Ramjas and delivered by our own home-grown health presenters.

The series culminated in a joy-filled baptism service for Paul Lander, James Kerini, Kay-Ann Morris, Damar Wiggin, his brother Jason Wiggin, and Garth Mitchell (all featured from left to right in the above photograph with Pastor Murphy).

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Main photo: Aberdaron Camp, seen from the top field. **Top:** In 1983 this 'chip apparatus' was bought for £30 at auction. I was the 'Chief Chippy' at all the camps I attended.

Above: Analog seen from the top field, which I believe we bought for about £5,000 several years after buying the main site. **Above right:** Pastor & Mrs Ron Surridge with the camp buildings as backdrop. **Right:** Barry & Margaret Alen, staff members, with boys' tents on the left and girls' on the right. **Below:** One summer, Pastor Martin Anthony baptised his two daughters, while I baptised my son, Gethyn, and Neil Shuttleworth.



Bottom: The main hall is to the left, the original cottage on the right and the kitchen in the middle. The water tank on the roof was fed by a half-inch

pipe, which also served local properties on the way. One summer a local haystack caught fire. The fire brigade needed the supply, so we had to haul churns of water from the sea in order to flush the toilets.



Pastor Kenneth Clothier, now retired to Teignmouth, South Devon, shares his memories of Aberdaron Camp. Perhaps his reminiscences will set you off down memory lane.



I believe it was about the second year after we purchased the Aberdaron site that I joined the staff, and worked there in a number of different capacities for thirty years, though I believe I only helped at Family Camp once. Some of the camp masters I worked with were Jack Mahon, Stuart Ware, Jim Huzzey and Bob Rodd.

One year there was a minor earthquake at the camp. We felt the walls of the cottage moving. Fortunately, the only damage was to one of the sewer pipes, which we dug up and replaced.

Most summers, I was at Aberdaron. One summer we dug a trench with a tractor and specialised digger, all around the field. I then laid cables in the trench with outlets for all the tents. This replaced all the cables we used to lay around the field to supply electricity to all the tents.

Being a Welshman, one of the happiest tasks at Aberdaron was that of song leader. The campers always responded wholeheartedly. Sorry I didn't take more photographs.



Aberdaron Advent Campsite activity instructors

Aberdaron Advent Campsite, in conjunction with the NEC Youth & Pathfinder departments, is looking to develop its range of outdoor activities and requires volunteers to train as

activity instructors. If you have an interest in outdoor pursuits (such as kayaking, sailing, climbing and archery), with the possibility of developing these skills into a supplementary earner or full-time career, please send your CV to Aberdaron Advent Campsite, Glan-yr-Afon, Anelog, Aberdaron, Pwllheli, Gwynedd, LL53 8BT.

Aberdaron Advent Campsite 2014 summer staff

These volunteers are required: one head chef; two sous chefs and five kitchen staff for three weeks; four maintenance staff for ten weeks. Food and board are provided, along with a monetary allowance. Please send your CV to Aberdaron Advent Campsite, Glan-yr-Afon, Anelog, Aberdaron, Pwllheli, Gwynedd, LL53 8BT.



Day of New Togetherness

On Cambridge Church's 'Day of New Togetherness', held on 5 October, there were visitors from a number of other local churches, including St Philips Church, St Martins Church and Mill Road Baptist Church. They joined the congregation in its study of the Sabbath School lesson and then enjoyed Pastor Colin Stewart's timely message on the parable of the Banquet Feast of Luke chapter 14. It reminded the listeners of Jesus' soon return and the need to accept His invitation to salvation.

The guests were deeply impressed, with many expressing their thanks for the invitation. Two ladies from St Martins Church, just a short walk away, said: 'Thank you so much for having us, especially lunch; it was wonderful and filling!'

After the service there was an opportunity to welcome another special group to the church – the new and returning students at Cambridge's various institutions. This congregation plays an important role in helping these students preserve their faith in the face of those challenges that university life brings.

PASTOR COLIN STEWART, COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT



Coffee morning at Newbold School

On Friday 27 September parents, friends and visitors from the community enjoyed a coffee morning at Newbold School, Binfield. This was organised by the PTFA and hosted by Years 5 and 6 pupils in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. It was well-attended and raised an amazing £302.18 for the charity.

ANETT

Improve your news photography

A mini-video guide is now available to help you improve your news photography. 'Successful picture publishing' compresses a full photography workshop into just 17 minutes. The aim is to give you simple tips on how to take a good photograph and get it published. Why not view it yourself at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OPOVWldqPKM>.

BUC NEWS



Harlestone Road harvest festival

Harlestone Road Church held its harvest festival on 14 September. The members did a sterling job of decorating the sanctuary with colourful fruit and vegetables and the many other items that were donated for the occasion.

The church's chosen charity is the Northampton Hope Centre, which is a day centre for homeless and disadvantaged people. Those they support need help with various issues such as alcohol and drug abuse, and family breakdown. Some are elderly, or have mental health issues, and are unable to cope on their own; others sleep on the streets. Most of those who attend the centre have been homeless at some time during their lives.

The centre helpers are all volunteers, dedicated to providing a programme of education, training and development that will enable these worthy people to get back on their feet, into homes and ultimately back at work. The programme extends not only to the homeless, but also to many sofa-surfers (those staying on the floors and sofas of friends); those housed in hotels or temporary accommodation; people with physical and mental health issues; and others who are unfortunate enough to be down on their luck. This includes refugees, asylum seekers and the elderly who are experiencing poverty.

ANASELIA MORRIS, COMMUNICATION SECRETARY, NORTHAMPTON

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back page

Head teacher washes cars



Community Service Day – a fixture on the Stanborough School calendar when all classroom learning is suspended and the students and teachers become practically involved in various community projects.

Year 7 pupils brushed up their skills by painting the fence at the back of the school. Year 8 pupils and some teachers walked to the ASDA superstore to help customers bag their shopping. Year 9 pupils divided into three groups: one group tidied the back garden of a Garston resident; another travelled with the Maths teacher to paint two sheds for another Garston resident; and the third group, led by the head teacher of the school, carried buckets and sponges, washing cars in and around the school grounds.

Year 10 pupils were driven to Harebreaks Adventure Playground, where they were involved in various painting, cleaning and planting activities. The Year 11 pupils were bussed to Harwoods Adventure Playground, where they painted the huge jungle gym.

Appreciation for the day's service was summed up by Paul Banks, Play Services manager of Watford: 'My sincere appreciation and thanks for all the hard work you and your teachers and, of course, the efforts the children and young people put in at both the APGs. There is an instant benefit you provided to the sites and a long-lasting change. The structures now look colourful and fun, and the planting neat and attractive.'

The last word from the head teacher sums up the day: 'I had so much fun!' Serving others can be great fun and that is the principle behind the Community Service Day at Stanborough School, a principle handed down by Christ Himself.

KISH PODDAR

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Leeds Central investiture

Leeds Central Church held an annual investiture service on 5 October, during which twenty-one Adventurers (including eight Eager Beavers), sixteen Pathfinders, two Master Guides and one APLA were invested and awarded honours. The theme for the day was 'Disciples for Jesus' and the guest speaker was Mark Sinclair.

During the year the Adventurers and Pathfinders took part in many activities such as community outreach and witnessing. This included the visitation of nursing homes and shut-in members, and singing at the bus station.

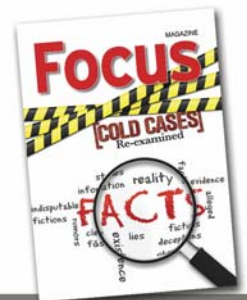
V. MAYNARD, ADVENTURER CLUB SECRETARY

Bristol Central holds health expo

On Sunday 21 July, a number of health-related activities took place in the Bristol Central church car park, as a service to the community. Members of the public were offered blood pressure and blood sugar checks, BMI measurement, advice on diet, local fruit juice demonstrations, leaflets and advice on health-related matters and free fruit and water. A number of people from the community took advantage of these services, which began at 12pm and ended at 5pm. The theme, 'An Assurance of Our Values', had already begun on Friday night with personal testimonies by church members, and continued throughout the Sabbath with the entire programme dedicated to health.

The Sunday event was jointly sponsored by Mary Philip (Health Ministries leader) and Steve Makore (Personal Ministries leader). It was well supported by Kate Cook and other public health colleagues from the Inner City Health Improvement team, who are working with Bristol City Council. They provide welcome advice and information to raise the awareness on a range of health issues facing the community.

You can hear more about the event and the Adventist position on health in the following podcast: <http://www.bcfmradio.com/2013/07/16/16/wellbeing-show-84/31001>.



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Sunset

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15	4.11	4.23	4.10	4.05	4.22
22	4.03	4.15	4.00	3.54	4.12
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