

# Journal of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the United Kingdom and Ireland Messenger

News to the churches • 3 January 2014 • Volume 119 • 1

## Southport baptism

**O**n Sabbath morning 16 November last year, Liverpool Central Church witnessed the baptism of Craig Martin, David Birchall and Paweł Krawczyk, who were brought to Christ through the evangelistic efforts of the PEACE Centre of Evangelism that was located in Southport this past summer. The PEACE students worked in the local community and found people interested in studying the Bible; then Craig Gooden, the outreach co-ordinator for PEACE, conducted an evangelistic series in August and September which many people from Southport attended. There were several decisions for baptism and the local church has worked tirelessly to welcome these new believers, making them feel at home and cared for. These three men have experienced our love and accepted our beliefs, after a series of life-changing Bible studies by the local pastor, Ian Philpott.

Paweł, Craig and David shared their wonderful decision with their family and friends, many of the PEACE graduates and members from the Liverpool district of churches, and were voted into the membership of Southport Church. Pastor Ian Philpott said, 'It was a wonderful joy to see the church so packed to celebrate the baptism of these three lives with their families and friends to support them.'

David Birchall was just in Southport one day for an appointment when he was approached in the town centre by a PEACE student, Rejoice, from Liverpool. They struck up a conversation and it slowly turned to spiritual things. One thing led to another and David mentioned how he already knew about the Sabbath. This shows how God is already at work in people's hearts, and that they are just waiting for us to guide them further. He began to study the Bible with her and then attended the series of evangelistic meetings. Now he wants to do all that he can to share the wonderful message of God's love with others.

According to Craig Gooden, 'Watching God change people's hearts is an amazing experience. Being involved in making friends with Dave, Craig and Paweł, and then watching them give their lives to the Lord, has been a highlight in my own Christian walk.'

PEACE wants to thank the Liverpool Central church for hosting the Southport church and making this special day possible. Another baptism was planned for 21 December – please keep the project in your prayers.

SAM PHILPOTT AND ADAM RAMDIN



From left to right: The baptismal candidates, Paweł Krawczyk, Craig Martin and David Birchall.





## Vacancy at Stanborough Secondary School

### Full-time Live-in Preceptress

Salary: £25,000

Commencement date: February 2014

We are seeking an enthusiastic individual to fill the role of Preceptress in our boarding school.

#### Duties include:

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

Candidates should be in good health, capable of dealing in a consistent and resilient way with the many challenges presented by living with and caring for young people. The ability to speak fluent English is essential and all candidates should also have had some previous experience of working with young people aged 10-18, either in paid employment or in a voluntary capacity. The successful applicant will be expected to drive the school minibus and take boarders on outings when necessary; therefore a valid UK driving licence will be required.

Applicants must be 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. Any offer of employment in respect of this post will be subject to a satisfactory Disclosure Certificate from the Disclosure and Barring Service.

The closing date for applications is Friday 24 January 2014.

Interviews to be held Wednesday 29 January 2014.

If you think that you have the drive and vision to fulfil the position, have the relevant experience and have authorisation to work in the UK, please email the Head Teacher's PA at [dwilliams@spsch.org](mailto:dwilliams@spsch.org), or telephone 01923673268 for Job Specification and Application forms.



NURTURING YOUR FUTURE THROUGH  
QUALITY EDUCATION

Once again, Stanborough Secondary School has secured additional funding for its Scholarship and Bursary Fund, to enable more pupils across the British Union to benefit from the good educational programme it offers.

The scholarships and bursaries examinations in Maths, Science and English will be held on 27 January 2014, from 9.30am to 1pm for prospective students entering Years 7, 8, and 9 in September 2014. **The maximum award is a 50% reduction on tuition fees** (Boarding Fees are excluded). **Seventh-day Adventist parents of successful candidates will obtain this tuition fee reduction in addition to the 30% denominational discount.** Awards are multi-annual.

Candidates must register (deadline: 20 January 2014) and pay an administrative fee of £10. To find out about the eligibility criteria please contact Mrs Sonia Poddar at [registrar@spsch.org](mailto:registrar@spsch.org) or call 01923 673 268.

Stanborough School would like to thank the Alumni and Friends of the School for making this support possible. If you have benefited from Seventh-day Adventist education or feel that God is impressing you to help make Adventist education more accessible, please contact the BUC Treasury department and ask how you can support the Stanborough Secondary School Scholarships and Bursaries Fund.

MRS DIXON



Photo: T. Naskov

SCHOLARSHIPS & BURSARIES

UP TO 50% OFF

# editorial

On 30 December 1935, early in the morning, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, a French pioneer aviator, and his mechanic/navigator had the misfortune to crash-land their aircraft in the Sahara desert. They were trying to set a new speed record during a Paris-to-Saigon air race when the accident took place.<sup>1</sup>

Although they miraculously survived the crash, all they had to ward off the intense heat of the Sahara were some 'grapes, two oranges, a thermos of sweet coffee, chocolate, a handful of crackers, and a small ration of wine.' Hardly enough fluid for a single day under those extreme conditions!

What's more, they had 'no idea of their location' and their maps were 'primitive and ambiguous'. Their grave circumstances notwithstanding, the intrepid pair staggered on through the curtain of heat until they were totally dehydrated – unable to perspire. Mirages teased their vision and they 'experienced auditory hallucinations' as well. Then, against all odds, a Bedouin on a camel found them on the fourth day, and he was able to rehydrate them, using traditional methods.

#### 'Then another step . . .'

It was, no doubt, his dogged determination that kept Saint-Exupéry going during those four gruelling days. And it was probably that experience that inspired his observation that: 'What saves a man is to take a step. Then another step. It is always the same step, but you have to take it.'<sup>2</sup>

Saint-Exupéry went on to serve as a pilot during World War II, until he disappeared mysteriously on 31 July 1944 while on a reconnaissance mission. Years later, the discovery of some wreckage from his plane helped establish that he had crashed into the Mediterranean.

Besides being an aviator of note, this distinguished Frenchman was also a respected literary laureate, who received awards in both his homeland and the US. Among his many thought gems was the following from his novel *Vol de Nuit* (Night Flight), published in 1931:

... the intrepid pair staggered on through the curtain of heat until they were totally dehydrated . . .



Julian Hibbert

Editor

## His hair 'began to grow again'

*'Even our misfortunes are a part of our belongings.'*<sup>3</sup>

That is an insightful statement, and it lays bare something we all need to face: **whether we like it or not, our past disappointments, wounds, failures and fears accompany us into the future like an unwelcome entourage.**

Surely, as you 'unpack' your mind and adjust your thoughts for the challenges of 2014, you will find things that you wish you could leave behind. Painful memories. Embarrassing failures. Moments of sheer foolishness and pure stupidity!

Sadly, you cannot leave these things at the border of the New Year – for, as Antoine de Saint-Exupéry so aptly says, they are now 'a part of your belongings'.

Essentially, the issue now is not whether you have to put up with this 'baggage' or not. That is a fait accompli. What now matters is how these 'unwanted' elements from your past will affect your future. Will they break you, or make you?

#### A classic example

The Bible contains some classic examples of those who have successfully managed such unwanted elements from the past. For me, however, the pick of them is a man who grew up in the little Israelite village of Zorah, overlooking an expanse of Philistine territory.

Samson was destined by God to deliver his people from decades of grinding interference and oppression at the hands of these heathen. This is how God announced it to his parents:

*'For behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. And no razor shall come upon his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb; and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.'* (Judges 13:5, NKJV.)

Initially, there was every indication that Samson would fulfil God's expectations for him:

*'So the woman bore a son and called his name Samson; and the child grew, and the LORD blessed him. And the Spirit of the LORD began to move upon him . . .'* (Judges 13:24, 25, NKJV.)

But the young man's ill-placed trust in his heathen wife leads directly to his humiliation and the deaths of thirty innocent men. Ultimately, it also brings down dreadful retribution on his wife's family:

*'So the Philistines came up and burned her and her father with fire.'* (Judges 15:6, NKJV.)

God perseveres with him though, and for twenty years he successfully judges Israel and keeps the Philistines in check (Judges 15:20). But then his old problem surfaces again, with disastrous consequences. He finds himself back in the arms of a heathen woman – a harlot in Gaza. One thing leads quickly to another, and Samson finds himself infatuated with another woman who plots his downfall for a price:

*'And it came to pass, when she pestered him daily with her words and pressed him, so that his soul was vexed to death, that he told her all his heart, and said to her, " . . . If I am shaven, then my strength will leave me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man." '* (Judges 16:16, 17, NKJV.)

Once that secret escaped his lips, Samson's influence was over. He was overpowered, his eyes gouged out, and he was put to work like an ox:

*'They bound him with bronze fetters, and he became a grinder in the prison.'* (Judges 16:21, NKJV.)

With his strength and his sight gone, Samson was at the mercy, not just of his enemies, but of his thoughts too: *'If only I had curbed my passion! What I did was unforgivably stupid. Why didn't I learn from that first bad experience in Timnah? I have failed God miserably.'*

The failed life can break you – but it can also make you. Samson chooses to use these 'misfortunes', which are now a part of his 'belongings', to redefine himself. Ellen White sums it up perfectly: 'In suffering and humiliation, a sport for the Philistines, Samson learned more of his own weakness than he had ever known before; and his afflictions led him to repentance.'<sup>4</sup>

When the unsuspecting heathen jeeringly paraded him at Dagon's feast, they failed to notice that his hair had grown again – along with his conviction to do right and his love and commitment to God. And the rest, as they say, is history!

Truly, *'Even our misfortunes are a part of our belongings.'* How do you plan to use yours?

<sup>1</sup>[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antoine\\_de\\_Saint-Exup%C3%A9ry](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antoine_de_Saint-Exup%C3%A9ry) <sup>2</sup><http://www.goodreads.com/quotes/search?q=What+saves+a+man+is+to+take+a+step.+Then+another+step> <sup>3</sup>[http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Antoine\\_de\\_Saint-Exup%C3%A9ry](http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Antoine_de_Saint-Exup%C3%A9ry) <sup>4</sup>*Patriarchs and Prophets*, page 566 (Pacific Press Publishing Association)



## Enhancing Health

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

### Work-related illness

Is your job making you sick? If so, then you are not alone. The Health and Occupational Research (THOR) network estimates around 25,000 cases of occupational disease and work-related ill health occur in the UK annually.<sup>1</sup> That's the bad news.

The good news is that the British Heart Foundation's Health at Work programme<sup>2</sup> offers workplace support for employees with interventions such as stress management, health and safety, an annual pedometer challenge, healthy eating tips, exercise sessions, and help with smoking cessation.

So what kind of work-related illnesses are prevalent? The Labour Force Survey (2012) highlighted several areas of work-related illnesses,<sup>3</sup> which included the following:

**Work-related stress** (which is defined as a harmful reaction people have to undue pressures and demands placed on them at work):

- Industries reporting the highest rates of work-related stress were human health, social work, education, public administration and defence.
- Occupations reporting the highest cases of work-related stress were health professionals (in particular, nurses), teaching and educational professionals, and caring personal services (in particular, welfare and housing associate professionals).
- Respondents commonly identified work pressure, lack of managerial

support and work-related violence and bullying as causing their work-related stress.

**Musculoskeletal disorders** (MCDs), which usually develop over time or following injury:

- Industries with the highest rates of MSDs were post and courier activities, agriculture and specialised construction work.
- Of all occupations building trades and skilled agriculture trades had the highest rates of MSDs.
- Respondents attributed manual handling, awkward or tiring positions and keyboard work as the main activities causing their musculoskeletal disorder or adversely affecting it.

**Cancer** (identified after exposure to toxic work substances):

- The leading cause of work-related cancer death is occupational exposure to asbestos.
- Shift work, solar radiation, mineral oils and silica were identified as major causes of occupational cancer.
- The construction industry has the highest incidence of occupational cancer, contributing to 3,500 cancer deaths and 5,500 cancer registrations annually.

**Skin disorders**

- Work-related skin disease occurs frequently in certain occupations, and can be severe in some cases.
- Contact with soaps and cleaning materials and working with wet hands continue to be the most common causes of occupational contact dermatitis.
- Professions with the highest reported incidences of contact dermatitis included: beauticians, cooks, hairdressers, some manufacturing and healthcare-related occupations.

*Be vigilant!*

<sup>1</sup><http://www.population-health.manchester.ac.uk/epidemiology/COEH/research/thor/> <sup>2</sup><http://www.bhf.org.uk/healthatwork/> <sup>3</sup><http://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/lfs/>



## Limits, restrictions and frustrations

by Stephen Holden, the Stanborough Press Production and Design manager, who has twenty-one years' service with the company

Holiday travel can be a source of pleasure and relaxation, but also of anxiety – particularly if you choose to fly with a budget airline.

When doing so there are a number of important considerations to be addressed:

- Allowing sufficient time to travel in comfort to the airport.
- Organising secure car parking for your time away.
- Obtaining insurance for every eventuality – or at least most!
- Checking in – 'online' or 'on time' – if you have luggage for the hold.
- Observing baggage allowance.
- Being alert enough to observe boarding gate times and changes – and the stampedes that result from last-minute changes!

Recently, having decided to travel on a well-known budget airline, we thought it prudent to check its rules and regulations.

It had received a bad press from disgruntled passengers for being fiercely officious in imposing its strict limits – and being overly keen on demanding additional charges if these were breached in any way.

We were only taking a few days away in sunny Spain – but you can never be too sure!

From their website we gleaned that:

- Only one item of cabin baggage or hand luggage per passenger was permitted – and that one means fewer than two! All handbags, briefcases, laptops, duty-free purchases, cameras and other items were to be contained within that one piece of baggage.
- Your bag or case could weigh up to, but absolutely no more than, 10kg, and it must be no bigger than the maximum

dimensions of 55cm long, 40cm wide and 20cm deep, including any wheels, handles, or bulging side pockets.

- Extra oversized or overweight luggage would be refused at the boarding gate, and only if time and space permitted would it be placed in the hold for an additional fee of £60 per item!
- Before you face the challenge of pre-boarding luggage approval, where a box of exact dimensions is lowered over your case to ensure compliance, there is another challenge: you must produce your own boarding passes. These are to be printed from their website on single A4 pages and presented at the security gate. This can avoid a long queue at check-in if you are travelling with hand luggage only – but more importantly, it saves the airline the cost of printing them.
- If your printout is of poor quality and cannot be scanned – you are warned that their replacement would cost you £70 a sheet!

By the time we had read and re-read these company rules and policies on additional charging – and read and re-read blogger warnings and complaints from disgruntled customers – we were beginning to wish we'd booked an alternative airline.

We measured and re-measured and 'strapped'; weighed and re-weighed; and were fast approaching a state of paranoia – convinced that we wouldn't get airborne without some additional charge being levied on us.

We offered prayer at 4am on leaving the house and arrived at East Midlands Jetpark 1 in good time. The scan of our

numberplate raised the barrier and gave us entry to park the car. The courtesy bus arrived directly and within a few minutes we were in departures – our compliant cases strapped tight and underweight – heavier items, like the 'rockbuns' baked the night before, bulging in our coat pockets!

You can imagine what a relief it was to have safely negotiated all the checkpoints and be seated together ready for take-off without a hitch – at last we could anticipate an enjoyable few days ahead.

### What about life?

Life in general can seem this way too. The daily round, the common tasks, responsibility, duty, crammed with anxiety and worry – our minds can be

cluttered with non-essentials and weighed down with uncertainty.

A lot of extra baggage can be carried around needlessly, and if it goes over the limit of our personal allowance or endurance it can exact a heavy price in the form of ill health. How can we experience peace, joy and hope in our lives and break free from the restrictions which seem to bind us? How can we get ourselves 'comfortably seated', ready for the journey of life?

The answer lies in coming to the One who can never be restricted, or weighed down, confined or overburdened!

Isaiah 40:28-31, in the Clear Word, reads: 'Don't you know that the Lord our God is the everlasting One? Haven't you heard that He always was and always will be? He's the Creator of the universe! He never gets tired. He never gets weary. His understanding and comprehension has no limits. He gives strength to those who are weak and energy to those who are weary. Even young men become weak and stumble and fall. But those who wait on the Lord and go to Him for help will have their strength renewed. They will soar like eagles. They will run and not be weary. They will walk and not faint.'

Earlier, in verse 22, we read: 'God sits above the circle of the earth and its people look as small as ants. He stretches out the sky above them like a blue canopy

and makes a huge tent for them to live in' (Clear Word).

The amazing fact is that this Almighty Everlasting Creator God is also the One who would be our loving heavenly Father. He desires to live in us – within the measurements and confines of our hearts and minds – by invitation. So we no longer need be constricted or restricted or limited in any way!

Paul, in Ephesians 3:16 and 18, says, 'I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. . . . And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is.' (NLT.) He is able (we read on) to do 'immeasurably' more than what we can ask or even think (vs. 20, Clear Word) by His power in our lives.

What wonderful words from the pen of Paul – words to live by – just what we need to calm our hearts as we enter an uncertain and possibly turbulent 2014. And as you do so, take these thoughts from Eddie Askew's *Conversation with God* with you:

'Help me to find the courage, Lord, to launch out into space wherever You may lead, to widen my horizons, to soar with confidence, to explore the possibilities of life and love with You. Take to the air on wings of faith and fly.'



Holiday travel can be a source of pleasure and relaxation, but also of anxiety.

## London Adventist Credit Union (LACU) report

Recent media reports demonstrate that the 1984 vision of eleven London Adventist men was ahead of its time. The men had a vision to establish a credit union for the financial benefit of those within the Adventist community.

Considering the state of the economy, high street banks, pawnbrokers and pay-day lenders, the services provided by credit unions are a viable alternative for saving and lending. Indeed, at the end of LACU's financial year, 30 September 2012, LACU members received a dividend payment of 1.88%. This was a high return on shares when compared with interest rates on saving accounts held in banks and building societies. A similar dividend was expected at the end of the 2013 financial year, compared with recent 0.4% interest rates on some high street banks' saving accounts.

Last year LACU facilitated an Interviewing workshop on 14 April, a Surviving University workshop on 7 July and a careers fair on 14 July. (For more details please see us on Facebook.) What is interesting about these events is that they were all free, owing to the kindness and generosity of all the professionals who sacrificed their 'free' time, thereby ensuring that our young people received the benefit of their knowledge and experience. For example, during the summer, media reports revealed that a restaurant chain intended to establish pop-up 'kitchens' for first-year undergraduates, charging them a fee to learn how to cook 'tasty' meals. This service, learning how to prepare nutritious meals on a student budget, was available, free of charge, to our young people at the July 'Surviving University' workshop.

LACU intends to honour the vision of its eleven founders by continuing to work with and for all our members, especially our young people. Our young people will be the ones who will move LACU forward for succeeding generations, if the Lord delays His coming, especially now, as LACU is able to offer its services to Adventist members in the NEC, Scotland and Wales.

THE LACU MARKETING TEAM:  
WWW.LACU.CO.UK; INFO@LACU.CO.UK



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

### 'Should health professionals work on the Sabbath? If so, how can they keep the Sabbath holy while working?'

The Sabbath has been a rest day since Creation, and God commands His people to observe it by resting (Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 20:8-11). 'The law forbids secular labour on the rest day of the Lord; the toil that gains a livelihood must cease; no labour for worldly pleasure or profit is lawful upon that day.'<sup>1</sup>

On the other hand, following Jesus' example (Matthew 12:9-13), we may certainly consider it lawful to do good on the Sabbath – specifically, healing, but also ministerial work (Matthew 12:5). 'The Saviour, by His example, has shown us that it is right to relieve suffering on the Sabbath.'<sup>2</sup> 'To relieve the afflicted, to comfort the sorrowing, is a labour of love that does honour to God's holy day.'<sup>3</sup> 'Nursing the sick' is keeping the Sabbath as much as 'leading a division in the Sabbath school'; both are efforts to serve the Lord.<sup>4</sup> Nor is this limited to direct, front-line care, since 'the family of patients, with the physicians, nurses, and helpers, must be fed upon the Sabbath, as any other family', albeit 'with as little labour as possible'.<sup>5</sup>

How are those employed in caring for the sick to perform their duties on the Sabbath? 'Provide emergency care willingly and cheerfully whenever needed with high levels of excellence. However, Adventist institutions, physicians, dentists and other caring personnel should refrain from carrying out work on the Sabbath which can safely be left until another day. Discontinue all routine activities that could be postponed. . . . Make the Sabbath a delightful day for patients, a day when the hustle and bustle of routine work is laid aside and the staff are free to spend more time with the patients . . . to acquaint them with the wonderful love of God. . . . Adventist workers should not be scheduled routinely to work on the Sabbath so as to provide freedom on weekdays for secular activities. Neither should they expect to be off duty always on that day and thus work a hardship on others.'<sup>6</sup> Obviously, some of this advice is more relevant to workers in Seventh-day Adventist health institutions: at other institutions, they may not be in a position to schedule operations or routine activities.

So what should you do if placed in a position where you feel that work pressure is eroding the sanctity of the Sabbath? The General Conference provides the following guidelines for Adventist healthcare workers: a) they are to 'make known their Sabbath-keeping principles and request a work schedule that will exempt them from Sabbath duties'; b) should this prove impossible, 'Adventists should clearly identify the duties, if any, they can conscientiously perform on the Sabbath and the frequency thereof'; c) if the above cannot be arranged, members 'should make loyalty to God's requirements paramount and abstain from routine work'.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Ellen White, *Desire of Ages*, p. 207 <sup>2</sup>Ellen White, *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 7, p. 106 <sup>3</sup>Ellen White, *Welfare Ministry*, p. 77 <sup>4</sup>Ellen White, *Selected Messages*, vol. 3, p. 259 <sup>5</sup>Ellen White, *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 7, p. 122 <sup>6</sup>Sabbath Observance and the Medical Profession: A statement by the British Union Executive Committee based on guidelines issued by the General Conference and prepared in response to an action at the 1986 BUC Session, June 1987 <sup>7</sup>General Conference, *Statements, Guidelines and Other Documents*, 1996, pp. 130, 131

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](mailto: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.

# exhibitions



## The Rock Project Exhibition

From 21 to 27 October visitors to Wimbledon Public Library had an opportunity to be transported back in time. This was made possible through posters, oil paintings, archaeological artefacts, sculptures and 3D models which unfolded the prophecy of Daniel 2, with a special emphasis on the second coming of Christ. The brains behind the project

was Wimbledon member and artist, Laurent Grisel, who was inspired with the idea a year ago. With support from the church, especially the Personal Ministries department, many leaflets were distributed in the weeks leading up to the event, inviting people to the exhibition and provoking some interesting discussion. Church members were at the exhibition daily and it was a tremendous success. Suddenly, people who would never set foot in a church were brought face to face with Bible prophecy. Between 150 and 200 non-Adventists attended the exhibition, with many of them reading Bible passages for the first time, and most found the exhibition very thought-provoking.

Some interesting conversations were sparked off by the exhibition, with one person suggesting that it should be taken around to libraries in different areas. There have also been requests from other Adventist churches to use the materials to host such events in their communities. Goody bags, which included *Focus* magazines, material on the Daniel 2 prophecy, and information about Wimbledon Church, were given to visitors. It is hoped that the seeds planted during this project will go on to bear much fruit.

TAMMY GRIFFITH



## Without creation . . .

'Without creation there would be no harvest' was the theme for Ringway Life's 2013 Harvest Festival.

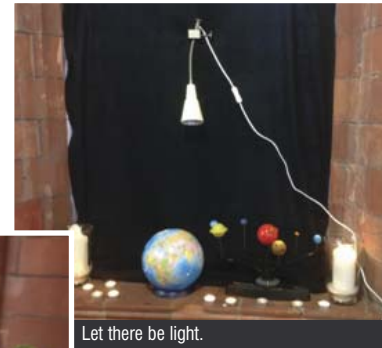
Each windowsill in the church was decorated by the church members to depict one of the seven days of creation (remember, Sabbath was created too).

During the Sabbath festival different families spoke of how their chosen day was special and how it was connected to the concept of harvest.

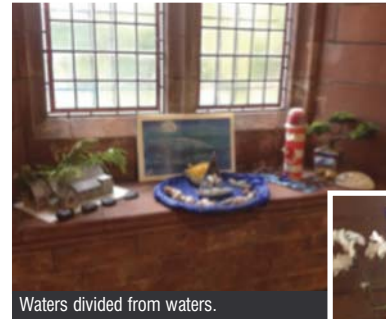
Ringway Life's usually good music was especially enhanced by the singing of Richard Gray and Yvonne Hutton.

The day turned out to be a wonderful team effort on behalf of the members. An excellent harvest festival, honouring our Creator through the artistic, the scientific, the poetic, the rhapsodic – and the gastronomic (there was good food too)!

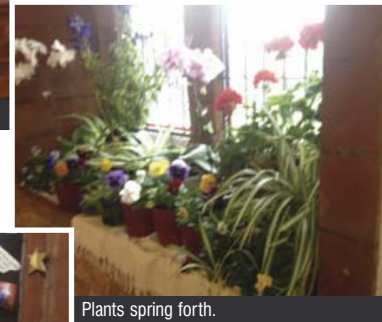
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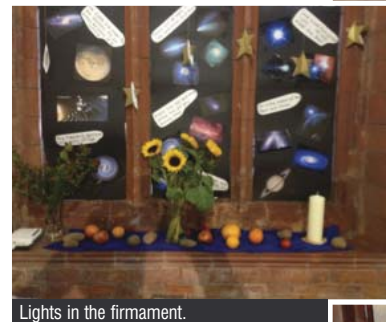
Let there be light.



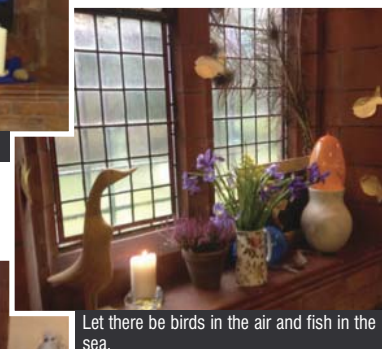
Waters divided from waters.



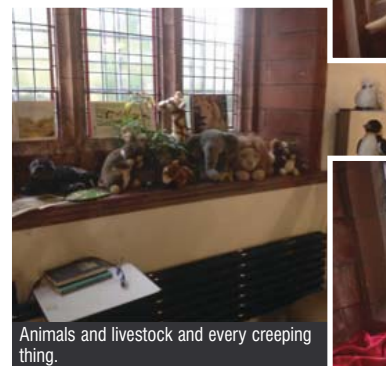
Plants spring forth.



Lights in the firmament.



Let there be birds in the air and fish in the sea.



Animals and livestock and every creeping thing.



The Sabbath, God's gift to mankind.

# MTTC updates

## MTTC: Tottenham's part

### Tottenham Leisure Centre

'Why not do a series of health seminars at our local leisure centre?' This was the conclusion of the Tottenham elders after a presentation by Pastor Janos Kovacs-Biro at the elders' retreat in February 2013. So each month from April to September 2013, Maureen Pollock's team presented a variety of health topics to the users of Tottenham Leisure Centre. Attendance slowly increased from four people to more than twenty-five, and the team have a growing database of interested people to draw on for future events.

### August fun day

One thing leads to another, especially after Luwanda Mansukani cheerfully handed a member of the public an advert for the leisure centre seminars.

The recipient was a local authority worker who invited us to take a stall at a local fun day in August, where Tottenham members were able to talk to a lot of people, including ex-Adventists, and give away more than 500 pieces of literature, including *The Desire of Ages*. In fact, one passer-by took several copies to share with her family!

### 'Feeling good in the rec'

As a result of the fun day we were asked to participate in a local authority-sponsored event called 'Feeling good in the rec', and held in Lordship Lane Park, Tottenham, on 14 September. There we provided residents with health checks. On the Friday before the event and the day afterwards it rained heavily, but on the Sabbath our prayers for a clear day were answered. One stallholder invited us to put our literature in his giveaway bags, which meant that even those who did not come to our stall still received an Amazing Facts health magazine! There was even a Catholic nun who was so enthused about what we were doing that she went to the local estate (Broadwater Farm) and invited people to come to our marquee for their health check. The event was a resounding success, and we were able to give away literature and engage meaningfully with members of the community.

### Notting Hill Carnival

Finally, on the Bank Holiday Sunday, 31 August, a team of eight led by Jason Watts visited the Notting Hill Carnival. After much prayer and consecration they took more than 300 books, DVDs, health pamphlets and tracts with them and managed to engage hundreds of carnival-goers in conversation, telling them of Jesus and encouraging them to give Him a chance in their lives.

SONIA MUNROE



## MTTC: Holloway's part

In support of the Mission to the Cities initiative, Holloway Church's Health and Medical Missionary team, under the leadership of Claudette James, have been active in running both a health emphasis week (1 July 2013) and a health expo day (27 September 2013).

For the latter event the Pathfinders drum corps set things going and it didn't take long for the church premises to be buzzing with activity. At times it seemed that we were being overrun by people from a wide range of cultures and ethnicities all taking advantage of the various health activities on offer. It was encouraging to see members of the community, old and young, queuing to benefit from the various health checks. The hydrotherapy and massage sessions were popular also, as was the chance to sample different foods and get advice on healthy food options. Dr Christopher Levy (physician and lifestyle practitioner), along with his wife, Marlene (psychotherapist and counsellor), and the local pastor, were popular sources of help and advice.

The members enjoyed the sessions so much that they kept asking, 'When will the next health event take place?'

As a result of these events members from the community have subsequently attended various church services. The comment by Ellen White that, 'in the work of the gospel, teaching and healing are never to be separated' (*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 141) has truly been experienced at Holloway.

HOLLOWAY HEALTH MINISTRY DEPARTMENT

## Chelmsford's report

Chelmsford Church held a music concert at Trinity Church in Chelmsford on 2 November, 2013, with musicians from around Essex and London, including HCAS All Sax Ensemble, Hanwell Musicians, Hanwell SDA Choir and the Harlow Musicians. Organised by James Lammy and Dr Paul Sathiarai, the programme was called 'Praise Him', and drew a lot of visitors from the community.

Then on Sabbath 26 November, 2013, Chi-Chi Mumbuluma was baptised at our church by Pastor John Melki. According to her: 'I've always wanted to get baptised but something has always discouraged me. But God heard the prayers from my friends and family, and I made it. I have decided to follow Jesus and no one will stop me!'

JOYCE SWAMY, COMMUNICATION LEADER



The group of Tottenham members who witnessed at the carnival



The health checks at Lordship Lane Park



# AFM: India

A report by Daha Sharma (a pseudonym), an Adventist Frontier Mission missionary in India

**'You can't go there tonight,' bellowed a large man on a motorcycle. 'You don't know the way, you don't know the village name, and it is already getting dark. Besides, the place you want to go to is in the Naxal belt. It is filled with Naxalites who are known to kill and kidnap, even recently.'**

Twenty minutes earlier, I had waved goodbye to my friends as they headed off for their next destination. A group of my Pahari friends had recently left our snowy village in the mountains of northern India for the dry heat of the Ganga River basin. For them, this trip was part vacation, part spiritual pilgrimage. I was there to learn more about Hindu beliefs and culture.

More than 1,000 miles into our journey, we piled out of our minibus in a small city in south-central Bihar. My thoughts turned to my friend Chotu, the child indentured servant who had worked for our landlord for nearly four years. Six months earlier, a delegation of brothers and uncles of numerous Bihari child servants arrived in our town to take them home. The masters were not eager to release their servants, and withholding pay seemed to be a common strategy for extracting extra work from these marginalised children and their unfortunate families. Thanks to the donations of other AFM missionaries, we were able to offer some financial assistance to Chotu so he could leave. We all cried as he left. Along with a small financial gift, I gave him a memory chip for his phone containing a Hindi audio Bible. His parting words: 'I will listen to your stories.'

*Isn't Chotu's village near here? I wondered. Is he listening to the audio Bible? Is his life at home any better than it was as a labourer?* I asked several people in the city if they knew where the village was.

'Oh, that is just three hours north of here.' My heart leapt at the opportunity to see my friend. 'I will stay here for two more days and meet up with you in Haridwar,' I told my travelling companions. They were surprised but gave me their blessings, and left me behind to be encouraged by the doom-saying motorcyclist.

Kidnapping, murdering Naxalites? The man's words echoed in my mind, making me doubt my plans. 'Go tomorrow morning,' he continued. 'I can help arrange a taxi for you.

When you arrive, you can get an armed police escort into the village. You can come back in the evening.'

Before dawn the next morning, I walked up to the roof of the hotel and poured out my heart to God. He gave me peace that He would lead me and be with me. I thought of Peter, Paul, Silas and the other apostles. God led them. Sometimes He delivered them; sometimes He was glorified through their suffering. 'Dear God,' I prayed with tears in my eyes, 'protect me as You lead me. If it is Your will that I suffer, I pray that You will be glorified through my suffering. Through my life and in my death I want to bring glory to You. I submit my will to Yours. Do with me as You see fit.'

Dawn came slowly, and so did my taxi. Finally, we pulled away from town and onto a freshly paved road to Chotu's village. Several hours later, we arrived at a cluster of cow-dung houses with grass roofs. The tattered clothing of the inhabitants lent irony to the village name, 'the place of wealth'.

People eyed me suspiciously as I got out of the taxi. A man approached, and I asked about Chotu. The man sent a child to call his family for me.

Chotu's brother soon appeared and recognised me immediately. 'Chotu is not here,' he said. Apparently, he had recently left to do seasonal work in another state. I got Chotu's new phone number and talked with him for about 15 minutes. 'Brother Daha,' he said, 'the memory card you gave us with the Bible on it broke. We used to listen to the stories every day. Do you have another one?' God must have known they would need one. For with me I had an identical memory card with AWR stories and the Hindi audio New Testament.

After my call with Chotu, his brother made the same request: 'Please, give us another memory card with the Jesus stories. We listened to all the stories, and now we only pray to Jesus. When you go home, please

send me a Bible. I can read. I really want to have a Bible that I can read to my family.'

While we were talking, a crowd formed around us. In it were Chotu's mother, brother, sister-in-law and nephew. Around each neck was a string necklace, and on each necklace hung a small picture of Jesus. Chotu's sister-in-law greeted me with 'Jai Massih', the Christian greeting. 'We only pray to Jesus now,' she said. 'Please send us more stories.'

Tears welled up in my eyes. Because of the unfaithfulness of a Hindu priest – our landlord who had dealt unfairly with Chotu, which prompted us to help him – Jesus had been made known in a tiny village of central Bihar over a thousand miles away. Chotu's family had no warning of my arrival, so I knew they weren't just putting on a show for me.

Since that visit, I have spoken with them on the phone several times. Their faith is tiny, but the Gospel seeds are growing.

My taxi driver and I left the village without incident. I reflected on the motorcycle man's warning about the kidnapping, murdering Naxalites. Had that just been Satan's attempt to intimidate me and keep me from seeing what God was doing in the hearts of people in this tiny village?

As I pondered these things, I saw the cars ahead of us stopping. Both lanes of the highway were blocked with large rocks. Surrounding the cars was a mob of young men holding sticks. I breathed a prayer to God. He sure was giving my faith a workout!

A man approached my driver and said something I could not understand.

'He wants money,' my driver said over his shoulder.

'How much?'

'Ten rupees.'

Relieved to be losing only about 25 cents, I quickly handed the money to the man.

'They are raising money for the Saraswati temple,' my driver added.

I am not giving money to a Hindu temple!' I said, snatching the money back out of the man's hand, much to his surprise.

'But you have to!'

'No, I don't. You give money if you want. I won't give even one rupee.'

An animated, unintelligible discussion ensued. As we slowly passed through the confused group of men, I sent up a prayer of thanks for God's care and protection.

I invite you to pray for Chotu and his family and for the other 'baby' Christians in his area. Praise God for the power of His Word, and pray for the sprouting faith of our friends. For surely, just as my faith was tested in issues of both persecution and loyalty, theirs will be as well.



## 'Over the hills and far away . . .'

Between October and Friday, 1 November, North England Conference Pathfinder director, Pastor Alan Hush, along with members of his staff team, took up the challenge of developing their outdoor leadership skills by climbing the High Peak and the lower Pennines for three days. This was their first step to becoming proficient walking group leaders. Then those involved in the Mountain Leader course were tested for a further gruelling three days on the peaks of Snowdonia.

Trainees were put through their paces in the face of the great British weather, which served up cold, wind, rain and stinging hailstones as they walked up moorlands and climbed the Kinder Scout peaks.

Navigation and map-reading abilities were shown to be crucial, especially in reduced visibility, which can occur quickly due to deteriorating weather or the onset of darkness. Both walking group and mountain leaders were instructed in the skills of night navigation to cope with such difficulties.

They were also given tools and techniques for accurate course plotting, direction finding and distance pacing. One surprising survival tip they learnt is that the best way to deal with blisters is to put duct tape on them!

For those involved in this training, this was the start of a series of moorland walks, hikes and mountain challenges on the way to becoming experienced, better-qualified leaders: better able to support our Pathfinder clubs as they enjoy a wider range of outdoor pursuits.

RUTH RICHARDS

BOOKSALES

**January**  
12 Newbold - SEC Evangelism Expo

**February**  
01 Fijian group - Stanborough Press After Sunset  
02 John Loughborough 10am-2pm  
09 Greenwich 10am-2pm

**ABC Shops**  
Watford, BUC, Monday-Thursday - 12.30-5pm, Friday - 10am-2pm.  
01923 893461

Birmingham, Aston-Newtown, Wednesday - 11am-4pm, Thursday - 4pm-8pm,  
Friday - 9am-1pm, Sunday - 11am-3pm.  
0121 3286380

Advent Centre, Mondays & Wednesdays - 6.30pm-8.30pm,  
Sundays - 11am-3pm, Saturdays - November, December, January: After sunset.  
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## Children's day at Wrexham and Newtown

'Love, joy, peace and patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control; these are the fruits of the Spirit!' By the time we had sung this over and over in Wrexham on Sabbath morning 16 November, we all knew it off by heart! The children joined in the programme by reading this Bible passage to the adults and then participating in a lively discussion as to how we can live out these fruits in our lives. We decided that we don't want to be like a lunchbox fruit snack that is only 55% fruit, but more like a pack of raisins that is 100% fruit!

Following the Sabbath morning programme in Newtown the next weekend, the children (and adults too!) enjoyed making wall hangings and fruit prints to remind them about showing the fruits of the Spirit in our lives. We all agreed that you can't make fruit – you have to allow it to grow. Like the farmer who provides the right environment for healthy fruit trees to grow good apples, so we can provide the right environment for the Spirit to work in our hearts, developing these positive characteristics.

PAT EASTWOOD, CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES SPONSOR, WELSH MISSION




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## CERTIFICATE IN HEALTH AND WELLNESS

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**HEALTH PRINCIPLES FIT FOR LIFE**



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For more information on the Certificate in Health and Wellness visit [www.newbold.ac.uk/health-and-wellness](http://www.newbold.ac.uk/health-and-wellness) email [info@newbold.ac.uk](mailto:info@newbold.ac.uk), or telephone 01344 407492

'When you go home, please send me a Bible.'





## Cambridge World Culture Festival

In many institutions across the UK, October is the month to celebrate black history. The members of Cambridge Church decided to capitalise on this time by inviting all cultures from the local community to participate.

The cultures were split into four main groups, each assigned to a Wednesday evening during which both church and community members were able to present the uniqueness of their country, including its history, traditional dances, music and food. So at the start of each evening they were given a taste of the delicacies each country offered.

The Philippines, India, Peru, Brazil and Panama showcased themselves on the first night. A week later it was the turn of the Europeans, Britons, Bulgarians, Estonians, Germans, Lithuanians, Poles, Portuguese, Serbians, Spanish and Swedes – all of whom are represented in the Cambridge congregation. This was also a very enjoyable and informative evening during which we were treated to jam and scones, toad-in-the-hole and káldol mar.

Next it was the turn of the Africans, representing the continent's 55 countries. They treated those attending to mandhazi, dengu, rice with peanut butter, sadza or ugali, and vegetable relish, to mention just a few. What followed was a jaw-dropping portrayal of twenty-first-century Africa that also highlighted the good work the Church is doing there.

In the final week it was the turn of the USA, Canada and the Caribbean, which makes up a fairly large portion of the church membership.

The idea of the month was not only to share the differences between the various cultures, but also to highlight the similarities, realising that there is just as much reason to be unified in the way we live together as a community and work together as a church.

To bring this message home, family, friends and neighbours were invited to a special Sabbath afternoon of celebration of 'Unity in Diversity', which included a parade of nations and a short recapping of events for those who were unable to attend the Wednesday sessions.

In the evening things were rounded off with an international music concert, attended by special guests from Plaistow in London, and other neighbouring churches in East Anglia.

Local pastor, Colin Stewart, tied the month together by sharing just how special God has made each nation, blessed with different gifts and strengths that, when working together, can produce wonderful results for God's coming Kingdom.

Not only have Cambridge members been able to appreciate other cultures a little more, but the occasion has brought the gift of new friendships in the community – the best result of all. *COMMUNICATION TEAM*



## Leamington's international night

Leamington Mission's international night is an annual celebration of the congregation's diversity. This year's event, organised by Nigel Clark and held on the evening of 9

November, is considered the best so far.

As well as the members of Leamington there were also visitors: some former members who have since moved away, and some relatives and friends, including a number of non-Adventists.

The evening began with people circulating around the different national tables sampling the various food dishes. A highlight was the table representing Chad, hosted by Bronwyn Pretorius, who has recently returned from her missionary work there. It featured tamarind beans, sorgum and cucumber magi and a few other unusual items. There were also tables representing Lithuania, St Lucia, Jamaica, Portugal, Canada, Brazil, England, South Africa, Italy, India and even Newcastle and Tyneside!

Neil Shuttleworth, as compère, went on to include a quiz, song items, humorous sketches, poems and short videos depicting the various countries. The evening's finale was a much-appreciated performance on the pan drums which reminded the audience of blue skies and sunshine.

*LORRAINE GLINTON, COMMUNICATION SECRETARY*



## Newbold pyjama day

To celebrate this event, and remember the children who need to spend most of their time in bed, we all – children and teachers – came to school in pyjamas on Friday 22 November last year. The small ones even brought their teddies.

The children were excited and happy to take part in the event, which raised £104.66

for this worthy cause. Not a bad effort for a school of fewer than seventy pupils!

*ANETT BAY*



## Holloway Homecoming – 11-12 October, 2013

They were asked to come home, which was difficult for some as it meant accepting forgiveness and restoration. But they came – in their numbers – and it was clear from Friday evening's programme that God was in this homecoming. During this service there was a special, 'Lest We Forget' pictorial tribute reminding the congregation of those who have fallen asleep in Jesus.

Pastor Woolford challenged those present to remember that God is a faithful God, who gives us every reason to love Him despite our actions and desire to stay away from Him; Pastor Alec Gage told the audience that God has a plan to give us hope, a future and a destination; while Pastor Clive DeSilva appealed to the hearers to show spiritual maturity.

As the Friday service ended, two guests came up with these statements: 'The pastors gave us a simple message reminding us that God is always there for us no matter what.' 'I was reminded that He loves us regardless of, not because of.'

Pastor Samuel Neves presented the Sabbath School class the next day. Through his dramatisation of the symbolism of the sanctuary, we got to understand its insights into the Gospel. Holloway was now effervescent with joy as so many guests and former members had arrived, filling the church to overflowing.

During the service Pastor Woolford appealed to the congregation to renew its connection with God.

The homecoming event ended with a concert featuring the former members of the Holloway gospel Choir, led by Tony Best and supported by other groups and soloists. The Gospel choir ended with their now-iconic rendition of 'I Shall Wear a Crown', reminding us of our ultimate goal: to be in Heaven, our eternal home. *EMEKA NWOKOYE*



## Job vacancies

### Stanborough Press Ltd

Stanborough Press is the publishing house of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the UK with an important international projection.

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## NEC models 'Rebuilding the Walls'

North England Conference staff recently held a special staff re-dedication of their office in Nottingham. Arranged by Pastor Curtis Murphy, the service was an opportunity for NEC staff and administration to model the conference theme, 'Rebuilding the Walls'.

The president, Pastor Lorance Johnson, was impressed by the event: 'If we are encouraging our churches to rebuild, we too, as those called to serve in the office, need to consider where there are breaches and repair them. This act of rededication is the commencement of our determination – as officers, directors, sponsors and office staff – to clear away the 'rubbish' that has accumulated in our lives, preventing God from pouring out His Spirit upon us.'

The occasion was further enhanced by the attendance of a well-looking former NEC president, Pastor Egerton Francis, who praised God for his improving health and encouraged the staff to work together to rebuild where needed. As part of the proceedings, Pastor Francis was later presented with a General Conference Ministerial Association 'Honourably Retired' medal by Pastor Richard Jackson.

The staff played an active role in the service, which consisted of various responsive readings, a short message by Pastor Jackson, and special music by Geraldene Farmer, who sang, 'Jesus Is the Cornerstone'. This unique service left a lasting impression on NEC staff. These are some of their comments:

'It was excellent. It will make a difference. It was like a spiritual revival, like spiritually rebuilding the walls. A new beginning. I think we can start with new energy now.' Grace Walsh, Health Ministries director.

'I am invigorated, encouraged and excited, and having Pastor Francis there was like the icing on the cake.' Pastor Alan Hush, Adventurers and Pathfinders director.

'It was a really important moment for the Conference for this particular team. We're trying to do something that hasn't happened quite in this way before. I feel surprisingly rejuvenated by what took place in that service.' Alex Douglas, Music sponsor.

'It was appropriate, timely and meaningful.' Pastor John Ferguson, executive secretary.

*GERALDENE FARMER, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR*

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Interested persons please send CVs to:  
Mr Paul Hammond  
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## Scottish Mission trains local leaders

On Sunday, 17 November last year, more than sixty local church officers from across Scotland gathered at Crieff Church to discuss the work in their local congregations.

Excellent and practical presentations were made by pastors from the British Union Conference: Victor Hulbert, Nathan Stickland and Eglan Brooks. Included in these was a very important one on cyclical evangelism in the local congregation.

They were joined by Scottish Mission pastors, Bob Rodd and Bernie Holford, and the various Mission sponsors covering youth, family ministries, Sabbath School and keeping the church family safe. Morning sessions led into afternoon workshops, with a solid two hours of concentrated learning and resource development.

'Visioning' was the event buzzword. Pastor Stickland focused the attention to the 'Yes Project', an initiative designed and run by local churches and accredited by the British Union Youth Ministries and Adventist Community Services departments.

The Scottish Mission usually has its training day early in the New Year, but this year they decided to test a date in November to beat the winter weather. It can be said that the weather played along very beautifully as the delegates enjoyed a crisp, sunny day. Just as well, as good leadership is needed for what is bound to be a bumper year for Scotland in 2014. This includes a celebration of physical fitness when the Commonwealth Games will be held in Glasgow City, 23 July – 3 August. Church members plan to use the Games as an opportunity to share the good news of God to many who may not know Him.

The Scottish Mission has also been enriched by the arrival of two new pastors, a husband-and-wife team, Rory and Ivana Mendez, together with their daughter Bibiana. They will minister in Glasgow, mixing the many individual talents and gifts that a husband and wife can bring together. The Scottish members gave them a warm welcome.

Sadly there were also farewells. After years of faithful service, Heather Haworth, BUC Family and Children's Ministries director, will be retiring this December. Throughout the weekend she had run Family Life training together with Karen Holford. Her committed service has been well appreciated by the Scottish Mission members. Genuine affection was seen in the presentation of gifts and the sharing of farewell hugs.

It was a long but positive day that left the 2014 Scottish leaders with much to ponder and plan.

A selection of pictures from the day are available at: <http://adventist.org.uk/news/gallery/gallery-sc/scottish-mission-officer-training>.

PASTOR JIMMY BOTHA



## Lewisham's CHIP

Who doesn't want to live longer with a better quality of life?

Members from Lewisham Church and their friends from the local community took the time to learn about just that at a recent programme: CHIP – the Complete Health Improvement Programme.

During the five-week course the twenty attendees learned important skills as they took part in cooking, nutrition and exercise classes. They also made shopping trips to learn how to read labels. They learned to improve their eating and exercise regimes, and how to maintain their health over time.

In addition to five friends from the local community, one of the Adventists who attended was our very own Pastor Hart, who, as a result of the course, was able to stop taking all eight of his prescribed medications, including those for his blood pressure (after consultation with his doctor). He had been on some of those medications for the past twenty-five years! What an amazing success! Other attendees experienced similar but less radical results and were happy to have taken part.

In the near future, the church's Health department will continue their good work by inviting the course's alumni to attend cooking classes and other relevant programmes.

JUSTIN VICTOR



## ASNA concert

Another wonderful evening of music and worship in aid of ASNA took place at the Newbold church on 28 September. The audience was truly inspired by all the various items, among them the young daughters of Andy Kydd, who drew a lot of positive comments for the song 'Lord, I lift Your name on high'. There were many others whose talents were a great blessing: Adam Thomas, Cecelia Wickham-Anderson, Bobby Carr, Resurrection, Raymond Burrowes, and Anthea and Leon. The evening culminated with the group finale – 'Total Praise' by Richard Smallwood – and the announcement that just over £400 had been raised for ASNA during the offering. Along with proceeds from the sale of food, tickets, the concert staged by the Disability Ministry team and Greenwich Church's Music department, and so on, this means that £1,000 has been raised towards the work of ASNA in 2013. A warm and heartfelt thanks to all who made this possible.

SOPHIA NICHOLLS



## North Wembley investiture

It was Pathfinder investiture day on 2 November 2013 at North Wembley Community Church. All the Pathfinders were in full uniform, their decorated sashes reflecting all the achievements, hard work and dedication throughout their Pathfinder journey.

North Wembley has a total of fifty-six children and young people enrolled, which includes five Little Lambs, six Eager Beavers, nineteen Adventurers, nineteen Pathfinders and seven trainee Master Guides. In addition another sixteen new recruits were added to an already thriving club.

The icing on the cake came as five of the Pathfinders were baptised to end an already wonderful day.

CHERRI LEE

## Brixton banquet

On 24 November the Brixton church's Community Services department hosted their Community Services banquet in their church hall. It was attended by the Jamaica Deputy High Commissioner to the UK, Mrs Deidre Mills. Also in attendance were Pastor Cecil Perry, former BUC president; Brixton's senior pastor, Ebenezer Jones-Larty; associate pastor, Max McKenzie-Cook; and Sergeant Jack Rowlands of the Ferndale Safer Neighbourhood team, and his team, James Beck, Matthew Hounsome and Vincent Osewa.

The banquet started with prayer from Pastor Perry, then the Lord's Prayer in song by David Billel. Pastor Perry commended the department on how hospitable they are and commissioned them to continue the good work. Pastor Jones-Larty spoke on the work that the department and the church are doing and asked for their continued support. He also mentioned plans to have a new programme for the children of the community. The Deputy High Commissioner encouraged the department to continue to share their time and wisdom with the youth in the community. She also reassured them that they have friends and support in the High Commissioner's office.

The banquet was held to recognise the tireless work of the Community Services department, which has also been instrumental in sending aid to the less fortunate in places like Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and Jamaica.

Mitzie Walfall, Community Services leader, summarised the year's activity: that they had given bags of clothing to Sierra Leone, Oxfam and the British Heart Foundation, and continue to help Great Ormond Street Hospital. They also donate food to the Food Bank and help UNICEF UK where possible, besides the weekly meals that are prepared in their own kitchen with food supplied by the members.

KELLEE HALLIBURTON



## Holy Spirit moves in the Welsh Mission

The Holy Spirit was certainly felt at the Welsh Women's Ministries retreat that took place over 8-10 November in the beautiful and peaceful grounds of Belmont Abbey, Hereford.

The focus for the weekend was 'Moving Forward with the Holy Spirit'. Malika Bediako, South England Conference Women's Ministries director, was guest speaker and left us in no doubt that the Holy Spirit is very much alive and active through her inspiring personal stories.

Paulette Marceny, also from London, continued to bless us through her three Sabbath morning solos. The work of the Holy Spirit in hearts and minds, the appropriate words of the songs and the awesome tone of Paulette's voice just moved us to tears.

We also praised and prayed, and on Sabbath evening as Elva Bryan played her guitar, we sang, danced for joy and bonded like never before under the Holy Spirit's influence.

The women of the Welsh Mission are encouraged to plan to attend next year's retreat – don't miss the blessing!

JENNIFER ROWELL, WELSH WOMEN'S MINISTRIES SPONSOR



## Manchester South Student Society blitz

On 9 November, one thousand Adventist students and members, and one hundred non-Adventist students, packed out Manchester University for student day. Guest speaker, Dean Cullinane, from the Preaching Place, presented a poignant message on education, urging that the focus in our education needs to be directed to God and not ourselves. education should help us prepare ourselves to be ready for God's Kingdom.

Lunch was provided, after which the praise team lifted our hearts through the singing of choruses. Some of the team also sang in their home languages, including Italian, Spanish and some of the languages spoken in Zambia, Botswana, Rwanda, Nigeria, Uganda, and the Philippines. This was followed by testimonies regarding how God has worked and changed people's lives for the better, and got them through difficult trials.

Artists such as Victory's Yours Today, Higher Ground, Vocal Blueprint and Peter Tabornal were also present, and used their talents to bless the audience. Salim Ice and Shantelle Manthlagu both read their poems to powerful effect. Shantelle's one was clever and controversial, and particularly well received among the students because of its relevance today.

The day had a praise concert feel to it and was extremely well received by the students.

SARA FRANCIS



## Tributes all round at Windsor Street

Too often the services of our senior citizens go without public acknowledgement and

recognition, but on Sabbath 26 October Windsor Street Church in Birmingham had a day of

thanksgiving and appreciation for the commitment and faithfulness of its senior members.

Four members – Rose Blake, Gloria Hamilton, Phyllis Smith and Sydney Bacchus – were honoured for their years of service to God and the church. Those paying tributes gave memorable personal testimonies of their experiences with the honorands and praised God for their years of outstanding service.

The tributes were appreciated by the honorands, their families and the wider congregation.

In the afternoon there was

an investiture, during which the youth were awarded for their achievements – nineteen Adventurers and twenty-eight Pathfinders. Five of the Pathfinders were also rewarded for passing their basic drumming skills assessments. Carollyn Hakulandaba and Fred Evans were also invested as new Master Guides. It was an afternoon mixed with joy and some sadness as the church remembered one of its much-loved Pathfinder counsellors, Lois Spencer, who passed away during the year. She left a special mark in the lives of those she taught, constantly challenging them to do their best.

JUNE RICHARDS, COMMUNICATIONS



## Adventist Special Needs Association/British Union Conference

The annual joint Adventist Special Needs Association/British Union Conference Disability Ministry conference was held at the Hilton Hotel, Watford, on Sunday 17 November 2013. This event brings together the Church's disability co-ordinators and leaders – those tasked with the responsibility of making the Gospel accessible to the disabled in their communities and churches. The presentation and workshop by Tony Phelps-Jones (Ministry director, Prospects Charity) enhanced the day as his songs and readings set the scene for worship. He was supported by Rachel and Sandra, who both live with disabilities. Their involvement provided an example of how we can involve people living with disabilities in the life of the church.

Pastor Terry Messenger (SEC executive secretary) opened the day with words of encouragement, and Sharon Platt-McDonald (BUC Disability Ministries director) delivered a presentation linking the objectives of the conference to the BUC-wide Mission to the Cities project.

Pastor Patrick Johnson's (Newbold senior pastor) thought-provoking presentation elicited many questions and challenged the delegation to think carefully about ministry to people with profound learning disabilities. Grace Walsh (NEC Disability Ministries director) and Elaine Harlin (ASNA HANDS supporter) led out in discussing two neglected areas of ministry – Mental Illness and Deaf Ministry. Sophia Nicholls (ASNA trustee & SEC

Disability Ministries director) led the session on 'Sharing Good Practice', where members were able to share their stories and experiences of ministry. Future plans for the ministry in the SEC include Area-wide meetings to develop local ministries, while in the NEC there will be a weekend conference. More details will be published to identify further work in the missions and future programmes and projects for the UK churches in this vital area of ministry. It was encouraging to hear members saying that they had learnt 'to be more creative in worship' and 'to identify the many diverse abilities in our church' – as these comments reflected the objectives of the conference.

SOHIA NICHOLLS, SEC DISABILITY DIRECTOR

## Male 'takeover' day

On 16 November 2013 Manchester South held a Men's Ministries Emphasis day during which the programme was run by the men.

The congregation's boys' group, 'Vocal Blue Print', conducted the 'singspiration'. There was also support from the powerful voices of the men's chorale.

Pastor Andrew Rashford-Hewitt presented a dynamic sermon, calling for men to become 'soldiers for God', leading their homes to the Kingdom. During his altar call the men congregated at the front, all holding hands and praying together. A strong sense of brotherhood was evident and the men were reminded of their responsibility to lead, serve and protect their families.

The afternoon was male-focused and the discussion was very lively, with women on one side of the church and men on the other. The questions were all about men, and both groups had the chance to speak freely. The discussion was relevant and informative, but it also led to lots of good-natured banter and laughter.

SARA FRANCIS

# obituaries

## Janice Baker (1946-2013) d. 30 August.

Janice was born in Northampton on 3 February 1946, and grew up with her parents in the Kingshorpe area of the town.

When the need arose for her mother to enter a care home, Janice had to be taken into care herself because she suffered from a 'learning difficulty'.

Janice later became part of the Sterling family, after taking up residence with them in March 1996. She now had an 'instant' family with Angela and Lloyd, whom she called Mummy and Daddy, two-year-old James, Gabrielle of four months, and then later Ethan when he was born.

The church family embraced her warmly and felt privileged in getting to know her. They loved her dearly.

She so loved fine clothes and dress accessories, and being pampered at the hairdresser or the beauty salon. Friends and relatives fondly named her Miss B, Miss Posh Lady, or Jan Jan.

Janice lived with the Sterlings for seventeen years, during which she created many special memories for them. She took her place in the family and did whatever chores she could.

Janice had her talents. In fact, she became a self-appointed 'nanny' to Gabrielle and helped with her bottle-feeding – something she did with much care and attention. She also took an interest in looking after another of her 'siblings', Ethan, who was the last to arrive. She also loved to sit at the window and teach James the colour of every car that drove by.

Janice was also capable of being rather blunt. On one occasion when her 'mum' took her shopping, she saw a woman sitting in front of her wearing an ill-fitting wig. Janice, in her clearest speech, said to her: 'Take your wig off.' The lady responded with an 'I beg your pardon.' To which Janice repeated: 'Take your wig off.' Sensing that the woman was about to give Janice a piece of her mind, her mum quickly defused the situation.

Janice volunteered to do jobs in the kitchen at her day centre, and designated herself as the 'Kitchen Porter'. However, she came home complaining one day



that she had done the washing up, but that no one had paid her a penny. She was told by her 'mum' to put a complaint in writing to the 'day centre manager'. When asked if she had done so, she replied: 'I will, tomorrow.'

If Janice fell out with anyone in the house, she would find his or her photograph and bury it by pushing it through a crevice in the floorboards – laying carpet soon put a stop to that!

Janice loved going on holiday and meeting new people, especially 'good-looking men', and she was quite receptive and appreciative of compliments and hugs.

Although some knew her only by her National Insurance number, her new 'mum', 'dad', and 'siblings' were privileged to cultivate the most special and precious memories of her through their personal interaction together.

As a child and young woman, Janice attended church regularly with her biological mother and continued to go with her new family for the rest of her life. She knew most hymns in the hymnal and could recite the Lord's Prayer.

Janice leaves behind her 'Mummy', 'Daddy', James, Gabrielle, Ethan, Michael and Jean, and numerous family members and friends who have played a part in supporting and caring for her.

She did much to put sunshine into many lives. She is sorely missed, and will never be forgotten.

Janice was given the most beautiful service at Milton Malsor Crematorium on 1 October 2013 with Pastor Sweeney officiating, and was later cremated.

Janice, sleep until God calls you to His heavenly home, at the Second Coming of your Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, when death will be abolished forever.

ANASELIA MORRIS,  
COMMUNICATION SECRETARY,  
NORTHAMPTON HARLESTONE ROAD CHURCH

## Pastor Douglas John Dunnett (1922-2013)

d. 7 October.

Douglas John Dunnett was born on 7 April 1922 in Folkestone, Kent, the only child of Sidney Frederick and Charlotte Evelyn Dunnett, both devout Baptists.

John caught the attention of a wealthy childless relative, who paid for him to have an excellent



education at prep school in Folkestone and then at Rossall, in Fleetwood, Lancashire, to which he also won a scholarship. His father died after a fall at Dover's harbour in September 1935, just before John was due to start his first term at Rossall. Mrs Dunnett's severe loss was made even harder to bear when her beloved son left home at the same time.

In 1939 an Adventist pastor held a series of meetings in Folkestone. Mrs Dunnett attended the meetings and became one of the charter members of the Seventh-day Adventist church in the town. John followed his mother into the church, and this changed his life entirely. He was a keen member of the Officers Training Corps at Rossall, rose to sergeant and became a first-class marksman. With this background he would almost certainly have enlisted in the army when he finished school in 1940, but instead he went to Newbold College, then located near Rugby, to train for the ministry. He completed the course in 1942, and entered the ministry in Sussex. In 1944 he married a fellow Newbold student, Mabel Howlett, and they lived in north London for the next two years, ministering at Holloway Church.

His classical education stood him in good stead, and, when Newbold College needed a Greek teacher in 1946, John was called to teach on the new campus in Binfield, Berkshire. From then on his career was to be mainly in education. He completed a BA from London University as an external student. In 1953 he paid his own way to the Adventist Theological Seminary in Washington DC, where John worked as a house painter to help with expenses. He managed to complete the MA course in one year, the shortest time taken until then. In 1954 the family moved to Trinidad, where John taught in the Theology department of what was then the Caribbean Training College for the next five years. He revelled in the heat of the tropics, and enjoyed the experience of living in another country. He founded the Pathfinder club at the college for the younger students.

Although urged to return to the United States to study for a PhD, John decided that his daughters needed a British education, and the family came back to England in 1959. Having enrolled the girls at Stanborough School in faith (he had no job yet), John was pleased to be asked to join the school as a teacher. He taught there from 1959 to 1965. The

next two years were spent pastoring in Ealing and Chiswick, and starting Southall Church. He then returned for a further year at Stanborough School.

In 1968 he was called back to Newbold College to teach, inter alia, Ancient History and Church History and New Testament Greek. From the beginning of his ministry John was deeply involved in the Master Guide programme, and of all his life achievements, he was probably proudest of the 179 young people who completed the programme. John's students appreciated his dry wit, his bending over backwards to get them through Greek exams, and above all his deep Christian faith. He remained in the Theology department until his early retirement on health grounds in 1984.

He, Mabel and April moved first to a smallholding in Shipton Gorge in Dorset, and attended the Weymouth church. When April left to work for the South England Conference in Watford, John and Mabel moved to South Wonston, just north of Winchester. They enjoyed several happy years of fellowship with the Winchester church. When Mabel's health began to fail, April returned from teaching in Zimbabwe. The family again needed a larger house, and found one in Stolford, on the Somerset coast, west of Bridgwater. Here they settled into life in a small rural community, with Christian neighbours who welcomed the chance to join a Lent house group at the Dunnetts' home. The Bible studies continued weekly through the year, long after Lent. 'We believe God sent you here,' one couple said. The family travelled to worship at Weston-super-Mare, Croscombe, Taunton and Yeovil. John also spoke in the local Anglican churches on occasion.

John loved the countryside. He enjoyed walking and music, history and railways. He was fascinated by numbers, and was a compulsive counter. He was kind to all creatures, but loved cats best. John loved life. During a health crisis early in 2012, he told the doctors he wanted to live, to see the Queen's Jubilee, the London Olympics and then head for his telegram from the Queen! He enjoyed the summer of 2012. He was buried in the peaceful churchyard of St Andrew's, Stogursey, in Somerset, beside his wife Mabel. Now we have an even greater event than Jubilees and Olympics to look forward to, when we believe we shall be reunited with all those who loved God supremely in their lives.

JONQUIL HOLE



# back page

## MOHAP's Stanborough Park day retreat

On Sunday 17 November a MOHAP day retreat was held at the Stanborough Park church. Many attendees arrived bright and early to browse the comprehensive selection of prayer and health books, supplied by the Stanborough Press, which complemented MOHAP's 'Lord, make me whole' theme.



Pastor Humphrey Walters' inspirational devotional, which focused on the faith of the woman with the issue of blood, was followed by Marlene Levy's (psychotherapist) presentation, 'The impact of anger on mental and emotional health', which elicited much discussion. Carol Douglas from Manchester echoed the other attendees' sentiments that 'more opportunities within the church were needed to talk about the extensive issues related to anger'.

Angelle Muller (consultant nutritionist) provided a thoughtful and instructive presentation on 'Our relationship with food'. The day was sensitively punctuated with time for reflection; corporate and individual prayer; and prayer in twos.

A praise and testimony session provided Chioma Onyedinma-Ndubueze and many others the opportunity to share God's blessings. Chioma testified about how the persistent prayer of a mother in trying circumstances resulted in her son's employment.

Pastor Cecil Perry, retired BUC president, provided a biblical

introduction to the anointing service, after which seven SEC and NEC pastors assisted those requiring individual anointing, prayer and brief pastoral counselling. The pastors ended the anointing service in a private circle of prayer and fellowship. The day concluded with a crescendo of praise using the theme song, 'How great thou art', which led one individual to sum things up with the comment that it was a 'blessed day'.

The next MOHAP day retreat will be on 26 January 2014 at the Advent Centre, London. Please book online at [www.mohap6.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.mohap6.eventbrite.co.uk). A hard-copy booking form can be downloaded at [www.mohap.org](http://www.mohap.org). For queries ring 07407 692 256.

JANET HAMILTON



## Gloucester's baby boom

Gloucester Church paused lately to acknowledge its recent baby boom. Speaking at the dedication service of Isaiah Newton, Pastor Namuchana encouraged the church family to support and nurture these children – 'Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.' Proverbs 22:6, NKJV.

The children and their parents are: Patrick and Simon Kelly, parents of Jayana; Kennedy and Andrea Obiero, parents of Lakesha; André Newton and Victoria Kelly, parents of Isaiah; Rhian Johnson and Anthony Njoroge (not pictured), parents of Ezekiel; Stacey and Andrew Newton, parents of Malachi; Stha and Tonderai Nym, parents of Rotende; Sasha and Michael Myers (not pictured), parents of Micah; Donna Lotteriet and Eric Finjap (not pictured), parents of Gabrielle; and Wayne Fishley and Calista DeCordova, parents of Kayden.

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

## Light of the community

When the Halesowen church plant received an invitation to the Halesowen Town seasonal light-switching ceremony on Saturday, 16 November last year, its minister, Pastor Obi Iheoma, recalled the words of Jesus: 'You are the light of the world . . .' (Matthew 5:14, NKJV) – and encouraged members to participate. These words became alive in the heart of the Halesowen community as church members joined the Dudley council and the mayor and mayoress of Dudley, Alan and Heather Finch, at the event. The adult choir, Advent Melodies, and young people's choir, Angel's Praise, presented songs to an appreciative audience. Energetic Pathfinders and Adventurers were kept busy by distributing literature while other church members were on hand to respond to enquiries from members of the public. Pastor Obi Iheoma had the opportunity to share the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and the Halesowen church plant with the Mayor and Mayoress.

PASTOR OBI IHEOMA



# MOHAP

**Ministry of Healing and Prayer**  
'Ministering to those in need of spiritual, social, physical and emotional healing'

## Day Retreat

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2014

Prayer, Testimonies, Health Presentations, Discussion,  
Time for reflection, Praise and Worship, Pastoral  
Prayer & Counselling and Prayer & Anointing



**Devotional Speaker**  
Dr. Pastor Emmanuel Osei  
SEC Prayer Ministries Director



**Health Presentation Speaker**  
Dr. Pastor Daniel Duda  
TED Education Director - Emotional healing



**Health Presentation Speaker**  
Dr. Chidi Ngwaba  
Physician, Lifestyle Doctor - Physical healing

The Advent Centre, 12 Crawford Place, London,  
W1H 5HD  
Registration: 9.30am – Close 5pm

Book or download booking form at [www.mohap.org](http://www.mohap.org)  
For queries email [info@mohap.org](mailto:info@mohap.org) or phone 07407 692 256  
No payment required. Freewill offering collected on the day

## Messenger

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	Lon	Card	Notf	Edin	Belf
Jan 3	4.05	4.17	4.01	3.52	4.11
10	4.14	4.26	4.10	4.02	4.21
17	4.24	4.36	4.22	4.15	4.33
24	4.36	4.48	4.34	4.29	4.46

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