

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

# Messenger

News to the churches • 7 February 2014 • Volume 119 • 3

## ADRA appeal tops £150,000

The generosity of ADRA's UK supporters was again demonstrated in the response to the Typhoon Haiyan appeal.

*'Thank you ADRA! Thank you so much! What you did for us was a big, big help.'*

Mary Rose Figuran opens the door, beaming. How different she looks from ten days earlier, when, weary and tired, she accepted an ADRA jerrycan and a hygiene kit from aid workers. Then she was at the end of her tether. The typhoon that hit the Philippines had destroyed most of her livelihood and she didn't know where to turn. Fortunately, the basic emergency supplies she received from ADRA made a world of difference.

Now ADRA staff were back to check how she was. Mary Rose was particularly excited about the 'malong' she had received, a cloth garment, similar to a sleeping bag (especially for women). The malong can be used as a changing space to give some privacy when changing clothes, but also as a robe for those who've lost all their clothing, as well as a sleeping bag. Appreciative of ADRA's help, Mary Rose said: 'We are so thankful to ADRA, we will not remove the logo stickers from our items.'

With your help ADRA-UK has received over £150,000 in donations towards the Typhoon Haiyan Emergency Appeal. These funds are making a significant difference and ADRA-UK would like to thank all of you who generously supported the appeal across the length and breadth of the British Isles. It is because of your generosity, creativity and sacrifice that we have been able to raise this amount to help those suffering.

Someone said that 'the reach of the Adventist Church is ADRA's greatest asset' and it proved true in the Philippines. Through the combined strengths of Adventist Community Services and ADRA, amazing work was accomplished. Where other NGOs were struggling to get started, Seventh-day Adventist churches and members, many of whom were themselves victims of the disaster, assisted ADRA in providing essential relief.

In total ADRA has positively impacted the lives of more than 34,000 people since the early response began! ADRA's Emergency Response Team (ERT) continues to play a significant role in the co-ordinated follow-up to this disaster.

As well as meeting the immediate needs of the people during the emergency phase, ADRA is currently working to help people rebuild their livelihoods.

ADRA continues to provide emergency food and water where needed, but is extending the response to the provision of shelter and cash for work programmes. A programme to assist in the repair of boats and the provision of fishing equipment will help re-establish the livelihood opportunities associated with the fishing industry. Disaster risk-reduction activities are also now in place.

Future ongoing projects in the Philippines, with funding from across the globe, will ensure that thousands more will also benefit. To contribute and help sustain the work that ADRA is doing right now, please visit our *Just Giving* page – <http://www.justgiving.com/ADRA-UK-Haiyan> – or visit our website at [adra.org.uk](http://adra.org.uk).

ADRA also provides regular news updates on Facebook ([facebook.com/adrauk](https://www.facebook.com/adrauk)).

Our website is also a good source of inspirational stories, and ideal to find out more about other ADRA projects.

*BERT SMIT, CEO, ADRA-UK*





**Stories**

Aberdaron Advent Campsite would like to hear from anyone who has a **recent or old** story, or a fond or special memory of their time spent at Aberdaron for use in the campsite's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. Please send your story to Aberdaron Advent Campsite, Glan-yr-Afon, Anelog, Aberdaron, Pwllheli, LL53 8BT or email it to [enquiries@aberdaroncamp.com](mailto:enquiries@aberdaroncamp.com).

**Competition**

As part of the Aberdaron Advent Campsite 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations we would like to start the next 50 years at Aberdaron with a new logo. We would like you all to get involved, so we have opened the design up to you.

Categories:	Under-8s	Prize: A selection of children's books from the ABC
	Ages 8-12	Prize: Week at NEC Junior Camp
	Ages 13-16	Prize: Week at NEC Teen Camp
	Ages 17-25	Prize: Week at NEC Senior Camp
	Over-25s	Prize: Week's stay in a chalet at Aberdaron – (date to be mutually agreed)



**Aberdaron Advent Campsite**  
**Glan-yr-Afon, Aberdaron,**  
**Pwllheli, Gwynedd, LL53 8BT**  
 T: 01758 760281 • F: 01758 760557  
[www.aberdaroncamp.com](http://www.aberdaroncamp.com)  
[enquiries@aberdaroncamp.com](mailto:enquiries@aberdaroncamp.com)



The overall winner will have their logo used and will receive an extra prize of two days of outdoor activities with Aberdaron's Outdoor Activity Advisor (date to be mutually agreed).

Please send your completed entries to Aberdaron Advent Campsite, Glan-yr-Afon, Anelog, Aberdaron, Pwllheli, LL53 8BT.

Closing date for entries: **30 March 2014.**

Winners will be notified by post and announced at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Weekend (16-19 May 2014).

**50<sup>th</sup> anniversary chalet prices**

As part of the Aberdaron Advent Campsite 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations we have special rates for chalet bookings during 2014.

Dates	Rate per night	Rate per week	Mid-week break 4 nights (Monday-Friday)
1 March – 6 July	£50.00	£250.00	£150.00
1 Sept – 31 Dec	£45.00	£225.00	£135.00

For bookings please contact us at:

Aberdaron Advent Campsite, Glan-yr-Afon, Anelog, Aberdaron, Pwllheli, LL53 8BT • Tel: 01758 760281  
 Email: [enquiries@aberdaroncamp.com](mailto:enquiries@aberdaroncamp.com)



## Enhancing Health

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

### Sugar, not so sweet after all!

'Sugar is the new tobacco,' states Simon Capewell, professor of clinical epidemiology at the University of Liverpool. He is a member of a new US-UK campaign group called *Action On Sugar*, which was formulated to step up the war on sugar, among other things, by influencing the food industry to implement voluntary changes, something that has not been too successful.

Reporting on this new initiative, under the headline, "Sugar is the new tobacco": Health chiefs tell food giants to slash levels by a third', author Sean Poulter (*Mail Online Health*, 9 January 2014) stated: 'The typical Briton consumes 12 teaspoons of sugar a day and some adults consume as many as 46. The maximum intake recommended by the World Health Organisation is ten. . . .'<sup>1</sup>

So why the concern? Poulter's report continues:

'The UN agency says there is "overwhelming evidence coming out about sugar-sweetened beverages and other sugar consumption" being linked to obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease.'

Not all medics agree. Dr Victoria Burley, a senior lecturer in Nutritional

Epidemiology at Leeds University, says their claims are alarmist and misleading. 'There is certainly evidence that obesity is linked to cancer and coronary heart disease, but there is little evidence that there is a causal link between sugar and obesity.'<sup>2</sup>

Professor Capewell, however, presses the argument: 'Everywhere, sugary drinks and junk foods are now pressed on unsuspecting parents and children by a cynical industry focused on profit, not health. The obesity epidemic is generating a huge burden of disease and death. Obesity and diabetes already cost the UK over £5 billion a year. Without regulation, these costs will exceed £50 billion by 2050.'<sup>3</sup>

So, how sweet are our foods? Action On Sugar's study found high levels of sugar in several foods, including some reportedly 'healthy options', such as:

- Heinz tomato soup – 4 teaspoons
- Kellogg's Frosties with semi-skimmed milk (30g) – 4 teaspoons
- Muller Crunch Corner strawberry shortcake yoghurt – 6 teaspoons
- Yeo Valley Family Farm 0% fat vanilla yoghurt – 5 teaspoons.

So are the reported dangers of excessive sugar a new revelation? It seems not. In 1905 Ellen G. White wrote about the dangerous effect of excess sugar on digestion<sup>4</sup> and about its combination with milk being more injurious than meat in large quantities.<sup>5</sup>

Sweet tooth? Beware. The outcome may not be so 'sweet' after all!

**Good health!**

<sup>1</sup><http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-2536180/Sugar-new-tobacco-Health-chiefs-tell-food-giants-slash-levels-third.html>

<sup>2</sup><http://www.telegraph.co.uk/science/science-news/10561164/Comparing-sugar-to-tobacco-is-alarmist-and-misleading-claim-health-experts.html>

<sup>3</sup><http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-2536180/Sugar-new-tobacco-Health-chiefs-tell-food-giants-slash-levels-third.html>

<sup>4</sup>The Ministry of Healing, pp. 301, 302

<sup>5</sup>Counsels on Diet and Foods, pp. 330, 331

# editorial

I am a sucker for stories of courage and devotion. They have the power to inspire us to better things. Bearing this in mind, you can imagine my delight when I visited the Delville Wood memorial in northern France two years ago and discovered Pte Jackie of the 3rd South African Infantry regiment. Let me tell you his fascinating story.<sup>1</sup>

Jackie, a chacma baboon, grew up in South Africa.<sup>2</sup> He was the pet of the Marr family, but when their son, Albert, signed up to serve in France on 25 August 1915, Jackie's circumstances changed dramatically. Against all odds, Albert's request for Jackie to join up with him was granted.

Jackie was well behaved and had such an 'impressive bearing' that he was adopted as the regimental mascot and taken on strength so he could draw rations – which he ate sitting at a mess table using 'a knife and fork in a proper manner'.

Once Pte Jackie reached England he was given a specially tailored uniform, complete with cap, buttons and regimental badges. He marched and drilled with his company, saluted the officers and would respond to the 'stand easy' command like any other soldier – body erect, hind legs apart, and 'hands' behind his back!

**Not just a mascot**

Jackie was more than a mascot. Before reaching France, both he and Pte Marr saw action in Egypt. Marr took a bullet in the right shoulder and Jackie did what he could to comfort the prostrate soldier, licking his wound until help arrived.

These inseparable friends were back at the front again in November 1916. Each time the regiment went 'over the top' Jackie was there at Albert's side and they 'shared all the privations of the ordinary soldier in the muddy shell holes and trenches of the Western front'.<sup>3</sup>

Then in April 1918 their brigade came under heavy shelling and Jackie was severely injured by shrapnel. He had been 'frantically trying to build a wall of stones about himself', copying what others were doing to protect themselves against the exploding shells.

With a wounded right arm and his left leg hanging by a thread, Jackie hobbled around trying to complete his task, reluctant to be carried to safety. This is how a senior medical officer recorded his arrival for treatment: 'It was a pathetic sight; the little fellow, carried by his keeper, lay moaning in pain, the man crying his eyes out in sympathy, "You must do something for him, he saved my life in Egypt." ' They did, but Jackie lost part of his leg.

According to an officer at the casualty clearing station a few days later: 'He was pretty bad when he arrived, but we put him to bed and that night when I was doing rounds he sat up in the bed to salute me.'<sup>4</sup>

Albert and Jackie were subsequently sent

## Jackie's story



**Julian Hibbert**  
 Editor

back to England, where they raised money for the Red Cross, charging two-and-six for a shake of Jackie's hand and five bob for a kiss! At Jackie's appearance in the Lord Mayor's procession on 9 November 1918 – perhaps his proudest moment – he sat astride a captured German artillery piece with the London crowds cheering him on!<sup>5</sup>

Albert and Jackie were discharged the next year and the brave baboon returned to the family farm, where he passed away on 22 May, 1921.

**What a story**

When I read Jackie's story on the walls of the Delville Wood museum it brought a lump to my throat. Why? Because it is a touching saga of pure, uncompromising devotion.

Nothing could come between them. Jackie was Albert's devoted companion through some of the most terrible combat conditions on record; stood sentry duty with him; went over the top into the teeth of battle at his side; and huddled protectively over him when he was wounded.

**Jackie makes me think**

Jackie makes me think about my levels of devotion. **How committed am I to my spouse?** Does my devotion to her really measure up to that promise I once made . . . 'for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, till death us do part'?

**What about my devotion to Jesus?** How rock-solid is my commitment to Him? Jackie could have covered in the trenches when Albert and his pals went over the top. What am I like when Jesus comes under attack?

My thoughts flit to that fateful evening before Christ walked the long road to Calvary. In the upper room, during the meal, a conversation takes place regarding this comment: 'My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: where I am going, you cannot come.' John 13:33, NIV-UK.

Christ is adamant that His disciples cannot follow Him immediately, but Peter is not happy with that: 'Peter asked, "Lord, why can't I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." ' John 13:37, NIV-UK.

Peter is convinced that he has what it takes to follow Christ anywhere – even if it requires the ultimate sacrifice. Does he?

In Gethsemane Jesus craves their devoted support as never before: 'My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me.' Matthew 26:38, NIV-UK.

As He slumped, 'bleeding' beneath the garden's olive trees, with the pain of accumulated evil pressing in upon Him, Jesus needed a devoted Jackie . . . but He had to make do with a snoring Peter!

Yes, Jackie's story makes you think, doesn't it.

<sup>1</sup>Except where otherwise indicated the quotations in the article are from: <http://www.samvoa.org/jackie.html> <sup>2</sup>The chacma baboon (*Papio ursinus*), also known as the Cape baboon, is, like all other baboons, from the Old World monkey family. It is one of the largest of all monkeys. ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chacma\\_baboon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chacma_baboon)) <sup>3</sup><http://www.youreawesome.co.za/jackie-the-baboon/> <sup>4</sup>ibid







## 'Almost' or genuine?

by Pastor Curtis Murphy

As Paul the apostle stood before King Agrippa (Acts 26:2 and onwards) he spoke eloquently about the crucified yet risen Lord. Festus responded with, 'You are out of your mind, Paul! . . . Your great learning is driving you insane.'

Undaunted, Paul replied, 'What I am saying is true and reasonable.'

Then, turning to Agrippa, he said: 'King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know you do.' (Acts 26:24, 25, 27, NIV.)

Agrippa replied: 'Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.' (vs. 28, KJV.)

### What makes a £50 note genuine?

I attended a wedding recently and was interested to see the serviettes overprinted with a £50 note. Interesting, but not nearly good enough even to be 'almost' a £50 note. Photocopies, laser prints, or even photographs of £50 notes aren't going to become 'almost' genuine £50 notes. For something to be 'almost' it must be very similar to the original.

Ever since Christianity began there have been many who were 'almost persuaded' to be Christians. So what is an 'almost' Christian like?

Firstly, they are honest and they expect people to be fair. They won't steal from each other or oppress the under-privileged; they won't engage in extortion or fraud, and they will avoid those who habitually lie and steal. They are also prepared to help others, as long as it doesn't cause them too much inconvenience. They are charity-shop Christians – they generously give away what they don't need.

Secondly, 'almost' Christians are known to have an appearance of godliness. As 2 Timothy 3:5 says, they have 'a form of godliness' but deny its power (NIV). And so the 'almost' Christians will not do anything that the Bible – as far as they understand it – doesn't allow.

They don't swear or use foul language. They observe a rest day, and encourage others to do the same.

They avoid immorality, gossip, and any thing that might offend the Holy Spirit.

'Almost' Christians do everything in moderation. They avoid argument as far as possible, and try to live at peace with everyone. They don't take revenge. They don't make fun of anyone's faults and failures. In fact, whatever they do is governed by the 'golden rule' – 'Do unto others as you would that they do unto you.' They are never idle – they keep busy doing good works. They even encourage others to be saved through faith and set a good Christian example.

The 'almost' Christians, with their strong emphasis on outward appearance – the form of godliness – use all the various ways of getting God's blessing and attention. They attend church and prayer meeting regularly each week and listen intently to the sermons. They don't look around at the rest of the congregation or talk to each other, or slouch in their seats to find the most comfortable position for a good nap.

No! Outwardly they look like godly people who are serious and attentive about their worship. Like the sinner in Luke 18:13 they say, 'God be merciful to me a sinner.' (KJV.) And if we add regular family worship and times of private meditation on the Word to this list, then those who practise this outward religion have a convincing appearance of godliness.

### Motive

They need only one more ingredient to make the picture complete, and that is *motive* – that inward force that should produce these outward actions. An ancient Epicurean poet<sup>1</sup> wrote that: 'Good men avoid sin through love of virtue;

Wicked men avoid sin from fear of punishment.'

In other words, if we simply avoid doing evil just to avoid being caught, our reward will be that we escape punishment. But this is really a very low standard to set for ourselves. And if in avoiding evil we actually do some good, but our only motive is just to avoid losing such things as our reputation, or our respect in the eyes of others, then we can't even call ourselves 'almost' Christians.

In all honesty, if dodging bad consequences is the only motive we have to avoid doing evil, we are simply hypocrites. In order to move beyond being 'almost' Christians we must *really intend* to serve God and do His will, for His sake and not our own. In order to be genuine Christians we must sincerely want to please God in every way, every word and every deed – in the things we do and the things that we intend to do. The aim of pleasing God must be the guiding motive for everything we do if we want to escape being 'almost' Christians.

There is nothing wrong with all the good things that 'almost'

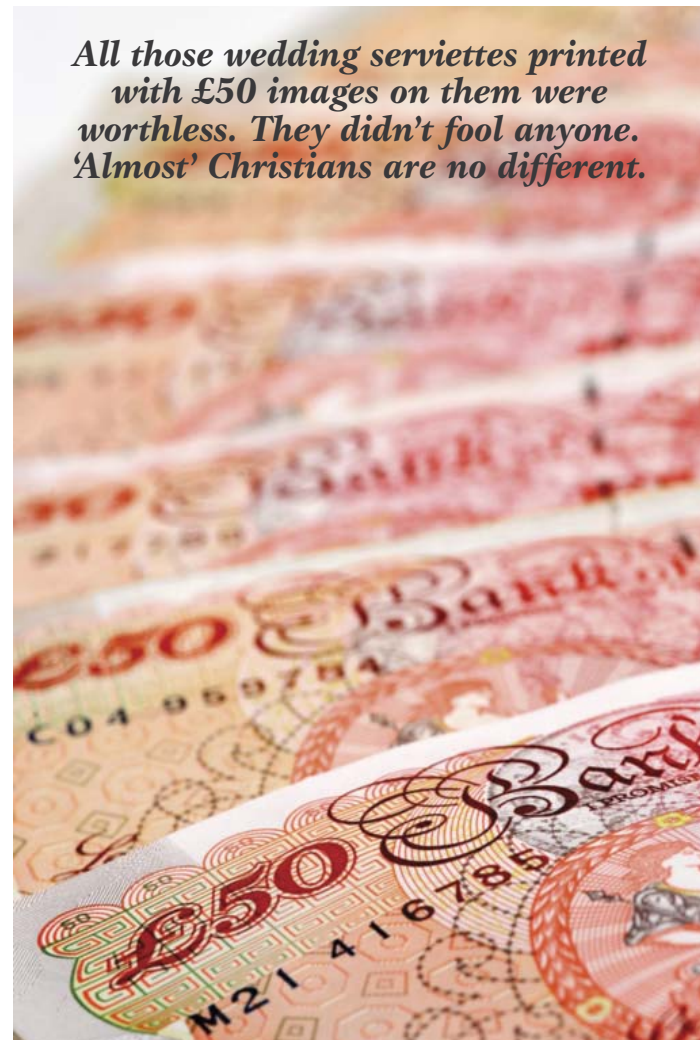
Christians do, but they must be done for the right reasons. Isn't that exactly what Jesus means when He says, 'If ye love me, keep my commandments'? John 14:15, KJV.

Love for Him must be the driving motive for our obedience, our good deeds and our fine words. Without that love for Him and the passion to do His will we are exactly what Paul describes in 1 Corinthians 13:1 (NKJV): 'Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal.'

All those wedding serviettes printed with £50 images on them were worthless. They didn't fool anyone. 'Almost' Christians are no different. On the outside they may look like the real deal, but without the right motivation driving their obedience they are valueless in the eyes of God. Only the genuine convinces Him . . . and the genuine is always driven by love.

<sup>1</sup>Quoted in John Wesley, 'Sermon II – The Almost Christian', *Sermons on Several Occasions*, ninth edition, Caxton Press: London, vol. 1, p. 12

*All those wedding serviettes printed with £50 images on them were worthless. They didn't fool anyone. 'Almost' Christians are no different.*



**NEWBOLD COLLEGE**  
OF HIGHER EDUCATION

## CERTIFICATE IN HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The Certificate in Health and Wellness programme is intended to prepare those with an interest in dietetics, nutrition, wellness and fitness for service in their local church and community as they seek to share the Seventh-day Adventist lifestyle – including the benefits of a vegetarian diet and of regular exercise and physical fitness.

**HEALTH PRINCIPLES FIT FOR LIFE**  
NUTRITION

The Certificate in Health and Wellness is an all-inclusive package designed to be completed over two five-week summer intensive residentials on the Newbold campus. The first intake will commence 14 July 2014. Financial assistance may be available – please contact your Union/local conference health ministries director for details.

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

The SEC Family Ministry  
Marriage Retreat

## Intimate Allies

Guarding the Foundations of Marital Love

An exploration of practical biblical principles to enhance spiritual, emotional and physical intimacy

**28th - 30th March 2014**  
Venue: Latimer Place, Latimer, Chesham, Buckinghamshire, HP5 1UG

Cost: £240 per couple (subsidies and split payments available for early booking)

Presenters:  
Les & Irma Ackie

Register at [sec.adventist.org.uk/events](http://sec.adventist.org.uk/events) or call Anna McLarty on 01923 232 728



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

Andrew Puckering

'Why does God allow disasters to happen?'

On 11 March 2011 I was reading Isaiah 45, which we looked at last issue, when I saw on TV the awful Japanese tsunami. Does God allow such disasters? If so, why?

In Genesis 6, God brought the Flood on a world 'filled with violence' (vs. 11, NKJV). He brought the plagues on Egypt to rescue His people from slavery (Exodus 6:6, 7). He ordered utter destruction upon Canaanite societies that burnt their children alive (Deuteronomy 12:29-31). He brought defeat upon the Israelites when they practised 'violence', 'iniquity', 'strife' and 'perverse judgment' (Habakkuk 1:2-7, NKJV).

We can see that God's purpose in these biblical examples was to end the rampant, unchecked evil of societies 'drawn away by [their] own desires and enticed' (James 1:14, NKJV). In each case, however, eager to avoid their destruction, He warned of the disaster before it came, to give people time to repent (Deuteronomy 28:15-68; 31:16-21). "Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin. . . . I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies," says the Lord GOD. "Therefore turn and live!" (Ezekiel 18:30-32, NKJV.) Some, as in Nineveh, did turn away from evil and were spared as a result (Jonah 3).

On the other hand, while disasters do sometimes come as a divine judgement, they also happen to people who are no worse than anyone else. In these cases, it's not that God singled people out because of their sins – we've all sinned, and would all die anyway as a result (1 John 1:8-10; Romans 6:23) – but rather, in His mercy He keeps the rest of us alive so that we can repent (Luke 13:1-5). We were already condemned as sinful – that's our natural state of being – but believing in Him will free us from that condemnation so that we will live forever (John 3:16-18).

This end – our salvation, through faith in Him – is so vital for us, and so desirable for Him, that He prefers to allow even His closest friends to experience the temporary sleep of death, if by that means others may believe and be saved (John 11:3-15). But that 'sleep' is only temporary, for He has the power to raise them again – He has done so in the past, and will do so again in the future, if, while living, they trusted that He would (John 11:21-27, 43, 44). We who believe *will* be reunited with them, come that glorious day (1 Thessalonians 4:13-17).

Even the best Person of all suffered personal tragedy, separation and death. God lost His Son to cruel, mocking sinners, even though He was innocent of all crimes, and He was dying to save them (Luke 23:33-41). Jesus' longsuffering submission to the Father in spite of severe, undeserved hardship is a sterling example to us (1 Peter 2:18-25) – and if He patiently endured suffering who never deserved it, how much more should we, who need our Father's tender correction (Hebrews 12:4-13).

Jesus' death must have seemed like a disaster to the disciples, as if God had abandoned Him – but what seemed like disaster was the triumph of grace. Because Jesus suffered for us, He understands our suffering. He's been there, and He's been through it, and He has the keys of Hades and of death (Revelation 1:17, 18). By His grace, we'll get through it too.

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.





## 'So, you think you is man?'

by Pastor Andrew Rashford-Hewitt

I can still hear those words, in my father's resonant voice, his distinct Jamaican patois – the language of a proud man from Clarendon, Jamaica. Yes, I still hear them. Just as I can still see myself, all 5 feet 11 inches of me, in my slim 15-year-old frame. I tried to square up my shoulders and stand tall, as my father, who was 5 feet 10 inches, just looked at me. His firm gaze shrinking me to the size of 6 years old with a runny nose and knobby knees. It reminded me that I wasn't ready to square up to my father's broad frame – I dared not challenge his knowledge with my limited youthful ignorance. Those words made me feel small! Even when I recall them today, I still bow in deference to the man who asked that simple question: 'So, you think you is man?'

In my haste to become a man, I had sought to dishonour and challenge my father. But his mild, firm manner awakened the fear of God within me. I realised that it was God's mercy that restrained my father, allowing me to smile about things today. What on earth was I thinking? Was I crazy? Thank God for mercy!

Indeed, I look back and smile, yet at the same time I ponder the probing poignancy of my father's question. It is just as relevant today, when many of us think we are men, but the evidence doesn't always weigh up in our favour.

The fact that the majority of marriages that end in divorce are initiated by women who have reached the end of the road; the fact that in most domestic abuse cases it is the women who are the victims; the fact that most single-parent families are led by women;<sup>1</sup> the fact that many men in our churches tend to run from leadership responsibilities – these things suggest that while many of us are men in years and gender, sadly, some of us have not

matured emotionally, spiritually, or socially as the men that God desires us to be. Sadly, some of us are men in gender but still boys in our hearts, our lives, our relationships, and our sense of identity.

Nowhere has this been more clearly demonstrated to me than within the context of my own marriage and parenting. For instance, in the early years of marriage to my wonderful wife Andrea, during one of our rare but heated exchanges I determined to make Andrea feel the wrath of my displeasure by not talking to her for two days. I felt that my silence would make her feel how upset I was and thus make her suffer! Or when my children had ignored me at school in front of other children and parents, causing me shameful embarrassment and making me feel unwanted. To this I responded by ignoring them for the next hour. In each case I failed to articulate my feeling, and didn't show understanding or forgiveness. I was being emotionally immature. Sadly, I was not being a man – I was a man acting like a child.

The reality is that emotional maturity is not something that develops overnight or without effort. Emotional maturity is not something that only affects men. It affects women too. However, the more emotionally mature we become, the more likely we are to experience inner peace, a better understanding of ourselves, and better relationships with others.

Now, emotional maturity is nothing new: Paul spoke of this when he wrote the words in 1 Corinthians 13:11 (KJV): 'When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.' Simply put, emotional maturity is a process whereby we learn to live out the principles of God's

love within our own lives, including our relationships with others. Thus, when we do as God's Word teaches us we cease blaming others and accept our own responsibility. To this end Albert Schweitzer wrote, 'Man must cease attributing his problems to his environment, and learn again to exercise his will – his personal responsibility in the realm of faith and morals.'<sup>2</sup>

Over the years I have begun my own move towards deeper emotional maturity, through reflection, therapy, reading, sharing, the blessings of others,



... a clearer, refined view of who we are as men: made in the image of God.

the loving patience of my darling wife and, most of all, the amazing grace of God. I have thus come to notice the childish, immature tendencies of my emotionally tender heart. I am still on this journey, but this is not something I can achieve by myself. No, I need God's Holy Spirit at work in my faltering faith and I need the counsel of trusted others.

Since I have been on this journey, I realise that many other men might benefit from such a personal journey. A journey of self-exploration, of ownership, of no more excuses, of accepting the truth – the whole truth and nothing but the truth – in regard to our own frail self-esteem and selfishness. A journey into the deep waters of the heart (Proverbs 20:5) where we may gain understanding and accept the realities we have created and our responsibilities. A journey of healing and divine grace that will propel us forwards with mercy in our hearts, kindness on our tongues, patience in our spirits, love in our eyes, healed emotions in our hearts and a clearer, refined view of who we are as men: made in the image of God.

Ultimately, I believe, there comes a time when every man must choose to put away the cycle of childish contemplations that he has cherished and replayed to himself over and over, and make a conscious choice to move towards maturity and manhood. He must either do this or choose to remain with his self-centred self pity and self talk, and so forever remain a child! So, what will you choose? If you choose to make the wise decision, here are a few pointers that might help:

- Accept the biblical injunction that wisdom and understanding can only be gained by first accepting the Holiness of God (Proverbs 9:10). This will change your self-view.
- Seek good Christian counselling for yourself. You deserve to make this time for yourself to grow (Proverbs 15:22). Here are two options: NEC Rainbow Christian counselling (01617403602) or SEC Cornerstone (02077238050).
- Pray that God will teach you how to grow in His grace to become more emotionally secure in His love, thereby enabling you to invest emotional warmth in others.
- Try reading *The Secret of Maturity* by Kevin Everett FitzMaurice (third edition) or other related material.
- Ask your local Men's Ministry /Women's Ministry leader for material, or speak to your pastor, a trusted elder or your local Family Life director.
- Thankfully, there are many emotionally mature men in the Church, so seek them out and associate with them – make friends with them and pray with them.

Today, I seek to live a life made more complete by the love of Christ and the power that His love brings to heal my own emotional inadequacies. Today I seek to be more emotionally attuned to the needs of my family, more committed to God's love and less preoccupied with 'my' world. Today I challenge and encourage every man reading this article to do the same. May God bless us all to be the strong, emotionally secure *men* He created us to be.

<sup>1</sup>Office of National Statistics: up-to-date data can be accessed at: [www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tc1%3A77-328237](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tc1%3A77-328237) <sup>2</sup>Quoted in Mary Mackenzie, *Peaceful Living: Daily Meditations for Living with Love, Healing, and Compassion*, PuddleDancer Press: California, USA (2005), p. 383

## The Relay story

by Pastor Paul Tompkins,  
TED Youth director

The Relay Institute of Youth Evangelism is a youth outreach training programme of the Trans-European Division. It is unique in that the practical modules are taken on the road and held in situ within participating countries, and, most importantly, because it allows the participants to follow up their practical training with Relay projects in their local church area.

The name 'Relay' is descriptive, conveying the idea of the Gospel baton being passed from country to country and location to location. Since the first course in 2008, Relay has been held in eleven different countries: Hungary, Sweden, Latvia, Serbia, Denmark, Iceland, Pakistan, Poland, Croatia, Finland and, most recently, Albania.

As an integral part of each course the practical outreach is always contextualised according to the opportunities and needs at the local level. This has included door-to-door surveys, Relay cafés (Croatia), street stalls and displays (Albania), displays in shopping malls (Finland) and many other creative community-based health programmes (most locations).

The training consists of three core modules (Foundations of Adventist Beliefs, Foundations of Youth Outreach, Foundations of Discipleship and Leadership) and one elective subject chosen locally. Each module has 30 hours of teaching content plus the practical outreach. They have been well received by the participants and have proved to be very effective. Participants receive completion certificates after each module and a graduation certificate at the end of the whole course. Most importantly, they also receive an invitation to submit Relay project applications.

Throughout the Relay programme Relay projects are both introduced and seed funded and, most importantly, set into operation. There is now a file of many excellent projects taking place throughout the Division territory, some of which are also linked

to the Mission to the Cities campaigns in those countries. The most recent of these projects have resulted from the Relay course held in Albania at the end of 2013. Upon returning home the Relay participants from Albania submitted project applications for five local churches. In addition to this, in some countries Relay associations or clubs have been formed, with Serbia being very active in this regard and with great effect.

As from 2014 a new phase of the Relay story has taken effect. Firstly, one session of the training will be held at Newbold College, which is relatively accessible to all. This will take place from 22 June through to 4 July and will include the Adventist Beliefs and Discipleship modules for new applicants. Others who missed a module in their own country can take this opportunity to complete the course. Additionally, a Relay Plus refresher course will also be offered at the same time for returning graduates. Application forms and other details are available from local Union Youth departments or the TED office. Further details can be found on the Relay website: [www.ted-relay.org](http://www.ted-relay.org).

It has also been a long-cherished dream to run Relay mission projects, and in both 2014 and 2015 these will take place – initially in Albania, in partnership with ADRA and AVS. These mission programmes will be open to both Relay graduates and new participants.

So the Relay story continues to grow. To date there have been hundreds of Relay participants in the various countries, many of whom have now graduated from all four modules. But there is room and opportunity for many more. The next exciting steps are now being planned so that a new generation of Adventist youth can also receive the Gospel baton and share their faith with twenty-first-century Europeans in creative and effective ways.



Young people witnessing in the city.

## RELAY & RELAY +

TED INSTITUTE OF YOUTH EVANGELISM 2014

SEEKING TO ENCOURAGE, ENRICH & EQUIP

FOR A LIFE OF SHARING THE SAVING POWER OF CHRIST

22 June – 4th July 2014

Newbold College, UK

AGES 18 –35 & £99 PER WEEK

Week 1 Foundations of Adventist Beliefs & Relay plus

Week 2 Foundations of Youth Discipleship & Leadership



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT  
CONTACTED YOUTH DEPARTMENT: [jplhaqjes@ted-adventist.org](mailto:jplhaqjes@ted-adventist.org)  
DEADLINE: 1 MAY 2014





## Scratch building

The Adventist Church is blessed with creative members. Among them there are those who demonstrate an instinctive ability to compose beautiful music, write compelling prose, or draw, paint and sculpt evocative images. But today creativity's boundaries spread far beyond these traditional categories. We now see innate ability and acquired skill excelling in so many other areas of potential creativity. In this issue we look at the work of Austin James, a well-respected 'scratch builder'.<sup>1</sup>

**Editor:** Austin, I understand that you grew up in an Adventist home – tell us a little about that, please.

**Austin:** Yes, Julian. I had an Adventist upbringing. My parents are loyal members of the Loughborough church and they did their best to pass on their faith to us.

**Editor:** It's quite common for young people to question the relevance of their faith, the Church – even God. Did that happen to you?

**Austin:** No – like everyone, I have had my ups and downs in life, but I have never questioned whether God exists. The first text in my Bible says, 'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth' (Genesis 1:1, NKJV), and when I am out walking in nature or standing at the top of a mountain I can't deny that His work is exactly what He called it . . . 'very good'!

Julian, there is one sentence from Joshua 24:15 (NKJV) that sums things up for me, even during life's low moments – 'But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.'

**Editor:** You wanted to farm, but ended up taking over the family business from your dad.

How easy has that been?

**Austin:** Yes, I wanted to work in agriculture but things have evolved differently. Along with my brother, Kyle, I became involved in my father's building business. Then, at an early age we took it over due to my father having had an accident. The aim of our business is to give an excellent service to our customers. Dealing with some customers is challenging, and a degree in psychology would help, but we don't leave a job until both our clients and we are happy. We adhere to high standards and integrity – we want to do the right thing and be above reproach at all times.

**Editor:** Austin, let's now get to the real reason for this interview. You are a prominent model maker – what's called a 'scratch builder'. Please tell our readers about this hobby.

**Austin:** I started making and altering models from around 9 years of age into my teens, then virtually stopped in my twenties. I started doing it again in my thirties, mainly in the winter. I now construct models from scratch.



This means everything is made from basic materials. I use flat plastic card, which is like cardboard. This is cut and shaped, then welded with glue to form whatever part I am constructing. I started out modelling trucks but have recently gone back to my first interest, agricultural machinery.

**Editor:** How successful have you been?

**Austin:** Have I been successful? I suppose so. I've won certificates and trophies and acknowledgement for my work. My models have also featured in seventeen international magazines, often across four-page spreads, and on the front cover on three occasions. It's rewarding to be featured on the cover of a magazine. This has also led to some work in journalism.

**Editor:** Austin, when I was a lad I built Airfix models. They came in a kit with a diagram and all you had to do was glue them together. What you do is very different, isn't it?

**Austin:** Yes, Julian, there is no kit. These are totally unique models. I start by measuring the real machine if possible, after which I convert that to a side and front drawing done to 1:24 scale. Then I start building.

Depending upon the intricacy of the equipment, it takes between 150 and 250 hours to build the model. I don't sit at a computer or really watch TV much, so this takes the place of that.

Wheels are the hardest. I make them from car body filler that I cast into a block and turn on a lathe. Next, I glue on each tread individually. Some wheels have up to 150 parts, and a model can have over 2,000 parts. I think it should all be as precise as possible, even down to the smallest detail.

**Editor:** I even notice that detail in the photographs you take for publication. Even though your models are minuscule in comparison with the real equipment, the



settings in which you place them make them appear so realistic.

**Austin:** That is what scratch building is all about . . . authenticity. The model has to be accurate in every detail.

**Editor:** As I listen to you, Austin, I catch a little glimpse of what happened in Genesis 1. What happened there is a bit like what you do. God created this world 'from scratch', with the superb attention to detail that only an omniscient Being would be capable of.

**Austin:** Yes, I suppose you could say that He built from scratch, but for me, that's where the comparison ends. I build miniature copies. He made originals. I use the materials made by others . . . He made His own! I enjoy designing and creating, but what God did in creating our world is just . . . wow . . . and there is more to come!

**Editor:** I understand that you are often asked to exhibit your models at agricultural shows and other such events. How does this work, as most of them are held on Saturdays?

**Austin:** Yes, you're right, a lot of the shows are held over Saturday and Sunday, but I always tell the organisers that they will not see me on Saturday and they expect that



through hobbies like modelling, painting, sewing, and so on?

**Austin:** Julian, the world in which so many of our children grow up today is a 'virtual' one. The things they 'create' or 'make' are often just computer simulations of reality. Their fingers don't actually make contact with real building materials or components. They don't need to measure and cut, glue or paste. They don't have to have patience. They don't end up with something real to display and be proud of.

Hands-on hobbies and skills let us experience the thrill of making something out of nothing; of thinking outside the box; of using our intelligence in a way that builds our self-confidence and tells us that we can do almost anything if we are willing to just have a go.

now. I have been upfront with them from the beginning and everyone has accepted that I have a belief that I stick by. I am not one for pushing my belief on non-Sabbath keepers but that doesn't mean I am a silent witness.

**Editor:** A final question then: how important is it for our children to learn to create things

<sup>1</sup>Scratch building is the process of building a scale model "from scratch", that is, from raw materials, rather than building it from a commercial kit, . . . or buying it pre-assembled." ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scratch\\_building](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scratch_building))

Austin's other passion is playing with 'big boys' toys'. Here he is stood with his Series 3 SWB Land Rover, which he fully restored himself.





# baptisms

'And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.'

Acts 2:47, NIV-UK



Elder Wayne Grant addresses the three candidates, left to right: Kaydionne Green-Rose, Lynette Patricia Douglas and Tarsy Bvundura.



## Erdington's baptism

On 24 November 2013 Erdington members, friends and family members rejoiced at the baptism of Tarsy Bvundura, Lynette Patricia Douglas and Kaydionne Green-Rose, conducted by Pastor Steve Palmer, the district pastor for Erdington, Ladywood and Sutton Coldfield.

For the past twelve months, these potential members received studies from Maude Murray and Don Parker (Tarsy), Clifford Lewis (Lynette) and Pastor Eric Lawrence (Kaydionne). Pastor Lawrence ministers to the Bread of Life/Community of Hope churches in Birmingham.

Tarsy's mother, Margaret Bvundura, travelled all the way from Zimbabwe to witness her son's baptism and was accompanied from London by his three sisters – Priscilla, Jennifer and Tsitsi – and his nephew, Taku.

Lynette was also accompanied by members of her family – Olivia, Joshua and Andrew.

Kaydionne was accompanied by her husband, Frederick, and various other family and friends – one of whom, Ivy Green, sang during her baptism.

The preacher was Pastor Isaac Liburd of Bradford Central/Bradford Holmewood in West Yorkshire, and his message was simple: 'We must wake up from our slumber and move out of the closet into reality.'

JOHN OSEI-BEMPONG

PHOTOS: MOSES JAMANDA



## Baptism at Romford

On Sabbath, 21 December 2013, the members, family and friends of Romford Community Fellowship witnessed the baptism of Thandie Bhebhe and 11-year-old cousins, Tia and Malachi Semper, whose parents were bursting with pride as they told the congregation of their delight that their children had decided to follow Jesus. Resident pastor, Elliot Williams, who conducted the service, was also beaming with obvious delight as he baptised the youth.

Romford Fellowship, which started back in 2007 as a small group of seven, is now a thriving company of thirty-three! And they look forward to winning more souls for the Kingdom in the year ahead.

ANGELIQUE CHARLES, COMMUNICATION LEADER



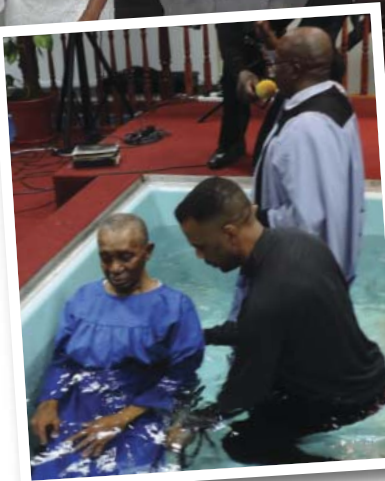
## 'One determined guy'

The baptism at Ladywood Church of Ashnell Scott on 30 November last year was unusual. Several weeks after he made his decision to be baptised he became very ill and was eventually hospitalised just days before the event.

Despite this setback, Ashnell was adamant that he wanted to be baptised that day, along with Verity Scott and Anastasia Williams – and he was. Still frail from his recent illness, he sat while the other candidates took their vows standing. Then he was assisted into the baptistry, where he sat on a chair during the actual baptism.

Pastor Palmer summed up this man's courage with these words: 'Brother Scott is one determined guy.'

KENDREA LEWIS



## 'It can be your church too . . .'

These words, 'It can be your church too, if you want it to,' sparked a transitional moment in the life of retired head teacher Chris Comrie. They were uttered by the late Derek Beardsell, and planted a 'fragile seed' that began to grow in her life, eventually leading to what she calls 'the best day of my life' – her baptism in the Ringway Life Building on 16 December last year.

Chris was led to this bold step by a series of small events, which included a session of physiotherapy from one of the members who wasn't shy to share her faith. This was followed by her attendance at a Healthy Living programme and several church services, during which the warmth and friendship of Ringway's members nurtured that 'fragile seed'.

Pastor Geoff Smith's Bible studies helped too, but, 'Above all, it was learning to pray to ask Jesus to come into my life as my Saviour and my Friend, and to forgive my sins. A far cry from my upbringing, where religion was a taboo topic!'

PHILIP EMM



## Pastor's son among his 'firstfruits'

On 30 November 2013, Sam Gardner, assistant pastor of Grantham Church, was overjoyed that the first baptism he conducted was that of his own son, Jemaule, under the watchful eye of the district pastor, Solon Kyriacou. Jemaule is a pupil at the local church school, Dudley House School, and is already active in the church in various capacities.

Pastor Sam Gardner then baptised husband and wife, Rob and Sheba Hughes, with whom he had been studying during the year. Rob came to know about Jesus and the Adventist faith through Sheba, who, although her own attendance at church had become intermittent, still brought Rob along to church. Rob and Sheba (née Mapiki) were married 18 months ago, and in January 2013 determined to attend church every week. This baptism was the public witness of their ongoing commitment to Christ. Rob has lost no time in introducing Jesus to his friends and family, encouraging them to attend church; at his baptism, Rob's mother responded to the appeal to follow Jesus too.

ELISABETH CARNELL

## Southport baptism

It was on a wet, cold and windy Sabbath afternoon that the heavens rang out in glorious song over the baptism at Southport Church.

The journey to the Seventh-day Adventist Church was a rocky one for 21-year-old Loyd McDonald. He had spent time learning about spiritualism and conspiracy theories that only left him confused and wary. It was a simple flyer titled 'Prophecies of Hope', however, that attracted him to evangelistic seminars in a local hotel that transformed his life.

The PEACE centre of evangelism staff and students conducted the seminars, assisted by Southport's church members. The seminars took place at the prestigious Vincent Hotel and were presented by PEACE co-ordinator Craig Gooden and hosted by Pastor Ian Philpott and Matthew James. Loyd attended all of the presentations, and the truths presented had an immediate impact on him, sparking his zeal to learn more.

He began attending Southport Church on Sabbaths, where he encountered an overwhelming sense of loving acceptance from the members. He was soon made to feel part of the church family.

On the day of his baptism Southport welcomed Loyd's family and friends and other visitors from Liverpool. Pastor Alan Hush presented a heart-stirring message. Pastor Mike Simpson and Craig Gooden were also present, but it was Southport's pastor, Ian Philpott, who had the honour of baptising Loyd: his very first baptism. Loyd's testimony, full of emotion and energy, had a profound effect on the audience.

To celebrate the wonderful occasion many of those who attended the baptism enjoyed a meal at a local restaurant, after which they gathered for a Southport social evening full of bonding and laughter. This is the fourth baptism in less than two months for this growing congregation, with more to come.

MATTHEW JAMES



## Cambridge baptises seven precious youth

On 28 December, during Cambridge Church's final baptism for 2013, seven youth were baptised. Four of them were from the Burke family – all the children of Amos and Tessa: Rebecca, Daniel, Thomas and Hannah. A further two candidates, Kyle and Karlum, were the sons of Junior and Sharon Augustine. Finally there was Natasha, a young lady from Angola who, on her first visit to Cambridge, made the decision to be baptised. Although she is only staying for a short while before returning home, the members will continue to support her as if she were staying!

After the baptism the church was invited to participate in renewal through Communion. Praying together, singing together, testifying together, and celebrating the end of a wonderful and blessed year together made the day a very special one.

CAMBRIDGE COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT



# baptisms



## Baptisms at Northfield, Bourneville and Halesowen

The Northfield, Bourneville and Halesowen churches were blessed with a number of baptisms during the last six months of 2013.

On Saturday, 13 July, Kyle Flores, Stephanie Flores, Annette Ong'era, and Joshua and John Taotjo from the Halesowen church plant were baptised.

Then Saturday, 17 August, another five were baptised: John Lester (Kidderminster), husband and wife Courtney and Christine Brown (Bourneville), Norma Anglin (Bourneville) and Mardona Phillips (Halesowen). John Lester marked this special occasion by walking the 15 miles from Kidderminster to Halesowen to attend his baptism, not because of the lack of transport, but to show how seriously committed he is to walking with God for the rest of his life. Steve Winnitt, leader of the Kidderminster church plant, said, 'This was a wonderful day, to see our new friend John give his life to Jesus after experiencing a difficult life until he met Jesus.' What's more, John's parents, who also came to support him, have observed a positive change in their son's life, so much so that his mother responded to a call to consider baptism in the future.

The year ended on a high with another five young people proclaiming their love for Jesus by being baptised on Saturday, 13 December. The family and friends of Iannah Lynelle Guevarra, David Huilar, Daryl Jimenez and Sarah Mae Sunico came to support them. The church hired a church with a baptistry but were let down at the last minute. Fortunately they were able to secure the local swimming pool for the baptismal service. The two lifeguards on duty said that they had never witnessed a baptism by full immersion before and really enjoyed the service. What was initially a disappointment turned out to be a wonderful witness.

The officiating ministers were Pastors Richard Jackson, Jeff Nicholson and Obi Iheoma. Pastor Iheoma ministers to Northfield, Bourneville and Halesowen.

OBİ AND ELIZABETH IHEOMA



SEC TEENS MINISTRY & WELSH MISSION PRESENTS

# Prayer and Faith CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 27TH - 31ST 2014

STANBOROUGH PARK SCHOOL, WATFORD, WD25 9JT

£75 PER PERSON  
PLACES ARE LIMITED SO BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE ONLINE AT WWW.SECTEENS.ORG

Contact: Pr. Dejan Stojkovic

Phone: 01923 232728

Email: dejan@secadventist.org.uk

Follow SEC Teens Ministry



extreme TEENS CAMP

£145  
TRANSPORT INCLUDED  
20KG BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE

18th-24th August 2014  
**CHAPEL PORTH**  
ST AGNES TRURO CORNWALL TR50RA

REGISTER AT: WWW.SECTEENS.ORG  
EMAIL: dejan@secadventist.org.uk  
PHONE: 01923 232 728

First come first served

ministry depero

# news



## Longsight and Levenshulme

The Longsight and Levenshulme church is located in Manchester (near Stockport) and started out in 1988 as a branch Sabbath school of the Manchester South congregation. In 1992 it was officially organised as a church and now has a membership of twenty-eight, not counting children.

It is exciting to know that they also have around twenty-three adult non-members attending regularly! Pastor Geoff Smith is their pastor and they have been very active in their support of the Francis House Children's Hospice.

The accompanying photos were taken during their youth and culture days last year.

MARCIA ANDERSON



## Ladywood Church opening

For more than twenty-five years Ladywood Church have worshipped in the youth hall of St John's Church in Ladywood, Birmingham. The group started when some members left their home churches in the surrounding area and formed a new congregation. Composed mainly of young people, this group grew so much that it became obvious that a new building was needed. A building committee was formed, but many members grew frustrated at the seemingly slow process of acquiring a suitable place of worship. But there was One who knew the right place and the right timing. True to His word in every way, God found them a wonderful facility only a stone's throw from St John's Church and in the very heart of the Ladywood community.

So it was on 1 July 2012 that the members worshipped for the very first time in their own building. But the members continued to work earnestly to complete the renovation, assisted by family and friends. Then on Sunday, 29 October 2013, the Ladywood church was officially opened by the BUC president, Pastor Ian Sweeney.

The work is yet to be finished. There's a kitchen to be completed, and a number of fixtures and fittings to be purchased: but this congregation will soon finish the work to the glory of God. KENDREA LEWIS



## Special awards

The head teacher of the Eden Independent Adventist School, Mrs Laura Osei, has stressed the urgent need for Adventists to educate their children in our Adventist schools.

This was done during last year's Education Day at the London Ghana church. She was of the view that genuine education as provided in Adventist institutions not only imparts wisdom from above, but also provides what is needed for a successful life here and as preparation for the life to come.

Twenty-two members of the church were honoured for their various achievements on the education ladder: twelve of them for gaining admission to university, ten for obtaining master's degrees in various fields, with one for starting a PhD degree programme. A number of members also received awards for pursuing various causes in healthcare, teaching, and craftsmanship.

Head of the congregation's Education department, Richard Antwi, said the church has instituted the achievers' awards to encourage members to aim high in education.

NANA SIFA TWUM



## GBK prayer breakfast

The Great Brickkiln church's Women's Ministries department have been at it again! Their annual prayer breakfast attracted a good crowd of members and visitors on 22 December 2013, who all enjoyed the songs of worship and the special messages of encouragement. The event climaxed with a devotional that clearly showed that if Christ is in your life . . . then your heart will want to serve!

D. M. CAMPBELL

## Bristol Central celebrates

Bristol Central Church have a novel way of celebrating the birthdays of their women members. Their Women's Ministries department holds four birthday parties a year - one each quarter, for the women born in those months. Above is a photo of all who were present for the December celebration.



KADIANN WEIR-DA COSTA



TVFF, LYF & SEC TEENS MINISTRY PRESENTS

# Prayer and Faith CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 17TH - 21ST 2014

1<sup>st</sup> Location for Reading London Watford

2 locations

2<sup>nd</sup> Location for Southampton Cornwall Bristol

FEBRUARY 19TH - 23RD 2014

£75 PER PERSON

PLACES ARE LIMITED SO BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT  
REGISTRATION AND PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE ONLINE AT [WWW.SECTEENS.ORG](http://WWW.SECTEENS.ORG)

Contact: Pr. Dejan Stojkovic  
Phone: 01923 232728

Email: [dejan@secadventist.org.uk](mailto:dejan@secadventist.org.uk) or [info@tvff.org](mailto:info@tvff.org)  
Follow SEC Teens Ministry

LYFO ministry AREA 1 AREA 2 AREA 3 AREA 7

**SEC**  
STUDENT worship  
CAMP  
21-25<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2014  
AT CHAPEL PORTH CARAVAN SITE:  
GOONVREA • ST AGNES • TRURO • CORNWALL • TR5 ORN

STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO BRING ROOMMATES, FLATMATES & CHRISTIAN UNION FRIENDS. UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ONLY

PLACES ARE LIMITED - PLEASE BOOK EARLY AT [WWW.SECTEENS.ORG](http://WWW.SECTEENS.ORG) - ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY

CONTACT: DEJAN STOJKOVIC - [DEJAN@SCTEENS.ORG](mailto:DEJAN@SCTEENS.ORG) - 07919 172 176  
REBEKAH SAMUEL-QUARJIO - [REBEKAH@SCTEENS.ORG](mailto:REBEKAH@SCTEENS.ORG) - 01923 656 533

ONLY £50 FOOD & ACCOMMODATION

ASN CRAVE defero

# obituaries

**Lilian (Maisie) Layland (1918-2013) d. August.**

Lilian, best known as Maisie, was a member of the Oxford Street, Wolverhampton church (now known as Wolverhampton Central) for over sixty-two years. In 1950 Maisie was listening to the radio one Sunday evening when she came across some good hymn singing. She decided to listen again the following week, unaware that she was listening to a programme of the Voice of Prophecy. Along with the lovely hymn singing they also offered Voice of Prophecy lessons, and Maisie duly requested a set. She went on to complete three separate courses. The local pastor visited her and invited her to church, where she accepted Jesus as her personal Saviour and was baptised in 1951 by Pastor John P. West.

Maisie was a very quiet and gentle Christian lady who never had a bad word to say about anyone. She took various church offices and remained committed to God throughout her life. Her main role in church life was working within the Welfare department (as it was previously known). She loved Ingathering and collected door-to-door for fifty-eight years! People would even set money aside as they knew the time of year she would be collecting. Maisie loved her church and even up to the end of her life she was always one of the first to arrive, sometimes before the doors had been opened.

She loved her two sons, Terry and Steven, who looked after her when her husband died in 1996, and more so in recent years as her health failed. She also loved her grandchildren, Andrew, Anna and Elizabeth, and her great-grandchildren, Jack, Harrison, Olivia and Rebekah. She was very proud when her grandson Andrew Layland decided to go into the ministry. Apparently, whenever there was a visiting speaker at her church, she would want to know if they knew her grandson. Whenever Andrew met colleagues they would tell him that they had met his grandmother when they preached at her church.

Maisie's health only deteriorated during the last year of her life, but she was still able to attend church until a few months before her death. She passed away following a fall in August 2013, aged 95. Her



grandson, Pastor Andrew Layland, led out at her funeral service, and two granddaughters, Anna and Elizabeth, spoke about their love for her and the example she had set for them from when they were little children.

As a result of her listening to a radio programme one Sunday evening, four generations of Maisie's family have accepted the Advent message. Long may our various radio ministries continue.

Maisie was laid to rest next to her husband to await the great resurrection day. Terry and Steven Layland and their families would like to thank everyone for their support during the time of their mother's illness and death.

TERRY LAYLAND

**Phyllis Coldwell (1919-2013) d. 6 November.**

After an uneventful childhood in Barnsley, Phyllis decided on a business career and started work as a shorthand typist. However, after attending meetings by Pastor E. E. Craven she was convicted about the Sabbath: unable to keep it at work, she resigned and trained to be a nurse in Nottingham. Here she continued with her Bible studies and was baptised on 21 October 1944. However, she often travelled home to see her parents and attended the Barnsley church, becoming one of its founder members.

Ever the diligent student, Phyllis went to complete her midwifery training at Leeds Maternity Hospital. Further studies led to her obtaining the Midwife Teachers' Diploma. During this period she met Freda, a very close friend whose two married sisters, Joan and Dorothy, adopted Phyllis as one of the family. Between 1958 and 1964 she served as a midwifery tutor and assistant matron at St James's Hospital, Leeds, before doing a spell at the City Hospital in Chester as Midwifery Superintendent. She returned to Yorkshire in 1967 as Matron at the Princess Royal Hospital, Huddersfield, and in 1972 she was promoted to Principal Nursing Officer, finally concluding her nursing career as Divisional Nursing Officer from 1975 to 1979 for what became the Kirklees Area Health Authority.

She resigned from this position in August 1979 at the



age of 60 and, in characteristic Phyllis Coldwell fashion, immediately started work on what was to be her 'second' career as an unpaid part-time Bible worker in the North England Conference. Initially assigned to assist Pastor Alan Conroy in the Leicester district of churches, it was agreed that she would concentrate her efforts in Loughborough. Here she followed up contacts which resulted in four baptisms.

In the summer of 1980 she sold her home in Huddersfield and moved to Grantham, where she added visitation among the elderly members of Grantham, Newark and Lincoln to her work in Loughborough.

In the late '80s Phyllis embarked on a personal project to distribute 10,000 leaflets advertising Bible lessons - 5,000 in Grantham and 5,000 in Newark. This led to studies in those towns and further baptisms.

In the 1990s she was asked to give more support to the Newark church, which she gladly did, helping them with their various special programmes.

During all these years she was a passionate 'Ingatherer'. Every spring, come hail, rain or shine, she could be found scurrying from business to business, shop to shop and market to market in the towns across Lincolnshire and north Nottinghamshire - as well as returning to her old haunts in the Barnsley area. Between 1969 and 2004 she collected £25,206.

Finally, in December 2003, after twenty-four years of service as a Bible worker, Phyllis decided that it really was time to retire.

After a period of declining health during which she was ably cared for by members of the Grantham church, she moved to Kings Court Nursing Home. She passed away on 6 November 2013. The funeral service took place at the Grantham Seventh-day Adventist church on 21 November, followed by committal at the Grantham crematorium. Many of the pastors she worked with took part in her funeral service.

MAUREEN HAMMOND

**Pat Allen (1922-2013) d. 8 December.**

Pat was born in Lewisham, South London, but went to live with her Aunt Annie in Watford at the age of 5. Her mother was Irish and Pat cherished this connection.

At 14 she went to work at Granose Foods on Stanborough Park, where most of her working life was spent. There she met her husband, Bert Allen. They were married in 1947 and had two daughters, June and Rosemary. It

was important for Pat that her girls should come to know and love the Lord Jesus, and now both of them are members of Stanborough Park Church.

She was in every sense blessed with the gift of speech, which she used to witness for her Lord and Saviour, whom she loved. However, it is as a lifelong member of Stanborough Park that Pat is most remembered. Nearly eighty years of faithful service are not given to many. Her concern for lonely young people who came to work at Granose was expressed by inviting them to her home for meals and the provision of motherly care. Doing good was a part of her Christianity. Friday mornings were special, for in retirement Pat and Bert took on the responsibility of cleaning the church. They didn't just clean it; they cared for it. There was never a dusty pew or a corner with cobwebs after Pat was finished. A ten-o'clock break for a hot drink and a biscuit often saw Pat, Bert, Alf Kelly, Dr Terry Gallivan and the minister enjoying a conversation-cum-gossip session at which our Lord would have been at home. These were His kind of people.

Her husband Bert died in 2000, and though Pat continued to live in their home in Hemel Hempstead her health was declining. Four years before she died she moved to Courtland Lodge, where she enjoyed excellent care until her death.

She was buried alongside her husband in the North Watford Cemetery where so many of her fellow Christians lie, awaiting the promised return of our Lord and Saviour. Pat was one who sincerely lived with the 'blessed hope of the glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ'.

Rosemary and June express their thanks and appreciation for the cards, phone calls and sympathy expressed by so many friends and church members.

The service was conducted by the Stanborough Park senior pastor, Jacques Venter, assisted by the writer, Patrick Boyle.

PATRICK BOYLE

**Myrna Esther Dorland (1931-2013) d. 10 December.**

Born in London to Pastor and Mrs O. M. Dorland, Myrna, the fourth of five children, developed the same passion for her Church and God as her parents. Growing up during the Blitz in Bristol she



learnt: 'All these experiences taught me that God can protect you. It was a lesson I needed to know for the future.'

She completed an honours degree at Nottingham University (BA in History and Latin), Andrews University (MA in History) and Birmingham University (MA in African History and Anthropology) in a career that spanned forty-three years in Adventist education at Stanborough School (1953-54), the Nigerian Training College (1960-66), The Adventist Seminary of West Africa - now Babcock University (1968-75), and Newbold College (1954-60, 1975-96), where she taught History and then English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) until her retirement in 1996.

Former General Conference president, Dr Jan Paulsen, was her boss both at ASWA and then later when she returned to teach at Newbold. He wrote of her: 'Myrna had qualities which made her both an invaluable colleague and a fine human being. She was loyal and supportive, both of me as an administrative boss and of the mission we were engaged in as a Church. But I remember her maybe more for the love and care she constantly demonstrated for her students. I think specifically of our years in Africa, where her kindness towards students was constantly on display. Would that we had more of her human qualities in mission!'

Her nephew, Pastor Victor Hulbert, shared a moving tribute during her funeral service at Newbold Church on Friday, 27 December. He discovered handwritten notes among her belongings where Myrna emphasised that one of the most important qualities missionaries need is 'a genuine respect for the people and their culture. They need to trust God to give them love for people and wisdom to know how to act in difficult and

unfamiliar situations.'

He then shared one example of her love of people and commitment to education. In East Nigeria she took on a local village girl to clean her house, a service she didn't really need. But this little girl needed to earn money for her school fees, books and uniform, and to support her large family. That love and care shone throughout her career and is evidenced by the continued correspondence and visits she had from former students upon her return to the UK.

Myrna was more than a teacher; her caring nature helped many students in quiet ways, as recent tributes from former students have indicated. One such tribute came from Myrna Nortey Asafo, who became her Nigerian 'daughter', named after her by a former colleague, Pastor Jacob Nortey. She wrote, 'I know she was a woman of God, so I know we can look forward to seeing her, as the gospel song says, "in that great getting-up morning".'

Post-retirement she kept active, volunteering with Bracknell Victim Support, involving herself in Binfield village life with the gardening club, the Lenten group, the residents' association and at church with Sabbath School, the Tuesday club and much more in her quiet, unobtrusive way.

She is remembered by her surviving brother, John Dorland, in Washington State, USA, and by a myriad of nieces and nephews across England, Denmark, Greenland and the USA. Most importantly, her legacy lives on worldwide with the many students whose lives she touched.

A full tribute to her life and work, pictures from her life, and a recording of the funeral service can be found at: <http://adventist.org.uk/news/2013/2013-buc/death-of-myrna-esther-dorland>.  
VICTOR HULBERT

**BOOKSALES**

February	10am-2pm
09 Greenwich	10am-2pm
12 Newbold College	10am-2pm
16 Brixton	10am-2pm
19 Ministers' Council	9am-5pm
23 Sheffield Burngreave	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.  
0207 7236849

Order on our Sales Hotline  
**01476 591700** [sales@stanboroughpress.org.uk](mailto:sales@stanboroughpress.org.uk)



# back page



Left to right: Captain John Nowell of the Children's Air Ambulance, Sarah High and Sarah Patel of Home Start, and Terry Cocoran of the Lincolnshire Autistic Society.

## Toy Service

At the annual Toy Service, held at the Grantham church in December, a number of gifts of new toys and books were received by Sarah High and Sarah Patel of Home Start in Grantham. Brightly coloured cot blankets for premature babies were also on display.

Cheques were presented to Captain John Nowell, representing the Children's Air Ambulance, and Terry Cocoran, representing the Lincolnshire Autistic Society. The £310, shared equally between the two charities, was raised at a concert featuring the Grantham Yukelele Band, supported by musicians and orators from the local congregation.

ELISABETH CARNELL

## 1-2-3:16 School-leaving age?

This conference is for you!

1-2-3:16 will bring together experts from many fields who will help you decide your next career and study move, answering questions such as:

## Messenger

Volume 119 • 3 - 7 February 2014

Editor: Julian Hibbert  
Design: David Bell  
Proof reading: Andrew Puckering

COPY FOR NO. 5 - 13 February 2014

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

Email: [Editor@stanboroughpress.org.uk](mailto:Editor@stanboroughpress.org.uk)  
Send high-resolution pictures to: [dbell@stanboroughpress.org.uk](mailto:dbell@stanboroughpress.org.uk)

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

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

For general enquiries, email: [info@stanboroughpress.org.uk](mailto:info@stanboroughpress.org.uk)

Printed in the UK.

Visit the BUC website at: [www.adventist.org.uk](http://www.adventist.org.uk)  
ISSN 0309-3654

## Sunset

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

	Lond	Card	Nott	Edin	Belf
Feb 7	5.01	5.13	5.01	4.59	5.15
14	5.14	5.26	5.14	5.14	5.29
21	5.26	5.39	5.28	5.30	5.43
28	5.39	5.51	5.41	5.45	5.58

## MESSANGER SUBSCRIPTIONS

Cost £25 per annum for 24 issues.\*  
\*Postage will only be charged for single copy subscriptions and overseas airmail.