

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

Messenger

News to the churches • 10 April 2015 • Volume 120 • 07

Pathfinder Bible Experience 2015 – UK winners

by Pastor Kevin Johns, SEC Pathfinder director

There was an air of excitement at Stanborough Park School as Pathfinders and the members of their supporting churches waited for the start of the Pathfinder Bible Experience UK finals.

The SEC Drum Corps announced the start of the event as they led the Pathfinders into the packed hall and to their seats. Once everyone was settled and the opening exercises had been completed, Pastor Kevin Johns, SEC Pathfinder director, reminded everyone of the rules.

In the final the testing differs from that in the Area and Conference rounds because only the team that scores the highest points receives the prize – an expenses-paid trip to the US to compete against other Pathfinder clubs in the North American Division finals. Other first-place teams are eligible to attend, and are encouraged to do so, but at their own expense.

This year the highest-scoring team was Stanborough Park; other first-place teams were Croydon, Elephant & Castle and the Filipino International church, who all did exceptionally well.

One mother commented on how her child was now praying every day, even at school, finding a quiet place to do so. Another mother commented on how her son had committed eight chapters of the book of Matthew to memory and could recite them word for word.

This year the adjudicating panel came from the SEC Treasury department, namely, Earl Ramharacksingh, Giles Barham and Michael Ageyi-Asari. They thoroughly enjoyed the experience but found that judging was a lot harder than expected! The quiz master was Pastor Kevin Johns and the time keeper was Mrs Marcia John, the Area co-ordinator.

The Pathfinder Bible Experience is having a profound effect on the lives of our young people, and this is what they have to say:

'It has helped me to develop a better understanding of Matthew, and see things that I had never really looked at or thought about before. It

does take time to memorise and learn the passages well but it is worth it! This PBE competition has been a very enriching experience for me!' – Paul Cooper.

'My experience at PBE has helped me a lot by increasing my Bible knowledge and also making me more enthusiastic to read the Bible.' – Tontho Ntata.

'I liked learning the book of Matthew – it has taught me lots more about Jesus' life. It has helped me to think of what God wants from me and to put God's things above my own.' – Joshua Ntata.

'I have expanded my knowledge of the Bible even further and strengthened my relationship with the Lord! It has also helped me to make new friends and that makes it all the more enjoyable!' – Matthew Lazzarin de Morais, Rangers class.

'At first I thought it would significantly impact on my schoolwork, but I've only been improving!' – Aarinola Ayo-Ipaye.

'I also enjoyed learning with my fellow friends, teammates and supporters as we helped each other memorise different sections of the book and apply them to our daily lives, then told our friends what we had learnt in the Bible.' – Anthony Moyo.

'I will not deny that there were times when I felt I could not keep up, but every Sabbath, when I saw what the children had been able to achieve with those materials and the appreciation of their parents, I was reinvigorated.' Yetunde Bright (coach).

In April Stanborough Park Pathfinders, Elephant & Castle Pathfinders and Croydon Pioneers will travel to Southwestern Adventist University, Keene, Texas, USA, to take part in the North American Division International Finals of the PBE programme. If you would like to provide some financial support for this, please send your contribution to the SEC Pathfinder department. Please keep our Pathfinders in your prayers as they go to represent the UK.



ADRA UK
Annual Appeal 2015

Annual Appeal 2015

28 March – 12 April, UK
(extends to 19 April in London)

Stanborough Park, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD25 9JZ, England
Tel. +44(0)1923 681723, Fax. +44(0)1923 681744
Registered charity 1074937 (SC037726 – IOM1101)

www.adra.org.uk



Join .. Rise Up & Ride for their
COAST to COAST
cycle event in aid of



(Approx. 250 miles)

SUN MAY 24TH - WED 27TH MAY 2015
SOUTHPORT TO SKEGNESS

Get Involved!

To register your interest visit
www.riseupandride.com
or contact a.r-h@hotmail.co.uk.

adra.org.uk
Registered charity 1074937 (SC037726 - 10M1101)

www.facebook.com/ADRAUK [teamadra](https://www.instagram.com/teamadra)

REGISTER NOW FOR THE CHILDREN'S
5 MILE
BIKE RIDE
AT THE START OF THE COAST TO COAST RIDE
IN AID OF ADRA.UK

ENSURE YOU OBTAIN PARENTAL/GUARDIAN SUPERVISION
CHILDREN CAN GET INVOLVED IN
SOUTHPORT, MANCHESTER AND SHEFFIELD
GET INVOLVED!
TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST VISIT
WWW.RISEUPANDRIDE.COM OR CONTACT
A.R-H@HOTMAIL.CO.UK

ADRA.ORG.UK
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ADRAUK [TEAMADRA](https://www.instagram.com/teamadra)
REGISTERED CHARITY 1074937 (SC037726 - 10M1101)

editorial

Mainly for men . . .



Julian Hibbert
Editor

I am sure that most of us are fairly familiar with the concept of 'sexism', which is defined as any form of 'prejudice, stereotyping, or discrimination, typically against women, on the basis of sex'.¹ You may even have been called 'sexist', or had something you've said described as a 'sexist comment'.

In fact, whether we like it or not, sexist attitudes are still deeply embedded in the way many of us think, and it is actually second nature for some of us to make remarks that are sexist – such as:

Male supervisor to female office colleague: 'Don't worry. I don't expect you to understand how this all works – it is very technical stuff.'

Parent to child: 'Come on Johnny. Here, take a tissue and stop crying. You're not a girl!'

Around the boardroom table: 'She is pretty, well turned out and all that . . . but will she be able to manage her hormones?'

Sometimes our sexism is disclosed in a more subtle way: not by what we say, but by what we leave unsaid. For example, is the car salesman as thorough in his technical presentations when speaking to a woman alone, as he is when her husband accompanies her?

Ambivalent sexism

Have you ever heard of 'ambivalent sexism' before? For the past two decades it has been a growing theoretical framework, pioneered largely by two social psychologists, Peter Glick and Susan Fiske.²

Simply summarised, it postulates that

sexism has two sub-components: 'hostile sexism' and 'benevolent sexism'. The examples given above illustrate varying degrees of hostile sexism and each of them assumes that women are inferior to men in some way. This type of behaviour shows that women are generally perceived 'as incompetent, unintelligent, overly emotional, and sexually manipulative'.³

Having established this, let's now try to get our heads around the more unusual of the two concepts: 'benevolent sexism'. According to its proponents, this form of sexism 'reflects evaluations of women that are seemingly positive', such as 'the reverence of women in wife, mother, and child caretaker roles, the romanticising of women as objects of heterosexual affection, and the belief that men have a duty to protect women'.⁴

What's the harm?

I hear lots of you saying: 'What's the harm in all this? When did chivalry become a crime?' Here is their answer: 'While benevolent sexism may not appear to be harmful to women on the surface, these beliefs are extremely caustic to gender equity and restrict women's personal, professional, political, and social opportunities'.⁵

The most recent research into the effect of benevolent sexism appears to be the work of Jin Goh and Judith Hall of Northeastern University, USA.⁶ Their comments are likely to make you wince. According to Goh, 'Unless sexism is understood as having both hostile and benevolent properties, the insidious nature of benevolent sexism will continue to be one of the driving forces behind gender inequality in our society.' Hall doesn't pull any punches either. She sees benevolent sexism as 'a wolf in sheep's clothing' and its 'supposed gestures of good faith' as a way to perpetuate the status quo: *men are stronger than women!*

'Gestures of good faith'

What are these specific 'gestures of good faith' that men consciously employ to perpetuate the societal power bias in their favour? Smilingly offering a shivering lady your coat; holding the door open for her; carrying her heavy suitcase; offering her your seat on the bus; standing between her and a vicious dog; stepping aside to give her the last place in the only lifeboat?

Now I am all for the eradication of sexism, but I struggle to see how such 'gestures of good faith' could demean any woman or be an 'insidious' driving force 'behind gender inequality in our society'. The vast majority of men would join me in doing the same for a child, an elderly war veteran or a teenage lad on crutches. What would that make us guilty of, *common decency*?

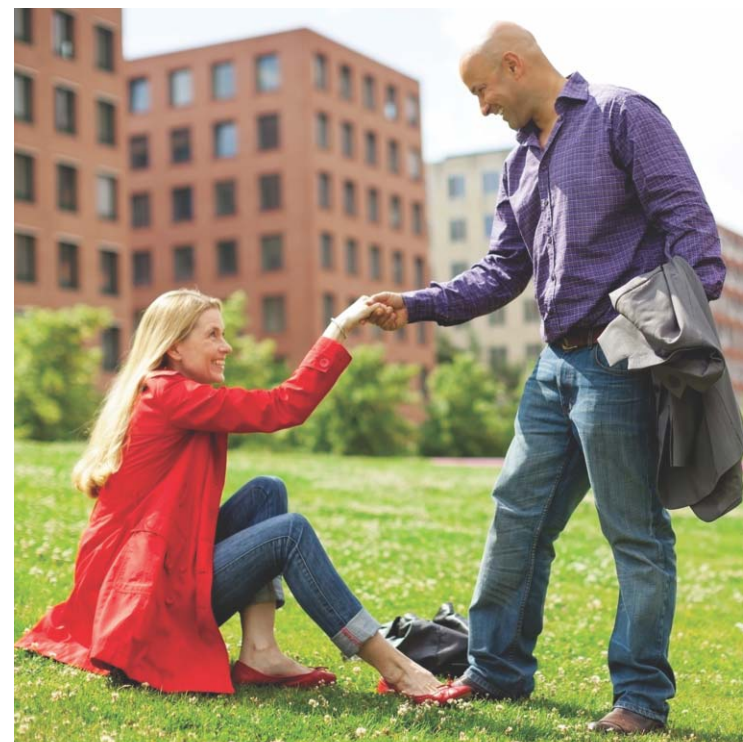
The two researchers referred to above 'carefully examined the social interaction of 27 pairs of American undergraduate men and women' who were videoed playing 'a trivia game together and then chatt[ing] afterwards'.⁷ Now far be it from me to suggest how such grand research should be conducted, but perhaps there is now a gap for someone to poll a few hundred UK women with this proposition:

The Oxford Dictionary (online)⁸ defines chivalry as a combination of these qualities: 'courage, honour, courtesy, justice, and a readiness to help the weak'. Would you have any objection if the UK's men were generally chivalrous? Yes No

How do you think they would respond?

The challenge

Friends, this is not the time to let others set the bar for our behaviour. If there is no harm intended by our 'gestures of good faith' then we should not feel shy about doing them. If we feel moved to act at times in a manner that may be called chivalrous then so be it. It is surely our right to humbly follow such convictions – and it is certainly never too soon or too late to start!



¹<http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/sexism> ²http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ambivalent_sexism ³*ibid.* ⁴*ibid.* ⁵<http://www.springer.com/gp/about-springer/media/springer-select/sexism-it-s-in-his-smile/51928> ⁶*ibid.* ⁷<http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/chivalry>



Enhancing Health

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

GMO products – how safe are they?

'And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.' Genesis 1:29, KJV.

Seedless grapes, seedless oranges, seedless tomatoes and other seedless foods – should we be eating these in light of Genesis 1:29?

The plants that grow seedless food products are actually clones. This means that instead of being grown from seeds, they are grown from cuttings from existing plants. For example, original seedless grapes originate from plants that were produced through mutation. In this case the mutation has led to genetic changes that prevent it producing seeds.

The debates continue to rage around the ethics and safety of genetically modified organisms (GMOs). One popular question that often surfaces is this: 'Why tamper with nature to produce something different from what the Creator intended?' Another commonly asked question is: 'What are some of the implications arising from GMO products?' All of which adds fuel to the fire.

As the debates go on, EU regulations and governmental decisions around the mass production of GMOs are making progress.

A report in *The Guardian* published on 13 January this year carried the headline: 'GM crops to be fast-tracked in UK'.¹ Reporter Arthur Neslen, their Europe environment correspondent, broke the news on the new EU law that comes into force this spring. This will allow GM crops like maize, which has been previously approved by the European Food Safety Authority (Efsa), to be cultivated in the UK.

However, many individuals and organisations oppose such legislation. A statement from the Soil Association reads:

'We campaign against the use of genetically modified (GM) ingredients in human and animal food, and against the commercial planting of GM crops in the UK. This position is shared by the organic movement worldwide and the majority of the public.'²

HRF (*HealthResearchFunding.org*) from their research on GMOs has listed the following pros and cons.³

Pros

- Better overall quality and taste
- More resistance to disease
- More nutrition benefits

Cons

- Environmental damage
- There is no economic value
- A growth in allergic reactions in the general population

In evaluating the pros and cons it has to be established whether the benefits outweigh the risks. We will examine this in the next issue and discuss the pros and cons in more detail.

Good health!

¹<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/jan/13/gm-crops-to-be-fast-tracked-in-uk-following-eu-vote> ²<http://www.soilassociation.org/gm?gclid=CJSa2cCqW8QCFS7KtAdG1oA0Q> ³<http://healthresearchfunding.org/pros-cons-genetically-modified-foods/>



The 'hand of God'

by Pastor Cyril Sweeney, BUC Family Life director

When I mention these three words – 'hand of God' – most of you will think immediately of an event that took place back in 1986 at the Estadio Azteca in Mexico City. They refer specifically to something that happened during the World Cup quarter-final match between England and Argentina.

At this stage of a World Cup any match is sure to be a tense one, but this particular showdown was haunted by Argentina's humiliating defeat during the Falklands War, just four years earlier. Their team had a score to settle on behalf of the nation.

And so it was. During the first half, although Argentina had most of the possession, both teams missed chances to score. It was the second half, however, that

was to produce the drama that would immortalise these three words.

Maradona

I remember seeing it with my own eyes: Maradona cut inside from the left; played a diagonal low pass to his teammate, Jorge Valdano, who was at the edge of the box; and continued to run in the hope of a 'one-two movement'. Maradona's pass was played slightly behind Valdano. Steve Hodge dropped back to defend, but miscued the clearance and the ball went up into the penalty area to be met by Peter Shilton and Maradona.

Although Maradona was eight inches shorter than his six-foot-one-inch goalkeeper opponent, he reached the ball first – or, more accurately, his left hand did – and the ball

went into the goal! Argentina won the match and this is how Maradona explained how the controversial goal was scored . . . 'a little with the head of Maradona and a little with the hand of God'. Since then it has gone down in footballing history as the 'hand of God' goal!

NASA

The second time I heard these three words – 'hand of God' – used in an unusual way, was while reading about NASA's Nuclear Spectroscopic Telescope Array (NuSTAR). It had been used to successfully image 'the structure in high-energy X-rays for the first time'. Now that may sound like hard-to-grasp scientific jargon, and so it is!¹

Technically the celestial object that they nicknamed the 'Hand of God' is 'a pulsar wind nebula' and it is 'powered by the leftover, dense core of a star that blew up in a supernova explosion'. Put plainly, it is the 'corpse' of a star – a cloud of material that 'was ejected in the star's explosion. These particles are interacting with magnetic fields around the material, causing it to glow with X-rays.'² In this case the result looked remarkably like a gigantic hand – which is impressive, indeed. (Judge for yourself from the photograph.)

David

Long before either Maradona or NASA, however, David the psalmist had identified the 'hand of God' and given it special spiritual significance:

'Because You have been my help, Therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice. My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me.' (Psalm 63:7, 8, NKJV.)

There are Bible commentators who believe that David wrote these words while he was in the wilderness of Judah, locked in a battle for sovereignty with his son, Absalom, who had conspired to dethrone him.

The story unfolds in 2 Samuel 15-16, telling how David flees for his life into the wilderness. Despite his desperate circumstances – with his life under threat from his own son – David seems to sense the comforting and sustaining nearness of the 'hand of God'.

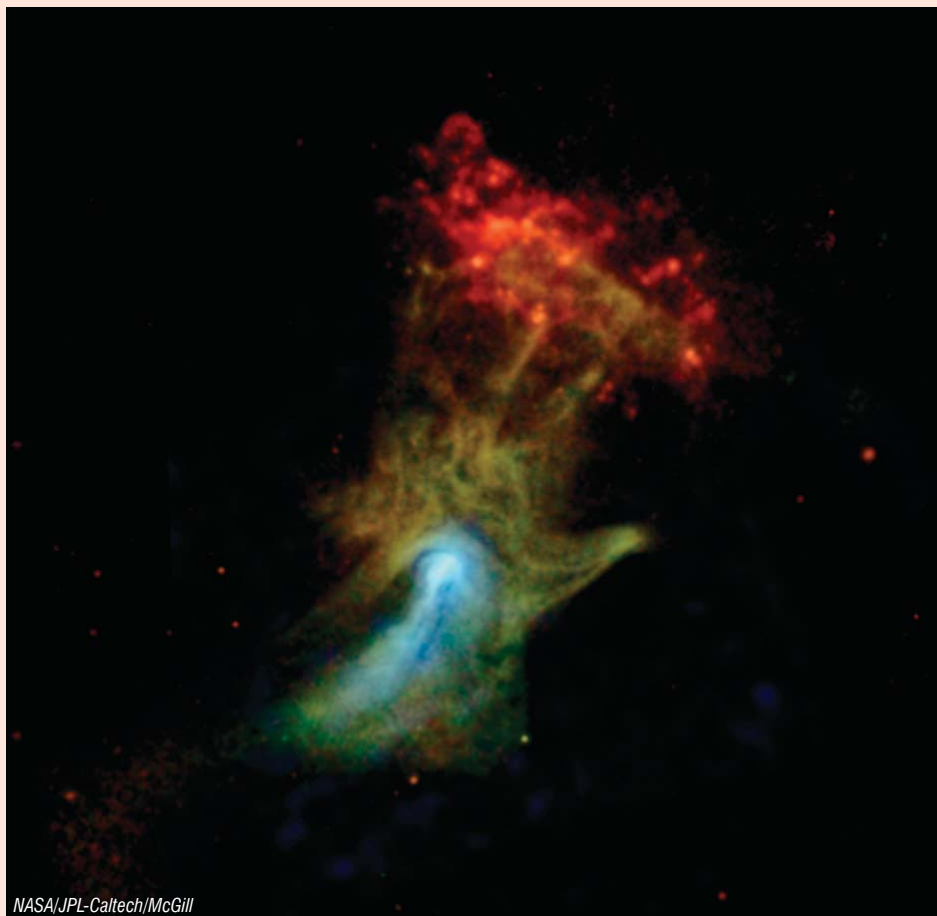
Things don't look good for him at all, but he is still able to cry out, 'Your right hand upholds me!'

Life sucks

David had deeply disappointed God and his people. He had done things that brought shame upon both his household and his religion. His status and authority were being challenged, and not without cause. But despite this he could claim: 'Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, My lips shall praise You.' (Psalm 63:3, NKJV.)

We all face times during which the best thing we can say about life is that it sucks! It is good to know, however, that the 'hand of God' is always there, whether we can see it or not – whether we feel we deserve it or not! Why not reach out and take hold of it?

¹<http://www.nasa.gov/jpl/nustar/B1509-pia17566/#.VRQLHDSsXew> ²ibid.



NASA/JPL-Caltech/McGill

CAMP MEETING
8 - 14 JUNE 2015
BUTLINS
HOLIDAY PARK SKEGNESS RESORT
INGOLDMELLS - SKEGNESS - LINCOLNSHIRE - PE25 1NJ

Strong Families
NEC 2015
Strong Churches

ADULT SPEAKERS: DWAYNE LEMON | SEBASTIAN BRAXTON | DR ROBERT KENNEDY | DR CHIDI NGWABA
YOUTH SPEAKERS: MICHAEL CARDUCCI | ANTHONY FULLER | ERIC WALSH
MUSIC BY: HARMONIC VOICES & SHILOH QUARTET

SCAN ME

TO MAKE YOUR BOOKING OR FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.NECADVENTIST.ORG.UK

REBUILDING THE WALLS - REBUILDING PEOPLE | REBUILDING RELATIONSHIPS | INSPIRING EXCELLENCE

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Knowing GOD'S HEART
SEC CAMP MEETING
15 - 21 JUNE 2015
PONTINS CAMBER SANDS HOLIDAY PARK
NEW LYDD RD, CAMBER SANDS, SUSSEX TN31 7RL

 SCOTT RITSEMA SPEAKER MEDIA ON THE BRAIN	 PR ROYSTON PHILBERT SPEAKER COMMITMENT	 DR JAMES HORSLEY SPEAKER LUCHEE PINES MEDICAL DIRECTOR	 PR JUVENAL BALISASA SPEAKER PRAYER & PRAISE
 PR MICHAEL KELLY SPEAKER YOUTH	 DR LEHEL SOMOGYI SPEAKER NATURAL REMEDIES IN THE 21ST CENTURY	 DR CHIDI NGWABA SPEAKER LIFESTYLE MEDICINE	 DR MAGDOLINA SOMOGYI SPEAKER NATURAL REMEDIES IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Daily Commitment Messages, Health and Lifestyle Plenary Sessions, Power Hour and Fitness Sessions
FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CALL 01923 232 728 OR EMAIL CAMPMEETING@SECADVENTIST.ORG.UK
BOOKING FORMS AVAILABLE AT SEC.ADVENTIST.ORG.UK/EVENTS



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

'According to John 3:3, being born again is essential. What is meant by "born again"? Is it a gift from God or should we pray for it?'

Paulsen Yesudian

That's a very good question Paulsen! The *Bible Commentary* says the Greek word used for 'again' is 'anōthen, which elsewhere in John means "from above" (chs. 3:31; 19:11; etc.). The word may properly be used in either sense, and it is not certain . . . but Jesus probably meant "from above", the sense in which anōthen is used later in the same chapter (vs. 31). To be sure, the birth Jesus here refers to is a second birth, but it is not a repetition of the first birth, as the translation "again" might imply.¹ This accords with Jesus' description of it as being 'born of the Spirit' (vss. 5-8, KJV), as well as John 1:13, which describes a birth 'not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God' (KJV). Of this the *Bible Commentary* says, 'Human motives and human planning play no part in the birth of which John speaks. . . . It is not accomplished through human initiative and action, but is altogether a new creation, wholly dependent upon the will and action of God Himself.'²

Does that mean that we have no part to play at all? Some of the Reformers certainly thought so, even saying that God predestines us to be either saved or lost,³ but such a doctrine runs counter to God's expressed desire that all should be saved (Ezekiel 18). Rather, as John 1:12 expresses it: 'But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name' (NKJV). *Reception of and belief in the Holy Spirit's power to do this for us are essential:* see Hebrews 11:6.

I appreciate the way Sister White puts it: 'Little by little, perhaps unconsciously to the receiver, impressions are made . . . through meditating upon Him [Christ], through reading the Scriptures, or through hearing the word from the living preacher. Suddenly, as the Spirit comes with more direct appeal, the soul gladly surrenders itself to Jesus. By many this is called sudden conversion; but it is the result of long wooing by the Spirit of God.'⁴

This can happen to anyone who accepts it. Once willingly received, 'the converting power of God can transform inherited and cultivated tendencies; for the religion of Jesus is uplifting. "Born again" means a transformation, a new birth in Christ Jesus.'⁵ As for what this looks like – spend a good, worthwhile hour meditating on Colossians 3. 'Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another . . . above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts . . . and be thankful' (vss. 12-15, NKJV) – truly beautiful!

¹Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, vol. 5, p. 927 ²Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, vol. 5, p. 901 ³www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/474519/predestination ⁴Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 172 ⁵Ellen G. White, *Review and Herald*, 13 April, 1897

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



You talk too much

by Pastor Ian Sweeney, BUC president

Introduction

My father could talk! In fact, when I drove my father-in-law to meet him, I had to warn him that my father talks a lot, but his response was something I will never forget: 'I learn more by listening than talking!'

I try to be in that school too . . . but there are times when I also talk too much. I have been told of one famous preacher, who shall remain nameless, who spoke non-stop on a trans-continental flight across the United States, a journey of some five hours. It was reported that he did not even take breath, so his companion couldn't get a word in edgeways!

Yes, I declare that some of us talk too much and listen too little. When the congregation is asked, 'Has anybody got a testimony?' some of us are always first. Why? Because we talk too much and about the wrong subject! Here is something to back that up: 'Your mind is too much centred upon yourself. You talk too much of yourself, of your infirmities of body.' (*Mind, Character, and Personality*, volume 1, page 275.)

In some cases, even before the Sabbath School teacher has finished asking the question, we are already butting in to answer it. Why? Because we talk too much! This was the case with the

healing of a leper recorded for us in Mark 1. According to the story Jesus 'straitly charged him, and forthwith sent him away; And saith unto him, See thou say nothing to any man . . .' (Mark 1:43, 44, KJV).

Exposition

Mark's account tells us that when Jesus met the leper, He was moved with compassion for the desperate, suffering man. This man who, through his illness, had been shunned and ostracised by his family, friends and community was desperate for healing and he knew that Jesus could restore more than physical health to him. Jesus, looking down at this broken, twisted shape of humanity, was moved with a deep emotion to do something for him, and immediately healed him with the words: 'I will; be thou clean.' (Mark 1:41, KJV.)

But Jesus, having responded to him in compassion with those tender words, then immediately changes His tone and 'straitly charged him'.

The Greek verb *embrimaomai*, which Mark used here, originally meant 'to snort with anger' or 'to snort like a horse'.

Jesus commanded him sternly and there must have been a matching expression on His face as He said: 'See thou say nothing to any man!'

We sometimes read these words as though Jesus was just being self-deprecating and humble: 'Oh, what I have done for you is nothing; please don't say anything; I don't want a fuss!' But to do so is to misunderstand the situation.

Jesus was serious and wanted this man to know it. 'Say nothing about this miracle to anybody.' Jesus spoke with indignation: 'Keep this to yourself! I don't want you testifying at prayer meeting on Wednesday night, or begging the pastor to give you the microphone on Sabbath morning! I just want you to keep your mouth closed and listen to Me!'

Having told the former leper not to talk, Jesus 'forthwith sent him away' (Mark 1:43).

The Greek verb *ekballo* that Mark uses for 'sent' has as its meaning 'to eject' or 'to expel' or 'to cast out'. Jesus, having healed the man, told him, 'Keep your mouth shut, now go!' In fact *ekballo* is often used in the New Testament when demons are driven out. Jesus sternly tells him not only to 'shut up' but also to 'go!'

Jesus spoke to him strongly because sometimes soft words are not heard!

Jesus spoke to him in such a strong and commanding tone because He knew that the man would disobey Him! Jesus told the former leper, 'Keep your mouth shut and go and find a priest.'

According to the Mosaic law the priests who served as public health officers diagnosed leprosy and ordered quarantine. Those who recovered from their disease could return home after re-examination, purification rites, and certification from the priest (Leviticus 14).

But the man talked too much and listened too little, as Mark records: 'But he went out, and began to publish it much, and to blaze abroad the matter . . .' (Mark 1:45, KJV).

Consequences of talking too much:

1. Curtailed MTTC

By acting according to his human nature and talking too much about what Jesus had done for him, he caused serious consequences.

Mark tells us, because this man talked too much, he hindered Jesus' ministry (1:45):

'Jesus could no more openly enter into the city. . . . The man talked too much and now Jesus had to abandon the Mission to the Cities (MTTC) initiative and flee to the countryside! The man talked too much and put a stop to Jesus' ministry!'

The man didn't understand why Jesus was so vexed when He told him to be quiet; he thought that Jesus was just being modest, but we don't need to understand everything before we comply. Jesus said, 'Keep your mouth shut!' and that should have been enough, but no – he talked too much, and as a consequence Jesus' ministry was curtailed!

Some of us need to be more guarded in how we speak in respect to reaching others. For instance, Ellen White made the following telling statements about how we talk about Roman Catholics.

'Decided proclamations are to be made. But in regard to this line of work, I am instructed to say to our people: Be guarded. In bearing the message, make no personal thrusts at other churches, not even the Roman Catholic Church. Angels of God see in the different denominations many who can be reached only by the greatest caution. Therefore let us be careful of our words. Let not our ministers follow their own impulses in denouncing and exposing the "mysteries of iniquity". Upon these themes silence is eloquence. Many are deceived. Speak the truth in tones and words of love. Let Christ Jesus be exalted. Keep to the affirmative of truth. Never leave the straight path God has marked out, for the purpose of giving someone a thrust. That thrust may do much harm and no good. It may quench conviction in many minds. Let the Word of God, which is the truth, tell the story of the inconsistency of those in error.

'People cannot be expected to see at once the advantage of the truth over the error they have cherished. The best way to expose the fallacy of error is to present the evidences of truth. This is the greatest rebuke that can be given to error. Dispel the cloud of darkness resting on minds by reflecting the bright light of the Sun of Righteousness.' *Evangelism*, pp. 576, 577.

This is important counsel that we could do well to apply, not only to Roman Catholics but to other denominations and other faiths too.

By talking too much we will

hinder and curtail an effective ministry!

2. Heightened prejudice!

Because the man talked too much he curtailed Jesus' ministry, but a second consequence was that he heightened prejudice against Jesus!

Jesus not only told the man to keep his mouth closed and go, but sent him to the priests, as Mark 1:44 reads: ' . . . shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing those things which Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.'

By sending this man to the priests, Christ wanted to demonstrate to those priests and to the people that He recognised the laws of Moses!

In this way Jesus hoped to disprove the false charges made by the priests. Jesus wanted to reach the open-minded priests so that they might see that the allegations that he was disloyal to the law of Moses were false. Jesus commanded the man to go immediately to the priests before any rumours concerning the miracle reached them.

You see, Jesus wanted to save the priests too!

My favourite Christian author commented that: 'While He [Jesus] drew the publicans, the heathen, and the Samaritans, He longed to reach the priests and teachers who were shut in by prejudice and tradition. He left untried no means by which they might be reached. In sending the healed leper to the priests, He gave them a testimony calculated to disarm their prejudices.' (*Desire of Ages*, p. 265.)

But because the man did not go to the priest and talked too much about how Jesus had healed him, 'He did not understand that every such manifestation made the priests and elders more determined to destroy Jesus' (*Desire of Ages*, p. 265). The man may have thought he was doing well by sharing his testimony, but by talking too much about Jesus he was actually doing Jesus' ministry more harm than good, by raising prejudice and increasing persecution.

3. He drew 'hangers on'

Because this man talked too much, he cut short Jesus' ministry and raised prejudice. There was a third consequence of his testimony too – that people began to follow Jesus for the wrong motives.

Jesus didn't want the leper to tell anyone of his cure because He did not want to gain the reputation of being just another 'miracle worker', for this would thwart the essential purpose of His ministry.

We need to understand that Jesus' primary interest was not just about drawing a large crowd or congregation to Himself!

Jesus wanted followers who understood the essential purpose of His ministry. John 6:26 tells us that some followed Jesus because He did great potluck lunches. John 6:15 tells us that others followed Him because they wanted to forcibly make Him a king!

Today, preachers who claim to be able to work miracles will always get a huge following, and maybe that is their goal.

Sadly, 11 people were killed in Zimbabwe (21 November 2014) following a service by a charismatic preacher who claimed to use miracles to cure all kinds of ailments, help people achieve their desires, and cast out demonic spirits. As many thousands of people were leaving a service conducted by Prophet Walter Magaya, a stampede occurred, resulting in 11 deaths. According to his website his first notable miracle was healing a man who had been 'blind for 3 years and got his sight restored by the power of Jesus Christ of Nazareth working through the man of God Prophet Walter Magaya'.

Sadly, there are no reports of the prophet bringing back to life any of the dead killed in the stampede – or of him flying off to Africa's Ebola-stricken areas.

Because this man talked too much, people with various agendas followed Jesus and hindered the essential purpose of His ministry.

Conclusion

Today we are called upon to share Jesus, but let us be mindful not to talk too much, but rather listen to the voice of Jesus as to when and what we should speak – because in talking too much we may hinder the mission of God.

'Let us be careful of our words. Oh, there is so much speech that is not for the glory of God. Would it not be much better if we should talk less and pray more? When engaged in labour, guard the mind, keep it stayed upon God, talk less, and meditate more. (*The Voice In Speech And Song*, pp. 121, 122.)



COMING OF AGE SERVICE

SATURDAY 6TH JUNE 2015

For Your Local Church

FOR 12 YEAR OLDS

Order Your "Coming of Age" Pack Today.

Among the Jews the twelfth year was the dividing line between childhood and youth. On completing this year a Hebrew boy was called a son of the law, and also a son of God. He was given special opportunities for religious instruction, and was expected to participate in the sacred feasts and observances. It was in accordance with this custom that Jesus in His boyhood made the Passover visit to Jerusalem. Like all devout Israelites, Joseph and Mary went up every year to attend the Passover; and when Jesus had reached the required age, they took Him with them. *Desire of Ages* p.75

This service is not a bar mitzvah (for boys) or a bat mitzvah (for girls), but it is a time to recognise an important milestone. Taking the time to pray, share, instruct and affirm. It is a time to praise and consecrate their lives to God.

Contact the NEC Children's Ministries Department on 0115 960 6312 or visit www.necadventist.org.uk for more information and to order your pack.





Why Stanborough Secondary is a top choice for your child

by Lorraine, Wanda and Kayon (Stanborough Secondary)

Did you know that, on average, students at Stanborough Secondary School outperform the national averages? Did you know that Pastors Paul Lockham (BUC executive secretary), John Surridge (Welsh Mission president), David Neal (Irish Mission president) and Kevin Johns (SEC Pathfinder director), and Victor Pilmoor (BUC treasurer), are all past students of Stanborough Secondary?

Well, now you do! For generations, Stanborough Secondary School has been producing leaders – equipping them with the knowledge and skills they need to become successful citizens of this world and the one to come.

Why is your child not here?

Do you want your child to be well rounded while also meeting and even exceeding academic targets? Then bring him or her to us. Our well-trained and highly qualified staff are ready and waiting to work closely with you to ensure that your child fulfils his/her God-given potential.

How many schools can boast that they take students with a mixed range of abilities, and do their best to ensure that no child is left behind?

There is a myth that other schools are academically better than Stanborough. Knock down that myth! Stanborough Secondary is on par with other secondary schools. We do acknowledge that England is home to some of the best schools in the world, and we are not suggesting that 100% of our students achieve A*-C. However, we are non-selective and our qualified staff meet our students where they are and take them to where they need to be. Consequently, when our students leave, their progress, compared to their starting point, is good to outstanding.

Here are the cold, hard facts:

- Stanborough GCSE results are consistently above the national average.
- Last year the national GCSE average percentage of pupils obtaining five or more GCSEs at A*-C level was 63% for all pupils: 57% for boys and 70% for girls.
- Stanborough's average was higher than this – 85% of all students scored five or more A*-C GCSE grades: 70% of our boys and 100% of our girls.

- For the last five years, national GCSE averages have been 79% for all students – 72% for boys and 81% for girls – while our GCSE average has been 80% overall! 76% of our boys and 84% of our girls scored five or more A*-C GCSE grades.

Some schools focus mainly on the academic. However, at Stanborough Secondary, we seek to develop the whole person. As such, we have academic clubs and enrichment clubs as well as extra-curricular activities every day. Our school is vibrant, interesting, and fun!

At lunchtime you can stop by homework club to get help or complete assignments, or you can visit the badminton or lawn tennis club. After school you can visit with our Bible study group or get some exercise with the cricket or basketball clubs. Not into sports? We have something for you too! Exercise your mind – visit the chess club – and these are just a sample of a wide range of enrichment activities on offer here!

There are some who will say that all Christian schools are the same so your child can attend any of these. That is not true! Each Christian school will encourage their students to internalise the values and doctrines of their governing denomination. As a Seventh-day Adventist, do you want your child to internalise the values of another denomination or faith group? What will you do when these values conflict with the values in your home?

Want to send your child to Stanborough but are afraid you cannot afford it?

We have a plan for you! The BUC has agreed to match up to 15% of tuition fees for every child that a church sponsors. Along with the standard church discount (30%), this

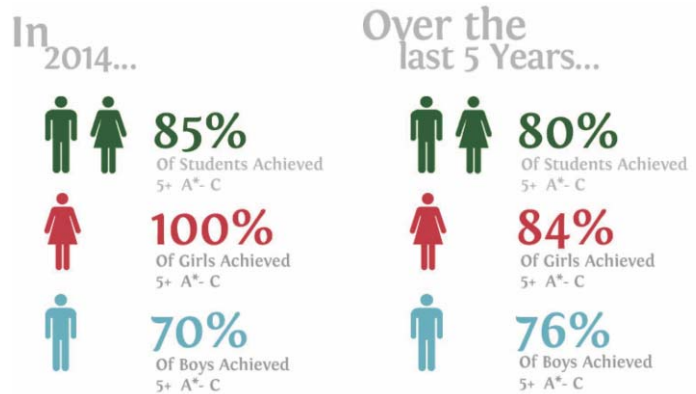
means that, if your church sponsors your child, you will only be required to pay forty percent . . . yes! Forty percent (40%) of the total school fees!

This is not an option for you? Do not worry! We also offer scholarships and bursaries for new students who perform well on the scholarship and bursary examinations in January of each year. Students will keep their scholarship or bursary for five years – all they have to do is ensure that they remain on the honour roll! See? You can afford to send your child to Stanborough!

Still not convinced? Note this: at Stanborough Secondary every child's ideas and opinions matter. Every effort is made to ensure that students feel welcome, protected and valued from the moment they enter our doors. They are safe! Our highly qualified staff prepare effective lessons designed to stimulate their minds and our chaplain organises events designed to provide a safe environment where they can learn about Christ and the idea of service to others. In addition to this, our pastoral care is excellent and discreet. Your ideas are welcome and your needs, as a parent, are important to us. We support not only our students, but, when necessary, our parents as well. Our senior members of staff and chaplain are available to listen to both parents and students.

Do you want your child to build his/her character while strengthening his/her analytical thought processes? Send him/her to Stanborough Secondary!

You will be glad you did!



Mother's Day witnessing

On 14 March, after the worship service, Hutton Church members took to the streets to hand out daffodils to mothers on the Billericay high street. The church is just a few yards away from the high street, so it was also a chance to introduce people to the church nearby.

WALTER BHENGRA



Short courses through Newbold's Centre for Christian Leadership

The centre provides opportunities for church members and those in leadership positions to enhance their skills in spiritual, educational and social ministry through practical and theoretical short and intensive courses and workshops.

Workshops currently open for registration include:

Flowers for Ministry

As a reminder of God's creative power, flowers should be as much a part of the worship experience as hymns and prayers. This one-day workshop is designed to help flower arrangers make the most of their limited budgets by producing top-class arrangements.

Sunday 10 May

From £75, including all materials

Fund-raising for Success (Basic and Advanced)

Are you excited about pursuing a project in 2015, but you're not sure how to go about it? Do you have an ongoing project to which you and your group are struggling to attract funding or support? If you've abandoned a project due to a break-down in communications, lack of funds or project mismanagement, then these workshops are for you.

Sunday 17 May (Basic), Sunday 31 May (Advanced)

Prices from £40 for one day, or £70 for both

Journey to Wholeness

'God never wastes a hurt.' As individuals heal, they are prepared to help others in their life journey. Through this workshop you can become equipped to facilitate a church group and lead an Adventist Recovery Ministry in your church, school, or community. This training was developed by the North American Division to equip us to assist individuals who are struggling with addictions or unhealthy compulsive behaviour.

Friday 31 July – Sunday 2 August

Prices from £75 (excluding meals and accommodation)

Contact Kirsty Watkins for more details and to register:
email: kwatkins@newbold.ac.uk. Tel: 07817 85 4905.

HOLY SEXUALITY CONFERENCE



Do you want to know more about Same-Sex Attraction & Christianity?
Are you wondering if God loves you?
Do you want support to overcome sexual habits?

21-25 APRIL 2015

7PM - 9PM TUESDAY - FRIDAY
10AM - 5PM ON SATURDAY

NB: VENUE FOR FRIDAY & SATURDAY TBC

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/holy-sexuality-conference-tickets-15994776808>



You are cordially invited to the **Holy Sexuality Conference** which is a five day seminar dedicated to hearing from people who have struggled with **same-sex attraction**. Mike Carducci, Wayne Blakely and Danielle Harrison are living proof that **God changes lives** when we fully rely and place our **trust in Him**. Come and hear their personal story of how they found redemption, victory, healing and **freedom from this lifestyle**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT US ON:

holysexuality2015@gmail.com

or call Anamaria or Lydia on: 07417 532 343

Venue: (21-23 April) Advent Centre, 37 Brendon Street, W1h 5Je

Errors and omissions excepted

NEWBOLD COLLEGE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

HOW TO READ THE BIBLE FOR ALL IT'S WORTH

- Free All-Day Bible Conference
- Saturday 18 April 2015
- 10.00 - 18.00 (registration from 9.30)
- Meals can be pre-purchased at £6 each

Register now for your free ticket, at www.newbold.ac.uk/bible-conference

Errors and omissions excepted



Winson Green baptism

During a recent baptism at Winson Green Church, three candidates from the Breath of Life and Smethwick churches were baptised. They were Amaan Wilson and Papa Yentumi (Breath of Life) and Georgia Simms (Smethwick).

Here they are pictured along with Pastor Nichols (left) and Pastor Eric Lawrence, who cares for all three churches (Winson Green, Breath of Life and Smethwick), together with elders from the latter two.

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



The world's toughest job!

On Sunday, 15 March, households across the UK celebrated Mother's Day. On the previous day, in recognition of the occasion, mothers from the Hackney church were given flowers and a musical CD by their children as a thank-you for taking on the 'world's toughest job' – motherhood!

During the Sabbath School programme, church members were introduced to some of the greatest women and mothers in biblical history (Dorcas, Esther, Jochebed, Ruth) and world history (Harriet Tubman). Sabbath School superintendent, Flora Blake, shared a hypothetical conversation God has with one of His angels about the value of mothers: 'A mother has just two hands to take care of several children. Not only can she think, but she can also reason and negotiate. She is soft, but I have made her strong. She can carry heavy burdens, cries when happy, laughs when afraid and finds strength to get through life. She has one drawback: she often forgets what she is worth. To me, she is worth everything.'

DARELL PHILIP

Baptism at Bournemouth

On Sabbath, 28 February, Miss Loreto Palopalo, originally from Botswana, was baptised at the Bournemouth church, where she has been attending regularly. At her request, Loreto was baptised by Pastor Stanley Texeira, who, early in 2014, relocated with his family to Bournemouth from Brazil. Pastor Stanley has been responsible for teaching Loreto about Jesus Christ and the Bible. It was an emotional day for both parties – for Loreto, who gave her life to Jesus Christ – and for Pastor Texeira, who performed his first baptism since arriving in the UK.

CHRIS HARRIS



Baptism at Yardley

The Yardley church welcomed two newly baptised members, Cynthia Smith and Dubrey Golding, into membership on 28 February.

Mrs Cynthia Smith, a mother of three, visited the Adventist church from a very young age but had been evading God's call for many years. She was invited to Yardley Church by her daughter Tashana while experiencing anxiety due to work stress, and she was able to receive a wealth of encouragement while attending prayer meeting. Cynthia has experienced God through forgiveness and is no longer weighed down by stress.

Dubrey is a young man who has become keenly interested in the study of God's word and has been attending the prayer meetings and Bible studies of the church. His decision to be baptised was an answer to his mother's repeated prayers on his behalf.

Yardley pastor, Pardon Chenjerai, and his members warmly welcomed both candidates into their church family. Pastor Patrick Herbert conducted the baptism after Pastor Steve Palmer had preached. Three young people responded to his appeal and are preparing for baptism.

YARDLEY COMMUNICATIONS



Plymouth Church pampers mothers

The Plymouth youth are busy raising funds for a mission trip to Romania! After seeing how enthusiastic my cousin, Gemma, and I were about our recent trip to Albania (with the Adventist Volunteer Service) our youth group decided to go on a mission trip. A visiting preacher suggested we go to Advent Press in Romania and the plans began to form from there.

Our small group of about nine young people and our pastor, Clifford Herman, plan to visit Romania from 21 to 31 August to help with an ongoing project: to assist with the renovation of an old school building

for approximately 80 children. We are ready and willing to give our time to this good cause and share our faith with the people we will meet. We will also visit a number of churches while in Romania to share love and encouragement from our UK members with them.

We started raising funds with a 'Popdogs' night (hotdogs, popcorn and a film), then went on to our second event, which was also a big success.

This past Mothering Sunday the girls put together a good spread of scones and cakes with hot drinks and provided the mums of our church with a pamper afternoon. For the small donation of £4 they were offered manicures, hand and foot massages and a foot spa while being served hot drinks and cake. We also set up a small stall with handmade gifts for sale.

The event helped raise £165 towards our mission trip, but we still have a long way to go to reach our goal of over £6,000.

Editor's note: If you would like to find out more about this mission project, or provide sponsorship, please make contact with the group via adventist.org.uk.



JENNIE HALL



Bradford soup kitchen aids in outreach

Since 6 August 2014, Bradford Central Church has opened its doors to the community every Wednesday, from 10am to 2pm, for freshly home-made soup of various recipes. The soup kitchen was led by Mavis Durant (then an elder), and was for the benefit of less-advantaged members of the community.

On the first week there were more church members helping out than people who were expected to come and enjoy the soup. (In addition to the soup we also distribute clothing, shoes, food parcels, and many other gifts, which all come as donations from our generous members.) The following weeks were still not promising. By the fourth week, there were 11 people. Then things started hotting up – and by November the number of beneficiaries had reached 20.

Sister Mase arranged for an announcement on the local radio, resulting in one extra person attending after hearing the good news about what the Adventist church is doing.

Then we faced a challenge: the leader of the soup kitchen had been waiting to move house – but this was the wrong time – just as the soup kitchen was starting to pick up! The Lord blessed us, however, with Sister Veronica, who took over the commitment to lead out in the soup kitchen ministry.

In December, attendance started on a high as the word went around in the community. In the first week of December there were 23 people, then 32, and by the third week we served 46 people, who were so thankful for this ministry. It was amazing to see the smiles of the people at some of the things that we took for granted would not be taken.

On Wednesday, 24 December, there was a Christmas dinner – a lovely vegetarian meal, which was presented in Bradford Central Church. Timothy, a church member, brought his friend, Steph, who didn't come empty-handed either, but brought gifts to present to the people.

This day was a very special day for our community, because the Christmas meal came with all the trimmings – cake, soft drinks, and so on. There was singing and laughter. It was a joyful day and we served 55 people! Just reaching out to the community and serving their needs gives us great joy – knowing we are doing God's work. As you pray for other churches, please remember Bradford Church in your prayers.

We are grateful for all the support of

Bradford members and their prayers and planning, which have made this ministry successful to date.

LISA AND VERONICA

Adventist wins Wise Women Award

Chipema Chitambala, operations manager at Barchester Healthcare's Leonard Lodge, has won an award for leadership at the Wise Women Awards 2015.

Chipema was announced the winner of the 'Professional Christian Leadership' category at an awards ceremony on 14 March.

The Wise Women Awards is in its eleventh year and is the UK's annual leading event celebrating the achievements of African and African-Caribbean Christian women in the church and wider society.

The judges were impressed by Chipema's career progression and said that she demonstrated strong leadership qualities. They also commended her passion to serve the community through the church.

Pastor Marjorie Esomowe, founder of the Wise Women Awards, stated: 'Every year the Wise Women Awards bring to the fore unknown women doing great things, and 2015 is no different. There are women from across the country represented in the list of nominees, whose contributions are having an impact on the lives of others. I am glad the WWA plays a part in bringing such women to the attention of the wider Christian community.'

CHIPEMA CHITAMBALA

For more details of the Wise Women Awards visit www.wisewomenawards.org.





Stanborough Park Church progress

A cold February Sunday morning saw more than sixty members taking advantage of the opportunity to inspect the progress of the redevelopment project currently underway at Stanborough Park Church.

Just three months away from the original completion date of late May, many had been puzzled by the apparent lack of obvious progress – the exterior walls for the new Pastoral Centre not appearing until after the new year. Few were prepared for the walls of scaffolding supporting the roof, which was open to the sky at one end, or the steel joists and exposed brickwork that greeted them. Only the central gallery looked much as it had always done.

Representatives of the builders and architects were on hand – although it still required much imagination to visualise their explanations of what would be appearing in the future. It seems that unexpected problems with the structure of the existing building and the need to bring in specialist equipment to support the existing roof had contributed towards delays.

One end of the Williams Hall was missing, providing a bird's-eye view of the extension and the rear of the properties in neighbouring Holland Gardens! For many the development is viewed as an exciting opportunity to extend the church's influence into the local neighbourhood, while others were seen poring over the builder's plans for the layout of the new kitchen.

March saw a big change of momentum. The big crane arrived to put in the new roof joists; those for the extension's first floor were put in place, along with the stairs; and the entire building will shortly be made watertight, enabling work to start on the interior.

With the project's finishing date receding into the autumn, senior pastor Jacques Venter is confident that members will be worshipping in the refurbished church 'by the end of the year' – disappointing Karin, who had planned to hold her wedding there at the end of August!

Meanwhile, members have been scattered. Numbers attending services in the marquee on Stanborough Park dwindled after the new year, with the heating varying from week to week between hot, cold and just right – much like the three bears' porridge! Many deserted to the contemporary parallel service in the church hall; others attended the new 9am service; some joined the regular 'Livestream' viewers – leaving just those who, as Pastor Mary Barrett put it, still possessed the pioneer spirit! March sunshine restored numbers to their pre-Christmas level.

While outreach, youth and children's activities have been unaffected by the work in progress, other members have not fared as well. A monthly post-service 'soup-and-rolls session' has been established to provide the scattered congregation with the opportunity to meet up; and the church barn dance has been revived, as has the games-and-pancakes evening. As for Pastor Jacques' expectation that all will be finished by the end of the year, the membership will undoubtedly be unified in saying 'Amen' to that!

JUNE COOMBS



Eggcellent response!

On Saturday, 28 February, a group of knitters from the Grantham church were able to display the 160 chicks they had knitted in response to the St Barnabas charity request to help raise funds for their hospice. A further 278 chocolate Easter eggs were also donated.

SHEBA HUGHES



ADRA response to Cyclone Pam

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) in Vanuatu continues to support the response to Tropical Cyclone Pam by providing local communities in need with safety, food, and access to water.

On Friday, 20 March, 130 water filtration kits were distributed to four locations in the northeast area of Efate, the main island of Vanuatu. These kits convert contaminated water into clean drinking water and have been set up in schools and churches.

Six ADRA-supported evacuation centres were set up with generators to increase the safety and security for the women and children, and to charge devices to assist with communication.

Since Saturday, ADRA Vanuatu volunteers have distributed 320 much-needed supplementary food parcels to displaced people in the ADRA-supported evacuation centres. Each parcel is designed to sustain a family of five people for up to two weeks.

Currently there are nine ADRA-supported evacuation centres across the island of Efate, supporting and providing more than 1,000 displaced people with shelter. ADRA Vanuatu country director, Mark le Roux, summed up the situation as follows: 'Our volunteers are working hard to make sure the distribution of the food parcels happens quickly to those who need them most.' He added that 'to effectively respond to the needs of the people, we rely on strong partnerships; with our local community, our volunteers, across all the agencies involved, and co-ordinated through the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO).'

Source: <http://www.adra.org>

BOOKSALES	April		
	12 Hanwell	10am-2pm	Adventist Book Center.com
12 Newcastle	10am-2pm		
	19 Tottenham	10am-2pm	
	19 Huddersfield	10am-2pm	
	26 Croydon	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, 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	

His ADRA
Your ADRA
Our ADRA

Cameroon



Annual Appeal 'Water and Sanitation Project':

Cameroon

Pascal is retired and lives in Oveng village. Read his story below.

"Our water well is probably over 100 years old. It is an open water source and not covered. It is also quite a strenuous walk to get to the well and take the water home. Yes, we can drink the water and it quenches our thirst but it also make us sick. The water is full of diseases that give us bacteria, stomach-aches and more!"

Christian is the chief of Oveng village in the Nkolmetet district. He too is worried about the water sources in the village. He says: "My biggest concern is that the children of our small school do not have access to water. The old well has run dry and is neglected. **The children walk a distance of more than 500 metres to get water from the nearby river, with a risk of accidents as they travel along the road.**"

Emmanuel is the principal at a school in Meyomessi. Children who attend his school have to walk far, almost 2km, to find potable water. Emmanuel says: "Even the water they find is of questionable quality and often makes the children in my school sick. Please ADRA, help us to get a water point at the school and provide proper latrines to help with sanitation!"

With **YOUR** help in this year's **Annual Appeal**, ADRA-UK will help control the risks of water-borne diseases by providing access to clean drinking water, sanitation and personal hygiene training, benefitting over 32,000 people in 10 villages across Cameroon.

Read the rest of this story online at adra.uk.org/projects to see how our 'Water and Sanitation Project' will help change Pascal's life and many others in Cameroon.

Support ADRA-UK's Annual Appeal Water and Sanitation Project in Cameroon at adra.uk.org/donate

adra.org.uk

www.facebook.com/ADRAUK [teamadra](https://www.instagram.com/teamadra)

[youtube.com/adrauk](https://www.youtube.com/adrauk)

Registered charity 1074937 (SCO37726 - IOM1101)

extreme TEENS CAMP 2015

17th-23rd August 2015
Chapel Porth
 ST AGNES TRURO CORNWALL TR5 0RN

£95 including transport

WWW.SECTEENS.ORG
 dejan@secadventist.org.uk
 01923 232 728

First come first served

ministry

SEC STUDENT Camp 2015

20TH - 24TH JULY 2015

£50

At Chapel Porth Caravan Site: Goonvrea, ST Agnes, Truro, Cornwall, TR5 0RN

Places are limited. Please book early: www.secteens.org (online registration only)

Students are encouraged to bring roommates, flatmates & Christian Union friends. University students only.

Dejan Stojkovic - 07919 172 176
 dstojkovic@secadventist.org.uk

Rebeto Samuel-Ouadjo - 01923 656 833
 rsamuel-ouadjo@secadventist.org.uk

CRAVE

ministry

Hosted by the Adventist Student Network in association with the Welsh Mission



The ladies of Weston-super-Mare gather for a Day of Prayer

Women's World Day of Prayer at Weston-super-Mare

This year the Women's World Day of Prayer came from the Bahamas and the theme title was taken from the words of Jesus: 'Do You Know What I Have Done to You?' (John 13:1-17.) This service is held on the first Friday in March by churches all over the world, thereby creating a wave of prayer. Every year a different country is selected and it then becomes their responsibility to put together the service.

On this beautiful sunny morning members of the Weston-super-Mare church prepared a welcoming scene with large, colourful tissue flowers, posters and fruit. The ladies taking part in the service wore brightly coloured scarves that captured the feeling of the Caribbean. In the background Caribbean music softly played while a PowerPoint presentation displayed pictures and information about that region.

In John 13 Jesus washes the feet of the disciples and He tells them to do the same in remembrance of Him. One of the young women of our church walked up and down the aisles with a bowl and towel to emphasise the biblical event. At the same time a short video showing the washing of feet in the Weston church was screened.

The atmosphere was one of friendship and Christian love, and when everyone held hands and sang the hymn 'Let There Be Love All Around Us', one could really sense the unity and warmth within the group.

Jennie Gallagher is the representative for the Adventist church and has been involved with the Women's World Day of Prayer for approximately 25 years. She has built up a friendship with people from many churches within the Christian community. A lot of hard work went into the preparation, not only by Jennie but also by other church members. Many people came forward to say how much they enjoyed the service. The secretary responsible for organising the WWDP in the area was stepping down, and so she was presented with flowers to thank her for all of the work she has done.

The Weston church recognises the importance of working with people in the Christian community and we have also made good friends through the cookery club and craft club, and by supporting the Weston Food Bank. As a result many Christians from other churches attend our Christmas carol service.

YVONNE HILL (COMMUNICATIONS)

obituary

Colin Ware Mitchell (1927-2015) d. 4 February.



Colin Mitchell was born in Chelsea into an artistic family. He and his younger brother Terence enjoyed a happy childhood, at their London home during term time and in Wadhurst in the Sussex Weald during the holidays. All of that changed, however, with the onset of war, when the children were evacuated to join distant cousins in New Hampshire (USA) for the next five years. After the war Colin had to do National Service in Burma and Malaysia.

Although his mother and American cousins were all Christian believers, Colin was

not until he went to Oxford, where he was converted at a Christian Union meeting. At Oxford Colin met Adrian Kent, a fellow student who introduced him to the Adventist faith, and he was baptised by Pastor Victor Cooper in 1952.

Colin's next move was to the Sudan, where he worked as a soil surveyor. It was while he was doing further study in that field at Aberdeen University that he first met Clemency Phillips, at a prayer meeting in the upper room behind a shoe shop where the local Adventists met. They stayed

in touch over the years while Colin worked in Iraq, Pakistan and other desert areas, and were eventually married at Newbold College in 1963.

Colin continued to travel widely, firstly based in Cambridge and then as a lecturer at Reading University, where he took students on field trips to North Africa and did occasional consultancy work for the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation, including lecturing in China and even Tibet. In retirement he continued to work as a consultant, writer and guest lecturer.

Sabbath was important to Colin and wherever he was he would seek out the local Seventh-day Adventist congregation, though this was not always possible in the Middle East and other arid areas.

Colin was actively involved in his local churches - Cambridge, Reading, and in later years

Newbold Church. He served as a lay preacher and an elder but was particularly valued for his expertise in the field of Creationism. Many Adventists today own a copy of his book, *The Case for Creationism*, which was first published by Autumn House in 1994. This was subsequently revised and was republished in 1999 as *Creationism Revisited*.

Colin was proud of his four children, Patrick, David, Julian and Laura, and later his nine grandchildren. He took a keen interest in the progress of each one of them, as evidenced by his twelve-year-old granddaughter Miriam at his funeral on Thursday 19 February: 'He was the best granddad anyone could wish for, and I will miss him terribly.'

Our thoughts and prayers are with Clemency and the family as they come to terms with their loss.

PASTOR JOHN SURRIDGE

'Armed and ready'

A recent Week of Prophecy series, held from 14 to 21 February, reminded the Yardley church in Birmingham of its mission, message and method.

Church members were encouraged and revived by the simple and understandable presentations and the moving personal testimony of the speaker, Andre Crawford, an elder from Manchester.

Echoing the title of the last sermon, 'Armed and Ready', the Yardley church is also now 'armed and ready' to take up its mission to preach the message to the world through Christ's method alone.

YARDLEY COMMUNICATIONS



Calling men to pray

This year's Calling Men to Pray retreat was held in Manchester at Luther King House from 20 to 22 February. The call was once again answered by men from different churches and we were blessed to have five pastors attend the prayer retreat: Pastors Andrew Rashford-Hewitt, Mike Hamilton, Curtis Murphy, Paul Liburd, and Lloyd Lambert.

The theme for the weekend was 'These men continued together in prayer'. It was a Spirit-filled weekend. We had a lot of time for prayer: praying for one another and interceding for others as well. There were presentations that helped us to reflect on 'Jesus, the Man', and also on our spiritual walk as men.

'A good time to reflect and seek God in the context of a male audience where we affirm one another through the unique experience of manhood,' was Pastor Andrew Rashford-Hewitt's comment.

Another attendee, Witness Mujaji, had this to say: 'I really enjoyed the retreat. We were reminded that our responsibility is not just to the churches that we come from. Ours is to look across the whole land - to every village, town, city - and allow the Holy Spirit to inspire us to be bold and courageous.'

RAOUL DUSABE

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY RESIDENTIAL WEEKEND

Knowing the TIME

£140 PER PERSON

SPEAKERS

Pr Ian Sweeney, BUC President
 Pr Sam Davis, SEC President
 Pr Cecil Perry

Pr Brighton Kavaloh
 Pr Steve McKenzie
 Ms Sonia Munroe

For Info & Registration Contact 01923 232728 / secreligiousliberty@gmail.com

WOKEFIELD PARK
 GOODBOYS LANE, MORTIMER
 READING, WEST BERKSHIRE
 RG7 3AH

29-31 MAY 2015

icandworld info@icandworld.com 0799 051 0069 / 0800 880 3082

Harper Bell School out of special measures!

Governors, pupils and staff are finally able to celebrate following the most recent Ofsted report's confirmation that they have collectively 'revitalised provision and have re-kindled pupils' sense of pride in their school'. The February report graded Harper Bell Seventh-day Adventist School as 'Requires Improvement' overall, but rated it 'Good' in Leadership and Management following an 18-month journey under special measures.

Harper Bell is a voluntary-aided primary school based at Camp Hill, in the heart of Birmingham, and caters for just under 200 pupils aged 3-11 years. At a time when schools in Birmingham were under intense scrutiny from the Government and the local communities they serve, an Interim Executive Board (IEB) was appointed to Harper Bell in April 2014. The Government-appointed IEB worked hand-in-hand with a National Leader of Education from St Mary's C of E Primary Academy and a Local Leader of Education from St Matthew's C of E Primary School, together with a dynamic senior leadership team, to move the school forward towards success. In less than 12 months, this team of passionate experts has helped the school make significant improvements.

Anne Pilmoor, Director of Education for the Seventh-day Adventist Church, was delighted with the Ofsted result, stating: 'I am so pleased the inspectors recognised the sterling work of the leadership team, the enormous effort of the staff and the many improvements to the school. We are proud of the pupils for engaging so well in their learning.'

Harper Bell recently received confirmation of its long-awaited Academy Order from the Secretary of State for Education and will become an academy from June 2015, sponsored (and supported) by the Diocese of Birmingham. With this in mind, the IEB are actively seeking committed governors and key members of staff to join its current team and build on the strong foundations laid over the last 18-24 months.

Demand for spaces at the school from September 2015 is increasing as parents are turning to Harper Bell as the school of choice for their children given the significant changes and improvements made to date. Outstanding provision for its pupils and staff is the highest priority for the IEB, and, rather than taking the 'pressure off' following this Ofsted report, the school is in 'fast forward' mode to achieve greatness across all areas.

As president of the North England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Pastor Lorance Johnson was delighted with the news and said, 'I remain profoundly impressed with the intentional focus of all concerned to ensure that teaching, learning and governance reflects the school's motto: 'A More Excellent Way!'

An edited version of a 12 March press release provided by Sharon Warmington



Classroom competition 2015

In an ongoing quest for excellence, Stanborough Secondary School recently held its second annual classroom competition!

A team of judges from non-teaching staff assessed each classroom with respect to creativity of displays, how God is revealed through the subject, students' work displays, and neatness, among other things.

The judges were delighted at the wonderful use of colour, amazingly creative displays and each staff member's passion for their subjects – clearly reflected in their classrooms.

It was extremely difficult for the judges to choose a winner, as several classrooms simply astonished them. After much deliberation, first place was awarded to Mr J. Poddar for the Physical Education room. The 'Sugar In Drinks' display, which students helped create, was especially impressive.

In second place was Mrs Milis-Hopa with the library. The overall aesthetics of the library are hard to deny. Third place was achieved by Mrs Poddar for the room where she teaches BSC.

The competition achieved its desired goal – to drive up standards.

Each classroom exudes an air of accomplishment and pride. God is glorified through the beauty of the displays and the inspiring presentation of students' work and achievement. The judges were impressed by the overall neatness and welcoming atmosphere of each classroom. Well done, one and all!

Already, we can't wait for the classroom competition in 2016!

WANDA REBOLLEDO



Messenger

Volume 120 • 07 – 10 April 2015

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

COPY FOR No. 09 – 16 April 2015

Copy should be sent to the Editor, MESSENGER, The Stanborough Press Limited, Alma Park, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG31 9SL. Tel: (01476) 591700.

Fax No: (01476) 577144.

Email: editor@stanboroughpress.org.uk

Send high-resolution pictures to:

dbell@stanboroughpress.org.uk

ABC Sales line: (01476) 591700

Mon-Thurs only, 8am – 5.30pm.

www.stanboroughpress.com

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

For general enquiries, email:

info@stanboroughpress.org.uk

Printed in the UK.

Visit the BUC website at: www.adventist.org.uk

ISSN 0309-3654

Sunset

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

	Lon	Card	Not	Edin	Belf
Apr 10	7.48	8.01	7.55	8.09	8.17
17	8.00	8.12	8.07	8.23	8.30
24	8.12	8.24	8.20	8.37	8.44
May 1	8.23	8.36	8.32	8.51	8.57

MESSENGER SUBSCRIPTIONS

Cost £25 per annum for 24 issues.*

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

Fund-raising Concert

In aid of Florence attending Tekoa Mission School

Free Entry

Saturday 25 April 2015

7-9pm

Northampton Central SDA Church
74 Highlands Avenue, Spinney Hill,
Northampton, NN3 6BQ

Food will be on sale

