

Messenger

News to the churches • 26 May 2017 • Volume 122 • 10



David Da Silva and Sonia Lee introduce our readers to the work of Connect2Serve, an Adventist charity, run by the local congregation in High Wycombe. It connects directly with individuals from the community who need help – offering services in gardening, DIY and cleaning, completely free of charge.

The Wycombe Community church and their local charity, called Connect2Serve, hosted an amazing special Mental Health Awareness Day event at Christ the Servant King Church, High Wycombe, on Sabbath, 4 March.

The local authority, along with different organisations such as the NHS, Bucks County Council, Thames Valley Police, Prevention Matters, Wycombe Homeless Connection, Smoking Cessation, Wycombe Minds, Live Well-Stay Well, Hope UK, Healthy Minds, and Khepera were also there to support the programme.

The discussions focused on dementia awareness, cyber bullying and female genital

mutilation (FGM). One of the highlights of the day was provided by an Adventist, Leroy King, who gave a talk on his experience of suffering with manic psychosis. Mental Health Awareness focused on how the local community can live a full life, even though many people may be suffering from different forms of mental illness.

The Wycombe Adventist Youth showed the children how to live a healthy lifestyle with interactive demonstrations, which had them enthralled.

Qualified medical doctors and nurses in the Connect2Serve team offered a variety of free health checks, answered questions on health and diet, and performed simple finger-prick



David da Silva, Connect2Serve organiser with Kate Sandison of Hope UK

cholesterol tests and BMI checks.

Many of the guests (visitors) were well looked after by the Connect2Serve Team, who also provided them with lunch and other refreshments – a wonderful way of showing the local community that the Church cares about them.

'I find it innovative for our churches to be able to do this on a Sabbath. This is exactly what I want our churches to do. I believe we spend a lot of time feeding ourselves inside the church, but we are not doing anything for the community. I believe that days like this will enable the community to appreciate us for who we are,' said Malika Bediako, SEC Community Services Director.

'We aim to continue with special programmes like this one, to reach out to the community and to help others who may benefit from listening to various talks given on the day and meeting different organisations,' said David Da Silva, Connect2Serve organiser.



Dr Alick Stephens (Connect2Serve) being interviewed

HOPE FM PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

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editorial

Vitriolage



Julian Hibbert
Editor

At approximately 6.45 on the morning of 4 April this year, a military aircraft made two passes over the Syrian town of Khan Sheikhoun, waking many residents in the process. During the first pass, witnesses saw it drop a bomb near the town's central bakery, where many were no doubt queuing for fresh bread.

The eyewitnesses 'heard no explosion but saw smoke and dust rising from the area, consistent with the relatively small explosive charge in a chemical bomb.' According to Human Rights Watch, 92 people, including 30 children, died 'due to chemical exposure from this attack', probably due to contact with sarin gas which liquefies at room temperature. Hundreds more were injured.¹

The civilised world stood aghast. Blame, denial and various investigations have followed. Even tough talk about prosecuting those responsible for this crime against humanity. But don't hold your breath!

It's all about breathing

Sarin is highly toxic and regarded to be 20 times as lethal as cyanide. The chemical has a complex effect on the nervous system, which in simple clinical terms amounts to this: 'The heart and other muscles – including those involved in breathing – [go into] spasm. Sufficient exposure can lead to death via asphyxiation within minutes.'² In reality, however, the use of sarin against human beings is nothing but brutal, barbaric, inhuman.

Another cruel chemical

There is another family of cruel chemicals that is increasingly being used in attacks against people – acids. These substances are relatively easy to obtain, very easy to use and more common as weapons of assault than most of us imagine. According to the UK's official figures for last year there were 'more than 700 assaults involving corrosive substances', three times more than four years ago!³

Worldwide the prevalence of acid attacks indicates that around 80% of the victims are

women, while in the UK 'six in ten of all victims were male'. Why? The comment of a former gang member seems to provide one answer: 'Young gang members are more ruthless than they used to be. It's now become part of the natural thought process to use acid; it's on the roster.'⁴

Besides its availability and the ease with which it may be concealed and dispersed, there is another chilling reason why acids and other corrosive substances are becoming weapons of choice among gang members and those involved in domestic violence. According to Kwambe Ibegbuna, a social worker in Manchester: 'I've had people tell me they wanted to leave a mark, others say they were attacked because they rejected people's sexual advances. The stories vary greatly but the most consistent feature is to ensure the victim is traumatised greatly by the experience and that power has been exerted.'⁵

Maiming, shaming and dominating

Effectively, acid assaults are all about maiming, shaming and dominating, and if you are in any doubt about their long-term effectiveness, this should convince you:

'Today, after multiple surgeries (she has lost count of how many operations she has had), her grafted skin is shiny and uneven in colour, in places crinkled like crepe paper. One eye, in which she is permanently blind, is frozen open. Just the corner of her face around the right eye has been left untouched . . . "I couldn't look at myself, let alone let others look at me," she says. "I didn't see my own face in the mirror for a long time. I thought that no-one would ever talk to me again."⁶

Why?

Why am I telling you this? For the simple reason that the terms 'acid attack' or 'acid throwing', are also known as 'a vitriol attack or vitriolage'.⁷ This arose because 'back in the day, vitriol was the name for sulfuric acid, which burns through just about anything.' Which is where we get the term **vitriol** from: '**abusive or venomous language used to express blame or censure or bitter deep-seated ill will.**'⁸

Not all 'vitriol attacks', however, involve corrosive substances – some use words! Not all deeds of 'vitriolage' blind eyes . . . or emulsify skin and cartilage – some etch their cruel message into the fibres of mind and emotion! Those intimate, invisible places far beyond the reach of scalpels or reconstructive skin grafts.

Why am I telling you this? Simply because some of us are walking wounded, the victims of destructive vitriol! While others among us are perpetrators of the harshest vitriolage! Who are you?

If you are a **perpetrator** Christ's example commands you to desist immediately – **to stop the flow** of 'abusive or venomous language' you may be using to 'express blame or censure or bitter deep-seated ill will', wherever it may be – at work, home or church. If you think it can't be done, take another look at Luke 23:39-41 (MSG):

'One of the criminals hanging alongside cursed him: "Some Messiah you are! Save yourself! Save us!"

'But the other one made him shut up: "Have you no fear of God? You're getting the same as him. We deserve this, but not him – he did nothing to deserve this."⁹

What a change! Under the influence of God's grace his vitriol ceases, **immediately!**

If, on the other hand, you are a **victim of vitriol**, Christ's deep healing power can transform your scarred and disfigured inner self, just as it has with so many others who have endured such abuse. This is your verse:

'The LORD is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.' (Psalm 34:18, NIV-UK.) Or, as *The Message* puts it: 'If your heart is broken, you'll find God right there; if you're kicked in the gut, he'll help you catch your breath.'

¹<https://www.hrw.org/report/2017/05/01/death-chemicals/syrian-governments-widespread-and-systematic-use-chemical-weapons> ²<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-39500947> ³*The Sunday Times*, May 7, 2017, page 7 ⁴<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/sep/30/acid-attack-hospital-admissions-have-almost-doubled-in-last-10-years> ⁵<http://www.newstatesman.com/samira-shackle/2013/04/acid-attacks-i-couldnt-look-myself-let-alone-let-others-look-me> ⁶https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acid_throwing ⁷<https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/vitriol>



Enhancing Health

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

Healthy minds – part 2

Social connections

Take a moment to reflect on your family members and friends, then list those you can turn to for emotional support when required. This is important, as research demonstrates the positive impact social connectedness has on our emotional and mental wellbeing.

Mental Health Foundation's Chief Executive, Jenny Edwards, states: 'The people around us in our lives are crucial for our mental health. People with strong connections live happier, healthier and longer lives than those without. That's why we all need a healthy network of friends and family who we are comfortable to confide in when we need to.'¹

Challenging our tendencies to shy away from expressing our emotions, she concludes: 'Next time someone asks "How are you?", try going off the standard script and say the truth instead of "I'm fine" and see how a more meaningful conversation unfolds.'

The Mental Health Foundation's 'I'm Fine' 2016 campaign was launched to address the stigma associated with mental health and to encourage Brits to open up about their mental wellbeing.

This year, Mental Health Awareness Week's (March 8-14) caption posed the question: 'Surviving or Thriving'? According to Mark Roland, Director of Fundraising and Communications, who led the campaign, 'if we are going to develop a mentally healthy society,

giving people the tools to thrive mentally is also fundamental. It is so important because none of us can escape life's pain or disappointment. Resilience is a universal skill we all need to help each other learn to successfully navigate life'.²

Among the many initiatives of this year's Mental Health Awareness was the Green Ribbon Campaign – an appeal by the Lord Mayor of London to address the stigma of mental health in the workplace. He reported that 'half of absences in non-manual work can be put down to stress. Mental health difficulties can affect any of us at any time, employers and employees. . . . Let us therefore stand together, and show our support for ending mental health stigma in the work place.'³

Participants were asked to wear a green ribbon as an act of solidarity and 70,000 ribbons were made available to more than 110 organisations.

If you or someone you know is struggling with their mental health, numerous referral agencies and services are available to assist. These range from emergency help to advice, counselling, or support services. A range of these can be found at the following website: <https://www.mqmentalhealth.org/articles/urgent-help-and-advice>.

Good health!

reform-a-nation



Beyond the Church

by Pastor Ian Sweeney
(British Union Conference President)

Many of us are familiar with the prophetic call that God gave to Jeremiah when He informed him: 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.' (Jeremiah 1:5, NIV.)

While I have read this passage many times and preached from it, what I failed to see – although it was staring me in the face – was that God called Jeremiah to be a prophet *beyond* the people and borders of Judah. He was called to be 'a prophet to the nations'.

Although Jeremiah was sent primarily to the people of Israel, he was also appointed to deliver the message of God to those nations who did not acknowledge Yahweh's authority over them. John Calvin commented on it as follows: 'Though he was given as a Prophet especially to his own people, yet his authority extended to heathen nations.' (*Calvin's Complete Commentary on the Bible.*)

To a greater or lesser extent, all the Old Testament prophets, like Jeremiah, engaged in a ministry that extended beyond the borders of Israel. Some prophets even had messages that focused more specifically on nations other than Israel – such as Obadiah, who had a message for the nation of Edom (Obadiah 1:1), and Jonah (Jonah 1:2) and Nahum (Nahum 1:1), who both ministered to Nineveh (Assyria).

God sending prophetic messengers to nations that did not believe in Him should not be a surprise to us, since we acknowledge that He is the only true God, the Lord of all mankind, even of those who do not recognise His authority.

So why is this important to us?

Jeremiah's prophetic ministry was for the purpose of reforming both the people of Judah and the surrounding nations. As Seventh-

day Adventists we believe that the gift of prophecy continues in and for the reformation of the church today, but our prophetic ministry actually extends beyond the walls of the church to the communities around us and the ills that they face.

Jeremiah was called by God to initiate reforms within the practice of slavery in his day (Jer. 34:8-11). One of our church's pioneers, Ellen Gould White, commented in 1861 that her nation, the United States of America, was suffering because of its support of slavery. Writing some four years before the passing of the 13th Amendment which legislated against slavery, she made this telling comment at the infancy of the American Civil war: 'God is punishing this nation for the high crime of slavery. He has the destiny of the nation in His hands. He will punish the South for the sin of slavery, and the North for so long suffering its overreaching and overbearing influence. . . . (1 *Testimonies*, p. 264, para. 2.)

Further to this, Ellen White called upon Adventists to disobey slave-related laws:

'The law of our land requiring us to deliver a slave to his master, we are not to obey; and we must abide the consequences of violating this law.' (1 *Testimonies*, p. 201, para. 2.)

Ellen White also possessed a strong social conscience regarding the issue of poverty.

'From what has been shown me, Sabbath-keepers are growing more selfish as they increase in riches. Their love for Christ and His people is decreasing. They do not see the wants of the needy, nor feel their sufferings and sorrows. They do not realise that in neglecting the poor and the suffering they neglect Christ, and that in relieving the wants and sufferings of the poor as far as possible, they minister to Jesus.' (2 *Testimonies*, p. 24, para. 1.)

Integral to being a Seventh-day Adventist is the sharing of the Three Angels' Messages of Revelation 14. In this commission, we are to call to account ruling authorities, whether religious or political.

The implications of this are profound.

Like Jeremiah, we may be frightened by the prospect of engaging in reforming our communities, but it is to this that we are called. We are to seek to change our communities for the good of Christ and in the spirit of Christ.

Reforming our nation, one neighbourhood at a time, is a

daunting undertaking. However, when, as a Church, we are open to God's guidance and direction, He will reveal to us how best to accomplish this ministry. When calling Jeremiah, God said He would place His words in the prophet's mouth (Jer. 1:7, 9). Like Jeremiah, we must have a keen ability to hear God's voice. There are many congregations in the British Isles who, in listening to Christ, are reforming their communities by meeting their spiritual and social needs through engagement with young people; running health awareness programmes; giving shelter to the homeless; feeding the hungry; visiting the lonely; and many more.

On the eve of the general election in the United Kingdom, no party or leader is openly promoting a Christian stand. However, as Kenneth Kaunda (former President of Zambia) declared, 'What a nation needs more than anything else is not a Christian ruler in the palace, but a Christian prophet in earshot.'

Now is the time for us to be seen and heard in the reforming of our nation.

Reform-A-Nation

FRIDAY 11 AUGUST 2017
19:30 - 20:30 | Thanksgiving Service
Venue: Stanborough Park Seventh-day Adventist Church, Watford, WD25 9JL

SATURDAY 12 AUGUST 2017
11:00 - 12:30 | Worship Service (Lunch Provided)
15:00 - 17:00 | Theological Conference
19:00 - 21:00 | Hymns of Faith
Venue: Marquee Stanborough Park, Watford, WD25 9JZ

SUNDAY 13 AUGUST 2017
12:00 - 19:00 The Enlightenment Festival featuring stalls, displays, health checks, sports day, an outdoor gospel concert, BUC office tours.
Venue: Stanborough Park, Watford, WD25 9JZ

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secretariat



respective constitution documents.

However, occasionally I am a little concerned at the way that our meetings are conducted. Once in a while I hear reports of a particular meeting where church members seem to be confusing 'governance' with 'government'. Perhaps inspired by the rough and tumble of an election campaign, or the combative exchanges in the House of Commons where Parliamentary Privilege allows things to be said which may have been better left unsaid, sometimes our church meetings can become, shall we say, 'heated'.

Much of this is just human nature, of course, but could it be that some members actually aspire to this kind of behaviour? Is it possible that media coverage of this very specific expression of

democracy makes some

of us think that it is what we should be doing in our churches?

Jesus' words in Matthew 20:26, 'But it shall not be so among you', are a reminder that we should be different. Anger and raised voices should have no place in church governance.

As I get more involved with other charities and related professional organisations, I'm discovering that most of their governance meetings are conducted with dignity and respect for the views of others. Even in secular organisations people have realised that this is the most effective way to get things done. Given the head start that we have had as Christians, surely no less should be expected of us.

Government vs Governance



by Pastor John Surridge,
British Union Conference Executive Secretary

I have to confess that it took me quite a while to realise the difference between these two very similar words. In short, and as you probably know already, 'government' is a group of people who have the authority to govern, whereas 'governance' is the process of governing.

'Government' is usually used in the context of a country or a state. It's a word we hear on the news every day and, depending on the particular country we live in, it creates a certain picture in our minds. For me, when I hear the word 'government' I think of the Palace of Westminster, the current meeting place for our Houses of Parliament.

There are also particular sounds that I associate with 'government'. The familiar chime of the Westminster Quarters, played on the four smaller bells of the Clock Tower, followed by the hours struck on the Great Bell, popularly known as Big Ben. The Speaker of the House calling 'order, order' in an attempt to quieten an unruly debate. The political commentators on television, excitedly trying to keep us up to date with the latest General Election results.

But 'governance' is a much bigger thing than 'government'. Our country is run by an army of governors, only some of whom are directly connected with 'government', or what we call the public sector. In fact, the majority of these governors work in the private and the voluntary sectors.

In the United Kingdom the Seventh-day Adventist Church is registered as a charity and we are firmly located in the voluntary sector. Charities like ours are very important to the running of our country, and the Government has recognised this by registering over 160,000 charities through its Charity Commission. Each one of these charities is run by a board of directors, governors, or trustees, according to rules set out in a governing document.

We run our charity, our Church, through well-established systems of governance that include: Church Board and Business Meetings, Area Advisory Committees, Executive Committees, and Mission, Conference or Union Sessions. We follow rules in the Church Manual and in our

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Religious Liberty and the 'Temper of the Times'

Close to 200 people gathered at the Advent Centre on 5 March from as far as Portsmouth, Rugby, Luton, Harlow and Watford to hear what Dr B. Kavaloh had to say regarding HM's proposed Counter Extremism and Safeguarding Strategy – the focus being on the 'Out-of-School-Setting' section of the Strategy. Dr Kavaloh reminded us that 'from the tribe of Issachar there were 200 leaders of the tribe with their relatives – all men who understood the temper of the times and knew the best course for Israel to take' (1 Chronicles 12:32, TLB). We, too, should understand the times we are living in and wake up, not only to the challenges which lie before us, but also to the opportunities.

We were told that the Government wants to protect children from extremism, and were reminded that the Government's definition of extremism is 'the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We also regard calls for the death of members of our armed forces as extremist.'

The Counter-Extremism Strategy says that out-of-school institutions teaching children would have to register so that they can be inspected. Ofsted will be given legal power to investigate any setting in England that provides instruction to children for more than six to eight hours in any week. How will our churches be affected? We will be caught because our children attend multiple events in one week. For example, a particular child could attend Sabbath School, Midday Service, AYS, a baptism, Pathfinders, choir practice and youth groups. These will be added together (aggregated) to calculate the total time a child spends under instruction by the church. One-off events such as Vacation Bible Schools would also be counted. A child may exceed six hours'

Counter-Extremism Strategy



attendance every week, or just for some weeks of the year. Registration is triggered in both cases. This results in all activities, including the Sabbath School, being potentially subject to inspection.

Sanctions can be imposed if there is an 'undermining of fundamental British values' and the failure to 'safeguard and promote the welfare of the child'. Sanctions can include barring individuals from working with children, and the closure of premises. The Government uses the Equalities Act 2010 to show which groups are protected by law, which connects with how they think fundamental British values should be addressed.

We were also told that Dame Louise Casey, who was commissioned to look at community integration, published a report on 5 December 2016, which recommended that 'all children outside mainstream education should be required to register with local authorities . . . to be clear that divisive practices are not acceptable in any setting', and that 'Ofsted

and the Charity Commission should be resourced to support additional central and local government action to ensure the safeguarding of all children in mainstream and supplementary educational environments'. These recommendations, if they become law, will cover children who are homeschooled. Dr Kavaloh was clear in letting us know that fundamental Biblical values may one day clash with fundamental British values. Should the Church do nothing? Dr Kavaloh shared a powerful quotation from *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 5, pp. 713, 714 in this regard: 'Let none sit in calm expectation of the evil, comforting themselves with the belief that this work must go on because prophecy has foretold it, and that the Lord will shelter His people. We are not doing the will of God if we sit in quietude, doing nothing to preserve liberty of conscience.' At the question-and-answer session delegates voiced their concerns, and suggested it was time for our Conference to take a serious look at the implications of the proposed HM Counter Extremism and Safeguarding Strategy, and the effect it will have on our Church, and, if necessary, to actively challenge the Strategy before it becomes law.

SONIA MUNROE (AN ELDER AT TOTTENHAM CHURCH)

Can you help?

Does anyone have available to sell, or know where I can get, the long-playing vinyl record entitled 'Martuoumen', made by a group of students at Newbold College back in the 1970s? 'Martuoumen' was the name of either the record or the group. Please contact William Johnston on 07944516936.

music

Evangelism and music – part 2

by Kendol Bacchus*

As I demonstrated in the first of these two articles, the challenges of evangelism in the urban cosmopolitan settings of today test our conventional methods of sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In short, we have confused the rates of baptisms with the idea of true success, as described and demonstrated by Christ's method of reaching people.

Our music teams must engage in methods of evangelism that reflect the one modeled by Jesus Christ. Failure to do so has served to propagate a comfortable, mundane and false Adventism. After all, Christ's second coming is imminent, and this fact is what this movement is about. Christ's method is the only one that will yield true success.

Church politics conducted in an atmosphere of skepticism towards outreach has shut down the enthusiasm of many members – including musicians – towards witnessing, thereby compromising their spiritual health.

There can be no partial engagement in Christ's great commission to preach and teach the Gospel to the world. This is also true for all Christian musicians, singers, and sound and video engineers. God wants us all involved in outreach, but it must be done His way, not ours. 'Those who in their work for God depend on worldly plans for gaining success will make a failure. The Lord calls for change in your manner of labour. He desires you to practise the lessons taught in the life of Christ. Then the mould of Christ will be seen on all the meetings that you hold.' (Letter 48, 1902, in *Evangelism*, p. 148.)

Musicians, singers and sound and video engineers need to develop a dependency on Christ. The world expects us to measure success against its yardstick for entertainment. We cannot do this, however, because we seek very different outcomes for our Adventist worship and

evangelism. 'Our success will depend on carrying forward the work in the simplicity in which Christ carried it forward, without any theatrical display.' (Letter 53, 1904, in *Evangelism*, p. 139.) God requires us to *worship* Him, but it is easy for us to mistakenly and sincerely try to *entertain* Him instead! 'Human strength is weakness, human wisdom is folly. Our success does not depend on our talents or learning, but on our living connection with God.' (*Testimonies for the Church*, Volume 5 (1889), p. 138.)

Furthermore, when we study Christ's work and methods, we soon notice His constant reliance on His Father. It is crucial to the development of our reliance and dependency on Christ in our day that we engage in His five-step method of reaching people, in which he 'mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, won their confidence, then bade them, "Follow Me." ' (*Gospel Workers*, p. 363.) When we approach our worship services and outreach events with this kind of intentionality, good things will happen. We will see greater value in teamwork and become more concerned about the overall spiritual witness of our services, all the while paying close attention to detail.

Through dependency on Christ and engagement in His method, we approach planning a worship service and preparing music as a team, with His ears and His glory in His sanctuary. This makes us more clearly in mind of our music choices; our financial investments in equipment and instrumentation; how we facilitate the singing of our fellow-worshippers; and the appropriate usage of the musical language.

We see more clearly when to be quiet; when to compliment; how to balance melody, harmony and rhythm; as well as finding it a joy to fellowship and connect with our fellow worshippers and



*Kendol Bacchus MS, Dip ABRSM, has served as an evangelism and music facilitator in the BUC and has more than 12 years of mission experience in Korea.

Kendol Bacchus has just released a CD entitled *'Altar Call'* – a collection of timeless tunes presented as the backdrop to our loving Father's search for mankind. For more information contact him at: kendolb@hotmail.com.

each other in relationships that reflect this methodology. We do not show up – barely on time – to play and deliver our roles, disconnected from each other and the overall intentions of the service. Our teamwork connections start way ahead for thematic preparation, working with the presiding worship leaders and preachers. Most importantly, we use our roles as artists to mingle and form relationships in a lifestyle of evangelism that brings people off the streets, into the services

where we will engineer, play and sing.

We understand the appeal of artistry and use it to initiate the mingling process, knowing, however, that ministry is the overriding intent and calling of our spiritual gifts and talents. Could this approach, based on Christ's method, make a sustainable difference, reigniting within us the fervour of the early Advent movement, and propelling our members to deliver successful missionary outreach to urban Europe's own 10/40 window?

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Advent Centre Youth Day

The spirit of faithful youthfulness filled the main auditorium of the Advent Centre on Youth Day, 25 February. Songs of praise, a deeply meaningful sketch on 'Giving your all to Jesus', and sermonettes delighted both the young and the young at heart (with just a bit more mileage on their clocks!).

Speaker James Lammy's sermon, 'Are you missing Jesus?' stressed the importance of delving much deeper into the Bible to rediscover its many prophecies and insights that will strengthen our faith.

Once the worship service was over, members and visitors tucked into a hearty lunch prepared by the hospitality team, after which Pastor Lammy spoke on 'Daniel and the Revelation'. During this presentation he took the congregation through biblical history; mapping out ancient lands and highlighting themes and characters in the book of Daniel. He also focused on the interpretation of King Nebuchadnezzar's dream and its meaning in our modern world.

Our taste buds now have an appetite for more spiritual food, and Central London Church is eagerly awaiting Pastor Lammy's next visit, when he will explain the Book of Revelation.

VESNA JENDRUH



Birmingham is Buzzing with HOPE

Birmingham is Buzzing over the Hope FM 87.7 radio broadcasts. Hope FM Birmingham is the second broadcast associated with the North England Conference Mission to the Cities project; the first was in May 2014. Hope FM Birmingham was launched on Sunday 16 April, after an intensive eight-week training programme for more than fifty members, which included time on the broadcast desk itself. We have been hiring a very modest studio at a more than modest price, but it is hoped that God will soon provide enough money to purchase a reasonable broadcast-quality presenter desk, computers and the other necessary equipment to continue this quality broadcast. Since 16 April, more than 28,000 have connected to Hope FM online, and countless thousands are listening on their radios across Birmingham.

Following the success of Hope FM Manchester, which in 2014 reached approximately 4,000 people from 22 countries, the minimum vision for Birmingham was to reach 10,000 people across 44 countries over four weeks. However, Pastor Mike Simpson's desire is to reach as many as possible of the more than 24 million people living in the North England Conference. By the end of the first week, Hope FM had reached more than 11,000 people from 23 countries and by the third week listeners from 44 countries had tuned in to this new radio station – 13,588 of them from the UK. On 11 May, figures indicated a reach of 28,002 globally, in 45 countries, with a UK reach of 27,126.

This was made possible with the dedicated assistance of our own NEC radio guru, Nigel Buxton, who himself runs an internet radio. The success is also a result of sheer teamwork – by our prayer team, presenters, editors, production managers, desk drivers, technicians, admin support staff, the hospitality team, and the visible presence of the North England Conference officers.

We have a greater vision than just Birmingham and Manchester for Hope FM, but we need financial help to fulfil this vision. We see Hope FM as a legacy of the NEC MTTC project. The entire North England Conference needs to buzz with Hope FM.

PASTOR MIKE SIMPSON

*Go to <http://www.hopefm.org.uk> for a free mobile app for android. The Osi app is being beta tested and you can also get it on Tunein (Hope FM UK). For more information, visit us at: <https://www.facebook.com/RadioHopeFM/>.

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Baptism at Weston-super-Mare

On 25 February family, members and friends at Weston-super-Mare Church witnessed the baptism of one of Weston's young people, fifteen-year-old James Boyd. He is a fourth-generation Seventh-day Adventist who, after having Bible studies over many months with his grandfather, Pastor Islwyn Rees, and parents, Martin and Vivienne Boyd, eagerly requested baptism.

James was baptised by his grandfather, who recalled that 15 years earlier, while the minister at Weston, he had baptised James's father in the same baptistry. During the service the young people sang 'Wholly Yours', accompanied by James on the keyboard, and his brother, Alastair, on the guitar.

James was delighted to have Pastor Wayne Erasmus, who had been James's minister at Weston for the previous eight-and-a-half years, lead out in the singing of some of James's favourite hymns. James was warmly welcomed into Weston Church fellowship by church elder, Leonard Sitton, and into the fellowship of the South England Conference by Pastor Jonathan Barrett.

The day also gave opportunity for the congregation to say 'farewell' to Pastors Jonathan and Mary Barrett, who have moved to their new church district in the South England Conference after ministering for five months at Weston.

COMMUNICATIONS SECRETARY



Dagenham and Chingford community churches celebrate

Sabbath 25 March was a high day for Dagenham and Chingford community churches, because of the baptism of two new members. Having made the decision to surrender their lives to the Lord Jesus Christ, Icolyn Stewart and Temiloluwa Omojola both received Bible studies that culminated in their baptism by Pastor Hezron Otieno Adingo at Ilford Lane Church. Every aspect of the baptismal programme was punctuated by Spirit-filled singing. There were also heart-warming speeches from the members of both churches, who promised to support and nurture Icolyne and Temi as they become part of the Adventist family. We pray for and wish each one of them God's blessings in their new experience.

PASTOR HEZRON O. ADINGO

News from Ringway Life

'Winter Blues' was the subject of an evening programme at Ringway Life Building. The course was led by Marieangels Ferrer (who holds a Master's degree in Psychology), and was attended by nearly 30 people, nine of whom were visitors.

As part of the evening's activities, the group was encouraged to discuss (in small groups) the possibility that past negative experiences in winter may be the cause of negative thoughts later on in life.

This exercise was surprisingly revealing and very helpful for those who experience winter blues.

Everyone then reported their new, positive feelings, particularly church members who had been made to feel guilty for feeling 'down'!

Ringway Life Building is a multifunctional facility, able to meet a variety of worship and outreach needs. Nothing illustrated this more than when the church was recently transformed into a high-class restaurant for its Supper Club.

To achieve this they took one person's drive, vision and passion for catering and witnessing; added several other cooks; mixed in the artistic and technical skills of other members; and stirred this all in with a generous mix of inviters and invitees, meeters and greeters, smilers, chatters, hand shakers, plate collectors and dishwashers.

The outcome was a sumptuous, stunning vegetarian 3-course meal to enjoy while being serenaded by a quite superb guest guitarist and keyboard player.

They had 33 attendees, of which 11 were



visitors, and they are already looking forward to the next Supper Club event.

Every member played their part and the teamwork produced a tremendous atmosphere – so much so that one lady came to church the next Sabbath! The guitarist ended up texting this the following day:

'Playing for lovely, appreciative, warm people is special; I will definitely be keen to keep in touch and play again.'

Ringway Life congregation certainly know how to get the most from their facilities . . . and make friends in the process.

PHILIP EMM





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No. of nights <input type="checkbox"/>	Total persons <input type="checkbox"/>	Total no. apartments/rooms <input type="checkbox"/>		Classic: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		Classic: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		Classic: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>				
Number of people between the following ages (age at date of holiday)								Self Catering:		Budget: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
Total	60+	45-59	26-44	18-25	12-17	8-11	5-7	2-4	Under 2	X	Budget: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
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Watford Town 'Homecoming'

On Sabbath 4 March, the Watford Town church was a hive of activity as members, both current and former, were warmly welcomed to the 2017 Homecoming Day.

Sabbath School started with a song service led by the youth praise team; the lesson review was conducted by local leader, Richard Henry; while Sabbath School superintendent, Ann Holness, delivered a special presentation about the Church as the bride of Christ.

Our visiting friends, the Filipino International Chorale and Everol Dixon of the Croydon church, provided uplifting music for the morning services.

Everol preceded the sermon with a Wintley Phipps-like rendition of 'Forever Yours'. During his sermon, 'Always and Forever, Mine', Pastor



Tottenham ordination

On Sabbath 18 February at the Tottenham church, Pastor Simon Martin (SEC Church Growth Director) and the resident pastor, Dr Jude Jeanville, ordained two elders, Kenroy Malcolm and Winston Rodgers, and two deacons, David Knight and Radcliffe Reid.

The charge and exhortation were presented by Dr Jeanville when he advised the four men of their duties. Pastor Martin led out in the laying on of hands and the prayer of consecration, before preaching his powerful sermon: 'His Last Command – Our First Priority'.

DOREEN I. FRAY (COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT)

Area 6D: lay Bible workers' training

I really enjoyed spending time with the Area 6D lay Bible workers at the Willsden church on Sunday, 12 March, while running a Disability Ministry training seminar. It was wonderful to share the blessings of ministry to people with disabilities and special needs, and to see the delegates understand that the message of salvation is for all, not just for those without a disability.

The opportunity to investigate the Bible messages on the subject of disability created a wonderful buzz throughout the room as the lay Bible workers used their Bibles to establish the principles of ministry to all, not just to those without a disability. Thoughts and ideas flowed as we highlighted the differences in disability that they might encounter in their ministry. Creative suggestions and examples gave insight into the depth and breadth of the mission, and it was a blessing to see the new confidence that the lay Bible workers had after the session. We continue to pray for this new initiative in Area 6D, organised and co-ordinated by Pastor Michael Hamilton.

SOPHIA NICHOLLS (SEC DISABILITY AND DIVERSITY DIRECTOR)

Brighton Kavaloh provided a refreshingly enlightening sermon on the prodigal son, illustrating God's amazing, unconditional love for us all.

A delicious lunch was provided for members and visitors alike, who enjoyed sweet fellowship until the afternoon programme, during which we explored the historical significance of songs we sing in church. We enjoyed singing well-known songs and listening to specials provided by our friends from the local Romanian church and our very own pastor, Andrei Balan, and his family.

This Homecoming Day was truly memorable and a blessing to all.

WATFORD TOWN COMMUNICATIONS



Crieff's 'Smartie box' appeal

Crieff Church has a long history of helping those in need, either at home or abroad. Local and international projects are supported by various people and groups within Crieff Church as we seek to be a community of faith, helping others. As part of their Sabbath School programme in late 2016, the Crieff Junior Sabbath School children decided that they also wanted to make a difference.

The group of six children, aged nine to twelve, as well as their leader, Angela Logan, settled on raising money to help two young people from India with their school fees. Four members of Crieff Church have sponsored children in India through Adventist Child India (www.adventistchildindia.org) for a number of years, so it is a well-known cause in Crieff Church.

The Juniors thought about the best way in which they could raise enough money to pay for school fees for one year, and they settled on Smartie tubes! Each child was given a full Smartie tube, and after having eaten the contents, was encouraged to fill it up with loose change. Over the course of three months the Juniors raised £70, which was an amazing effort.

In November, the Juniors decided it was time to get the whole church involved! They made a short presentation to the church, explaining what they had achieved so far, and asking the church to become involved. Crieff Church rose to the challenge! Forty Smartie tubes were handed out, with the promise that if anyone wanted more tubes, Angela always had some in her Sabbath bag! Full Smartie tubes were returned over the following weeks, and the Juniors gave the church regular updates on progress.

Donations were still coming in during January 2017, and a final total was given in February. Crieff Church raised £660 in total (which included the £70 raised by the Juniors). This fantastic effort has ensured that the yearly school fees for the two current students, Benitta and Boopesh, have been paid in full.

Crieff Juniors want to continue to help others, and are so thankful to everyone at Crieff Church for helping them achieve their aim to make a difference.

ANGELA LOGAN



Photo quality as supplied

London Asian International Day

Earlier this year the London Asian church held its 2017 International Day, which resulted in a flood of members clad in a variety of different clothing: beautiful embroidered saris, flowing *kurtas* (shirts) – all in a kaleidoscope of beautiful colours.

Sabbath School classes were suspended for the day, and the members took the opportunity to speak about the Adventist faith in the countries they represented: Mauritius, Australia, Great Britain, Sri Lanka, Spain and the Philippines, among others. A video accompanied each presentation, showing the beautiful landscapes of the various nations, while the presenters talked about the populations, gave fun facts and, most importantly, shared information on the growth of the Adventist faith in their chosen country.

These presentations were a sharp reminder about how much more is still left to be done, and left many wondering whether enough work was being done to really 'spread the Gospel to all nations'.

This message was really brought home with Pastor Cecil Perry's sermon, in which he spoke of internationality, not just within the world today, but in our heavenly home. His sermon made it clear that the work done on earth is not futile, but adds to the coming together of all nations and races, as they will when we all go to heaven.

The day ended with a tasty Asian lunch, but remained a reminder that it is our individual duty to help reach the many nations, races and personalities that make up our world – everyone, everywhere.

SAMUEL MUSHTAQ (COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY LEADER)



NEC Camp Meeting transport
Coach transport will be available to take you to the NEC Camp Meeting from the Midlands, Northampton and the surrounding area. For details, please call Brother Hubert Smiley on 07868288310 or 01384213803. Alternatively, email hubert.smiley18@gmail.com or call 07926553722.



NEC campus chaplains' first meeting

On 31 March another important step in the progress for campus ministries took place in the NEC. Adventist Students on Campus (ASC) Presidents, NEC ASC advisory members and pastors from churches that have ASC's in their district convened at the NEC office for a meeting to discuss the journey so far and the way forward.

Ministry on public university campuses is best conducted when there is a three-way partnership between the local society on campus, the local church and the conference. The conference is able to network the various societies and provide regional cohesion as well as training and resourcing; the society is the 'hands and feet', the visible presence on campus, but their connection with the local church is also vital. It was thus important to have all the pastors present.

During the morning together the history of campus ministry in the NEC was presented, as well as the current structure. Students were present, who were able to talk about the challenges that they face. We were also afforded the time to explore opportunities together and build relationships among the team members. All the pastors present were given new pins that denote their role as a campus chaplain for the ASC society that is in their district.

As we move forward we hope and pray that the students in the NEC will get the support that they need from the church family, the pastors and the Conference. Please continue to keep them in your prayers during these important years of their lives. Adventist Students on Campus can be followed on Facebook: [@adventiststudentsoncampus](https://www.facebook.com/adventiststudentsoncampus/); and Twitter: [@adventistsc](https://twitter.com/adventistsc).

PASTOR ADAM RAMDIN

Vacancy at Stanborough School Biology Teacher/Assistant Head Teacher

Experienced Biology teacher required for September 2017, to teach Biology at Key Stages 3 and 4. Applicants should have a bachelor's degree in Biology and an appropriate teaching qualification. Teaching experience within the UK is preferable. The successful applicant will be required to take up the Assistant Head Teacher role as well. The salary range is up to £35,000.

Stanborough School is a co-educational independent school with students from ages 11 to 18. For more information about the vacancy and Stanborough School, please visit our website at: www.spsch.org.

Applicants should send their CV and letter of application by 26 May to Mrs M. Mumbo, Personal Assistant to the Head Teacher, at: mmumbo@spsch.org.





Witness at International Women's Day event

Bristol Women's Voice (a local charity overseeing women's health and wellbeing) celebrated another successful annual International Women's Day event at the M Shed Museum in Bristol, on Saturday 4 March. Well over a thousand women, as well as men and children, attended throughout the day. The day featured many activities, including a number of talks and presentations from groups and invited guests.



Photo quality as supplied

Diabetes presentation

On Tuesday 28 February, Health and Community Ministries leader, Mary Philip, supported by local pastor, Royston Smith, presented a diabetes workshop for refugee women at a community centre in St Paul's, Bristol. In attendance were women from Sudan, China, and Somalia, some of whom could not speak or understand English and needed an interpreter.

The workshop began with a welcome session from Mary and Pastor Smith, both trying their best to greet the attendees in their native languages, with varying degrees of success. The presentation covered topics such as: what is diabetes? who is at risk? how can we prevent diabetes? and, what are some of the signs and symptoms?

The women were very attentive throughout and participated by asking a lot of questions. They were particularly interested in the demonstration of a diabetic kit, which revealed the amount of salt, fat and sugar there are in some foods.

It proved to be a valuable opportunity to introduce the Church and its health message to the local community, as well as providing practical advice on the health benefits of some foods, and tips, like substituting certain foods, such as butter, with avocado.

Department leader Mary Philip explained that 'by working with and building up links with health providers, councils, and local community groups, the church is seeking to make itself relevant and responsive to the needs of the community. This then provides an opening for getting to know people, building relationships, and then inviting contacts to further events, with a more spiritual emphasis.'

The event was a success, and the church was asked to come back and speak about another health topic in the near future.

IAN SABADIN (COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER)

Bristol Central's Health Ministries Department was invited and played a very significant part in the day's celebrations. The team of seven women, led by Health and Community Ministries leader, Mary Philip, and her assistant, Rani Pawar, shared the health message in a practical way through a variety of demonstrations. Hundreds of people sampled the homemade hummus with cucumber/carrot strips and cracker dips, avocado-laced wraps with vegan strip filling and the flapjack fruit balls (which were a particular favourite). The freshly-made juice from local fruits, with combinations of apples, pineapples, ginger and lemon, were also popular and in high demand. The second juicing combination was made from carrots, beetroot, apples, ginger and lemon, and was just as popular as the first.

This was a real breakthrough for the Bristol Adventists, who have been trying to have a stall at this event for three years without success.

Florence Chibowa, a volunteer, remarked: 'I am not usually a confident speaker. The Holy Spirit gave me courage to welcome people to our stall and tell them what we believe as Adventists and about our health message. It was nice to chat to people and share the love of God. People were amazed at the wonderful food and drinks, all freshly made.'

The team gave away several goody bags containing *Focus* magazines, recipes, contact cards, and much more. Many visitors gave their contact details and wanted to get more information about our other activities. The event organisers were amazed at the amount of food and juice that was distributed, and thanked the team for the effort.

MARY PHILIP



BOOKSALES	May 28 Northampton Central	10am-2pm	
	June 11 Hyland House School Fayre 19-26 SEC Camp Meeting 26-July 2 NEC Camp Meeting	10am-2pm 10am-2pm 10am-2pm	
	July 30 Croydon	10am-2pm	

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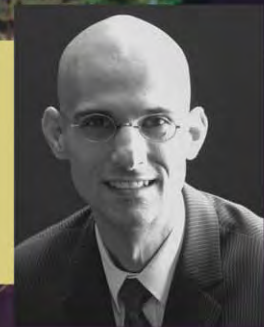
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Elder runs marathon for charity

Wrexham Church has a new star in the making. On Sunday morning, 19 February, a local elder, Kuda Mamvura, completed a half marathon after only a few weeks of training. He did this on behalf of Nightingale Hospice House, a local charity.

The whole church cheered him on and prayed for him, while he showed that running for a noble cause and keeping fit at the same time can be both fun and beneficial. Moreover, he has inspired many of us to come out of our comfort zones and do something challenging for Christ and such worthy causes.



Women's Day at Telford

Vibrant Women's Day at Telford Church

On 25 February the Telford Central church women showed what they could do during a special Women's Day programme, entitled 'Women Empowered to Serve'. The speaker for the day, Nuvee Medley, inspired everyone, especially the ladies, with her powerful message: 'It is time to spring clean our hearts'.

The women were dressed in purple, the colour of royalty and piety, as a reminder that they are princesses of the Most High God and King, and fully devoted to Him.

The afternoon programme was filled with fun and laughter as all the members split into teams to play Bible charades, acting out different scenes or characters from the Bible. The day was rounded off with a social, and a good time was had by all.



Shrewsbury members and friends

New sign for Shrewsbury

With a bright and gleaming refurbished sign on the front of the building, the way to Shrewsbury church has now been lit up, awaiting the arrival of new members to come and worship.

Health training at Wrexham

The church members started their preparation for an upcoming health weekend by holding a training day for every single member. From the youngest to the oldest, all got involved, and the excitement

obituaries



Doreen Jones (née McGoldrick) (1919-2017) d. 21 March. Doreen was born in Bradford on 26 February 1919 to Clarise (née Wilkinson) and

James (Jim) McGoldrick, a mounted policeman in Bradford. She was the sister of Frank, Eileen and Elizabeth (Betty).

Doreen considered herself a Seventh-day Adventist from the age of eight, when, in 1927, her mother joined the Church.

In the late 1930s the family moved to Gillingham in Kent where, with her brother, Frank, and sister, Eileen, Doreen was employed at Girling's Boot Repairers. It was there that she met Leslie Lockyer and they were married in 1940, soon after the start of the Second World War; but within months, Leslie was killed in a bombing raid and Doreen was badly injured.

In the early 1940s, while working as secretary to the principal of Newbold College [Newbold Revel], she met Mansel Jones, a young Welshman who had recently become a Seventh-day Adventist. He used to tell the story that he first saw Doreen through a window when he was working in the grounds of the college. After a whirlwind romance, they were married in 1942, and the witnesses at the ceremony were two complete strangers that Mansel had recruited off the street!

A year or so later they moved to Doreen's home county of Yorkshire, where Mansel worked on the land, settling in Halifax. It was there in 1944 that Maralyn was born, followed by Haydn in 1948.

Doreen and Mansel were a good team; working together they made a success of just about everything that they set out to do, often from unpromising beginnings.

After several years of living in rented accommodation they bought No 1, Gibraltar, a very run-down old property on the corner of Gibraltar Road and Parkinson Lane. It had broken windows and snow piling up in

the bedrooms! They had little money, but transformed the house into a lovely and welcoming family home: a place that many a pastor and church member would fondly remember for New Year parties, church business meetings and prayer meetings in front of a glowing coal fire.

Not far away from their home, Doreen helped Mansel establish a nursery garden: 'Mansel Nurseries'. She worked in the nursery and ran the shop, as well as looking after their two small children.

Anyone who knew Doreen and Mansel know they worked tirelessly for the church in Halifax. Doreen not only served as treasurer, but also played the piano and organ. They both loved music (after all, Mansel was Welsh!) and the ability to sing and play an instrument is a family tradition. It was special for the family at Doreen's funeral to have her nephew, John McGoldrick, playing her favourite hymns on the organ. Also a nice surprise at the funeral service was a very moving poem about 'auntie Doreen', written by John's daughter, Joanne McGoldrick.

Doreen was an excellent vegetarian cook and her homemade biscuits were the treat of West Yorkshire. Her cheese and onion pie was legendary at church pot luck lunches. (As one who knew Doreen for many years I can testify to those pies!)

In 1984 Doreen was blessed with a grandson, James, who married Laura. They blessed Doreen with three great-grandchildren: Alex, Theo and Barney.

In retirement and into their late eighties, Doreen and Mansel combined their love of music with helping people by providing musical entertainment for various groups, such as those in hospices.

Three years after Mansel's death, Doreen moved into a care facility. A year later she moved to Langlea House, where she found happiness again. It was there that she passed away peacefully on 21 March at the grand age of 98. Her funeral took place on 4 April at Parkwood Crematorium, Elland. The service was taken by Pastor Paul Haworth, who knew both Doreen and Mansel very well.

was wonderful to see.

The training day, on 11 February, was led by Lil Saunders, the Welsh Mission Health sponsor and her husband. They taught the members about the importance of following the New Start health principles for a healthier lifestyle. Part of the training taught them how to run a Health Expo with its health checks for blood pressure, BMI, blood sugar and cholesterol; and to practise and use the equipment under Lil's supervision.

Doreen was a kind and loving wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She was always a very generous person, putting the needs of other people before her own. Indeed, on her last Christmas at Langlea House, immediately after unwrapping her presents she tried to give them away to other people.

Doreen had the ability to touch the lives of everybody she met, and she will be sorely missed by not only her family and friends, but by those in the church she loved. However, the voice of her first love, Mansel, will now be the first that she will hear and his face will be the first that she will see after hearing her Saviour call on the great resurrection morning.

HAYDN JONES AND PASTOR PAUL HAWORTH



Christine Mary Wood (née Emmerson) (1935-2017) d. 22 March. Christine Mary Wood was born in Watford on 31 October 1935 into the

family of Pastor Leslie and Mrs Rose Emmerson. Growing up on Stanborough Park during the war years, she would carry her gas mask through the bluebell woods and the orchard to Stanborough Primary School, housed then in Sheepcote Villas.

Christine attended Watford Grammar School for Girls, where she particularly enjoyed Latin and English, and won prizes for what became a lifelong skill: poetry recitation. In 1955, she graduated from Bletchley Park Training College with an Oxford Institute of Education Teachers' Diploma. After teaching in a state school for a couple of years, Christine enrolled in the one-year Teachers' Course at Newbold College. Here her life took two significant turns.

First, she enrolled in a class called 'Fundamentals of the Christian Faith', taught by a popular young teacher, Frank Wood. She also accepted an invitation to teach at Newbold Primary School.

In August 1963, Christine and Frank were married in the Stanborough Park church by Pastor Roy Graham. When Catherine and Fiona were born (in 1965 and 1967 respectively), she took a break from teaching, but returned in 1971. She would stay there, teaching full or part-time, until she retired. Her pupils appreciated her careful instruction in the art of handwriting, her creative art lessons and her enthusiasm for making and appreciating beautiful music. She believed that every child was important and was much loved and respected for her

kindness, gentleness and warmth by generations of Newbold School staff and students.¹

Christine and Frank participated enthusiastically in community events, both dramatic and musical. She and Frank played Portia and Shylock in The Merchant of Venice. The couple sang with various church and community choirs and madrigal groups.

When Frank retired in 1990, they bought a house in Finchampstead, while Christine continued teaching until 1997. An enthusiastic gardener and accomplished church flower arranger, she created, with Frank, an English country garden. The couple enjoyed frequent get-togethers and celebrations with long-standing friends and former students.

When Christine finally retired in 1997, she and Frank lived in gentle companionship to the end. When their daughters married two American brothers, Dan and John Wilcox, and settled in the USA, Christine and Frank took a number of trips to visit them and their grandchildren. She treasured her times with Adam, Kate and Ella, and took a great interest in all they did.

During Frank's final illness, Christine nursed him devotedly until his death in November 2016. Not long before his death, she was diagnosed with leukaemia. She died peacefully, at home, in her sleep, in the early hours of March 22, 2017.

At her funeral in Newbold Church on Thursday, 6 April, Pastor Wayne Erasmus aptly described Christine and Frank as a 'pair of poets in a world of prose'. He quoted Shakespeare to sum up Christine's life:

'How far that little candle throws his beams!
So shines a good deed in a naughty world.'

HELEN PEARSON

¹For a tribute from one former student see: <https://www.ministrymagazine.org/archive/2014/09/mentor-an-experienced-and-trusted-advisor>



Kathleen Ellen Ruddick (1919-2017) d. 28 March. After a long and active life, Kathleen (Kay) finally passed away four days after turning

98. She was born in 1919 to John and Clara Grant in Enfield, Middlesex, the third of six daughters. She was nicknamed 'Bubbles' by her father for her habit of blowing bubbles; and was often referred to by nephews and nieces as 'Auntie Bubbles'! She held fond memories of her father who, sadly, passed away when she was only eight years old. Her memories of her mother were of a quiet, gentle, hardworking and

devoted mum who managed to bring up the family the best way she could.

Her aunt Alice and uncle Ted Ellis were Adventists and Kay attended church with them from childhood – which involved a long walk! She became one of the early members of the Edmonton Church, and remained a committed member for the rest of her life, serving as deaconess, Sabbath School officer, children's Sabbath School leader and Personal Ministries secretary. Every year she also collected for World Wide Advent Missions, as our annual collection was known then.

Kay left school at 14 to work in a printer's shop. She attended the Youth Congress in Denmark in 1939, and often spoke about it. Eventually, she worked as a nurse in various care homes around the country. While nursing in Bath, she met Aurelia Ruddick who invited her home to Yorkshire, where she met Charles Ruddick. Through her influence, Charles returned to church and was baptised. A courtship ensued, and they were married at Holloway Church, North London, in 1949 – where Kay had six bridesmaids and two page boys! After living in Yorkshire for a while, they moved south. Just over a year later, their daughter, Stella, was born and her brother, Andrew, was born in 1955.

In early middle age, Charles and Kay took up lawn bowls and enjoyed a number of tours with their bowling club. The family often walked to local beauty spots, especially on Sabbath afternoons, where Kay encouraged a love of nature in both her children – something Stella and Andrew much appreciate today. They also attended church camps, where Charles was a counsellor and Kay helped with first aid. Her home was always a welcome place for visitors who received kind and generous hospitality. Kay was a cheerful, jolly, warm-hearted and energetic person who put a lot of effort into everything she did, including her work with the children at church. She would write small plays and organise thirteenth Sabbath School programmes. She always loved children. Even in her senior years she would love to sit and watch them playing, especially her six grandchildren: Simon, Katrina, Stuart, Richard, Hannah and Louisa. Their school, graduation and wedding photos were proudly on display in her home.

Charles and Kay were voluntary wardens at The Dell Rest Home Flats at Oulton Broad for several years, where they went beyond the call of duty.

She was devastated when

Charles died in 1988. He had been the love of her life and she really missed him, but she carried on caring for the folk in the flats, even at night if needed. Eventually, it became too much for her, and Andrew found a bungalow for her close to his home on the outskirts of Great Yarmouth.

Sadly, Kay fell victim to dementia and spent the last two years in the care of the Oulton Park Care Centre, where the staff were exceedingly good to her. Andrew and Gill were always nearby and cared for her, and Stella would drive up from Devon to visit as frequently as possible. Appreciation must also be expressed to Elma Hayes of the Great Yarmouth church, who visited Kay in the care home every week.

Her funeral service in the Great Yarmouth church was conducted by Pastor Rio Espulgar, assisted by Kay's nephew, Pastor Adrian Peck, and the writer. Stella presented the eulogy, which was followed by fitting tributes, memorable photographs, and a sacred medley played by Kay's granddaughters, Hannah and Louisa, on the cello and piano. The committal took place at the Ellough Crematorium near Beccles.

Kay is survived by both her children, Stella and Andrew; his wife, Gill, and her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, who are comforted by knowing that she is safely asleep in her Saviour's care.

STELLA JEFFERY AND PASTOR MICHAEL I. WALKER

Messenger

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Sunset

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

	London	Card	Nottingham	Edin	Belfast
May 26	9.02	9.14	9.13	9.39	9.41
Jun 2	9.10	9.22	9.22	9.49	9.50
9	9.16	9.28	9.28	9.56	9.57
16	9.20	9.32	9.33	10.01	10.04

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