



## Stanborough Park Church joins Co-op to feed Watford's homeless

by June Coombs

Homeless people in Watford enjoyed a free meal at the GoKula café on Thursday evening, 20 September, thanks to a new weekly initiative between volunteers from Co-op stores in the Watford area and the Stanborough Park church.

This 'feeding the homeless' project was the brainchild of Co-op employee Enoch Kanagaraj, who also happens to run the Stanborough Park church's community chaplaincy service and is keen to improve the church's profile in the community by involving it in local charitable projects.

The Co-op sees itself at the heart of the community and goes out of its way to become involved in such projects as well. Enoch works at one of the Food Share stores and has been able to meet those who work with the homeless. He felt that the Co-op could help local homeless people by providing them with a cooked meal once a week and gained the support of his area manager for the project.

The owner of the GoKula café is a recipient of the Co-op Food Share scheme and she uses the food she collects to cook a meal for the homeless on Monday evenings. This provided a natural place to use as a base for the project. Enoch was able to offer the church's kitchen to prepare the meal on a much larger scale and the use of the church's Soup Run minibus to transport the volunteers and the food to the café. All he needed were the volunteers, and he found them at the Co-op, among fellow employees who shared his enthusiasm for the project.

### *Let Enoch tell the story in his own words:*

'GoKula is a vegetarian restaurant in the centre of Watford and on a Monday they use donated food to cook for the homeless. I'm proud to say that they are now one of our **Food Share** recipients.'

'After seeing GoKula's meal service to the homeless in action a few weeks ago I decided that we could do something to support and expand it. On that first Thursday afternoon we were involved together we cooked a vegetarian curry, rice and samosas in the Stanborough Church kitchen, before piling into the church's minibus. It was like a day trip to the seaside when singing broke out on the way across town.'

'Upon arriving at our destination we carried pots of steaming hot curry into the café across the busy street, attracting lots of attention dressed in our blue and white Co-op T-shirts and aprons.'

'Word that we were coming had quickly spread, and by the time we were ready to open the door at 6.30pm an orderly queue had formed. When we opened the doors the smell of the curry wafted out, inviting those who would normally be begging on the street, or just going hungry, to come in from the cold, select what they wanted to eat and drink, as much as they wanted, and take a seat.'

'Some were very quiet and just ate and left with a brief nod, not really sure what to make of what had just happened. Others were more chatty and happy to engage, hang around a while and "chew the fat".'

'Some people were telling us how long it had been since they had eaten anything at all;

this was their first hot meal in a long while. Shyly, some looked over to catch someone's eye to see if they could ask for a second helping or a parcel to take away for a hungry friend. Most people, having had plenty to eat and drink, left with a package of food under their arm. It was surprising to see just how much some people drank – a couple of cups of tea and a couple of cups of juice – after all, when did they last have a drink? When you're on the streets even a bottle of water is a luxury.'

'Around the room there were lots of small huddles in which store managers were talking to people, listening to their stories – making those who are mostly just ignored feel welcome and supported for the first time in ages.'

'We served over forty hungry and lonely people that Thursday; no one was left unfed.'

Enoch regarded the evening as 'inspirational'.

Jef Nascimento from Stanborough Park Church was pleased that he volunteered to join the team and found the experience worthwhile. 'I really like how the church tries to involve itself with the community in different ways. Tonight I had the chance to talk to some of the homeless and it got me thinking of how I can give more support to projects like this and to them. I met a girl: she is only 22 years old and living on the streets. It is nice that we can give them food and clothes, but it is not enough. I talked to another guy who was walking by, and he was happy with the initiative and is willing to come to help too. I hope we will be able to grow and give real support to our new friends from the street.'



## Mental wellness – Part 2f

### Mental health decline – gender differences

Several factors influence how individuals age, such as genetics, lifestyle, nutrition and environment. This impacts both genders alike. However, research has now identified that the rate at which men and women age is starkly different. For example, menopause generally makes a woman's body age faster, while the male body ages more gradually.<sup>1</sup>

The above source has also identified some gender factors with regard to brain ageing. Here are a few:

- Cognitive impairment in men is usually associated with being overweight or diabetic or having had a stroke.
- Cognitive impairment in women is generally associated with being dependent on others for daily tasks and lacking a strong social network.

Gender differences in cognitive decline were studied in subjects with a high likelihood of mild cognitive impairment due to Alzheimer's disease. This study by Sohn et al, published in *Nature* magazine<sup>2</sup> in May 2018, was a longitudinal study of 559 subjects (216 females, 343 males).

- Their research found that females with general mild cognitive impairment showed greater cognitive decline than males.
- Females with mild cognitive impairment (in the 'high likelihood' group) due to Alzheimer's disease also demonstrated greater cognitive decline than males.

Previous studies have demonstrated that men have a greater risk for mild cognitive impairment.<sup>3</sup> However, according to United States research, women make up almost two-thirds of Alzheimer's disease patients.<sup>4</sup>

'The higher prevalence of AD (Alzheimer's disease) in women has been attributed previously to longer female life expectancy or sociocultural detection biases, but some recent findings also support an alternate hypothesis that women at risk progress to AD at faster rates than men due to greater neurobiological vulnerability.<sup>5</sup>

The article from which the above quotation was taken goes on to identify the following suggested explanations (from previous research) for the greater cognitive decline in women:

- genetic differences,
- sex hormones (such as oestrogen),
- smaller head size,
- lower cognitive reserve,
- lower levels of exercise in women (at least in the United States),
- differences in occupational or educational attainment,
- greater annual three-dimensional tensor-based magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) brain atrophy rates in women.

*Frontiers in Aging Neuroscience* publishes rigorous peer-reviewed research in the field of neurology and is a leading journal in its field. It is currently publishing research on why men and women demonstrate differences in mental decline.<sup>6</sup>

### Good health!

<sup>1</sup><https://www.verywellhealth.com/is-aging-different-for-men-and-women-2224332>  
<sup>2</sup><https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-018-25377-w><sup>3</sup>Mielke, M. M., Vemuri, P., Rocca, W. A., 'Clinical epidemiology of Alzheimer's disease: Assessing sex and gender differences', *Clinical Epidemiology*, 2014; 6:37-48<sup>4</sup>Hebert, L. E., Weuve, J., Scherr, P. A., Evans, D. A., 'Alzheimer disease in the United States (2010-2050) estimated using the 2010 census', *Neurology* 2013; 80:1778-1783<sup>5</sup><https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4593067/><sup>6</sup><https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fnagi.2018.00166/full>



# On building effigies . . .

The use of caricature effigies is not new. For centuries, and in many different parts of the world, people have used them to express their disapproval, mockery, anger and contempt – usually for those in power. The best-known British caricature effigy is undoubtedly that of the 1605 'gunpowder plotter', Guy Fawkes, who was caught red-handed with enough gunpowder 'to blow up the King in the House of Lords.' His infamy is still loudly celebrated each bonfire night, often with the burning of an effigy made of straw and old clothing.

At Lewes, on the south coast of England, Bonfire Night involves a parade of artistically designed caricature effigies that attracts vast crowds. This year our prime minister, Theresa May, former foreign secretary, Boris Johnson and Brexitor Jacob Rees-Mogg were among those up for ridicule and eventual conflagration.

### An expression of protest

As good-natured and celebratory as our British tradition of effigy burning may appear these days, it is still a form of political protest. There are parts of the world, however, where such powerfully visual expressions of dissent definitely express malevolent feelings. Take for example the 'mock-execution of US President Donald Trump and Vice President Mike Pence', whose effigies were 'hanged and then burned in a street in the Aida refugee camp north of Bethlehem' in January this year.<sup>2</sup> Trump's most recent raft of sanctions against Tehran has also resulted in a visceral public response during which 'crowds were seen burning American and Israeli flags, an effigy of Trump and actual US dollars' in the Iranian capital.<sup>3</sup> Since he took office blazing effigies of Donald Trump have certainly made their contribution to global warming, both at home and abroad.

### The 'penalty of greatness' . . .

On the one hand, effigy burning signifies that Theresa, Boris and Donald, *et al*, have their detractors. On the other hand, could it also suggest something else? Take for instance this anecdote used by Keith Flett in his 10 July article on 'The phenomenon of Trump effigies':<sup>4</sup>

'Back in 1887 an inmate of Chelsea Workhouse was charged with making an effigy of the Master as a protest about poor food.

'The judge in the Police Court, acquitting the inmate, told the Master "public characters like you don't mind a little ridicule. It's the penalty of greatness."<sup>5</sup>

I think the judge had a point. To some extent ridicule will always be 'the penalty of greatness'. Those with bold ideas and strong convictions, who choose to be outspoken about them or act boldly to achieve them, will always attract criticism, scorn and ridicule.

### Evidence of depravity . . .

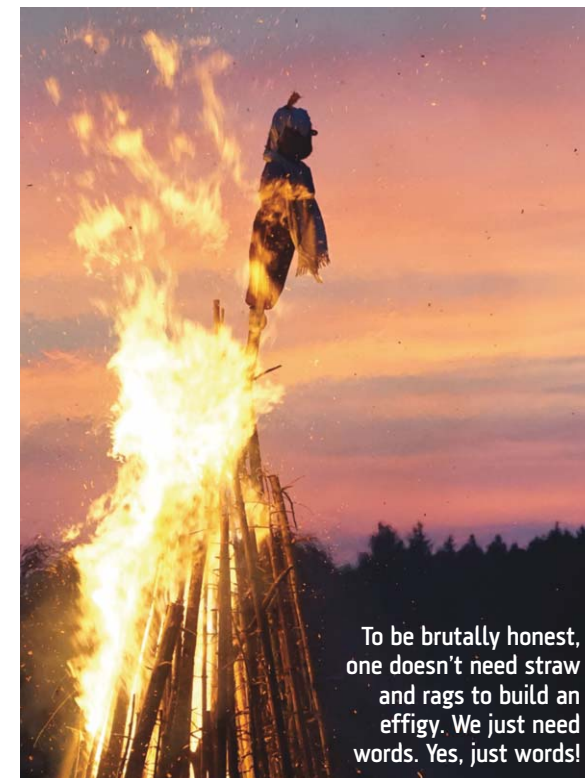
That said, I must rush to add that **the burning of effigies may reveal more about the character of those who make them than about those they are meant to ridicule.** To illustrate, we need look no further than the behaviour of six men arrested in South London for posting that online video of a burning effigy of Grenfell Tower. It formed part of their Bonfire Night 'celebration', and if you take time to listen to the video commentary<sup>6</sup> I am sure you will be as appalled as Communities Secretary, James Brokenshire, was:

'At a time when the bereaved and survivors are giving testimony to the Grenfell Inquiry and reliving the unimaginable horror of that tragedy, it beggars belief that anyone should do this. Those responsible for this repugnant material are beneath contempt.'<sup>6</sup>

Matt Wrack, General Secretary of the Fire Brigades Union, wasted fewer words when he called them 'thick numbskulls'.<sup>7</sup>

### Just straw and old clothes?

The behaviour of these men brings me back to my earlier observation that 'the burning of effigies



To be brutally honest, one doesn't need straw and rags to build an effigy. We just need words. Yes, just words!

may reveal more about the character of those who make them than about those they are meant to ridicule.' Effigies are much more than just straw and old clothes – or the more lifelike materials often used for today's creations. They are 'caricatures', which means that they are likely to be exaggerated – infused with the perceptions, ideologies and distorted reality of mean-minded and uncharitable people. Look no further than the comments of those six 'thick numbskulls' for proof of this. On the video clip they can be heard mockingly saying, 'Help me, help me!'; 'Jump out the window!'; 'Stay in your flat, we are coming to get you'; and 'That's what happens when they don't pay their rent.'<sup>8</sup>

Is that the respect due to the 72 victims of that 'towering inferno' and their grieving loved ones?

### We don't need straw and rags . . .

To be brutally honest, one doesn't need straw and rags to build an effigy. We just need words. Yes, just

words! Exaggerated words; critical words; half-truths; words that insinuate wrongdoing; words that imply moral weakness; words inspired by pure prejudice – these are the perverse materials from which the most destructive effigies are shaped. **Effigies like this are not the 'penalty of greatness' – they are the curse of an unbridled tongue playing spokesperson for an unsanctified heart!**

I give the apostle James the last word on this (with my emphasis supplied):

'A bit in the mouth of a horse controls the whole horse. A small rudder on a huge ship in the hands of a skilled captain sets a course in the face of the strongest winds. A word out of your mouth may seem of no account, but it can accomplish nearly anything – or destroy it!

'It only takes a spark, remember, to set off a forest fire. A careless or wrongly placed word out of your mouth can do that. **By our speech we can ruin the world, turn harmony to chaos, throw mud on a reputation, send the whole world up in smoke and go up in smoke with it, smoke right from the pit of hell!**' (James 3:3-6, *The Message*.)

<sup>1</sup><https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Effigy><sup>2</sup><https://www.timesofisrael.com/trump-pence-effigies-hanged-and-burned-on-palestinian-tv/><sup>3</sup><https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/1040895/iran-news-donald-trump-sanctions-us-latest-protests-tehran-oil><sup>4</sup><https://morningstaronline.co.uk/article/traditions-protest-groans-effigies-and-donald-trump><sup>5</sup><https://metro.co.uk/video/someone-burned-effigy-grenfell-tower-1797136/><sup>6</sup><https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/nov/05/police-appeal-video-mock-up-grenfell-tower-burned><sup>7</sup>*Ibid.*<sup>8</sup>*Ibid.*




### Special announcement

The Stanborough Press management wish to announce that Pastor David Neal, who is currently employed by the Trans-European Division as their stewardship director, has been appointed as our next editor. He will replace Pastor Julian Hibbert, who will be retiring on 31 March next year.

Pastor Neal has extensive pastoral, departmental and administrative experience, top-notch interpersonal skills and a deep passion for mission. We are confident that he will do a fine job as *MESSANGER* and *FOCUS* editor, along with the other editorial responsibilities that will make up his job description.

He will be employed at the press from early January 2019, and will become progressively more involved in the preparation of our magazines during the first three months of the year. We wish both him and Marci a smooth relocation to Grantham and many years of satisfying employment as part of our team.

THE MANAGEMENT TEAM

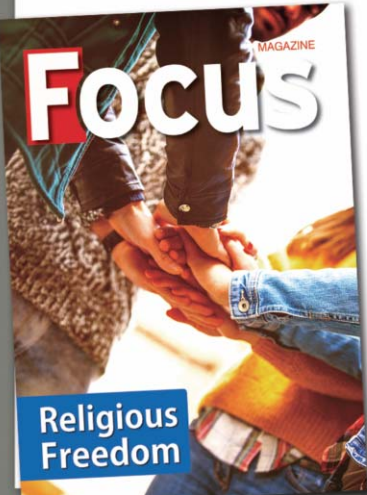


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# High day in Preston

by Pastor Jeff Couzins



exhausted but very happy elder, Anita Chiumia, Preston's Personal Ministries leader, remarked, 'Today it felt like the Day of Pentecost. Pastor Ray was on fire for Jesus. Now we should ensure we preserve this precious harvest the Lord has given us.' I am sure

Sabbath 27 October was a special day in both Preston and heaven as 24 precious souls were baptised in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit at the end of a two-week evangelistic revival series. It was the culmination of a year during which Preston Church had embarked on a Reclamation and Retention programme. The whole church was engaged, and various activities were organised for different age groups throughout the year. Overarching all this was the intercessory prayer ministry of the church, with the majority of the church members joining prayer groups.

The speaker for the series was the inspiring evangelist Pastor Ray Patrick, whose theme, 'The Struggle Is Real, But So Is God', coincided with Preston Church's theme for 2018.

The series was nothing short of scintillating. The force of testimony came through compellingly as Pastor Ray nightly shared moving videos of how people overcame abuse, addiction, and other struggles, to find grace and healing through the mighty name of Jesus. The

number of people deciding for baptism grew daily and the visitors kept coming back night after night, with new ones among them at each meeting. The young people were gripped by the presentations and the worship was lively and spiritual.

Pastor Ray's charisma provided an effective medium for conveying powerful messages as to how God has intervened in people's lives; and one of his themes was, 'If God could do it for ... He can do it for you.' People were clearly touched and moved by the messages they received and there was almost a nightly call for baptism, with a growing number of people deciding to turn their lives over to Jesus and be baptised.

During the two weeks Pastor Ray made time to meet with the university and college students and the teenagers, during which they discussed issues pertinent to their age group. He also joined the local pastor, Jeff Couzins, in visiting those who had decided for baptism.

One of the wonderful features of this series was that non-members were bringing visitors.

One such visitor was so touched that she brought her whole family to the following meetings, and, on the final Sabbath, four members of the family committed their lives to Christ and asked for baptism!

Also, one member's husband, who was not a member himself, attended every meeting along with his ten-year-old daughter. The husband, who had previously attended church sporadically due to his other commitments, committed to baptism halfway through the revival series. It was a joy to his wife to see that, but an even greater joy was when her daughter also committed her life to Christ and asked for baptism a few days later.

As part of the baptism programme Pastor Ray delivered a powerful message to encourage the people committing to baptism.

The baptism service was conducted by Pastor Jeff Couzins. The greatest number of people he had previously baptised in one session was 12. Baptising 24 precious souls was a new experience for both Pastor Jeff and the Preston church.

The Preston City Mayor, Councillor Trevor Hart, attended

the afternoon baptism programme, and delivered a wonderful message after the event to encourage those just baptised, and also to those gathered to witness the special occasion.

Among those baptised were eight women, along with three children of one of the women; four men, along with a daughter of one of the men; three Pathfinders in their uniforms; two university students; and three people recommitting their lives to Christ (including an octogenarian).

In order to highlight the inclusive nature of baptism into Christ, Pastor Jeff invited family members to enter the baptistry together. This included a father and daughter; two Pathfinder sisters; a married couple; and a mother and three of her children (one 23 and two teens). It may sound crowded, but each one was baptised individually, stressing the individual nature of salvation.

The day was a blessing to everyone, and, as Paula said as she was about to be baptised, 'The angels in heaven are rejoicing.'

As it drew to a close, a visibly

the whole church shares these sentiments.

These are the names of those baptised:

Monalisa Hollington (university student), Neshavia Warde (university student), Kudzai Ngara, Paula Robinson, Diane Proctor, Andrea Edwards, Petra Celestine, Nichole Strachan, Angelique Reid-Ehigiator (wife of Osazee), Osazee Ehigiator (community, and husband of Angelique), Anita George (recently attending), Carlton George (Anita's son), Aafrin Kaba (Anita's daughter), Yusuf Kaba (Anita's son), Spencer Morris (started attending recently), Winston Jenkins (been attending sporadically for years), Richard Wilkinson (started attending recently - husband of a member), Leanne Wilkinson (daughter of Richard and Prena), Cleo Smith-Graham (Pathfinder in uniform), Lemuella Chiumia (Pathfinder in uniform), Brenda Chiumia (Pathfinder in uniform, Lemuella's younger sister), Andrew Olojuola (rebaptism), Freda Bryan (octogenarian rebaptism), Mpho Kgosiang (rebaptism).



## Twelve baptised at Elephant and Castle

by Henry Quarshie

Over a period of five weekends (18 August to 15 September), the Elephant and Castle Community church, in collaboration with Area 6B, held an evangelistic series on the theme, 'There Is Hope'.

Nicholas Okyere, the church youth leader who is now a theology student at Newbold College, was the speaker. He was supported by Awo Sarfowaa of London Ghana Church, who was responsible for the health presentations. Inspiring singing was provided by the church choir, various singing groups and Nana Amankwah Tiah.

The meetings were very well attended throughout, and this included twenty-seven visiting friends. Twelve people were baptised on 15 September, which included a married couple, two sisters and two brothers. A communion service was held on the same day to welcome the new members into membership.

The purpose of the evangelistic campaign was to share the message of salvation with the community as part of our theme for the year: Evangelism, Everyone, Everywhere.

For Nicholas Okyere, this evangelistic outreach was a 'personal Damascus experience', and for the church members it was 'a great revival'.

Martha, who was baptised with her husband, said, 'I have always been longing to join a Bible-believing church like the Seventh-day Adventists and I am very happy, by the grace of God, that is now a reality.'

The church pastor, Lewis Quaye, said: 'In the midst of the hopelessness in our world today, there is hope in Jesus, and we rejoice with the twelve men and women who have found that hope through the preaching of the word by our young preacher, Nicholas.'



# Pastor Mike's great joy!

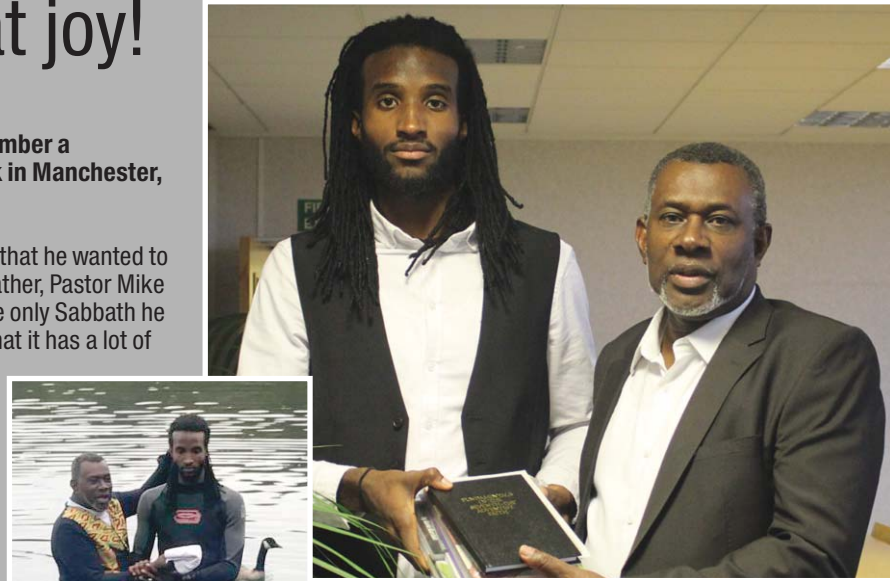
by Marlene Simpson

On the cold and grey Sabbath morning of 22 September a wonderful event took place at Chorlton Water Park in Manchester, England. Here is the background story . . .

On the Friday before, our son, Nathan, had told us that he wanted to get baptised. Upon going through his diary, his father, Pastor Mike Simpson, soon found that 22 September was the only Sabbath he had free. But anyone who knows Manchester knows that it has a lot of rainy days, so, when Nathan said he wanted to get baptised in the park, we were a little bit unsure. On the Friday, as if confirming our fears, it rained all day, and the showers were heavy. Nathan, however, was positive and kept saying, 'Don't worry, we won't get any rain tomorrow.'

The baptism was planned for three o'clock, but something bigger was scheduled for the same time – Manchester United were playing at home! We had to put the baptism back an hour to avoid the traffic. It was a joyous occasion to see a pastor baptise his son, and we give God thanks and praise for Nathan, who accepted Jesus over two years ago but has now taken the wonderful step of baptism.

True to Nathan's expectations, the day broke



Photos by Clayton Simpson



clear but very cold. The rain held off as we walked down to the lake with the members who came to witness the joyous event . . . but after the baptism, as we pulled out of the car park heading for home, the heavens opened again!

# A special day in Canterbury

by John Wilson (Canterbury church elder)

It's not often that a baptism and children's dedication service take place on the same day. However, that's exactly what happened in Canterbury on Sabbath, 29 September. The congregation, with added guests, celebrated a truly joyous occasion when three precious souls were baptised by our former pastor, Israel Williams, and our current pastor, Andrew Cudjoe.

Karon Da Silva had come to Canterbury in very sad circumstances, following the breakup of her marriage. Finding a church was the last thing on her mind, but God had other ideas. Through meeting one of our sisters in a support group which she was attending, she was introduced to the congregation and there found the love and support she needed and, above all, faith in Jesus. As we sang her favourite hymn, 'Pass Me Not, O Gentle Saviour', it bore testimony that the Lord had indeed heard her humble cry and entered her heart.

Kambal Edgington has had a remarkable spiritual journey, being brought up as a Sikh and then becoming a Hindu. A year ago she began reading the book *Messiah* (an adaptation of *The Desire of Ages*), and was convicted about the truth of Christianity. She looked for a church and tried a few, but was convinced she should find one which kept the biblical Sabbath, and in March of this year came to our church in Canterbury. She quickly showed her strong desire to learn more about her new faith, and the Lord has filled her soul. It was a truly joyful experience as members of her family came to witness her baptism and the change in her life.

Victor Orbegoso Velasquez first came across Adventists in his native Spain. However, he wasn't ready to join the church at that time and came to England for work, first settling in Ashford and then in Folkestone. Here he found the little Seventh-day Adventist church and began attending. Finally, convinced of the Advent message, he requested baptism and joined our sisters from Canterbury in this event. It was especially beautiful that his young daughter was able to witness this important moment in her father's life, and the congregation of Folkestone rejoiced to receive another member.

The service then focused on the very young as Kambal and her husband Ron brought their twin sons, Alex and Blake, to be dedicated to the Lord by Pastor Cudjoe.

We were truly blessed on this special day.



Third, fourth and fifth from left: Karon Da Souza, Victor Orbegoso Velasquez and Kambal Edgington



Dedication of Alex and Blake Edgington



Three generations of Darren and Adrian's family were gathered for the baptism, including some from the USA.



# Croscombe baptism

Sabbath 21 July was a red-letter day for two young men, Darren and Adrian de Lima, who were baptised in Weston-super-Mare, where the Croscombe and Weston congregations united for the occasion.

The baptism was conducted by a close relative, Pastor Ron Edwards, assisted by the local pastor, Rio Espulgar. The speaker for the morning was another relative and the writer of this report, Pastor Martin Anthony, who took as his theme 'The God of the Impossible'. He commenced with a well-documented miracle that occurred some thirty years ago in Zaire, Africa, where a seven-year-old boy, pronounced dead at a local hospital in the capital city, and with the death certificate in his father's pocket, was

amazingly restored to life. Pastor Anthony reminded the candidates that with God nothing is impossible. Our Lord delights in revealing His power in unbelievable ways for the benefit of all who will trust Him.

The service was greatly enhanced by a rich variety of instrumental music from the boys' father, Neusymar, and his sons, including Kevin, who had earlier been baptised in Brazil. The brothers were then voted into the Croscombe church, after which the large congregation enjoyed a memorable lunch.

PASTOR MARTIN ANTHONY



# Restored in His image, reclaiming the power

The well-attended annual SEC Women's Ministry Retreat was held from Friday 14 to Sunday 16 September, at the Mercure Hotel in Daventry. With a focus on healthy vs unhealthy relationships, the main speaker, Dr Rene Drumm, dealt with the uncomfortable and rarely discussed topic of domestic abuse. The 100-plus women in attendance appreciated her empathic style, and the supportive environment it helped create.

The weekend commenced with an emphasis on the theme for the retreat – *Restored in Christ's image, reclaiming the power* – during which attendees were encouraged to strip off the many layers they had arrived with, and reclaim power not only in themselves, but also power and strength in God.

Ice breakers and social interaction exercises were used to stimulate conversation and encourage individuals to step out of their usual social circles. This gave each one an opportunity to share their relevant stories and experiences, which led to much chatter and laughter throughout the room, and a general uplifting and strengthening of each other.

A self-reflective time of prayer was completed by using the Lord's Prayer as guidance, and these moments of quiet contemplation helped each one feel refreshed once again.

Counsellors from Cornerstone were on hand where needed, and a private area was set aside for this.

Every part of the programme drew the attendees to reclaim the power that God had given them and work towards being restored in His image.



This was true for the praise and worship as well as the prayer and thanksgiving sessions, and both were powerful and uplifting.

Like any good gathering, the Saturday evening's banquet brought laughter and broad smiles, and the warm fellowship permeated the festivities. Karaoke was the highlight of the evening and showcased some extremely talented women within the South England Conference.

In addition to Dr Drumm, other speakers included Clair Sanches-Schutte, the TED Women's and Children's Director, who encouraged attendees to spend some time mentoring our younger women. The successful programme, *Girls for Christ*, was mentioned as a way of helping the next generation of younger women to find self-worth and their value in God's eyes.

Additionally, Dr Sarah Itam enthusiastically and innovatively conducted a live survey among the group, where everyone was able to take part and voice their opinions on the topic of stress.

To conclude the weekend, each attendee was commissioned to go forward and *be the change that they wanted to see*, by learning ways of empowering, protecting, teaching and supporting each other.

LIGIA BUZAC (SEC WOMEN'S MINISTRIES SECRETARY)

## Scotland's Day of Fellowship

On 6 October, at the Scottish Mission Day of Fellowship in Crieff, the members in Scotland recognised the call to ministry of three of its pastors: Pastor Ivana Mendez, who was commissioned, and Pastors Rory Mendez and Njabulo Ndlovu, who were both ordained. Together with them on the platform were colleagues from far and wide who had come to support them.

Pastors Rory and Ivana work as a team in the west of Scotland in several churches. Visiting Scotland specifically to introduce them to the congregation were Pastors Kirk Thomas and Wilfred Blake. Pastor Rory is also the Mission's sponsor for Evangelism and Personal Ministries in Scotland.

Travelling all the way from St Albans was the Ministerial Secretary in the Trans-European Division, Pastor Patrick Johnson. He introduced Pastor Njabulo Ndlovu to the congregation. Njabulo is a pastor in the Aberdeen district, and he is also the sponsor for Pathfinders and Adventurers.

The Scottish Mission hosts an annual day of fellowship, and the 2018 event was a true highlight in many ways. An estimated 400 people attended the event on a sunny day. It needs to be mentioned that the day was sunny, because usually there is rain around. Pastor Ian Sweeney, British Union President, was the speaker during the worship service and his message was relevant and appreciated. The rest of the morning was filled with a variety of ministries, ranging from a choir consisting of children from all over Scotland, organised by the Children's Ministry leader, Ifeoma Victor-Igwe, to an investiture of three Master Guides: Audrey Mutongi, Desire Sonder and Samu Ncube.

After the lunch break, the parish church in Crieff filled quickly again as members waited in anticipation for the commissioning and ordination service to commence. The stage was packed with guests such as Pastors Eglan Brooks, John Surrudge and Victor Harewood and Mr Earl Ramharacksingh.

Unfortunately, Scotland now has to wait another year for its next day of fellowship, but, if you are interested in seeing more of this one, please visit a gallery of the day of fellowship at <http://sm.adventist.org.uk/news/gallery-sc/gallery-sc/scottish-mission-day-of-fellowship-18>.

PASTOR JIMMY BOTHA



## Scottish Mission – tenth Triennial Business Session

Almost a hundred delegates took their seats in the Crieff Seventh-day Adventist church on Sunday, 7 October 2018, for the tenth Triennial Business Session of the Scottish Mission. The delegates met to review the past three years of ministry in Scotland and to plan for the next three years.

Their theme for the next three years is, 'It's time to be devoted, daring, decisive. Working together to make Him known in Scotland.'

At important events like these, you are likely to see important dignitaries as well. The church welcomed Councillor Dennis Melloy, Provost of the County of Perth and Kinross. Other guests included Pastors Patrick Johnson, Ian Sweeney, Eglan Brooks, Richard Daly, John Surrudge, Paul Lockham and Jacques Venter, and Mr Earl Ramharacksingh. With such a group of visitors the work of the session was made easier, and the pastoral staff of the Mission sensed that they were well supported.

Pastor Paul Tompkins (President) made it clear that the Scottish Mission is growing, and that both the members and staff are looking for ways to improve the service and ministry of the



church in Scotland. He expressed his gratefulness for the skills and commitment of his entire staff and emphasised that the church in Scotland is working hard to implement at least half of another ministerial budget over the next triennium. The President's Report can be seen here: [https://youtu.be/T5\\_GW90Lcp8](https://youtu.be/T5_GW90Lcp8).

Many useful discussions and questions followed the reports of the different sponsors who have served Scotland over the past three years. The calendar in Scotland for 2015-2018 was a busy one, and Scottish members heard the highlights of events in every department.

The report of the nominating committee led to the following appointments for the period 2018-2021:

### The ministry sponsors

Children's Ministry – Mrs Ifeoma Victor-Igwe  
 Communications – Pastor Jimmy Botha  
 Community Services – Mr Jeremaya Phiri  
 Family Ministry – Mr Tarzan and Mrs Priscilla Bhebhe  
 Health Ministry – Dr Claudette Comerasamy  
 Men's Ministry – To be assigned  
 Personal Ministry – Pastor Rory Mendez  
 Pathfinders – Pastor Njabulo and Mrs Mthoko Ndlovu  
 Student Ministry – Pastor Gabriel Perea  
 Trust Services – Dr Paul Tompkins  
 Women's Ministry – Mrs Margreth Mukisa  
 Youth Ministry – Pastor Claudiu Popescu (assistant to be assigned)

**The president:** Pastor Paul Tompkins

**Executive Committee:** Pastor Paul Tompkins (Chair), Mr Earl Ramharacksingh (Treasurer), Pastor Paul Lockham/Jacques Venter (Secretary), Pastor Jimmy Botha, Pastor Gabriel Perea, Mrs Lynn Retallick, Mr Charles Lethbridge, Mr Gibson Kabaso, Mr Moses Sicalwe, Mr Benjamin Bakina, Mrs Moyra Rodd, Mrs Ifeoma Victor-Igwe

Pastor Tompkins is confident that the newly elected staff in the Scottish Mission are a team that understand the nature of the work to be carried out in order to share the message of God in Scotland.



**Adventist Education**

**NEC One Day Conferences Roadshow**

Continues in NEC Area 3  
 Sun 25 Nov '18  
 Leeds Central SDA Church  
 169 Meanwood Rd  
 Leeds LS7 1JW  
 9.30am - 5pm

**Presentations, Workshops, Action Planning addressing:**

- What is Adventist education?
- How does it compare to the world's education?
- How is world's education impacting our children?
- Which is more important, the academics or practical skills?
- How do we implement biblical Christian education today?
- Can we have more Adventist schools?
- What support is available for your local church?
- How does Adventist education advance the Church's mission?

Register free: [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)

**CONTACT:** Emily Tebbs-Ogutu, [etebbs-ogutu@necadventist.org.uk](mailto:etebbs-ogutu@necadventist.org.uk)  
 North England Conference Education, 0115 960 6312

# Welsh Mission Camp Meeting

by Michael McClymont

The second Welsh Mission camp meeting took place over the weekend of 5-7 October in the beautiful grounds of Wychwood Park in Crewe, the railway town in Cheshire. The theme for the meetings was 'Empowered to Serve', which supports the Welsh Mission vision of 'Seeking and Serving to Make God Known'.

Dr Sung Kwon, author of the book, *Burst the Bubble*, and Adventist Community Services (ACS) Executive Director for the North American Division since 2001, was the main speaker.

In his opening message, 'Biblical Justice in the Community', he pointed out that justice is based on charity, and that we need to be the voice for the voiceless, and open-handed – freely providing people with what they need.

He encouraged us to make our relationship with Jesus our prime objective, not being content with being Sabbath keepers, but seeking to be 'world changers' like Jesus.

At the end of the message we all felt driven to make these lectures a reality in our lives. A key question was shared with us to get us thinking more strategically – 'How can the church experience unity and harmony, even if it is made up of people of many nations and languages?' The opportunity was given to the audience to answer this question verbally. It seems we were in agreement that more time needs to be spent understanding the similarities and celebrating our diversities – this would lead to more unity among us.

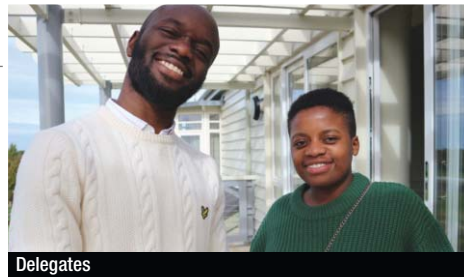
The closing challenge for each attendee on Friday night was to focus on being a church that is 'missional-minded' rather than just 'attractual'. It's so easy to ask the question – 'How can we be the best church in our community?' Instead we should be asking ourselves – 'How can we be the best church for our community?'

Pastor Richard Jackson, North England Conference President, was there in support and he welcomed the delegates to NEC territory with words of encouragement, as well as appreciation to Dr Kwon for his powerful opening message.

Music played an important part in the worship services. The young praise team was led by Camelia Bran and accompanied by other talented musicians, who provided inspirational music and led out in the theme song 'Light up the Fire' at the beginning of each session. Additional music was provided by the Newport church choir.

The Welsh Mission days of fellowship and camp meetings have always been enhanced by piano recitals from Leslie Riskowitz, who performed a soul-stirring piece enjoyed by everyone. His musical medley for the children at the end of their graduation ceremony was made up of two hymns. He told the children that all hymns tell a story, and that the first hymn was quite sad, about a green hill – representing the place where Jesus died in pain, out of love for us – while the other was contrastingly joyous and exhilarating because Jesus had gone to heaven, reminding us to sing as we journey on.

During the course of the weekend, early-morning prayer sessions were conducted by Pastor Adriana Fodor, which provided the platform for the Holy Spirit to lead the daily sessions. Her dynamic and energetic leadership style and messages inspired the delegates.



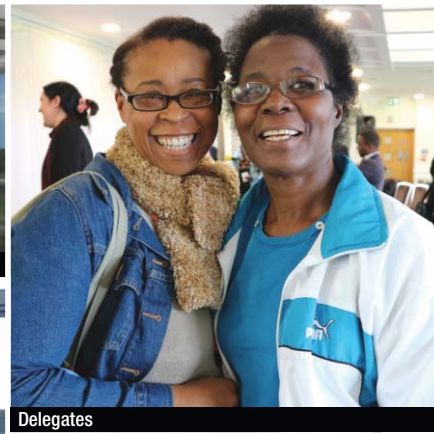
Delegates



Emanuel and Camelia Bran with Pastor and Mrs Kwon



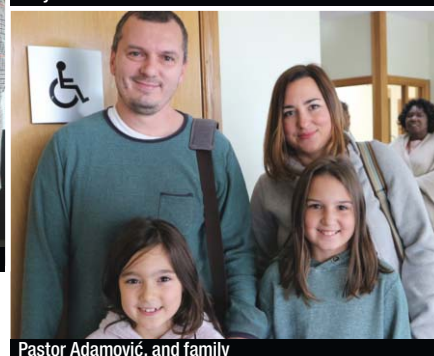
Praise team



Delegates



Prayer



Pastor Adamović, and family



Leslie Riskowitz

Sabbath School was facilitated by Pastor Jovan Adamović, who pointed out that our unique gifts, our talents and our diversity help to unify us. He was supported by two other presenters who spoke about the mechanics of unity: Bruce Khumalo and Jonathan Nyengani.

Cathy Boldeau and Danny Reid, both from ADRA-UK, made an appeal for support for the Indonesian tsunami victims. They then showed the work that ADRA is doing to alleviate the suffering people are experiencing following the tsunami. They also spoke about the 'virtual gift box' that has been developed as an online tool to replace the physical gift boxes that members used to donate to children abroad. The initiative had been introduced to save shipping costs and to help local people decide what items were best suited to children in their countries, based on local need.

Despite the wet and cold morning, a number of individuals attended the Sabbath session as day delegates. While golfers battled the wind and rain on the golf course outside the worship hall, warm fellowship was being experienced in the meetings. Recognition was given to retired ministers who were in attendance on the Sabbath: Pastor and Mrs David Foster, along with Pastor and Mrs Roger Neal. All Welsh Mission pastors were in attendance, with the exception of Pastor David Rancić, who was on a sabbatical with his family.

Other NEC and British Union Conference (BUC) officers were also acknowledged: Pastor Michael Simpson, NEC Personal Ministries Director, and his wife; Danny Reid from ADRA-UK, with other BUC support staff (Jacquie Johnson and Lucinda Calvert); along with Cathy Boldeau, also from ADRA-UK. Pastor Leslie Ackie, BUC Family Ministries Director,

and Steve Okelo, Secretary and Treasurer for SDAA and SDAT, with his family were also recognised for being present. The Sabbath morning message, 'The Ambiguity of the Church', was based on 1 Corinthians 1:1-9, and Dr Kwon placed emphasis on not doubting God's ability to use us to spread the Gospel. We were advised not just to have a *knowledge about Jesus*, but to have an *experience with Him*. Steps were provided on how to experience this:

1. Accept Jesus Christ.
2. Learn of Jesus every day.
3. Proclaim the Good News.
4. Receive the Holy Spirit to continue.

Dr Kwon made the point that people will see and touch the message of God's love through the way we live our lives.

The sun came out on the Sabbath afternoon, and a graduation ceremony was held for some of the 84 children who

completed the Adventist Discovery Centre's 'Welsh Mission – Let's Explore Children's Bible Study Programme'. Maureen Rock, the Adventist Discovery Centre (ADC) Principal, offered words of encouragement to the children, parents, and area Bible study co-ordinators. The Bible study programme was followed by 108 children aged 5-14 from eleven churches in the Welsh Mission, under the leadership of its sponsor Eileen McKenzie, supported by her husband, Kenroy, and the local co-ordinators, who were recognised for their hard work. The children in the Mission, through fund-raising activities, raised money over the course of the year and presented a cheque to ADRA-UK on behalf of the WM Children's Ministries Department.

We were reminded that we need to be salt and light in our spheres of influence, and that God calls us to turn the world upside down by meeting people's needs. This can only be done if we connect with people through understanding and knowledge – not on a superficial level, but through sharing, caring and spreading the Good News of God's redemption. Dr Kwon said that we need to move out of our Adventist bubble to make those important connections, discerning God's purpose for us. He went on to say that if we are not willing to develop relationships with all people, we are not following in the footsteps of Christ.

Sunday's closing message was entitled, 'Measuring the Effectiveness of Ministry through Long-term Sustainable Community Development and Strategic Engagement'. During this message Pastor Kwon showed that our church activities should be part of highly focused programmes that should lead to precise outcomes over a specific period. He went on to give guidance on how to evaluate the effectiveness of our ministry, which he classed as a critical part of organisational growth. He emphasised that the church needs to identify the core values of its ministry by asking, 'Why do we exist?' and 'What is our passion?' He discussed leadership and discipleship development. Pointing to Acts chapter 2 he said that the believers shared the Good News and showed the love of God – through worship, discipleship, fellowship and community services – serving others and demonstrating God's love through action.

It was a remarkable weekend, filled with challenging and motivating messages. Many left the event with a new attitude and determination to be 'His instrument to serve others'. We look forward to sharing our experiences at the next camp meeting of how these messages moved us to take our church ministries to the next level and become innovative in how we connect and serve in this mission.



Gift for Pastor Kwon



Dr Kwon with Swansea delegates



WM Children's Department present cheque to ADRA-UK

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## Area 8 Day of Fellowship and Graduation

The Suffolk showground was alive on Sabbath 29 September when members and friends from as far afield as Peterborough, Great Yarmouth and Southend – this large area that makes up Area 8 – met for their annual Day of Fellowship and School of Evangelism Graduation at Trinity Park, Ipswich.

The morning started with lively praise and worship co-ordinated by Area Music Director Ike Nxumalo and supported by musicians from the Grays church. Dr Daniel Duda led out in a thoughtful lesson to conclude our study of Acts, followed by a powerful sermon from the Conference President, Pastor Emmanuel Osei.

While the adults enjoyed the warmth of the conference centre, the youth had their own programme in the aptly named Cattle Barn.

During lunch many friendships were renewed and new ones made as members ate and socialised together.

The highlight for many was the afternoon graduation, which at one

time looked as if it would not happen. Last year Area 8 launched its own School of Evangelism, with resources and instructors supplied by the SEC. This year the SEC was unable to support the programme, so, rather than see it fold, the local pastors, led by Pastors John Melki, Robin Lewis and Sidney Almeida, stepped in to run local schools. The result was that 32 members completed the course and Pastor Michael Mbui, SEC Personal Ministries Director, was present to help present the candidates with their graduation certificates.

Goodbyes had to be said to three of our pastors, Sidney Almeida, David James and Adrian Peck, who were moving on. The afternoon concluded with a short concert.

RICHARD SHONE (SECRETARY OF THE AREA 8 ADVISORY)

Commonwealth were asked to come to the UK to cover employment shortages: for example, in the NHS. We were reminded of the many hard-working Caribbean people who 'did their bit' and were positive contributors to UK society.

The evening was concluded via a fitting finale by Merle Alexis, who skilfully delivered a beautiful tribute to the 'Windrush Generation' through her clever, witty poem.

It was a well-organised production and the performances were extremely professional. Among the glowing reviews was that of Pastor Osei. He said, 'I thoroughly enjoyed the evening's presentation. The singing and acting were excellent. The London Adventist Chorale really excelled in their performance. On behalf of the SEC, I wish to express gratitude to Fifi McKenzie-Cook and her team for such a production.'

SONIA MUNROE

Footnote: All funds raised will go to the Curative Music Foundation Limited – a charity that is helping orphaned children in Kenya. For more details, please visit: [www.curativemusicfoundation.co.uk](http://www.curativemusicfoundation.co.uk)

Curative Music Foundation founders Terrence and Fifi have been doing Black History plays for a decade or so and have worked with a group of Edmonton members to accomplish this.



## Black History Month play

*Windrush*, written by Fifi McKenzie-Cook and directed by Terrence McKenzie-Cook, was an inspiring play about the arrival of 500 settlers who came from Jamaica to the UK on the ship *Empire Windrush*. The play also featured some scenes about the life of the abolitionist and political activist Harriet Tubman.

Filled with young and old, Adventists and non-members, the Intimate Theatre was the scene of this excitingly presented but serious and thought-provoking performance. Also in attendance were the South England Conference President, Pastor Emmanuel Osei, and the Deputy Mayor of Enfield, Councillor Kate Anolue. The Edmonton Seventh-day Adventist drama group, the London Adventist Chorale, and the Elevation Youth Dance Company treated the audience to acting, singing, and dancing, in which the story of Harriet Tubman unfolded. She was born into slavery herself but became the most famous 'conductor' of the Underground Railroad, guiding over 300 slaves to freedom.

The second half of the production was a funny yet serious reminder of what life was like in the 1940s, '50s and '60s when the people of the

## AMR evangelism in Manchester

On 15 September the Adventist-Muslim Relations (AMR) Department held a special outreach in Manchester (Area 2). NEC AMR Sponsor, Pastor Ikwisa Mwasumbi, and his AMR area co-ordinators converged on Manchester Piccadilly Gardens for the event. The team met at 11am, prayed and set up an attractive gazebo in a very busy street, under which a variety of books and other types of literature were displayed on tables.

Some team members started speaking to people and distributing books while others stayed at the gazebo to attend to those who came to browse at the tables, answering their questions and obtaining contact details wherever possible.

At first it was a challenge because the place was so busy and the passers-by would not stop when we tried to engage them in conversation, but later we had more success.

Another challenge was that there were other denominations who were evangelising using loudspeakers, and we could hardly hear ourselves speak while trying to hold conversations with those who stopped to listen to us. Fortunately, after about 15 minutes of this noise, a 'miracle' happened. The PA systems just failed to work and there was peace and quiet once again.

We had some very good and extremely interesting experiences while doing the work. For example, I spoke to a young person aged about 18 who lives in a small town close to where I live in Preston. He said that his parents and sister are atheists, and he was one too a few years back – but then he started searching for truth. He said he had started reading the Bible, and as we were talking I realised that he was very knowledgeable about both the Bible and the Koran (Islam). He made it clear that he was reading a lot about Islam to find out if it is a true religion. He said he was looking for a church and I invited him to come to Preston Church, which he promised to do the next Sabbath.

Please pray for this young man – his name is Malachy – and for



everyone that received a book or some literature.

All in all, the numbers of books we distributed are as follows:

1. *Knowing Jesus – Knowing God* – 65
2. *Why I Forsook Islam* – 36
3. *Little Book of Bible Promises for Children* – 66
4. *How to Reduce and Survive Cancer* – 78
5. *What Every Woman Should Know About Men* – 90
6. *What Every Man Should Know About Women* – 31
7. The Holy Bible – 1

We got donations from two different families: one of £50 with the comment, 'Here, have this towards your good ministry'; and the other of £20, from someone who said, 'You are doing a great job – here is my donation.'

We felt so humbled, and praised God for them and for the work done. We finished the outreach at 4pm.

I appeal to anyone who would like to be part of this work in Area 2 and other areas to get in touch with me or one of the other AMR area co-ordinators by ringing the NEC AMR Department.

EBBIE SAKAROMBE (AREA CO-ORDINATOR FOR AREA 2)



demonstrations on fresh juice making.

We are indebted for the support given to us by Pathfinder clubs and musicians from churches in Dagenham, London, Greys, Canterbury, Chelmsford and even further afield.

Some people arrived after we had closed and requested that we do this again next year, which we hope to do. A very big thank-you to all the churches who came to help us, to Pastor Opoku-Mensah and to the Hutton members for helping to make this a success, particularly our Health and Temperance Department leaders, Daisy Sandati and Trevor Simmons.

VIVIAN JERE

## Hutton's first health expo

Hutton Church held a health expo in the month of May in the town of Billericay, Essex. It was the first ever organised by the church and it did attract quite a few shoppers from the nearby Billericay High Street, which resulted in 75 people having health checks. These included blood pressure, PSI, glucose, cholesterol and fitness levels. We also had Gizelle Wilkinson from Dagenham Church doing



BOOKSALES	<b>November</b>		
	24 Dublin	After Sabbath	
	25 Balham	10am-2pm	
	25 Belfast	10am-2pm	
	<b>December</b>		
	1 Filipino Int. Church	After Sabbath	
	2 Manchester South	10am-2pm	
	8 Wolverhampton	After Sabbath	
	9 Ilford Central	10am-2pm	
	9 Sheffield Burngreave	10am-2pm	
15 Holcombe Road	After Sabbath		
16 Brixton	10am-2pm		

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### The tale of three weddings

In 1968 three young couples who knew each other well were married: Alvin and Anthea Fielding, Ray and Lyn Morris and Leslie and Miriam Wood. This year they are celebrating their fiftieth wedding anniversaries. And now, after living in various places throughout their married lives, they are together again, worshipping in Bethania Seventh-day Adventist Church, Ystrad Mynach, South Wales.

Their story began when they were part of a group of young people from the South Wales Adventist churches who met regularly together, later expanding to include others from the Bristol area once the first Severn Bridge opened.

Each couple moved on in their lives. Alvin and Anthea had two sons, one of whom lives in Wales and the other in Australia. They also have about 25 relatives living there, including two little granddaughters, so holidays are often spent on the other side of the world. Ray and Lyn had a son and a daughter, and after a busy working life in England eventually retired to Wales. Leslie and Miriam had one daughter and four foster children while living in various places in England, before retiring to Wales.

Each of the couples have played significant roles in various Adventist churches over the years, including their support of ASI and ADRA. Their experiences are a wonderful testimony of how a shared faith in Christ can preserve both our marriages and our friendships!

BASED ON A REPORT BY MIRIAM WOOD



### Fletewood wins Summer Reading Challenge

Our Fletewood School won this year's library Summer Reading Challenge. The school with the highest percentage of children taking part and completing the challenge wins £100 worth of books from the Library Service. According to the writer, 'We are only a very small school, but our children love to read and this has been proved with this great prize. Thank you so much to the Library Service for acknowledging the children's hard work.'

MRS RACHEL GRAY (HEAD TEACHER)

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**Eileen Frances Hill (1919-2018) d. 25 September.** Eileen Frances Finley was born in Coombe Hospital, Dublin, on 20 March 1919, to Frances and George Finley. Her father was chief steward on the agricultural Schiven Estate in Co. Wicklow. Moving to Ballyhubbock five years later, she lived with older brothers Tommy and Willie in a busy, happy home. At the age of 21 she married Alexander Hill from Dublin – a love affair that lasted until 1986 when he died in Naas Hospital, where she herself passed away this year aged

ninety-nine-and-a-half! Alex and Eileen had five children, all of whom became Seventh-day Adventists: Alex, Freddie, Evelyn, Vivienne and Frances. Instrumental in this change was Ted Finley, a farmer who lived near the Hill home in Donard. Also involved were Pastors Roy Burgess, still with us, and Victor Hall, who baptised Freddie in England. She attended Ballynarrow Church, aged 80 to 90, from her final home, located just half a mile away in Stratford-by-Slaney, the beautiful salmon river that enters the sea at Waterford in

Co. Wexford. She believed in Christ as Saviour and lived her life in bubbling joy – right up to her last day in Naas Hospital, Co. Kildare. Her door was always open to others. In recent years she was cared for at home by her daughter, Evelyn, and son-in-law, George Wilson. She welcomed the writer when he pastored in Dublin in 1969-71, and he ended up marrying her second daughter, Vivienne, who shares both her beauty and her kindness. The funeral on 28 September was led by the Rector of Donoughmore Church of Ireland,

Mr Raw, in the lovely hills of Co. Wicklow on a 'bright-bright-sunny day'. Pastor Stephen Wilson from New Zealand was assisted by Vanessa McCandless from Banbridge and her oldest son Alex from Ballymoney, Co. Wexford. Eileen died in the blessed hope of the Second Coming of Jesus. She leaves five children, thirteen grandchildren and twenty great-grandchildren. Soon we'll gather at another river: not the Slaney, but that which 'flows by the throne of God'.  
ROBERT G. VINE

### Hope Community Church Holiday Bible School

On 6 August the Hope Community church started their very first Holiday Bible School since opening in January this year. Approximately 25 children attended each day, and we were certainly blessed.

The theme was 'We are called', and each morning the children learnt about different characters in the Bible and their calling by God – to be different, to be faithful, to forgive, to serve and to give.

The Hope Community and sister church members kindly volunteered their help, leading out in the morning devotions and all helping with the other activities – from arts and crafts to the outdoor activities – which included a treasure hunt.

Children's activities included designing their own T-shirts, making jar lanterns, hand and feet printing, creating their own bags and decorating cupcakes.

The days were filled with fun and laughter, and from the youngest to the oldest they all thoroughly enjoyed the action songs and listened attentively to the stories.

A graduation service was held on Sabbath, a real 'high' day. Each child received a certificate, and children and parents from the community also attended. The children were able to share what they had learnt throughout the week and display all the items they had made. The programme ended with the theme song, 'There is peace in Christ'.

The team are looking forward to the next event!

LEN WILLIAMS

### Another centenarian

Gwendoline Grace (Wilmot) Mason was born on 9 October 1918, and at 13 was baptised by Pastor O. M. Dorland at the Bournemouth church.

Gwen was called upon to stand up for her faith at a very young age when she was unable to write her 11+ examinations as they were held on a Saturday. She served the Lord faithfully in several different churches around the country, beginning in the High Wycombe church in 1929 where she served as treasurer, Ingathering agent, pianist and librarian.

Following a move to Watford in 1958, Gwen served at the Stanborough Park church as Primary Sabbath School teacher, a deaconess and the treasurer. She worked as a cashier at Stanborough School from 1958 to 1966, and then at the South England Conference from 1973 to 1978, when she retired from full-time denominational service.

Upon retirement she moved to Weymouth, where she continued to serve as treasurer, Ingathering agent, Sabbath School superintendent, a deaconess and pianist. Yet another move took Gwen to Llandrindod

Wells in the year 2000, where she served as organist.

Since 2008 she has lived in Cannock and met with the Cannock congregation until dwindling membership caused its closure.

On Gwen's one hundredth birthday, her family – daughter Pauline, brother Harold, niece Wendy and her husband Dennis – met with other close friends and fellow residents of the Remington Drive Residents' Association to celebrate this very special occasion, during which Gwen proudly displayed her birthday card from Her Majesty the Queen and a telegram from the Right Honourable Esther McVey MP, and was greeted by Local Councillor Snape and his wife.  
MERVYN LEICESTER



### Messenger

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

	Lon	Card	Nolt	Edin	Belf
Nov 23	4.02	4.14	4.00	3.53	4.11
30	3.56	4.08	3.53	3.45	4.04
Dec 7	3.52	4.05	3.49	3.40	3.59
14	3.52	4.04	3.48	3.38	3.58





## Counsellors wanted

Are you a trained counsellor and have you been looking for ways to serve God through your gift and passion?

Cornerstone Counselling Service is offering you a chance to join a self-motivated team of counsellors who volunteer their services to our church members and communities.

If you would like to join this highly motivated and dedicated team, please call us on: 0207 723 8050; or email us at: [connect@ccscounselling.org.uk](mailto:connect@ccscounselling.org.uk).

**ADRA CONNECTIONS UK**

# LET'S GO TO THE PHILIPPINES

Do you and a group of friends fancy visiting The Philippines?

Get involved in a real ADRA project  
18<sup>th</sup> May - 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019

[volunteering@adra.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@adra.org.uk)  
or 030 30 40 1017  
for pricing and more details

**ADRA UK**  
Only 15 spaces!  
First come, first to The Philippines

[adra.org.uk](http://adra.org.uk) [www.facebook.com/ADRAUK](https://www.facebook.com/ADRAUK) [teamadra](https://www.instagram.com/teamadra) [youtube.com/adrauk](https://www.youtube.com/adrauk)  
Registered charity 1074837 (SC037726 - IOM1101)

*As supplied, errors and omissions excepted*

ZUSDAF PRESENTS  
ANNUAL FAMILY RETREAT

# REVIVE US AGAIN

07 - 09 2018 DECEMBER

FEATURING:  
HERITAGE BROTHERS

DR DONNETT BLAKE

<b>Price Packages:</b>	<b>Payment Details:</b>	<b>Location:</b>	<b>Contact Details:</b>
Ensuite Rooms:      Non Ensuite Rooms:	Barclays Bank Account: 30526711 Sort Code: 209179	CCT Conference Centre Lord Street, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, EN11 8SG	Elder Tidings Chengera +44 7429 121802  Sevy Gwasira +44 7961 514435
ADULTS: £140 6-16 years: £70 0-5 years: FREE	ADULTS: £110 6-16 years: £55 0-5 years: FREE		
<b>Day Rates:</b> Adults (lunch & teas) £36 6-16 years: £18			

*As supplied, errors and omissions excepted*

**T.U.F.**  
SEC WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

# BREAK THE SILENCE

What is Domestic Violence, Domestic Abuse?  
How can you help victims of Domestic Abuse?

**SUNDAY**  
9th December 2018  
10am to 4:30pm

**COST £15**  
Lunch is provided

**VENUE:**  
Balham Seventh-day Adventist Church  
83 Elmfield Road, Balham, London, SW17 9AD

Contact Ligia Buzac 01923 232728    [lbuzac@secadventist.org.uk](mailto:lbuzac@secadventist.org.uk)  
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**enditnow**  
End It Now UK

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