

Messenger

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An Unforgettable Day!

by Dr Richard de Lisser
Personal Ministries and Sabbath School director,
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Perhaps, just perhaps, your memory will allow you to go back to a day in your life that was, for one reason or another, just unforgettable.

Are you there yet? What feelings come to mind? Happiness, joy, contentment, peace, tranquillity? Before these thoughts go, hold on to them for just a moment longer and allow them to linger awhile . . . mmm.

Have you ever had a Sabbath like that? If not, is it perhaps that you are carrying your burdens from the week into the Sabbath, spoiling what would otherwise be an unforgettable day?

The prophet Jeremiah reminds us in Jeremiah 17:21: 'Thus saith the LORD; Take heed to yourselves, and bear no burden on the Sabbath day.' (KJV.)

There are a number of burdens that we need not carry with us on the Sabbath day. There is the burden of worldly anxiety. There are times when the unfinished business of the week creeps into our worship service on the Sabbath to sabotage our praise and extinguish our joy. It is at these times that our attention is split and we derive little or no benefit even from our communion with God. The weekday follows us into the rest day like some persistent and troublesome stalker that will not flee while our minds are not stayed on God.

There is also the burden of past sins and mistakes and the feeling of

unworthiness that we often carry as a burden on the Sabbath day. Our thoughts are persecuted and punctuated by the pain of the past and our guilt is so great that we cannot see a way out and our deliverance has seemingly been deferred. But the Sabbath is the Gospel in dramatic form, appointed as a time of rest and blessed assurance; a time for us to renew our hope in the God who is 'faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness'.

(1 John 1:9, KJV.)

There is the burden of the lost, those who are not in Christ; our children, husband, wife, friends and relatives who we would long to see celebrate the Sabbath with us, but, alas, are restless rather than restful, pursuing fools gold in a quest for Paradise lost. But once we have prayed for them, appealed to them, gone the second mile for them, let us commit them to the strong and tender love of the Lord 'that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think.'

(Ephesians 3:20, KJV.)

Let us not be weighed down by any of these heavy burdens on the Sabbath day, for we shall not enter into his courts in the colours of mourning but in the garments of praise, burden-free in an atmosphere of happiness, joy, contentment, peace and tranquillity . . . an unforgettable day! Oh, yes! Are you there yet?



Sabbath – a rest from stress

by Sharon Platt-McDonald
BUC Health Ministries director



Work was identified as the biggest source of stress, cited by 36% of the respondents.

When I analysed these statistics, I smiled and whispered a quick, 'Thank you, God', as I thought about the relief that the Sabbath brings to all our daily anxieties.

If work is the biggest source of our stress, thank God we can leave it all behind, if

only for twenty-four hours, and just 'rest' in God.

The mindset of the week, with its varying demands, needs to be relieved on a cyclical basis with another form of stimulus for emotional, social and physical rejuvenation. People tend to make an effort to relax at the weekend in order to recharge body, soul and spirit for the ensuing week.

I find **emotional** rest on Sabbaths. I can 'log off' from the draining activities demanding my attention and find peace in God.

With the six days of toil and labour behind me, I am relieved from the stress of work and my mind is free

to focus on God more effectively.

I embrace the **social** rest the Sabbath provides. I treasure the quality time I can spend with my husband and family. I find social interaction a form of distraction as it deflects from stressful issues.

Sharing special time with individuals close to us engenders a feeling of value. It also builds solidarity with family members, friends and the church community. Taking time out with a spouse or family members has been shown to enhance family life greatly. As Christian families we ought to cherish the blessing of the Sabbath as it gives us time to focus on God and each other.

I welcome the **physical** rest the Sabbath offers. The research-based evidence of the benefits of physical rest to the human body is overwhelming. Taking regular rest from work has been shown to improve the quality of life and even enhance longevity, sharpen mental agility, and make individuals more productive.

Medical research has demonstrated that body cells grow fastest when the body is at rest. The rejuvenation of cells while we are asleep or at rest promotes well-being.

I enjoy the **spiritual** rest of the Sabbath. Not a rest *from* spiritual but a rest *in* spiritual things.

Devoting twenty-four hours totally to

God, to worship, to fellowship with Christian believers, is the most refreshing aspect of the Sabbath for me. I find such joy, fulfilment and strength in those twenty-four hours which anchor me for the week to come and carry me through from one week to the next. That infilling from God's words, from the uplifting hymns, from the power of timely prayers, has been like an oasis in the desert.

The seven-day cycle of rest is a special blessing from God. It gives mankind an opportunity to press the pause button in his life; to 'be still' and know that God is God. When we are working, God rests and when we rest, God works. He can do his work of complete rejuvenation in us only when we are totally focused on him.

The beneficent Creator, after six days of Creation, rested on the seventh day and instituted the Sabbath for all people of all times as a memorial of Creation. This reminds me that not only am I God's creation, but when I rest in him on the Sabbath, I experience a re-creation of body, soul and spirit. Therefore on Sabbaths I become a new creation; I am recycled and rejuvenated!

Thank God for the health-enhancing benefits of the Sabbath!

* 'A Mess of Stress', USA Today, March 21, 1990.

From the instant we wake up we are making choices. Wise or unwise. Right or wrong.

Most people are unhappy because of unwise or wrong choices. The world is in a mess for the same reason.

Wouldn't it be convenient to have truth packaged in such a simple form as to indicate unerringly what is right in the most basic right-or-wrong choices in life?

To discover such a thing would be to find truth's hub (as opposed to a billion things on its outer edge). That would be something of fantastic value: rules to ensure fulfilled living.

Great Christian thinkers have thought about such a hub of truth. One said that it would have to include the two basics of what man needs to know: 1. The nature of the One who created and orders the universe; 2. The nature of man himself.

Someone drowning within a few yards of a lifebelt does not need a lesson in hydraulics. His primary need is to lay hold on life – now!

For that reason, when God visited Sinai four thousand years ago he made the provision of such a hub of truth his priority. The Lawgiver spoke of himself as Creator and Redeemer and of man's nature as a dependent creature prone to evil. The hub of truth was not written on papyrus but stone. The Ten Commandments summarised the righteousness their Author personified. They include the keys to man's dilemma.

1. At the centre of this hub of truth, God placed a unique commandment that enshrined the essentials of knowledge for created beings and commemorated the towering pillars of existence: Creation and Redemption. This commandment is one that man could never have thought out for himself. It is a commandment that answers man's primary questions and, simultaneously, points the way to a joyful, fulfilled life. Here's how God expressed it:

'Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your manservant, nor your maidservant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.'¹

The spiritual blindness of the world can be attributed to neglect of the Sabbath God placed at the centre of his hub of truth.

2. The Sabbath commandment reveals the things man most needs to know: he has an all-powerful, all-loving heavenly Father, and he [man] is a creature who needs to cease absorption with the world of things and spend quality time with the One who made him. '*The Sabbath was made for man.*'²

Mature spiritual living springs from true Sabbath observance: 'I . . . gave them my Sabbaths, to be a sign between them and me, that they might know that I am the Lord who sanctifies them.'³

The Sabbath is the only commandment announced at the dawn of time. The invitation to observe it was received by our first parents before the Fall. The Sabbath is the first institution introduced in Scripture.

In the Ten Commandments, the Sabbath stands between the two tables of our duty to God and our duty to man. In his *Commentary on Romans*,⁴ Robert Haldane calls the Sabbath commandment 'the great foundation and cornerstone binding [our duty to God and our duty to man] together.' He continues, 'Had all men properly kept the Sabbath all would have known Jehovah and worshipped him from the creation of the world to the present time, and idolatry would never have been practised.' There would have been no dark continents or 10:40 windows.

God said 'Remember', knowing that man's greatest need was to remember daily, hourly, moment by moment what God is and what man is: dependent on him for life, physical and spiritual.

Men and women behave as they do because they have forgotten their divine origin. God has become a hazy blur instead of a towering reality. Man has come to behave as if Darwin got it right.

By putting everything in its true perspective, the Sabbath meets the need of the soul for worship ('*worth-ship*') and to pursue the highest good.

The New Testament indicates that the Sabbath is a memorial of *Redemption* as well as *Creation*.

07 07 07 At the core of truth is the Sabbath

Ben Snowdon



On the sixth day of his last week of Redemption, Jesus cried, 'It is finished' – and then rested. He could have risen the next day, but he chose to rest in death that Sabbath, as he had rested each Sabbath of his life. Ever after every Sabbath would be a reminder of the finished work of redemption: a memorial of the Creator's love manifested in the re-creation of redemption.

The Sabbath thus becomes an emblem of our peace in Christ through his completed work of atonement, a seal of righteousness by faith, for the essence of faith is looking away to Another in acknowledgement of our creaturely dependence.

Our Lord risked his life and work throughout his ministry to rescue the Sabbath from pharisaic rules. He said he is 'Lord of the Sabbath' and 'The Sabbath was made for man.'² This had always been true and always would be true.

When he prophesied the Fall of Jerusalem (that would take place in AD70) Jesus told his disciples to 'pray that your flight may not be in the winter or on the Sabbath.'³ Winter flight would be arduous for the body, but Sabbath flight would be bitter to the soul because it was contrary to God's design for that holy day.

'There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God.'⁴

Those who truly enter that rest are promised God's best blessings.⁷

References:

¹Exodus 20:8-11, NKJV. ²Mark 2:27, NKJV. ³Ezekiel 20:12, NKJV. ⁴Page 699. ⁵Matthew 24:20, NKJV. ⁶Hebrews 4:9, NIV. ⁷Isaiah 58:13, 14.



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

ENVIRONMENT AND THE IMMUNE SYSTEM (Part 6)

As we conclude our series on the immune system, we learn what scientists are saying about environmental triggers and the need to keep harmful pollutants out of the environment. Ross, a seal researcher, currently working with the Canadian Department of Fisheries, states: 'It's very hard to predict what impact these chemicals are going to have when they end up in our waterways and food supply.' He concludes, 'It speaks to the need for wise chemical design and regulations.'

While it's impossible to avoid all toxins, we can reduce the levels of exposure and lessen the

impact on our immune system. Examine the following ways to protect yourself more effectively:

Avoid toxins in the home – Use natural cleaners instead of harsh solvents. Increase ventilation, maintain house plants, avoid overexposure to electromagnetic emissions (EMEs) and chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs).

Reduce work-related exposure to heavy machinery, asbestos, chemical dust, solvents and radioactive fields.

Avoid as many chemicals as possible – Try using unbleached paper products and greener cleaners. Health shops offer alternatives to weed killers and bug sprays.

Go veggie – Vegetarian meals contain less toxins. Fatty meats and dairy products carry the most dioxins and PCBs. Chicken also contains oestrogen.

Opt for organic – Use organic foods as they have less exposure to chemicals and are more fresh.

Use filtered water – Drinking water may contain solvents and other contaminants.

Be careful what you swallow – Echinacea is highly acclaimed for prevention and treatment of colds, but it can be harmful if your immune system is already in overdrive. Always consult your GP first before taking herbal remedies.

Enquire about oestrogen. Some people are not able to tolerate oestrogens well. Inform your doctor of your family history before you commence hormone therapy or the birth control pill. World Wildlife Fund scientist Theo Colborn explains that any substance that might act like hormones can influence the immune system. Bisphenol A (BPA) found in synthetics is one such chemical. Additionally, take care with plastics and avoid their use in the microwave as oestrogenic chemicals can leak from the plastic when heated in the microwave.

Manage stress effectively. Continuous stress and intense emotional pressure negatively impact the immune system, causing autoimmune diseases to flare up.

Get tested. If you are concerned about your health or immune system function, request an immune profile from a specialist.

Good health!

Teenagers pray

by Danielle Sinclair

February 15-18 – a weekend of giggles, tears, prayers, testimonies, fellowship, friendship and about 100 Adventist teenagers, eight of whom were from Sands church in High Wycombe (Ivan, Tanikka, Rebecca, Kayli, Nyesha, Shannon, Shakira and

myself, Danni). This year's Prayer & Bible Conference (P&BC) was a real success.

On the Thursday, at about 4 o'clock, the quiet, peaceful Lee

Valley Youth Hostel was infested with the troops of bashful teens who were traipsing in by the dozens. Soon the hall was filled with quiet chatter – and what seemed like about 500



suitcases. Pastor Hines gave an introductory speech and our room keys were given out. So we set off to our chalets, unpacked and explored the premises. Sooner or later, we were settled, making new friends, becoming re-acquainted with old ones and generally getting to know our housemates. After a short while, we reported back to the main hall for the first of our seminars and so our

Prayer and Bible Conference experience began.

The seminars and worship sessions for the whole weekend were based around the topic of 'gifted' and each morning and evening we were blessed by the words of Pastor Damian Chandler, a youth pastor in Seattle, Washington State. He made himself available for each of us to speak to him on a one-to-one basis, if we wanted counselling or to pray with someone. His sermons were a real blessing as they targeted problems that many teenagers face every day and he presented them in an amusing and enjoyable way.

Along with the seminars and the twice-a-day worship sessions came our small groups. These groups, organised by Pastor Hines, enabled us all to meet daily in different chalets to pray and discuss the Bible. This was a great way to make new friends, as our small groups were made up of people from totally different churches. We were able to share experiences and talk about our different views on things in the Bible. We also prayed with one

another. We prayed for family, friends, school, church. You name it, we prayed for it!

The P&BC Sabbath was really blessed by God. Even the food seemed to taste better! After an early morning small group's session, we all filled into the hall for worship time. After an invigorating sermon, the blessings continued to flow with a song service. We certainly lifted the roof and every teenager participating in the singing was on a high. I know that even the angels had to be joining in our praising on that Sabbath as it felt as if there were 100,000 people singing rather than 100. However, it was a shame that we had to cut the song service short, because we had missed our lunch and the canteen was soon to close. But God was on our side and the dinner ladies agreed to keep the canteen open for a few hours longer so we could all eat, but I don't think I'm alone in saying that I would have carried on the singspiration rather than eating my lunch!

Sabbath afternoon was also blessed. We had a service of praise and adoration where we sang some songs and some gave testimonies of what God had done for them. We heard stories ranging from how God had done relatively small things, such as helping someone to find a misplaced folder, to how he had performed miracles such as saving lives. However, in every story we were told of how amazing and miraculous our God is. People brought prayers before the Lord: requests to save dying friends, requests to help straying brothers and sisters, requests to help parents to come to know the Lord and requests to ask for God's help along life's journey. And then we prayed. Boy, did we pray! By now most of us were close to tears, but we prayed. It's a strange experience, having a group of teenagers pray not only for themselves, but to pray over a pastor! But it was an unforgettable experience.

The Saturday evening certainly was a great way to end a great day. After supper, we endured an hour of watching 'One Hope Street'. After that there was a social and 'Oh, my days!' what a social it was! In true Adventist tradition, no social is a social without a game of numbers. But what is it that makes every Adventist teenager boy think that a game of numbers is a wrestling match? The rest of the night was

Songs of Deliverance available from 07 07 07

by Trevor Johnson, SEC Music department



The London Adventist Chorale's long awaited follow-up to 'Deep River' (Paradisum) and 'Steal Away' (EMI), 'Songs of Deliverance' will be available from 7 July in a special concert launch at the Hampstead church. The Chorale has an international following both within the church and among many in the secular market place. Some of their best spirituals are featured on this new recording. This is certainly one for your library and a perfect gift for your secular friends and family.

Due to popular demand Adventist Vocal Ensemble (AVE), of BBC TV 'Songs of Praise' fame, released their self-titled debut album on 11 June at Camp Meeting. Accolades from viewers in Australia via Canada to the UK have overwhelmed the

occupied by more gentle brain stimulating games such as Oats, Pick Pack BOOM and Mafia. Well, the social finished in the early hours of the morning and our beds were waiting for us.

Our Sunday was quiet, but a good time for reflection. After a final sermon and a long good-bye to all our new friends and to all the different people who had attended, we journeyed back to our homes and beds.

BBC. This has been a testimony to the sheer power of music to impact and change lives which has humbled director and founder Ken Burton. Accompanied by the Guildhall String Orchestra and our very own mezzo-soprano Antonia Adelitta Francis, this debut recording shimmers with excitement, dedication and pathos. Classics such as 'Abide with Me' and 'Precious Lord' are among other artistic jewels on this album.

Order 'Songs of Deliverance' by the London Adventist Chorale right away.

We ask for your unequivocal support for the UK Adventist Christian recordings industry which is indeed in its infancy and needs your help.

For further information and ordering online, please visit the following websites:
www.londonadventistchorale.com
www.adventistvocalensemble.com

John and Ethel Freeman's Diamond Wedding

Sixty years ago John Freeman and Ethel Mahon, supported by John's brother George and Ethel's sister Kathleen, stood before Bernard Kinman in the Gillingham Methodist chapel to plight their

troth. Two years before there had been scenes of wild rejoicing in Trafalgar Square, and street parties and dancing throughout the land. The dark days of killing and destruction in Europe had ended, and hopes for a bright future ran high. But the brightness had dimmed into depression as shortages of food and clothing and the ending of Empire began to cloud the hope and glory of the children of the 'Mother of the Free'.

And so it was that day that Ethel was wearing a new suit in *eau de nil*, which had eaten a great hole in her clothing coupons and was chosen with long years of wearing in view, while John had to make do with the suit in which he ascended the pulpit every Sabbath day. And as for the wedding breakfast, what could be done with rationed cheese, butter and margarine? But thanks to a general share-out and the bride's resourceful brother with his churn of milk, four pounds of butter and basket of eggs, the fifty guests went away well content. A minor feeding miracle! The next morning the bridal

pair went off to Hythe to snatch a few days of honeymoon, before John's ministerial duties called them back for the weekend services.

John's romance had begun one day in 1940 when he looked out of his window at Newbold Revel and saw Ethel walking across the cobbled yard. 'That's the girl for me,' he decided, and being a determined young man, that's who she became, and still is. Faithfully did they serve the Lord in the ministry as a mark of their gratitude until at length the time came for them to share a well-earned retirement.

John and Ethel served in Wales, John's native land, for the first eleven years of their ministry. The next fourteen years took them to South England, mainly to churches along the coast. For another eight years they laboured in North England, and for eight and a half years more in Ireland. They are ministerial jewels, and John, like Chaucer's ideal priest, is a 'shepherd and no mercenary', a pastor who 'in his teching [was] discreet and benigne./To drawen folk to heaven by fairnesse/By good ensample'.

In spite of a rainy day and the space limitations of their modest home, John and Ethel's immediate family – Kathryn and Heather and their husbands Paul and Stuart, and their granddaughter Holly – and their many other relatives and even more friends squeezed together out of the rain in Peacock Walk to share a feast with a wider variety of food than ever John and Ethel could have dreamt of on their wedding day, to drink the health of the happy couple and to wish them even more years of joyful service and companionship.

JOHN WOODFIELD



Wow!

Well, all I could say was, 'Wow!' AYS to me was never better than the one I experienced at Tottenham on 7 April. Let's say it was like going to a special dinner. It was a grand occasion – you should have been there. If you were, I am sure you were as ecstatic as I was.

Song service was unforgettable. It was very lively and the teens had the audience going. That was for starters. The main course was just as spectacular. There was a drama scene on the Resurrection, which was done beautifully. The teens put a lot of effort into this well organised presentation. El-Kay was Mary Magdalene and she left a vivid picture in my mind. It was as if she had gone back in time. She made us feel the grieving pain Mary felt when Jesus was crucified. As for Quinland, who played Jesus, well, words cannot explain his brilliant effort. The expression on his face left us with a lasting impression of how Jesus felt when he was carrying the cross.

So what's the true meaning of Easter? As Seventh-day Adventists, we know that Easter has nothing to do with either Easter eggs or bunny rabbits, although many people teach their children so. Let us then celebrate Jesus' death, burial and resurrection by living for him every day. He gives us a chance to live with him and our Heavenly Father forever.

TONI-LEIGH SMITH, age 12, Tottenham



Tottenham: nine baptised

There was great rejoicing in heaven and at Tottenham church on Sabbath 26 May when nine precious souls were baptised on the final day of the 'Invitation to the Tree of Life' evangelistic campaign. Members were particularly pleased, as eight of the nine baptised were young people from the church. All nine glowed with joy unspeakable as they made their public stand for Jesus. Members, family and friends came to witness this unforgettable occasion and the church hall was full to capacity. Many had to stand. Some were disappointed that they could not get into the hall, but were pleased to be able to get a 'ring side' view on the screen upstairs in the sanctuary.

The campaign ran for eight days, starting on Friday 18 May. Pastor N. Butoiu delivered the messages throughout, except on Sunday 20 May when Dr Richard de Lisser was the speaker. The messages were spoken with clarity, conviction and power and those present talked about feeling the presence of the Holy Spirit throughout the campaign. The Romanian and Tottenham churches worked in partnership to make the messages available from the start of the campaign to a worldwide audience via the Internet on both churches' websites.

It was a revelation to those who attended the campaign to learn that Jesus was the Tree of Life and we have access to its healing leaves right here on Earth. At the end of the campaign there were many who came forward for baptism, but it was felt that they should be taught first before being baptised. The Bible workers are busy studying with these people, and another baptism is planned.

Although there was rejoicing in the hearts of the members at Tottenham, there was great sadness as the day of the baptism was Pastor Butoiu's final day as pastor of Tottenham. He was presented with a gift and he was left in no doubt that he would be sadly missed by members and visitors alike.

MAXINE DONOVAN

Impact Chadwell Heath

The morning of Sabbath 5 May at 10am at the RLC Community Centre in Chadwell Heath was truly momentous. It was the culmination of many meetings, planning discussions and prayers. Our first worship service started with prayers of thanksgiving. We felt elated and Spirit-filled. For the first time that I can remember we could actually walk to church. Ilford church was about to give birth and we were privileged to be at the delivery.

On arrival everything seemed so new. Four weeks on I think we can say that this truly was an exhilarating experience and a much-recommended one. We have grown spiritually and we are experiencing fellowship such as we have not experienced for a long time. We have grown closer to God and to each other.

With our group everyone is a participant. There are no spectators. We realise that this is the beginning of an enormous work but one that we are assured God has paved the way for us all to be a part of.

MARK and VAL GITTENS

Palmer's Green health day

'Above all, good health!' That's the title Jenine Bignall chose for Palmer's Green's first health day on 14 April.

The morning began with a healing and anointing service led by their very own pastor, Pastor Boldeau. This saw youth and senior members show their faith by taking part in the anointing. There were also testimonies from members.

The day continued with divine service when we were blessed with special items from Palmer's Green choir. Pastor R. J. B. Willis was the

Polish service

On Sabbath 10 March, High Wycombe Sands church was blessed when the Polish group took part in divine service. The children's story was presented by Yarek Szatkowski and his wife Doris sang a special spiritual song in Polish. Swavek Gromadzki took to the pulpit and delivered his first sermon at Sands church. He mentioned his English was not perfect, but it was more than perfect because the Lord blessed him as he preached.

The Polish group have been with us for one year and are rapidly growing in the church where we hope to see more of their special talents and gifts.

SONIA LEE

one chosen to break the bread of life to the members and visitors. Pastor Willis used PowerPoint with his sermon, informing the congregation of crucial health facts. He touched on heart disease, cancer, stress, mental health and happiness. He also told Palmer's Green about a healthy diet and lifestyle.

Palmer's Green was blessed with over a hundred members and visitors. The day did not end there: there was a healthy community feast, followed by AYS.

Hope UK came and spoke on drug awareness. There was also a debate on IVF and abortion.

RUTH NOEL

Norwich baptism

Baptism is one of the major steps we take as Christians in response to God's call. The older we get, the



more we recognise the hole in our soul for what it is. Sabbath 17 March was a special day in the lives of three members of Norwich church. Vuyokazi Boo, Mary Elizabeth Hinks and Milimo Chongoo each made their decision at various points, having studied the Bible with Pastor Chris Peake of Norwich church. Pastor Michael Walker of Great Yarmouth church was the special guest for the day and baptised all three new members in a colourful afternoon ceremony attended by friends, family and fellow members. Each candidate was given a chance to give a testimony of how they came to Jesus in an interview with Pastor Chris. After the baptism, Frida Peake, Pastor Chris's wife, presented the candidates with gifts.

COMMUNICATION SECRETARY



Mary Elizabeth Hinks, Vuyokazi Boo, and Milimo Chongoo with Pastor Chris Peake and Pastor Michael Walker

The Principal of the Adventist Discovery Centre (VOP) acknowledges with sincere thanks the following anonymous donations from the Manchester area: £300 in March, £300 in April and £300 received in June. Our thanks also for three £40 anonymous donations from Stanborough Park church, and £20 from Mrs E. N. Lewis (no address given).

E. G. White Seminar

by Faye Weekes

An E. G. White seminar? Why did the powers that be feel that we needed to have a seminar on Mrs White? Was this pillar in our religion going to be destabilised? I walked into the Stanborough School chapel with trepidation only to hear Pastor Victor Hulbert, in his introductory comments, say words that immediately put my mind at ease and gave me assurance that this was a seminar I needed to attend.

Professor E. Antic of Newbold's White Centre was superb and his seminar clarified many questions in my mind, reassured my belief in the lesser light and reinforced my great trust and faith in the greater Light. He outlined ten reasons for the relevance of Mrs White ('the weakest of the weak' as he was heard to say more than once) in the twenty-first century. The chief of these was 'The Great Controversy' theme which she outlined in her book of the same name and which he termed 'our system of theology'. Her emphasis on Christ and his eternal pre-existence, on education, on publication, on religious liberty and human rights were some of the other reasons outlined.

Professor Antic, using Luke 24:27 as a basis, outlined six hermeneutical principles which should be applied when looking at any topic from the Bible. *Sola Scriptura*, where

explanations should only come from Scripture; *Tota Scriptura*, where we need first to look at the totality of statements from Scripture on a topic; *Sacra Scriptura Sui Ipsius Interpres*, meaning that the Scripture is its own interpreter; *Spiritualia Spiritualiter Examineatur*, where spiritual things must be spiritually discerned/spiritually examined; *Historical Context*; and *Literary Context*. Applying these principles to Mrs White's writings means that, for example, we need to include all that she has said on a subject and every statement she made must be understood within its historical context so that time, place and context must be taken into consideration. Therefore, the principle underlying each statement of counsel must be recognised in order to understand its relevance to certain people at a certain time. He emphasised that we should use commonsense and sanctified reasoning when discussing scriptural matters.

During the day questions were raised about plagiarism, black equality and the discrepancies in the Spirit of Prophecy and we were counselled to place these in literary and historical context to understand the correct meaning of the particular statements quoted.

Importantly, Professor Antic

pointed out, using texts to illustrate, that the Bible has discrepancies but explained that in the Bible, God is using human language. As Adventists we believe in *thought inspiration*. The thought behind the word is absolute truth and the word of God, but the writing down is left to man. He applied this reasoning to the Spirit of Prophecy and to the question of the infallibility of Mrs White.

We examined the words *revelation* (a divine act by which God reveals himself and enables the prophet to come to an understanding of something he could not have come to discover on his own); *inspiration* (a divine act in which God enables the prophet to transmit or write down what was revealed to him); and *illumination* (where God enables every sincere seeker of the truth to find out what was revealed and what was transmitted).

We briefly looked at three theories of inspiration: *natural inspiration*, where people are 'geniuses in the spiritual field'; *partial inspiration*, where the belief is held that some parts of the Bible are inspired and some parts are not; *verbal/mechanical inspiration*, where we do not believe that prophets are passive instruments of God but that the totality of the prophet was involved in the process of inspiration.

We briefly touched on Christological matters, such as the divinity/humanity of Christ and it was said that originally Christianity believed that Jesus Christ was fully

God and fully man and as a result he was fully and properly worshipped by man. However, later worshippers began to emphasise his divinity more than his humanity and others emphasised his humanity more than his divinity, but the reality was that he was both God and man – a mystery. However, we were assured by Pastor D. W. McFarlane (who also attended the meeting and ably supported Professor Antic) that meetings dealing with the topic of Christology would be scheduled for a later date.

This was really a seminar for lay persons such as myself, and it was worthwhile attending as much was learnt and many rumours were dispelled. It gave the layman a reasoned method of approach/analysis for seeming anomalies/inconsistencies in the Spirit of Prophecy and the Bible. At the end of the day it appeared that doubters were reassured and there was unity. More of these meetings are needed and will go a long way in promoting unity of thought throughout the Conferences/ Missions and in clearing up any misunderstanding or mistrust among our members. We have a young thinking/questioning element in our membership and meetings such as these will do much to strengthen their belief in the face of modern scepticism.

It was clear from this seminar that the way we understand the Spirit of Prophecy writings should be based on the above explanations and we were left with the assurance that Mrs E. G. White is an authentic

Opening day – Romford Community Fellowship

In a small upper room, at the Trinity Methodist Church, thirty gathered to worship and fellowship.

The service started at 10.30am with prayer and greetings by Pastor Mohan Rao. The Semper sisters, Susan and Sharon, led us in song service. After that Brethren Adjei and Mullings said the prayer of praise and thanksgiving. The Scripture was read by Shirley Magwenzi and young Mykala.

Pastor Mohan then introduced the core members and gave a brief history of the Romford Community Fellowship. The core members include Brethren T. Hudson and O. Mangena, Sisters G. Hudson, A. McKay, S. Mangena, S. Stewart and S. Semper.

The brief history revealed that, although a few members have lived in the Romford/Collier Row area for a number of years, the area has been viewed as unentered territory. Until the year 2003, the only work done here had been Ingathering and selling magazines by faithful members.

In October 2003, led by the Personal Ministries

department of Plaistow church, a campaign for church planting was launched. Pastor Felix McPherson and the members of the church distributed 5,915 tracts and VOP cards and 340 *LIFE.info* magazines in this area. Four members of the church continued this witnessing work until mid-December 2006.

The Hudsons opened their home for prayer meetings and fellowship. After prayers and a thorough search, the Lord provided a place for worship and fellowship – Trinity Methodist Church, Angel Way, RM1 1JH. Prayer meetings continue every week at the Hudsons' home. The SEC treasurer Earl Ramharacksingh was present and noted that as Christians we should not fail to witness and help others with our God-given gifts.

The sermon was preached by Pastor Rao. He encouraged the congregation to know, share and live the truth, and to spend time with God's Word. The prayer of consecration was given by Pastor George Scon. The occasion ended with light refreshments and fellowship.

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT



From left to right: Pastor Mohan Rao, Sisters S. Semper, G. Hudson, A. McKay, Brethren T. Hudson, O. Mangena and Sister S. Stewart.



Adventist youth march against guns

by Colin Stewart, SEC Youth director

Pictures by Tim Hulbert and Matt Vincent



The parade started at Temple Place and ended at Westminster Central Hall. It flowed past Downing Street, Parliament Square and Big Ben. Seven hundred marching Pathfinders and youth brought central London to a standstill. Spectators lined the

Britain's Adventist youth encountered London's youth gun culture head on when they marched across London carrying the banner 'PUT IT DOWN' on Sabbath 19 May.

streets and burst into spontaneous applause at the sight of the London Youth Federation's

'PUT IT DOWN' anti-gun sign.

The march was to commemorate the centenary of the Seventh-day

Adventist Youth ministry in the British Isles.

Coachloads of excited young people were joined by police outriders who came in convoy to join their foot colleagues who were already on site. At Westminster Central Hall, Matt Stone of Scotland Yard police headquarters told us, 'In my whole police career of providing support for demonstrations I have never watched such a positive event.' He added, 'It was a true pleasure to assist today. Please come again!'

Newbold church's youth leader Steven Hulbert said, 'It was fantastic to witness so many young people who are proud of the Church's youth heritage walking and singing together.'

The banging of drums was the sound people heard. Once the Pathfinder drum corps started their drums the police were off blocking the roads and providing an escort. Tourists snapped their cameras. People got out of their cars for a better view, intrigued by the rhythms of

the Pathfinder parade. Susanne Kirlaw of Walthamstow was impressed: 'We have brought the church to the community,' she said.

The theme of the Westminster Hall day of fellowship programme which started at 3pm was 'These Shoes'. It focused on tracing the journey of the Youth department and climaxed in the evening with a candlelit service in which youth recommitted themselves to God and to the community. Entry to the event was free, but youth were asked to bring a pair of shoes to donate to the SHOE BIZ charity appeal being run by UNICEF. The aim was to collect 2,000 pairs of shoes.

From 3pm the 2,300-seater Westminster Central Hall was packed with Adventist youth. The rest of the day was spent in praise, thanksgiving, visioning and celebrations.

Katya Losie from Newbold was among the 2,000-plus crowd who enjoyed the music. 'It was an opportunity to hear various styles, experience many talents, and really get inspired,' she said. 'The "These Shoes" programme not only traced the history of the youth movement in the UK but took it to the present –

and projected into the future.'

Special thanks go to the entire youth team of SEC, Nathan Stickland, Robert Hines, Angela Robinson and Pearl Ball, as well as BUC Youth director Des Boldeau and TED Youth director Paul Tompkins.



Sheffield: Women's International Day of Prayer and Men's Fellowship

For the second year in succession, the Carter Knowle and Burngreave churches in Sheffield chose to celebrate the annual International Women's Day of Prayer in a special way.

The morning services were held on a gender basis; the men of the two churches met together in the Carter Knowle church, and the women congregated in the

Burngreave church.

The women chose for their theme, 'For such a time as this'.

The programme had at its heart the '7 Powerful Strands of Prayer', which were defined as shut-ins, togetherness, self-esteem, young women, relationships, spiritually 'stuck', and men.

Wanda Chesney from Guyana brought the message of the day. Her



Wanda Chesney

theme was 'Run and Don't Look Back'. Sister Chesney used for her launch text Philippians 3:13, 14 and reminded the women of the district that though everyone makes mistakes, forgiveness is ours through Jesus Christ. Therefore, leave the

past where it is and keep moving forward.

The men's fellowship theme for the morning service was, 'Are you man enough to stand up in response to Jesus?'

The speaker for the men was Pastor Fred Mapp, Ministerial director of the North England Conference. Pastor Mapp used as his launch text Mark 2:3-12.

Both the men and the women in the separate churches then shared a fellowship lunch before joining together again for the afternoon programme which included musical items and Pastor Mapp's presentation on Conflict Management.

CARTER KNOWLE COMMUNICATION TEAM

Nine baptised at Coventry

Coventry Central church was the venue for this happiest of occasions. On Sabbath 19 May there were nine candidates in all who went through the waters of baptism. They were Sarah Amito, Ruth Chipinga, Chidochemwoyo Chirimuuta, Florence Mangisi, Timothy Majaya, Maggie Ntata, Gerald Ntata, Desire Nhidza and Midren Sibanda.

The sanctuary was filled with church members, friends and family who came to support and share in their happiness.

The Bible studies given by Pastor S. Palmer, Elders D. Blake and D.

Massea prior to baptism were undertaken with great enthusiasm, resulting in the candidates' decision to commit themselves to Jesus and walk with him.

Pastor A. Broome spoke encouragingly to the candidates on their acceptance of Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Redeemer.

During immersion by Pastor Palmer the candidates' own choice of song was performed by either members or friends and family. This moving occasion touched the hearts of all present.

CHURCH CLERK



The £5 Asda Challenge

The Women's Ministries department of Preston organised a £5 shopping challenge for the young ladies of the church. On Bank Holiday Monday, the order of the day was a trip to Asda, Clayton Green. The first part of the challenge was to shop for a meal without spending more than £5. Each girl had to think hard about what she was buying and, generally, the choice of food purchased was good. Most opted for good whole-meal bread, low fat spreads, semi-skimmed milk, fresh fruit and vegetables. Each young person was judged on their shopping. In the second part of the challenge they were asked to prepare a meal during the course of the week for their family with the ingredients they had bought. The third and final part of the challenge was for their families to judge whether the meal prepared was worth £5. If so, family members would have to give their young lady a contribution towards her personal Ingathering collection.

One young lady said, 'It taught me that budgeting is not as easy as it seems and also that there are many in this world who have nothing or very little to live on. It was good that we could help ADRA in this way.'

JENNY JEFFERS

CRB check

On Sunday 25 February, a Good Practice Procedure Seminar was held at Walsall church and was supported by a number of members from within the West Midlands. The

Fundraising for ADRA

The children and young people of Preston church enjoyed a fun-filled day on Sunday 8 April. The weather was glorious from the start with a welcome light breeze. Approximately

seminar was conducted by Pastor Cyril Sweeney, Community Services and Family Ministries director and Pastor Paul Haworth, Executive Secretary of the North England Conference. The aim of the seminar was to create awareness in the church of good working practice in regards to keeping the 'church family safe'. Pastor Paul Haworth addressed the area of Criminal Record Bureau (CRB) checks. He stated that the North England Conference is working towards ensuring that all those working with children are CRB checked. This is currently being phased in, first of all with the Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs, to be followed shortly by Junior Sabbath School. Current government regulation requires that all persons working with children and vulnerable adults be CRB checked. Pastor Haworth said that the purpose of CRB checks is to reduce the risk of abuse and ensure that predators are not able to work with our children. But he urged members to ensure good working practice, as this would provide the best safeguard. May God continue to guide and bless the Church as we seek to do his work in these difficult times.

PAUL MTATIRO

twenty people and one dog assembled in Avenham Park for a fun run. Located at certain points around the course were ten clues, each with a letter at the bottom which had to be noted. The ten letters formed an anagram which had to be unscrambled to spell the word 'Christians'. Everyone enjoyed trying to find the clues which were placed around trees, steps, rocks and bushes, not necessarily on flat terrain. Taking part in this event enabled us to exercise, enjoy God's wonderful creation, have fun and, most of all, be a part of the worldwide fundraising endeavour for ADRA.

The second part of the day took the form of a fancy dress party held in Preston church hall. Those who attended rose to the challenge.



Fancy dress party

Corrigendum 112.13 p. 7. The family of Mrs Elsie Handysides wishes to acknowledge the sensitive ministry of Pastor Sandy Pairman, whose warm friendly pastoral care towards a predominantly non-Adventist congregation was much appreciated at her funeral at Newcastle church and afterwards. Elsie had always looked forward to visits from Pastor and Mrs Pairman, and also from faithful church member, Mrs Mary Hunter.

Costumes included a princess, Hawaiians, nurses, safari, Caribbean, African, Asian and even a dog with rabbit's ears!

Costumes were judged and our lovely little Princess Sasha took first place for the under 12s and the Caribbean Queen, Jasmin, won the over 12s.

Musical statues and musical chairs (for the more energetic) were a couple of the games that were played and light refreshments were sold, some of which were made by the children and young people.

Between the two events, the money raised for ADRA amounted to approximately £70. Many thanks to Laura and Natalie Jeffers and Jasmin Toussaint for their fundraising ideas.

JENNY JEFFERS

World president takes questions at Day of Fellowship

by Claude Lombart

Close to 700 church members from across East Anglia worshipped and fellowshipped together in the true family spirit of Adventism for the Area 8 churches' annual Day of Fellowship on Sabbath 5 May.

As reported in the *Ipswich Evening Star*, there was a real sense of excitement as the world leader of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Dr Jan Paulsen, was the special guest for the day held at Christ Church interdenominational church in Ipswich.

Also participating was president of the Trans-European Division, Dr Bertil Wiklander. He combined scholarly expertise with a warm and personable style of communication that made Bible study a spiritually refreshing experience.

British Union Conference president, Pastor Don McFarlane and South England Conference president, Pastor Humphrey Walters, were also present, along with the Mayor and Mayoress of Ipswich, Councillor and Mrs Henry George Davies.

As president of the World Church, Dr Paulsen challenged the morning congregation to focus on what Adventists stand for as a Church, recognising the core fundamental beliefs and emphasising the need to bring the love of Christ and his message to the world. This was followed

in the afternoon by a brief overview of the work of the World Church before fielding questions from the congregation. He held up Inter-America as an example of explosive church growth where the 3 millionth member in the region was recently baptised. Dr Paulsen attributed their ongoing phenomenal success to the small groups approach of doing church.

Questions ranged from music style to ecumenism to the salary of

pastors in Africa and the ordination of women. Dr Paulsen spoke highly of the giftedness of women in Gospel ministry, and simultaneously stated that, while the ordination of women was not a doctrine, the unity of our Church was. He therefore felt duty bound to uphold the latter in his role as leader of the World Church. In terms of music, Dr Paulsen emphasised that there is a breadth of music and that we must not judge other people's music based on our

personal tastes. However, he emphasised that there are certain standards and a 'bottom line' below which the Church should not go.

Other highlights of the day included the testimonies of a young couple and a lady who shared their powerful and deeply moving encounters with God. 'God can change lives inside out,' they said, 'even when hope is just about gone.' Pastor Vontzalidis presented a succinct and positive progress report of church development in the South England Conference and Pastor Don McFarlane lightheartedly introduced the heavier topic of the abolition of the slave trade by using personal anecdotes. Pastor Humphrey Walters concluded the blessed and joy-filled day with prayer.

Photo: Ken Jones



Dr Paulsen, right, with the Mayor and Mayoress of Ipswich

Nottingham Central Music Workshop

On Sunday morning 13 May, as many as twenty people – musicians, singers, praise group members and other interested persons – assembled for a music workshop. The organiser was Eddie Frances and the presenters Devon Elliott (Nottingham Central) and Diane Sinclair (Brimingham Camp Hill).

Devon gave a presentation on 'Everything you need to know about microphones'. He gave instruction on how to know your way around microphones, encompassing omnidirectional, bi-directional and condenser microphones and the etiquette required for each type. His presentation included information

on the frequency range of the human voice and what to look for when purchasing microphones.

Diane gave a presentation which had been compiled by John Tolman (1981) of the London Adventist Chorale – The Physiology, Psychology and Partnership of Church Worship and



Kelly Christie-Phillips and Ashton Patterson

Music Leadership – which revealed top tips on conducting a congregation, including demonstrations and peer feedback, an in-depth look at how to improve the quality of the singing in church services and a

brief update on copyright law as it affects church worship. This morning programme had something for everyone, including the teens, and all too soon came to an end. *AMOS PAULINE AND LUCY LIBURD*

Big surprise at Crieff



The Horvath family

At a recent morning service the members of the Crieff church had a very emotional and happy surprise when two visitors were introduced to them. Part of the service was devoted to a report by Dr Stephen Logan on two projects the church has adopted. These two projects are helping the Maluti Adventist Hospital in Lesotho, South Africa, which is trying to feed orphans whose par-

ents have died of AIDS and also helping the Chesau Old People's Home in Romania.

In 2006 the church decided to give £4,000 to each of these projects for three years, but as reports were given showing the wonderful work the projects are doing and the needs they have, the church members gave another £6,303.

Mr J. Edwards, a church member, recently visited Maluti Hospital and gave a report on how the church's gift was helping to provide school uniforms for 34 orphans, supply foster care for 4 orphans, give free medical care for orphans and pay the salary for Ntate Ntsapi, a field worker for the Needs Assessment Programme, as well as helping with the emergency food supplies.

Besides giving a financial report, he also told some human interest stories and showed pictures of one grandmother who had been crippled by a stroke but was trying to care for her six grandchildren aged 15 months to 14 years, as well as caring for her own mother. The children were cousins and both sets of parents had died of AIDS. He also showed pictures of a team from the hospital going into a village and giving out 150 blankets to needy children.

Dr Logan then gave a financial report of the Chesau Old People's Home which is run by the Horvath

family and which cares for elderly people who have no support and who would have had to live on the streets or in farm barns. The church's gift is paying for an extra full-time nurse, equipping the kitchen to EU Rules and helping to buy a newer car as the home's other car was over twenty years old.

The congregation was moved and delighted to know of the help their gifts are providing. But then came the big surprise. Dr Logan and Ruth Farrer, who has been going to Romania to oversee the work in the home, said they would like to introduce the two visitors from the back of the church and they invited them to come to the platform. They were introduced as Mr and Mrs Horvath, the couple who are running the home. A donor had paid for them to come to Scotland for a two-week holiday. Mr Horvath, wearing his national dress and in his limited English, thanked the church for the tremendous help they were giving. He also said it was their first holiday for over twenty years, and how thrilled they were to be in Scotland and to be able to meet the members of the church. As he told stories of the work the home was doing, the congregation felt their giving had been so worth while.

BOB RODD

Leamington Ladies Race for Life!

Sunday 20 May found sixteen energetic ladies from the Leamington Spa Mission, clad in bright red T-shirts and running shoes at the Stratford-upon-Avon race course, ready to take on the annual Cancer

Marathon bike run to aid orphanage

Two young men recently plucked up courage to tackle a 130-mile cross-Scotland bike run to raise money to build a planned orphanage in South India. The three-day trip took Karl Da Silva, a member of the Dundee church, and his friend Stuart McLaren from Loch Lomond, north of Glasgow, to Forfar in Angus. Karl said: 'The run was, without doubt, the most strenuous experience I have had, as neither myself nor Stuart are professional cyclists.'

The charity is the Joy to the World Orphanage in Armugeneri in South East India whose thirty-two children have been evicted from their home with the threat of life on the streets. Fortunately they have been granted a piece of land where a house can be built for them at a cost of just £6,500. Karl, a freelance multimedia designer, and Stuart, a musician, have so far managed to raise more than £1,300 from sponsors. This includes a large donation from the Karoline Brown Fund. Karl expresses his deep appreciation to all those who have supported the project

JOHN WILBY, Scottish Mission Communication Sponsor

Research 'Race for Life' fundraising event along with nearly 4000 other women. The purpose? To raise money in support of Cancer Research. The weather was superb, team spirits were high and the atmosphere was fantastic.

Each year thousands of women take part in the Race for Life. This year the ladies at Leamington had a special reason to promote and support the work of this organisation – to show their support in a practical way to a church member who was recently diagnosed with cancer. Many of the participants also had close friends and family members whom they supported by taking part in this event.

A big 'well done' goes to Robyn Jamieson (our youngest lady!), Karen



Jamieson, Gemma Proctor, Suzanne Berry, Naomi Watson, Kristina Pearce, Renate Pearce, Mariana Pretorius, Anna Simmons, Pat Lanham, Claire Peacock, Emma Pearce and Brenda-Louise Vine.

Thanks to everyone who sponsored the runners and walkers for this event. The team were able to raise a fantastic sum of money in aid of the vital work undertaken by Cancer Research UK.

BRENDA-LOUISE VINE

Bethel: Life without limits

On the evening of Saturday 24 March, ten priceless souls from Bethel church, Camberwell, were baptised by their minister, Pastor Ebenezer Jones-Lartey. This followed a vibrant, week-long evangelistic series, captioned 'Life without Limits', organised by the Youth department of Peckham church.

Pastor Paul Graham of Brooklyn, New York, was the speaker at the campaign. He had a unique and captivating way of presenting God's word, especially to the youth, and this made them attend each night. Here are some quotes by those who were baptised. 'I did it because what the preacher said hit me.' Another said, 'The preacher sat next to me during the appeal, as if he knew I needed encouragement.'

Bethel Communication team

Colchester's youth

Colchester church has been blessed with a growing family, among whom are children and young people. On Sabbath 31 March we were blessed with their gifts.

During Sabbath school the children showed us what they had been learning for this quarter as they sang and recited their memory verses.

The service was taken by our young people who are gifted musicians, storytellers, preachers and public speakers. The congregation was surprised to be told that Pastor Paul Smith would not be preaching as announced, but that one of our youth, whom we have watched grow up in the church, was to preach instead.

Rowena talked on the subject of mistakes and of Jesus' disciples who had weaknesses just like us. It was well-written, ably spoken and inspirational; she has a true gift for preaching and public speaking.

The day ended with the invitation to a scrumptious lunch back at the home of one of our elders. We had an afternoon quiz and Pastor Paul Smith blessed the home.

ELIZABETH MARSHALL

Middlesbrough new address

The new address of the Middlesbrough church is: St Barnabas Church, 1A St Barnabas Road, Off Linthorpe Road, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, TS5 6JR

Far right is Pastor Graham. In the middle is our delighted minister, Pastor Ebenezer Jones-Lartey, flanked by his newly-baptised members.



Hilton chef at WM Health Day

The annual Welsh Mission Health Retreat took place at the Hebron Hall Christian Centre. The accommodation, facilities and amenities were splendid, and over fifty members and guests from Wales and England attended. The weekend was such a great success that a further retreat is being planned by the Welsh Mission Health co-ordinators, Lil and Irving Saunders.

The speaker was Julio Barillas, the Executive Chef of the Florida Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. He is an expert in his field, being a graduate in Nutrition of the New York University and the Culinary Institute of America. He has conducted 500 interdenominational seminars throughout the world and has given lectures for the American Cancer Society. He held a very prestigious position as Executive Chef with the Hilton and Sheraton Hotels and presented a very dynamic

workshop to 2,400 medical doctors in Columbia on the topic, 'What's wrong with modern nutrition?'

With charismatic aplomb, chef Julio, using PowerPoint, presented enthralling talks on health ideals and held us spellbound with his authoritative and colourful facts, ideas and guidelines.

Exciting and nutritious culinary delights were provided with Irving working indefatigably in the kitchen!

Topics presented were Stress Management, Hypertension, Cholesterol Prevention, Hydrotherapy, Massage, and a simulated visit to the supermarket. He said that laughter is a wonderful antidote for stress.

In the Sabbath morning services, Julio presented the 23rd Psalm in a unique way, and a sparkling Sabbath School class was given by Allen Williams of Cardiff church.

LESLIE RISKOWITZ





Campsite in the early morning

Rain, Rodds and talking dogs at Brecon

by John SurrIDGE,
president, Welsh Mission

An appalling weather forecast did little to deter the more than two hundred people who attended the Spring Family Camp in Brecon, Wales, over the Bank Holiday weekend of 25-28 May. In the event, the weather in Brecon was considerably better than in most other parts of the UK, though admittedly it was pretty chilly and there was drizzle for most of Sunday.

The speaker for the weekend was Pastor Bob Rodd, former Scottish Mission president, though known to many at the camp for his nine years as Youth director of the North England Conference. Bob's theme for the morning and evening talks was, 'More Important than Gravity – Christ's Laws for Successful Living'. Under this heading he focused on the importance of looking at the life of Christ, making a deliberate choice to serve him,



Bob and Moyra with dog puppets

actively looking for opportunities to serve, giving thanks, forgiving, and never ever giving up.

In all of his talks Bob was assisted by his wife Moyra who read poetry, organised activities and also told stories for the children. Particularly successful was a Bob and Moyra double act where, with the aid of puppet dogs, they held the children –

and most of the adults – spellbound with their humorous and topical dialogues. The puppet dogs were joined in the marquee by an assortment of real dogs who punctuated the programmes with barks or yaps – not always at appropriate moments – much to the amusement of the congregation.

Bob's banter with his good friend Barry Alen was a highlight of the camp. The butt of many jokes that Bob included in his talks, Barry also suffered when others were speaking. During a story about Noah the children were asked, 'Now, who was living before the flood?' A voice from the front row of the audience, sounding suspiciously like Bob's, called out, 'Barry!'

Those who have attended the Brecon Camps regularly over the years know that they have a very special atmosphere. This is of course derived from the place and the people who go, but a lot of it is also

down to the careful worship leading of Leamington Spa member Rob Pearce and his team. The camp is blessed with a number of highly proficient musicians – in one service there were (at least) five guitars, a bass, an oboe, a saxophone, a flute and a clarinet – but it is the way that the music is selected and the way that it blends with the words of the carefully chosen songs, that creates a genuinely spiritual mood.

Many other people helped to make this camp special. Mike and Vicky Beamish with their songs for the younger children; Anette Moore and her puppet team from Cardiff who are now becoming famous in the North and South England Conferences as well as the Welsh Mission; Richard Vine with his esoteric monologue on Milton Keynes; the various musicians; those who led the 8am Morning Watch worships; and, of course, Jeremy Tremear who directed the whole camp.

There are two Brecon Camps every year and they are open to everyone. The next one will be held from 7 to 9 September. If you would like to come, just phone Jeremy on 02920 832559.

More photos can be seen on the Welsh Mission website at www.adventistwales.org.



Anette Moore with the puppet team



Children listening to Bob and Moyra

Arson victims helped

Pastor Solon Kyriacou of Hull church has been conducting Bible studies with a lady called Sarah. Recently she requested that prayers should be said for the safety of her father and brother who have suffered threats, intimidation, and acts of vandalism. Those prayers were answered in dramatic fashion when arsonists set fire to the family home, causing extensive damage . . . but no injuries! The house is left uninhabitable and the family is waiting to be rehoused. Because of the severity of the fire, only a few personal possessions could be retrieved. Having been made aware of the seriousness of the situation, the Hull church responded with a cash donation to the Rommell family to help with their immediate needs, and as a result an acknowledgement of the family's gratitude appeared in *The Hull Daily Mail*.

PETER WALLER

Walsall Multicultural Day of Fellowship

On Saturday 28 April, Walsall Adventist church hosted a day of fellowship, planned and organised by its church plant of only five months old. Pastor Dalbir Masih, the NEC Asian Evangelistic co-ordinator, and his associate, Pastor Gill, working with the full support of the local church, have sought to reach the large Asian community in Walsall. It was decided that the church plant would be 'planted' within the existing church and services would convene at 3.30pm. God has blessed this venture, as approximately 40-50 people attend the weekly services and God be praised, because the majority are non-Adventists.

Over 500 people from different parts of the UK attended the day of fellowship. There was a great Asian presence. It is amazing what God can do when, as his people, we petition his throne; when we, as his people, permit him to lead. The joyful worship and praise permeated the air; it permeated the community. The president of the North England Conference was in attendance and presented the word of God. Pastor Francis said, 'This is a great day in which we as people can meet under one roof and worship our God, regardless of race or ethnicity.' We praise God for blessing this wonderful day.

PAUL MITATIO

Baptism at Grays

On Sabbath 17 March Grays church membership increased by four.

A full church witnessed Yvonne Simon being immersed into the waters of baptism by Pastor Delcina Rodney. Yvonne was ably supported by her family, friends and Pastor Horace Taffe of the Fulham church. Following the baptism right hands of fellowship were extended to Lucille Viviers and husband and wife, Brigette and Dawn Nyaude. All four are active members of the church and we wish them Heaven's wisdom as they continue their walk with the Lord.

A. JOSEPH



Yvonne Simon and Pastor Delcina Rodney

NEWBOLD A YEAR FOR GOD?

by Helen Pearson

One hundred and sixty eight. That's how many hours there are in a week. Many of us spend most of them either working or sleeping. Where does the time go?

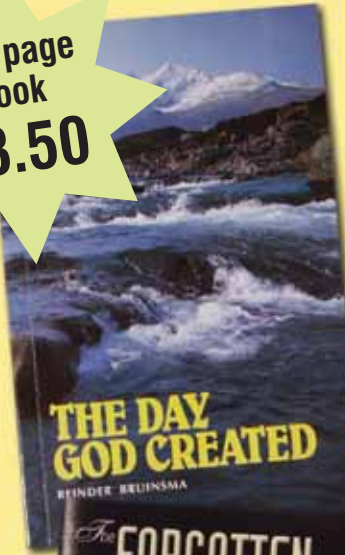
Time for God? We rarely have enough. A snatched prayer as we fall asleep, a chapter or a few Bible verses at odd times. How much opportunity do we give God to speak to us? In the West, the majority of people are money-rich but time-poor. More and more of us are recognising the value of a healthy work-life balance, 'taking time out', giving ourselves time to evaluate what we want and where we are going.

It's for people like this, people who recognise that the really important things sometimes get squeezed out, that Newbold is continuing to develop, alongside its degree programmes, a variety of one-year certificates. These tailored courses provide opportunities for people, whatever their age or background, to step back and think about their lives, their faith and their futures. In the school year 2006-7, the **Gap Year** and the **Youth Leadership Certificate** began the trend. For 2007-8, Newbold is adding a variety of integrated one-year courses in subjects like counselling, social studies, music, and worship which will give students the chance to think about what really matters to them. The certificates are practical too. Each one will offer students the opportunity to improve the sorts of skills which will enrich their personal, professional and church lives. And if you have lived in the Trans-European Division or the Euro-Africa Division for three years, you can even get some help with your fees for one of the programmes.

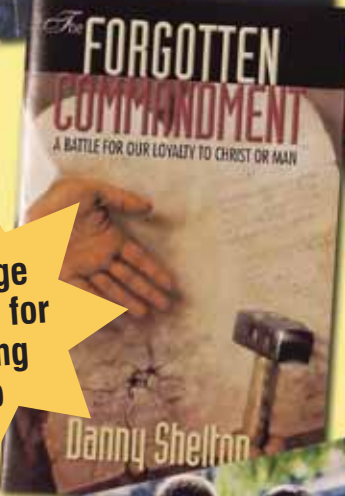
If you're feeling a bit stale or stuck and thinking about taking some time out, log on to the Newbold website www.newbold.ac.uk and click on 'One-Year Programmes'.

Advent Youth Aid (AYA)
Fund-raising events 2007
Fun and Activity Day: Sunday 1 July. Time: 10am onwards at East Park, Hickman Avenue, Wolverhampton.
Part of the Pavilion of Hope Campaign. Stroll-athon, Aerob-athon and Gym-athon.
There will be fun for the family and friends; inflatables, stalls, food, fun activities and sports.
Also Health MOT checks and Sickle Cell screening by professionals.
AYA Awards Presentation Ceremony
18 November, Bethel Convention Centre, Kelvin Way, West Bromwich.
The events will help Adventist youth and others increase their community profile by raising money for Sickle Cell charities, Pavilion of Hope youth project and Diana Princess of Wales Children's Hospital.
For registration pack and sponsor forms contact Trevor Davis: 07989 856810; Lorna Harris: 07739 840947, ldharris_202@msn.com.

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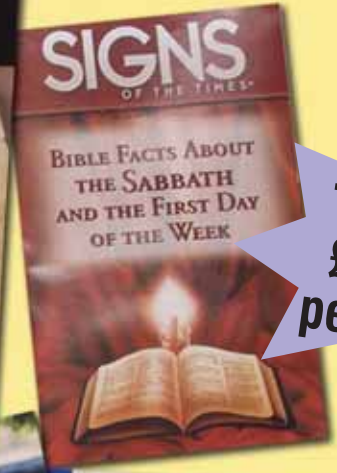
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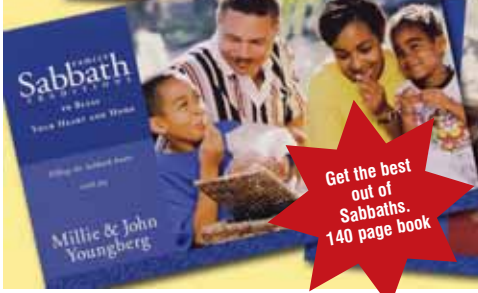
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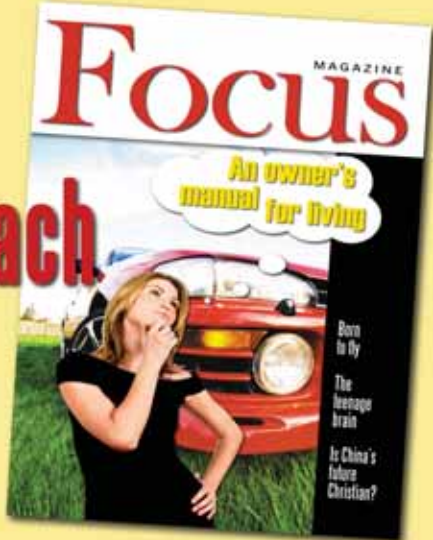


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	London	Card	Notf	Edin	Bell
Jun 29	9.22	9.34	9.34	10.02	10.03
July 6	9.19	9.31	9.31	9.59	10.00
13	9.14	9.26	9.26	9.52	9.54
20	9.06	9.19	9.18	9.42	9.45

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Welcome to the World of Camp Meeting Podcasts



Didn't make it to South England Camp Meeting this year? Don't worry - you can still enjoy the music and messages via new technology. This was a very special year for Camp Meeting as it was a celebration of twenty-five years since its reinstatement. It was also special because it was the first Camp Meeting with Podcasts! Pastor Sam Neves, the director for the Podcasting Team, along with his assistants, Kenwyn Richins, Max McKenzie-Cook, Adrian Lee, Craig Hibbert and Junior Fuller, ensured that all the programmes became available for download. There are two ways of accessing these programmes. The first is listening online via the website: www.secadventist.org/podcast. The second is to subscribe to the actual podcasts. To do that, download and install iTunes from www.apple.com and go to the iTunes store. Then search for 'Adventist camp' and subscribe to the South England Conference Podcast. Please send an email to everyone you know telling them about the podcasts this year so more and more people can be blessed by the 'Words of Hope' from the South England Conference Camp Meeting.

SAM NEVES, Youth Pastor and Podcasting director, SEC