

Messenger

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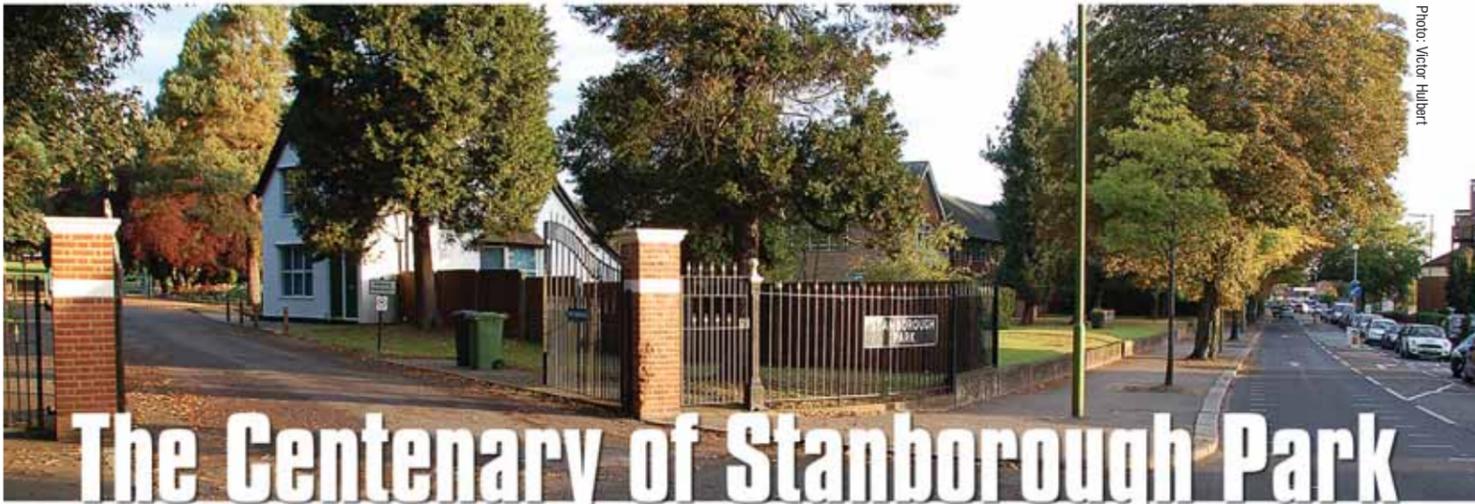


Photo: Victor Hulbert

The Centenary of Stanborough Park

by Dennis Porter, retired archivist from the Bodleian Library

1907-2007

Stanborough Park made a brief appearance in history as far back as 1348, when in a charter it appears as Stanburgheulle, a name which occurs in several other parts of the country and probably means 'stone hill'. Thereafter we must fast-forward nearly five and a half centuries to about 1890 when the mansion known as The Stanborough (the Adventists later added an 's' for the name of the Hydro) was built when the estate was owned by a

Miss Cottrell. In 1906 the house and estate came on to the market. A new era in Seventh-day Adventism in Britain was about to begin.

Hitherto the British Union institutions had been scattered. In 1899 a health food factory had been opened at Horley near Redhill in Surrey. It was destroyed by fire in 1900 and the factory moved to Birmingham. In 1901 a training college for ministers had been started in North London and in the ensuing six years had operated successively at three dif-

ferent locations. The Press, known as The International Tract Society, had been at 451 Holloway Road, North London, since 1887, near to the church headquarters. After an abortive experiment at Redhill in 1899-1900, a more permanent sanitarium had opened at nearby Caterham in 1903. This, in fact, overlapped the purchase of Stanborough Park and lasted until 1921.

It was felt that considerable advantages could accrue from a

more centralised operation and, as there were specific Ellen White comments about the work to be done for London as well as the desirability of rural locations, one of the latter, but not too far from the capital and with easy rail access to it, seemed indicated. In these respects the Cottrell estate at Garston, just north of Watford, appeared ideal.

Two descriptions of Stanborough Park as it was in its early Adventist days have come down to us. The

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1 Messenger

In His Army

'The LORD thunders at the head of his army; his forces are beyond number, and mighty are those who obey his command.' (Joel 2:11)

by Curtis Murphy, Publishing director, BUC

In his book *Apocalypse! Has the countdown begun?* David Marshall writes: 'The followers of Jesus told the world of his Gospel. From an intensely heated centre of burning zeal, a vast field of lava was thrown out to the limits of the Roman world. And the world was changed.'¹

I like the last five words – *And the world was changed*. Wherever the Gospel was shared, the power of the Holy Spirit changed lives, families, communities and the world. But can the Gospel 'do it again'? Is there a role for the Gospel now? 'Post-moderns cry out for the very things they have rejected. They have overthrown one world view and appear to be awash in a meaningless sea of pluralism, living out hectic, stress filled and often dysfunctional lives. Yet they are made in the image of God and have a receiver onboard to hear the good news. And the good news is a Person whose salvation is

a gift, whom to know is joy, assurance, strength, vision, certainty and eternal life, and whom we all must encounter when he comes.'²

Primitive, antediluvian, ancient, modern, post-modern, it doesn't matter what label you put on people, they all need a Saviour, and a personal encounter with Jesus Christ, and you and I have been invited by that same Jesus Christ to introduce him to them.

Jesus' ministry in the New Testament begins with an invitation to 'Come', and ends with the commission to 'Go', and is cemented with the promise, 'I will be with you always. . .'. The 'God-breathed' literature available to us as Seventh-day Adventists is phenomenal. All that we are asked to do is take it to the homes of those around us. There is room in God's army for literature evangelists. You are needed today!

God doesn't work on the con- scription model; his is an invitation



Lord desires us to exercise faith, with spiritual vision looking beyond the gloom to the scenes of the morning so soon to dawn. In faith and hope we may confidently say, The morning cometh, when there will be no more night. Soon we shall see the dawn of the eternal day in all its glorious beauty and splendour. . . .³ The Gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed; it cannot be stopped. Come and be a part of the final push. Contact the Publishing director at the British Union Conference. A friendly welcome is waiting for you.

¹Marshall, David, *Apocalypse! Has the countdown begun?* (Autumn House), page 126.
²*Ibid.* page 169.
³E. G. White, Letter 136, 1902.

to join the winning throng. Is his Spirit speaking to you? Will you join the army of literature evangelists? Won't you step out in faith? 'The

Harper Bell Adventist School, Birmingham KS2 Teacher required for January 2008

One part-time teacher, two-and-a-half days a week. Harper Bell is a small but growing Christian primary school, with a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Successful candidate should

- have QTS and up-to-date professional knowledge;
- have the potential to be an excellent teacher, committed to good pupil progress and active learning;
- take an active part in all aspects of school life and extra-curricular activities;
- be willing to support and encourage the Christian ethos of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

If you would like to join this enthusiastic and caring team of staff, please contact the school for an application form on 0121 693 7742. A visit to the school is welcome.

Closing date for applications: 12 noon, Friday 19 October 2007.

- stimulants such as coffee or cola-based drinks.

Sugar

Refined sugar produces quick energy surges, giving a short-term high. The body has to produce extra insulin to deal with the influx of sugar and this causes a drop in blood sugar levels, resulting in a feeling of increased tiredness and a yearning for more sweet snacks. A self-defeating cycle occurs.

Vitamins and minerals

Insufficient magnesium, zinc and vitamin B6 (found in vegetables, fruit and pulses) has been linked to depression. However, too much of some nutrients can over-stimulate the nervous system, leading to feelings of anxiety.

Stimulants

Alcohol dehydrates, acts as a depressant and can increase mood swings, depressive symptoms and aggression.

Avoid coffee, tea, cola drinks and chocolate as these contain varying amounts of caffeine which acts as a stimulant.

The adrenal gland may become overactive due to stress. The use of stimulants can encourage the adrenal system to work harder than necessary.

Saturated fats

Avoid saturated fats. A high fat diet can lead to raised levels of cholesterol which is linked to coro-

nary heart disease and high blood pressure. Since stress is also believed to contribute to heart problems and raised blood pressure, extra care should be taken to avoid diet risks.

Junk food

Try to avoid 'fast foods' as they usually contain unhealthy levels of fat, salt and additives.

Salt

Avoid excessive amounts of salt (sodium) which can also raise blood pressure, leading to possible heart problems. About a quarter of the salt we need is found naturally in food. However, many processed foods contain unhealthily high salt levels.

Water

Drinking adequate water helps flush out toxins (enhancing well-being) and keeps the kidneys working well. Current medical advice suggests up to 2 litres daily. Avoid sugary flavourings, as this encourages the body to produce more insulin, as stated earlier.

Some people overeat when they feel stressed, while others lose their appetite. In the next issue we examine nutrition and the stress response and its role in combating stress.

Good health!

The trouble with 'experts'

David Marshall



Here's what the experts say about worry: 'It is the interest paid on tomorrow's troubles.'

'It is putting question marks where God puts full stops.'

'It is a form of atheism because it betrays an absence of faith in God.'

Which experts said those things?

Interesting, that. Not one of them left a calling card. A. N. Onymous strikes again, and again, and again!

I won't get 'twitter and bisted' about this, but I have a mental picture of Expert ANO. He's one of those chaps who has had life easy and, consequently, feels free to dish out glib, thoughtless pronouncements whenever he spots someone in the grip of a problem. Infuriating, or what? Not all that helpful, certainly.

Do you know any 'experts'?

I had a bout of flu in the late 80s. When I returned to work I was seriously behind with my correspondence. One young man was, I felt, owed an explanation for why I had taken two weeks to reply to his letter. I mentioned I was back after the flu. I shall never forget *his* reply to *my* reply.

No good Adventist, he told me, would catch the flu! That I had done so proved that I was not faithful to Adventist health principles and had (his words) 'sin in the life'.

Life's 'experts' are apt to be people who believe they have found a simple explanation for complex problems. Let someone be diagnosed with a serious illness and 'experts' ooze out of the woodwork with simplistic 'answers'. It may be their sense of helplessness at the suffering of others that prompts them to act this way. That was certainly true with Job's three friends who explained their 'answers' at great length. They earned God's rebuke. Job had been right. His well-meaning friends had been wrong. Even Job was accused of confusing the issue by speaking 'without knowledge' (38:2, 3).

Our technological mentality sees the world as a machine we can understand and

control. The 'modern scientific world view' has taught us to list 'problems', identify their 'causes' and then propose 'solutions'. In fact, of course, the world is not a machine and our reflex of 'looking for answers' is often not an appropriate one. Job's is a story of one man's journey to the edge; of the misguided 'simple solutions' of his friends; and the concluding intervention of God. But God does not supply 'answers', let alone *'the Answer'*. Indeed, when God speaks he blows away *all* simplistic answers and implies that we don't know enough to formulate the question!

The bottom line of Job is that the whole problems-causes-solutions thing doesn't work. In the big world there is a bigger picture.

Arguably, Scripture helps us with the *mastery* of suffering, not to unravel the *mystery* of suffering.

When 'experts' (those with the simplistic 'solutions') become preachers the problem is compounded. In the early 50s one such 'expert' sowed the seeds of a bitter harvest of prejudice. He was an engaging man. As a boy I thought he was a real star. Others, older than I (yes, there *are* such people), remember his convincing evangelistic preaching. I don't.

Part of his evangelistic pitch healthwise was to state that 'Adventists don't get cancer'. Subsequent to that statement, I am told, he would make a case that, given the Adventist lifestyle, we were significantly less likely to have *lung* cancer. But it was his statement in block capitals, not his qualifying statements, which people remembered. Hence that well-meaning 'expert' reinforced the folk religion myth that Jesus sought to destroy (John 9:3) that there was a direct connection between sin-in-the-life and disease (specifically, cancer). Last year we featured the story of a brother who, in addition to enduring seven years of cancer, had to endure regular helpings of guilt from his local congregation.

One final time, then. The Bible teaches

that there is a general relationship between suffering and sin, the Fall. (See Genesis 3 and Romans 5:12 *et seq.*) The Bible refuses to permit the principle to be individualised in every case. Sin has produced a suffering world, but an individual's personal suffering is not always attributable to his or her personal sin.

Let's return to worry, then.

There's a lot of truth in those statements with which we began. How helpful it would be to recite them to a compulsive worrier would depend, in part, on the tone of voice in which they were recited.

We don't have the right to pile burdens on people. So many of us, aware that we are struggling spiritually, will try to make ourselves feel better by making glib pronouncements that give others guilt trips. Typically these pronouncements will be backed by quotations from little red books.

I've heard worry identified as the cause of headaches, backaches, heartaches and bellyaches. I've heard worry blamed for everything from constipation to diarrhoea, from impatience to impotence.

And all this may be true! But how useful is it to a compulsive worrier? About as useful as saying, 'Get to sleep!' to an insomniac. It is only worth saying if the next sentence gives some idea as to the whereabouts of the worry switch or the sleep switch.

In David's great 'Don't fret' psalm (Psalm 37) he encourages us: * To look ahead, take the long view, wait for God's time (verses 2, 10, 11). * To look up and focus away from a mindset that obsesses about enemies and rivals (verses 3-7). * To be constructive. Doing beats stewing. God's way is the way of forgiveness and overcoming evil with good. * To see God as our refuge and stronghold, and to ask for his deliverance (verses 39, 40).

Through the words of the psalmist I hear God speaking peace to my soul. Glib religion has nothing to do with God. And 'experts' are, too often, people who have not understood the problem.



Enhancing Health

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

STRESS
Part 5a

THE FOOD FACTOR

When we are stressed, our bodies produce stress hormones which release fatty acids and sugars to help us cope. Food choices can impact our stress response.

Experts in the field of stress management have identified the following key foods which aggravate stress reactions in certain people.

Avoid:

- high intake of refined sugars such as chocolate, cake, biscuits and sugar-based foods;
- foods high in fat;



Meeting Jesus for the first time again at Brecon

by John Surridge, president, Welsh Mission

Pastor Mike Logan was the guest speaker for the Welsh Mission's Family Camp, held over the weekend of 7 to 9 September at Aberbran, near Brecon. Following his interview on the Hope Channel's 'In Conversation' programme, a number of people had asked to hear more of Mike's fascinating life story, and in his series of talks entitled 'Meeting Jesus for the First Time Again', he expanded on the way that he had been led to Christ.

Mike was brought up in the Republic of Ireland in a large Catholic family with connections to paramilitary organisations. His understanding of God in his younger years was as a 'cosmic monster' – someone to be afraid of rather than a friend or loving Father. After going through some difficult and dangerous situations, as well as experiencing personal problems in his life, Mike spoke of how it was probably his fear of God, and the potential consequences of purgatory and hell, that kept him from suicide.

However, things changed when, through a series of encounters with genuine Christians, he was led to a true understanding of salvation. In his Sabbath morning sermon Mike illustrated the joy of coming to Christ through the story of Zacchaeus, imagining how he could possibly have met up with several others whose lives had been changed when they encountered Jesus for the first time.

Warm weather over the weekend

allowed a pleasant Sabbath afternoon walk and an evening bonfire on the riverside, and also enabled the campers to enjoy nature in ways not usually possible for town and city dwellers. A well-fed hedgehog invaded at least one tent at four o'clock in the morning, fish could be seen jumping from the river, and a large heron was witnessed attempting to reduce their numbers. A clear sky on Friday night revealed the Milky Way and numerous constellations in stunning detail. The closeness of nature and its impact on those at the camp is perhaps best expressed in the prayer of an 8-year-old at morning watch: 'Dear Jesus, thank you for the owl we heard last night.'

There is always a good atmosphere at the Brecon Family Camps. They are open and relaxed, and an ideal place to bring non-Christian friends. Many people have met Jesus for the first time there and even more can say that the renewal they experience at Brecon Family Camp has led them to meet him for the first time again.

More than 100 pictures from the weekend can be seen in the gallery section of the Welsh Mission website at: www.adventistwales.org.

The 'In Conversation' video interview with Mike Logan can be seen in the Hope Channel's Media Library at: www.hopetv.org.uk.



The New President

Dr Richard DeLisser interviews Pastor Sam Davis at the TED Ministerial Council, 14 September

Harlow. Subsequently I started the Enfield church. Following that I went on to pastor the Hackney and Stratford churches, respectively. In 1996 I was asked to

serve as the SEC Youth director for London as well as the Advent Centre manager and the Community Services director. In 2003 I accepted a call to serve as senior pastor for the Santon church in Johannesburg, South Africa, returning to England in 2006 where I pastored the Hutton and Chelmsford district of churches for three months before being called to serve at the Holloway church.

DeLisser: How did you feel when you were asked to serve as the SEC president?

Davis: Honestly, I was totally surprised, firstly to have been chosen to sit on the nominating committee and, secondly, to have been asked to serve as the secretary for the committee. As the names for president were being suggested and my name was called, I started to write the number of votes received for each nominee and realised that my name was the one that was getting the most votes. It was at that time that my hand started to shake. I was taken by surprise because I had not

In his first interview since becoming the South England Conference president, Pastor Sam Davis shares with Dr Richard DeLisser, the new SEC Communication and Stewardship director, the story of his humble beginnings, his journey to pastoral ministry, his overseas service, and his surprise at being asked to serve as the SEC president.

Richard DeLisser: Pastor Davis, you are the newly-elected president of the South England Conference. Could you tell me something about your background and where you are from?

Sam Davis: Well, I was born in Jamaica and came to the United Kingdom when I was 8 years old. I finished school and went on to train as a heating engineer and subsequently I met and married Rowena Davis (Anderson). Rowena always knew that I wanted to be a minister. It was with her support and a young family in tow that we headed to Newbold. Graduating in 1985, I interned at the Brixton SDA church. My first district was Edmonton and

come to the session with any expectation. However, I had heard rumours that my name might be suggested but my wife and I had prayed that, if this was to be the case, that it must be from the Lord.

DeLisser: Now that you have been elected to serve as the president of the SEC, what are some of your plans for the future of our Conference?

Davis: Well, it is still early days and I have not started to formulate any concrete plans. However, one of my first priorities will be the growth, development and well-being of the ministers who serve in our Conference. I shall promote a ministry that is dynamic, enabling pastors to pursue their own career development that will foster a sense of happiness and contentment. If our pastors are happy and contented, then our members will all receive a better service.

Another priority will be raising the profile of the Church on all fronts. At

present, the profile of our Church in the community is very low. I would like to see each church involved in its community in some project that will raise its profile, thus creating a user-friendly atmosphere around the church as the community realises that we are there to serve. We need to be impacting lives because this is the mission of the Church. One of the things I admire about our former president was his evangelistic thrust; the planting of churches, encouraging evangelism everywhere and to everyone under the banner of 'Tell Southern England'. This is one initiative that we will continue to promote in our Conference: that evangelism is alive and well in the SEC. The Church exists to serve and to reach souls for the kingdom of God. If we lose sight of this, then we lose sight of our reason to exist.

I am also coming to the presidency at a time when the Church is at its most diverse. We have burgeoning ethnic groups that are being formed all over our Conference. A part of my vision for the SEC in the next four years will be to have our membership embracing and celebrating the diverse family that we are. Inclusiveness rather than exclusivity will be a refrain in the next four years.

Religious Freedom in Europe since 9/11 A Day Conference

Has 9/11 re-opened the freedom of religion debate in Europe?
Is religious intolerance in Europe on the rise?
Are limits being placed on people's right to witness to their faith?

Speakers

Baroness Cox of Queensbury

Professor John Marks

(University of Buckingham)

Dr Frank Tallett

(University of Reading)

Dr Jonathan Gallagher

(United Nations Liaison for the Seventh-day Adventist Church)

Pastor Don McFarlane

(President of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the UK)

Lincoln Steed

(Liberty magazine)

Marinko Markec

(Lecturer in Business, Newbold College)

The Smith Centre, Salisbury Hall, Newbold College

Sunday, 25 November 2007

9:15-18:00

Conference Fee: £20 (includes coffee, lunch and afternoon tea)

Contact: Dr David Trim

T: 01344-407473

E: dtrim@newbold.ac.uk

Organised by the

Centre for the Study of Religious and Cultural Diversity, Newbold College

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www.newbold.ac.uk

Nottingham Netherfield From the first Sabbath of the fourth quarter 2007, 6 October, Netherfield church, Netherfield, Nottingham (formerly Clarendon church), moved from the Baptist church on Chandos Street to worship in the United Reformed church on Forster Street, Netherfield. Services will be held at: Sabbath School – 10am; Divine Service – 11.15am.
SHEILA WILKINSON

BLACK HISTORY WEEKEND

Theme: Telling our Story

At Willesden church

Friday 26 October, 7.30pm-9pm: Opening ceremony

Saturday/Sabbath 27 October, starts at 9.30am with a special lesson study. Afternoon:

from 4pm: film with neurosurgeon Ben Carson followed by,

at 5pm, a debate around Telling our Story.

At Copland School Hall – Wembley

Sunday 28 October, from 3pm: Gala, smart attire –

Doors open at 2.30pm

Advance booking: £15, at the door £20 – food included.

This three-day event will feature the finest performers, including Blessed Voices and Willesden Praise Team; great preaching – Pastor Ian Sweeney, Mark Doyle, Pastor Alonzo A. Wagner III; guests (business people, MPs, charities, scholars, ambassadors, local community, etc.)

For more details:

Contact: 07796 676 033 after 6pm

Listen to Splash-uk.org on the Internet, Saturday 13 October, between 9pm and 11pm for the interview detailing the event with Devon B and Andy P on Saturday Night Live.

Walthamstow Day of Fellowship

Sabbath 24 November at 9.30am

Waltham Forest Town Hall, Forest Road, Walthamstow, London, E17 4JD

Southall: Revival and Reclamation



Left to right: Celastina Leacock, Zoya Duhaney, Pastor Everett Picart, Sharon Blake, Daniel Mensah

Southall church ran a Revival and Reclamation programme from 6 to 12 May. The theme: God's Call for Revival: No Time to Sleep! The speakers were Pastor Richard

Holder, of Chiswick church, and our own Pastor Everett Picart. The programme commenced on Sunday evening 6 May with the sermon titled: 'Can These Bones Live Again?'

looking at Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones in chapter 37. In the last message delivered in divine service on 12 May, 'Home at Last!' Pastor Picart made use of some wonderful PowerPoint images of Jesus coming in glory, Heaven, the New Earth, and the New Jerusalem. The revival meetings ended in the afternoon with the second baptism of the year for Southall church when four precious souls were baptised. Pastor Des Boldeau (BUC Youth director) expounded Daniel 1:8, 'But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.' The message was well

received by Adventists as well as the large number of non-Adventists in attendance. Three of the four candidates were Pathfinders. Each was saluted as they were baptised, and their favourite Bible verses were also read, followed by the Pathfinder march at the end. At the baptistry appeal by Pastor Picart, three precious souls raised their hands for baptism. Members remarked that the week's programme, culminating in the baptism, was very uplifting, powerful and enjoyed by all.

CLAUDE ALEXANDER

Newport Golden Wedding

A reception was held in the Newport church to celebrate the golden wedding of Avril and Ray Bell on 2 September.

Their sons, Andrew and Michael, kept every detail a secret, as they planned to make this a very special day for their parents.

When all was ready, a car was sent to transport them to the same church where their wedding was celebrated and they were welcomed by their four granddaughters to a hall blazing with golden balloons, streamers and flowers.

A splendid meal was enjoyed by close family and friends. Sharon McKenzie, the pastor's wife, sang 'What a Friend we have in Jesus' to the tune of 'The Rose'.

Avril is the daughter of Esther and Harold Baker, life-long Adventists and church officers, Brother Baker majoring in Temperance teaching and labouring with alcoholics.

Speeches conveyed thankfulness to God for leading in their lives and many blessings received. God was always there for them in difficulties and good times, declared Ray, and we give him all the glory.

A gift was presented to the happy couple and flowers to Avril from the church membership to mark this happy achievement.

VERA MACHELL



HILTON SAMUEL

Diane Abbott at Montserrat day of fellowship



Left to right: Mrs Janice Panton (MBE), Melida Kirwan, Evangelist Mildred Robinson, MP Diane Abbott, Jennette Arnold AM, Iris Walkinshaw, Rosa Markham, Codmond Pond. Back: Roger Panton, William Riley (principal co-ordinator MDF).

Hundreds of Montserratians and friends convened in London on Sabbath 2 June.

Evangelist and Holy Ghost-filled preacher, Mildred Robinson, reminded them that in God's City there will be 'no volcanoes, no pyroclastic flows, no hospitals, no terrorists'.

The theme for the seventh annual day of fellowship was 'His Mercies Sustain'. The day was initiated as a result of volcanic activities that have plagued the Caribbean island of Montserrat for the past twelve years. The main purpose of the day is to give thanks to God for the preservation and protection of the island and its inhabitants.

Accommodated by the St Mary, Stoke Newington church, the first female black MP, Diane Abbott, not only welcomed the assembly to her constituency but stayed to enjoy fellowship with the celebrating

Montserratians. The Deputy Speaker of the London Borough of Hackney, Cllr Faizullah Khan, also felt it was a joy to have the islanders worshipping in his neck of the woods. Other officials attending the service included Ms Jennette Arnold AM – North East London Assembly Member and Mrs Janice Panton MBE (Head, Montserrat Government UK office).

A special progress report of spiritual developments and happenings on the island was delivered by one-time chief minister Austin Bramble, who reported the reinstatement of the SDA school, Samuel Academy. He said that very limited resources were threatening to paralyse growth. He asked that members here give their full and continued support to Christian education on the island. Also reporting on the state of affairs on the island was government repre-

sentative, Mrs Janice Panton, MBE.

The music and singing, which was nothing short of glorious, was complemented by the rich voices of The London Male Voice Choir (a regular feature at the event) and soloist Barbara Persaud. One of the singing groups, made up of individuals from the Stoke Newington church under the leadership of Josephine Aaron, added a further flavour of patriotism, as most of the group was attired in the Montserrat national dress.

Many pot-lucked during the lunch session, reminiscing and basking in nostalgia about the island.

The afternoon session, which was taken by Charles Bramble, saw some young adults, who were children at the evacuation, telling of their experiences during their sojourn here. Gershom Allen emphasised the need to bring back the old time principles which helped him, when he was a child in Montserrat, to handle the challenges of life. Evangelist Mildred Robinson climaxed the afternoon's session with vespers.

The event was planned and orchestrated by a team headed by William B. Riley, who initiated the Montserrat Day of Fellowship.

The day of fellowship is normally rotated to various locations so as to accommodate Montserratians scattered in the UK diaspora. Plans are afoot to take it north to Manchester next year.



NEC Pathfinders: Jesus is the Way

by Pastor Trevor Thomas, Pathfinder director, NEC

It was a wonderfully warm Wolverhampton day on Sabbath 8 September. From all over the North England Conference Adventurer and Pathfinder clubs came to celebrate 100 years of youth ministry at the Pathfinder Rally Day. From Newcastle to Northampton, from Huddersfield to Handsworth, from Camp Hill to Coventry, they came by cars, coaches, trains and buses. In total, just over 2,000 attended in uniform, waving flags and banners.

The theme for our Rally Day was: Jesus is the Way. Our speaker, 17-year-old Bez Mambwe from Sheffield, Burngreave, who is currently completing his Master Guide requirements, spoke with confidence and enthusiasm to our Adventurers and Pathfinders, leading them to a committed relationship with Jesus Christ.

The programme for the day was very packed and fast moving with clubs arriving at 8.45 for the beginning of Sabbath School at 9.15. Before the main service all our Adventurers and Pathfinders assembled outside the Wolverhampton Civic Hall and ceremonially marched into the hall at 11am. There were cheers of praise from parents and church members attending, as they marched in with discipline and order to the sound of our marching bands. The Lady Mayor of Wolverhampton, Councillor Trudy Bowan, was moved to tears and in her address told us that the event reminded her of her childhood in the Girls' Brigade. Following a hasty lunch we were joined by nine police officers who assisted us on the procession. We had originally planned to walk on the pavement, through the centre of Wolverhampton, to the bandstand on West Park; however, the police thought it easier to manage

our group by marching on the road itself.

The people of Wolverhampton were thrilled to see our young people in uniform with flags and banners, singing Christian songs in time with the marching band. Pastor Roy Morgan co-ordinated the distribution of 5,000 *Take Jesus* cards, which were handed out within half an hour.

At the bandstand hundreds of people from the city of Wolverhampton passed by and stopped to listen to the Adventurers and Pathfinders singing songs and sharing their testimonies of Jesus' love. It was evangelism on a scale that Wolverhampton had never before seen.

In the morning service the Rally Day Co-ordinating Committee was recognised for all their hard work and sacrifice in planning and preparing for the event. A special award was given to Alex Simon for lifetime service to Pathfinding and John Bishop was presented with his Advanced Pathfinder Leadership Award.

I would also like to recognise the pastors from Wolverhampton for their commitment to making Rally Day a success: Pastors Richard Jackson, Selburn Fray, Royston Smith, Delroy Foster, Rainford McIntosh and Kevin Johns.

As a result of Rally Day we have already had a number of individuals who wish to join Pathfinders and have signed up for our training courses, which begin on 5-7 October. For application forms, contact Dawn on 0115 960 6312.

As Conference director I am very pleased with the growth of Pathfinding in the North England Conference. Each year we grow in size, in professionalism, and most of all in our commitment to Jesus Christ.



<1 committee sent to view the property in 1906 wrote: 'We visited the property about ten days ago. Much had been told us of the natural beauty of Stanborough Park and now we can give no higher praise than to say it exceeded even our anticipation. . . . The acres of wood surround on several sides the cleared portion of the estate, so that a spirit of quietness and restfulness will always pervade the grounds.' Dr W. A. Ruble in 1924 reminisced about the opening of the sanitarium in the mansion in 1912 in these words: 'The old country house, standing amid seventy-five acres of woodland and open fields . . . The surroundings presented a perfect picture of a peaceful summer's day. To the north of this stately building is a row of little country cottages', with their wallflowers and trellised roses. Tucked away in the bend of a meadow are fresh mounds of new-mown hay, and behind, standing like sentinels, tall trees tower up to meet the blue sky. In the foreground, cattle and sheep graze in a meadow, which runs down to meet the old Roman road, now a main road from Watford to St Albans.'

On 27 December 1906, the contract was signed whereby seventy-five acres and the mansion were purchased for £8,368. A house in Sheepcot Lane called Magrath Villa (later Sheepcot Villa and now the site of retired workers' flats) was also bought for £800, which sum was donated by a non-member. When one considers that that combined sum is roughly the equivalent of only half a million pounds in today's money, it can be seen what an amazing bargain the brethren of the day secured. £2,000 came from the General Conference, which was more than 6% of its total world budget for the year, although this was towards not only the purchase of the Park but also the erection of institutions on it. The institutions, conferences and mission promised another £2,000, but raised only half that amount. Altogether the cost of the estate and the improvements made on it up to the dedication date was £14,762, of which £8,035 had come in by then, leaving a shortfall of £6,727. (I have rounded these figures down. Those presented at the dedication were exact even to half-pennies and farthings). The shortfall, however, did not deter the leadership from pushing ahead with ambitious

plans for developments at the Park.

It may seem strange to us a century later, when building regulations are strictly enforced, to read that in 1907 the denomination was able to build factories for the Press (in 1919 to be renamed The Stanborough Press Ltd), and food company (operating, as the sanitarium did later, as The International Health Association Ltd until in 1926 the name 'Granose' was adopted) without, apparently, having to obtain any authority's permission, and that on a country estate! But that is what happened. The buildings cost £6,287 and by October 1907 both were sufficiently advanced for a service of dedication to be held in the food factory's packing room on the 28th with 200 present, many of whom had to sit in adjoining rooms, in the main entrance or on the landing.

An issue of *The Missionary Worker*, 20 November 1907, gave the details of the service of dedication under the chairmanship of the president of the British Union Conference, Pastor E. E. Andross, who also gave the address. The dedicatory prayer was offered by W. H. Wakeham, one of the teachers at the college. Not only were the Press, the food factory and the college (which had moved into the mansion four weeks earlier) dedicated, but also 'the beautiful estate with its secluded places under the wide-spreading branches of the stately forest trees, inviting the child of God to communion with his Maker, were solemnly dedicated to God and His service, while the specific blessing of Heaven was sought that every part might be counted as sacred to the work of the Third Angels' Message, and that the soul, body, and spirit of everyone who is called to labour in connection with the work that centres here, in its general management, the education of labourers, the preparation of the printed page, or the manufacture of health foods, might be wholly surrendered to God moment by moment, that His purpose in the establishment of this centre for the Union Conference may be fully accomplished.' That was a very long sentence, the aspirations of which were – sadly – to be undermined by many later events. The Press building was destroyed by fire in 1964 and the Press was subsequently moved away from the Park and later ceased to be a printing works. The health food factory (extended in 1926 and 1958) was demolished in



1. The official opening of The Hydro in 1924. 2. At the centre of the 75 acres of woodland and parkland viewed by BUC leaders in 1906 was an 'old country house', the home of Miss Cottrell. 3, 4. After an initial period in which it served as the college, the 'old country house' underwent significant expansion and development as the Stanboroughs Hydro. 5, 6, 7. Postcard pictures taken of the opening of Stanborough Park as the Seventh-day Adventist headquarters in 1907. 8. Aerial view of Stanborough Park in 1965. 9. Stanborough Park today, courtesy of Google Earth.



a. The BUC building built in 1961. b. The large Stanboroughs Hydro complex closed in 1968 and was demolished some months later. c. Originally the college, this building served for most of its working life as Stanborough Park Secondary School. d. The Stanborough Press buildings prior to the move to Grantham in 1966. e. Granose Foods Ltd. f. 'Holy Row', the homes of the pastors and teachers. g. The BUC headquarters which became the Voice of Prophecy building.

1989 and a new factory opened elsewhere. This was soon afterwards sold and denominational manufacture of health food in Britain came to an end.

The mansion had insufficient room for all 87 students of the college and so 17 were accommodated on the top floor of the Press building which was divided into 'bedrooms' by temporary partitions. Even with this relief, potential students had to be turned away and so plans were laid for a new building. This began to take shape in August 1909 to designs by the manager of the Press, the exotically named William Conqueror Sisley. By June 1910, the building (later to become an annexe to the Hydro and later still the secondary school and demolished in 1989) was complete and was dedicated on 31 July. It cost £4,940.

After an initial drop, the enrolment

picked up greatly and in 1920-21 an extension was added to the left-hand end of the building.

When the college vacated the mansion, it was voted to begin health work there. By 1912 two additional floors had been added. That and other work cost £3,950 and in May of that year The Stanboroughs Hydro opened. There were further extensions in 1921, 1926 and 1959-60, but in

the long term the Hydro was not a financial success and it eventually closed in 1968, the building being later demolished.

In 1918, in one room of the college, a church school (the second in British Adventism) commenced operations; it later moved to an ex-army hut and then in 1928 to Magrath – now renamed Sheepcot – Villa. Eventually, with buildings in 1967 and 1973-74, the primary school secured its own home and in 1990 a nursery school was added. In 1940 a secondary school was also founded in Sheepcot Villa and in 1946 it moved into the old college building, the college having moved to Newbold Revel in 1931 and the annexe to the Hydro having closed on the outbreak of war in 1939. A new school was opened in 1991.

The offices of the Union Conference were originally in the

Press building, but in 1922, a bungalow (later the office and recording studio for the Voice of Prophecy) was erected and served until the present offices were built at the St Albans Road end of the Park in 1961 (extended in 1990).

When the building for the college was put up, the Watford church (membership 94 in 1911) was able to transfer from rented quarters to its chapel. This arrangement persisted until 1921, when the Watford Town church was built. The Stanborough Park church was eventually erected off the St Albans Road in 1927-28 and was greatly extended in 2000.

Needless to say, all this expansion cost money and this was largely raised by sales of land. At first, however, there was a huge expansion of land-holding adjacent to Stanborough Park. In 1919, the neighbouring Kingswood estate, consisting of 163 acres, a large house, four smaller houses and a farm, was put up for auction. The denominational bid of £16,200 (less per acre than had been paid for Stanborough Park in 1906) was successful. Two years later the church authorities began to reduce their indebtedness by selling Kingswood land and by 1930 the whole estate had gone, realising some £40,000 in all, well over twice what had been paid for it and that in a non-inflationary environment.

Two years later (1932), the series



Photo: Victor Hulbert



of sales of Stanborough Park land itself began with the sale of an area in the southwest corner where Holland and Spring Gardens are now. Sales then continued at intervals until 1990, by which time the Park had been reduced to one third of its original seventy-five acres. In the late 1960s, there had been serious debate about selling most of what was then left of the Park (thirty-five acres), retaining only the area along St Albans Road and the primary school. Watford Council was anxious to acquire the site for housing, but eventually, the denomination, aided by a change of administration in 1970, decided not to sell.

In the century since its purchase and dedication, Stanborough Park has changed enormously and shrunk dramatically, but it retains the place it acquired in 1907 as the nerve centre of Seventh-day Adventist work in Britain and Ireland.

In 1982 I wrote a piece for the 75th anniversary (published as a 'souvenir pull-out' to *MESSENGER*, vol. 87, no. 9/10, which concluded with the words: 'Those who purchased it would be surprised if they knew of a seventy-fifth anniversary. Perhaps their present-day descendants ought to be surprised — and dismayed — if

there is a centenary.' That there now is should give us food for thought.

'I have always assumed that these must be Stanborough Villas (colloquially known as 'Holy Row' because of the number of ministers who lived there), but these were to the west, not north, of the mansion. The only buildings to the north shown on the 1919 plan are Sheepcot Villa and a lodge to the Kingswood estate.

²What *MESSENGER* was then called.

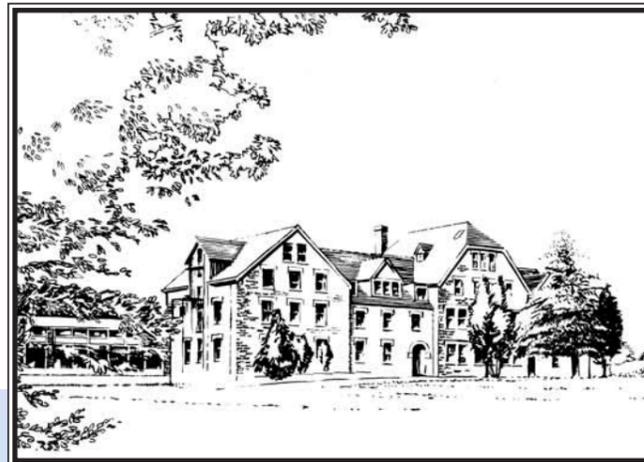


Photo: Victor Hulbert

Photo: Victor Hulbert

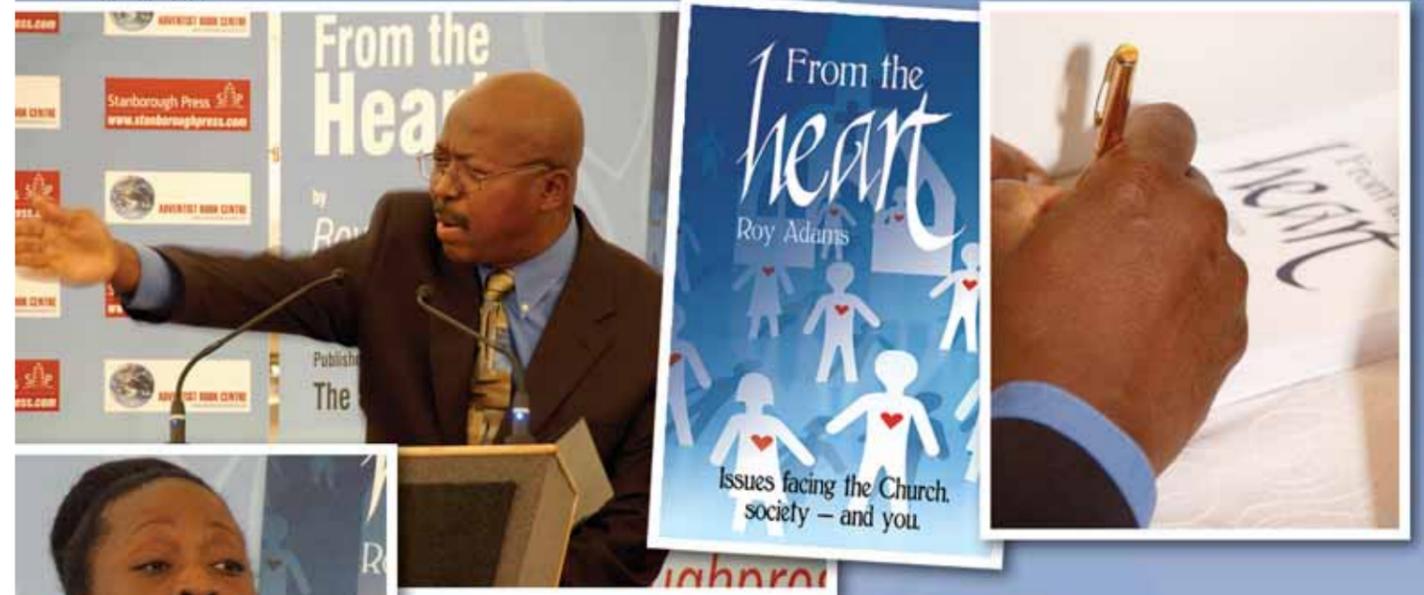


Photo: Victor Hulbert

Roy Adams From the Heart

'For nearly twenty years the writing of Roy Adams has been putting the zip and zest into *ADVENTIST REVIEW* as he has confronted the issues facing our Church and our world,' says Press editor David Marshall. 'I feel privileged that he has chosen to publish a selection of his best work with the Stanborough Press.*'

by Victor Hulbert

Photo: David Bell

'Before saying "Amen", think first,' Roy Adams, associate editor of the *ADVENTIST REVIEW*, told an attentive audience in the Press Open Day marquee. 'Too often,' he said, 'we listen to a preacher without processing what he is saying and checking that he is correct.' In an entertaining but thought-provoking message on 'Interpreting the Times', Dr Adams stated that when writing or speaking in public we need to 'put things carefully', because 'we are speaking for the Lord'. In a message based

around the first 14 verses of Matthew 24 he pointed out that for over a thousand years there have been reports of earthquakes, wars, famines and pestilences — and while these may indicate something of history, the real clue to the return of Christ is the message of verse 14, 'This Gospel of the Kingdom must be preached to all the world.' Personalising the message, he pointed out that all the other signs of Christ's return in Matthew 24 are passive, that we are just observers.

However, the sign of verse 14 is active. God has chosen to use us.

Adams was at the Stanborough Press Open Day to promote his new book, *From the Heart*, looking back through some of his *REVIEW* editorials with issues facing the Church and society. Many coaches and cars parked on the grass outside emphasised the continuing popularity of this event with a busy exhibition area selling the latest Adventist books and music along with an array of healthy foods. The day is an excellent opportunity for networking with many friends, catching up with each other and for new friendships to be made.

The day climaxed with music from Oasys and Jennifer Phillips, followed by an entertaining and informative interview with Roy Adams by Hope Channel's 'In Conversation' host, Victor Hulbert. The 28-minute interview aimed to get 'under the skin' of Dr Adams,

discovering where his inspiration came from and why his life turned from one of scathing contempt for Adventists to a growing respect and deep love for the Church. With book signings, a strong message, music, bouncy castles, good food, inspiration and friendships renewed, the coaches and cars returned home full of satisfied customers.

* **FROM THE HEART: Issues facing the Church, Society and You**
320 pages
£7.95 + p&p
Order on the Adventist Book Centre's credit card hotline 01476 539900.

Log onto www.hopetv.org.uk to watch or download Roy Adams 'In Conversation'.

Calling all members and associates of Coventry church Coventry church centenary 2008

A hundred years of Seventh-day Adventism in Coventry will be celebrated on 20 September 2008 in Coventry's Methodist Central Hall, Warwick Lane, Coventry, CV1 2HA. If you have been associated with the Coventry (Central) church and are able to supply any information and/or photos of your time in Coventry, it would be an enormous help in putting together the history of the church. Please date the information, but if you are unable to do so then state who was the minister at the time, as it will help greatly.

Material may be sent by post or email. If sending photographs by email, then please send in high quality suitable for printing or projecting.

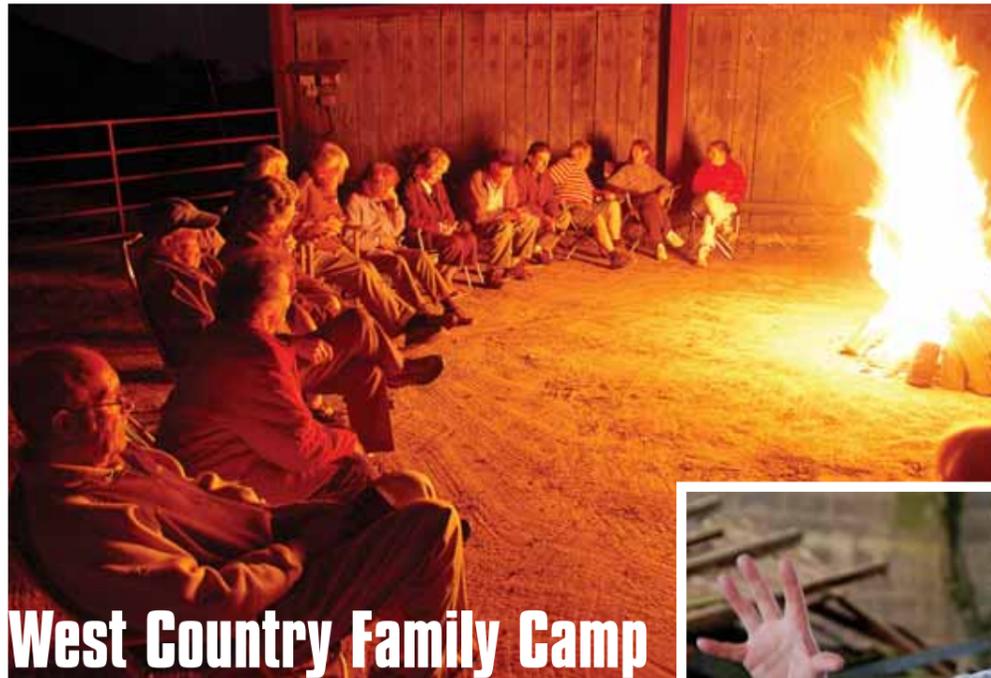
Kindly send before the end of February 2008.

Information should be sent to either J. A. Duncan, Church Clerk for Centenary 2008, 22 Mylgrove, Coventry, CV3 6RE, or J. Alison Duncan at jalisonduncan@btinternet.co.uk.

I wish to assure you that good care will be taken of material, and it will be returned in due course.

Thank you for helping.

J. A. DUNCAN



West Country Family Camp

'What kind of God did you bring to camp?' An interesting question to ask a group of campers, some of them non-Adventist, others with a strong Adventist heritage. It was the West Country Family Camp. Fellowshiping in a beautiful campsite in the hills above Barnstable and worshipping in an old barn, Pastor Barry Alen challenged his audience with ideas of God's abundant grace in the stories of the lost coin, the lost sheep and the lost son. In each story he showed how God is seeking a relationship, and by Monday morning worship he surprised his audience by asking them, 'Is your God a party God?' People left the camp with an assurance that God works with and through them and rejoices with them when sinners

repent and when saints have good news.

West Country Camp is organised by SEC Area 2, with Pastor Mick Smart as camp master and worship leader and Len and Jo Sitton of Weston-super-Mare church organising all the financial and practical details. The camp attracts a varied group of members who enjoy fellowship, the beauty of nature, worship and fun. This was evidenced on Sunday night at an 'OK Corral'-like bonfire in the farm yard with a mixture of anecdotes, songs, recitals and fun. Leaving the site and the warmth of the bank holiday sunshine, one regular camper was heard to say, 'This is one of the best camps I've been to for years.'

VICTOR HULBERT

WANTED: Photographs of the building of Salisbury Hall, Newbold College

The Principal would like to borrow photographs of Salisbury Hall being built in 1956/57, i.e. photographs of the grounds before it was built, the different stages of the building process and the building on completion. If anyone has such photographs and would be willing to lend them to be copied (the originals will be returned to you), please send them to: The Principal, Newbold College, St Marks Road, Binfield, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG42 4AN, or send them by email to: dpenner@newbold.ac.uk.



Barry Alen showing that he did wash his hands before dinner

Mayor and MP at Holloway's Big Day

by A. York-McKay

The Mayor of Islington, Barbara Smith, her consort, and Emily Thornbury MP, Islington South, responded to an invitation by Carole Anderson, Sabbath School superintendent, and visited Holloway church on Saturday 21 July for a special community emphasis Sabbath day service.

Leading out in the service were the nationally-acclaimed London Adventist Chorale with angelic voices singing, 'My heart is anchored in the Lord', receiving rapturous applause. Such exuberance is unusual in traditional Adventist services, where 'Amen' is the norm. Musical items were also rendered by the church's



Left to right: Rowena Davis, Emily Thornbury, MP for Islington South

Tongan Levites choir, who sang in their native tongue, and the Holloway youth praise team leading the congregation in popular hymns.

In his welcoming address, Pastor Sam Davis, then Holloway's pastor, expressed a wholehearted appreciation for the choir's magnificent renditions, describing the atmosphere created as one which seemingly 'transports the church to heaven'.

The special guests each expressed the honour they felt at being present at the service as part of North London's Seventh-day Adventist 'Impact London' initiative.

A visual projection and commentary provided insight into the invaluable social, welfare and spiritual work being undertaken in Islington within the programme, particularly by young Adventist Christians. The current advisory, support and community work programme at 'The Link Up' community project, Holloway, was one such initiative highlighted.

As regards the Sabbath day service the Mayor, herself a Catholic, said how delighted she was at being in 'a full church' on a Saturday, in the heart of Islington, when people are otherwise shopping in department stores and markets nearby. Her consort echoed the sentiment of the pleasure experienced from their attendance and association with the Adventists. Both commented on the numerous times they had driven past the church.

Emily Thornbury MP, Islington South, said that her presence at the service was representing the Government and thus demonstrating their commitment to bridging with the community and supporting the good work of the Adventist Church. Both the Mayor Barbara Smith and Emily Thornbury alluded to the visual splendour of the 'Ascot style' hats worn by the congregation's female members, whom they were happy to emulate. Extending the sentiment, Ms Thornbury stated that, while herself not wearing a hat, 'I brought my heart', a comment received in the spirit of friendliness. The invitation was also extended to the guest for the future.

The well-respected and keynote speaker for the service, Dr DeLisser, director of the Personal Ministries and Sabbath School departments of the South England Conference, zealously supports the 'Impact London' community work initiative.

Dr DeLisser delivered a powerful,

authoritative, thought-provoking and encouraging message, with a spiritual and humanitarian appeal, referencing the gospel Matthew 11:1-6. He reminded members that the purpose of the church is to mirror and to continue in the work of Jesus Christ, who went out into the cities to teach and preach the Gospel to the poor, doing good works and healing the sick.

Dr DeLisser declared without doubt, that the Seventh-day Adventist church is 'the object of God's supreme regard'. He commended the church for leading out in the community. Initiatives such as 'Impact London' and the regular 'Vibrant health screening' programmes on offer, in conjunction with other local and international welfare programmes, are evidence of work being undertaken.

Able-bodied Adventists were, nevertheless, strongly urged to sacrifice their comfort zones within the walls of the church building and to give time to the mission work in the community, amongst family and friends and in the church itself, in harvesting for the Lord by their good works.

Evidence to the effectiveness of the service, was the positive response to both the subsequent 'altar call' for prayers, and the fulfilled comments received from visitors and members alike.

At the end of the service, Adventist youth Pathfinders with two raised flags, the Union Flag and that of Adventist Church, led the guest and the platform team out, in celebratory style, to the drum march drill procession.

Polish believers in Darlington

Darlington, like many other towns in Britain, is experiencing the presence of many Polish people over here to work and raise their standard of living. Some of these visitors have chosen to bring their faith along with their work clothes and faithfully attend church and share their relationship with God.

The Adventist church in Darlington has benefited from weeks of having full chairs, three Sabbath school classes, interesting Polish food for dinner – and a new language to hear in the sanctuary. The Poles in return have set out to share their faith. The first avenue was the English language school taught on

CONGRATULATIONS and WELL DONE

'Congratulations' and 'Well done' are but two of the comments that have travelled the electronic route to the inbox of Pastor Elliott Williams' computer since June 2007 from the outbox of Adventist pastors and non-Adventist academics' and theologians' communication systems. What has triggered the flow? It was the achievement of Pastor Elliott Williams' Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), on the study of *evil*.

On 21 May 2007, the Vice-Chancellor, on behalf of the Senate of the awarding body, Brunel University, confirmed the award. This was based on the report of the external examiner, Professor Paul Helm, who held the J. I. Packer Chair in Theology and Philosophy at Regent College, Vancouver. In their citation for the award, Professor Helm and internal examiner at London School of Theology, Dr Anna Robbins, noted:

'He [Williams] showed familiarity with the theodicy of Seventh-Day Adventism, which he engaged in the wider discussion with accuracy and comprehensibility . . .

'Typically, SDAs have discussed the problem of evil as a set of practical and pastoral issues, with little theoretical underpinning. The candidate has offered, perhaps for the first time, a discussion of ways in which the SDA tradition may benefit from theoretical, philosophical and theological reflection. . . . While the presentation of the modern literature about evil is unoriginal, the way it is now presented as a development or critique of the SDA tradition is unique, in our opinion.'

Once the news of the award reached Richard Swinburne (Emeritus Nolloth Professor of the Philosophy of the Christian Religion, University of Oxford), he wrote, 'Well done. The Church badly needs pastors who have thought through the problem of evil. I am glad that you will be one of them. In Christ – [RS]'

Pastor Williams' supervisor, Tony Lane, Professor of Historical Theology & Director of Research at LST, is of the view that the thesis, under the title, *AN EVIL FREE UNIVERSE: TOWARDS THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST THEODICY*, is a significant contribution to the Christian doctrine of evil.

In a sectional conclusion, Pastor Williams wrote, 'Adventist theologians have taken Ellen White's GCM [Great Controversy Motif] and in their collective understanding and declination of it have made it an integral and distinctive element of their theology. They have consistently maintained the spirit, essence, and to a large extent, the details of White's version of the GCM. . . . The thesis seeks, therefore, to contribute positively to Adventist theology and the task of the theodicy, in vindicating the justice of God.'

I am sure the wider Adventist family would join me in wishing Dr Elliott A. Williams and his immediate family, Esther and their two daughters, Angelina and Anne Marie, Heaven's blessings as he now seeks to make the subject of his study more accessible to the wider membership in book form.

Congratulations Dr Williams!

ALBERT A. C. WAITE PhD

Sunday evenings by the pastor, and Bible workers Colin Woodford and Karen Ham-Ying.

The second avenue was through the Polish day held on the last Sunday in August in the Darlington church. While others may have enjoyed ice cream at the seaside or watching the Grand Prix, well over one hundred Polish people gathered for the first Polish Day in Darlington. Financed by Lloyds Bank and sponsored by the Adventist Church, the event was the idea of Cezary Bedka, Pastors Zenon Korostenski and Krzysztof Wozniak, who came over for the occasion from Poland, and Robert Torbus, a young man due to start work as a pastor in Skoczow in the very near future.

Pastor Zenon, we think, gave

a talk on the kind of work the Adventist Church does in England and Poland and spoke about the English language school. We think, not because we weren't listening, but because for the first time we were at the receiving end of an unusual language that we simply couldn't understand. What is significant is that 15 people signed up for the basic English language class with others already in the elementary class.

It would be wonderful to be able to say that God gave the gift of tongues to us as he did in Jerusalem those years ago. He hasn't, though not for a lack of the Holy Spirit. Perhaps the process of evangelism is the way we learn best and have the most enjoyment.

PETER JEYNES

Seven baptised on 07 07 07

There was no better time for Pastor Brian McCormac to talk about the *4 Spiritual Laws of Survival* than the Scottish Mission Pathfinder Camporee 2007. With the Scottish weather beating down on the campers on Friday, the leaders and campers set up camp, wondering how long it would all last. But as the weekend progressed, the weather improved and the spirits of the campers were lifted.

Highlight of the weekend was, without a doubt, the baptism of seven young people, who faced not only threatening clouds, but also the cold water of the baptismal pool. All seven come from the same church, Dunfermline, and, as a group, have studied over the past months with their local pastor, Jimmy Botha. On this remarkable day Scotland's young Pathfinders witnessed a public display of commitment to Jesus. As a result, a number of other young people have asked for Bible studies in preparation for baptism.

MARCEL GHIOLDA

Parenting with Grace

Family Togetherness Week, 20-27 October

by Heather Haworth, Women's, Children's and Family Ministries director, BUC

'I feel so guilty,' exclaimed one mum, 'for the times, before I had children, when I glared at parents during a church service because their children were disturbing my worship. Now I have little ones myself, disciplining them is not as easy as I thought it would be.'

No doubt some of you are nodding your head in agreement with her sentiment. As Christians we also have the added challenge of parenting with grace. Cliff Richard expressed that he thought some Christian parents added too much grace to discipline so that some of the worst behaved, undisciplined children he had met were from Christian homes.

How, then, in parenting do we find a balance between discipline and grace? The greatest guide we have is to look at how God disciplines us. First of all, the Father loves the sinner and hates the sin (*Desire of Ages*, page 462). He made this very clear by allowing Jesus to die on our behalf. When we see Christ on the Cross we come face to face with the awfulness of sin. Secondly, in Jesus' life on Earth we were shown an example of how to forgive. Jesus is our role model. Thirdly, the Holy Spirit is guiding us to follow Jesus. We cannot succeed on our own, we need God's help.

In other words, God's grace is shown to us by him not rejecting us as sinners. He accepts responsibility for helping us follow him by sending Jesus as our example of love and the impact of sin. He also empowers us to live daily as his child through the ministry of his Spirit. In taking these principles and applying them to parenting we see that children:

- need to know the security of being loved because they are our child
- be taught why wrong behaviour is not acceptable
- have adult role models who show how Jesus loves them
- must be shown forgiveness and how to ask for forgiveness
- be helped daily to receive the Holy Spirit's power to be a child of God.

Two texts that embody this process are Proverbs 22:6 and 13:24. One is often quoted and misunderstood in the area of discipline: 'train up a child' and 'spare the rod, spoil the child'. The context of time and culture gives a better picture of how we can discipline biblically. Training a child, the wise man Solomon explains, is like training a plant. If you want a child to grow up in a certain way then you need to treat him or her like a plant which is guided to climb or lean against a gardener's stick which is positioned where it will best be watered and enjoy the growing power of the sun. Or, as Solomon also graphically states, sometimes a child is like a wilful lamb who has to have the shepherd use the curved end of his rod as a hook and pull the lamb away from danger.

The two types of discipline we find in these texts are:

- short-term – pulled away by the shepherd's hook
- long-term – the process of growing a plant

In the book, *How to Help Your Child Really Love Jesus* by Donna Habernicht (Review & Herald Publishing Association), she graphically describes four styles of discipline, only one of which portrays how God disciplines us. As you read the stories work out which it is.

Neglectful

Carolyn is a cute, vivacious, bright-eyed beauty. At 14 she is popular with both guys and girls. She always wears the latest styles and has plenty of spending money. Her parents are both lawyers and have provided everything she ever wanted – except their love, time, and attention. They have placed no restriction on the time she must arrive home after dates. Sometimes she comes in after midnight and one night she arrives at 3am. No one says a word – in fact, no one seems even to notice. Anyone she dates is OK as far as her parents are concerned. They just don't have time to be bothered. Carolyn often cries herself to sleep because she is so lonely. She needs her friends at school desperately – they are really her family. When her friends had suggested staying out late that night, she had thought her parents would say something, do something – anything – that would show they cared about what happened to her. But they didn't. Carolyn cried for hours as if her heart would break. No one really cared.

Permissive

Three-year old Susie whines and begs for a chocolate bar at the shop. Her mother says she cannot have one, but finally gets tired of her whining and gets a chocolate bar. The same scene repeats itself every time they go shopping.

As far as their family friends are concerned, Susie's 5-year-old brother, Mike, is a terror. He sweeps into a house, runs through all the rooms, picks up whatever he wants to play with, and his parents never say a word of reprimand or attempt to restrain him. Instead, they usually say, 'Well, you know how kids are. . . .' Mike goes to bed when he feels like it. He also eats when he wants and isn't expected to show good table manners. 'After all, he's just a kid,' his parents sigh.

Authoritarian

Seventeen-year-old Carl arrived home half an hour late from a Thursday night date. On the way back his bicycle chain had broken and he had had to walk the last two miles home. When he tried to explain what had happened, his father cut him short, shouting, 'Don't give me any of that stuff! There aren't any excuses this time! You can't be trusted to keep to time so you had better stay in for the next four nights – you're totally irresponsible!'

Carl's shoulders sagged. He knew better than to try to explain – that would only get him a more severe punishment. But it didn't seem right. He had tried so hard to get back on time . . . and Saturday night was the church social, and he knew his father

wouldn't let him go. Resentment swelled inside and threatened to overwhelm him. 'I can't take this for three more months! I've got to get out of here . . . hey, next week's my birthday . . . maybe . . .'



Authoritative

Nine-year-old Jamie rushes in the door from school, breathlessly calling, 'Mum! The guys are all going to play ball. Can I go to the park with them?'

'Let's see,' his mother responds, 'have you completed your home jobs for today?'

Jamie hangs his head. He forgot to do them before he left for school.

'You remember our agreement, don't you?' his mother continues. 'Work before play.'

'Aw, Mum, just this once – I'll do them when I get back.'

'I'm sorry Jamie,' she says as she puts her arm around him. 'You can't go and play with the guys this time. I know how disappointed you are. From now on I'm sure you'll remember to do your jobs before leaving for school, won't you?' Slowly Jamie nods, disappointment clearly showing on his face.

'Come, son, let's get those jobs done!' Mother encourages as she gives him a little hug. 'I'll help you. It shouldn't take long. Maybe we'll have time to bat a few balls before I have to make supper.'

Did you guess it was the last one, the authoritative style? This is parenting with grace. Jamie has done wrong; he did not complete the agreed jobs. Mum points out how he has gone wrong. She lovingly puts her arm around him and shows how his wrong actions have consequences. Mum helps him understand what he has done wrong and then shows grace by helping him do his jobs, even allowing him time to play.

Parenting with grace is a challenge, especially if the family you grew up in experienced one of the other three styles. But everyone has experienced the authoritative form of discipline because this is how God treats all his children. Taking time to meditate on the occasions you have seen God discipline in such an authoritative way in your own life will then better enable you to parent with grace.

RESOURCES

GC 2007 Family Ministries Planbook. Available from the British Union Conference, 01923 672251 and also on the website, www.adventist.org.uk on the Family Ministries department page.

Some available at the ABC: *Teaching Children Self Discipline With Love* by Kay Kuzma, *Train up a Child* by Nancy van Pelt, *Dare to Discipline* by Dr J. Dobson, *How to Really Love Your Child/Teenager* by Ross Campbell, *The 5 Love Languages of Children/Teenagers* by Gary Chapman, *The Family Book* by Karen Holford, *Adventist Home and Child Guidance* by Ellen White.

Parenting websites: www.abcparenting.com, www.activeparenting.com, www.parentsplace.com, www.bethanyfamilyinstitute.com, www.care-for-the-family.org.uk, www.family.org.

GEMMA TUCKLEY (1923-2007) d. 13 March. Gemma Whelan was born on 18 October 1923 in Chesterfield to parents Frank and Louisa. The youngest of five sisters, Gemma left school at 14 and her first job was weaving basket chairs for eight shillings a week. She had various jobs, including working in a gown shop, until she joined the Royal Air Force during the Second World War. In 1947 she married George Tuckley and later identical twins Linda and Arlene (The Tuckley Twins) were born, followed by a son, Philip. In the 1950s she joined the Northampton church but moved away and left the church. She returned to the fold in 1976 and was baptised along with her children in the Coventry Central church in 1977. The family transferred to Northampton church in 1981, where she became an active

member, serving as church clerk for a few years as well as Sabbath School assistant and librarian. Gemma had a variety of jobs until her retirement in 1982. She then spent much of her time making blankets for the poor and raising money for the church building fund by knitting woolly hats and dolls. In 2000, after the shock of losing her son Philip in tragic circumstances, she had a severe stroke which left her disabled. Then in 2003 she suffered kidney failure and needed dialysis three times a week. While her health continued to deteriorate, she still witnessed for Jesus through the many books and tracts she gave away. She suffered another stroke in October 2006 and was admitted to hospital for seven weeks, returning home for Christmas. A bout of pneumonia saw her in hospital again in February of this year. While to everyone's sur-

Word on the street

Are today's teenagers interested in spiritual things? The young people you see hanging out with their friends on a street corner, dressed in the style of their favourite hip hop artist, may not appear to be interested in hearing about God or Christianity, but in reality they are hungry for truth.

Displaced youth, forced to survive on the street, are starving both physically and spiritually. I strongly feel that God is calling me to set up a ministry based at Newbold church to support these young people by providing wholesome vegetarian meals and making available on MP3 player truth-filled talks by people of their own age group.

Committed groups of people are needed to go out and talk to the teenagers on the street, befriending them and tactfully finding out their greatest needs. They are also needed to collect and distribute food provided by a local vegetarian restaurant.

Please consider buying and donating an MP3 player to this ministry, or donating any second hand MP3 players that you may have, so that short talks from Christ-centred young people can be downloaded onto them, ready for distribution among the needy street youth.

Much prayer is needed if the teenagers on the streets are to be reached effectively. Please remember the young people whom we will contact, and those who will work with them, in your prayers.

If you feel you would like to support this ministry and would like further information, please contact me on 07708 094905.

S. P. WILSON with LYNETTE ALLCOCK

Dimensions of Health

Health and Life, an organisation that uses Adventist health experts to promote the Gospel, conducted a health weekend at Tottenham church on Sabbath 17 March and Sunday 18 March. The programme was conducted by Fred Evans and Yvonne Howell, members of Windsor Street church and Health and Life, and David Addo, a trained minister and a naturopathic practitioner. Over the weekend the following were covered: The eight laws of health; Spiritual and physical health; Health MOT and consultations; Juicing and cooking demonstrations.

On Sabbath morning, Yvonne Howell spoke about the eight laws of health; NEWSTART – nutrition, exercise, water, sunshine, temperance, air, rest and trust in the divine power of God. She discussed the best methods of preparing foods, the amount of exercise and water we need each day, sunshine's healing and relaxing properties, the importance of self-control to protect our body, the need for fresh air and good ventilation, the amount of sleep needed and going to bed two hours before midnight and last, but not least, the need to trust in the Divine for success and quality of life.

During divine service David Addo spoke about spiritual and physical health. The four dimensions of health are mental, physical, spiritual and social health. He said spiritual health was as important as any physical activity that we do. Having good mental health would contribute greatly to one's overall health, but this would not make a person sound and healthy spiritually. Spiritual health comes only through learning from God (Matthew 11:29). The four keys to spiritual health are: forgiveness, gratefulness, peace with yourself and peace with God.

A delicious, plant-based Sabbath lunch was served using Health and Life methods.

On Sunday morning Fred Evans conducted Health MOTs and consultations followed by juicing and cooking demonstrations. Fred Evans is an expert in the benefits of juicing, plant-based cooking and teaching the benefits of whole fruits and vegetables, nuts and seeds in our daily diet.

GELISA G. DEVIN, aged 13, Tottenham

prise she recovered from that, she died shortly afterwards of renal failure. Gemma will be remembered for her faith in Jesus which remained strong throughout her illness. She will be sadly missed by her daughters, her family, church family and friends and we look forward to the day when Jesus returns to reunite loved ones and there will be no more pain, sorrow and death.

NORTHAMPTON COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

ALICE CROFTS (1909-2007) d. 28 May.

It is with sadness that the Sutton-in-Ashfield church records the death of Alice Crofts who died at the age of 97. Alice was born on 30 August 1909, the eldest of eight children. Alice left school at the age of 13 and went into service, looking after an elderly couple in Kidlington, Derbyshire. She first met James, her husband-to-be, while still at school. It was quite a few years later that they were to meet up and marry when Alice was 26. Alice and James were blessed with two daughters, Doreen and Jean. Doreen was born both mentally and physically disabled and was lovingly cared for by her parents. When James died in 1971, Alice found caring for Doreen too much to manage alone and sadly Doreen became a resident in Whittington Hall. Alice visited her daughter several times a week until Doreen's death in 1999. Alice came into contact with the Adventist church through one of our members, Igonia Holloway. Igonia was distributing *Signs* magazines and invited Alice to attend church. She was later baptised and became a faithful member of the church. Two years ago Alice fell and fractured her leg. Despite making a good recovery, she decided to go into Richmond House care home where she was looked after extremely well. Along with Alice's daughter and husband Roy, who have cared for Alice over the years, we mourn the loss of a special mother and friend. Alice leaves grandchildren and great grandchildren. To quote Alice: 'I look forward to the Second Coming of Jesus when we shall all be together again.'

MORAY STEWART

MORFYDD AMOS (1923-2007). Despite her name, Morfydd wasn't Welsh. She was born in Coalpit Heath on 16 October 1923 (her father was a miner) and was given her Welsh name because the midwife was Welsh. Morfydd went to Manor School and won a place at the grammar school, but for financial reasons, could not attend. She left school at 14 and her first job was at the Co-op in

Downend. She trained as a secretary at night school and then took up a post with BOAC in Bristol until she had to leave to look after her mother. She had the chance to go to London with BOAC, but refused as she felt her mother needed her. She subsequently worked as PA to the boss of a firm of solicitors. When she married Wensley she became a full-time housewife, although she helped with their market gardening business, looking after the books and occasionally working on the land. Her main role was in caring for the family which she undertook with unswerving devotion. Her children Martin, Elizabeth and Jonathan have very fond memories of their childhood. Morfydd was a lifelong and original member of the Bristol church, where, as a shy person, she always occupied a seat at the back. Although Morfydd made a new life for herself after her husband's death in 2001, she found many aspects of life without him difficult. Her greatest joy lay in her children, grandchildren and her great-grandson. She was proud to learn that she was to be a great-grandmother again. She will be sadly missed and we all look forward to the day of the great reunion.

MILES CHAMBERS

BARBARA SMITH (1928-2007) d. 11 May.

On 29 May a celebration of the life of Barbara Smith took place at Canterbury church. Pastor Vasyil Vatsaba welcomed a packed church and a moving sermon was delivered by Pastor Chris Peake. Eulogies were given by Canterbury's first elder, George Rorke, Pastor Dr Paul Smith, Freda Peake and members of Folkestone and Ashford churches. A short service of cremation followed at Barham crematorium. Barbara was baptised into the Folkestone church in December 1984 by Pastor Martin Anthony. A long-standing member, Barbara was a committed lady, loved and respected by the church family and community alike. Her dedication and love for her Lord were paramount and she always went the extra mile to help and comfort those around her. For many years she helped to run the welfare programme held each Wednesday at the church. She was also a great support to the pastors – Chris Peake, David Spearing, Fernand Lombart and current pastor Vasyil Vatsaba. Barbara became increasingly ill from March 2007 and was eventually diagnosed with ovarian cancer which led to her death on May 11. She is mourned by sons Ian and Michael, their respective partners, Sue and Pauline, and all her church family.

DAPHNE MARSH

WEDDINGS

MOYO-NAMAKANDO The wedding of Merlvin Moyo and Mwiya Namakando took place on Monday 6 August, at 11.30am, at the Liverpool church. It was six years ago that the couple first met at the church, so it was appropriate for them to be married there. Merlvin is a son of Zimbabwe and Mwiya is a daughter of Zambia. The excitement of the wedding was heightened by the fact that this was the first service held in the church since it closed in February for building work. The newly-refurbished church added to the splendour of the service. Family and friends gathered from all over the world to add to the happiness of the occasion. The service was conducted by local minister, Pastor Barry Stokes. The reception was held in the Maghull Town Hall. We wish Mr and Mrs Moyo every happiness in their marriage.

PASTOR BARRY STOKES

SCHOLES-FERGUSON At St Michael And All Angels Church, Claverdon, near Warwick, on Sunday 15 July, the marriage took place of Charlotte Lucy Rosalind Ferguson and Matthew Scholes. The lovely old building was decorated with beautiful pink and cream flowers to welcome a large gathering of family and friends. Charlotte is the younger daughter of Malcolm and Julia Ferguson of Solihull, and Matthew is the son of Rod and Hazel Scholes of Barnsley. Charlotte and Matthew met in Sri Lanka in 2005 while working with ADRA-UK. The charming bride entered the church on the arm of her father to the sound of Handel's Hornpipe. She was followed by three delightful bridesmaids, Zoe Nahlis, Caroline Kendrick and Belinda Wallis, all friends of Charlotte. Best man was Kevin Cox, long-time friend of the groom, ably assisted by ushers Greg Cox, Bryan Haworth and Neil Dyson. Canon Lawrence Mortimer conducted the service and delivered his thoughtful address with humour and kindness. The readings, 1 Corinthians 13 and Sonnet 116 by William Shakespeare, were read by Kevin and the bride's sister, Alexandra. Pastor Alan Conroy led the prayers. During the signing of the register, organist Peter Gregory and trumpeter Ian Hattersley played 'May the Peace of God' (Benediction) and Pachelbel's Canon in D. The reception was held in picturesque surroundings at Ardenote Manor Hotel near Henley-in-Arden, where guests enjoyed an excellent meal and entertainment. The couple will be setting up home in Conisbrough near Doncaster, Charlotte as a medical doctor and Matthew as a teacher of English. We wish them God's blessings in their new life together.

HAZEL SCHOLES

Ballinasloe Inauguration

Sabbath 1 September was a special day for believers in the West of Ireland. It was the day on which a new Seventh-day Adventist church was inaugurated in Ballinasloe, County Galway. Ballinasloe is a town situated between the cities of Galway and Dublin on the east coast.

The new church is located just off Society Street, in Ballinasloe's city centre. It is the ideal location for a new church. Adventists in the Ballinasloe area worked very hard to renovate the building for the church and prepare it for the inauguration. Pastor David Neal, the president of the Irish Mission, was present, as was district pastor, Stephen Wilson. Tony O'Rourke, the head elder of the Galway church, welcomed all those who had come for the inauguration service. Tony himself comes from near Ballinasloe and lives in the town with his wife and family. Tommy Mulveen of the Galway church opened with prayer. The day was especially memorable for the beautiful singing of gospel songs in Portuguese by a Brazilian choir, members of which also sang duets and solos during the service. Most of the people who had attended the house church in Ballinasloe up to now come from Brazil, so it was very appropriate that the service should be conducted in both English and Portuguese. There was room for Irish as well, with Betty O'Rourke, wife of Tony, speaking some words in Irish prior to the collection of the special offering for the new church.

The chosen Bible passages were read out in Portuguese and English by some of the young people of the new church. These were: Diana Fernandez, Gearoid O'Rourke, Joabe Damenco, Robert O'Rourke and Simielle Damenco. All the congregation sang in the two languages the well known and loved hymn, 'How Great Thou Art', or in Portuguese, 'Quao grande es Tu'.

Pastor Stephen Wilson relayed greetings from around the world on this special occasion. These included messages from the president of the Brazilian Union via his secretary, from Pastor Don McFarlane, president of the BUC, Eric Lowe, secretary of the BUC, and Victor Pilmoor, treasurer of the BUC. Ashley Kongari, former pastor of the western district,

sent his greetings from India.

Ashley was associated, along with Francisco and Gilma Santos Da Silva and their family, with the establishment of the first Adventist house church in Ballinasloe. Pastor Neal gave the sermon, which was translated into Portuguese by 15-year-old Andrew Santos Da Silva, whose sister Franciara also shared in the translation work during the service. The sermon was entitled, 'Your Church – Cruise Ship or Life Boat?' Pastor Neal contrasted the life of luxury and ease on board the doomed *Titanic* and the modern

cruise ship with the work of a life boat, saving people from stormy seas.

He said, 'When Christians sit in padded pews we have problems. We begin to think this church is made for us, not for the people who need help. We are called to worship God who made heaven and earth.' Addressing the congregation, Pastor Neal said, 'You have a vision to reach all the people in this city, that is why you have chosen to come here.' His message was summed up by the words, 'The church has to be more like a life boat,' and he con-

Grace Awakening in Ireland

by Pastor Jim and Annette Fitzsimmons

Greetings from the land that created the colour green, and all the forty shades of it! Could this be why the Irish are so relaxed and calm? I'm glad to report that our little company at Newmarket on Fergus in the west of Ireland is growing. We have a regular attendance of about forty people each week. What visitors like about this company is the warm Christian welcome they receive. So they are happy to invite their friends.

We have started a weekly English language course at our house for members and their friends who do not speak English. We have five students from Brazil with zilch English knowledge, one of whom is a Catholic lady. This class will get bigger, and all are welcome. I believe we are meeting current needs. The students come twice a week, for two hours at a time. It's an opportunity to make new friends for our church.

At the moment, I am currently studying with six young people in our baptismal class. They enjoy the studies, and are eager to learn. My wife Annette has started a Pathfinders club, which also includes Adventurers. This club meets on Sabbath afternoons and is greatly enjoyed by the children.

The Cork church is going along nicely. It, too, is growing in number. The dedicated members and officers organise the running of this church superbly. It is a joy to work as an assistant to their leadership.

A few weeks ago, I was accosted in the church car park by four hardened street alcoholics as I was carrying my materials into the church hall. When I passed them the second time, I was impressed to think that Christ also cares so much for them, too. So I introduced myself as the pastor, but they preferred to call me a priest. They asked me what I preach about in the hall. I told them I preach the same sermon every week. They asked me curiously what that sermon was about. I told them it was 'The Grace of Christ towards Sinners like us'. They scratched their heads, and one said, 'Don't they ever get bored?' I said, that's exactly what happens! The Holy Spirit bores a hole deep in our sinful hearts and fills that bored hole with Christ's grace. Patrick, a decorated war hero, leaned forward, and asked the question, 'Tell me more about this grace thing!' I illustrated grace using a story that they could identify with in Irish culture. I began, 'Boys, if a gangster lent you 10,000 euros for one week only, with 50% interest due in seven days, and you foolishly wasted it on drink and drugs and such like, what do you think he would do to you if saw that you had wasted his money?' They replied to a man, 'Ah, he would have to kneecap us at least, and we'd be fortunate at that! But he could also kill us, and we'd deserve that as well!' 'But,' said I, 'if the hit man told you he had forgiven your foolishness and not only overlooked the money you wasted, but then gave you another 10,000 euros as a gift. Then he told you that your friendship was worth more than all the money in the Bank of Ireland! What would you think? That's Grace,' I said, and I left to preach in the hall. Near the end of the sermon, Patrick quietly entered the hall and sat down, and looked at me like a puppy looks at a dangling steak. I walked over and sat beside him, and he asked emotionally, 'Tell me more about this grace. It's troubling me as when I thirst for Guinness!'

Pray for all these poor potential Christians, especially for Patrick. Once again, we are grateful for your dedication to the cause in Ireland.

cluded: 'The church modelled on the life boat is modelled on grace.'

Pastor Stephen Wilson then said a few words based on the picture of a church in 1 Corinthians 3:6,7. He said, 'The picture of a seed is a very powerful picture of what the church is to be. One person will sow the seed, another waters it – it is God who helps it grow.'

Many people had laid the foundation for the establishment of a church in Ballinasloe. Now the members of the new church signed their names to a scroll as part of a service of dedication. After signing, each new member took a flower and planted it in a flowerbox. Francisco Santos Da Silva spoke of his happiness that this day had come and said to those present, 'You are here because God loves you.' Then the friends of the Ballinasloe church, those who wished to help the church through their prayers and practical support, added their names to a scroll.

Special prayers were said by Tony O'Rourke, Henriex Damaceno and Pastor Stephen Wilson. The closing hymn was, 'We Have This Hope', or in Portuguese, 'Oh, Que Esperanca'.

OLIVER MARTYN

ABC BOOK SALES

October

28 Harper Bell 10.30am-2pm
NEC/SEC
Women's Retreats

November

4 John Loughborough 10.30am-2pm

Messenger

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Sunset

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	Lond	Card	Nott	Edin	Bell
Oct 12	6.15	6.27	6.17	6.21	6.34
19	6.00	6.12	6.01	6.03	6.17
26	5.46	5.58	5.46	5.47	6.01
Nov 2	4.33	4.45	4.32	4.31	4.47

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