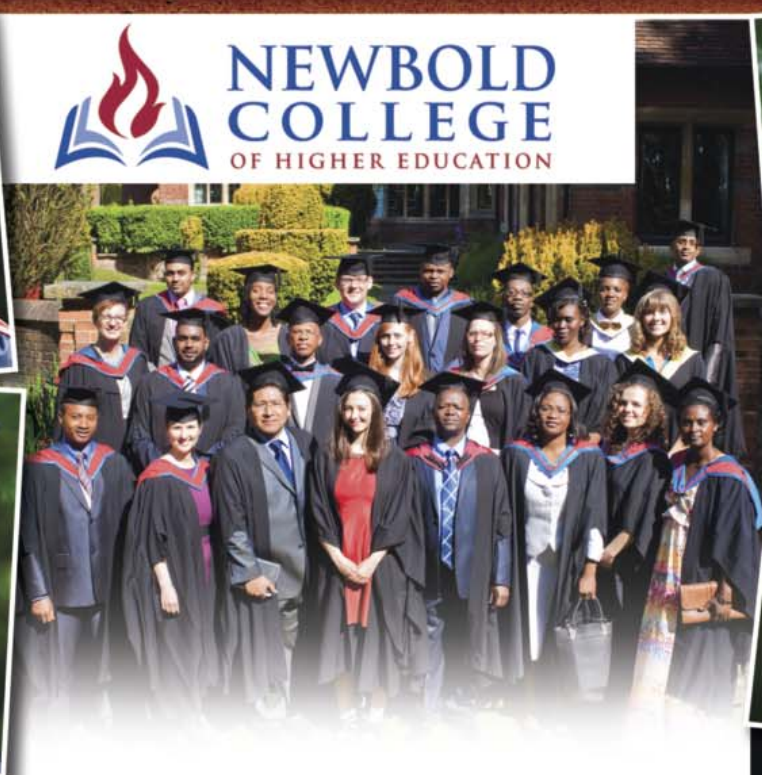


Messenger

News to the churches • 5 July 2013 • Volume 118 • 14



**NEWBOLD
COLLEGE**
OF HIGHER EDUCATION



UK graduates.
Top left: Curtis Samuel.
Bottom left: Marybeth Frank.
Top right: Jerry Vincent, James Shepley.
Middle right: Sam Gungaloo, Rebeto Samuel-Ouadjo.
Bottom right: Max McKenzie-Cook.



Newbold College Awards Ceremony 2013

report submitted by Newbold Communications

The academic success of twenty-nine students from Newbold College of Higher Education was celebrated on Sunday 2 June 2013 at the college's awards ceremony.

The Mayor of Bracknell Forest, Councillor Jan Angell, and other local politicians joined over 300 staff, alumni and friends of the college at the ceremony in the Newbold church centre.

These students, who represent seventeen different countries, successfully completed the requirements for the college's programmes in business, arts and humanities, media arts, and theology, which are offered in partnership with a number of international Seventh-day Adventist education providers.

Dr Friedbert Ninow (Rector) and Dr Johannes Hartlapp (Dean of Theology) represented Theologische Hochschule Friedensau – the Seventh-day Adventist state-accredited higher education institution in Germany – and attended the ceremony to celebrate the first graduates from the partnership between Newbold and Friedensau.

The guest speaker was Dr Edward O. Blews Jr, president of the

Council for Christian Colleges and Universities, an association of Christian institutions with 116 member campuses in the USA and sixty-nine affiliate campuses (of which Newbold is one) in twenty-five countries outside the USA.

Dr Blews addressed the audience on the theme *Carpe Diem* (loosely translated as *Seize the Day*), and shared Christ's own eternal perspective from Matthew 6:33, 34 (NIV): 'But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, . . . Each day has enough trouble of its own.'

Dr Blews reminded the graduating students that God is calling them into a waiting world, playing on the college's name in urging them to 'go forth with "New Boldness" in serving Christ and in serving humanity – His creation. The world awaits – seize the day to which God calls you.'

Learn more about Newbold at: www.newbold.ac.uk, and view photos from the 2013 Awards Ceremony at www.facebook.com/NewboldCollege.

Megapixels of creation

Ever thought of joining the circus?

We are very fortunate to have a wood just outside our office window, and as a result we get lots of different birds visiting our feeders, but when this little chap arrived, all work had to stop for a few minutes while he entertained us with his antics on the nuts. It's all about being in the right place at the right time.

I don't need much of an excuse to grab my camera and go for a walk . . . how about you? Do you enjoy a family trip to your local park, or a walk along the river or up in the hills? There is always something wonderful to photograph. Just remember to send your pictures in to me for 'Megapixels of creation'.

Please send in your photography to me at: dbell@stanboroughpress.org.uk. Just remember to keep it 'hi-resolution'. Happy snapping!

DAVID BELL, MESSENGER DESIGNER

To see more of your images, go to: www.adventistpictures.org.uk/megapixels

*Pictures sent in to Megapixels may be used by us at our discretion on other projects.
Note: The new masthead picture on the cover was taken by Andrew Daryl for Megapixels of creation.



Photo: David Bell



Enhancing Health

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

Cancer: the facts – part 3i

Examining causation and risk factors

Immunity and cancer risk

This issue examines research highlighting the links between 'faulty' immune systems and cancer development. It also includes a discussion of the relationship between cancer and the compromised immune systems of HIV patients, and those who are taking immunosuppressant drugs to prevent organ transplant rejection.

Immunity changes and increased risk of breast and ovarian cancers

A Cancer Research UK News Digest report posted on 22 December carried an article by Henry Scrowcroft on 'Immune System Faults'. The report found that:

- Scientists have linked a rare genetic fault in the immune system to an increased risk of breast and ovarian cancers.

The research team from The Institute of Cancer Research announced what they identified as 'an entirely new way tumours develop'. Their key findings, published in the journal *Nature*, were:

- Women with faults in a gene called PPM1D, found in lymphocyte blood cells, were 20% more likely to develop breast or ovarian cancer.
- That figure is twice the average breast cancer risk and more than 10 times the general ovarian cancer risk.

- The PPM1D gene appears to operate differently to other genes that are known to increase the risk of breast and ovarian cancer, such as BRCA1 and BRCA2.
- Changes in PPM1D were found not to be inherited, as are most inherited cancer-causing genes (which are present in every cell) – PPM1D was only present in immune cells (lymphocytes).

In responding to these findings, Dr Emma Smith, Cancer Research UK's senior science information officer, said: 'This exciting discovery could help doctors identify women at higher risk of developing breast and ovarian cancer in the future.'¹

Immunosuppression and cancer risk facts:

- 'Cancer is a widely recognised complication of transplantation, and the effects of various immunosuppressive drugs on cancer risk remain controversial.' (*Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*).²
- Due to a suppressed immune system, 'People infected with HIV have a substantially higher risk of some types of cancer compared with uninfected people of the same age.'³
- Three of these cancers are classified as 'acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)-defining cancers'. These are Kaposi's sarcoma, non-Hodgkin lymphoma (70 times more likely), and cervical cancer (5 times more likely).⁴
- People infected with HIV are at higher risk of several other types of cancers, such as anal (25 times more likely), liver (5 times more likely), lung cancer (3 times more likely) and Hodgkin lymphoma (10 times more likely).³

For more on immunity and cancer, visit: <http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/cancer-help/about-cancer/what-is-cancer/body/the-immune-system>.

Good health!

¹<http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/cancer-info/news/archive/cancernews/2012-12-17-Blood-cell-gene-fault-linked-to-breast-and-ovarian-cancer> ²<http://jasn.asnjournals.org/content/21/5/852.full> ³<http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/factsheet/Risk/hiv-infection> ⁴ibid ⁵ibid

editorial

How many drops fill a drip tray?



Julian Hibbert
Editor

During 2012 we experienced the wettest year on record, bar one. The rainfall total for the UK last year was 1,330.7mm, a mere 6.6mm less than the record established back in 2000. That is a lot of rain, but fortunately, for most of us, it fell outside.¹

We complained about it, swapped pet theories of why it was happening, and diligently did that very British thing of faithfully letting our dogs walk us in the rain. But, as I said, it fell outside, and we could lie in our warm, dry beds at night while this happened.

I experienced a really wet winter once – while at boarding school. In the middle of it all, there was one week of particularly heavy, driving rain, so bad that the old dormitory's roof began to leak in places. One of which was above our ceiling – above my roommate's bed, in fact.

At first it just ran down the wall as a trickle of glistening dampness. Then the sounds began. Drip, drip, drip . . . at night, while we were trying to fall asleep.

A 'solution' is found

Things were becoming more ominous by the day, and my roommate – a man of action – decided to fix the problem, once and for all. It was too wet and dangerous to seal the leak from above, so he decided to try something different. He managed to find a steel plate that he ingeniously cut and braised into a very large, deep drip tray. Then, with a little help, he manoeuvred it into the ceiling above his bed.

The drips stopped. We slept peacefully. The problem was solved.

Until a few nights later, when



Those small things that go wrong often have profound, even disastrous, consequences.

I woke suddenly to the sounds of boisterous language and pouring water! My roommate's drip tray was overflowing – spilling a curtain of cold rainwater over his bed!

Neither of us had done the maths as to just how many drops the tray would hold, nor what would happen when it was full. Instead, we had naively simulated an indoor cloudburst!

Attention to detail

They say that 'the devil is in the details'. If anything is going to go wrong with a plan, it will probably be something small that escapes our notice. But small things that go wrong can have profound, even disastrous, consequences. One of the saddest illustrations of which is the Cocoon Grove, one of Boston's premier nightclubs of the early 1940s. For on 28 November, 1942, it 'was the scene of the deadliest nightclub fire in US history, killing 492 people (which was 32 more than the building's authorised capacity) and injuring hundreds more.'²

The blaze spread throughout the club so rapidly that 'firefighters found several dead guests sitting in their seats, with drinks in their hands. They had been overcome so quickly by fire and toxic smoke that they didn't have time to move.'³ But what caused it? Why did so many people die?

Door hinges

Such tragic disasters are usually the result of a collection of volatile factors, all just waiting, literally, for a spark. In this case, though, there is one tiny 'detail' that needs mentioning – the direction in which the club's swinging doors opened. All of them were *hinged inwards*, creating an immovable barrier to the crowds that surged suddenly against them in the smoke-filled club.

According to the fire department investigation, 'Had the doors swung outwards, at least 300 lives could have been spared.'⁴ Yes, 'the devil is in the details'. Those small things that go wrong often have profound, even disastrous, consequences.

Flies and foxes

King Solomon, arguably one of history's wisest men, also had a point to make regarding the importance of life's little things. In one of his wisdom books he conjured up this vivid image: 'As dead flies give perfume a bad smell, so a little folly outweighs wisdom and honour.' Ecclesiastes 10:1, NIV-UK.

While in another he painted this word picture (Song of Solomon 2:15, NIV-UK):

'Catch for us the foxes, the little foxes that ruin the vineyards, our vineyards that are in bloom.'

'Flies' and 'foxes' can have a negative influence in our lives too – especially on our special and intimate relationships. Sadly, it is just too easy to let the perfume of courtship putrefy, simply for the neglect of those little things that make marriage work well.

'What are those little things?' you ask. Here is a list that could be helpful:

'This love of which I speak is slow to lose patience – it looks for a way of being constructive. It is not possessive: it is neither anxious to impress nor does it cherish inflated ideas of its own importance. Love has good manners and does not pursue selfish advantage. It is not touchy. It does not keep account of evil or gloat over the wickedness of other people. On the contrary, it is glad with all good men when truth prevails. Love knows no limit to its endurance, no end to its trust, no fading of its hope; it can outlast anything. It is, in fact, the one thing that still stands when all else has fallen.' (1 Corinthians 13:4-8a, J. B. Phillips New Testament.)

This is a list of 'little' things – things that often languish in the shade of those really 'big' things: the new house; the latest car; the flourishing career; elite club membership; holidays in Bermuda; haute couture and nouvelle cuisine.

It is a list of 'little' things – but money can't buy any of them – which only adds to their value.

Interestingly, the idiom 'the devil is in the detail' is not found in print before ca 1975. In fact, it derives from a much earlier French phrase, 'Le bon Dieu est dans le détail' – 'the good God is in the detail.'⁵ Which simply expresses the fact that the 'details are important' – important for relationships – important to God!

¹<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-20898729> ²http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cocoon_Grove_fire ³ibid ⁴ibid ⁵http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Devil_is_in_the_details

devotional



Are you a Cheshire cat?

by Pastor Solon Kyriacou

Proverbs 14:13 (NKJV) reads like this: 'Even in laughter the heart may sorrow, And the end of mirth may be grief.' For most of us, laughter and sorrow are mutually exclusive concepts. Like oil and water, they cannot mix. We generally feel the same about worship – it is associated with a joyful heart and 'making a joyful noise' – not with sadness or sorrow. After all, if we think 'worship', then these words spring to mind, don't they: 'praise', 'rejoicing', 'happiness', and 'lightness of spirit' – and we imagine smiling, beaming faces.

Is it true, then, that you cannot worship God unless you are doing your best impersonation of a Cheshire cat? Perhaps the following examples will provide an answer.

Abraham

In Genesis 22 Abraham receives these curt instructions from God: 'Take now your son, your only son [the only heir to the promise I made you] Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.' (Vs. 2, NKJV.)

Contrary to our expectations, Abraham shows no sign of doubt, resistance, objection or even the slightest hesitation. He rises early the next morning, so as not to wake Sarah and have to explain his dreadful mission to her. She might well have had something to say about the idea!

Then Abraham sets off on the 50-mile journey from Beersheba to Moriah – the site of the future temple in which countless other sacrifices would be made, and but a short distance from what would be known as Golgotha, where the ultimate sacrifice would be made some 1,900 years later. There seems to be no emotional upheaval – everything's reported very matter-of-factly.

In Genesis 22:5, with the mountain in view, Abraham tells the accompanying servants: 'Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there, and the boy and I will worship, and the boy and I will come back to you.' That's the emphasis of the Hebrew. There's no doubt in Abraham's mind that even if he has to go through with the gruesome task of cutting his son's throat and dismembering him for a burnt offering, God will restore Isaac to him (Hebrews 11:17-19).

But even with such faith, do you think that

Abraham was going to the top of Moriah whistling a jaunty tune and telling his son, 'God is good and it's good to be alive – by the way, make the most of it . . . ?'

Isaac, carrying the very wood his body is supposed to be laid on, innocently asks, 'My father – behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?' and Abraham's reply could only be, 'God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.'

So there they were, on top of the mountain. Do you think Abraham was smiling while he built the altar and prepared to worship? Was Isaac? I don't think so.

But Abraham was filled with faith, trust, hope in God's resurrection power and an obedient spirit. The basis of his worship of God wasn't his circumstance or how he was feeling at the time.

Job

And what about Job? You know the story – Job 1 is packed with a series of devastating calamities that rip through his life: his oxen and donkeys are stolen and the attendant servants murdered by marauders; a catastrophe from the skies destroys his sheep and the employees looking after them; then his camels are raided by another bunch of organised criminals and more of his servants are killed in the process.

As if that wasn't enough, Job's given just enough time to draw breath before another natural disaster wipes out all of his children, and more of his servants, in one fell swoop.

What happens next? 'Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head and fell on the ground and . . . ' what? Does he scream at God in incoherent fury, grief and despair? Does he abandon his faith because of his circumstances?

No, Scripture simply says he 'worshipped', using these words (1:21, NKJV): 'Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked shall I return there. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; Blessed be the name of the LORD.'

Did Job worship with a happy, happy heart, with a joyful noise in his mouth? I don't think so. But he worshipped.

David

2 Samuel 11 easily rivals today's scandals with its story of adultery, deceit and murder at the highest levels of government. The king is eventually confronted with his sin and confesses it (2 Samuel 12), but no one can tell me that it hadn't been on his mind since he first glimpsed the bathing beauty. In Psalm 51 he tells us that he knows his transgressions, and that his sin is ever before him. Of course he felt bad – he'd succumbed to lust, committed adultery, lied and schemed to cover his tracks, and, when that hadn't worked, engineered the death of a loyal and committed warrior.

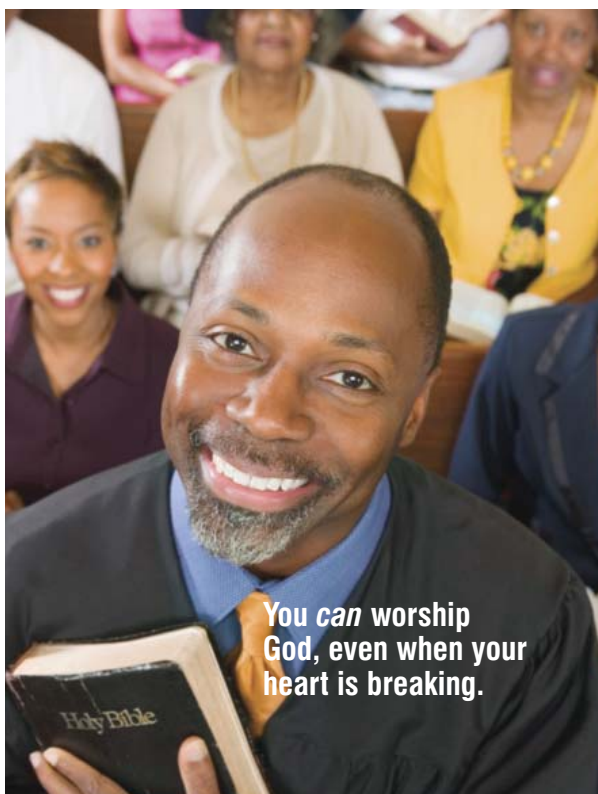
And now comes God's judgement. You'll always have trouble in your home. You'll be on the receiving end of marital infidelity – and it'll be public knowledge. And the real shocker: 'The child who is born to you shall die.' An innocent life will be taken in your place!

He pleads for that innocent life for a week, but the child dies. 'Then David arose from the earth' – the place where he had humbled himself – 'and washed, and anointed himself, and changed his apparel, and came into the house of the LORD and worshipped.' (Vs. 20, KJV.)

Did he dance before the Lord that day? Did he make a joyful noise with his harp, trumpet, or lute, or punch out an up-tempo rhythm with his tambourine? I don't think so. But he worshipped.

His courtiers couldn't understand it, but David understood the relationship he had with his God, and he trusted Him. He took responsibility for his actions and he accepted the consequences. Did he worship with a heavy heart? Oh yes. But that worship also opened him up to the ministry of God's Spirit so that he could bear those consequences and help Bathsheba do the same.

You can worship God, even when your heart is breaking. I counted that in all the psalms addressed to God, only fifteen were simply expressions of praise. Almost twice as many were psalms of protest or pain, calling



You can worship God, even when your heart is breaking.

on God to deliver, and three times as many incorporated both pain and praise. David more often concluded his psalms with praise after expressing his anguish, than just writing psalms that were exuberant praise throughout. These are some of those familiar expressions of anguish: 'My God, why have you forsaken me?' 'Lord, I'm surrounded by evildoers.' 'Oh God, help me – my sin is destroying my soul.' But note this – David often concludes his crying out to God with the calm, assured tones of praise in spite of his situation.

I noted a paragraph out of this quarter's lesson on Jonah that highlighted how the Israelites often wrestled with God in anguish. It says this:

'Though Christians today generally prefer the praise psalms, many of the 150 psalms are filled with pain and protest. And recall that these were sung by the Israelites even in worship. The intensity of the relationship with God in the Old Testament seems irreverent to some now. But, perhaps, it is more a matter of our own immaturity in our relationship with God. God does not hide hurting believers. In fact, He always shows amazing respect with all such expressions . . . God apparently values honesty in our relationship with Him. We do not have to deny reality when praying reverently to God.'

Worship doesn't just arise out of happy, carefree, light-hearted people. Weeping endures for a time. Joy follows – once we've considered the reasons for our weeping; once we've realised how far from God we've strayed; once we've understood in our body, mind and spirit that God always has been, is right now, and always will be our Creator, Sustainer, Redeemer and Restorer – regardless of our circumstances. It's the peace and assurance that God gives us because of who He is, even more than what He's done, that draws us to worship Him.

Brothers and sisters, it's not good to have a habitually long face, but you don't need to be a Cheshire cat either. Don't despise the heavy heart. The three men we have heard about had one thing in common that enabled them to worship in spite of their circumstances. They knew their God. Even under the burden of their heavy hearts, they were brought out of their darkness and, when the storm had passed, they had all the more reason, and all the more resources, to worship God.

inbox

Extreme Adventists

Dear Editor

I was very interested to read 'Faith in fatigues' (MESSENGER, 8 February) about an Adventist who is also a soldier, especially as the main picture showed him with a gun. The army has rules for people like Adventists to enable them to have Sabbath off, but nowhere in the story was there any mention about an important commandment: 'Thou shalt not kill.' Just what does this man do when in a situation where it is 'kill or be killed'? I am disappointed that this was not discussed at all, and what would this soldier do should he be placed in that situation? NICKY BELL

Re: Dress

Dear Editor

1. The impact Diamond Sathe's letter (MESSENGER 10 May) is intended to have on the young ladies of the church is that they would realise that the church is a place of reverence – not a nightclub or a beach – and dress accordingly. God accepts everyone 'just as they are' in their hearts, for them to change, not for God to change with the times.

2. Dr Shaw asks (MESSENGER 7 June): 'What defines modest clothing – a burkha, or perhaps a catsuit?' Till recent years not many people were confused about the meaning of 'modest'. Unless this issue is brought to the fore and addressed, I suspect that in the years to come many more will be asking the same question. According to the Oxford Dictionary,¹ 'modest' means '(of a woman) dressing or behaving so as to avoid impropriety or indecency, especially to avoid attracting sexual attention; (of clothing) not revealing or emphasising a person's figure.'

Some will attend church only on the following conditions: that they be allowed to dress as skimpily as they want, chew gum in church, play games and check football scores on their phones in church (yes, I have seen this happen).

Many fear that enormous damage may be done to the young if these things are pointed out to them, for fear of them becoming 'casualties'.

I would rather that issues are discussed with them in kindness for reproof and correction, than that the church be held to ransom.

DR BOBBY RAJAN

¹oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/modest

Views expressed in the Inbox do not necessarily represent the opinions of the editorial staff or the BUC.



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

Andrew Puckering

'Who are the "sons of God" of Genesis 6:1-4?'

Genesis 6:2, 4 (NKJV) says that ' . . . the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose. . . . There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterwards, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.' Could the 'sons of God' mentioned here be angels, and the 'giants' of great 'renown' their half-angel, half-human progeny?

While it seems incredible, the Good News Bible (a modern paraphrase) supports the notion by translating 'sons of God' as 'heavenly beings'. Since 'sons of God' seems to refer to angels in Job 1:6; 2:1,¹ some may conclude that they are the same in Genesis 6. However, the 'giants' (Hebrew: *nephilim*) also appear during the Exodus (Numbers 13:31-33): so if the *nephilim* resulted from a union of 'heavenly beings' and 'human women', they did so after the Flood as well, an event of which the Bible gives no record.

The *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary* says plainly: 'Ancient Jewish commentators, the early church fathers, and many modern expositors have thought these "sons" to be angels. . . . This view must be rejected, because punishment soon to be meted out was for the sins of human beings (see vs. 3) and not of angels. Further, angels do not marry (Matt. 22:30). The "sons of God" were none other than the descendants of Seth, and the "daughters of men", [those] of the godless Cainites.'²

Speaking of this, Ellen White commented: 'The children of Seth, attracted by the beauty of the daughters of Cain's descendants, displeased the Lord by intermarrying with them. Many of the worshippers of God were beguiled into sin . . . they "became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened". Romans 1:21. Therefore "God gave them over to a mind void of judgment". Verse 28, margin.'³

How do we reconcile this description with that of 'mighty men of old, men of renown'? 'Since in those days the entire human race was of great stature . . . the antediluvians generally possessed great physical and mental strength. These individuals, renowned for wisdom and skill, persistently devoted [these traits] to the gratification of their own pride and passions and to the oppression of their fellow men.'⁴ As another modern paraphrase puts it: 'In those days people were giants, twice as large as people today. Even afterward, when children from mixed marriages of the godly with the ungodly were born, they were mighty men. . . .'⁵

Since we were created 'very good', in the image of God (Genesis 1:27, 31), humans have been becoming less endowed, not more: a fact borne out by our shrinking lifespan (Genesis 5; 11). Ellen White writes of amalgamation, not of humans and angels, but of humans and beasts.⁶ The 'sons of God' referred to in Genesis 6:1-4 were therefore probably not angels, but men.

¹Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, vol. 3, p. 500; see also Ellen White's *The Great Controversy*, p. 518 ²Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, vol. 1, p. 250; see also Numbers 25 for a similar event in the Exodus ³Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 81, 82 ⁴Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, vol. 1, p. 251 ⁵Genesis 6:4 in the Clear Word paraphrase by Jack J. Blanco, my italics ⁶Ellen White, *Spiritual Gifts*, vol. 3, pp. 64, 75

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



Mission possible?

by Stuart Sly

A lesson from the Welsh Revival

Sabbath, 15 June, didn't have much to commend it above other Sabbaths. It was the middle of the month, halfway to payday, but that wasn't what set me thinking. Three years ago, on 15 June 2010, my dad died. He had been diagnosed with cancer but passed away much quicker than expected. As I stopped and paused at the graveside, a patch of ground now well grassed over and hosting a modest plaque with his name on, I was reminded of thoughts that have bothered me for these past three years – he died without any sign of a relationship with God. Humanly speaking I can't pretend to be hopeful of his standing come the Day of Resurrection.

It had been some decades since he'd openly had what we would term a 'church life'. Fortunately I'm not God, and it's not my place to decide who is saved and who is lost – I'm sure, come that great day, we'll all be surprised as to those taken and those left behind, so to speak.

But moving on from my father: what about the millions around us who seem just as indifferent to God as he was? How are we going to make an impression on their lives?

Times are hard for many people, and the focus of their lives is on how to survive in the face of rising energy and food bills. In fact, the recent reports on the economy don't make good reading, with the average working person faced with a downturn in pay of around 10% since the economic gloom descended a few years ago. Against this backdrop, have you ever stopped to wonder how this country is to be set alight with the Gospel of salvation through Jesus? Is there

a way to reach the more than sixty million inhabitants of this nation, or are we simply facing 'Mission Impossible'?

It is possible

I, for one, believe it is possible, because it's been done before. Let me introduce you to 26-year-old Evan Roberts, a coal miner turned blacksmith's apprentice. The year is 1904, and the place, West Wales. Methodist preacher Joseph Jenkins is holding a series of meetings on the theme, 'To deepen our loyalty to Christ'. So inspired is Roberts by the messages that, despite little formal education (he finished schooling at the age of 11), he determines to do his part in spreading the Gospel message. His 'training' for this venture is less than meagre – he has been a faithful member of the Moriah Calvinistic Methodist church at Loughor near Swansea since a young teenager, and Sunday School superintendent in recent years. But Evan is a committed man with a praying heart, and he sets off for theological training at Newcastle Emlyn. After his three months' training, he returns to Loughor and asks permission to hold meetings for the young people in the fellowship. What follows exceeds all expectations:

'Slowly and quietly – for it must be emphasised that fluency of speech had never been a marked characteristic of his – he spoke of the deep things of God and Christ, the hours passing quite unobserved, while tears coursed uninterruptedly over the cheeks of his listeners. People passing by the church commented freely and wonderingly upon the unusual spectacle of lights burning in full blaze at such an hour. . . . Inside



Evan Roberts

the building strange things were happening. Young men and women who had never been known to speak openly of any experience of saving grace stood and testified fearfully. Others were bowed in prayer. Some sang the hymns of Zion. Tears, sobs, and songs of praise were intermingled, continuing until near midnight. The happy throng dispersed in all directions. . . . Next day the village was agog.

'When Mr Roberts arrived for the pre-arranged service next evening, the chapel was besieged with curious worshippers, hardly knowing what would transpire. . . . When it became known that some of the outstanding characters of the neighbourhood had been converted after withstanding Gospel appeals of eminent preachers for a lifetime, and that these were declaring new-found joy and faith without shame or fear, the excitement became tense. Rumours sped far and wide. Down in the bowels of the earth, miners not only discussed the services but actually sang boisterously the grand old hymns taught them in their childhood and almost forgotten through sin.'

It is difficult for us to comprehend the impact the Holy Spirit made on the lives of the communities in that area. The dance halls, theatres and sporting events all saw a dramatic decline in attendance; bars were empty, and the courts and jails were empty too – for once the police found themselves without any work to do! The hard-working, hard-living miners best exemplified the effect of the revival: bad language disappeared from their lips to such a degree that stories abounded of pit-ponies being unable to understand the miners' instructions, so

accustomed were they to being sworn at and beaten.

The effects of this revival were not confined to the mining valleys of Wales, however. Word of the transformations being seen in the principality spread around the world. Visitors came from many countries, and subsequently took the revival flame back home with them.

The public excitement of the revival had died down by 1906. Evan Roberts went to Leicester to recuperate from the gruelling preaching schedule, and the newspapers went back to politics and the other issues of the day. But for many of the estimated 150,000 converts, the events of those two years developed into a lasting, loving, lifelong relationship with their Saviour.

Some years ago an elderly revival convert was asked whether the revival stopped in 1906 – she answered, 'It's still burning in my heart today; it's never been extinguished.'

Evan Roberts was an ordinary young man who, when placed in God's hand, produced extraordinary results. According to Ellen White it can happen again: 'He who loves Christ the most will do the greatest amount of good. There is no limit to the usefulness of one who, by putting self aside, makes room for the working of the Holy Spirit upon his heart, and lives a life wholly consecrated to God.' *Desire of Ages*, pages 250, 251.

So that's how we can set this country alight with the Gospel of Jesus. The mission is possible . . . are we available?

¹David Matthews, *I Saw The Welsh Revival* (Chicago: Moody, 1951), pp. 22, 23

Opinions expressed in the Perspective pages may, but do not necessarily, reflect the views of either MESSENGER staff or the BUC.



touchscreen . . .



. . . a forum in which to ask questions or share information about apps and all things digital that may enhance twenty-first-century spirituality, hosted by David Bell.

We kick off this new feature with a question posed by Pastor Jeff Couzins, trying to get to grips with his new 'smartphone'.

I wrote to the MESSENGER exactly one year ago today regarding the use of mobile phones in church. Things have moved on since then. I have since found myself the proud owner of an all-singing, all-dancing smartphone. When the phone company upgrades your phone at the renewal of the contract, that's just what they want to do – give you the latest gadget. Now my phone seems to do many things that even my laptop can't do.

Anyhow, I found myself needing access to a hymnal recently, and there wasn't one to hand, but – you've guessed it – I had the app on my phone. So I sang from the hymnal on the phone. On another occasion I read from the Bible on my phone, and now I have downloaded the Sabbath School lesson. I find myself relying more and more upon this smartphone. But there's a snag – in fact two snags.

The first snag is that some members who read my earlier article now say I'm inconsistent. But I'm not against technology in church. I just wanted to start a discussion on how these devices can be used responsibly.

The second snag is that I can put my phone on silent, and that avoids the embarrassing ringtone going off in church, but callers are given phone priority. The screen is taken over by the incoming call. How was I to avoid that situation, yet still use all the helpful aids and technology on my phone? This was a dilemma.

I used to wonder if my call was being transmitted all over the world when I'm in Blackpool or Preston or Blackburn. The answer is no! There are some people who probably already knew that, but apart from being a little dense, I'm also behind the times when it comes to technology. Apparently, mobile phones continuously poll local transmitter masts to tell the service provider where the phone is. That way, when someone calls me from afar, the telephone signal is sent from a transmitter in my vicinity. So, when I'm in church, the nearest transmitter is continuously talking to my phone – exchanging some type of computer 'conversation' with it. My challenge became clearer to me: how could I use my phone to benefit from these 'church' apps?

Then it struck me – flight mode! On a plane I can use all the many smartphone features without the actual telephone features. Flight mode disables the phone's communication facilities – telephone, internet, Bluetooth, and maybe even other things I don't even know about.

In flight mode, my phone isn't constantly polling the transmitter, which means it won't interfere with technology in church, such as radio microphones, cabling and so forth. And the ringtone

or message alarm will not go off. Yet I can still sing from my hymnal, read the Sabbath School lesson, and even read devotional books such as *Steps to Christ* and *Desire of Ages*. However, I still have a dilemma. I cannot use my Bible in flight mode.

For some reason the Bible needs to use the internet to connect the server to my phone.

Can anyone please help me? Is anyone aware of a Bible app for Android phones that doesn't continuously need access to the internet?

Jeff Couzins

Thanks Jeff for your question. There are many Bible apps that work 'offline' and are also free to download. Try 'Bible KJV', which works offline, unless you want to search. May I also suggest you look at a tablet of some sort; this would take the strain off your eyesight, and you won't be constantly scrolling, yet it would slide discreetly into your Sabbath briefcase.

If anyone else would like to comment on this subject, or raise any other topics, please email me at: dbell@stanboroughpress.org.uk.

David





Jubilee celebration at Rhyl

by Pastor John Surridge,
Welsh Mission president



Sabbath, 13 June 1953, was apparently 'A Great Day for North Wales'. It was another six years before I would be born so I can't confirm the statement myself, but on Sabbath 15 June 2013 there were members in the congregation who could remember that great day, when the Rhyl Seventh-day Adventist church was first dedicated.

Pastor David Foster and the Rhyl members wanted their diamond jubilee celebrations to capture the imagination of the local community, raise the profile of the church, and give a boost to the Adventists of North Wales. To this end they decided to hold a rededication service that matched, as closely as possible, the one that was held in 1953.

The Rhyl church can only seat about fifty members, so alternative accommodation was needed. Other local churches and halls were available, but moving the meeting away from our own building would have defeated the object somewhat. We are blessed with a sizeable plot of land in Rhyl, and the solution to our problem came in the form of a large marquee – not your common or garden variety, but one with a carpet and a stage, the type you would see at a summer wedding event.

Back in 1953 the main speaker came from the British Union Conference office, visitors

came from churches in the North and South England Conferences as well as Wales, and one particularly 'distinguished guest', according to the *MESSENGER* report, was local councillor John Brookes. Not to be outdone sixty years later, Pastor Foster sent invitations all over the United Kingdom and was very pleased when BUC president Pastor Ian Sweeney agreed to be the speaker for the day. The local mayor, Councillor Andy Rutherford, was invited – and gladly accepted the invitation, as did the president of Rhyl Cytun (Churches Together), Mr Gareth Morris.

When all the preparations had been made, all that was needed for a perfect day was good weather. Prayers were answered (ours at least) and a large weather system, which had seemed to threaten for a while, unleashed its fury on the citizens of Chester instead of Rhyl.

In the morning Pastor Sweeney spoke on Jesus' visits to the temple. Remembering his childhood home, he recalled how his father would put down any youthful uprisings with the words, 'There's only one man in this house!' So it is with Jesus. When He comes to His house, whether that is our churches or our personal lives, there is no room for negative things.

They have to submit to His authority.

After a pleasant buffet lunch in the adjacent gazebo, the dedication service began at 3pm. Councillor Rutherford spoke on the importance of faith groups in the community and then Pastor Brian Phillips gave a fascinating sketch of the history of Adventism in North Wales. One particularly moving tribute to the original dedication service came when the congregation sang a hymn which had been specifically written for that occasion. Entitled, 'We Dedicate This House Today', the words had been written by Mrs M. Cooper and the music by Mrs G. Corkindale. Sadly the original music had been lost, but in a parallel act of creativity, local member and concert pianist, Mr Leslie Riskowitz, composed a new tune, which, with the help of

soloist Mrs Barbara Griffiths, was quickly picked up by the congregation.

Pastors Foster and Sweeney gave presentations on the wider work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, which seemed to be particularly interesting for the mayor, and the final act of dedication was led by Welsh Mission president Pastor John Surridge.

As the special guests, visitors and members finally drifted away several hours later, a tired but happy Pastor Foster paid tribute to all of those who had made the day special: particularly his associate minister, Malcolm Turner, and the ladies of the church. 'When you see everyone working together like this it makes it all worthwhile,' he said. 'Maybe we really did capture the spirit they had sixty years ago.'

Back to the streets for new street pastor

On 7 June, Trevor Harris, the Personal Ministries leader of the Colchester church, was commissioned as a street pastor during a service at Sky Rooms, a local nightclub.

Trevor has done twelve weeks of training and three evenings as an observer, and he is keen to be a presence for Jesus on the streets of Colchester where he once drank himself into the gutter – not that many years ago.

Trevor enjoys the full support of Pastor Andrew Davis and the elders and members of his church, a number of whom attended his commissioning service.



COLCHESTER CHURCH

Intelligent Design makes scientific sense

This is lightly edited version of a report by Victor Hulbert and Peter Walton that appeared recently in the *BUC News* of 7 June.

Is evidence of design a realistic challenge to Darwinism? Well, at least one of those visitors who attended the Evidence for Design seminar hosted by Adventist Laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) at Stanborough Park Church on Sabbath, 1 June, seemed to think so. After listening to the presentations he stated that he is now 'open-minded' about the subject of origins and design, whereas before he was definitely an atheist!

He was among 250 people or so, most of them inquisitive Christians, who attended the seminar in Watford.

Professor John Walton, a research professor at St Andrews University, also believes the answer is 'yes'. He described Darwin's theory of evolution in its current form and showed how, one by one, Darwin's confident assertions have failed in the light of modern biology. He stated that a growing number of researchers are aware that a radically new approach is needed.

'Although it is still fondly cherished by the media and science popularisers, its precarious survival may be partly due to the conviction of secular scientists that "Nature is all there is" and that any other ideas are anti-scientific.'

Leslie Hanna, attending from Bracknell, expressed his thoughts as follows: *'It was very encouraging to hear an authoritative Christian academic examine some of the weaknesses of current evolutionary thinking in a measured, intelligent and practical manner without resorting to taking demeaning, retaliatory potshots at atheistic proponents of evolution.'*

Dr Alaster Noble, director of the recently formed Centre for Intelligent Design, challenged the audience to 'look at the data' and ask themselves, 'What best explains it?' He presented a clear picture of recent discoveries about the inner workings of living cells, including the incredibly complex and sophisticated 'machinery' operating within them. *'This demands an explanation that Darwinism simply cannot provide,'* he stated. *'The only thing that we know of that can produce such sophisticated, complex and elegant designs is an intelligent mind.'*

Dr Noble suggested that the discovery of huge amounts of information in our genes requires a new approach, commonly called 'Intelligent Design', which uses scientific methods to study these previously unknown properties of life.

'We have been truly blessed with two very distinguished and professional speakers, one from our own Church, and the other from another denomination,' states Johnson Wong, *'but the important thing is that they are both committed and professed Christians who have presented their cases with sound reasons.'*

Ken and Christine Burt, who attended from Camp Hill, Birmingham, agreed. *'It was good to have some clear and engaging presentations for academics and non-academics.'* They were among a number of those present who were grateful for a clear explanation of the difference between micro-evolution (small changes within a species) that has been happening since creation and macro-evolution: the 'molecules to man' full-blown theory of evolution.

Chemical engineer, John Ainsworth, felt that the event comprehensively addressed two important issues in the Church: the intellectual attack on Christianity from the New Atheists; and the negative view of science held by some Christians.

According to Ainsworth: *'The New Atheists claim that all religious belief, including Christian faith, is irrational in light of the "fact" of molecules-to-man evolution,'* he stated. *'Many Christians, due to this attack, wrongly perceive science as the enemy. Both academics at this event gave a scientific rather than theological response to the evolutionary attack on Christian faith. In so doing, they showed that Christian faith is not only compatible with science but also rational in the light of science.'*

The lecture was organised by the UK chapter of ASI (Adventist Laymen's Service & Industries), a lay-led organisation for business



Above: John Ainsworth chats with Professor John Walton. Above right: Comments taken from the floor. Right: Dr Alaster Noble challenged the audience. Below: The congregation listen intently.



Photos: Victor Hulbert



people and professionals who want to see more of God 'in the marketplace'. A video of the seminar can be viewed on the Stanborough Park Church video archive at: www.livestream.com/stanboroughparkchurch.

BUC HEALTH MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT ONE-DAY CANCER SYMPOSIUM Sunday, July 14th, 2013

INTERNATIONAL SPEAKER:
PROFESSOR PAUL GYLES PHD



Associate Vice President of
Academic Administration,
Graduate Studies and Research
Northern Caribbean University,
in Mandeville, Jamaica

ALSO FEATURING:

NHS Exhibitors &
Health Professionals
specialising in Cancer
Care

VENUE:
Holiday Inn, London-Elstree Hotel Barnet Bypass,
Borehamwood, Hertfordshire, WD6 5PU

FURTHER INFORMATION:

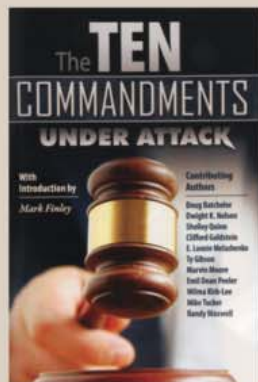
Registration: From 9.00 - 09.30 hrs - Training from 09.45 - 16.45 Cost: £35.00 (including seminar material and lunch)
Contact: The Health Ministries Department, British Union Conference, Stanborough Park, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD25 5JZ
Telephone: 01923 672251 Email: fwEEKES@adventist.org.uk - Closing date for applications: Friday, 28th June 2013.



Adventist Book Center.com

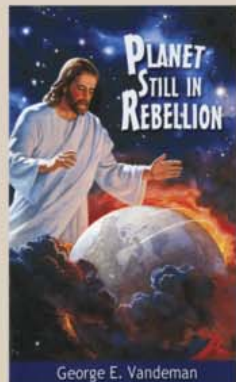
Prices
include savings
of up to
60%!

July-August Specials!

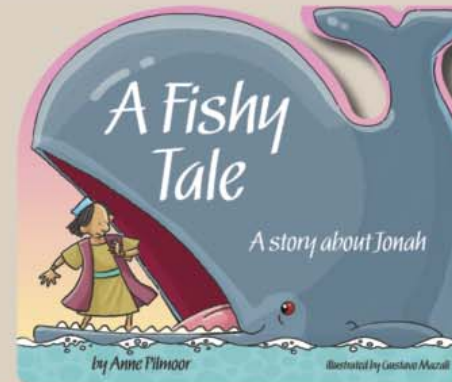
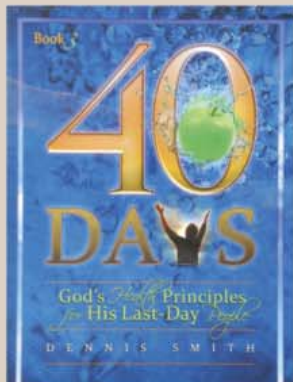


See how each commandment forms a foundation of society; and their importance to our daily lives.
Paperback
978-0-8163-2159-9
50p

Classic edition of George Vandeman's inspiring thoughts on the Bible's relevance in our ever-darkening world!
Paperback
978-0-8163-2131-5
95p



Book 3 of Dennis Smith's popular devotional series, embracing a holistic view of health principles.
Paperback
978-0-8280-2575-1
£4.95

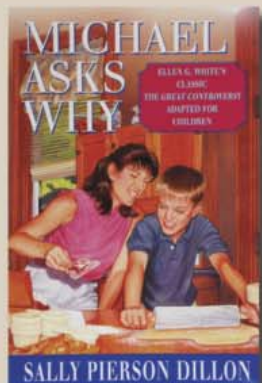


A simple re-telling of the story of Jonah for younger children.
Boardbook
978-1-906381-90-5
£2.25

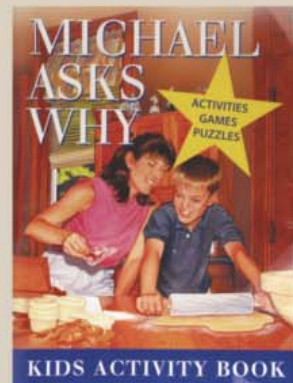
Meet the boy who challenges his angel to show him what he looks like.
Hardback
978-1-906381-67-7
£2.95



A creative adaptation for children of the classic *Great Controversy*.
Paperback
978-0-8163-1759-2

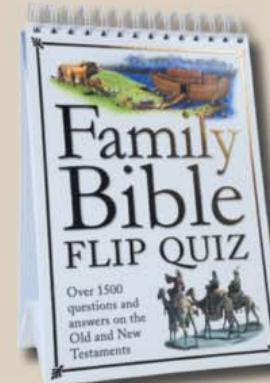


Comes as a 2-book set
£4.95



Activities, games and puzzles to help kids understand the battle between good and evil.
Paperback
978-0-8163-1793-6

1,500 questions.
152 quizzes.
4 levels of difficulty.
For all the family and church groups.
Spiral stand-alone
978-1-906381-45-5
£4.95



Follow Paul's amazing adventures with this collection of small board books within an imitation travelling case.
978-1-906381-72-1
£3.95

**Offer ends
31 August 2013**

All prices are subject to Postage+Packing charges

Order on our Sales Hotline
01476 591700
sales@stanboroughpress.org.uk

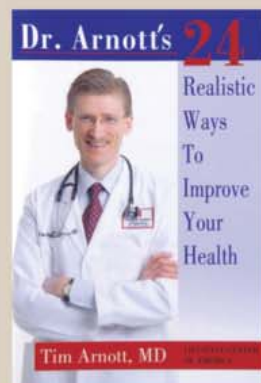




Adventist Book Center.com

Great summer reading for all ages!

Check our new Google+ page - Adventist Book Centre (UK) - for details of new offers as they become available!



24 short, practical health tips for a longer, happier lifestyle.

Paperback

978-0-8163-2029-5

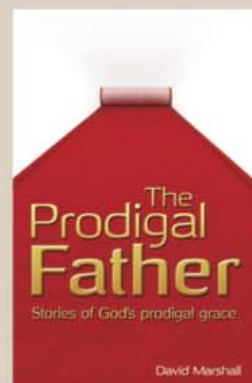
95p

The focal picture of God's revelation of Himself through Scripture is the Father in Jesus' story of the lost son.

Paperback

978-1-906381-87-5

£2.95



Learn about Satan's seductive weapon of spiritualism through the medium of contemplative prayer!

Paperback

978-0-8163-2689-1

£4.95



Pastor Mark Finley invites the reader to become an instrument of spiritual revival both at home and at church.

Paperback

978-0-8163-2455-2

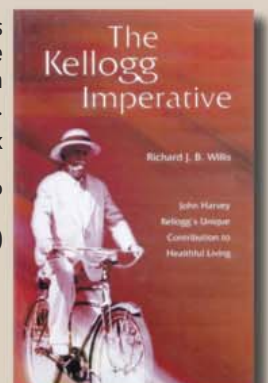
95p

A glimpse of Kellogg's achievements and the early days of the health reform movement.

Paperback

978-1-899505-90-6

£2.00

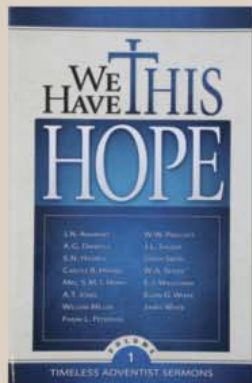


Timeless sermons from some of the great leaders of the fledgling Seventh-day Adventist Church.

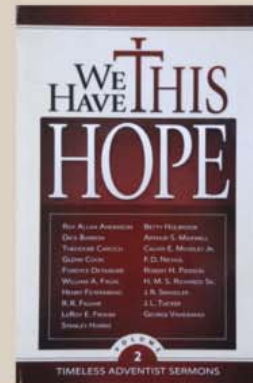
Hardback

978-0-8163-2271-8

£3.95



Buy both books for **£7.00**



Timeless sermons from some of the best-known preachers of the established Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Hardback

978-0-8163-2279-4

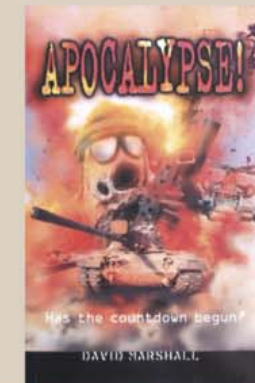
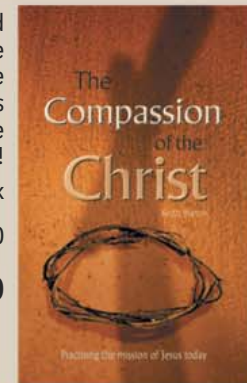
£3.95

Readers are challenged to go beyond passive reflection to an active participation in Christ's compassionate ministry!

Paperback

978-1-904685-05-0

£2.50



How the book of Revelation describes the manner in which the great Bible themes are unravelled and resolved!

Paperback

978-1-873796-84-9

£2.00

Offer ends 31 August 2013

All prices are subject to Postage+Packing charges

Order on our Sales Hotline
01476 591700
sales@stanboroughpress.org.uk





Pathfinders bring streets to a standstill

On Sabbath, 27 April 2013, Pathfinders from the Plumstead, Greenwich and Holloway churches marched through the streets of Plumstead and Woolwich to advertise forthcoming evangelistic meetings to be held at the Plumstead Community church by evangelist Gary Harrison. The drum corps from the three churches brought the streets to a standstill. Even the shopkeepers came out to see what was going on, and one of them wanted to know what it was all about. This was an opportunity to tell him about God, the Church and the Pathfinder Club. He said that he had never heard of the Adventist Church or the Pathfinder Club before.

The support on the street was tremendous. The police said that they

enjoy escorting the Pathfinders each year, as they know that we are doing something positive in the community. Parents out shopping were asking questions about the Pathfinder Club and how to join. The church members, elders, pastor and evangelist all marched along in support, loudly singing 'Jesus Is Coming Again'.

The parade also carried numerous placards bearing various messages of hope. When they passed through Woolwich the Pathfinders performed some drill and sang the Pathfinder song – all of which attracted more onlookers.

Although the forecast for the day was rain, the rain held off until the parade was back at base!

Outreach ends on a high note

Gary Harrison's evangelistic meetings at the Plumstead Community church were held from 14 to 18 May and were well attended, with many visitors from the community and various non-Adventist churches. His

direct and timely messages were supported by a singing evangelist, B. Patrice, and the Tuckley twins. At the end of the brief series Pastor Bernard Akakpo was able to baptise twenty-one precious candidates – the outreach had ended on a high note, indeed!

VALDA TAYLOR, PLUMSTEAD COMMUNITY CHURCH



Back, left to right: Elder Jabu Mpfu, Elder Albert St Louis, Pastor Jeff Couzins. Front, left to right: Alina Belousova, Lily Chiumia, Jean Nabukavou, Sylvonn Dupius.

High day in Preston

Four new members joined the Preston church on 11 May 2013, during a baptism conducted by Pastor Jeff Couzins. Each had a different story to tell.

First into the baptismal pool was Jean Nabukavou from Fiji, who visited her daughter Anna only to find out she had been baptised several months earlier. Anna shared her new-found faith with her mum, and after months of Bible study and fellowship at the Weeton church-plant

Jean decided to be baptised too.

Next was Alina Belousova from Latvia, who was led by the Holy Spirit to a Russian-language website that was discussing religious questions. What impressed her was how all the answers came from the Bible. Further investigation revealed that this website was hosted by a group of Adventist young people. Alina then looked for a Seventh-day Adventist church nearby, and one Sabbath morning walked into Preston Church. She quickly made friends and took her decision to be baptised, attending the Discovery Class in preparation for baptism. After her baptism she said, 'I feel so amazing!'

Lilian Chiumia and Sylvonn Dupius were next to be baptised. Both of them come from Adventist families and have been attending the Discovery Class for a couple of years. Lily made her decision to be baptised at the previous baptism, but her decision was cemented during a Preston youth programme run at Lancaster University, where one of the discussion questions/issues was about Pascal's Wager. God spoke to her heart during that discussion and she shared her testimony with the whole church at Preston. Sylvonn had been indecisive at first, but finally made the decision, remarking afterwards that he felt that God was calling him to be baptised.

A video of their baptism is available on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zHSnN_BK04w.

WILSON MAZAWANA



Camp Hill reaches out

On 25 May the Camp Hill church concluded their two-week-long evangelistic series run by their senior pastor, Dr Patrick Herbert. Although it was a real congregational effort, well supported at every level from the elders to the youth, Dr Herbert's preaching brought the Bible alive each evening.

Each evening there were special prizes, quizzes and great gospel music by talented singers and musicians – not the least of which was the contribution of intern pastor, Jonathan Holder.

The series was brought to a fitting climax by the baptism of seven new members in the Camp Hill church.

NATALIE SUTHERLAND-WHITEHOUSE



Visitors' Day at Erdington

Erdington Church held a successful visitors' day on 9 March 2013, after sending out invitations to the local community.

Pastor Malcolm Watson was the guest speaker, and his sermon was based on Jesus' 'living water' encounter with the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well.

Visitors and members alike were treated to a good lunch, followed by a varied afternoon programme in which both the Erdington community choir and the church youth featured prominently.

JOHN OSEI-BEMPONG

THE SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE PRESENT

Junior Camp

28TH JULY TO 4TH AUGUST

CAMP MASTER **KEITH BOLDEAU**

ACTIVITIES
MOUNTAIN BIKING
HIGH ROPES
CANOEING
BIRD SANCTUARY & WORSHIP

£130 INCLUDES TRANSPORT

For application forms go to the events or Pathfinder department section at <http://sec.adventist.org.uk/>

Please send in a non-refundable deposit of £30 per person with the application forms to confirm place. Cheques must be made payable to 'South England Conference' Deadline for final payment Friday 12th July 2013.

Application forms and cheques should be sent to: 25 St Johns Road, Watford, WD17 1PZ

For further information contact Giles Barham: gbarham@secadventist.org.uk or 01923232728

SEC TEENS

VINTAGE CAMP

26TH-28TH JULY 2013
NEUBOLD COLLEGE
ST. MARKS ROAD, BINFIELD, BRACKNELL, RG42 4AN

A CAMPING EXPERIENCE LIKE NO OTHER

£40 PER PERSON INCLUDES FOOD AND CAMPING

Email: dejan@secadventist.org.uk 01923 232 728

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

THAMES VALLEY YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

ministry

NEUBOLD COLLEGE



A garden party – for good causes

What started as a one-off tribute to her late husband, David, has become a regular fixture as Audrey Balderstone opened up the large garden he designed for the third year running on 12 May, raising a total of £1,500 for good causes.

David Balderstone, a landscape gardener, did a lot of work for charity, especially ADRA, and after he died Audrey felt that opening up the delightful garden he designed at their home near Watford would be a fitting tribute to him. She explains, 'I feel so fortunate to have the garden and opening it to raise funds for the Peace Hospice seemed a good idea three years ago, just after David died.' She relies heavily on a team of volunteers to help her: 'I could never do it without the help of my family and my fantastic friends. Some of my neighbours help as well, and it is a good way to get to know people.'

Audrey is no stranger to fund-raising, and has organised many flower festivals at Stanborough Park Church and elsewhere. She estimates that around 150 people attended the garden party, including neighbours, friends from her flower arranging club, family friends and fellow church members. They were greeted by a number of stalls dispersed around the garden, selling items from books and cakes to nearly-new clothes and bric-a-brac.

Audrey adds, 'We served light lunches and afternoon teas, and those in the kitchen never stopped from noon, when we opened. The demand for food was constant!'

This year the money raised has been divided between the Peace Hospice and the Stanborough Park Church Development Fund. 'Some years ago at a flower festival we raised enough to equip the Stanborough Room at the Hospice, and ever since we have contributed towards its upkeep,' Audrey explains.

Audrey's next fund-raising enterprise is a flower festival to be held at Stanborough Park during the weekend of 13-15 September. It will feature around forty floral designs depicting well-known hymns. Those taking part will include members of NAFAS (The National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies), church members and flower arrangers from other churches.

On Sunday evening the festival will conclude with a special programme entitled 'Songs of Praise and Joy', led by Valerie Fidelia, who grew up at Stanborough Park Church and is now living in retirement in Cyprus. The proceeds will be divided between the Keech Cottage Hospice for Children in Luton and the Church Development Fund.

JUNE COOMBS, STANBOROUGH PARK CHURCH



Church supports cancer charities

A lively auction at the new premises for Watford Town Adventist Church, Brixton Road, Watford, helped to raise over £1,300 for a Teenage Cancer Trust and the Watford Peace Hospice on Sunday, 9 June.

Attended by Watford's mayor, Dorothy Thornhill, the auction

was part of the 'Lily Rose Cancer Awareness Day': an event organised by the church's Women's Ministries and Health departments to increase awareness and raise support for a disease that affects one in three people in the UK.

The Mayor's response was most encouraging: 'In its new premises here, the church is definitely doing things that benefit the community; it's about the cause and it's about community. I think that this is going to be a place where God's work is alive and well and stretches far out into Watford. Today is a really good start, and of course it's being done by the women: the women of Watford!'

After auctioning off intricately decorated cakes, luxurious coats and special vouchers for family trips and grooming sessions, all donated by local businesses, everyone was able to enjoy a feast prepared by the church.

An afternoon programme, led by BUC Health Ministries director, Sharon Platt-McDonald, focused mainly on breast cancer, which is the most common form of cancer. Dr Sakar Vas, a consultant surgeon at Watford General Hospital, gave a presentation on how to look for symptoms and how doctors check for the occurrence of cancerous cells. Jane Gontier from the Peace Hospice and Carolyn Mwaniki from the Teenage Cancer Trust spoke of how the funds raised will help people who are suffering.

'We've lost a lot of our women to cancer,' explained Androulla Best, team leader of those organising the event. 'So we named the day after the favourite flowers of two women from our church that we've lost in recent years. I think the event allowed the community to see that we are a religious body and we share the same concerns in everyday health matters. Cancer has no boundaries – it affects everybody.'

KATIE RAMHARACKSINGH



Police constables at health expo

On Sunday, 2 June, the Bulwell church ran a successful health expo in the market square between 11am and 5pm. It was run under the guidance of medical professionals, some from the NHS, well supported by non-medical volunteers who had been CRB checked for health and safety.

These volunteers also received some training on the principles of a healthy lifestyle and the way they could be of support to the health professionals during the expo.

The visitors enjoyed the expo – finding it hard to believe that the service was totally free. Two community police constables, Natalie Elliot and Jason Sergeant, were invited to the expo by the church children and they were very impressed by what they saw. So was the Bulwell Neighbourhood Policing inspector, Andrew Goodall, who encouraged 'all members of the local community to come forward and engage with the team at Bulwell so that together we can improve the quality of life in our community.'

It is clear that such expos fit in well with the Government's initiatives for the improvement of community health. The eight main factors of the programme are nutrition, exercise, water, sun, temperance, air, rest and trust in God. Constable Sergeant went through the eight stations and provided very positive feedback afterwards.

There are a variety of excellent follow-up programmes that can be run in support of a health expo, including: smoking cessation, drug education and prevention, stress control, and so on. Why not make contact with the NEC Health Ministries department for more details about how your church can get involved – 0115 9606312/07791230043.

GRACE WALSH, HEALTH MINISTRIES DIRECTOR

Adventist rescues pensioner from blaze

'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me' (Philippians 4:13, NKJV) is the fitting signature on the end of every email from the Squire family in Lincoln. That was all the motivation Horace Squire needed when he found himself first on the scene at a house fire on Canon Street, Lincoln, late afternoon on Monday 3 June.

A police community support officer, he immediately crawled under thick, black smoke to drag a pensioner out of his blazing flat moments before the fire blew out a window. 'At the time you don't really think of the danger,' he told the *Lincolnshire Echo*. 'You are thinking about helping and it is my job to help people.'

Inspector Pat Coates of Lincolnshire Police said: 'We are extremely proud of Horace's actions. His bravery prevented the serious injury of a member of the public and is testament to his professionalism and dedication.'

Horace is a member of the Nottingham Central church, where he is known as a man who will always step in and lend a hand. According to Pastor Curtis Murphy, Horace is a very caring person who 'doesn't really think about himself. He thinks of others first.'

Bravery appears to be part of the Squire family tradition. In 2012 his son, Leon Squire, carried the Olympic flame in recognition of overcoming difficulties in his own life.

VICTOR HULBERT



NEC PATHFINDER DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

PATHFINDER EXPEDITION CROATIA

31 JULY - 8 AUGUST

PATHFINDER EXPEDITION TO CROATIA
FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT THE
PATHFINDER WEBSITE AT
WWW.NECADVENTIST.ORG.UK

Dudley House School



Independent Education for children aged 3-11

- Do you want the best possible Christian education for your child, where Adventist values, standards and principles are at the heart of the learning experience?
- We believe that each child is unique, and our staff are dedicated to helping all students achieve their full potential.

We would welcome the opportunity to show you what our vibrant school has to offer you and your child.

What Ofsted says:

'Behaviour is outstanding and the Christian ethos gives pupils a strong sense of right and wrong.'

'The school is an inclusive community in which pupils feel happy and well cared for.'

'Pupils have an excellent attitude to learning, and are well-adjusted, respectful individuals who are keen to give of their best.'



For further details, contact us at:
1 Dudley Road, Grantham,
Lincolnshire, NG31 9AA

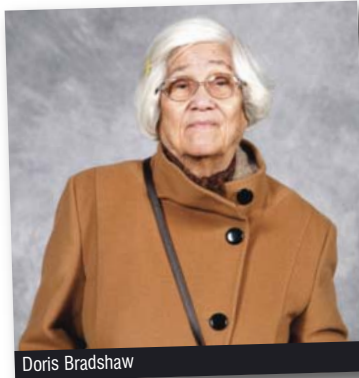
01476 400184

www.dudleyhouseschool.co.uk

Do the elderly still have a role to play?

Some may say they do; others may suggest they have had their turn and must now give way to the younger generation. In some of our churches the elderly play a prominent role, while in others they may feel sidelined and unappreciated. I would like to answer the question by introducing four Balham church members who all have recently turned 90 years of age.

Doris Downer became an Adventist in 1954 in Jamaica, as a result of studying the Voice of Prophecy Bible correspondence course and being invited to church by a member. Since 1963, when she came to England, she has served as a deaconess and the Sabbath School secretary, and has been an active member of the prayer band. Despite her own health problems, she still takes time to visit the sick in hospital and offer them an encouraging word.



Doris Bradshaw

She also gives good advice to youngsters growing up in church, and her 'youthful spirit' has been an inspiration to many.

Winnifred Wint, who was brought up in an Adventist home in Jamaica, has a contagious smile and a sharp wit that can brighten up any situation, something many of our churches could benefit from! Even though she has been through her share of hardships, she still testifies to God's goodness and shares her life



Left to right: Doris Downer, Louie Corrodus, Winnifred Wint. Photos: Mark Grey

experiences with us as a source of encouragement.

Louie Corrodus, who was also brought up in an Adventist home in Jamaica, was one of the pioneers of Balham Church when it opened in 1969. He moved to Florida in 1982, where he served as a deacon for over ten years. He would often share marital advice with young couples – and, as someone who has been married for sixty-three years, he surely has something to say. He returned to England about three years ago, and we find his experience and testimony worth listening to.

Finally, Doris Bradshaw came to England in 1966 after being introduced to Adventism in Jamaica by her 16-year-old son, and she has been coming ever since. She used her primary school teaching skills in the Church, working as Junior Sabbath School superintendent for many years. She also used to tell children stories regularly in the worship service. Some churches struggle to find people willing to do this and her enthusiasm acts as an inspiration to the younger generation to give it a try.

Some of the elderly in our churches still play a vital leadership role. Others may not be physically able to do so but we can still learn from their experiences, testimonies and advice. We can still express our appreciation for their past efforts and let them know they are valued now.

ERROL ANDERSON (BALHAM COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT)

MOHAP
Ministry of Healing and Prayer

Annual Retreat 2013
Friday 30th August – Monday 2nd September 2013
De Vere venues, Wokefield Park, Mortimer, Reading, Berkshire, RG7 3AH

The MOHAP annual retreat is an inspiring and relaxing retreat experience. The retreat will focus on spiritual, emotional and physical healing. The Croydon SDA Gospel choir, directed by Ken Burton, will provide a special musical presentation to inspire healing to the soul.

The speakers are:

- Dr Scott Grivas (USA)**
Physician, Wildwood Seventh-day Adventist Hospital and Lifestyle Centre - Physical
- Pastor Dennis Smith (USA)**
Author of '40 Days of Prayer and Devotion' - Spiritual
- Colin Hone (Australia)**
Director International Holy Spirit Ministries - Spiritual
- Dr Magna Parks (USA)**
Psychologist, Speaker 3ABN Camp Meeting 2013 - Emotional

Cost £214 per person

Book online or download booking form at www.mohap.org

For queries contact Janet Hamilton: email: info@mohap.org or phone: 07407 692 256

ABERDARON CAMPS
JULY & AUGUST 2013

THE NORTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE YOUTH DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

JUNIOR CAMP | SUNDAY 4 - 11 AUGUST

EARLYTEEN CAMP | SUNDAY 11 - 18 AUGUST

SENIOR CAMP | MONDAY 15 - 22 JULY

VENUE: **ABERDARON ADVENT CAMPSITE**
GLAN-YR-AFON, ANELOG, ABERDARON, PWLLHELI, GWYNEDD, LL53 8BT

COSTS: JUNIOR & EARLYTEEN CAMP £145 / SENIOR CAMP £155

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT WWW.NECYOUTH.ORG.UK

NECYOUTH

Welsh Mission Session

A day of reports, committees and planning led Welsh Mission delegates to emphasise both the need for a corporate strategy and the necessity for every member to take personal responsibility for their witness.

Meeting at Cardiff Central Adventist Church on Sunday, 9 June 2013, the Triennial Session of the Welsh Mission commenced with a call by BUC president Pastor Ian Sweeney that 'we are open to His calling in all we do'. Pastor John Surridge, president of the Welsh Mission, reported on the substantial number of programmes and activities that happen in Wales. This includes evangelism through health programmes such as CHIP and health expos, a major Welsh language outreach through a specially translated version of *A Day to Remember*, DVD evangelism in Cardiff, and an 'Afterglow' project in Swansea that was awarded special funding from the General Conference for its innovative approach. It was also a delight to welcome Cardiff North into the sisterhood of churches, and to note a new church-plant in Telford and the sudden growth of the Newtown group in mid-Wales. For more details take a look at the Session Report Book available on the Adventist Church website at: adventist.org.uk.

Secretariat reported a net increase in membership of fifty-five, giving a total membership in the Mission of 578. The best news was that not a single name had been dropped from membership during the three-year period. Finances in the Mission showed an initial increase at the start, then a decline, but currently a stabilisation.

While reports and elections will take up much of the time during a one-day session, it is the debate on the floor that sets the tone for future plans. While a number of successful health programmes have been run in Wales, Lil Saunders, Health Ministries sponsor, noted that these should not just be 'one-off' events. 'If you are doing a health screening then you need a follow-on programme such as a cooking programme that can gradually link to the spiritual programme.'

George Watt noted that this is a positive way for churches to grow – and pointed out that another delegate in the hall was there as a direct result of the CHIP programme.

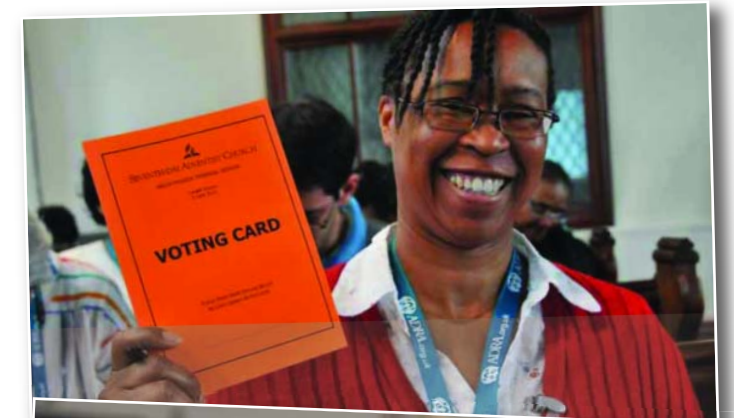
The subject of cultural diversity and how to reach out to the Welsh inevitably came up. One delegate stated, 'I am from Jamaica. I have a cultural challenge in reaching out to the community around me that is mainly Caucasian. What kind of training can be given to help us to work within a culture we are not familiar with?'

Pastor Jovan Adamović, originally from Serbia, confessed that when he first moved to Wales he had some bad experiences. He then decided to meet people where they are. 'I put away my church clothes and went to play basketball with them. The difference was amazing.' His conclusion? 'We moved to this country, and as much as we accept the laws around us, so we have to accept the culture around us.'

These sentiments were emphasised again by Pastor Sweeney, who said, 'If I want to be part of the community I have to get out of the church.'

A full list of election results is available at: adventist.org.uk/news/2013/2013-wa/welsh-mission-triennial-session-making-god-known.

VICTOR HULBERT





Ghana Adventist Choir Union formed

On 11 May 2013 London Ghana Church in Plaistow, East London, hosted the launch of the Ghanaian Adventist Choir Union (GACU) in the UK. The union is 40 years old in Ghana and has branches in Italy and the United States. It consists of Ghanaian church choirs from South West London Ghana Church, Milton Keynes Church, London Ghana Church, Slough Ghana Church, Elephant and Castle Church, South East Church, Lea Valley Church and Reading Ghana Church. Its main aim is to develop the talents of musicians in order to evangelise through music. A mass choir from all of the above churches was the day's main attraction.

GRACE OSWUSU



Dual victory for GBK Pathfinders

On 27 May this year the GBK Adventurers excelled in their camp activities at the NEC Adventurer/Pathfinder camporee and carried off the top trophy. Then, just a week later, on 2 June, the church's Pathfinders won top honours at their camporee.

Featured above are Destiny

BOOKSALES

July
7 John Loughborough
14 Cancer Symposium, Watford

August
4 Sheffield Carter Knowle

ABC Shops
Watford, BUC, Monday-Thursday - 12.30-5pm, Friday - 10am-2pm.
Birmingham, Aston-Newtown, Wednesday - 11am-4pm, Thursday - 4pm-8pm, Friday - 9am-1pm, Sunday - 11am-3pm.
Advent Centre, Mondays & Wednesdays - 6.30pm-8.30pm, Sundays - 11am-3pm, Saturdays - November, December, January: After sunset.

Order on our Sales Hotline
01476 591700 sales@stanboroughpress.org.uk

10am-2pm

10am-2pm

Adventist Book Center.com

Malcolm and Zuko Simelane proudly holding the combined trophy. Both of them are Camp Masters and deputy Pathfinder directors.

DELVA CAMPBELL



Erdington's ADRA exploits

This year's Ingathering total of £4,581.05 came as a surprise to the Erdington church. They

thought that the extreme cold weather would have stopped the members from collecting for ADRA's good causes.

One notable collector, Don Parker, has continued to top the individual collection list for over ten years. This year he collected £2,613.68, 57 percent of the church's total.

Don meets people where they are and makes friends for Jesus wherever he can. Each year he just visits his friends, and without being asked to they just donate!

Don is also a registered voluntary driver for the Warwickshire NHS. One elderly lady he transports for treatment is 83-year-old Irene Crow, who has a generous heart; for, each time Don fetches her for treatment, she donates to ADRA through the home tins he keeps in his house.

JOHN OSEI-BEMPONG

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Power of 35,000

28TH SEPTEMBER 2013

UNION WIDE LITERATURE DISTRIBUTION

Messenger

Volume 118 • 14 - 5 July 2013

Editor: J. G. Hibbert
Design: David Bell
Proof reading: Andrew Puckering

COPY FOR No. 16 - 11 July 2013

Copy should be sent to the Editor, *Messenger*, The Stanborough Press Limited, Alma Park, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG31 9SL. Tel: (01476) 591700. Fax No: (01476) 577144.

Email: Editor@stanboroughpress.org.uk
Send high-resolution pictures to: dbell@stanboroughpress.org.uk

ABC Sales line: (01476) 539900
Mon-Thurs only, 8am-5.30pm
www.stanboroughpress.com

The Editor may alter, clarify, précis or expand articles sent to him if he thinks it necessary. Published fortnightly on Fridays by the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. For general enquiries, email: info@stanboroughpress.org.uk

Printed in the UK.
Visit the BUC website at: www.adventist.org.uk
ISSN 0309-3654

Sunset

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

	Lon	Card	Notf	Edin	Belf
Jul 5	9.19	9.31	9.31	9.59	10.00
12	9.14	9.26	9.26	9.52	9.54
19	9.07	9.19	9.18	9.43	9.46
26	8.58	9.10	9.08	9.31	9.35

MESSENGER SUBSCRIPTIONS
Cost £25 per annum for 24 issues.*
*Postage will only be charged for single copy subscriptions and overseas airmail.