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Messenger

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Adventist Radio London goes live!

by Pastor Sam Davies, SEC Communication Director

London residents now have a brand-new radio choice, a station unashamedly sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. Following months of planning, preparation and testing, Adventist Radio London (ARL) finally went live on Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB) on Sunday 8 April with a 'Sunday Breakfast' show hosted by two of its millennial presenters, Lynette Allcock and Sam Gungaloo.

In anticipation of going live, on Sabbath, 7 April, the 1,000-plus-capacity Brixton Church hosted a special prayer and dedication service for the project. The service attracted visitors from across London, including invited guests: Pastor Richard Daly from the British Union Conference, who offered prayers for the radio team; Pastor Victor Hulbert from the Trans-European Division, who prayed for the equipment; and Pastor Ray Allen, newly elected VP for Adventist World Radio, who prayed for the radio programming.

ARL Director, Michael Hamilton,

emphasised that the purpose of the radio station is to 'share the Everlasting Gospel commissioned to this church with the multicultural population of London, with emphasis on millennials, empowering them to make Christ their choice.'

South England Conference President, Pastor Emmanuel Osei, in his address to the congregation, quoted Romans 1:15, 16, the apostle Paul's statement that 'I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation . . .' (KJV). He likened the ancient city of Rome to London. Rome, he said, was a city of intellectuals, yet a city where everything that was grotesque was practised. God wants to touch lives in such places.

Pastor Osei noted that Rome was never an easy place to win souls for Jesus Christ. London, too, he said, is described by some as a secular and difficult place to share the Gospel. However, he added, 'We are also called to proclaim unashamedly the Adventist

message to Londoners because God has given us the means to do so through Adventist Radio London.'

Ofcom, the UK governing body for the issuing of broadcasting licences, granted the licence to ARL in August of 2017. This happened much earlier than expected and at a time when preparations were still in progress to build a studio. Subsequently the conference recruited a core team of seven individuals who will produce, present and manage the programming. In addition, there are many volunteers who will contribute their time and talent to the production of ongoing quality programmes.

The dedication, however, was a 'soft launch', for the station is still under development. Pastor Hamilton nevertheless encourages you to tune in and listen – on DAB in the greater London area, or via various radio apps, such as 'Tune In', from the Adventist Radio London website, www.adventistradio.london, or their dedicated Facebook page. ARL also intend to use all major social media platforms to connect with their audience.

He also stressed that the ARL mission statement is this: 'Adventist Radio London will unashamedly extend the teaching, preaching and healing ministries of Christ to the diverse millennial mindset of London, discipling them to holistic living and to know Jesus their Saviour, the only hope for mankind.'

Leadership support from the General Conference and generous funding from Adventist World Radio have helped the station come to fruition. The collaboration with AWR also enabled the provision of equipment to get the studio ready for broadcasting and production.

Gratefulness also extends to the former SEC Media director, Vili Costescu, and the SEC Media team. Their combined efforts were instrumental in the initial stages of obtaining the DAB licence and for setting the vision for such a station in London, a vision fully and enthusiastically embraced by the full South England Conference team – making God known in London.





How healthy are you? Part 2e – the HEALTHY format

Taste buds

In my HEALTHY workshops, the 'Taste Buds' sessions are usually quite revealing as we get individuals to think about their food choices and their reasons for making them.

Take a moment to think about the food you have eaten over the past week. Were all the meals ones that you enjoyed completely? Or were there items on the plate that you ate, not so much for enjoyment, but because you knew they were good for you?

What about food items that you like and sometimes use as a 'treat' but that you know are not particularly healthy? Do you sometimes crave these foods – and, if so, what drives you to eat them?

Questioning what foods we eat and why we eat them is one way of assessing how 'healthy' our appetites are in relation to our food choices. It also reveals whether our taste buds dictate our food choices to the detriment of such things as nutritional content and value for money.

In a US health news article titled 'The Psychology of Food Choices',¹ Registered Dietitian/Nutritionist Bonnie Taub-Dix states that 'we often have good intentions about curbing our intake until temptation takes over, whether that's in the form of jelly beans in a glass jar on the countertop or free samples at the supermarket.' These are what she calls 'hidden persuaders', which she lists as one of the five categories of things that influence our food choices. The others, she states, are:

- A (seeming) lack of choice – for example, when invited for a meal at someone's home.
- Descriptive names – for example, 'freshly made' or 'homemade', or even 'black forest double chocolate cake' as opposed to 'chocolate cake'.

- Food labels – for example, 'free-from' (common with more natural food items), which does not necessarily indicate fewer calories!
- External influence – for example, home life, environment, friends – could influence whether you have a salad or chips.

What about food cravings?

Medical News Today explains: 'A food craving is an intense desire for a specific food. This desire can seem uncontrollable, and the person's hunger may not be satisfied until they get that particular food.'²

Neurochemical and hormonal imbalances, poor dietary habits and tiredness have been listed among some of the causes of food cravings.³

Adam Drewnowski, PhD, a taste and food preference researcher, points to psychological causes: 'Food cravings arise to satisfy emotional needs, such as calming stress and reducing anxiety.'⁴

For a comprehensive list on how to tackle food cravings and opt for healthy food choices, visit: <https://www.webmd.com/diet/features/the-facts-about-food-cravings>.

Good health!

¹ <https://health.usnews.com/health-news/blogs/eat-run/articles/2016-11-02/the-psychology-of-food-choices>

² <https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/318441.php>

³ <https://www.healthypace.com/addictions/food-addiction/causes-food-cravings-food-addiction/>

⁴ <https://www.webmd.com/diet/features/the-facts-about-food-cravings#1>



Stanborough Secondary School Open Day

Are you looking for a school which not only prepares pupils to be active and successful members of their community, but also strives to further the work of the Gospel? A school with excellent GCSE results and an Adventist ethos?

Stanborough Secondary School is a school where the staff pray for the success of the pupils every day.

Every lesson and activity begins with prayer. You are invited to visit Stanborough School, an Adventist co-educational school for students from 11 to 18, on 13 May 2018 from 11am to 2pm.

For more information about Stanborough School, please visit our website at www.spsch.org.



Home alone

I recently had some email contact with an acquaintance I hadn't heard from for years. We happily swapped updates about work, family, children, etc. All of his responses were positive, until I asked about his younger brother, who turned 65 two years ago. Where was he? How was he doing?

His answer: 'With reference to my brother, I am afraid I do not have very good news.'

The bad news was not about his marriage, family, work or health. It was about his relationship with the local Adventist congregation – the only English-speaking church in the area. He had fallen out with the pastor – who had long since moved on – and, after voicing his feelings about certain issues, 'he was labelled a trouble maker and he stopped attending church.'

His wife and children had stayed. But for decades he has apparently kept the Sabbath at home, alone.

Wisely, my acquaintance didn't apportion blame, going on to say 'there are three sides to every story – your side, my side and the right side, and ... I do not know all the details.'

Home alone!

How many of us have been through a 'home alone' phase in our religious life? How many of us are indefinitely in that phase? How many of us have taken our families with us?

Such reclusiveness can be triggered by a *combination* or *accumulation* of unpleasant experiences. They can often involve a single person who just seems to get under your skin. On the other hand, they sometimes involve tight-knit family groups or cliques of other kinds. Such people may perceive your talents as a challenge to theirs, or your ideas and influence a threat to the status quo they are so comfortable with.

Strangely enough, those who may succumb to this type of opposition – either 'in-your-face' or 'in-your-back' – are often those who have strong convictions about the rightness and wrongness of what we do in our churches. These are the people who remind us to stick to policy, follow the *Church Manual*, be transparent in financial matters, act ethically, etc. They are worth their weight in gold, but we exasperate them sometimes.

Alone in church!

There is, however, another type of reclusiveness that may be caused by something we are not really aware of – simple neglect. Let me illustrate this by reference to a question our preacher asked during yesterday's children's story. At the climax of her interaction with the children she asked them this question: 'How many people have you spoken to at church today? One, two, five?' She then turned to the adults and said: 'How about you? Five, ten or more?'

Her question set me to thinking about who I had spoken to that morning. Had I meaningfully connected with as many of the members as I could? Had I shared words of comfort with the recently bereaved? Had I introduced myself to the visitors, and encouraged them to come again? Had the youth whose music enhanced our worship heard how much I enjoyed it?

Churches can be lonely places. So lonely that people may be tempted to think: 'I'm here alone, unnoticed ... I might just as well be at home alone!' After all, a birth certificate doesn't guarantee you love and care, does it? It doesn't mean that your parents will make you feel wanted, or that your siblings will be your best friends. Baptismal certificates are just as powerless to make you feel wanted in the church – only caring people can do that. There is no substitute for a kind, warm and caring membership.

It's a choice

To those who are tempted to withdraw from active congregational life, I want to say sorry for the



Dear friend, please don't stay home alone.
We are missing you!

pain we've caused you; sorry for the fellowship we've stolen from you; and sorry for the joyful worship you've missed because of us. Please forgive us ... both for our hurtful acts and words, and for our neglect. Your empty seat is a powerful prophetic voice calling out for us to change; challenging us to make the experience we call 'church' an unqualified blessing for everyone. Please come back and help us make that happen!

Having said that, however, I cannot escape the nagging reality that church attendance is ultimately a choice – your choice as well as mine. No interdict or restraining order has been issued against us. **Attendance is our right, our choice.**

A special message

Paul had a special message for those living in what he called 'the final day' of earth's history. You find it in Hebrews 10:19-25, but space will permit me to quote only the last part thereof:

'In this confidence let us hold on to the hope [of Christ's salvation and intercession for us] that we profess without the slightest hesitation – for he is utterly dependable – and let us think of one another and how we can encourage each other to love and do good deeds. And let us not hold aloof from our church meetings, as some do. Let us do all we can to help one another's faith, and this the more earnestly as we see the final day drawing ever nearer.' (PHILLIPS, with the author's emphasis.)

Dear friend, please don't stay home alone. We are missing you!

My journey thus far!

Hazel Dawn tells us her story, wanting us to know that God has not finished with her yet . . .

'If You are real, find me a church I can worship in and a Bible I can understand.'

This is what I said to God. Since then I have learnt that God loves a challenge. He has taken me on an incredible journey to discover who He is, His real character and His desires for me. In the process I have learnt to let go of all my crutches, my survival instincts and my barriers, and to truly trust Him. Believe me, there have been lots of tears, tantrums and 'Why me?' questions along the way. But God is faithful, patient and a true gentleman.

My story

I came from a dysfunctional background of lies, cheating and sexual and emotional abuse which started from the age of about five. I felt so fearful. I had so much anger and hate inside of me. I was like a volcano ready to explode. I trusted no one. I didn't even trust myself. I believed there was something wrong with me. I felt trapped in a life that was a lie but knew no other way, or the way out. This was the norm, and if I challenged it or I tried to speak *my* truth I was made to feel I was wrong, isolated and attention-seeking. The attention I craved – the affection from my mum – was then withheld. So, like so many 'good' girls, I conformed. I buried my hurts, my pain, and my disappointments. I died inside.

My mum was a single mum, struggling to raise my younger brother and I. She worked long hours and we were palmed off to friends. When I was about five a man started living with us. He did my hair and got me off to school. I hated him; I feared him. I couldn't tell anyone what was happening. My mum was never around. She was working hard to provide food and clothing, but emotionally she was unavailable. She was tired a lot of the time. She had no idea what was happening to her little girl. I hated her. I loved her. I wanted my mummy. *Why was she not there for me? Why were these things happening to me? What had I done wrong?*

Mum made my brother and I go to a Methodist church every Sunday. There I saw a different world: people who cared for and respected each other. They talked about a God who was love. He didn't love me, though, because I was 'damaged goods'. We attended church until we were at an age when we both said we didn't want to go anymore, and Mum honoured that. But the seed had been planted.

Growing up as a teenager and young adult I had no concept of what love truly looked like. I wanted to fill this huge gap in my soul. I looked for love and affection in all the wrong places, and in the process more abuse, hurt and rejection occurred, confirming my beliefs that I was

dysfunctional; that there was something wrong with me. I met a man who was ten years older than me when I was eighteen and subsequently became pregnant with my son, Kyle. He was a miracle and a life-saver, as I was on a destructive path. I never knew I could feel such love for a human being. I didn't know I had it in me. He changed my life. I tried to be a good mum. I was with his dad ten years, and they were ten years of hell. He was controlling, manipulative and physically abusive. Finally I got the courage to get out. But I struggled as a single mum, as I had never been given the tools to care for someone, not even myself. Twenty years later Kyle and I have an amazing relationship and I have shared with him part of my journey. I am praying that he will one day receive the Lord too.

Over the years I went to various churches, searching – searching for what? I had no clue. The messages were great, the people were great, but I still had a gaping hole within. Fast-forward to five years ago, when I was so desperate and broken that I cried out to God. I gave Him an ultimatum: ***'If You are real, find me a church that I can be part of, that accepts me unconditionally, and I will serve You.'***

A friend invited me to her church, where I was accepted, baptised and nurtured in Christianity. It was an awesome experience, and there I began to see the love of God among His people. This was alien to me, but I loved to see it.

I still had huge walls up and wouldn't allow people to see the real me. I didn't even like me and I didn't believe they would like me either. Over the years two friends I knew kept inviting me to various activities at their Seventh-day Adventist church (Leeds Central). I loved it. I really enjoyed it and felt connected there; the only problem being: Who was this Ellen White they talked about? She wasn't in the Bible! It took a few more years of God working on me, stripping me of all I knew and remoulding me, before I would finally say, 'This is truly the place where I need to be and where the Truth is being taught.'

I used to ask God: 'Why me?' But I have come to realise that God was with me every step of the way. He was protecting me and keeping me from further harm even though at the time I couldn't see it. I have been able to share my story with other broken women who have been made to feel ashamed about the evil done to them, and this has been a great privilege.

Finally my 'Daddy' has brought me home. He has done an amazing work in me and continues to do so. I am surrounded by people that love me for who I am: a child of The Most High God; people who accept me, encourage me and are incredibly patient with me, just like my Father in Heaven. **He is truly a gentleman . . .**

Today I fully accept **2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV): 'If anyone is in Christ [Jesus], he is a new creation.'**

I am on an amazing journey of God-discovery and learning. It is a privilege and honour to be able to serve Him and give back to others.



Paul Thompson*

Imposter syndrome: is it holding you back?

As a teenager, whenever I was selected for a team or a task, I felt it was a fluke or a mistake – that I would temporarily fill the position until someone better came along. I would then happily step aside if someone else wanted my position. Our family were close and I felt protected, which meant that I ignored this underlying feeling. Things came to a head, however, when I joined corporate Britain and began to move up through the ranks of management. I worked hard and God blessed me with a good team, and promotion came – along with a significant problem. Despite my achievements, attained through a great deal of hard work, I felt that I had somehow stumbled into success. I did not deserve the accolades I received. I felt unworthy. In my mind, I felt that one day I would be exposed as an imposter or a fake – that I had been fooling everyone all this time.

Imposter syndrome (IS) – or 'imposter phenomenon' – affects millions of people across the world and is likely to increase, along with the stress that today's highly competitive corporate landscape and celebrity culture bring. Many have to cope daily with feeling that they are fakes. This affects people in many ways, ranging from second-guessing your decisions all the time, or feeling that you are simply filling a quota at work, to deliberately forcing the breakup of a relationship before the other person ends it. It is estimated that 70% of people in the UK will at one time or other suffer from IS. Leading psychologists in the field of IS confirm that these people will see themselves as being 'fake', believing that they are not intelligent, capable or creative, despite evidence to the contrary. Paradoxically, these people are highly motivated to achieve, yet also live in fear of being 'found out' or exposed as 'frauds'.

Current IS research indicates that the syndrome is more prevalent among high achievers, but not exclusively so. These people, who are outwardly successful, say to themselves when praised, 'Do they mean me?' or, when good results are achieved, 'It was nothing; I was just lucky this time.' This was certainly my feeling when I got promoted to head up a 250-strong credit department in the City of London. I felt I did not deserve it and I thought everyone around me thought that I didn't deserve it either. I was happy to go for the promotion, but then, the minute I got it, I

thought: 'This is wrong!' It was really horrible, because I wanted to celebrate but all I could feel was guilt. I almost felt like I was winging it, and that they would soon discover that and take away the promotion.

I was first to arrive at the office, and last to leave; I covered all bases so as to do an excellent job and not be found out. I later discovered that with imposter syndrome you always worry about what other people think, so it's difficult to internalise achievements. You also tend to think that everyone secretly thinks you're fake. I did not know what to do to rid myself of these feelings.

Finally, I found help through an inspirational mentor, an older gentleman who was a client. He kept encouraging me to start my own business and affirmed me at every opportunity by telling me how valued I was in the industry. He later forced my hand by offering me a big contract, which was much too much to refuse, and which led me to start my own company. He stood by me, acting as a good sounding board and a steady hand when the voices of the imposter syndrome gremlin bothered me.

Despite my wavering self-belief, my faithful God blessed my business and we repaid the trust this stranger placed in me. My company delivered the best results ever for my inspirational mentor, and he remained a client and a friend for over 15 years until he passed away. The evidence was there: I was not a fake; the voice of my imposter gremlin was silenced. So what did I learn from this experience? That, to a certain degree, we're all winging it. That there's a little bit of *fake it until you make it* in all of us. But only we know what's going on inside our heads – that is, the extent to which these thoughts hold us back – which is why we need to share them with a confidant.

Is imposter syndrome holding you back? Is it getting the better of you? Here are some suggestions from some of the overcomers who have managed to slay this giant.

Find out what is shaking your confidence

What is it that's making you feel doubtful? In most cases, the answer will be obvious: I don't deserve to lead this department in church because so-and-so is more experienced than I am. This is where you're underselling yourself, and that is likely to be the root of the problem.

Tell someone

Pick someone you trust to talk about your lack of self-confidence. If it's a church problem, make sure to confide in someone who keeps confidences and will offer up robust, earnest prayers for you. He or she should be able to identify when those feelings of fear are irrational and lift you up, reminding you of your strengths.

Remind yourself of all of your achievements

At home I have a little black book which I keep close, a brag file. I started it years ago to write down my accomplishments. I read these out aloud to clear my vision when I can see nothing but imposter fog. You could start one now by recounting your most recent accomplishments. Take a look at everything you've achieved, and reflect on all the hard work you've put in to get to where you are now. Embrace the fact that you got yourself to where you are (with God's help, naturally). You've earned your spot in life, in



*Paul Thompson is a chartered manager and a fellow of the Chartered Management Institute.

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the company or in church, and
your accomplishments prove that.

People chose you because you are competent, and they didn't make a mistake

You did not pull a fast one on anyone. The pastor, church board, or nominating committee, or your boss at work, offered you the opportunity. They made deliberate choices based on your experience and potential. You really deserve to be there. They believe in you. They didn't make a mistake.

Take a risk

Say it out loud; tell someone else, and do it. The worst that can happen is that it doesn't work. So what? Don't let imposter syndrome cheat you from what's rightfully yours.

Look at your language – speak life

Update your language with more confident, assertive phrases, and you will start to believe in what you're saying.

Try mentoring

Guess what, imposter syndrome sufferer? You have expertise to share. Share it with someone who needs it. My mentor did, and I have gone on to mentor many others. Not only will you realise how much knowledge you really do have, but you'll also likely uncover new strengths in the process. Try it!

Finally

Imposter syndrome can influence many areas of our lives, so it's important to acknowledge its effects. As God's people, chosen to work in His mission field, we will be subjected to attacks on many fronts. We must confront imposter syndrome at its core. We all have a purpose; God intentionally designed for us to live this out: **'For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago' (Eph. 2:10, NLT).** Without question, imposter syndrome will hold us back, preventing us from enjoying what God has in store for us today. Break its hold now, today.

<https://www.fastcompany.com/40421352/the-five-types-of-imposter-syndrome-and-how-to-beat-them>

Opinions expressed in the Perspective pages are those of the authors, and may not necessarily be those of the MESSENGER staff or the BUC.



ADRA-UK is looking for a Chief Finance Officer (CFO)

ADRA-UK is a UK-based humanitarian organisation of the Seventh-day Adventist Church that demonstrates God's love and compassion. ADRA-UK is a member of the ADRA global network and works with people in poverty and distress to create just and positive change through empowering partnerships and responsible action.

Role

The Chief Finance Officer position (CFO) is a pivotal leadership role within this growing not-for-profit organisation. Reporting to the Chief Executive Officer and acting as a member of the senior management team, you will lead, co-ordinate and ensure the high-quality implementation of all activities in the Finance Department, as well as ensuring timely reporting and compliance with donor rules and regulations.

The CFO will play a key role in strategic planning, new business development and operational management; both ensuring that performance is monitored against strategic plans, and helping to shape the organisation's future strategic objectives. You will have overall control and responsibility for all financial aspects of the organisation strategy.

Person

You will have the equivalent of an MBA degree in Accounting and Finance or Management, preferably with ACA, ACCA or CIMA accreditation, and at least 12 years of experience working in a related field. You will demonstrate considerable experience in the leadership of strategic financial and business planning processes and be able to manage budgets, risk-management processes, business analysis, and information systems.

This role will operate at a strategic level, managing key relationships with internal and external stakeholders while remaining hands-on as and when required. You will need an exceptional capacity for managing and leading people, as well as a successful track record of building and managing a financially sustainable organisation. Importantly, you must be passionate and committed to supporting the mission of ADRA-UK.

For more information download the application pack on our website: <http://adra.org.uk/contact/work-adra/>.

Deadline for applications: Monday 7 May.



Please help us if you can
We need people who can help us with simultaneous translation from Portuguese to English (and vice versa) between 7 and 15 July at the East London Portuguese church (Barking). The event is a week of prayer and the speaker is Pastor Michelson Borges, co-author of the missionary book of the year, *The Power of Hope*.

Please contact Fernando Franko either on 07491430149; or at esbarking@hotmail.com.

For the attention of all Adventist Credit Union clients

The Adventist Credit Union (formerly the London Adventist Credit Union) requests that any of its clients who have dormant accounts (ones that have not shown any activity) make urgent contact with one of its representatives at either 07930 854730 or 07486 073635. This is in connection with the Government's Dormant Bank and Building Society Accounts Act (2008).

See: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-unlocking-330-million-from-dormant-accounts-to-build-a-fairer-society> for more information about the implications of the Act.

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Pastor John Surridge, BUC Executive Secretary

Big Brother, big data, and GDPR

Recently we've had a lot of correspondence from people who are concerned about the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which comes into force on Friday 25 May 2018.

The reason for the regulation is the vast amount of personal data that is now being stored. Every time you use your credit card, post a message on a social media platform, or drive past an ANPR camera, information about you is being collected, stored and processed.

Those organisations collecting and processing the information (the data processors) have many different reasons for doing what they do. The police want to catch criminals, the credit card companies want to prevent fraud, and the social media companies want to make money from advertising.

Some are concerned that this is a slippery slope leading to a 'Big Brother' state, whereas others see it as an opportunity for the Government and private companies to offer a better, more customised service.

Whatever your view, there's no doubt that most people are worried that so much information is being stored about them, as the recent Facebook scandal has highlighted. That's why governments have taken action and given stronger rights to data subjects (us). The most important of these are:

- The right to know what information is being stored about us
- The right to correct that information if it is incorrect
- The right, in some circumstances, to be forgotten

So, if you receive some junk mail from a company you've never heard of, you can contact them and exercise the above rights. You submit a 'subject access request' to find out what they know about you (which shouldn't cost you anything), then ask for the information to be corrected or removed.

From the Church's perspective the questions we've received from members fall into three categories:

- Have we as a church made preparations for GDPR?
- Is my data being processed correctly?
- Is there anything I need to do to prepare for GDPR?

In short, the answers to the above questions are 'yes', 'yes', and 'maybe'. On Thursday 15 March 2018 the BUC Executive Committee voted a new data protection policy, which you can find on our website at: www.adventist.uk/departments/executive-secretary. This policy outlines the way that we use information as a church. In the near future you should see some changes to things like application forms for Pathfinder events and camp meetings as

privacy notices and consent check boxes are added.

Regarding the second question, you won't be surprised to know that a membership-based organisation like the Seventh-day Adventist Church keeps a record of its members. That's how we know who is a member, when they were baptised, when they transferred to a new church, and what offices they hold in their local church, etc. To process this information we don't need specific consent; it's just part of being a member. You can ask your church clerk for a copy of the information that is held about you, and you can ask to have it corrected if it's incorrect, but you can't ask to be completely forgotten – unless you want to stop being a member. Even then there may be some information that the church has to retain for legal reasons (Gift Aid records for example).

By the way, please be considerate of your

church clerk, for if everyone in the church starts asking for their personal data on 25 May it will generate an overwhelming amount of work. Also, although we are gradually rolling out the Adventist Church Management System (ACMS) to all churches, which should make membership record handling easier, the process will take time.

Is there anything you need to do to prepare for GDPR? Well, probably not. Unless you run a large advertising company and you have thousands of records on your files, the regulation shouldn't really apply to you. It's not aimed at the private address book you have on your phone; it's really targeting the big companies who make big money out of big data. If you're running major church events where you need to collect names and addresses then please refer to the data protection policy.

ACMS Privacy Statement

The British Union Conference (BUC) holds information about Seventh-day Adventist church members and other connected individuals, in the Adventist Church Management System (ACMS). This is a secure software platform, designed and maintained by the General Conference. Data protection legislation allows us to process this information as we regard it as being in the Church's legitimate interest.

The information is used to keep a record of official church membership as well as to provide members with various services, including pastoral support. To enable us to provide adequate support to members, the BUC may record information which could be regarded as sensitive.

Members have the right to ask to see any information held about them on ACMS by submitting a 'subject access request' to the church clerk. They also have the right to ask for information which they believe to be incorrect to be rectified.

If members are concerned about the way their information is being handled they may speak to their church clerk or contact their Mission or Conference office. If they are still unhappy they have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner's office.



BUC home education (home schooling)

The British Union Conference (BUC) Education Department is keen to support the home educators within our church congregations, and there has been much work behind the scenes to arrive at a workable structure. We will be the overarching department for home education and will continue to work with Neal Lawrence in his capacity as an independent advisor. (The BUC recognises the extensive work that Neal has done in this area and thanks him for his diligence and commitment.)

The new structure will be as follows:

Kathleen Hanson (BUC Education Director) with over-arching responsibility for home education (providing networking opportunities, training and resources), working in close connection with the regional representatives elected by the Church:

- Gina Abbequaye (Education Director) – SEC
- Emily Tebbis-Ogutu (Education Sponsor) – NEC
- Eileen McKenzie (Children's Ministries Sponsor) – Wales
- Shupai Matewa (Children's Ministries Sponsor) – Ireland
- Pastor Paul Tompkins has kindly agreed that information can be disseminated via the Scottish Mission office.

Those wishing to subscribe to the BUC Home-Education Network (to receive information of events, training and resources) are asked to subscribe at buchomeeducation@adventist.uk with the following message:

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KATHLEEN HANSON, BUC EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Endings and beginnings

A report on the completion of the ADRA-UK-funded ELIVES Livelihood Project in Nepal



reunited. Many of the men in the region of Terai go to India to find work in order to care for their households. Due to the project, they were able to find more work locally and remain at home to look after their wives and children.

The use of digital technology was another benefit of the project, as farmers were given mobile phones so that they could check the prices of produce in order to increase their sales.

Various ultra-poor groups were also assisted for the first time. They were given access to land for the first time and were able to start to grow vegetables and have an income to feed their families.

Reflecting on the past three years of the project, Milimo said, 'Although my role was mainly quality assurance and compliance of the grant from DFID in line with the contract guidance, the best part was to meet the beneficiaries and to see the positive impact in the lives of people who have so little.'

The ADRA ELIVES Livelihood Project ran from 2015 until 2018, and the monies that ADRA invested in this initiative were donated through the ADRA Appeals during that period. 'If you could see the impact that your volunteering, collecting and donations have made, it would bring tears to your eyes,' said Pastor Bert Smit, CEO of ADRA-UK. 'Thank you so much for giving to ADRA-UK, and "Because of You..." lives have been changed, families are reunited and God has been glorified.'

The ADRA ELIVES Livelihood Project came to an end in March 2018 with a 'close out' event and also a 30-year celebration for ADRA-Nepal. The aim of the project was to improve the lives of farmers in the Terai region of the country across four districts.

Some of the objectives of the project included enhancing the livelihoods of farmers by increasing vegetable and goat production; creating support networks such as co-operatives; providing access to quality Veterinary Health Workers (VHW) and Livestock Technicians; and setting up collection centres, which are trading hubs for the sale of goods to external buyers.

The ELIVES Livelihood Project cost £1.8 million and was funded by the Department for International Development (DFID) (74%) and ADRA-UK (26%). The project was run in partnership with ADRA Nepal, who were the lead partners locally.

Milimo Nirvalle, ADRA-UK Programmes Officer, led the project and can relate story after story of how the monies given by ADRA-UK have enhanced the lives of nearly 39,000 people, which exceeded the original target of 30,000.

One such person is Jit Bahadur Ghalan from the Rautahat District. He is a goat farmer who constructed a goat shed that has become a resource centre for his community. He manages 31 goats, and his centre provides goats of a good breed to other farmers.

Parhash Chandburi is 58 years old and is one of the successes of the project. She took part in the organic farming training and has gone into vegetable production, creating a local network in her community.

One of the project outcomes was the increase of income from agriculture due to updated farming techniques, and greater mobility for farmers who are now able to sell their produce further afield, not only in their own communities. In addition, the quality of the vegetables produced was greatly improved and the women of these communities were empowered to start their own farming initiatives.

The project provided employment to many of the men who were previously unemployed, as they were able to train to be Veterinary Health Workers (VHW). An unexpected outcome was that families were



Evangelism and music for a broken world

Evangelism, Everyone, Everywhere (EEE) is the strategic 'clarion call' of the South England Conference (SEC). However, the challenges of evangelism in the urban and cosmopolitan settings of Europe test conventional methods of sharing the Gospel. It is our contention that evangelism through music has a key role to play in facilitating the understanding of our defining Adventist doctrines.

What is the 'evangelism through music' concept?

Evangelism through music seeks to raise both the standard and understanding of music as an integral tool for evangelism by:

- Supporting those with professional musicianship skills **to work in team ministries**
- Working with such teams **to deliver successful evangelism based on Christ's relational method**

From our experience, having piloted the 'evangelism through music' concept in London last year, three key elements have emerged:

- Evangelism, and not music, is the entry point for rooting and growing the work of evangelism through music.
- Church teams that lead music require nurture and training to steward their music-related talents through Christ's method of intentional evangelism.
- Cross-conference communication and peer learning is essential for music teams wanting to achieve local evangelism goals.

Evangelism through music is not the same as a singing evangelist role or that of a minister of music. While these broadly focus on developing the gift of music, *evangelism through music* starts with nurturing evangelistic attitudes in music teams, *inspiring them towards mission*.

When we see *ministry* rather than *performance* as the bigger agenda, then we will see the need to spend time together, to work in teams, and to respect the value of being in connection for each other's good.

How has this been applied?

An 'evangelism through music' programme was delivered from September to December last year, including seminars and practical outreach training for local church-based music teams, in preparation for a one-week evangelistic outreach in Central London. Four programme principles typifying the 'evangelism through music' approach were shared with local teams.

- The great commission is not an option or a suggestion!
- Use Christ's method of evangelism, connecting musical language to the great commission.

- Collaborate with Christ in evangelism, especially through relationships with people.
- Teamwork is required between instrumentalists, singers, and sound and audio engineers.

The 'evangelism through music' concept seeks to connect with people who are struggling to find real meaning in their lives. The Music for a Broken World (MBW) outreach was designed to utilise music and prayer as critical tools to engage those who wouldn't usually come to a church programme.

Was it just another campaign then? No!

The programme culminated in an evangelistic outreach, but first involved training and practice specifically geared for church music teams to use music as an evangelistic tool. Six churches were identified, representing the diversity of churches within the SEC and the willingness of their local music directors to play a lead role in the outreach.

Five key areas made this programme different and unique:

- Musicians, singers and sound and video engineers usually produce the content for an event rather than being directly involved in evangelism by inviting or bringing individuals to the meetings. Training for this programme focused on the need to restore evangelistic involvement.
- One hundred and fifteen people were trained over five weeks in workshops designed and delivered using Christ's method of evangelism.
- Identified singers, musicians and sound and video engineers in local church teams were asked to attend both workshops and the campaign, as well as to practise the 'friendship evangelism' concept leading up to the campaign.
- Two practical courses held at the Advent Centre focused on outreach to non-Adventists, demonstrating evangelism in action.
- A one-week evangelistic campaign was designed and delivered by working with a diverse range of singers, musicians and speakers. Each night featured an ethnically diverse cast who delivered vocal and instrumental music while also sharing their

spiritual journeys alongside the pastor evangelist.

What were the outcomes?

The outreach was specifically aimed at non-Adventists from diverse communities in London. An average attendance of five non-Adventist visitors per day attended the one-week campaign. From the total of 35 non-Adventist campaign visitors, nine people requested follow-up. Attendees came from a wide range of backgrounds including Muslim, Indian, British and other European, Brazilian, Chinese and African cultures. It's important to note that daily average campaign audiences of both Adventists and non-Adventists was around 30. Throughout the week the focus was on visitors, as opposed to having a large hall full of Adventist 'spectators'. Nightly pre- and post-programme contact and prayer with attendees was very important for relationship building and nurture.

Music team members invited personal contacts, having been encouraged to do so through the 'friendship evangelism' approach. Throughout the week there was support from an SEC Bible worker, and follow-up has been organised for the nine regular contacts.

What did we learn?

- By utilising the CENT approach developed for this programme, local church leaders and teams **connected** and **engaged** with those attending the outreach, because of their prior **nurture** and **training**, all of which had prepared them to deliver evangelism and music to a high standard. A workshop evaluation showed that 85% were now aware of Christ's method of reaching people in relation to their musically related role after the seminar. Eighty-four percent were likely to apply what they had learned and 89% desired more training.
- Follow-up with attendees is crucial, and more post-outreach follow-up time is necessary for future events.
- Nightly programmes were professionally delivered with no introductions and kept to a core one-hour timeframe. This facilitated a professionally delivered holistic Adventist message that appeared to appeal to non-churched individuals.
- Music team members were taught to identify and be sensitive to individuals wishing to talk, especially by using music as an introduction.

What's next?

Could this approach, based on Christ's method, make a sustainable difference, igniting the fervour of the early advent movement in our hearts and propelling us to deliver successful missions in Europe? Music, for the ambitious and artistically driven, can become overly complex. This complexity does not necessarily yield the best results, and humility is essential to an appreciation of that. 'God often uses the simplest means to accomplish the greatest results,' Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 822.



As supplied, errors and omissions excepted



Southampton Day of Awareness

'I found the ideas regarding improving church experience for disabled people and members really helpful. I also found the vision that we need to change our perceptions before reaching others an eye-opener.'

'I discovered that disability is not a curse, that everyone has potential and that we are all accepted and loved by God.'

These were some of the comments made by the attendees at the area-wide Day of Awareness, Training and Celebration held at Southampton Church for Area 3. This event took place on 3 February and was the first area-wide event following the launch of the 'Breaking the Trend' day of celebration held in London. Members from Southampton and Portsmouth Churches, along with visitors from London and the surrounding areas, were given an opportunity to address issues that create barriers to ministry, and make connections with people with disabilities and diverse needs.

The programme opened the door for fresh discussions and ideas for making church 'a place of belonging' for everyone, despite differences and abilities. The multicultural nature of the group enabled an enriching and

inspiring discussion with concrete plans to address practical and attitudinal issues that affect ministry in the area.

These events aim to create spaces for open and frank discussions which we pray will lead to positive attitudinal and behavioural change in the membership as we carry out the work of the great commission in our local and church communities. The next event will be in Area 6D at Heathrow International Church.

We ask for your continued prayers for this ministry as we create places where everyone will feel welcome to worship, praise and participate. Should you wish to find out more about the programme of the South England Conference's Regional Hubs for Ministry in Disability, Diversity and Belonging (SEC RHMDDB), please visit the following:

Website: <http://www.secdiversity.org.uk/>

Twitter: @OfficialASNA

Facebook: SEC-Disability-Ministry

Facebook: South-England-Conference-Diversity-Ministry-Department

SOPHIA NICHOLLS

The Learning Zone music workshops

More than 120 people from across the UK attended the Learning Zone music workshops at Balham Church on Friday 26 January.

The Learning Zone workshops were funded, organised and hosted by Balham church member, Olivia Williams, founder of The Music Confectionery, and were primarily aimed at singers and musicians aged 16+ from across the Seventh-day Adventist Church who were interested in developing and nurturing their musical gifts.

Each workshop was overseen by Olivia and led by expert tutors from a range of musical backgrounds, all with at least one thing in common – a passion and a love for praising and worshipping Jesus.

Among the attendees was eight-year-old Aaron Higgins from Peckham Church, who had the opportunity to showcase his drumming skills in front of an audience of experienced musicians. He also received coaching and advice from twenty-year-old Matty Brown, a gifted and humble drumming expert who has played the drums since he was four years old. When asked if he had enjoyed the workshop, eight-year-old Aaron said: 'I had so much fun; it was great to see other people playing the drums and I can't wait to come back to the next workshop!'

David Francis and his group of friends travelled over 125 miles from Nottingham to London to attend the Learning Zone workshops. When asked if the journey had been worth it, David said: 'This is such a great idea: providing a safe and Christian environment for Adventist musicians and singers to come together and learn from one another. It's been a valuable and worthwhile experience.'

The evening concluded with thanks to Balham Church for supporting the venture by offering the use of its facilities and equipment; Elder Errol Anderson for his time; and Pastors Bobby Bovell (Kennington Community Fellowship) and Anthony Fuller (SEC Youth Director) for their continued support and encouragement.

Olivia and the Music Confectionery team hope to roll out the Learning



Photos: Jordan Huie

Zone workshops later this year. To register your interest you can email hello@themusicconfectionery.co.uk, and for more details of future dates visit the website: www.themusicconfectionery.co.uk.

THE MUSIC CONFECTIONERY



GBK welcomed two 'thieves'

Great Brickkiln Street Church (GBK) had a unique Personal Ministries day on 16 December last year. In a world where the Christian church is increasingly seen as irrelevant, GBK kicked back the stereotype and turned its attention to those who, like the thief on the cross, can most readily see their need of Christ and want to take a new direction.

Guest speaker Michael Danzie entitled the day 'Survivors', for that is exactly what it was about. Two hardened young men with criminal records were the special guests of the day. Both had done time on several occasions for a variety of crimes, including gun running, drugs, violence and money-based offences. One was still under curfew, so the church had to start its AY programme early to enable him to return home in time. But both young men, though very different, had one thing in common: they both wanted to take a new path in their lives. And so it seemed good to provide them with a platform upon which to start out on this new journey of redemption.

Mark Naiken, who took the Sabbath School lesson, showed that God's people in the last days are also 'survivors' in a far broader sense. This was followed by Annette Johnson, a prison officer in the biggest men's prison in the UK. She runs GBK's regular Prison Ministries programme. Just two weeks earlier Michael Danzie and the prison ministries team saw a number of hardened criminals respond to their altar call at Oakwood Prison – coming forward and committing their lives to Christ with tears. This and some wonderful music prepared the hearts and minds of the congregation to receive a powerful message from Michael Danzie that closed with an altar call.

After a sumptuous meal, ingeniously prepared by Lennox Lowe, both members and visitors were ready for the focal point of the day. The two young men, introduced to the waiting congregation by 14-year-old Nijay Palmer, came forward to give their testimonies and register their intention to turn their lives around and go for redemption.

The day was geared towards the youth, particularly the young men of the church, which is why two were chosen, Myles Higgins and Gideon Janssen, to ask specific questions of the two young men after they gave their hard-hitting testimonies.

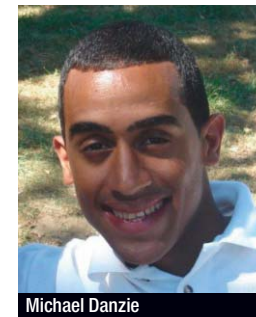
No one was in any doubt as to the dark road they had travelled by choice, or what they had seen and done. Somehow they managed to do this without glorifying the violence and darkness of their journey. These two young men, untrained in public speaking, held the attention of the entire congregation with the story of their lives, despite their nervousness. Then they allowed questions from the audience, who were predominantly under 18.

But because of the nature of the topic under discussion we ensured this part of the programme was not filmed, and the congregation were asked kindly not to use their cameras or upload anything they had heard or seen onto the internet without the knowledge or permission of these two young men.

A most moving point in the programme was when the mother of one of the ex-gangsters stood up and gave her perspective on what it was like for her as a mother, already bereaved by the loss of one son, to see her only other son go down.

It was clear that the day had made a profound impression in the minds of many, and it was so good to see that GBK was willing to roll up its sleeves and get involved in the reality of life: for that day it opened its doors and its heart, following the line of Jesus with the thief on the cross. Though we cannot give redemption, we can embrace those who seek it, like us.

PASTOR PATRICK HERBERT




Michael Danzie





Stanborough summer camp jobs
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BOOKSALES



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10am-2pm

May
13 Hyland House (John Loughborough)
13 Manchester South
10am-2pm

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Laurence Turner, PhD, is a noted Old Testament scholar, author, and international speaker. He has graduate degrees from Princeton Theological Seminary and the University of Sheffield, and has taught at both Avondale College in Australia and Newbold College in England, where he served as head of the Department of Theological Studies. His books include *Announcements of Plot in Genesis* (1990) and *Genesis Readings, A New Biblical Commentary* (2000). He co-edited *'He Began with Moses...': Preaching the Old Testament Today* (2010), which won Preaching Today's Book of the Year award in 2011.

Venue: Telford Church
Station Road
Ketley Brook
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TF1 5AQ
Time: 10am-3pm
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Anticipate a celebration at Special Needs Camp 2018

The week of 1 to 8 July 2018 is being anticipated with great excitement by a very special group of people: for that week will be the fortieth anniversary of the start of the ministry that is known as Special Needs Camp, which was started by Pastor Martin Anthony in response to a need that he saw. Plans are being drawn up to make this year's camp one to remember.

There are many examples of celebration in the Bible, and both Pastor David Rancic, who attended his first camp as an intern several years ago, and Pastor Curtis Murphy are planning interesting worships on this theme. A large number of our campers do not come from Adventist homes, and, although this ministry started by providing a service to people known through our church, when I attended from the second year I brought a group of non-members from the day centre where I worked at the time. Most of those friends attended camp until their deaths, participating in worship, and learning of the love of Jesus for them. One still attends every year, and, although she has since moved into a care home, Camp is still important to her.

Some baptisms have taken place in the sea at Aberdaron, where our campers witness to an audience of holiday-makers instead of church members, and these are very happy occasions. The best celebration of all will be when Jesus comes, as we are sure that many of our campers will be with us on that day.



While we take our aim of showing Jesus to the campers very seriously, Special Needs Camp is a holiday, and there is plenty of time for fun and laughter. Apart from having the beautiful Aberdaron beach just down the hill, trips are arranged throughout the week, with the campers choosing the ones which match their interest. We have learnt that there has to be a trip on a steam train and a group visit to a bowling alley among the choices each year, and, of course, the dodgems!

These are some of the things we can plan, and which will allow us to show the love of God to our disabled friends. However, we can only do this if we share this responsibility with others. Could you spend a week with us helping in this ministry? It might become addictive, as so many of our team could testify, but if you feel you can take that risk please log on to our website – specialneedscamp.co.uk – where you will find an application form. Alternatively, if you would like more information, email info@specialneedscamp.co.uk. We look forward to hearing from you.

JOY BUSSEY CAMP CO-ORDINATOR

40

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An unforgettable play

While holding a series of meetings in Scarborough, Canada, I met a group of vibrant young people from Elohim Ministries. They performed a play, called 'Seven Brides, But One Wife', that held me spellbound throughout. It is about a royal wedding and a bride's life struggles to remain true to her husband, the prince, and is based on a true story. It's a play that everyone needs to experience, particularly our youth, because it is very evangelistic in nature. The performance is professional and I would like to recommend that each of our members make an effort to see it when they perform here in the UK.

Elohim Ministries is a recognised lay ministry in the Ontario Conference, which started in England under the vision and leadership of Nadia Prendergast, who did playwriting and directing.

In 2000 Nadia and her family emigrated to Canada, and today Elohim Ministries functions under the co-leadership of Nadia and Natlene Walters.

They will be bringing the play, 'Seven Brides, But One Wife – His Fight



for Her Life', as a remake of the original version to the UK soon. The play uses the Bible to demonstrate the great love of Christ for His church, while dwelling on various historical and current issues. Elohim Ministry will be presenting Spirit-filled sermons at various churches in London – Holloway, Brixton, Willesden and Peckham – from 12 (Sabbath) to 19 May this year.

The play will be performed on Sabbath 12 May, in the evening at Brixton, and then on 19 May at the Dominion Centre at 11 am. Admission is to be free at both events, but a love offering will be collected at both venues.

They will also be doing street witnessing and workshops in the week. Please visit their website for details about the play, the speakers, and so on: www.thefinalwedding.com.

PASTOR RICHARD JACKSON (NEC PRESIDENT)



Tamworth international day of fellowship

Flags were flying high at Tamworth Church on Sabbath 18 November last year as it held its first international day of fellowship. The church was decorated with an array of bright and colourful flags, while members, family and friends representing 20 countries united in praise to God.

The highlight of the day was the procession by the children, who looked delightful as they marched into the sanctuary bearing flags depicting the different countries.

Pastor Alan Hush presented the message and reminded us that we must love and treat each other the same even though we come from different parts of the world. He reassured us that when Jesus returns for His people He's coming for all mankind.

The day culminated with an afternoon programme during which we used our creative skills to portray a given Bible character through sketch, music or poetry, relating that character to the country represented by our group. Not only did everyone have fun, but we were reminded of the important role the Bible characters played in the life of Christ.

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A GBK baptism

Baptisms are always special occasions, and the one on 25 November last year at the Great Brickkiln Street church in Wolverhampton was no exception. It involved three precious candidates: Rachel Wootton, Karlene Bailey and Richard Campbell, who stood boldly before their families, friends, relatives, well-wishers and church members to declare their commitment to follow Christ.

Pastor Patrick Herbert, the resident minister, had entitled his address 'More than a modification', and it was replete with spiritual nuggets. Fashion, technology and society constantly seek to reinvent themselves, only to find that whatever 'new' things they produce become 'old' as other things replace them. In Jesus 'old things pass away' and 'new things' arise. Pastor Herbert emphasised that the 'new life' in and with Jesus is not a modification of the old life into something new, but it is in reality a 'new way of living' in Christ Jesus.

This baptism will be especially remembered for Karlene Bailey's heart-and-soul solo lead in the song 'I Won't Turn Back!' which she sang while walking to the baptismal pool. With GBK's Sanctuary Choir in full backing support, the battle-charge-like song cemented every believer's commitment to follow the precepts of our Lord till He returns in glory.

JOSEPH HIGGINS (COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR)

Winter baptism at Pendeford

Following a week of glacial temperatures, the congregation's hearts were warmed as they witnessed the baptism of six souls during an end-of-year baptism at Pendeford Seventh-day Adventist Church.

This took place on Sabbath 16 December 2017, in a service led by Dr Patrick Herbert, accompanied by special guests, Pastors Richard Jackson (NEC President) and Adam Ramdin (NEC Youth Director), along with local elders South and Farrell.

Six candidates were baptised: Sharlene Beckford, Camilla Barrett, Adeniyi Taiwo, Myarah South, Elisha South, and Jayden South. Their testimonies were varied but equally interesting. For Sharlene this service was one of celebration and thanksgiving for how God had brought her through her battle with breast cancer.

Although Adeniyi had known of the Adventist church as a youth back in Nigeria, it was through listening to Doug Batchelor's programmes and lesson studies on the internet that he was led to make a commitment and be baptised.

Paul and Ruth South were in joyful spirits as they witnessed three of their children being baptised by Pastors Jackson and Ramdin.

Truly this was a high day for Pendeford Church.

ANNA-LEE FYFFE

No photograph provided for the 6th candidate.



Night of prayer and praise in Bristol

On the evening of Sabbath 27 January, the Bristol Central church family held an all-night programme of prayer and praise. It started with the song, 'Power in the Blood', and this power was soon evident as each participant confessed through testimonies, songs, prayers and sermonettes the difference that God, through the blood of Jesus, had made in their lives. Songs sung by Marsha Yearwood and others deeply moved the congregation as the hours passed.

A regular visitor at Sabbath services, named Peter, gave a moving and passionate testimony about his former lifestyle. He described his time on the streets and his involvement with unsavoury company. Quite often his life had been threatened by knives, bullets or fists, and he told of one occasion when death had knocked on his door and he was sure that he was facing the end. However, God rescued him. Peter testified that someone was always praying for him and that he was saved by God. He then told the church of his desire to be baptised, and that he felt a calling to go into his former 'stomping grounds' and preach the Gospel.

During the evening, one speaker led the church through the importance of forgiveness and how to achieve it, while another taught,

using an inductive Bible study method, about the power of deafness and how it helped him to become a better worshipper. Similarly, Elder Donald Ndhlovu reminded the congregation about the dangers of selfishness and the impact it had on the children of Israel crossing into Canaan. Finally, Ray Patrick held the church spellbound as he recounted his successes in ministry and how God had blessed him.

However, he pointed out that this success had been affected by his lifestyle, as he had an addiction which destroyed him and many relationships. Nevertheless, having revisited his connection with God, the chain that held him was eventually broken.

The church was washed with the tears of many saints. Members confessed that this was a Spirit-filled prayer and praise session. Many came forward to be anointed and to recommit their lives to God.

PASTOR ROYSTON SMITH (REPORT AND PHOTOGRAPH)



Peter testifying



Northampton's health evangelism

During the latter months of 2017 Northampton Central Church staged two health expos within a three-month period. They were very effective in reaching community members from a variety of backgrounds. In addition to breaking down barriers, the expos have made it easier to establish links with the community and build trust, which we see as essential prerequisites for effective holistic witnessing.

This is a brief summary of what was achieved:

- Volunteers freely shared tips and information with members of the community to increase their awareness of health and lifestyle improvements.
- One hundred and nine people went through the stations at the expos.
- People were very keen to exercise and to know their health age.
- Forty-six persons were eager for more such health programmes in the future and gave us their contact details.

During the second health expo, Lucy, one of our health assessors, and a long-forgotten college tutor rediscovered each other and celebrated their reunion with hugs and excited conversation. Prior to the health expo they had last seen each other when Lucy was the tutor's student in Zimbabwe over 15 years ago. Needless to say, they exchanged contact details and vowed to stay in contact with each other.

Many of the visitors who benefited from our service expressed deep appreciation. In their feedback they commented on how well the events were organised. Many were also interested in finding out about our plans for future health expos so that they could inform their friends and review their own progress after following the recommendations contained within their individualised health plan.

We are also very grateful to the management of the Grosvenor Centre for giving us free use of a space in the heart of a busy shopping precinct. The deputy mayor opened the expo in the centre, and then he and his wife enthusiastically visited each station for their own health evaluation.

More is expected in 2018 as the expo approach is a very effective way of building friendship and directing people to Christ.

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



Adventist Risk Management

Job Title
Customer Service Representative

Location
St Albans Office – UK

Department
Client Care

Supervisor
Regional Manager – Europe and Africa

Purpose:

Assist assigned Account Executive(s) in serving clients, including gathering and maintaining policy renewal data, preparation of schedules of insurance, processing certificates of coverage, and performing general administrative duties.

Duties:

- Provide excellent customer service to our clients on the phone, through email and in person.
- Issue complete and sometimes complicated certificates accurately and timely per the needs of the insured.
- Work with Account Executives, Underwriters, Producers and other team members to ensure the clients' requests are taken care of quickly and correctly.
- Maintain well-organised files/records for the Account Executive team, including the distribution of incoming mail and messages, managing and tracking projects and time-sensitive company processes under the direction of the Department Manager.
- Assist the Account Executives as they complete applications and bind policies by keeping up-to-date records such as property values and client-employee coverages.
- Assist in checking policies and applications for accuracy and requesting corrections when needed.
- Effect policy changes through endorsements.
- Assist in the development and implementation of the annual client service plan with the Account Executive.
- Be responsible for following up on all client service issues received with the appropriate ARM team member.
- Prepare and maintain schedules of insurance.
- Assist the Account Executive with billing, which also includes: sending invoices and statements, bill collections, and handling questions as they arise from the local field.
- Perform other duties as assigned.

Skills & qualifications:

- A Levels are preferred.
- A bachelor's degree in a business-related field is preferred.
- A minimum of two years' successful secretarial or general office experience is required.
- General insurance experience is preferred.
- Successful completion of the CII (cert) within a two-year period is encouraged.
- Proficiency in speaking/writing French is required; Spanish is preferred.
- Good working knowledge of Windows, Microsoft Office, Word, Excel and basic maths is expected.

Working time: 36.75 hours per week.

Salary: Pay will be in line with the denominational pay scale depending on skills and experience.

The successful candidate will need to have permission to work in the UK.

Interested applicants, please email your curriculum vitae to rfiddis@adventistrisk.org by **30 April 2018**.

Barnsley Celebration Day

Barnsley Church hosted its second celebration day on Sabbath, 3 February. The event was well attended, with people travelling from as far away as Weston-super-Mare. The theme of the day was 'Footprints: Where are yours going...?'

Around a hundred voices joined the Grantham Worship Band and several other musicians as they started the worship service with songs of praise. Pastor Nathan Stickland then blessed the congregation with his sermon on Genesis 6:5-9, stressing that Adam, Noah, and Abraham all walked with the Lord even though they were flawed humans. We don't have to be perfect to walk with Jesus, but we do need to keep following Him as He changes us.

Afterwards, everyone adjourned to the community room, where they were served haystacks for lunch. The food was plentiful and delicious, and many took the opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new ones.

The afternoon service began with more praise and worship led by the Grantham Worship Band. Kristina Hammond went on to cement the idea that we can all rely on God to support us in our journey with Him. She also touched on how we want others to see us and our faith. At the end of the session, everyone put their fingerprints on a tree to represent their decision to walk with God.

Games were organised for the young at heart in the evening, led by Lauren Salisbury. The team activities went down particularly well. By the



end of the night, prizes had been awarded for the winning team and written compliments had been exchanged to take home as a token of the day, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

LAUREN SALISBURY



Play together – stay together

What has happened to the 'good old church social evening'? It may have died out in many places, but not at Leamington Spa Mission. The one they hosted on 3 February was a great success. Not only did it integrate the generations, but it was full of fun, laughter and great games.

There was also a sweet taste to the event when the youth sold the delicious cakes they had baked during a recent team-building exercise – raising approximately £200 for their future programmes and projects.

HAZEL LAYLAND (COMMUNICATIONS)

OFSTED REGISTERED

HOLIDAY FUNCLUB
for children aged 6 - 13 years

MONDAY-THURSDAY 28TH - 31ST MAY 2018
10AM - 4:30PM
Hyland House School
Holcombe Road, Tottenham N17 9AD
Nearest Station: Seven Sisters & Bruce Grove, Bus: 149

ONLY £5.00 PER CHILD FOR THE WEEK

Bring a packed lunch, light refreshments provided.

For further information and an application form contact:
Ligia Buzac on 01923 232728 or Pastor Holness 07765 765477
sda.life/secwomensministries
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Those who submit photographs of minors (persons under the age of 18) for publication must ensure that they have permission to do so from their parents, guardians or carers. We would like these submissions to be accompanied by the following statement: 'I have the permission of the parents, guardian or carer of the minors who appear in this/these photograph/s to submit them for publication in the MESSENGER.'

Looking for a retirement home? Here are some attractive options . . .



unwell. There are no noisy or objectionable neighbours and Sabbaths can be enjoyed in peaceful surroundings. There are currently two flats available. For more information see contact details at the end of the article.

Sheepcot Villas is also a prestigious development of seven retirement flats for the use of members of the Adventist Church on a life tenancy basis. Flats are of an

attractive and traditional design suitable to meet all modern standards and requirements.

There is presently one flat available, which comprises an entrance lobby; a well-proportioned living/dining area; two bedrooms (a good-sized double bedroom and a generous single); a bathroom with steam extraction to the outside; and a fully-fitted kitchen. It has a sunny southwest-facing balcony overlooking the garden. For a full list of its other comforts and conveniences please make

Coniston House is a prestigious property providing eight retirement flats for members of the Adventist Church. These are sold on a life tenancy basis. Each flat has been developed to ensure a comfortable lifestyle, with a fully fitted kitchen and bathroom, gas central heating and carpeting throughout. The garden features beautiful lawns and borders with mature trees and shrubs. There is private parking for approximately ten cars.

Coniston House is just 500 yards from the town centre of Paignton and 250 yards from the promenade and sea front, where there are pleasant gardens and good walks. This part of Devon, along the coast of Tor Bay, is known as the 'English Riviera' and provides a delightful location for people who love the sea, fresh air and gardens, but also enjoy all the conveniences of local shopping. There are bus and train

services for Torquay and other towns nearby, and main line connections to Exeter and London. Residents who develop the need for support services will be able to apply to the local authority for home help, meals on wheels, nurse visitation and other services made available under *Care in the Community*. At a reasonable charge, the local authority will also help provide an individual call system linked with a community control centre. This is easily activated should a resident have an accident or feel



contact as indicated below.

The grounds are attractively landscaped and screened with trees, shrubs and other foliage, and include pathways, seating areas, and ample designated car parking. The flat is a short walk to a doctor's surgery and half a mile from Stanborough Park Church, and has a good bus service to Watford Town. Should you be interested in this flat, kindly contact:

Steve Okelo, Treasurer-Secretary – Seventh-day Adventist Association Ltd, Stanborough Park, Watford, WD25 9JZ. Tel. 01923 672251; email: SOkelo@adventistuk.org.

Messenger

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Sunset

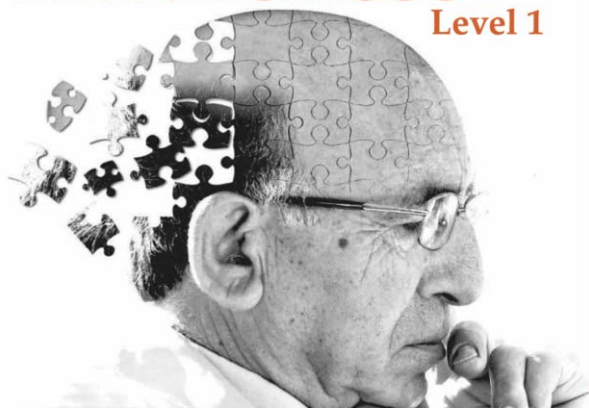
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	Lon	Card	Nott	Edin	Belf
Apr 27	8.17	8.29	8.26	8.44	8.50
May 4	8.29	8.41	8.38	8.58	9.03
11	8.40	8.52	8.50	9.12	9.16
18	8.50	9.03	9.01	9.25	9.28

North England Conference presents

Dementia Awareness

Level 1



Cost £30pp

Sunday 22nd July 2018, 9:30am – 4:30pm

Mission To The Cities & Resource Centre,
1st Floor, Lyndon House, 62 Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham,
West Midlands, B16 8PF

Registration Online only: uk.bookingbug.com/home/33185

For more information contact: Grace Walsh via Email gwalsh@necadventist.org.uk or
Orlene Dunkley odunkley@necadventist.org.uk or Tel: 0115 960 6312

This is an introduction to dementia so that carers can learn more about the subject and feel more confident about caring for someone with the condition. The course covers all aspects of dementia, including the symptoms to look out for, information on how dementia is diagnosed and tips for adaptations you can make to the person's home and lifestyle in order to make everyday living easier.



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applicants from the Scottish Mission**

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COMMUNITY SERVICES & URBAN MINISTRY

Certification Programme

[Non-residential]

24th - 29th September 2018

Venue: Mission To The Cities & Resource Centre,
1st Floor, Lyndon House, 62 Hagley Road,
Edgbaston, Birmingham, West Midlands,
B16 8PF

March - July 2018 **STAGE 1**

Online Individual Learning programme **[Prerequisite]**
through the Adventist Learning Community (ALC) platform

STAGE 2

Classroom (24 - 29 September 2018) 9:00am - 4:00pm daily
except Sabbath 2:00pm - 4:00pm



Classroom Presenter:
SUNG KWON, PhD, MPA,
Executive Director
(North American Division)
Adventist Community Services

Cost **£30** per person (includes a light meal)

Participants must enrol online only at

uk.bookingbug.com/home/33185

For more information contact:

Grace Walsh via Email gwalsh@necadventist.org.uk or
Orlene Dunkley odunkley@necadventist.org.uk / Tel: 0115 960 6312



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Living Free Seminars

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Sessions involve:
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➢ Exercise

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Sundays 1- 4pm (weekly)

To book your place today go to:
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under the Lifestyle Matters Tab
and select the event

Staff include medical professionals and lifestyle
advisers

Parking free of charge on site

For More Information Contact:
07957 375153 or 07800 761612

Mission to the Cities
1st Floor, Lyndon House
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B16 8PE

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Advert submitted too late to appear in an earlier issue

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