HARPER BELL ADVENTIST SCHOOL GETS VOLUNTARY AIDED STATUS

The Headmaster and Governors of the Harper Bell Adventist School, Birmingham, expressed delight that the Birmingham Local Authority has determined to establish the School as a new voluntary aided school with effect from 1 September 2011.

This is the culmination of years of intense discussion and debate, along with much prayer. Resulting from the decision the current gym will be converted into two full sized classrooms as will the current stage in the main hall. This adjustment will ensure that all classrooms conform to the statutory criteria of adequate space per pupil. The second floor of the school will become staff offices and storage. This plant improvement is mandatory as part of the VAS process. While the North England Conference will now be relieved of the burden of student subsidy and other capital staffing costs they will still have responsibility for the maintenance of the building. NEC President, Pastor Ian Sweeney responded "that the NEC is very much committed to Christian excellence and while formerly subsidies were used for operations, now these funds will be channelled into improving the building's appearance and infrastructure, which is very much needed."

Current legislation designates that local groups and organisations can set up and run schools based on their own ethos and philosophy. The government's primary expectation is that a suitable level of education is provided in line with the national curriculum. "Anglican, Jewish and Catholic schools in the maintained sector have historically run their schools guided by their religious ethos..."
without any problems, and it should not be difficult for Harper Bell School to do the same," states Head teacher, Mr Solomon Senessie.

With Harper Bell Adventist School in the maintained sector, Adventist parents, who because of financial hardship were not able to make use of the church's Christian education provision in the past, will now be able to do so. Mr Senessie states, "We are envisioning an increase of around 100 new students in the year ahead, primarily in the upper school."

**ADVENTISTS IN EGYPT**

Following reports in the previous two editions of BUC News we are pleased to inform you that Crieff church members, Alex and Kate Podbrezsky are now heading back to Egypt as part of the teaching staff at Nile Union Academy. The school plans to reopen on Monday, 21 February.

Egypt Field President for the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Pastor Llew Edwards, told BUC News this week that over recent weeks some twenty Muslims have visited the Church Headquarters Office to assure the Christian community of their support. Last Sabbath six members of the Muslim community attended the Adventist church service to express solidarity. Pastor Edwards states that "on the Friday evening of the departure of Mubarak I was standing with the local pastor outside our Heliopolis church, watching the growing celebrations and we were approached by many Muslims telling us that this victory was for Christians as well and assuring us of their friendship." His wife Karin adds, "We went into the church and prayed together, then we joined the crowds walking to Roxy Square. We stood in awe at what we were experiencing. We will never forget it – one massive street party... I have never experienced anything like it – the jubilant deafening noise (shouting, chanting, horns blaring), flags waving, people walking around with banners, people leaning out of car windows, standing on top of cars and monuments, shaking hands and congratulating everyone else around them, huge flags carried down the street with cars moving at a snail's pace going under them. It was surreal."

Pastor Edwards, formerly President of the Adventist Church in Scotland, wrote to all the Adventist churches in Egypt this last Sabbath stating that "now is the time for us to seek God's blessing in healing this ancient land." He pointed them to the healing offered in 2 Chronicles 7:14: 'If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.'

He writes, 'There are many forces – internal and external, hidden and open, who would seek to manipulate the future of Egypt. This is now a time for prayer for God to hold back those who would want to hinder the work of the three angels' messages and to bring about the freedom that would bless the good people of this country and the work of the Adventist Church. He requests particular prayer for our members in Egypt, a peaceful transition to a government with freedom for all people, opportunities out of this time of chaos for the Church to prosper, good relationships between people of all faiths and for fairness and justice for the many poor and underprivileged people of Egypt.

Reacting to the present situation, Karin Edwards plans to run a Stress Management course and Relaxation classes in the church's Healthy-Life Centre. Another result of the turmoil is that the church headquarters family has made really good friends with those in the community who have been protecting them in recent weeks. They say, "This revolution has brought neighbours we never knew together in an amazing way." What of Egypt's future? "Only God knows," Karin responds, "But we keep praying for God's Spirit to move through this land and that men of peace, justice, fairness, and honesty will eventually rule and there will be equal opportunities and freedom for all religious groups."
VISIONARY LEADERSHIP

A Church Headquarters must be more than a building. It is a place where visions are formed and dreams can become a reality. That was certainly the case on Wednesday, 16 February when two intensive seminars on 'Becoming a Visionary Leader' were held in the board room of the UK headquarters of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Ministers from as far away as North Wales travelled to the Watford headquarters for the morning session where Danilo Copiz shared from his experience in running his own international business alongside his very practical involvement in the 'cafe church' in Copenhagen. His seminar was then repeated in the evening for local church elders and has been made available online for those across the UK and Ireland who were unable to attend.

This was a very practical presentation. The elders in particular were extremely impressed that this was a hands-on, authentic presentation that came from his real experiences in working in a changing church situation. "It's very easy to remain in the clouds when talking about visionary leadership," stated Wimbledon pastor, Sam Neves, "but Danilo was sincere enough to ask the difficult questions of leadership." Sam may be reviewing the online version again as he says "It will take a couple of weeks to digest the workshop and integrate some of it to my ministry."

Pastor Richard Jackson from the West Midlands felt that the initiative was so important for his ministry that he intends to attend every subsequent seminar. "Every minister and elder needs to hear this," he stated.

Within the BUC office, Health Ministries director, Sharon Platt-McDonald reflected that she "found the ideas both thoughtful and challenging" adding that she was "inspired by the 6-step-process the presenter shared in regards to efficacy in leadership and the 'how to' of sharing the vision in order to positively impact and effect change."

The 'how-to' process was very important as Danilo emphasised that there is pain in change. Using the apostle Paul as an example he showed how leaders have to be prepared for adversity. Victor Pilmoor, BUC Treasurer, adds that he was "particularly impressed with the Biblical framework for visionary leadership, the more so with its application by lay people ministering with passion and skill at the heart of one of Europe's most secular cities."

'Becoming a Visionary Leader' is just the first of a series of monthly seminars and workshops planned for this year. "We want this new Union office to be a gathering place," BUC President, Pastor Don McFarlane told attendees adding that "the leadership seminars arose from a desire among directors and the administration to help facilitate training particularly for local pastors and elders."

The seminar was organised by BUC Ministerial Association Secretary, Pastor Alan Hodges. After all the planning and organisation he reflected that it was a "very positive worthwhile event – the first of many such events."
The next seminar "Creating Inspiring Worship in Your Church," will be presented by Dr Stephen Currow at 10:30 am on Tuesday 29 March for pastors, and repeated for local church elders at 7:30 pm on Tuesday 5 April.

Resources and pictures from this week's seminar are available on the BUC website.

MANY ADVENTISMS? [Helen Pearson]

The cryptic title, 'Many Adventisms?' coaxed about sixty people to leave the comfort of their armchairs on Tuesday evening, 15 February for Newbold's first Diversity Lecture of 2011. Dr David Trim, a founder member of Newbold's Diversity planning team and a former student and teacher at the College, is a keen student of Adventist history. Next month he will move to the United States having recently taken up a new appointment as Director of Archives and Statistics at the Seventh-day Adventist World Headquarters. From the outset of his lecture he stressed that the question of diversity and unity in a Seventh-day Adventist context is not new. From their earliest days, Adventists have always argued vigorously. Currently, different members are discussing matters like inspiration, sexuality, creation and ordination – issues that have a significant capacity to disunite them.

The early part of the lecture was devoted to a discussion of the Biblical model of unity. Dr Trim asserted the importance of unity described in the prayer of Christ and exemplified in the Early Church whose unity and sense of community was crucial to its growth. He moved on to describe the opposition to organisation to create unity expressed by the first Adventist leaders and their complete u-turn from their early belief that "the first step of apostasy is to get up a creed... and the second is to make that creed a test of fellowship..." Once Conferences were organised in order to facilitate the process of evangelism, Adventists, led by Ellen White, "deliberately rejected an authoritarian, hierarchical structure of organisation and governance. Instead, they adopted a flexible structure that devolved much responsibility and authority to local and regional levels." All this was an expression of their commitment "to avoid becoming Babylon."

Eventually, Dr Trim's historical journey brought him to the present day. He suggested that the church contains multiple camps on issues like morality, theology, hermeneutics, relationships to the wider world and behavioural patterns – and within those camps shades of opinion varying through all shades of grey – not just black and white. He suggested that the terms, 'liberal' and 'conservative' are too polarising to describe the diversity in Adventism. "We need a more richly textured conceptual framework," he said.

Dr Trim proceeded to his final question: "What are the limits of tolerable diversity?" For answers he referred to Ellen White's 1890 description of four 'landmark doctrines': the three angels' messages of Revelation 14, the work of Jesus Christ in the heavenly sanctuary, the seventh-day Sabbath and the non-immortality of the soul. "It was the loss of only these which God's people should, with most determined zeal, resist." Dr Trim observed, "So many of the things... that cause bitter controversy... are matters about which we should always cordially agree to disagree." 'Cordially' was the key word here. Dr Trim concluded by suggesting that there are far too many people keen to assume the prophetic mantle and tell their brothers and sisters that they are wrong. Instead he urged the importance of unity among Adventists and the need to engage in positive
dialogue, bearing and forbearing as they continue to search together for present truth. Lecture available on Vimeo.

FROM FACEBOOK TO BIBLE STUDY! [Beulah A Plunkett]

The 'By every word' Youth and Sabbath School Bible Study Retreat slated for 11-12 February seemed set to fold. Alan Hush and Beulah Plunkett, North England Conference Youth and Sabbath School directors had planned a joint Bible Study weekend aiming to teach youth methods for in-depth Bible study and how to recognise the impact that the Bible can have in their lives.

Pastor Jeffrey Rosario was duly invited, the date was at hand, however, bookings were low and the retreat looked as if it would fail. A new plan of action was needed. Just three days before the planned retreat, Pastor Appiah of the Wolverhampton Central church offered his premises as the weekend venue.

Facebook was the only avenue available to us whereby the youth could get this news of the change in location in time for the weekend. Rachel our secretary sent out the call and the youth from all over the NEC responded. The Friday evening session was full and the speaker challenged youth and adults alike to 'Taste and see that the Lord is good' through real Bible study that will lead to having real and personal experiences with God.

By Sabbath morning word had got out and the church was bursting! The Youth Choir made us ready for the Sabbath worship as they led us into an attitude of sincere praise to our God. Mark Palmer even drew together the men of the church to form an 'ad hoc' Male Voice Choir.

Adam Hazel, one of our PEACE graduates gave a moving and inspiring testimony about the way that PEACE changed his life. He is now a 'real Christian' he says. Beulah Plunkett encouraged the youth and adults to study the word and to see "Sabbath School as a real school" and to come as Bible students to study the word of God. Pastor Hush saw the benefits of the weekend being held in a church and plans to bring more programmes like this into the churches, where the youth and adults study together and worship together.

In the afternoon, a panel was set up for a question and answer plenary session, with some challenging questions raised about forgiveness, Bible versions and how to stay motivated in church.

Potential failure was turned to success and blessing as the youth were challenged to be doers of the word, tasters of the word, studiers of the word, keepers of the word, and writers of the word.

TOUCHING EVERY HOME [Clyde Moore]

Ninety-one-year-old David Parker, the oldest member of the Shrewsbury Adventist church, had a dream to place a copy of 'Steps to Christ' or 'When God Said Remember' in every household of his home town, Wem. As district pastor and living close by, David asked me to organise delivery of the books. Although still fairly active on the local preaching circuit, David realised his own limitations! Together with his daughter Marilyn
he donated £150 to cover petrol expenses with the remaining to be used for further evangelistic activity.

With the support of the Welsh Mission Executive Committee and Welsh Mission President, Pastor John Surridge, I asked the Personal Ministries team from the Telford church to "come over to Macedonia and help us!" The result? Early Sunday morning on 13 February, two car loads of volunteers arrived. Following drinks and a sincere prayer, eight volunteers left in three cars laden down with 1,200 books. The weather forecast wasn't promising but almost 4 hours later, the bedraggled group returned from a successful morning's activity. Claudette Harris said, "although my back was hurting me I went armed with a bottle of water and paracetamol! It was a worthwhile experience and I enjoyed it immensely." Others added, "The folks were very polite in either accepting the books or refusing them."

However, not every experience was a pleasant one. At one house where Anette Moore had delivered a book, the occupant opened the door, came out and threw the book on the rain covered ground, went back in and slammed the door! Pastor Moore had placed a sticker which read 'From Shrewsbury SDA Church. Tel no. 01939 234785.' Within ten minutes of the group's return he received a phone call politely asking for the book to be collected as it was not required and that the person in fact had a very 'strong faith'. The book was duly collected the following day and together with the book the elderly lady gave a document that had been printed from the internet warning about the dangers of 7th day Adventism! The opening statement read, "Over the last couple of weeks Wem has been targeted by a group of 7th day Adventists." Praise God for initiatives like these and may the Holy Spirit continue to prompt us to 'target' our communities. It is our privilege to just tell them about Jesus. Things are a happening even in rural Shropshire.

**CHURCH REBRANDING & THE GOSPEL SALES MIX** [Theophilus Gokah]

An important decision by the Welsh Mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church to elevate the Cardiff North Seventh-day Adventist company to a full church status was implemented on Sabbath, 5 February 2011.

Friends and regular members of the church gathered to worship and witness the fellowship organise into a fully developed church three years after it was first formed. The officiating minister was Pastor John Surridge, Welsh Mission President, assisted by Pastors Clyde Moore and George Boakye Asiamah.

In a welcome address resident minister, Pastor Asiamah, greeted visitors with joy and reminded the church community of its role in society; aspects of the life of the church and its organisation. The church grew following a 2008 decision by the British Union Conference along with the World Church leadership to provide funding for an evangelistic campaign among emerging minority communities migrating to Cardiff. On 31 May 2008, the Welsh Mission named the South Wales African Adventist Fellowship (SWAAF) as pivotal to a grand evangelistic plan in Cardiff. The first fruit of that plan is the Cardiff North Adventist church.

"Cardiff North church in Wales is just the beginning of a process Jesus started many years ago", stated Pastor Surridge. He drew on various scripture texts to remind the congregation of seven qualities of a true church. Among these qualities were specific criteria that demand the church not to stop learning and talking about Jesus.

There was some coincidence of thought among members of the congregation and that of Pastor Surridge, that is, "where next?" It is suggested that Cardiff North turns its attention to Pontypridd, a
town once described as the "Wild West". It is host to the University of Glamorgan with many commercial, industrial and tourism attractions. The presence of a university makes it a natural home for many students from across the world. It is already a home for Adventist students who travel from there to fellowship in Cardiff North church.

For pictures on the church organisation visit the church's revamped website at: www.cardiffnorth.co.uk.

**SKIPPING SCHOOL AT NEWBOLD** [Pat Eastwood]

Skipping school is generally not to be encouraged! But pupils and staff joined together at Newbold Primary School on Monday, 14 February for a day that had the whole school skipping. Organised by popular request following a similar workshop last year, the children thoroughly enjoyed their day with Jamie in the school hall. While younger children learned their basic skipping skills, the older children practised a variety of jumps and paired arrangements. A long rope was used to enable lots of children to run in and out and skip together.

Misha, Reon and Thiago particularly liked the "butterfly" where they took the handles of each others' ropes and skipped together. Oskar said, "I enjoyed 'keep the pot boiling' where we had to follow each other in and out of the long rope without missing a beat". Sean added, "It was good fun seeing how many we could get in the long rope skipping at the same time!" Lots of the girls enjoyed skipping the "pretzel" and could even do this backwards! Faith said, "It was all good fun because we learned to work well as a team – and it's a brilliant way to keep fit!"

By the end of the school day Years 5 and 6 gave the rest of the school a demonstration of what they had learnt, and then other children joined in an afterschool club where they practised even more steps and jumps together.

All of this is just the beginning of fitness with a purpose. Pupils are now organising a skipathon for their favourite charity, ADRA. It will be held on National Skipping Day: Friday 1 April.

**SEC SABBATH SCHOOL LEADERS' RETREAT** [Terry Messenger]

About seventy Sabbath School leaders from the South England Conference converged on Kings Park Conference Centre, Northampton to this retreat entitled, "Looking Forwards and Upwards." Many gained great benefit from the weekend with one attendee stating that her mind had been stimulated to try new things in her church to revitalize her Sabbath School.

Dr Michael Hamilton, TED Sabbath School director, opened the weekend, 11-13 February, by placing emphasis that in order to grow we must be willing to try new things and even take the risk of getting our feet wet. In his sermon on Sabbath he expanded on this theme further. Basing his thoughts on 2 Kings 7 he said that blessings can be all around us but we can miss them – why sit and die? – if we're going to die let's try to live! For every problem there is something to do and with every blessing there is opportunity and responsibility. He presented a seminar based on the fact that teachers are bridge-builders – ministers of reconciliation. He stated, "Teachers must take the class on a journey from the present, back to the past, forward to the present, then into the future."
Faith Crumbly, editor of the LEAD Sabbath School magazine, emphasised that teaching should be relevant, fun, interactive and exciting which she demonstrated particularly well. Much interaction and role play took place which everyone enjoyed.

The attendees were able to go back to their churches enthused and with a new vision which augurs well for the future of the Sabbath School!

**CRB ONLINE PAPERLESS DISCLOSURE APPLICATION PROCESS**

We are pleased to announce that this system is now up and running. Local church Child Safety Representatives in England and Wales are now able to access this system via the web link, username and password provided by their local Conference or Mission nominated person:

NEC – Yvonne Weekes and Paul Haworth
SEC – Tanya Grant and Paul Lockham
Welsh Mission – Clyde Moore
BUC – Judith Willis and Eric Lowe

Existing users of the previous online system who have an existing username and password will be able to use this for their initial log in. However they will need to change their details using the 'Edit My Profile' menu before logging out. The web link to the new paperless system is: [https://seventhdayadventist.disclosures.co.uk/php/index.php](https://seventhdayadventist.disclosures.co.uk/php/index.php).

**MESSENGER HIGHLIGHTS WORK IN MONGOLIA**

The 18 February 2011 Messenger, Journal of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the UK and Ireland, highlights the tremendous work that ADRA is doing with a hidden problem in Mongolia. Want to know about Adventists in business? Read the feature on ASI. Then celebrate in the news pages with anniversaries, baptisms and outreach initiatives.

**THIS WEEK ON THE HOPE CHANNEL**

Remember to retune your set-top box for the latest offerings on the new schedule for Hope Channel Europe. Visit the Hope TV website for details. There will be further adjustments to the English schedule in the next few weeks in order to bring some of your favourite programmes into prime time. Thank you for your suggestions on key programmes that you would like in the schedule. More suggestions are still welcomed.

This coming week on 'In Conversation':
Friday 18 February: 8:00 pm: Pat Eastwood – Family, homesickness and mission.
Sabbath 19 February: 12:30 am: Pat Eastwood
Monday 21 February: 9:00 pm: Marjukka Ostrovljanovic – Teenage drug user to pastoral counsellor.
Wednesday 23 February: 8:00 am and 8:30 pm: Marjukka Ostrovljanovic
Friday 25 February: 8:00 pm: Marjukka Ostrovljanovic
Sabbath 26 February: 12:30 am: Marjukka Ostrovljanovic

**COMING EVENTS**
For a full listing of coming events visit <www.adventistevents.org.uk>. New events are added on a daily basis.

'VISIONARY - 'READING IS THE KEY...' Continuing to Friday, 25 February. 'Visionary', Willesden's premiere Book Club will run monthly on the 2nd and 3rd Saturday for under 18s. It will also run at the same time for adults every 3rd Saturday. Additionally, 'Visionary' will be convening during half-term week from Monday 21 – Thursday 24 February between 10:00 am and 12:15pm. On Friday 25 February there will be a Book Bonanza from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm. Venue: Willesden Adventist Church, Glebe Road, Corner Pound Lane, London, NW10 2JD. Contact: Norma Whyte <power77force@yahoo.co.uk>. Phone: 07930245438.

THE HEAVENS DECLARE. Continuing to Thursday, 31 March. Popular talks about the universe with lessons about God's character and dealings with mankind drawn from planets, stars, and galaxies. Every Thursday evening at 7:30 pm at the Coleraine Seventh-day Adventist Church, Ratheane Avenue, Mountsandel, Coleraine. Speaker: Pastor Dr Mart de Groot, a former director of the Armagh Observatory. Contact: Mart de Groot <mart.degroot@gmail.com>. Phone: 02838 871252.

BUC SONG WRITER'S RETREAT. Friday, 18 February to Sunday, 20 February. "A call to gather together musicians, poets, lyricists, composers, arrangers, and others of like mind, to encourage the development and use of this gift in the edification of the church." For full details email Diana Sinclair or check the website below. Contact: Diana Sinclair <musicadvisor@me.com>. Phone: 07886203696.

THINK HEALTH. Sabbath, 19 February to Sunday, 20 February. International speaker, medical missionary and literature evangelist Nyse Collins is special guest at Ebenezer Adventist Community Church, Garfield Community Centre, 64 Garfield Road, Battersea, London, SW11 5PN. Nyse will be delivering presentations on various topics of health that many will find informative and very beneficial. You are warmly invited to this special event! Contact: Jo Anderson <info@dorcasprovider.com>. Phone: 0207 924 5602.

RAISE THE ROOF 2 CONCERT. Saturday, 19 February. An evening of Gospel music. Guest artists: Mahali Selepe (female Gospel soloist), Matthew Lombart (male soloist), Inspired Redemption, The Faith Vocal (Brazilian group), Joshua Bengiman (saxophonist) and local groups. A fundraising event to build a Youth Hall for the Micklefield Community. Venue: St Andrews Church, Hatters Lane, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP13 7NJ. Single tickets £5.00, Family (4) £18.00. Refreshments on sale. Further details: 07855432750. Contact: Des Thomas <desjthomas@hotmail.co.uk>.

COMMUNITY MINISTRIES TRAINING. Sunday, 20 February & Tuesday, 22 February. Educate/Empower/Mingle – this is the objective for Community Ministries leaders and teams training on Sunday, 20 February at 9:30 am at Holloway Adventist church, N7 0RN. Cost only £5 for meals and refreshments. Come and be equipped for your 'Know your Health Numbers' at your health expo. Peak flow and Spirometry training delivered by respiratory specialist. How to use the spirometer. What do the numbers mean? When and how to refer. Date: Tuesday, 22 February at 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm at the Advent Centre, Room 2. Phone or email to register your interest: Elsie Staples <staple@secadventist.org.uk>. Phone: 0207 224 8997.

PRAYER & FAITH CONFERENCE III. Monday, 21 February to Friday, 25 February. The much anticipated annual Area 5 Teens Prayer and Faith Conference is here again, a socio-spiritual event designed for teenagers to develop/renew a deeper relationship with God, living a more purposeful life, through prayer, empowerment seminars, personal testimonies, and recreational team activities. The perfect place for every teen to spend their February half-term holiday. Invite your non-church friends (for 13-19-year-olds). Apply now @ www.tvyf.org. Contact: Julian Thompson <tvyled@gmail.com>. Phone: 07988597804.

HEALTH MINISTRIES DAY: CAMP HILL CHURCH BIRMINGHAM. Sabbath, 26 February. Sabbath School 9:30 am. Theme: Self Esteem. Divine (11:00) and the AY services (16:00) will be led by Nyse Collins, owner at NyseLife Consultants Inc., a renowned health and wellness speaker.
Nyse will cover various aspects of healthful living on the Sabbath and undertake a cooking school session on 27 February. This will start at 2:00 pm for approximately 4 hours. Entrance to all sessions is free; an offering will be taken up to help with Bro Collins' expenses. Contact: J Bell <jhb@doctors.org.uk>. Telephone: 0780 0761612.

SPORTS EVENING WITH CAMP HILL CHURCH BIRMINGHAM. Saturday, 26 February. Everyone needs to get fit and stay fit. You and your friends are invited to a fitness evening to be held at the Calthorpe School, Darwin St, Birmingham, West Midlands, B12 0TJ. 0121 773 4637 – for map see www.calthorpe.bham.sch.uk/. Time: 6:30-10:30 pm. Cost: £2 for adults, £1 for children (5-15 years of age). Under 5's are free. Sports will include: badminton, aerobics, fitness suite, swimming, football, basketball. There will also be a seminar on Back Pain Management during this event. Contact: J Bell <jhb@doctors.org.uk>. Phone: 0780 0761612.

LIGHT OF HOPE INTERNATIONAL FUNDRAISING CONCERT. Saturday, 26 February. Light of Hope International (LOHI) is a registered charity providing education, healthcare in Sierra Leone and an orphanage in Zambia. We want to raise £5,000 to complete the building of a health centre in Sierra Leone. Please support us on 26 February, 7:00 pm at Peckham Adventist church. Contact Laura Neale for more details <lneale2@yahoo.com>. Phone: 07954993044.

ADRA AGENTS' WORKSHOP. Sunday, 27 February. Training for ADRA agents for this year's Annual Appeal, from 10:30 am – 1:00 pm at Brixton church. Contact: Terry Messenger <tmessenger@secadventist.org.uk>. Phone: 01923 232728.

HEALTH MINISTRIES COOKING SCHOOL WITH NYSE COLLINS. Sunday, 27 February. Nyse Collins, the owner at NyseLife Consultants Inc will undertake a cooking school using his knowledge and skills. This event is open to everyone. Learn how to get the most from your food and tips on how to lose weight. Tasters included. Time: 2:00 pm 'til 6:00 pm. Place: Camp Hill Adventist Church, Old Camp Hill, Sparkbrook Birmingham, B12 0JP. Contact: J Bell <jhb@doctors.org.uk>. Phone: 0780 0761612.

IGNITE THE SPIRIT. Wednesday, 2 March to Wednesday, 30 March. Come and experience 'Ignite the Spirit' at Hackney Seventh-day Adventist church, 164 Haggerston Road, London, E8 4JA. Time: 7:30 pm. A series of lively special Wednesday night prayer meetings where we will learn God's purpose and intentions for our lives – running every Wednesday, 2 to 30 March. Featuring guest speaker: Ray Patrick. For more info contact: Patricia Campbell, 07946 317 891. (Programme sponsored by the Hackney Personal Ministries department). Contact: Pastor Chitura <s.chitura@btinternet.com>. Phone: 07956013615.

YOUTH WEEK OF PRAYER (HOPE COMMUNITY BECKENHAM). Sabbath, 5 March to Sabbath, 12 March. Guest speaker: Andrew Fuller who will join us for the week. There will be a Youth Day on 12 March which will include a fellowship lunch, praise and reflection service and a social. All are welcome. Venue: The Pabya Centre, 56 Churchfields Road, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 4QW. Contact: Deslynnne Roberts <deslynner@hotmail.com>. Phone: 07961 814 871.

SPECIALLY FOR WOMEN ~ TRAINING DAY DOMESTIC ABUSE. Sunday, 6 March. As part of the EnditNow campaign, this training day includes such topics as 'Finding out about domestic abuse', 'Patterns of abuse', 'Listening to Victim's voices', and includes discussion about what we can do about it. To be held at Dundee Adventist church from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Lunch will be provided – please let us know how many are coming from your church. Contact the Scottish Mission office: Mrs C Peacock <office@sdascotland.com>. Phone: 01764 653257.

JUMBLE SALE AT STANBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL. Sunday, 6 March. Jumble Sale at Stanborough Primary and Nursery School: 12 noon – 2:00 pm, at Appletree Walk, Watford, WD25 0DQ, with profits going to fund the new all-weather surface of the school's playground. You will find bargains for the whole family at our stalls: books, clothes, china, cakes, children's toys and excellent value cafe lunches. Come early to get the best deals! Contact: Helia Mateus <helia.mateus@gmail.com>. Phone: 07702408994.
SMALL ADS

£45 REGISTRATION FEE FOR BUC YOUTH CONGRESS – time is running out! Hurry to register for the BUC i–Change Youth Congress at the reduced price of £45. After 1 March, prices will be increasing to £60 so you don't want to miss out! Visit www.adventistyouth.org.uk/congress today to register.

CAN ISAAC TALK HIS WAY INTO YOUR HEART? Isaac is 5 and has blossomed living with his great grandmother who he calls "nanny" but due to her advancing age she is no longer able to look after him. Nanny, who will remain in good contact with Isaac, describes him as a happy, chatty, energetic and affectionate child. He is sociable and contented but can be shy and quiet too. He enjoys outdoor activities like going to the park, climbing and riding his bike. He also likes to draw, play with his train set and Nintendo DS game. Isaac is Black British of Jamaican origin and needs a permanent family to reflect his cultural background, either in a one or two parent family where he could be the youngest child. Could YOU be his forever family? For further information please contact Ruth Montoute on 020 8356 6318 or email ruth.valentine-montoute@hackney.gov.uk. London Borough of Hackney, 1 Hillman Street, E8 1DY.


HOUSE RENTAL NEAR SIDCUP: Unfurnished chalet style semi detached family home available to rent from 7 May 2011. 4/5 bedrooms, lounge, dining room, wonderful kitchen, garage and 100ft rear garden, all within easy reach of very sought after schools, bus stops, Sidcup and New Eltham train station, shops and all other local amenities. Monthly rent: £1,350. One month deposit is required for a minimum of 12 months contract. A reference is also required. For further information please contact Geneva on 07919221355.

ITALIAN LESSONS. Irena Markova offers Italian lessons as a holiday language in the Watford area. Also speaking, reading and writing at all levels. Contact her at: <irenamarkova88@gmail.com> or 07785323318.

VIOLIN AND MANDOLIN LESSONS FOR CHILDREN. Discover the art of the Violin and one of the most beautiful but sadly forgotten instruments, the Mandolin! Do not miss the opportunity. You might have a very talented child... (instruments provided). Contact: Emanuil Markov, fluence88@gmail.com, 07785323318. (Watford area).

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