COURAGE, HUMOUR AND HIGH DRAMA AT SEC SESSION

Courage, humour and high drama all found their place at the 61st Session of the South England Conference, 1 - 4 September at Warwick University. For some it was courage just to find their way across the enormous but well laid out campus, for others the courage to deal with difficult issues head-on in an open and transparent way. That was clearly seen on the first night when, following his President's Report, Pastor Sam Davis opened the floor for discussion on the 'hot potato' issues of 'mono-ethnic' churches as well as the proposal of the Conference that each church should donate a proportion of its Gift Aid return to assist in the purchase of a nursing home for the elderly. Both subjects provoked hot debate – which led to many delegates wondering if it would be a 'hot Session'. That was especially true as the motions on both issues were rejected by the delegation. [See separate article on mono-ethnic churches.]

However, that courage was balanced throughout the Session by a warm Christian humour that pervaded the worship periods, the debates, and the atmosphere outside the hall. It was the first time that recently appointed BUC President, Pastor Ian Sweeney, had to oversee a Conference Session but he told the delegates, "this is where your Christianity is really seen. It is easy to be a Christian at 11 am on Sabbath morning, but your true character is seen in the way you act in a business meeting!" By Sabbath morning he was calling it 'The love Session', so impressed was he by the considerate yet perceptive debates. He told delegates, "You are the cream of the crop in the South England Conference," while clearly reminding them that "this Church is not about us. It is about reaching a lost world."

That humour was added to by Dr Jeff Brown, President of the Bermuda Conference and devotional speaker for the Session. He told delegates that they had many great speakers in their own Conference,
yet it was somehow strange that you had to leave your own country and serve abroad before you came to be recognised as a 'great speaker'! Nevertheless he preached with humility, weaving anecdotes together with Biblical values to inspire delegates to service. On Thursday he talked about the '12 delegates' led by Caleb and Joshua spying out the Promised Land and stated, "If the conditions are achievable then the conclusions are inevitable." His subsequent messages then built on the theme and led to recommitment prayers at the end of both the Friday night and Sabbath morning services.

Humour too, and courage, for the two ordinands on Sabbath afternoon who broke from tradition in their joint response. Pastors Sam Neves and Dusan Uzelac, their faces beaming, both reflected on their call to service and noted that a Serb and a Brazilian had both managed to marry 'blue eyed English beauties' who had added so much to their ministry. Pastor Sweeney turned his back on the congregation to emphasise the need for these pastors to 'feed my sheep'. Nevertheless his words brought loud amens and rounds of applause from the congregation as he talked about pastoral visitation, quality sermons and a life of commitment.

High drama was there in a number of the debates – and particularly on Saturday night and again Sunday morning when the Nominating Committee report was twice referred back. While this is the recognised democratic process it was, nevertheless, an anxious period for those who had been nominated – and for the committee itself that had worked hard in a very gracious and prayerful manner. They took quality time to listen and work through every single suggestion, ultimately revising their nominations for directors. The result was eventually voted on in an extended business session on Sunday afternoon.

But the high drama came at its best and was most memorable for the courageous decision the SEC team took to replace the traditional Sabbath School lesson study and Missions Appeal with a 90-minute drama based around the life of William Tyndale and the development of the English Bible. The fast-paced mixture of music, contemporary and historical drama, historical insights and their 21st century implications had the congregation on the edge of their seats. While the SEC Session may be remembered as 'The love Session' by some, it will almost certainly be remembered best for that unique morning of dramatic worship and the importance of the Bible in Adventist lives as we share its message of Good News in our communities.

Photos from the SEC Session can be found in the BUC Picture Gallery.
Tyndale, widely regarded as the greatest of all English Bible translators. Tyndale dared to take on the Church and defy King Henry VIII; and the King's desire for a son, which unintentionally draws him into the translation business. The drama took an educational approach as it highlighted the little known historical background to the translation process. Pastor Sam Davis, President of the South England Conference who had commissioned the piece, expressed afterwards that "our hearts burned within us" as the drama held the congregation captive. Pastor Emmanuel Osei expressed that he found the piece to be simply "Excellent". Deyonne Rodney from Holloway church described it as "A great Religious Education", while Lorna Douglas from Kings Cross said "it was a fantastic use of poetry, it wasn't overbearing but very understandable and provided lots of information I didn't know before." Pastor Patrick Johnson from Newbold had seen the piece the previous week as it was performed at Newbold church, claimed he was still on the edge of his seat the second time.

The masterful blend of historical period drama in full costume with contemporary poetry was written and directed by Mervyn Weir. The gospel group "By Faith" arranged several of the harmonies themselves as they skilfully weaved acappella variations on "Give me the Bible" into the production. "Fired Up" clearly highlighted the passion Tyndale had for translating the Bible into the English language so that even the plough boy in the field could read it – a passion he was willing to die for. The conclusion begged the question as to how many today share such a living passion.

Pastor Sweeney highlighted later in his sermon that the drama had "an evangelistic focus as the music took us from give ME the Bible to conclude with Give THEM the Bible."

"Fired Up" concluded with a charge to "go out and live the Word". Following standing ovations and applause both speakers and delegates kept referring to this as one of the unforgettable highlights of the Session, drawing our focus to the living Word, and how we are to live the Word.

To tie in with the production, the Bible Society was able to present some facts tied into how we have the Bible here today but so many language groups still do not have the Bible in their language, underlining the plea brought forth in the singing to "Give them the Bible".

'Mono-ethnic Churches in the SEC' [Nana Sifa Twum]

The debate on whether or not Adventist churches in England could be formed on national or ethnic lines, particularly with regards to naming and the use of language, was concluded at the 61st Session of the South England Conference at Warwick University.

Over the last few years this has been a growing concern from some quarters of our dear church. "What might be the outcome of the ever-increasing huge number of churches, which are of predominantly ethnic background?" On a
number of occasions this delicate issue has been raised at church meetings and conferences, as it were, to collate ideas from members on the type of impact, positive or otherwise that such churches will have on the Adventist Church and its mission, particularly here in England. It is a valid discussion and one that Pastor Sam Davis encouraged immediately after the President's Report on the opening night of the Session, Thursday, 1 September.

The previous Plans Committee had made a recommendation on the issue to the Conference Executive Committee who proposed in part that "in the next four years, mono-ethnic churches be encouraged to move to a situation where their Divine Service can be conducted in English." It further proposed "To encourage our mono-ethnic churches to choose names that are inclusive rather than exclusive so that our churches can truly represent the gospel to the 'whosoever' will."

When the issue was raised two long queues immediately formed in front of the question microphones, each wanting to be part of the discussion.

Elder Samuel Adjei Owusu from the London Ghana church catalogued the importance of churches with such identity. He noted that many Ghanaian Adventists in certain parts of the world have backslid because they find they do not fit in other English-speaking churches due primarily to language and cultural barriers. For him London Ghana is the fastest growing church due to the fact everyone, irrespective of background and culture, is free to use whatever language and culture in worshipping. Before the next speaker, SEC Ministerial Association director, Pastor Emmanuel Osei moved that the issues be dropped and discussions on it be set aside. Pastor Davis told the 526 delegates that the time was not ripe to further look at the issues due chiefly to its sensitivity.

Talking with delegates afterwards it was clear that some were unclear as to what happens in mono-ethnic churches and that sometimes argument and debate is based on misinformation. There is clearly work to be done here – but most importantly all churches need a strategy that helps them to be a positive witness in the communities within which they are called.

SNIPPETS FROM THE SEC SESSION

Often what happens outside the conference hall is as exciting as the proceedings inside. That was true for the 'sisters in ministry' that met together for a mini-conference over Sabbath dinner. Pastor Audrey Andersson, Trans-European Division Executive Secretary, who also has Women Clergy as part of her portfolio, joined the fellowship sharing her wisdom and encouragement. As always when the women clergy come together they include those who have completed ministerial studies and work as Bible Workers. The discussion was filled with encouragement, news and laughter and concluded in prayer. The fellowship implemented Pastor's Sweeney reiteration that this indeed was 'The Love Session'.

Inside the hall things sometimes take an unusual twist. Outgoing Pathfinder director, Pastor Nathan Stickland burst into song sharing the joys of Pathfinder ministry to the tune of 'God Save the Queen' – and eventually finding that if he wanted a phone answered, he would have to do it himself. Now serving as BUC Youth director he is worried that his musical report has set a standard for the future.

It is the future that now fills the minds of those newly appointed to office. Pastor Terry Messenger states, "It is a great honour and a
privilege to have been elected as Executive Secretary. I do not consider myself worthy but will endeavour to do my best to serve the South England Conference." What would he like to see for the future? "I long to see the Church working together in unity to accomplish the task of broadcasting the message of the three angels to every man, woman and child in our territory. We need to present our message in such a way that many of the different ethnicities as well as the host population can receive the message according to their own cultural bias. This means we will need to be innovative in how we present the everlasting gospel to these different people groups. The message remains the same but methods can change and adapt according to the local situation."

Pastor Kevin Johns takes on the role of Pathfinder director. He says, "My vision is to see every young person of the appropriate age involved in Pathfinders/Adventurers, helping them to make a decision for Jesus and to use Pathfinders/Adventurers as a means to introduce young people in the community, ultimately, to Jesus Christ." His priority is to help churches that do not have a club to get one started and to help established clubs improve their programmes. He adds, "I have a passion for growth of clubs that meet the needs of our youth."

Pastor Kirsten Øster-Lundqvist accepted oversight of the Communication Department stating, "We worship a God who desires to communicate His love and salvation to mankind. As such my vision is to train church members and pastors/leaders to facilitate better communications and intentional usage of media and technologies as evangelistic outreach." Working with her team she looks to increasing the online presence of churches, to manage digital identity and to liaise with other Adventist media entities to build on the SEC's media and communications work. She says, "My prayer is that as a Church we will communicate our Saviour and His soon coming in a manner that draws people to Him."

Due to space constraints we will post more from the SEC directors next week, but Pastor Messenger perhaps sums up the needs for the next four years: "I believe that exciting and challenging times are ahead. Many of us don't attempt great things for God because we are paralyzed by fear – but my challenge to all of us is to feel the fear and do it anyway! We need not fear as Jesus has promised to be with His people always – even until the end of the world (Matt 28:20). There is a glorious future ahead – may we all be part of it."

FORGET THE RIOTS – SHARE THE LOVE [Maureen Rock]

While demonstrations and marches are banned in parts of London following the recent riots, the Seventh-day Adventist church in Brixton was positively encouraged to take to the streets, on Sabbath 3 September. Intern pastor, Maureen Rock states, "Brixton church has developed a good relationship with our local Safer Neighbourhoods Team (SNT) over the past three years and they wanted us to do the march this year as a positive and spiritual response to the violent crime in our area."

This is our third year members have marched through the streets of Brixton. "It is our community," Maureen states, adding, "The march is a positive and helpful attempt to raise the profile of the church in the
community." In addition the march clearly demonstrates to the local people that there are young people who choose to live their lives with an absence of crime. The march climaxes with an open air service at Windrush Square, the heart of Brixton. Maureen says, "It is always well received by those who pass by and stop for a while."

The local Guardian newspaper in Brixton was impressed noting the positive step the church was taking in conjunction with Lambeth Black Families Forum, the 'Not Another Drop' campaign and Lambeth police. Noting that over 80 people have been killed by gun and knife crime in Lambeth over the past ten years the paper quoted Chief Inspector Patrick Beynon as saying, "The community should unite together as we have seen today. Everyone can play a part in helping to make Lambeth a safer place to live." The local police are fully aware that Brixton church has the good of the community in mind.

For Brixton church this is more than a march. They have invited the SNT to Brixton church to talk about ways members can protect our young people. The church is planning to work closely with them in future projects such as rejuvenating local community gardens. There is also a direct result from the march. Maureen states, "following the Sabbath march, we had a mum and her two teenage daughters attend our Tuesday Bible study class."

Brixton is not a church to stand still on the sidelines. They have already embraced the SEC Relay 2012 Evangelism initiative which they will launch this Sabbath, 10 September. They are initially preparing to carry our door-to-door visitation, Bible studies, small group and spiritual guardianship ministries. They also hold daytime prayer services every Tuesdays between 11:00 am - 12 noon. Maureen has the total support of her membership when she says, "We pray that these programmes will help us to make direct contact with the community and provide a support group for those who choose to join our congregation. The opening of our church doors during the day for prayers is also aimed at allowing the community to see Brixton Seventh-day Adventist church as a place where they can come in to find peace and spiritual support."

**LEAVE A LEGACY: BUC EDUCATION CONFERENCE** [Anne Pilmoor, BUC Education Director]

A new Bible curriculum for Adventist Schools, the result of many months of planning, was launched at the opening session of the BUC Education Conference, Tuesday, 30 August at Staverton Park, Northants.

On receiving the new Encounter Bible Curriculum one teacher strode to the front of the room stating, "I've been waiting for this for ten years… and I'm so excited. This is the best thing that has come to our schools." Some of her colleagues cheered, others smiled and nodded as she had just articulated their sentiment too.

After months of negotiation, planning and preparation between the BUC Education department and the Education department in the Australia Union Conference, teachers benefited hugely from the training they received from Lanelle Cobbin, the curriculum designer who wrote and co-wrote many of the units and Nina Atcheson, a leader on secondary school curriculum design who led a powerful and practical session on critical thinking. Her breakout sessions for the secondary school RE teachers opened their minds to the true potential of the programme. Teachers found the time spent on coming to know and
understand its philosophical underpinning valuable. This included a clearly defined spiritual formation model, a transformational learning framework which encompassed cutting edge theory on learning and critical thinking.

Smart teachers would have noticed that the entire programme was modelled on the learning framework, starting from 'learner bait' and closing with the celebration of the learning. A vast range of applied activities kept the pace brisk and facilitated engagement and active learning. There was good evidence that the critical thinking component would provide the intellectual rigour so often found to be lacking in other Religious Education programmes. Crucially, the programme facilitates emotional development too through 'heart learning'.

The British Union Conference has generously made all the resources available to Adventist schools. "After all, if we want schools to fulfil the mission of the Church, we have to give our schools the best possible tools to make it happen," commented Anne Pilmoor. "This exciting programme certainly meets Ellen White's bidding: 'the teaching of religion should have our freshest thought, the best methods and our most earnest effort.' My dream is for this learning model to be applied across all our academic disciplines. If all our schools were brave enough to do so, I guarantee we would turn out genuine scholars, deep thinkers. We'd offer a truly unique product and Her Majesty's Inspectorate would be begging for samples!"

The three intense days of training provided an excellent example of 'Adventist Education at its Best'.

WEST MIDLANDS CELEBRATE DIVERSITY  [Wilfred Masih/Sydney Almeida]

There is no church more diverse than that of Seventh-day Adventists in the British Isles. That was clearly seen on Sabbath, 3 September 2011 in a Day of Celebration of Diversity. This special gathering of Adventist church members and friends brought fellowship, worship and praise to God in unity at the West Bromwich Town Hall, in the West Midlands. It was an opportunity to broaden our worship experience with Christians from different parts of the world.

The morning Bible discussion focused on our understanding of what worship means, including where music is involved. We were then blessed with a heart-warming message of encouragement by Pastor Don McFarlane as the outgoing President of the British Union Conference. He reminded the audience that during those times in our lives when storms gather, we are to trust implicitly in Jesus Christ who will calm those storms. He also reminded us how we are visited by angels in the form of men who protect us and keep us in their care.

Lunch brought a distinct flavour from the Indian subcontinent, then it was time to experience worship through music from around the world. Singers and musicians had travelled from as far as Liverpool and London to join together in collective musical worship and praise, showcasing the diversity of musical talent within the Adventist Church in Britain. Recognising those talents, special appreciation awards were given to Jeharna South (Solo Artist), Faith Vocal (Group) and Nightingales (International). A similar event is now being planned for next year.

ADRA INCREASES AID TO HORN OF AFRICA  [Tom Pignon, Programmes Officer, ADRA-UK ]

People continue to suffer in the Horn of Africa as the drought continues and famine spreads to new areas in Somalia. In addition to the US$20,000 that ADRA-UK had already given to the response, we have just released a further $40,000 that has been raised through the
generosity of our supporters. This money will support two new projects that ADRA is starting next week.

In Somalia ADRA will provide life-saving assistance to almost 800 vulnerable drought-affected families. This will involve providing food (rice, sugar, beans, oil and salt) for these families over the next three months to help them through this critical period.

The additional money raised by ADRA-UK will also go to support the work of ADRA in Ethiopia. Here we are reducing the suffering of households who lack access to sufficient quantities of water caused by the drought. In addition to providing water for over 1,300 families we are working to protect the 4,000 livestock of these communities to ensure that these families can once again depend on their livestock after the drought.

To donate to ADRA or find out more visit <www.adra.org.uk>.

'TREASURE HUNTERS' DISCOVER THE RICHES OF FAMILY [Deborah St Cyr]

As we drove up the familiar slope into the campsite at Chapel Porth on Sunday, 21 August, my whole family was smiling. We had arrived! The air was cleaner, the sun was shining and it was calm. I am not quite sure why it is but at Family Camp every greeting is attached to a hug. Families who have never met each other before embrace warmly and old friends squeeze a little more tightly as they recall pleasant memories. This included Pastor Les and Irma Ackie who both embraced us warmly as we unfolded out of the car after the very long journey.

The children took off. There was no need for rules about talking to strangers, making too much noise, or being in at a certain time. Everyone on the campsite was family and the expectation of children turning up to talk to you or your children was normal. Caravan doors are left unlocked and dependent on weather propped open so that anyone could pop in for a chat day or night.

'Auntie Millie', I don't actually know her formal name, blessed us all with her wonderful cooking of tasty vegetarian meals. As a mum I never once had to question my children as to whether they had eaten enough or were happy with the food. Seeing them run to the hall at meal times and breakfast was testament in itself.

This added to the balance of activity and rest. These included organised events to animal parks, adventure parks, the beaches and much more. However, families were also free to pursue their own interests.

Ultimately being at Family Camp was a time for getting closer to God. You couldn't help it. Throughout the week Pastor Jacques Venter presented worships that were specially planned so that children were engaged and adults could understand the treasures of the love of God. Sabbath culminated in us being led in a session of 'praise prayer' by Pastor Ackie and Pastor Simon Martin who led us on a journey to unfold Biblical treasures. The day ended with singing around the campfire.

As we said our goodbyes everyone knew that friendships had been
formed, and we all knew that we had shared something very special. As we hugged each other goodbye and piled into our cars I knew that we had just experienced family, God's family, in a very special way.

PROGRAMMES TO WATCH THIS WEEK

A choice of UK produced Adventist programmes are available for you to watch this coming week.

On Revelation TV (Sky 581 or Freesat 692) watch the following two programmes from SECmedia:

'Focus on the Future', Monday 12 September, 8:30 pm. Dr Richard de Lisser speaks with practical theologian, Steve Currow, about worship.

'Dark Room', Thursday 15 September, 8:30 pm. Sam Neves and Katie RamharackSingh review 'Transformers'.

On Hope TV you can watch a wide variety of programmes on the satellite and website including the following episodes of 'In Conversation':

Friday 9 September: 8:00 pm: Chris Rogers – A passion of life, music and faith
Sabbath 10 September: 12:30 am: Ron Lawrence – Trapped in a Christian bubble,
9:00 am: Chris Rogers, 8:00 pm: Ron Lawrence
Monday 12 September: 12:30 pm and 9:30 pm: Audrey Balderstone – More church please!
Wednesday 14 September: 7:00 am: Ken Burton – Living the music,
8:30 pm Ron Lawrence, 12:00 midnight: Audrey Balderstone
Friday 16 September: 8:00 pm: Ken Burton
Sabbath 17 September: 12:30 am: Anthony Apoku-Mensah – Supernatural powers?
9:00 am: Ken Burton, 8:00 pm: Anthony Apoku-Mensah

ERRATUM

Nathaniel Zaka of Area 6B was inadvertently omitted from the SEC Executive Committee listing in BUC News 747 Extra along with a fuller listing of director/coordinator assignments to be made by the Nominating Committee. The online version has now been corrected.

COMING EVENTS

SAYING NO TO SATAN'S ATTACK ON YOUR MARRIAGE! Continuing to Sunday, 25 September. Every Sunday @ 08.00 pm - 08.15 pm (calls cost 2p a minute on a BT line – email for pin number – healpainandrestoration@gmail.com. Attending in person: Place: Chelmsford Adventist church, 43 Roman Road, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 0HA. Time: Every Thursday @ 06.00 hours to 07.30. Contact: Rachel/Chanda <healpainandrestoration@gmail.com>.

BRECON CAMP. Friday, 9 September to Sunday, 11 September. Autumn Camp with speaker, youth worker, Steven Hulbert. A great weekend for families and youth, just outside Brecon. Contact: Jeremy Tremere <jeremytremere@yahoo.co.uk>. Phone: 02920 832559 or 07956 627233.

FAMILY LIFE DAY. Sabbath, 10 September. Wolverhampton Central Adventist Church, Warwick Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 3SD. 9:30 am till late. Paul & Carolyn Rayne from Restoration International, Montana, USA, presently appearing on 3ABN "Happy The Home" and speaking at the Stanborough Press Open Day on Sunday, 11 September. Jeharna South also appearing. Practical
family messages that will help you in your marriage, parenting and Christian walk. Contact Mora on 07734750371 or email morafaith@aol.com.

SCOTTISH MISSION DAY OF FELLOWSHIP/BIBLE CONFERENCE. Sabbath, 10 September. Venue: Wallace High School, Airthrey Road, Stirling, FK9 5HW, starting at 9:45 am, through to 4:30 pm. Main speaker, Dr John Webster from La Sierra University, USA. Special guest, Pastor Ian Sweeney, BUC President. All day event, please bring a pre-prepared packed lunch, no cooking facilities available. Contact: Carole Barratt-Peacock <office@sdascotland.com>. Phone: 01764 653257.

A DEEPER LOOK 2011. Sabbath, 10 September to Sabbath, 24 September. Take 'A Deeper Look' with Pastor Dane Fletcher and Pastor Paula Olivier. 10 - 24 September at Chiswick Adventist church, Stamford Brook Road, London, W6 0XW. Sabbaths 11 am and 4:30 pm; Sundays 6 pm; Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays 7:15 pm – every night a different topic. See the website for further details. Contact: G Christopher <adl@chiswicksda.org.uk>. Phone: 020 8741 8767.

"REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY TO KEEP IT HOLY" MARCH. Sabbath, 10 September. Sydenham Youth department will be sharing the Sabbath truth with our community by marching on Sabbath, 10 September at 1 pm. Those who want to support but are not able to walk can still take part at information points strategically placed through the entire length of the walk. For more details please contact Emil on 07506370513 or emil.day@live.com.

DERBY BETHEL FOOTPRINTS MUSIC PROJECT FUNDRAISING CONCERT. Saturday, 10 September. Footprints is a voluntary project that project provides opportunity for children in the local area of the church to learn to play musical instruments. Refreshments on sale. If you can't attend, donations still greatly appreciated. Time 7 pm. Venue: The Derby West Indian Community Centre, Carrington St, Derby, DE1 2ND. Entry by ticket only until 7.30 pm. Pay at the door after 7.30 pm. Tickets can be purchased from Lavern: 07792097805, Leanna: 07904803715, Winston: 07788868044. Contact: Adella Grignon <adella.grignon@btinternet.com>. Phone: 07806062024.

LONDON COACH TO PRESS OPEN DAY. Sunday, 11 September. There will be a coach trip to Grantham, Lincolnshire for the annual book sale on Sunday, 11 September at 06.45 am sharp! Venue: Outside Southall police station, Southall, Middlesex, UB1 3HG. The coach will depart Grantham at 16.30 hours. For more information and to secure your seat, contact Brenda Campbell on the details below. Hurry as seats are limited! Contact: Brenda Campbell <baadooey@yahoo.co.uk>. Phone: 07931 149538.

NEWBOLD’S FOUNDATIONS OF WORSHIP 20 CREDIT COURSE. Tuesday, 13 September to Tuesday, 13 December. Do you want to improve the music and worship in your church? Develop your musical skills to a high level? Sense God's calling to worship ministry? Would you like to plan and lead worship with greater understanding, theological insight, technical, creative and artistic skill? This higher education course that combines theology, worship and music. Module: Foundations of Worship. Venue: Advent Centre, 37 Brendon Street, London, W1H 5JE. Time: Tuesdays (starting 13 September), 6:45 - 9:30 pm. For: Worship leaders, musicians, music directors, and others interested in what the Bible has to say about Worship. Contact: Pastor Gifford Rhamie <grhamie@newbold.ac.uk>. Phone: 07877 657783.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST SINGLES' RETREAT. Friday, 16 September to Sunday, 18 September. Hosted by Cambridge Singles Ministry you are invited to a weekend of spiritual revival and fellowship. Deepen your experience with God and broaden your friendship network. Venue: De Vere Hotel, Lieutenant Ellis Way, Cheshunt, EN7 5HW. Cost: £125.00, all inclusive. Spaces limited! Book now! Contact us for more details. Contact: Carol Augustine <ethan40@talktalk.net>. Phone: 07968364687.

LIFE CONNECT. Friday, 16 September to Sunday, 18 September. The LIFEconnect project is a BUC/TED initiative aimed at placing the gospel at the crossroads of society using social media and the internet to form digital connections that lead to real discipleship. The lifeconnect.org.uk website is
being developed as a place to host articles, start conversations, and lead to dialogue and the sharing of
our faith. This training at the BUC Office is for those interested in becoming digital missionaries.
Cost: only £20+ travel expenses. All food and accommodation (where necessary) will be met by the
LIFEmeet team. Contact: Andrew <awillis@adventist.org.uk>. Phone: 01923 672666.

"THE CASE FOR CREATION/INTELLIGENT DESIGN". Sabbath, 17 September. ASI-UK Diary
Date: Newbold College, Binfield, Berks, RG42 4AN. An afternoon seminar following morning
worship together. Two eminent scientists: John Walton and Alistair Noble. Cost: Nil. Bring a packed
lunch. Everyone very welcome. Contact: C Manners-Smith <manners-smith@ntlworld.com>.
Phone: 07790 452920.

LIVING WATERS: STREAMS OF LIFE. Sabbath, 17 September. Dr Mable Dunbar is the author of
'Loved and Empowered', the General Conference, Abuse Prevention Day resource pack and founder of
the Women's Healing and Empowerment Network in the USA. She and Pastor Barrington Brennen, a
marriage and family therapist and a counselling psychologist are speakers at this special day of
worship at the Renewal Centre, near Birmingham. Both speakers will share their experience in
providing help and support to members of our church and members of the community. This is also the
launch of the Women's Healing and Empowerment Network, UK and the WHEL prayer helpline.
Contact: Joan Saunders <joan.saunders@whenetwork.org.uk>. Phone: 0121 288 0613.

"HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS?" Sabbath, 17 September to Sabbath, 1 October. An evangelistic
campaign with Pastor Roger Morris from Trinidad, will take place at Stratford church, 58 Janson
Road, London, E15 1TE. Come and hear the news and be inspired. Contact Ros on 07940776147 for
further information. Email: <rosmond.farrell@btinternet.com>.

A BOWL OF HOT CHILLI SOUP. Sabbath, 17 September. An evening of song, poetry, humour and
drama on life's spicy topic of love and relationships. Christian artists you know and love plus some
you will meet for the first time. A fundraising event for the WHEL prayer helpline. Tickets £3.00.
Contact: Joan Saunders <joan.saunders@whenetwork.org.uk>. Phone: 0121 288 0613.

LET'S TALK ABOUT OUR ISSUES. Sunday, 18 September to Sunday, 25 September. "Let's talk
about our issues" Women's Ministries Week at Holloway Adventist Church, 381 Holloway Road,
London, N7 0RN. Each day we will be addressing different issues that women go through and the
support available to them. 7:00 pm nightly except Thursday. Sunday 25 September: Prayer Breakfast,
8:30 am. Contact: Lina Castor <communications@myholloway.org>. Phone: 07852353881.

BANBRIDGE, NORTHERN IRELAND, ANNIVERSARY: 120 YEARS. Friday, 23 September-
Sabbath, 24 September. We invite friends of the congregation from far and wide to join us.
Programme: Friday: 19:00 - 21:00: Remembering 120 years; speaker - Pastor John Ferguson.
Sabbath, 10:30 - 13:00: Remembering 30 years; speaker - Pastor Ron C Edwards. Potluck then 15:00
Baptism Service. Contact: Weiers Coetser <weiers@adventist.ie>. Phone: 02840627782.

SOLOFEST DAY OF FELLOWSHIP FOR UNATTACHED CHRISTIANS. Sabbath, 24 September
to Sunday, 25 September. A Day of Fellowship for unattached Christians. It's time to possess the
land! Inspirational worship, dynamic speakers, thought provoking workshops; a forum for change!
Fellowship lunch. Balham Adventist church, 83 Elmfield Road, London, SW17 8AD. Followed by
the Socialight Games Night @ 7:45 pm. For further information contact the SEC Family Ministries
department or call 07921 992 296. Contact: Socialight Ministries <susanne.kirlew@virgin.net>.
Phone: 07921 992 296.

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preferably as simple email text. All unattributed stories written by the editorial team. Coming Events and Small
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