RECORD CROWDS AT SEC EVANGELISM EXPO

There was hardly room to move on a packed Newbold Campus on Sunday, 15 January for the South England Conference 'Evangelism Expo 2012'.

"Church members are keen on evangelism and are ready to serve," enthused Pastor Sam Davis, SEC President, as a record-breaking 1500 people attended seminars and workshops in Newbold church and college, and listen to a variety of speakers. That included a morning devotional by Pastor Frederick Russell which, according to Pastor Michael Anim, "was spiritually fulfilling," stating that it "really hit the spot and the seminars I attended truly inspired me."

Workshops were presented by Departmental directors, Pastors and Lay Workers and covered a vast array of themes from Pastor Petras Bahadur's 'Islamic Mission Taking Over Europe' presentation, to Pastor Richard de Lisser's practical guidance on 'Raising Financially Intelligent Kids'. The Education director, Opal Johnson-Christie, invited pupils from the SEC schools to share their observations and thoughts on Adventist education. The overall sentiment was that in Adventist schools the pupils learnt better values and had a sense of purpose; spirituality saturates their school experience. "This is indeed good to hear," said BUC Education director, Anne Pilmoor. "We are encouraged by the positive responses our young people have to their learning environments."

New departments, Disability Ministries and Media, spoke about the Adventist Special Needs Association (ASNA) and Online Evangelism, giving the attendees practical advice on how to reach minorities through mediums that are specific to their needs. Elsie Staple, Community Ministries and Health Ministries director, spoke of how excited she is about the community work happening in Ipswich church. Practical testimony came from a homeless man who shared how he has become part of their community.
Jadanna Jones, a Youth Worker at Newbold church stated that "The Teen seminars gave us all great, practical advice and left us with a sense of approachability. They made it clear that there was an open door policy when it came to joining the Teens' Advisory; young or old can be part of the work they do." She added, "One great idea was mentoring; making it possible for older, experienced church members to get to know the young people, personally."

A special focus was placed on the Olympic 2012 programme, detailing how members can evangelise and use different types of outreach in the lead-up to, and during, this summer. Karen Burnett from Ilford church stated, "I enjoyed the workshop on the Olympics, it was mind-blowing stuff! It's an interesting and massive project and through it we have the potential to interact and witness to a huge number of people coming to the UK. It was definitely inspiring."

To highlight the Book from where all evangelism originates, Mervyn Weir presented his production, 'Fired Up', during the afternoon programme. The drama tracks how the King James Version of the Bible came about and how it is ingrained in every part of our lives even today. The drama was first performed at the South England Conference Session, in September 2011, and has recently been filmed for cinema and DVD. A trailer for its forthcoming release is now available on the Hope Channel website (click on 'watch the trailer').

This one day in January will undoubtedly lead to many positive days throughout 2012.

A selection of photos are available in the BUC picture gallery.

MISSION IN THE IRISH MISSION [Irish Mission Communication Department]

Pastor Ian Sweeney headed back to his Irish grandfather's roots on Tuesday, 10 January. In his role as President of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the UK and Ireland he spent the day in Dublin meeting with the ministers who serve in the Irish Mission.

The visit was the latest in a series of consultations with ministers across the British Isles in which Pastor Sweeney is laying out his vision for mission. "Our primary purpose is to bring our Advent Message of hope to the people of Great Britain and Ireland." Pastor Sweeney recognised the fact that at the moment we do not seem to be as successful as we would like to be. "The growth that we experience is primarily the result of immigration to the United Kingdom and Ireland. While this is to be celebrated, it often has the potential to detract from our vision to reach out to the receiving population." Pastor Sweeney noted the trend for immigrants to want to set up carbon copies of the churches that they left from their home countries, instead of trying to shape church so that it could reach the local British and Irish population.

Pastor Sweeney commented that another challenge that we face as a church, is that we are not well known. Pastor Sweeney tells of his conversation with some Seventh-day Adventist church members who are choosing to withdraw from life in the city for religious reasons. He understands their need to move, "but their neighbours do not know why they are moving, and that is a problem!" His call to the church is that we begin to share our faith more openly, and with more vigour and creativity than we have in the past. We need to become more visible to our communities. "Our problem is not so much that we are persecuted," says Pastor Sweeney, "our would-be persecutors just do not know that we exist."
The comments generated animated discussion amongst the Irish Mission pastors who were trying to relate to the presentation from within their own context. Pastor Gavin Anthony, from Dublin, responded that members of the indigenous culture find it difficult to conceive of a personal relationship with God. "They don't know how to enter into a deep spiritual relationship with God." Jeff Freeman from Cork emphasised that often our liaisons with the community cannot happen along traditional evangelistic lines. "We need to make ourselves available to enter into relationships with people where they are." The day had become a meaningful dialogue, and while the pastors sat down for a shared meal of soup and sandwiches, several commented that they appreciated the non-preachy, and yet serious nature of the interactions with Pastor Sweeney. Everybody seemed to have gained a little inspiration to return to their districts to shape their congregations to engage in this important work.

**A BAPTISM? NO KIDDING!**

'Kids in Discipleship' (KID) has been running in the UK since 2006 and is having a significant impact on the lives of team leaders, parents, and most importantly, children. The programme is all about intentionally mentoring children to become disciples and those who get involved become very enthusiastic about it as can be seen by a newly released promotional video explaining what the programme is all about. It is a programme that is also starting to see great results, one of which was Olivia Rennalls' baptism at a packed Newbold church, on Sabbath 14 January – with even more people following the service online through live streaming. Her heartfelt testimony highlighted that growing up in an Adventist home, and in a vibrant Adventist church, was what had made her mind up about Jesus.

With those two elements already in her life, it turned out to be the Kids In Discipleship programme that challenged her to think about being a disciple of Jesus and decide on baptism. Four years ago, a theology student at Newbold College, Michael Bidstrup, initiated and ran KID at Newbold church, together with Eileen Beecejac. Now a pastor in Denmark, Michael has also introduced the programme there. He stated that, "Children's perspective on church changes as they learn about Jesus in a different way than in Sabbath School or Divine Service."

"The programme," continues Michael, "sees parents being transformed too as they learn skills in mentoring their children as disciples of Christ." Kids in Discipleship has been running for almost five years at Newbold church with follow-up Bible studies and baptismal studies led by the pastoral team.

Previously pastoring at Newbold church, and overseeing KID during her time there, Pastor Kirsten Øster-Lundqvist preached on how Nicodemus sat on the fence in his decision-making and how easy it is to sit in church undecided. According to Kirsten, what KID does so well is encourage conscious decision-making for God.

"KID is a programme that is running in several churches" explains SEC Family Ministries director, Leslie Ackie. "I am thrilled to hear of baptism results; they testify to the importance of family worship and intentionally teaching children about God." The next KID training programme is in May 2012 – but it is essential to register by March as spaces are limited. For more details on KID and to download the promotional video visit <http://www.adventistinfo.org.uk/departments/childrensministries.php>.
'RIGHTLY TRAINED' YOUTH LEADERS' WEEKEND  [Kevin Johns, SEC Associate Youth Director]

The 'Rightly Trained' leadership weekend, at Wokefield Park, Reading, 13-15 January 2012 saw attendance far exceeding the number of people the South England Conference Youth department expected.

The department, under the leadership of Pastor Steve Thomas and the SEC Youth Advisory, had to request an additional sixty rooms in order to accommodate the 128 young adults, 18-35+ who then found themselves motivated by the speaker and seminar presenter, Pastor Frederic Russell. Pastor Russell spent quality time with the group in seeking to motivate them to minister in church and the community by striving for excellence. He called for "Character driven leaders, leaders with a heart for ministry and leadership that transcends mediocrity."

Pastor Russell, commenting on the new initiative of the Youth department, the Young Adventist Leadership Forum and the Young Adventist Annual Leadership Awards, explained that from what he had already read, the vision and programme is going to be a Kingdom maker. He added that it can open up channels with leadership outside of the denomination as it transcends denomination boundaries. It will create a standard that is worldwide.

The group were inspired further by the second seminar presenter, Paul Thompson of Reading church. He spoke on the area of Financial Planning, building the Kingdom of God by taking care of your own financial status. Paul highlighted areas from the writings of Ellen White, co-founder of the Adventist Church, that for many years had remained dormant. This created a wow factor as the leaders realised that God had in place a system and a way of ministering while being financially prudent. Paul ended his presentation by presenting to Pastor Steve Thomas a donation for five thousand pounds in support for the new initiative earlier presented by the Youth director called the Young Adventist Leadership Forum and the Young Adventist Annual Leadership Awards.

The day began with a spirit-filled devotion, which led to praise, prayer and testimonies in adoration to our Mighty God. We were ushered into the presence of God by some excellent worship leaders. Pastor Russell's leadership sermon left every worshipper craving for more, due to the real, practical, contemporary context in which it was delivered, empowered by the Holy Spirit. One youth leader said it was the first time they had the two experiences, of spirit-filled worship and excellent leadership training, in one setting.

Additional excellent presentations from Sacha Gillin and Deslyne Roberts on 'How to organise and lead your youth department' were well appreciated, along with June Thompson and Kish Palmer opening the minds of our youth and federations leaders to the areas of Diversity and Disability.

Pastor Thomas concluded the meetings by highlighting upcoming events, especially the 'Hit London Olympic 2012' youth-led preaching campaigns.
IMPACT SOUTH CUMBRIA [BUC News with Ian Philpott]

It is a stunning place for a holiday, but with traditional values a difficult place for witness. The Adventist church has had a presence in Cumbria, a county renowned for its beautiful mountains and lakes, for over 35 years, but at last that 'small presence' is starting to grow.

When Bill and Linda Kitchen 'retired' to Cumbria they worked hard to build bridges with the community particularly in the town of Dalton where the Adventist church is based. More recently a group of young task force workers have put concerted effort into outreach in the town.

Joseph Philpott notes that during 2011 the team held a charity concert raising awareness of the South Cumbria church in the community. With singers from Manchester, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Preston and Cannock over 70 people were seated in the relatively small church including 19 members of the community. Towards the end of the concert, £374 was collected for St Mary's Hospice. Joseph states, "That really set the tone for the year."

This was followed by an 'Archaeology and the Bible' weekend with Pedja Jovanovic, from Yardley church, then later the team were joined by Newbold College theology student, James Shepley, who spent ten days with Aaron McKenzie and Joseph Philpott knocking on doors.

The main IMPACT South Cumbria took place through August. With relatively little time to prepare, the only opportunity to advertise was during Camp Meeting and a total of 3 individuals, Yohn Taylor, Chari White and Troy Smith, took part. They learnt how to knock on doors, give Bible studies and meet common objections. The following two-and-a half-weeks were spent with the three of them knocking on doors in Dalton.

Troy found two things of importance in this time: "The one thing that springs to mind when I think about my experience is the morning devotions we had before starting outreach. These devotions were highly useful in equipping me with Bible promises to claim to give me confidence whilst out on the doors which I believe were vital to fight against any discouragement which was waiting for me. Another thing which I felt was a vital part of my experience whilst on the IMPACT programme was having the opportunity to meet and socialise with like-minded young people from church. This is because as well as being an example to those we were aiming to reach outside of church I believe by partaking in programmes such as this that we are able to be an example to those in church to prove that door-to-door evangelism still works."

Chari was the only girl on the team. One of the highlights of her experience was meeting John. She began talking about God, church, Bible and also his past life. He is now in church on Sabbath and has started bringing his daughter with him. Chari says, "This has shown me by talking to a random stranger you never know how God can work in that person's life, if nothing was said and we allowed him to drive past then that opportunity would have been missed, from that day it allowed me to get involved in talking to strangers more often."

In late September South Cumbria church held a Health Expo and more friendships were made, then in November a four-week evangelistic campaign, 'Certainty in Uncertain Times' let by Joseph Philpott. Together with small groups, prayer meetings and a myriad of activities and witness, the South Cumbria Adventist church has now had a baptism with three candidates definitely committed and more indicating an interest.
Task force manager, Ian Philpot states, "Overall, I believe wholeheartedly that this IMPACT South Cumbria programme has been a huge blessing to the church and community, as well as being a success. We, at South Cumbria church, will be praying that something like this will be able to go from strength to strength and provide a place for young, as well as not-so-young people, who can come and be trained and have the opportunity to share their faith in a sceptical world." BUC President, Pastor Ian Sweeney is thrilled at what he calls this 'grass roots initiative'. "The Mission of the Church happens at local church level," he emphasises, "and so seeing this outreach touching the lives of English people just thrills me."

Troy concludes, "I would strongly recommend that anyone who is given the opportunity to actually take the chance to volunteer on this programme. It has helped me to fully know how important it is for people to be given the chance to hear God's Word. Even though there may be many rejections I have realised it's all worth it when you get the chance to speak about God to at least one person."

OLYMPIC OUTREACH: GREEN IMPACT SABBATH [Colin Stewart]

The Olympic year is more than just a time for sport. Witness during the run-up and the games can affect every part of our lives and our community. The Olympic God team is inviting church members across the UK to "Join us on Sabbath, 31 March 2012 for our, No Drive to Church Day."

The aim, according to their newsletter, is that 1000 people will walk 1000 miles, and will meet and talk to at least one unchurched person along the way. The newsletter states, "Let's demonstrate that the Seventh-day Adventist Church cares for the environment, is active and friendly, and promotes health and care for our bodies." For more details and simple plans, check out the 'Green Sabbath' newsletter. The Olympic Outreach initiative is expected to be highlighted worldwide in the 20 January edition of the Adventist News Network weekly video report.

ADVENTISTS AIM TO BUCK THE UK TREND AS UNBELIEF GROWS

Christians in England and Wales are losing ground about as fast as nonbelievers are gaining it, this according to a new government-sponsored poll reported by Religion News Service. That is a challenge to Seventh-day Adventists who strongly believe they have a vital message even for those more secular minded members of society. The government's latest Citizenship Survey reports that in the five years leading up to 2010, the percentage of declared Christians dropped by seven per cent, although they nonetheless held solid at 70 per cent.

Religious tolerance has also become an issue for many of those surveyed. Seven per cent of adults in England felt racial or religious harassment was a 'very' or 'fairly' big problem in their local area. People from ethnic minority backgrounds were more likely than white people to feel that racial or religious harassment was a 'very' or 'fairly' big problem (13 per cent compared with 6 per cent).

Forty-four per cent of people thought that there was more religious prejudice today than there was five years ago although this figure is lower than in previous surveys. Christian Concern is supporting a number of cases where Christians are facing prejudice in the workplace due to their beliefs. These can be over a range of issues such as praying with a patient in hospital, expressing personal views on Biblical values of marriage on a Facebook page and then being suspended at work for 'homophobia', or simply for wearing a cross as a symbol of faith.

In a culture where religious influence is slowly dwindling and where the humanist lobby has an agenda to reduce religious influence further, Adventist Mission is endeavouring to buck the trend with
the South England Conference releasing more ministers from traditional church districts to focus on Church Planting, with the PEACE School of Evangelism in the North England Conference and with a developing number of committed volunteers, church members and task force workers in towns and cities choosing to believe that 'this Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world', including the UK and Ireland. The statistics may be there, but God is more powerful than any statistic.

5 X 1,000 FOR BUILDING FUND [Gudrun Middleditch]

Clutching her well preserved article from MESSENGER (21 August 2009) telling of how seven-year-old Olivia Middleditch had kick-started the Loughborough Adventist church in to regular fund-raising for a church building, Etta Smith, of the Grantham church, presented Olivia with a £50 donation.

Etta told of how she was inspired by Olivia's enthusiasm and had immediately begun collecting 5 pence coins for the Loughborough church building fund. By October Etta was ready to pass on all she had collected to Olivia. At this time, however, the Loughborough church were busily rehearsing for Christmas programmes and it was January before Olivia was able to meet with Etta. During this extra time, God, as He often does, began to move 'in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform' as William Cowper put it. The Ambulance Service, Fire Brigade and the Grantham Lions Club somehow missed Etta's house when they came collecting for donations over the Christmas period so the money Etta had carefully set aside for them found its way instead in to the donation to the Loughborough church. Etta excitedly took herself and her weighty tin of 5 pence coins to the Grantham church one Sabbath where Steven Holden and his money counting machine kindly counted it for her. Fifty pounds was the combined result.

Thank you so much Etta – for your help, but more especially for encouraging our young ones to believe in the work of the church. Our thanks also go to other members of the Grantham church who pushed further donations into little hands on the day.

One day soon, we sincerely hope to be able to visit you with news of our new church and to invite you to worship the God of the impossible with us there.

ADVENTISTS IN THE NEWS

After a large news presence in the secular media over previous weeks, and much reaction from church members, there is only one, rather sad story involving an Adventist in the news. Simone Pyle, a member of Reading Central Seventh-day Adventist church had her house burgled and laptop stolen. This was reported in both the Reading and Bracknell newspapers. It was a tragic event for Simone, not just with the fear that comes when your house is invaded, but also because of some of the special memories that she had stored on her computer.

However, even in the midst of distress Simone gave a positive witness to the reporter. As a youth worker she stated, "I have seen so many of them [youth] change and seen that they can be in a bad place and come out of it. If whoever has done this is a young person I would be willing to help them if they have any issues in their life."

Well done Simone. May that spirit and witness continue.

There has also been plenty of feedback to the 'Adventists in the News' reports of previous weeks. The responses have been a mixture of positive comment and concern for the image of the Church. Perhaps
the reasons for the overall level of comment and concern is best represented by a correspondent in the East Midlands. He writes:

- It demonstrates that people care about the Church, and they don't want to see it hurt.
- It demonstrates that members care about how we present our message, that it resonates with the common man.
- It provides feedback from laymen who have a sense of ownership about the Church, and want to see our leaders get it right.
- It's an acknowledgement by laymen and some pastors about the difficulty that our leaders face in operating a small, multicultural Church.
- It provides evidence that some of our laymen and women are reflective, and whose interpretation of support may oblige them to be constructively critical.

Thank you for that care and concern. And thank you to those who choose to help to share the story of Adventists within the secular media and beyond.

**LATEST MESSENGER ONLINE**

'I hope she will be a doctor...' is the ADRA lead story in the 20 January edition of *MESSENGER*, the official journal of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the UK and Ireland. Prepare to be surprised, even if you are British, by John Surridge's insightful article, 'Mind your language', find out with Julian Hibbert about 'The deception game' and prognostications on the economic climate. Pick up your copy in a church near you or [read it online](#).

**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:

**Searching for a God to Love**, Monday, 23 January, 8:30 pm. Part of a series of presentations by Dr Chris Blake during the Newbold Week of Prayer. This week's title: 'Living on the Edge part 2 – the Discussion'. This series will also start to air on Hope Channel, Friday, 20 January at 8:30 pm.

**'Adventists In Conversation', Thursday 26 January, 8:30 pm. Michael Lattibadare** knows about trouble. Dumped by his mother at age 6, then suffering severe abuse from his father, he became a street child until a loving Adventist family took him in. Nevertheless, his teenage years saw him back on the streets of Kingston, Jamaica, and eventually on the wrong side of the law in the UK. But God never gave up on Michael and in this programme we learn how God works even in times of difficulty and rejection.

On Hope TV you can watch a wide variety of programmes on the satellite and [website](#). Next week's schedule is not yet released for the Hope Channel but here are the times for some of the UK produced programmes:

Friday 20 January: 8:00 pm: Viewpoint: [What is Truth?](#)
8:30 pm: [Searching for a God to Love](#), Centre of His business.
Sabbath 21 January: 12:00 am, 9:00 am & 8:00 pm: Viewpoint: What is Truth?
Monday 23 January: 12:30 and 9:30 pm: In Conversation from Series 2
Wednesday 25 January: 8:00 am: In Conversation from Series 3
12:00 midnight: In Conversation from Series 3
Friday 27 January: 8:00 pm: Viewpoint: What is Truth?
8:30 pm: Searching for a God to love. Centre of His business part 2.
Sabbath 28 January: 12:00 am & 9:00 am: Viewpoint: What is Truth?

COMING EVENTS

THE MEANING OF LIFE. Sabbath, 21 January & Sabbath 28, January. The Discourse on Life, Meaning and Purpose through the Book of Ecclesiastes presented by Radisa Antic PhD. This is not just for Seventh-day Adventists. It is your chance to bring along that person at work who you have never been able to invite, the neighbour you have always been meaning to ask, the clever friend who knows it all, the lost Christian or church member. You bring them, God will do the rest. Time: 3:00 pm. Where? Guildford Friends Meeting House, 3 Ward Street, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 4LH. 15 minute walk from Guildford main train station and 5 minutes from London Road Guildford train station. Head towards the market in North Street and opposite the library and to the left next to the public toilet block will be our North Street entrance. Light refreshments provided. Contact: Paul <paulanthonymcconkey@hotmail.com>. Phone: 07817324070.

HEATH LECTURE. Thursday, 26 January. Come and join us for an informative health talk on a subject affecting many of us today – "Cancer; What Are The Facts?" presented by Dr Huguette Comerasamy. A light supper will be served at 7:00 pm. Stanborough Centre, Stanborough Park Church, 609 St Albans Rd, Watford, WD25 9JL. Contact: Pat Walton <walton@groats.co.uk>. Phone: 01923 672500.

SEC TEENS DAY OF FELLOWSHIP. Sabbath, 28 January. I would like to encourage you to join our South England Conference Teens Day of Fellowship that will take place on 28 January 2012 at St Mary's Church, 245 Old Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5QT. See you there. Contact: Dejan Stojkovic <dejan@secadventist.org.uk>. Phone: 07919172176.

FILM OF OLD NEWBOLD & STANBOROUGH 1930S AND 40S. Sabbath, 28 January. Film of Old Newbold and Stanborough Park in the 1930s and 1940s. Come and take a trip down Memory Lane at 15:00 on Sabbath afternoon, 28 January. Venue: Moor Close, Newbold College, St Marks Road, Binfield, Berkshire, RG42 4AN. Contact: Kelvin Watson <kelvinwatson@uwclub.net>. Phone: 01344 452720.

SCOTTISH MISSION CHURCH OFFICERS' TRAINING DAY. Sunday, 29 January. 10:30 – 4:00 pm, at Crieff Adventist Church, Gwydyr Road, Crieff, PH7 4BS. Open to all church members, not just church officers, this is a day of workshops for everyone who is interested in the work of the church, and witnessing. Workshops planned so far include: Leadership, Prayer Ministries, Outreach, Children's Ministries, Family Ministries, Women's Ministries, Health Ministries and Communications. Guest trainers Pastor Eglan Brooks and Pastor Victor Hulbert. Lunch of soup, rolls and drinks provided. Please email Carole at office@sdascotland.com, or phone 01764 653257 if you plan to attend, so we have some idea of numbers attending, and can provide enough food.

MEETING FOR ADVENTIST CONSTRUCTION PROFESSIONALS. Sunday, 29 January. Calling all construction professionals, architects, construction managers, surveyors, project managers, town planners, health & safety professionals, estate agents, lawyers, lift engineers, civil engineers, mechanical/electrical engineers, designers, structural engineers, and developers. We are trying to establish if it is feasible to develop a Forum of Adventist Construction Professionals to serve the church. The concept is that we provide assistance/guidance to our churches at least in the first instance when they are making decisions with regard to the built environment and their church facility. Let's meet to discuss and hopefully make plans to move forward. Meeting time: 16:00. Venue: Advent Centre, 12 Crawford Place, London, W1H 5HD. Please contact Hewitt Grant on 07957 107655 or hgpropertypassion@yahoo.co.uk to register your interest. Your Church Needs You Contact: Hewitt Grant <hgpropertypassion@yahoo.co.uk>.
NEC SABBATH SCHOOL LEVEL 1 TEACHER TRAINING. Sunday, 5 February and Sunday 19, February. Presenter: Beulah Plunkett Sabbath School director. Time: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. The event will run for two Sundays: 5 & 19 February 2012. Lunch is provided. Venue: Newtown Church, Lichfield Rd, Aston, Birmingham, B6 5SX. To book a place: Call NEC Sabbath School dept on tel: 01159606312. For course information: Call 07961643597. Learn the art of teaching and facilitation; Improve your communication skills; Plan interesting and interactive lessons; Make your Sabbath Schools classes a place of learning; Help students get the most out of Bible and lesson study. Contact: Orlene Dunkley <odunkley@necadventist.org.uk>. Phone: 0115 9606312.

FEBRUARY DIVERSITY SEMINAR. Tuesday, 7 February. 'Wash me and I shall be blacker than coal' Faith, Ethnicity and Identity in British Seventh-day Adventist Discourses. A lecture by Dr William Ackah Birkbeck, University of London. Dr Ackah has been described as 'British Adventism's leading authority on ethnicity issues'. Venue: Smith Centre, Newbold College, St Mark's Road, Binfield, RG42 4AN. Time: 19:30. Everyone welcome! Contact: Helen Pearson <helenpr@newbold.ac.uk>. Phone: 07775-612610.

ASI UK CONVENTION. Friday, 10 – Sunday, 12 February. 'Evangelising Secularised Britain'. Venue: Staverton Park Hotel, Daventry Road, Staverton, NN11 6JT. Whether you are a student, recent graduate, unemployed, self-supported ministry, entrepreneur, however you categorize yourself, come and learn from God's Word and from each other how we can reach the people around us. Be Inspired and Empowered by the Holy Spirit as you hear how God has used people just like you and me to reach our secular community. Booking form and details on the website, http://www.asi-uk.info, or from Christine Manners Smith. Weekend or day rates available. Contact: Christine Manners Smith <christinemanners_smith@yahoo.com>. Phone: 07790 452920.

LOVE SAX AND ALL THAT JAZZ2 (DA MANS DEM). Saturday, 11 February to Sunday, 12 February. Focus Arts Promotions Presents 'Love Sax and all that Jazz 2' (Da Mans Dem), the sequel to the hit comedy play. Written by Alan Charles, Da Mans Dem takes an informative and humorous look at men and relationships exploring those age old questions of what do men want? Why do men cheat? And what defines a man? In chapter one the girls were explosive in chapter 2 Da Mans Dem will get their say. Valentine Special: Sat 11 & Sun 12 February, Doors 7 pm – Show 7.30 pm. Tickets £17.50 Adv or £20 at the door. Broadway Theatre - Rushey Green, Catford, London, SE6 4RU. Box Office 020 8690 0002 – www.broadwaytheatre.org.uk. More info 07989 574 066 or focusarts.co.uk. Contact: Alan <focusarts@yahoo.co.uk>.

SEC PRAYER & BIBLE CONFERENCE (TEENS MINISTRIES). Monday, 13 February to Friday, 17 February. Our Teens Prayer & Bible Conference is BACK! This is a life changing experience for many teenagers from around the Conference and Europe. Come and join with your friends and experience the power of God's blessings through prayer, fellowship and socialising. Date: 13-17 February. Speaker: Pastor Ryan Simpson (Associate Youth Director, Southern New England Conference). Venue: Stanborough Park School, Watford, WD25 9JT. Price: £60.00 per person (places are limited so book early to secure your place). Application deadline closes on Friday, 20 January 2012. See website for more details. Contact: Dejan Stojkovic <dejan@secadventist.org.uk>. Phone: 07919172176.

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SMALL ADS

ALL DAY BIBLE CONFERENCE, Sabbath, 24 March. 'How to read the Bible for all it's worth!' featuring: Laurence Turner, Aulikki Nahkola, Cedric Vine and Jean-Claude Verrecchia. Location: Newbold College (Salisbury Hall), St Marks Road, Binfield, Berkshire, RG42 4AN. Conference Rate (Includes: Complimentary NRSV Bible, Lunch, Supper) £98. Early Bird Rate (until 24 February) £78. For more information contact: Debbie McReynolds. Email:
dmcreynolds@newbold.ac.uk    Phone: 01344 407420 or download an application form: http://www.newbold.ac.uk/article.php?id=533.

BIBLICAL GARMENTS NEEDED! Does your church have good quality, Bible costumes that look fairly authentic? If so, Crieff Adventist church would like to borrow them as soon as possible and to keep them until October. These will be used for an evangelistic event in Crieff town. If you have such garments that you would be willing to share with us, please can you email Karen Holford on karenszholford@gmail.com with further details. Thank you so much!

JOB VACANCIES at Newbold College: Cashier, part-time; 2 Lecturers in Pastoral Studies; a College Chaplain; and College Relations Officer all needed to help the college thrive. Closing dates for all positions: 24 February 2012. At BUC Office: Receptionist/s needed, closing date, 31 January 2012. At John Loughborough School, D&T Technician required. At Stanborough Boarding School: Domestic Cleaner required. For full details visit: http://www.adventistnews.org.uk/vacancies.php.

BUC News is a weekly news bulletin produced by the British Union Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and edited by the Communication Department. Victor Hulbert, director; Mary Kapon, secretary. Items for inclusion should be sent to <bucnews@adventist.org.uk> and need to be received by 6.00 pm on Wednesday, preferably as simple email text. All unattributed stories written by the editorial team. Coming Events and Small Ads should be kept short and preferably be submitted via the on-line form at: <www.adventist.org.uk>. The editor reserves the right to modify articles received to make them suitable for inclusion. The views expressed by individuals cited in this bulletin do not necessarily reflect the views of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, though we try to ensure that they do. You are free to re-print any portion of this bulletin without the need for special permission. However, we kindly request that you identify BUC News or other sources whenever you publish these materials. Back issues and an RSS feed including photographs are available on our website at <www.adventist.org.uk).

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