ORDER OF MERIT FOR JAN PAULSEN

Former Seventh-day Adventist World Church President, Dr Jan Paulsen (77), has been appointed Commander of the Royal Norwegian Order of Merit. The announcement from the Royal Palace states that: "H M The King has appointed Jan Paulsen Commander of the Royal Norwegian Order of Merit for meritorious work for the good of humanity."

"I am totally surprised and very honoured by this recognition coming from H M The King of Norway and his councillors," said Jan Paulsen. "It warms my heart that the accolade came with the recognition 'Service for the good of humanity', for that is what the life of Christian service is all about," Paulsen added.

The Royal Norwegian Order of Merit was founded King Olav V in 1985 and is conferred on foreign and Norwegian nationals as a reward for their outstanding service in the interest of Norway. The actual date when Paulsen will be presented with the insignia of the order has yet to be decided.

"It is a great honour for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Norway that the global service of Dr Paulsen has been recognized in this way," said Pastor Reidar J Kvinge, Leader of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Norway.

Pastor Paulsen was the World Leader of the Seventh-day Adventist Church from 1999 to 2010. He holds a Doctor of Theology degree from the University of Tübingen in Germany. Dr Paulsen began his ministerial service in 1953 in Norway and has served as teacher in Ghana and as teacher and College President in Nigeria. From 1976-1980 he was the Principal of Church-run Newbold College in England which houses the main theological faculty of the Church in the Trans-European region. For twelve years he served as the President of the Trans-European Division with headquarters in St Albans. Throughout his career Jan Paulsen has shown particular interest in furthering higher education in Africa. His initiative in establishing the humanitarian response of the Adventist Church to the Aids pandemic is also notable.
The Seventh-day Adventist Church has 17 million members worldwide and 4,700 members in Norway. Jan Paulsen lives in the Washington DC area. He is married to Kari (née Trykkerud) and has three adult children.

Caption: Dr Jan Paulsen has been appointed Commander of the Royal Norwegian Order of Merit. [Photo: ADAMS/Tor Tjeransen]

**WASH ME AND I SHALL BE BLACKER THAN COAL**

With evangelising the diverse British population firmly on the agenda in Adventist churches across the British Isles it was a brave man, Dr William Ackah, who led a discussion on Faith, Ethnicity and Identity in Adventist Discourses at the Newbold Diversity Lecture on Tuesday, 7 February 2012. A lecturer at Birkbeck, University of London, Dr Ackah proposed the view that as a Church, Seventh-day Adventists in the UK need to recognise the role that ethnic identity plays in our experience. He argued that how we worship, sing and play together is just as important as dietary codes and Adventist views on 'the state of the dead'.

However, and surprisingly, while he recognises that many of the Adventist churches in the British Isles are 'black majority' churches in terms of membership make-up, he states that in worship style they fit more in the traditions of Methodism, Adventist roots in the USA, and universal Adventist traditions that have developed over the years. Thus, he said, "Adventist churches in the UK are black churches devoid of their blackness." His argument would be that church growth in the UK is not so dependent on black churches reaching out to white society, but on conservative traditions reaching out to a secularised society. "Many Adventist churches are inward looking," he controversially argued, noting that the major discussions in many youth meetings and church boards on dress codes and standards are completely irrelevant to the outside world. "We are overly preoccupied with discernible behaviour and therefore it is hard to attract people," he added.

Speaking as someone who comes from a diverse background himself Dr Ackah proposed, "Those of us who are more settled need to be open to incorporate other's identity. We need to embrace diversity." He noted that within our Christian experience we are "all immigrants, all strangers, here on earth," and that this should make us 'more open to whom we are." "Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow,' or 'wash me and I shall be blacker than coal' should not make the least difference," he said, "because both become clean!"

It was a difficult subject, well handled, and it led to debate about how 'black churches' can be 'devoid of blackness' but equally 'devoid of white members'. In response to this question by Dr Albert Waite, Dr Ackah responded, "we have to avoid being exclusive," adding that as Christians we have "something more than ethnicity" (even though we are all ethnic in one way or another). This focused the discussion back to what is sometimes seen as 'peculiar' about Adventists and that from a local church level across the board we need to ensure that our church is not just a comfortable club for those who are 'like us' but must be an inclusive and outward looking springboard for mission.

Undoubtedly this is a debate that needs to continue but as the lecture came to a conclusion, host for the evening, Pastor Gifford Rhamie, noted how Paul, himself a Jew, became a 'Jew to the Jews' in order to be a witness. [1 Cor 9:20] With that he left the appreciative audience pondering the thought, "What part of my identity is most important to me?"
The lecture was recorded and can be viewed online here.

**IS THIS THE UK'S OLDEST KINDERGARTEN TEACHER? [June Coombs]**

How old should you be to stop teaching Kindergarten? Visit the home of 90-year-old Winifrid Snailham and you will find her table littered with craft materials as she helps prepare little gifts for the children of Stanborough Park church, Watford, to take home on a weekly basis.

While this week she is in the process of making 30 card doves to accompany the story of Noah's Ark, her son, Garry, estimates that over the years she must have created over 44,000 little gifts for the children. Christmas and Easter will find her busy with her knitting needles to provide each child with a special present. She is already knitting thirty chicks ready for next Easter! It is hardly surprising that 'yesterday's children' have kept many of the gifts and retain very fond memories of 'Nanny Win'.

Win has a large and loving family with four of her five children alive, 19 grandchildren and 29 great grandchildren and two great, great grandchildren. Thus, in spite of the heavy overnight snow friends, neighbours and family joined together on Sunday, 5 February for a surprise birthday party for the 90-year-old. To add to the surprise, Win was amazed to find her close family had made it all the way from Ireland and the USA to be with her on her special day.

Win has always been an active lady and very 'crafty' and her hobbies have included knitting, sewing, crocheting, smocking, cooking, cake-making and swimming. She made the wedding dresses for her two daughters and three daughters-in-law as well as their wedding cakes as well as the wedding cakes for most of her grandchildren.

Win moved to her home in Garston in 1983 not long after she was baptised as a member of the Stanborough Park church on 28 February 1982. Win immediately became an active member and put her craft skills to good use as teacher in the Kindergarten Sabbath School where she was known to the children as 'Nanny Win' and continued in this role until a few years ago when she was not longer able to climb the stairs to be with them. However, she is still a regular worshipper at the church and a supporter of the children.

Win's selfless devotion to others was summed up by her son, Garry, at the party, quoting Abraham Lincoln, "It is not the years in your life that count, but the life in your years."

**BABIES CAN WITNESS TOO [Karen Onek/Danelle Cuffie]**

On Sabbath 28 January, the youngest children of Holloway Adventist church Cradle Roll division visited the Whittington Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit as their Outreach Community Project.

The Cradle Roll class, along with their parents, were encouraged to save 20p pieces during the year and also had a Table Top sale and a stall at a recent Fun Day. The result? A £300.00 cheque was presented to Jasmine Archiebold, Head of the Neonatal Unit.
The children enjoyed their tour of the unit and were able to see the babies that the money would help.

Witness at Holloway may start with the babies but then continues with older children. This was clear on the previous Sabbath when 60 Pathfinders and Adventurers were invested alongside Joshua Roberts who became a Master Guide! This was not just a spectator service for the children and youth. The entire day was intricately planned by both Pathfinders and Adventurers.

The theme for the day was 'keeping a level eye'. This was incorporated with the theme of motivation. South England Conference Pathfinder director, Pastor Kevin Johns admonished the Pathfinders to "keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith!"

**PASTORS BEGIN 'STEPS FOR LIFE'** [Colin Stewart/BUC News]

If you live in East Anglia and you find your pastor bouncing into church with new vitality this weekend it could be because he has begun the 'Steps for Life' initiative. The health inducing programme began in SEC Area 8 ministers' meeting last month when the pastors left their cars behind and clocked 44,000 steps together. To encourage health and care for the environment the pastors intend to put aside some time in every area meeting for healthy physical activity.

Pastor Colin Stewart reports that "the results so far have not only been inspiring to the church members but have also benefited the pastors themselves who were able to spend some quality social time together as they walked and talked for approximately 3 miles." Digiwalker notes that many health experts recommend walking around 10,000 steps a day for general health. This equates to about 5 miles. In addition to all the walking that takes place during your daily routine they suggest that you could choose to take an evening walk with a partner or friend as well as looking for other ways of increasing your step total throughout your working day.

Adventist pastors in Norway have been increasing their health this way for the past couple of years and it looks like East Anglia may be setting the trend for pastors in the UK. While healthy in itself, their 'steps for life' are also part of the lead-up to the London 2012 Olympics where Adventists not only plan to share their health ministries, but will be sharing the holistic, God valuing lifestyle throughout the whole six-week period and beyond.

For more news on the latest Olympic initiatives and training day dates, read the latest 'Gold Champions' newsletter.

**A LEADER AND EVANGELIST ONE CAN TRUST** [A devotional thought on a contemporary issue by David Neal, Irish Mission President. First published for Irish Mission Leaders. Photo: Istockphoto/EdStock]

Browse through copies of the MESSENGER of yesteryear (pre-1970s) and frequently the reader will find pictures of evangelists holding town hall meetings sharing the truths of the gospel with large crowds of people in attendance. While such times have changed, dig deep into the soul of today's preacher/evangelist and he will tell you that he would love to experience preaching to a congregation in a packed town hall.

It isn't only the media and communication world that has changed since the
1970s. The process of secularisation since in the UK and Ireland has been fast and furious – and there is no doubt that the media have contributed to that change. Who today takes a clergyman seriously, caricatured more often than not as disconnected from today's world, and seen as eccentric in both his ways and beliefs? But enough of this slippery slope bemoaning our painful lot, because on Christmas Day just gone, there was a beautiful gospel message presented by someone who continues to command respect and who is able to reach a rather large crowd of people (8.5 million). The Queen in her Christmas Message to her UK and Commonwealth subjects, invited them no less to be 'born again'. A master at 'doing subtle', she sure enough gave the invitation – as true as evangelists of a bygone era. After informing her audience how the past year had been for the family, the message ended with an appeal, including a prayerful invitation to be 'born again'. In case you missed it, here's the relevant extract from the speech:

"Although we are capable of great acts of kindness, history teaches us that we sometimes need saving from ourselves – from our recklessness or our greed. God sent into the world a unique person – neither a philosopher nor a general, important though they are, but a Saviour, with the power to forgive. Forgiveness lies at the heart of the Christian faith. It can heal broken families, it can restore friendships and it can reconcile divided communities. It is in forgiveness that we feel the power of God's love. In the last verse of this beautiful carol, O Little Town Of Bethlehem, there's a prayer: O Holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us we pray. Cast out our sin, And enter in. Be born in us today. It is my prayer that on this Christmas day we might all find room in our lives for the message of the angels and for the love of God through Christ our Lord."

In times like these for the UK and Ireland, it is a given from our perspective that the message is timely and the lasting solution to solving the problems our country faces. But what I find more than encouraging is that there's at least one person of influence left in our nation who continues to pray that its citizens might yet come to experience "Christ in us". What is more, one of the Queen's great strengths is that she continues to be one of the few people her citizens feel they can trust – particularly when trust in the political establishment is lost.

As a leader she continues to model excellent leadership skills. Consider her personal discipline (60 years of service to her country), her diplomacy (connects extremely well with people), her listening skills (as noted by her 12 UK Prime Ministers), her ongoing love, care and commitment to her people (symbolised on Sunday, 5 February by renewing her vows of service) and by no means least, her sense of purpose (called by God).

Significantly for us living on the island of Ireland, last year she sealed a new relationship between the two nations that inhabit it. It is documented that she had wanted to visit Ireland for many a year, but political problems between the two countries prevented it. Her opening words in Gaelic at the banqueting table in Dublin Castle last summer ("A Uachtaráin agus a chaired" – translated "President and friends"), more than symbolised her personal wish to help build a bridge where there was once strife. Further on in her speech, and once again 'doing subtle', but completely from the heart, she told of a long story in 23 words. "With the benefit of historical hindsight we can all see things which we would wish had been done differently or not at all." If ever there was a seismic political statement – it was that one, but one which all the same at its deepest level speaks of the Gospel of Christ.

An evangelist and a visionary leader... There is much we can all learn from her.

**LIFESTYLE CENTRE** [Sharon Platt-McDonald]

Two years ago osteopath Andrew Lawson put out an advert via the BUC Health Ministries department inviting Adventist health professionals to contact him. The reason: to set up a clinic. He shared his vision for its development and a number of individuals showed interest. Now he is operating four clinics in London but he has a vision to do more. He would love to establish a Lifestyle Centre and is inviting interested parties to contact him. In a letter to the BUC Health Ministries director he states:
"I now know that there are like-minded health professionals out there or even like-minded businessmen and women who may share this vision. I would therefore like to invite Seventh-day Adventist osteopaths, physiotherapists, doctors, nurses, nutritionists, Christian counsellors, massage therapists, clerical staff, administrators, businessmen and women etc. who would be interested in being a part of such a centre and also the clinics that I am in the process of setting up, to call me on 07984 279870.

I also have a particular interest in chiropodists and podiatrists, as there is a great need for these services. I would also like to ask all health professionals that if they are aware that their pastors have an interest in Health Ministries, to please share this letter with them, as a pastoral component in this ministry would be of profound importance."

We pray that Andrew will see his dream realised.

**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, 13 February, 8:30 pm.
Part of a series of presentations by Dr Chris Blake during the Newbold Week of Prayer. This week's title: ‘Suffering, Why so much?’ This series now also airs on Hope Channel Europe each Friday at 8:30 pm.

**Adventists In Conversation**, Thursday 16 February, 8:30 pm. 
**Alexander Douglas** doesn't play music to earn a living, he lives to play. Yet as a jazz musician and composer, his style of music and the performing of it in a Christian environment is often at odds with the conservative attitudes of his Church. In this thought-provoking interview, Alex sets out his considered and sometimes complex arguments for jazz in a Christian context.

On Hope TV you can watch a wide variety of programmes on the satellite and website. Next week's schedule includes the following UK produced programmes among its much larger international output:

Friday 10 February: 8:00 pm: Viewpoint: The King James Bible,
8:30 pm: **Searching for a God to love**
Sabbath 11 February: 12:00 am & 9:00 am: Viewpoint: The King James Bible,
7:30 pm: Searching for a God to love
Monday 13 February: 12:30 am and 9:00 pm: John Wilby – Ambulance chief finds something better
Wednesday 15 February: 8:00 am: Jim Huzzey – Jeweller for Jesus,
12:00 midnight: **Steve Logan** – If you can't ask questions in church… then where can you ask them?
Friday 17 February: 8:00 pm: Viewpoint: Why should Christians care for the planet?,
8:30 pm: **Searching for a God to love**: Why I don't abstain (1)
Sabbath 18 February: 12:00 am & 9:00 am: Viewpoint: Why should Christians care for the planet?,
7:30 pm: **Searching for a God to love**: Why I don't abstain (1)

**COMING EVENTS**

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.

LEYTONSTONE AND BECKENHAM HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCHES. Saturday, 11 February. Leytonstone and Beckenham Hope Community churches join forces to worship together with their pastor, Simeon Esson. The day will feature back to back preaching from members of both churches. Special provision in the form of Children's Church for all children. Please note both churches will be closed. Worship will take place at Lionel Road Community Centre, Eltham Green, London, SE9 6DQ. Contact: S Esson <smesson56@yahoo.com>.

NEWBOLD SCHOOL 70TH YEAR CELEBRATION CONCERT. Saturday, 11 February. An evening of entertainment to celebrate the 70th year of Newbold Primary School featuring founding students, performances by present and former staff and students, and pictures of the school's history. Refreshments. All proceeds to Newbold School. Organised by the PTFA team, Paula Bold 07786348702, Tanya Markachuk 07894292568. Venue: Newbold Church Centre, St Mark's Road, Binfield, Berks, RG42 4AN. Time: 7:00 pm. Contact: Andrea Kelly <andi01kelly@yahoo.co.uk>. Phone: 07786348702.

'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>.

'THE BLACK AND WHITE BALL'. Sunday, 12 February. Holloway Pathfinders cordially invites you to their annual banquet 'The Black and White Ball'. An evening of fun, food and entertainment. Hosted by Joshua Roberts and Rumbi Sithole with DJ Nana Kay. Sunday, 12 February at the Advent Centre, 39 Brendon Street, London, W1H 5HD. Dress code: Formal - Black or White or Black & White. Come and enjoy a three course meal plus a night filled with prizes and surprises. Doors open at 4:00 pm with a drinks reception for early comers. Tickets: £10 Adults and over 7 yrs, £7 for 7 yrs and under. To purchase tickets please see Angeline Barclay and Hadassah Holder or contact 07403 136129 or email pathfinders@myholloway.org. Contact: Holloway Pathfinders <pathfinders@myholloway.org>. Phone: 07403136129.

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.

TUESDAY TALKS. Tuesday, 14 February. Presented by Patrick Boyle. You are invited to share in these friendly discussions. The issues matter. The answers make sense. A light supper will be served at 7:00 pm followed by the talks at 8:00 pm on the subject "What Jesus said about Himself". Stanborough Centre, 609 St Albans Road, Watford, WD25 9JL. Contact: Pat Walton <walton@groats.co.uk>. Phone: 01923 672500.
YOUTH DAY OF FELLOWSHIP. Sabbath, 18 February. 18th February is the Youth (18-35+) Day of Fellowship. Theme: Use Me Lord. It is our intention to offer every opportunity for God's children to be able to be used for God's Kingdom work. We are ambassadors for Christ. We are the ones to work for God, in the ministry of reconciliation. God was in Christ, reconciling Himself unto us and has given us the Ministry of Reconciliation. "Now we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." 2 Corinthians 5:19-20. Venue: The Rock Tower, 49 Tufnell Road, London, N7 0PS. Time: 10 am - 6 pm (lunch will be at 1 pm). Speaker: Dr Rupert Bushner (USA), supported by gospel artist, Maurette Brown-Clarke. (Maurette will sing during the Praise and Worship service as a taster. For more songs, get your concert ticket). Contact: Steve Thomas <sthomas@secadventist.org.uk>. Phone: 01923 232728.

"GIVING MY BEST" CONCERT. Saturday, 18 February. "Giving My Best" Fundraising Concert at New Life Adventist Church, 5:00 pm. Hosted by Pastor Hypolite. Artists: New Life Choir & Friends, Mark Bunny, Steadfast & Friends (from Birmingham), Alicia Charles. Address: 8-10 Lennox Road, Finsbury Park, London, N4 3NW. Contact: Louanne Sampson <music@newlifesda.org.uk>. Phone: 020 7272 0449.


MADISON ADVENTIST ACADEMY CHOIR TOUR. Saturday, 18 February. The Madison Adventist Academy Choir from Nashville, Tennessee, USA, will be touring the London area in February 2012. Comprised of about thirty high school students sharing the gospel through music, they are currently accepting invitations to perform at churches, schools, etc for their tour, tentatively scheduled for 18 to 25 February 2012. Please contact Michael Santos at misantos@madisonacademy.com for inquiries.

NEC SABBATH SCHOOL LEVEL 1 TEACHER TRAINING. 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 07961643957. 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.

BIBLE LANDS TOUR: 20-27 FEBRUARY 2012. Monday, 20 February to Monday, 27 February. Trip of a lifetime. Walk where Jesus walked. See the Bible come alive. Mount Carmel where Elijah won the battle against Baal, Mount of Beatitudes, Mount Moriah where Abraham took Isaac, Har Megiddo (Aramidodden), Valley of Elah where David defeated Goliath, Nazareth, Cana, Lake Galilee where Jesus walked on water, Bethsaida where Jesus fed 5000, Lazarus' tomb and house in Bethany, Jericho where the walls came tumbling down, Jesus' baptismal site, Capernaum, Jesus' empty tomb, Jerusalem, Mount of Olives, the Kidron Valley, Hezekiah's Tunnel, Garden of Gethsemane, the Pool of Bethesda where the paralytic was heaved, the Pool of Siloam where the blind man was healed, the City of David, the Upper Room, Caesarea where Paul witnessed to King Agrippa, and Peter baptized Cornelius, Joppa where Peter had the dream of unclean animals and Jonah boarded the ship to Tarshish, Masada, the Dead Sea, Qumran, En Gedi. You would visit these and other places and be blessed. More details from Pastor O P Chackochen. Email: <chacko@onam.co.uk>. Phone: 07748 417 460.
HEALTH LECTURE. Thursday, 23 February. Stanborough Park church in Garston, Watford, will be showing the DVD "Forks over knives", which traces the lives of two eminent medical doctors as they independently discover the secret of better health, through diet and lifestyle, despite objections from their colleagues. A light supper will be provided at 7:00 pm followed by the film at 7:45 pm. Contact: Pat Walton <walton@groats.co.uk>. Phone: 01923 672500.

COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING CONCERT. Saturday, 25 February. With various projects ongoing in the Greenwich area, including a weekly drop-in centre, the Greenwich Community Services department is hosting a community fundraising concert on 25 February @ 5:00 pm to aid in their outreach efforts. This event is not to be missed as it promises to appeal to all audiences, so invite your friends and family and come along for a special blessing. Adults £5, children under 16 £2.50. For more info please email info@greenwichadventist.org.uk or call 07557051054. See u there! Contact: Elsa Conreaux <info@greenwichadventist.org.uk>.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH EXPO TRAINING. Sunday, 26 February. Time: 1000-1700 at The Advent Centre, 37-39 Brendon Street, London, W1H 5JE. This training is for those who would like to facilitate Children's Health Expos. It uses the acronym NEWSTART which allows the participant to move from station to station where they will be given relevant, child-friendly information. This holistic approach aims to enhance the health of children and will assist in decreasing some of the common health conditions among children namely obesity. This event can also be planned for one day during half-term, summer school and even during the Olympic events in your community. The cost is £20 which covers a hot meal and training resources. Contact: Elsie Staple <estaple@secadventist.org.uk>. Phone: 01923 232728.

JUMBLE SALE: STANBOROUGH PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL. Sunday, 26 February. Where? At Stanborough Primary School, Appletree Walk, Watford, WD25 0DQ. When? Sunday, 26 February from 12 noon to 2:00 pm. Stalls with books, china, face painting, clothes, cakes, children's toys and excellent value cafe lunches. Bring your family and friends and come early to get the best deals! Contact: Helia Mateus <helia.mateus@gmail.com>. Phone: 07702408994.

STANBOROUGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP & BURSARY EXAM. Sunday, 26 February. Stanborough School's Scholarship scheme aims to make Adventist Education more accessible to outstanding students. Candidates must apply for entry for the following academic year and demonstrate academic potential. Stanborough School's Bursary scheme aims to support families that are currently opting out of the Adventist education system due to financial considerations. Candidates will be required to demonstrate both academic potential & financial need. Both types of award are multiannual. The first wave of scholarships and bursaries will provide up to 15 places for prospective students applying for entry in Year 7, Year 8, Year 10 or Year 12 (IB). Candidates must register and pay an administrative fee of £10. The examination will be held on Sunday 26 February, 14.00 to 17.00. To find out about the eligibility criteria please contact Mrs Sonia Poddar at registrar@spsch.org or call 01923 673 268.

CHARCOAL THERAPY PRESENTATION. Sunday, 26 February. Presenter John Dinsley, medical missionary and author of many books on Charcoal Therapy. Time 6:30 pm. Venue: Balham Seventh-day Adventist Church, 83 Elmfield Road, London, SW17 8AD. Admission free but come prepared with an offering. Books will be on sale. Your knowledge will be heightened as a result of attending this event. Contact: Elsie Staple <estaple@secadventist.org.uk>. Phone: 01923 232728.

SMALL ADS

SUMMER AU PAIR OFFER. Kristin Bleisch from Germany would like to be an au-pair in England for up to two months in July and August. She is a nineteen-year-old school leaver who has learnt English for nine years but would like to improve it in England while spending time with children and helping in the household. She is an experienced babysitter and a youth leader in her local church. If your family is interested please send an email to <kristin@bleisch.eu>.
HOST FAMILY FOR ONE MONTH. Galina Lysymanka writes, I am 25 years old. Originally I am from Ukraine but am now living in Germany where I am studying to become a nurse at the Adventist hospital Waldfriede (Berlin). I am searching for a host family for one month (July 2012) and I am offering to help with babysitting, housekeeping, gardening and other departments in exchange for a place to stay and the chance to learn something about the English culture. Through my two year's au pair work in Germany and Austria I am experienced in working with children. I speak German, Russian and Ukrainian and would be most happy to learn some English. I would be happy to hear from you soon. My email address is: halyna.lysymanka@web.de.

INTERPRETER NEEDED to translate Spanish to English for a client attending an 8-week Shape Up health class on Sundays. Payment: £40 per session. For more details please contact Joni on 07885788186 or joni.blackwood@yahoo.co.uk.


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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