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PEACE POURS OUT 'LIKE A RIVER' [Peter Jeynes]

PEACE. It stands for 'Practical Evangelism and Adventist Christian Education'. It is a training organisation centred in the North England Conference. PEACE held its third annual graduation ceremony at Preston Seventh-day Adventist Church on Sabbath, 1 December.

The twenty graduating students from four continents had undertaken practical evangelistic training in connection with the Southport church under the guidance of Adam Ramdin, Beulah Plunkett and Craig Gooden; the PEACE staff team, and a host of visiting specialist educators.

The course content and impact can be gathered from the combined words of Hebada Dolsenhe, Judith Antwi and Dean Culinane – "One thing we all have in common, we want to reach others for Christ", "We learned …", "We promise God to be true to Him" and "If you think PEACE is for you…I promise you will not regret it."

Emanuel Baek, an evangelist from Amazing Facts, was the keynote speaker for the graduation. He asked the question, "What do you want?" and suggested that it was worth everything to sacrifice all for what we really want in terms of serving God.

Pastor Adam Ramdin opened the ceremony with the pronouncement that public evangelism works in 2012. Craig Gooden provided facts to support the assertion. The students had completed over 900 surveys, dropped off over 500 Bible study booklets and given 46 in-home studies. Plans have been created to make sure that each of these contacts will be followed up.
Students from the class of 2012 will be heading in a multiplicity of directions. Hebada wants to teach poetry and confirmed that the course has enabled her to focus on her life and plans. She will return to America. Ekaterina said, "Now I really know what to do…I grew in personal confidence."

Brazilian born, Dorling, who starred in the first of the PEACE promotional videos, was another graduate who has moved on from ideas of doing a hairdressing course to a desire to serve God better while Dean will go on to being a Bible worker on the Isle of Man. Young, bright and bubbly Florence from Wellingborough will return to the north as another Taskforce Bible worker, this time to Southport.

Beulah Plunket stated that this year's PEACE graduates regarded the course as 'character building' and confessed her own enthusiasm for the course in the words, "I can't stop telling people they need to come to PEACE."

PEACE will be back next year – but for now, the 20 graduates will be like a river of light, spreading out over the British Isles – and the four continents from which they came.

**BACKWARDS BIRTHDAY RAISES £1500** [Joseph & Jackie Lynton]

While some folk stop counting birthdays, Joe and Jackie Lynton decided to use their respective movements into a new decade to do something special for God.

Their thinking was, "God has blessed us with so much that we felt it should to be an opportunity to give to a good cause."

Jackie, approaching 50, and Joseph, 60, decided on a joint celebration, inviting close friends and family. However, instead of receiving gifts they decided to 'do their birthday backwards' as a means to give. The result was an 'auction a promise' birthday party, where participants pledged a service that anyone can undertake for another person or donation of an item.

The appropriate 'good cause' was highlighted for them during a weekend break in Oxford where they found themselves reunited with good friends Sophia and Nigel Nicholls. During Sabbath lunch they were inspired by their tireless devotion to their family and especially Matthew, their sixteen-year-old son, who has learning disabilities and other complex needs.

Learning about the Adventist Special Needs Association [ASNA], the charity the Nicholls set up over ten years ago to support people living with special needs, led Jackie and Joseph to recognise that "Here was a charity right under our noses within our church community serving the families of those living with special needs."

Jackie states, "We had no idea what people would pledge on the night, we had a few donations of a holiday in Tenerife and our birthday cake that we started off the auction with, and both items went with a fantastic starting figure of £400!"

Both a presentation by Sophia Nicholls, and the engaging and hilarious skills of auctioneers, Donald Brown and Clive Palmer, made people warm to the whole idea. With between 80 and 90 family and friends present the duo were surprised to raise around £1500 – three times what they expected.
Joe enthused, "The response was great, our guests were delighted to give to a good cause and some have pledged to continue to give through monthly standing orders. We would definitely like to do this again!"

For more information about the work ASNA do visit <www.asna.info> or email <info@asna.info>.

MOVEMBER CREW SMARTEN UP

Certain gentlemen around the Adventist Church head office in Watford are looking somewhat smarter and tidier since the start of December. Four staff from the British Union Conference supported a much larger group from the Hemel Hempstead Adventist church to grow moustaches for Movember, raising awareness and funds for men's health charities.

There was quipping and hilarity in the office as, for some, facial hair became more pronounced then for others, but the serious point was that they helped the Hemel Hempstead church reach a target of over £1,000.

Phillip Plaatjes, a Hemel Hempstead church member, is delighted. "We are hoping that more awareness is raised and that more men and their families will benefit from this!"

Valerie, wife of the late Pastor Roland Fidelia, cheerfully donated with the comment, "As my husband died of prostate cancer I think this is a brilliant idea to raise awareness. Long may the hair grow!"

Before the men got busy with their razors, a group photo at Hemel Hempstead church on Sabbath, 1 December demonstrated that a solid group of men – supported by the ladies, wished to support research into prostate cancer (that kills 10,000 British men each year), and raise awareness of other men's health issues. So far the team has raised £1,179 with a few last minute donations still to be counted.

To find out more about Movember and men's health visit <www.movember.com> and whilst you're there why not support the Hemel Hempstead church team with a donation!

MISSIONARY ZEAL – 58 YEARS ON

A well preserved leaflet discovered among the valued treasures of Agnes Poulton has brought delight to a generation of Adventists who remembered their parents, friends, aunts and uncles in mission service.

Stanborough Park church member, June Coombs, came across the 1954 Missionary leaflet, whilst sorting through Agnes' possessions following
her death in September. Pictured are 24 British missionaries serving in Africa, South America, India and the West Indies. Recognising that in 1954 the Adventist Church in the UK numbered only a 7,500 members this represents an astonishing commitment to mission. According to Adventist archives British missionaries accounted for over 12 percent of all missionary activity, worldwide.

Their influence lives on – as posting the leaflet on Facebook brought memories from friends across the world. Tisha Smit, a pastor's wife in Portugal wrote, "Thanks for posting this because it brings back lots of memories as many of these workers were friends with my parents: the Hurlows, the Sparrows, the Raitts, the Maxwells and Newmans." Originally from South Africa, Tisha identifies with fellow countryman, Penny Brink who wrote, "Now I know how the Hurlows, Sparrows and Raitts got to become the well-known Adventist names in South Africa. Evidently the children and grandchildren continued there, some of them are our good friends today."

Leamington Spa member, Robert Pearce was delighted to find the photo of his parents serving in what was then called the 'Gold Coast' – now Ghana. Belfast pastor, Adam Keough discovered his great grandfather in photo number 3.

Mervyn Hulbert, born to missionary parents serving in Nigeria reminisced, "It really emphasizes the differences between the times in which our parents and ourselves lived doesn't it? Goodness! It makes me feel my place – and theirs – in history. Strangely humbling."

It is easy to look at the past and be nostalgic. With the Adventist Church in the British Isles now numbering around 34,000 we could ask if we hold the same kind of commitment and passion as our forebears?

That might not be a fair question. The world of 2012 is vastly different to that of the post-war 1950s. Missionaries succeeded in their tasks and strong national churches developed in what back then was called 'the mission field'. Those national churches have continued to grow and develop while in the secularised West the Christian Church, at large, has been in decline.

In 2012 the mission field is close to home. Were it not for immigration from these former 'mission fields', the Adventist Church in the British Isles would be listed amongst those struggling churches.

Yet it may be that 'immigration' helps provide the solution. Just as British missionaries went to 'far flung lands', could it be that those of us who have come to the UK in recent years, perhaps for economic or educational reasons, can be filled with the same compassion and desire for mission as those missionaries of old? Can we look at the larger communities around us?

At the recent National Lay Bible Workers' Convention, up to 200 people made a commitment to win just one person to Jesus in 2013. Just imagine if that 200 leapt upwards to nearer 34,000? Just imagine if that number included you! Whether 'Hope for the Big Cities', ShareHim, Life Connect, Messy Church, door-to-door, street witnessing, social networking, or friendship evangelism, how can you be part of the 'Missionary Hall of Fame' for 2013?

DRUMS AND CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON [BUC News]

As Christmas lights get switched on across the British Isles, endeavouring to bring some cheer to shoppers, and encourage them to dig deeper into their pockets, the Holloway Adventist church drum corp and choir, both took the opportunity to bring Christian cheer into the carnival atmosphere of the Nag's Head area of Holloway on Sunday, 25 November.

The Islington Tribune reports that around 10,000 people enjoyed the day. Holloway Adventists made sure that some of that number had an opportunity to hear about Jesus.
LATEST MESSENGER ONLINE

Lorry loads of 'happiness'!, Educating for eternity, and part two of 'False teachers unmasked'. All part of the 'Education Special' MESSENGER, the official journal of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the UK and Ireland. The 7 December double edition highlights all our Adventist schools and some moving student testimonies from Newbold College. We also learn how 'Two to a manger' gives a touching twist to a timeless story. Read it online or pick up a copy at a church near you.

PROGRAMMES TO WATCH THIS WEEK

Here are some programme highlights for the coming week:

On Revelation TV (Sky 581 or Freesat 692):

- **The Journey**: Of Giants and Dragons – tales from Cornwall: Thursday, 6 December, 8:30 pm repeated Sunday lunchtime 9 December, 1 pm. Next week: Hope in Hiroshima. How can forgiveness come to an A-bomb survivor?

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 including seasonal programming:

Friday 7 December: 8:00 pm: The Journey: Hiking in the Highlands,
8:30 pm: FaithTalks: Why can't I believe anything I want?,
Midnight: Viewpoint: What is truth?

Sabbath 8 December: 9:00 am & 7:00 pm: Hiking in the Highlands,
7:30 pm: FaithTalks: Why can't I believe anything I want?

Monday 10 December: 9:30 pm: Viewpoint: What is truth?

Wednesday 12 December: 8:00 am: Viewpoint: What is truth?

Friday 14 December: 8:00 pm: The Journey: Lost in the Lake District,
8:30 pm: FaithTalks: Does faith make a difference in a marriage?,
Midnight: Lost in the Lake District

Sabbath 15 December: 9:00 am & 7:00 pm: Lost in the Lake District,
7:30 pm: FaithTalks: Does faith make a difference in a marriage?

COMING EVENTS  For a full listing of Coming Events please visit www.adventistevents.org.uk

THE BENEFITS OF LIVING A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE!  Friday, 7 December - Sunday, 9 December. Looking for a great weekend and a time of health enrichment? The Balham Adventist church's Health Ministries department is pleased to invite you to "The Benefits of Living a Healthy Lifestyle" with Dr Christopher Levy and others from Friday, 7 December at 7:00 pm - Sunday, 9 December at 1:00 pm. Friday evening: a prayer and anointing service as we discuss "God's Health Care Plan". On Sabbath morning at 9:30 am, a moment of reflection as we address "God's Ministry of Healing". On Saturday afternoon, 5:00 pm, "The Adventist Advantage". Sunday morning, 11:00 am, a practical demonstration on how to prepare a healthy diet with Ben Asamani. This will end our health enrichment weekend at 1:00 pm. Contact: Olive Griffiths orutherford@blueyonder.co.uk. Phone: 02082878490.

HAMPSTEAD CHURCH MUSIC DAY/FESTIVAL OF PRAISE. Sabbath, 8 December. Come and join the Hampstead Adventist Choral Society in their annual afternoon of praise to the Most High. Join in the carol singing and Singspiration with the amazing HACS Millennium Orchestra. Enjoy the
military sounds of the HACS Millennium Brass. Be blessed by the angelic voice of young Tenna-Nicole Bell, The Hampstead Deacons Choir & HACS Semi-Chorus. Free entry! Doors open @ 4:30 pm. Venue: Hampstead Seventh-day Adventist Church, 66 Haverstock Hill, London, NW3 2BE. For more information, please contact Fiona on dwanell@googlemail.com or mobile 07746 359 839.

A LONDONLIVE CHRISTMAS. Saturday, 8 December. LondonLive presents: The LondonLive Community Choir (LLCC) in concert to raise money for the Dalgarne Trust at Christmas. Come and join us for fabulous music & singing! Be sure to stay for the after party! 4:30 pm @ Notting Hill Community Church (next to Kitchen & Pantry), Kensington Park Rd, London, W11 2ES. Contact: Paul King Brown <livelife@londonliveatnottinghill.com>. Phone: 07810560495.

READY, SET, WORSHIP! Saturday, 8 December. Are you Ready? Let's get Set, for a Worship that promises to be awesome. Luton Central church invites you to join us at 5:00 pm for a crazy praise experience. Support us as we fund raise for Luton Central Youth to attend Impact South Africa 2013. Free entry. Food on sale. Contact: Luton Central Youth department. <youthlutoncentral@hotmail.co.uk>. Phone: 07792850917.

YOUTH BANQUET 2012. Saturday, 8 December. You're invited to celebrate the end of the year in style by joining us for a banquet at Manzil Restaurant. A 3 course meal will be served while you are entertained by musicians from around the country. Time: 6 - 10 pm. Age: 16+. Price: £25 (£29 after 25 November). Dress Code: formal/evening wear. To pay please visit: http://youth.northmanchestersda.org.uk/. Contact: Grace Nkeshimana <gracenkeshimana@yahoo.co.uk>. Phone: 07875325416.

GOSPEL ROLLER JAM 2. Saturday, 8 December. New Life Youth Club presents a second Gospel Roller Jam. Roller skate to the latest gospel music played by the UK's finest DJ, along with live PA by Faith D @ Skate Heaven. Newham Leisure Centre, 281 Prince Regents Lane, Plaistow, London, E13 8SD. Free parking. 6:30 - 10:30 pm. £8 entry all night which includes skates & pads and lessons if you can't skate. Contact: Clive Lester <clivelester@yahoo.co.uk>. Phone: 07946457108.

STANBOROUGH PRESS BOOK SALE. Sunday, 9 December. Open House, Food & Book Sale at The Stanborough Press, Alma Park, Londonthorpe Road, Grantham, NG31 9SL. Open 9 am to 4 pm. Contact: Paul Poddar <ppoddar@stanboroughpress.org.uk>. Phone: 01476 591700.

'ON BIRMINGHAM'. Sunday, 9 December to Sabbath, 22 December. Outreach Network is a new way of profiling the outreach work done by Adventists, launching with two outreach events in Birmingham City Centre during this Christmas season. Musical artists will perform alongside trained evangelists ready to greet the late Christmas shoppers. Every church member is invited to participate in this fun way of sharing our faith. Come to a recommended evangelism training session at Aston-Newtown church, Sunday, 9 December in preparation for the outreach events on Thursday, 20 and Sabbath, 22 December. For more information on 'On Birmingham' and its vision visit: www.outreachnetwork.co.uk. Contact: Keiran McKenzie <keirandanielmckenzie@hotmail.com>. Phone: 07402812530.

THE SHOWCASE CHRISTMAS SPECIAL - WITH TRIO. Sunday, 9 December, 7:00 pm. TRIO AKA Clive Palmer and Donald Brown are the hosts for this event at The New Alexandra Theatre in Birmingham. The 'A Sporting Chance for Peace Sculpture' by the internationally acclaimed British sculptor, Donald Brown will be featured as the key component for raising funds for groups and churches that attend The Showcase. TRIO are two Christian comedians, Clive Palmer and Donald Brown who have thrilled gospel audiences nationwide with clean, hilarious comedy. Book via this link: http://www.atgtickets.com/The-Showcase-Christmas-Special-Tickets/242/4793/. A Global Gallery Limited Promotion. Contact: Donald Brown <donaldbrownart@gmail.com>.

THE DIALOGUE 'XMAS' CAFE @ CLC. Friday, 14 December. Once again the Central London church will be totally changed into an inviting Worship Cafe, a place to meet each other and be met by God – celebrate the Christmas Story! Open-minded, creative, thought-provoking, non-judgemental, Cafe-style, enjoyable. Free of charge, refreshments are provided. Doors open from 7:00 pm, official
start at 7:30 pm, closing 9:00 pm. Address: Crawford Place / Corner of Brendon Street, London, W1H 5JE. Contact: Geert Tap <g.tap@btinternet.com>. Phone: 07747568942.

JAMAICA AND TRINIDAD & TOBAGO INDEPENDENCE. Sabbath, 15 December. Oxford Seventh-day Adventist church will be hosting a thanksgiving service starting at 10:00 am and will be followed by a special thanksgiving lunch featuring Jamaican and Trinidad & Tobago cuisine. There will be a cultural programme in the afternoon and a panel discussion on the impact of the diaspora of these two countries on British society. Contact: Nolan Victory <nvictory2004@msn.com>. Phone: 07805828349.

STANBOROUGH PRESS BOOK SALE. Sunday, 16 December. Adventist Book Centre Food & Book Sale at John Loughborough School, Holcombe Road, Tottenham, N17. Open 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Contact: Paul Poddar <ppoddar@stanboroughpress.org.uk>. Phone: 01476 591700.

LACU LTD & SEC STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES CAREER FAIR. Sunday, 16 December. The first London Adventist Credit Union Ltd & SEC Stewardship Ministries Career Fair for students completing UCAS forms for 2013 university entry; students sitting GCSE exams in 2013 and planning to take A levels or equivalent in 2013; students preparing to select GCSE subjects in 2013 & students preparing for work placement in 2013. Time: 11:00 - 16:00. Venue: Edmonton Church, 8 Houndsfield Road, Edmonton, N9 7RA. Contact: Marketing <info@lacu.co.uk>. Phone: 020 8216 9895.

"IGNITE THE YOUTH" 3-DAY RETREAT. Friday, 21 December to Sunday, 23 December. Places are limited for the Peckham church, "Ignite the Youth and 'Yada' God!" retreat. A weekend away from the hustle and bustle without the cares of assignments/essays and deadlines. A time to be refreshed, study the Word and experience a revival. Location: Marwell Activity Centre (Winchester). Speaker: Marc Naiken. Age: 16+. This weekend aims to help you develop a deeper and more intimate relationship with God. It will help transform your devotional experience and commit wholeheartedly to the Lord. Put down your 50% deposit of £17.50 (£20 after the 9/12/2012) to secure your place. Please call Stephanie on 07940419963 or Mary on 07852305306. Included mind blowing studies, fellowship, socials and a chance to take part in the Marwell activities (including quad bikes and horse riding) at an additional cost. Contact: Stephanie <stephaniemakalwala@hotmail.com>.

DIG A LITTLE DEEPER – STANBOROUGH PARK CHURCH. Saturday, 22 December. A series of workshops designed to equip us how to study different types of texts in the Bible, making our personal or group Bible study time more exciting and inspiring. Learn about specific features of biblical texts, and then apply the gained knowledge. Worksheets provided, pleasant atmosphere guaranteed. Venue: Stanborough Park Church, 609 St Albans Road, Garston, Watford, Herts, WD25 9JL; in the Armstrong Hall at 4:00 pm. Contact: Pastor Ivana Mendez <ivanamendez@hotmail.co.uk>. Phone: 07539326780.

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT. Saturday, 22 December. Come and share the joys of Christmas including visiting musicians from Hampstead and other London churches. Saturday, 22 December at 6:30 pm. Address: Wimbledon International Church, 11 Stanley Road, Wimbledon, London, SW19 8RE. Contact: Arthur Campbell <arthur.campbell1@btopenworld.com>. Phone: 020 8788 4272.

WOLVERHAMPTON CENTRAL YOUTH DAY. Sabbath, 29 December. Come along to our special Day of Fellowship. Speaker: Laith Wallace. Theme: Ultimate fighting champion. Venue: Wolverhampton Central Adventist Church, Warwick Street, Horsley Fields, Wolverhampton, WV1 3SD. Contact: Esther <edouglas@keinancare.co.uk>.

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SMALL ADS
FULL BOARD ACCOMMODATION in a family home offered to two secondary school students from January 2013 in Garston, Watford, Herts. Supervision of homework and help with school work given. Contact berny750@gmail.com, 075 0688 4929 for more information.

JOB VACANCY. Matron, Stanborough Boarding School – Volunteer position. Closing date 13 December 2012. For more details on this and several other job vacancies please visit our Job Vacancies page.

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