FOCUSING ON THE 'NO' VOTE
The issue of 'gay marriages' has been a particular subject of focus both in BUC News and the wider Christian and secular press. Following Tuesday's vote, Colin Hart, Coalition for Marriage campaign manager, writes, "After more than six hours of bitter debate, the Commons voted in favour of same-sex weddings by 400 votes to 175, a majority of 225. Together with abstentions and stay-aways, one third of the Commons did not back the bill. With there being such a large 'no' vote this has become the focus of the newspapers."

Mr Hart also commented, "The Prime Minister suffered the embarrassment of having to rely on Labour and Lib Dem MPs to secure victory with a total of 136 Tories voting against the measure, more than the 126 who voted in favour. The bill will eventually pass to the Lords where voting arithmetic is very different."

David Cameron is under fire by his MPs for pushing an item through Parliament not in the Tory manifesto. He is also accused of holding "great swathes of the electoral in contempt over a sham consultation about gay marriage", according to Dr Sharon James. She states that 500,000 names on a petition against such a law was "relegated to an appendix". Dr James leads out in a weekly video explanation on the true meaning of marriage.

Pondering on how the majority vote went with gay marriage, Heather Haworth, BUC Family Ministries director, concluded that the breakdown of the family through the erosion of the sanctity of marriage, by premarital sex, cohabitation and lack of commitment to a lifelong spouse, has caused the politicians to desperately seek for avenues which, as David Cameron wrote about gay marriage, will "make our society stronger".

The need for strong and stable relations is also motivated by the government's high budget deficit, part of which is caused by the breakdown of families. In
2012 the latter cost the government £44 billion, up £2 billion from the previous year. Approximately £1,470 per tax payer, per year. [http://www.relationshipsfoundation.org.]

The Prime Minister wants to have a 'fairer society' but it seems to be in opposition to our Christian beliefs. What is our responsibility in upholding the Biblical view of marriage? Look to Jesus' example. He took everything to His Father in prayer. He spoke with concern to those in leadership about their misuse of power. He cared for those who were mistreated. In other words, contact your MP asking them to keep to the present law's definition of marriage as a union between a man and a woman. Role model a Christian marriage to this generation so they will copy it in their own relationships.

Perhaps the harder challenge is to treat with Christ-like care those whose lifestyle is not reflective of the Biblical view of marriage.

RADICAL GOSPEL AT ASI

The world of business is no place for the faint-hearted Christian. Nor is the world of theology. The two worlds came together in a series of worships and lectures for a rich mix of professionals, business students and members who run their own businesses at the annual ASI Convention, Staverton Park Hotel, Daventry, 1-3 February 2013.

The whole weekend could perhaps be summed up by the closing remarks of Dr Laurence Turner's Sabbath afternoon lecture on Genesis 1. Looking at the creation account through the eyes of the ancient world he stated, "Genesis 1 is a radical statement which flies in the face of received wisdom in the world in which Genesis came into existence. And it would be a pity if we made Genesis 1 a touchstone of conservatism rather than a statement of radical faith."

The 21st century business person lives in a world where Christianity flies in the face of received wisdom. The moral values found in the Bible are more difficult to find in the workplace – yet people still have a need – even if they do not recognise it. This came through in a lively Sabbath morning debate on creation and morality. Based around the assertion of the philosopher Pascal that, "There is a god shaped vacuum in the heart of every man, and only God can fill it", delegates discussed the strengths and weaknesses of various philosophical arguments including those of the modern day 'four horsemen of the new atheism'. It was a radical look at the week's Sabbath School lesson combining the business mindset with that of God's creative purpose.

While Sabbath afternoon focused on issues in Genesis, Friday night, led by Pastor Victor Hulbert, took an overview of the last book of the Bible. As a communicator, Victor is keen to get the Bible message over in language that people understand. "How do I explain the themes of Revelation to my next-door-neighbour?" Telling stories, he wowed his audience into looking at the overall picture of victory in the book. "Revelation starts with separation – John in island exile, separated by sea from fellowship with the saints." By the end of the book 'there is no more sea', and the saints are together with their God. In the persecuted world of the first century, Revelation was as radical as Genesis.
The word 'radical' also came to mind in BUC President, Pastor Ian Sweeney's morning sermon. Welsh delegate, Len Eastwood's memory of the sermon was 'fish!'. Ian, looking for ways to build friendships with his neighbours plans to be the very first West Indian in their local angling club. He emphasised that what the world needs today is what it needed 1900 years ago, for Christians to mingle with the people. "Much of our church is too insular, a huddling of holy people who bear no relation to the community", he said. "Mingle!" he emphasised. "Don't just share information. Being intentional in our mingling gives a basis for our sharing."

There was plenty of mingling during the weekend. Over meals, during breaks, and for some a brief Sabbath afternoon walk, conversations were intense.

Angel Duo, the Spanish President of ASI Europe shared the vision of how business people across Europe are sharing their faith in lay-led evangelistic programmes, special 'helpful' Bibles for use in prisons and hospitals, and in community witness. He equally found himself engaged with the enthusiasm of the British chapter of ASI.

Stanborough Park member, Richard Poulton was delighted. "The highlights for me were the consistent pleas for individual evangelism by all speakers and Paul Lee's rendition of 'Give Me Jesus'."

Newbold Business Studies student, , said that it was impressive to see Adventist representation in the business sector: "As a student wanting to work in the business world it was inspiring to see other Adventists who have made it."

ASI is open to any Adventist who operates a business, provides a professional service, has a product to sell, or operates a supporting ministry. Officers for 2013, elected at the close of business on Sunday include:

- **President**: Jim Cunningham
- **Vice President**: Deborah Harris
- **Treasurer**: Len Eastwood
- **Hon Sec**: Christine Manners-Smith
- **BUC Rep**: Victor Hulbert
- **Chaplain**: Julian Hibbert

The full committee also includes Kerhys Sterling (assistant secretary), Richard Poulton, Robert Hinds, Chris Levy, Anthony Nxumalo and two student representatives.

Email: manners.smith@yahoo.com for more information. A photo gallery from the weekend is available on the BUC website. A video recording of 'The beginning of Genesis' by Laurence Turner will be available in due course.

**NO SERMON REQUIRED! [Larry Simpson]**

What? No sermon! That's right! No pastor and no platform party either. However, we did have church!

Surprisingly, 'church' at Walthamstow on Sabbath, 2 February 2013 was so inspirational that when Communications leader,
Sylvester Davis, finished the service the congregation continued.

Seven mini praise teams led the church family in a series of praise and worship sessions which included testimonies and praise to God. While there was no sermon from the pulpit, it was certainly preached in the songs of hope, joy and love, including 'Joy By and By', 'Will There Be Any Stars in My Crown', 'Jesus is Coming Soon' and 'We Have This Hope'.

"Keep a song in my heart" is part of the Pathfinder Law and every member, adults, teens, children, Pathfinder and non-Pathfinder, did just that. The children enjoyed an interactive five-minute sermonette by Sylvester Davis and everyone enjoyed a morning of total praise and worship.

What did the members feel about the service? Comments included, "God is so good." "Isn't it wonderful to stop and praise God for His goodness!"

Jessica Lemonious added, "It was a joy to freely sing and let our hearts spill out praises to God; to let gratitude and love rise to our Creator and Sustainer." For her, the beauty of the service was in the participation: "everyone was involved throughout the whole service, raising combined voices as a church family in unified praise and worship of our great God."

Andy from Splash Radio commented "The presence of God was felt, I left being blessed."

Larry Simpson, a Jamaican news journalist concluded that it was the "best service I have attended since I came to England and with all my favourite hymns."

Sylvester found his purpose for the day in Psalm 67:3. "Let all the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise you." And that, he argues, is exactly what happened when the message in word was replaced by the message in song.

TO BE OR NOT TO BE PERFECT? [Katie Ramharack Singh]

Dr Radiša Antić and Dr Jan Barna, lecturers at Newbold College of Higher Education, Bracknell, dissected 'perfectionism' for those gathered at the South England Conference's Bible Symposium, Sunday, 3 February. Held at the John Loughborough School, in Tottenham, the presentations looked at 'Biblical Perfection' through the works of theorists and Ellen White.

Breaking down perfectionism for the layperson, Radiša Antić clarified the meaning. "In simple terms, it means that as long as we live in these bodies we cannot achieve eradication of sin or 'sinlessness'. However, we can grow spiritually from one stage to another, becoming more and more mature and more like Christ. So sin will remain in all our one hundred trillion cells waiting like the lion for its prey, to jump, but we cannot eradicate it. Only when Jesus comes can we truly eradicate sin, once and for always."

One controversial topic raised, during the question and answer section, was the link between vegetarianism and perfectionism. Response from the presenters stressed the importance between principle and policy in the Bible.

"Principle is something that is universal, relevant for everybody, everywhere and in all times. Policy is something that is relevant for some people, in certain times and in certain cultures", explained Dr Antić. "Vegetarianism cannot be a principle because Jesus, priests and apostles ate meat. However, we know what is ideal; we know that vegetarian food is the best for humans and that meat can be harmful. But we cannot oblige everyone in the world to do this because they may not be able and it would be biblically incorrect to say that vegetarianism is a principle."
Pastor Sam Davis, President of the South England Conference, introduced the day with a short talk. This was followed by presentations from Jan Barna, speaking on 'Adventism, Perfectionism and the Bible' and 'Getting Under the Skin of Ellen White on Perfectionism'. Radiša Antić, addressed biblical quotes such as, "Be ye therefore perfect as your Father in heaven is perfect" and "Whoever is born of God doth not commit sin".

"I think the Church and people alike have many questions about perfectionism", commented Jan Barna. "They come across terms like 'holiness', 'perfection' and statements from the Epistle of John on not sinning. I think it's important for the Church to raise and respond to these questions and to discuss them biblically, in the context of E G White's writings too, to get the best understanding we can today."

Listening throughout the day was Pastor Jerry Smith who was encouraged by Jan Barna's 'Now' and 'Not Yet' presentations. "He delineated some aspects of life today that show salvation at work in our lives", said Pastor Smith.

The presentations from Dr Radiša Antić (Director of the E G White Research Centre and Lecturer at Newbold College) and Dr Jan Barna (Lecturer in Systematic Theology at Newbold College) are available to watch online.

**FIX YOUR FACE EVANGELISM** [Kirsten Øster-Lundqvist]

"Fix your face Evangelism", was perhaps the most creative and cost efficient suggestion, that came out of the group discussions on evangelism at the South England Conference Elders' Retreat, 1-3 February 2013. "It doesn't cost to fix your face in a welcoming smile", explained group leader, Susanne Kirlew, an elder from Walthamstow. "Often that smile and welcoming face will make a difference."

With a focus on Mission to the Cities, 200 elders from across the South England Conference gathered at the annual Elders' Retreat, to learn more about this General Conference initiative. According to Pastor Emmanuel Osei, Ministerial Association director of the South England Conference, the main objective of the weekend was to introduce the elders to the concept of Mission to the Cities.

The highlight was the breakout discussions, where elders discussed various evangelistic initiatives that local churches could engage in. One group challenged the rest by asking why evangelism always seems to be about finances. A myriad of ideas and suggestions of evangelism outreach was shared, and are being compiled into a list that will be made available in due course.

Dr Daniel Duda, from the Trans-European Division, took the elders through an in-depth study of how to look at a Bible text. This was an eye-opener for Gerald Duffus from North Wembley. "We were shown how to use Paul's methods of evangelism to the Athens in today's culture." Dr Duda challenged the elders to look for the positive in the non-Adventist people they meet.

Concluding the weekend Pastor Osei stated that "we will always be about evangelism, however we need to find new ways of evangelism that is relevant to the time and place we live in. There is no point if we pitch a tent and no one shows up, or if we preach and no one is listening."
MORE THAN FANS OF CHRIST  [Kasyn Sell]

Sabbath, 2 February 2013 saw LIVE St Austell arrange the first Area 1 Youth Day of Fellowship in a long time. Gathering at the St Austell Seventh-day Adventist church, the day drew together the youth from Devon and Cornwall for worship, fun and fellowship. "We really wanted to try and promote the ties between the different churches and youths in the surrounding area so that there is a general feel of unity and cohesiveness”, stated youth sponsor, Steven Hulbert.

And they came. A university student from Falmouth, a group from Torquay, and even a car of people all the way from Reading and Newbold who wanted to join the event.

The worship service was in fairly laid back style with awesome songs of praise, testimonies, and inspirational thoughts as a prelude to the sermon given by SEC Teens director, Pastor Dejan Stojkovic. His practical challenge to the youth was to "not stick with the status quo or be afraid to stick up for what you believe.” He challenged everyone to be more than just fans of Christ, and more than just fair weather people who will leave when things get tough. Rather, he appealed, "be followers who would do anything and give up the comforts of your life if need be in order to follow Him better."

Potluck lunches in Area 1 are legendary. There were great dishes to try and much conversation to be had. The couple of hours over lunch allowed friendships to spark which could be clearly seen in two of the young girls who struck up a friendship that lasted the entire day.

We crammed an hour of the afternoon with songs, an inspirational message from Dejan, and a special, conversational prayer highlight. "We got together as a group and prayed for one another", states Kasyn Sell. "It was a really beautiful way to close the programme and to hear the concerns and blessings of those around us.”

An early evening concert then climaxed the day. With the church hall converted into an intimate candlelit atmosphere, not only Area 1 youth but also people from the community enjoyed a free concert with a Christian band, Daughters of Davis.

"The songs were great, the band's presence was stellar”, admitted one attendee, Steven Mann. Jason Collings also enjoyed his day: "The fact that everyone got on so well, the sermon was great, and the band was great, good friendship and just a really good day."

Pastor Dejan returned home satisfied. "It was so exciting to see churches getting together and young people spending time in worship, food and socializing."
The new Conference strategic plan for the next four years was the primary focus of the quarterly meeting for ministers in the North England Conference on Wednesday, 6 February.

Pastor Colin Woodford, from the Middlesbrough district expressed it well when he said that, "This is the clearest strategic plan we have had come from the NEC." Pastor Lorance Johnson, newly arrived in Nottingham as President and needing a clear plan for the Conference, asked God for direct guidance about a plan.

"I heard God say to me, 'Open the drawer', and in that drawer was a Gideon Bible.

"Where do you want me to read?  The word came back, 'Open'." Pastor Lorance turned to a marked page in the book of Nehemiah and God poured into Lorance's mind His vision for the Conference.

Pastor Johnson with the administrative team and directors and sponsors created a clear plan for the future of the Conference. The headlines may well read, 'Rebuilding people, Restoring relationships, Inspiring excellence'. Deeper study will reveal a plan that is designed for real spiritual health for the Conference.

Part of that plan is to honestly evaluate the true state of the Conference – and then set about addressing the issues that affect the health of the Church.

At the heart will be an aim to build a real relationship with God by encouraging people to get into a programme of reading – including the writings of Ellen White. Lorance Johnson stated that, "if the Library of Congress House in Washington can keep a copy of The Desire of Ages and regard it as the best commentary on the life of Christ then we should surely be using this book."

One aspect of the health of the Church can be simply assessed anecdotally by looking at the prayer life in our churches. "We can simply look at our prayer meetings and recognise that we need to raise prayer to the importance it should be held in," Pastor Johnson noted.

The Conference plan sees the aim of building loving relationships with fellow members as a really important issue. Pastor Johnson stated, "The Conference will aim to develop a culture of trust and integrity which will start with the whole pastoral team."

Relationships are at the heart of the plan. A key aim will be to rebuilding loving family relationships in the home and the church. "We don't just want to build relationships to save others. We want the Conference to be an area where we are building authentic relationships with people of other beliefs and persuasions", Pastor Johnson stated.

"Going beyond those relationships we want to ensure that we are proclaiming the everlasting gospel in the context of the Three Angels' Messages. That means we are not to be ashamed of the distinctive features of our faith, we should promote who we are – and recognize that people are also looking for identity. We are not seeking to be different in an isolated manner. We are not intending to segregate ourselves from our society. We want to raise and reflect our identity in the world.

"That comes down to us developing a clear sense of identity and mission through teaching and discipleship. The intention in this final objective is that we equip our churches, everyone, that we can be disciples. We want people to come in, and stay in."
Pastor Acquoi Karbah, from the churches in the Humberside area asked, "Does this mean the local church can't express their own local vision? Pastor Johnson responded that, "If we can all run with this plan this will say something very special about unity. If local churches then start to go their own way this also says something. Our membership ought to be able to see that we are united, working towards a vision together. There is still scope within the vision for so much to take place."

The plan is being developed and gradually opened out to the leaders of the church throughout the Conference with a final unveiling at a Day of Fellowship in September.

Pastor Samuel Appiah stated, "This is the way for spiritual growth in our Conference", while Ikwisa Mwasumbi said the plan was, "Very spiritual. Unless we are focusing on the basics, the word and on prayer we will not be able to progress higher."

Pastor Emanuel Bran took an early draft of the proposal and has implemented it in the Derby churches. The church have realised that following the vision has really helped pilot their current and future plans.

EMBRACING YOUTH LEADERSHIP  [Sandra Golding]

The 'Our time is now – discovering the power of youth leadership' conference saw over 90 Youth leaders and Pathfinder leaders from across the SEC come together at the Hellidon Lakes Hotel, Daventry. Over the last weekend of January they learnt of spiritual renewal and how to embrace their roles as youth leaders.

You could hear the laughter and see the joy on the faces of Pathfinder leaders as they learnt how to become more effective leaders. The guest presenters for the Pathfinder leaders were Percy Fraser, Tanya Grant, Kennedy Kundan, Vernon Noel, Roz Parson, Pauline Peek, and Tyrone Waldron. The topics ranged from why Pathfinders, induction and investiture, to insurance and organising your club.

"I think it is important that churches invest in their Pathfinder Club leaders as they have an awesome responsibility in educating and training the future leaders of our churches and giving them the skills they need that will help them have a significant impact in the community”, commented Pastor Kevin Johns, SEC Pathfinder director.

On the youth leadership track leaders were privileged to have guest presenters from Jamaica, USA and the UK. Professor Patrick George Smith from the Northern Caribbean University had the audience in awe, laughter and deep thought at the Friday evening worship service when he spoke about the power of the mind and how we limit ourselves in Christ. On Sabbath he spoke about the importance of being a servant leader like Jesus Christ.

Pastor Raymond Edwards, a leadership expert, presented workshops on planning and programming for leaders which examined what type of leaders we are and how people react to us. The UK guest presenters were Sacha Gillin, Dr Steve Thomas and June and Paul Thompson. The topics they presented were youth work practices, not another meeting, and finance and funding for youth work.
Dr Steve Thomas, SEC Youth director, emphasised that youth "are the most valuable asset of our church and if we fail to invest in them we plan to fail." He added, "I would like to see more churches commit to investing in their young people so that they can lead in the local church and be mission driven youth."

The Sabbath keynote speaker was Dr Hiskia Missah, Associate Youth director for the General Conference. Noting the importance of making sure that the car's tracking is correct he emphasised that "as Christians it is important that we are realigned with God and allow Him to perfect us, so that we can 'drive' in the right direction."

Over the weekend, both the Youth and Pathfinder leaders were challenged to think outside the box and to learn how to be creative and to teach the young people to aim for excellence to lead them to a deeper relationship with God.

A selection of photos from the event can be seen on the BUC website.

**MOHAP – 'HOW GREAT THOU ART'** [Janet Hamilton]

The first Ministry of Healing and Prayer (MOHAP) retreat for 2013 took place at the Advent Centre in central London on Sunday 27 January. Approximately 130 attendees travelled from across the UK to participate in the day. Many came with the burden of sickness, but departed at the end of the day with a lightened load; as they were encouraged throughout the day to cast their cares on Jesus and to trust in Him.

The praise, worship and testimony sections on the day were enthusiastically led by Fen Braithwaite; with many providing testimonies about the healing power of God in their lives. Pastor Cecil Perry reminded us in his devotion; that the One who wields power over sin is the same One who has power over all sicknesses. Dr Chid Ngwaba, a physician and lifestyle doctor, outlined the principle that prevention is very much better than cure and provided guidance on improving one's health using a natural approach. Marlene Levy, a psychotherapist and counsellor, focussed on the importance of prayer, with regards to the emotional and mental aspect of wellness and healing.

Pastor Simon Martin encouraged attendees to pair up with a person previously unknown to them and to pray for that person's needs. In the afternoon Pastor Berti de Nysschen provided an opportunity for individuals to engage in quiet meditative prayer.

Pastor Humphrey Walters, introduced the biblical purpose of the anointing service and 11 pastors from around the SEC provided, upon request, individual anointing, pastoral counselling and prayer in a very reverent and spirit-filled atmosphere. The day concluded with the hymn 'How Great Thou Art' which beautifully expressed the mediation of each heart.

The next MOHAP retreat is on 31 March at Balham church. Information will soon be available on http://www.seccnews.org.uk/events. For queries contact mohaprayertime@gmail.com or phone 07407 692 256.
LATEST MESSENGER ONLINE

'Mission to the Cities' is the lead article in the 8 February 2013 MESSENGER, the official journal of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the UK and Ireland. Megapixels of creation returns with some of your best photography, Sacred and secular views on God's protection in times of crisis, First impressions, and 'Faith in fatigues'. Read it online or pick up a copy from your local church.

PROGRAMMES TO WATCH THIS WEEK

Our programme highlights for the coming week:

On Revelation TV (Sky 581 or Freesat 692): Faith Talks returns with discussion and debate surrounding issues central to the Christian faith. Join the debate Thursdays 8:30 pm, repeated Sunday lunchtime, 1:00 pm.

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 8 February: 8:00 pm: The Journey: Iona and Worship, 8:30 pm: FaithTalks: Is God a moral monster?, Midnight: The Journey: Iona and Worship
Sabbath 9 February: 9:00 am & 7:00 pm: The Journey: Iona and Worship, 7:30 pm: FaithTalks: Is God a moral monster?
Monday 11 February: 12:30 pm: In Conversation: Pat Eastwood – Homesickness or adventure?, 9:30 pm: Viewpoint: Sabbath Rest
Wednesday 13 February: 8:00 am: Viewpoint: God in a cruel world, 11:00 pm: In Conversation: Paul Lee – Singing for life
Friday 15 February: 8:00 pm: The Journey: Seeking the lost, 8:30 pm: FaithTalks: Why can't I believe anything I want?, Midnight: The Journey: Seeking the lost
Sabbath 16 February: 9:00 am & 7:00 pm: The Journey: Seeking the lost, 7:30 pm: FaithTalks: Why can't I believe anything I want?

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

STRESSTHERAPIST.NET MINISTRIES WORKSHOPS. Sabbath, 9 February. Stress and the Bible: Building unity by breaking down stress in our churches and families. Biblical and scientific guidance that enable better relationships between church members, families and the community. Venue: Enfield Seventh-day Adventist Church, St Heliers Community Centre, 12 Eastfield Road (off Hertford Road). Time: 4 - 6 pm. Contact: Uche Nwosu <uche_nwosu@stresstherapist.net>. Phone: 07828438849.

SEND ME: A FUNDRAISING CONCERT. Saturday, 9 February. In aid of Impact South Africa 2013 and Aston Newtown Youth department. An array of gospel musical talent by Aston Newtown Community Adventist Church youth and special guest artists. Time: 6:30 pm. Location: Aston Newtown Community Adventist Church, Lichfield Rd, Aston, Birmingham, B6 5SX. Cost: £5 Adults; £3 (Children & Seniors); Tickets available online, from the Adventist Resource Centre at Aston Newtown church or on the door. Contact: Daniel Blyden <astonnewtowncomms@gmail.com>. Phone: 07445346577.
WILLESDEN FAMILY LIFE WEEK. Saturday, 9 February to Saturday, 16 February. 7:00 pm at Willesden Adventist church, Pound Lane, Glebe Road, Willesden, NW10 2JD. Speaker: Pastor Leslie Ackie – Family Life director, South England Conference. Every week night and Sunday afternoon. Family health check. Contact: Sophia Prince <sprince@adventist.org.uk>. Phone: 01923 672251.

ILFORD FUNDRAISING BANQUET. Sunday, 10 February. A special church building fundraising banquet at Ilford Seventh-day Adventist church. Cost: £20 per person. Please contact Sonia Roman on 07900 310123 or soniaworld@yahoo.co.uk for more information.

DIVERSITY– FRIEND OR FOE? Tuesday, 12 February. The February Diversity Lecture at Newbold College. Speaker: Professor Lawrence Geraty, President Emeritus, Executive Director, LSU Foundation, La Sierra University. Time: 7:30 pm. Venue: Smith Centre, Salisbury Hall, Newbold College, Binfield, RG42 4AN. Contact: Helen Pearson <helenpr@newbold.ac.uk>. Phone: 07775612610.

THE DIALOGUE CAFE. Friday evening 15 February Central London church: A true Cafe with a difference! Music, worship, food and drinks, and good companionship are shared around the theme of 'Love'. Join us as we listen to Dejan Stojkovic and join in the dialogue around the tables. Doors open from 7:00 pm, as seats are limited. Contact: Geert Tap <g.tap@btinternet.com>. Phone: 07747568942.

JOURNALISTIC WRITING. Sunday, 17 February to Sunday, 28 April. Many people need to be in contact with the press in one form or another. To fill the need: Four remaining Journalistic Writing workshops in the North England Conference. Huddersfield – 17 February. NEC Office – 17 March. Bury-Fishpool – 13 April. Newcastle – 28 April. The aim of each workshop is to equip people to understand the process needed to create an article for the denominational press (BUC News, NEC Communicator, MESSANGER etc) or for local newspapers. Anyone can attend the course, it is suitable for all church members and their friends. This includes friends who are not members of the Church. Contact: Pastor Peter Jeynes <pjeynes@necadventist.org.uk>. Phone: 07734 220536.

MEDICAL MISSIONARY TRAINING. Sunday, 17 - Sunday, 24 February. Medical Missionary Introductory Training: Vojvodina Foundation, Adventist Lifestyle Health Centre, Elek, Hungary. All presentations are in English. Presenters: Medical director Dr Wyn Horsley (18 years - natural medicine practitioner) & Ann Marie Scott – Uchee Pines. Attendees will gain a basic knowledge in the ethical and effective use of natural treatments. Cost: £400, includes board, meals and all materials. Email Magdi: <balogh_magdolna@yahoo.co.uk>. Tel: 00 36 20 530 54.

TRIP TO ISRAEL. Monday, 18 February to Monday, 25 February. Let the Bible come alive in a way you have never seen before. For more information, contact Pastor Chackochen <chacko@onam.co.uk>. Phone: 07748 417 460.

HERE I AM LORD, SEND ME! (NEC AREA 1 YOUTH RETREAT). Friday, 22 - Sunday, 24 February. Youth from: Isle of Man, Carlisle, Newcastle, Durham, Middlesbrough and Darlington. Speakers: Joseph Philpott, Colin Woodford, Curtis Murphy, Noel Apugan, Roman Smejkal and Sidney Almeida (www.sidneyalmeida.com). Nature Walk with Obrain Mwanjoka. Contact: Colin Woodford <cwoodford@hotmail.co.uk>. Phone: 07916335174.

BUILDING UP THE TEMPLE. Saturday, 23 February. 'For His Glory' gospel concert in support of the Milton Keynes church building fund. Together with other gospel artists, you will be graced with rich musical sounds that will keep you singing and singing. Ticket only concert. 6:30 - 9:00 pm (doors open at 6:00 pm). Venue: MK Adventist Church, 1 Veryan Place, Fishermead, Milton Keynes, MK6 2DH. Contact: Elma Smith <forhisglory@hotmail.co.uk>. Phone: 07410796269.

AN EVENING WITH PAUL LEE & FRIENDS. Saturday, 23 February. Including The Adventist Vocal Ensemble; The Levites – Debra-Elaine Simpson, Everol Dixon, Bobby Carr. An evening of contemporary Christian & Gospel music. Saturday 23 February. 7:30 pm. Stanborough Park Church,
ALL-DAY BIBLE CONFERENCE. Sabbath, 9 March. Newbold College of Higher Education's annual All-Day Bible Conference, Sabbath 9 March on the College campus in Binfield, Berkshire, RG42 4AN. Theme: 'Hearing the Prophetic Voice!' with five speakers from Newbold's Department of Theological Studies. Full registration: £75 including a complimentary copy of the NSRV Bible, lunch, supper and refreshments. Early bird registration (£50) closes 16 February. Registration from 8:30 am on the day, and the conference concludes with supper at 17:30. See the website for more details and to register, or call or email the College. Contact: Debbie McReynolds <dmcreynolds@newbold.ac.uk>. Phone: 01344407420.

DA MANS DEM (COMEDY GOSPEL PLAY) COMING TO READING. Saturday, 9 March. Date: Sat 9 March, 7:30 pm. Venue: The Globe | 12 Portman Rd | Reading | RG30 1EA. Tickets: £15 Adv or £18 on the door. Box Office: www.theticketsellers.co.uk | 0844 870 0000 | 07989 574 066 | 07941 356 476 http://www.theticketsellers.co.uk/tickets/da-mans-dem/10024973?ref=p4953-link2850. Contact: Alan Charles <focusarts@yahoo.co.uk>. Phone: 07989 574 066.

SMALL ADS

JOB VACANCIES: PA to Executive Secretary, TED Office, St Albans. Closing date 21 February 2013. Headteacher, Stanborough Secondary School for September 2013. Closing date, 11 March. Headteacher, Newbold Primary School for December 2013. Closing date, 31 March. See our job vacancies page for these and other work opportunities.

YAMAHA ELECTONE HC- 2 ELECTRONIC ORGAN with stool for sale. It has an upper, lower and pedal keyboard as well as a voice menu, which allows for transposition to a higher or lower key by half an octave. Price £60.00. Collection from Hemel Hempstead. Photos available on request. Enquiries: Email Melody Schleicher at melody@igmac.co.uk. This would be suitable for church or private use.