Edition #905 (5 December 2014)

Email Newsletter of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the United Kingdom and Ireland

For additional and updated news and a full listing of coming events visit our website: www.adventist.org.uk

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CHURCH BECOMES FOCAL POINT FOR PUB-GOERS

Regular visitors to a Wilmslow pub found their eyes being drawn from the attractive 'pub grub' to an unusual display outside the church next door. "We were astonished", explained Philip Emm, a member of the Ringway Life Adventist church. "Many families came around from the pub just to see our display. Cars on their way to Manchester Airport
were slowing down on the road to take a look."

Philip is actually talking about two displays. The first, in response to a 'Guy Competition' in the local town, featured a positive alternative to Guy Fawkes of bonfire night fame. Instead, the Adventist alternative featured three 'guys' praising the Lord. The display was there for over a month. More importantly, in addition to coming in 'highly commended' amongst the many guys dotted around Wilmslow town centre, members would come out of church on Sabbath to find whole families stopping by to show their children. They inevitably had broad grins on their faces.

With such an extraordinary amount of interest in the Adventist 'guy', members wondered whether a timely Christmas nativity scene could have an even greater affect. That seems to be the case. "Even when putting the Christmas nativity scene in situ we had a dozen cars and families stop in their cars or walk round from the pub opposite to see the display", Philip added.

The display took a lot of making with careful sculpting of faces, hands and animals, then arranging the appropriate clothing. "The looks on the faces of all creative parties was pure delight as it all came together," Philip enthused, "especially as families visiting the Manchester Airport viewing park stopped as they drove past, some stopping completely to get out and come and have a closer look."

Church pastor, Geoff Smith gave a practical rationale for this practical outdoor witness. "We feel that Christmas is a really magical time, or maybe that should be miraculous time, when there is still an awe of 'goodwill to all men'. That means people are more susceptible to the Christian message. What better way to do it than a scene depicting the very beginning of the story of our salvation through Jesus Christ."

Philip concluded with another significant point. "At a time when the word 'Advent' is used more than any other time of year, it is a great time to point out that that is our name as well – looking back with joy to the first Advent, looking forward with hope to the second."

It is hoped that the outside display and the opportunity for friendship will attract people to the variety of seasonal activities being run by the church through December.

[BUC news with Philip Emm]
Women love to talk! We all know that. But in sharing their stories they generally want to present the best side of themselves. This is especially true within the church family where, in the past, there might have been a tendency to present 'the best side' and hide or gloss over vulnerabilities and weaknesses. Can we do it differently?

Since it began in 2011, the 'Our Story. Our Song.' Conference at Newbold church, has been about getting ordinary women to authentically share what is on their hearts and encourage the women to lean in and connect with each other. This then enables them to build honest relationships with each other and flourish in their communities.

For 2014, the overall theme for The Newbold Sisterhood has been 'Daring Greatly'. With that in mind, on Sabbath, 22 November, almost 200 women listened to former Newbold College graduate and now writer, Judith Nyirenda, share her 'Dare to Live' talk. It was a beautiful story of growing with a facial birthmark and how she discovered that it is all part of God's purpose for her.

A working mother, Vimbai Chengeta, who moved from Zimbabwe over five years ago, bravely shared her story of how she recently dared to forgive and let go of bitterness and resentment after being made a widow with two young children at the age of 32. Four of the younger members of The Newbold Sisterhood, Elva Thorsteinsdottir, Gabrielle Zemlich, Chanel Currow and Lara Zestic, used their infectious enthusiasm to encourage and dare everyone to get involved in daring greatly. Bringing a biblical conclusion, Johannie Gungadoo, Newbold Primary School secretary, challenged everyone to dare to live their outcomes to God by sharing her insight into the Bible story of the Widow of Zarephath.

It wasn't just talk. Music often speaks directly to the heart and so the Mother & Daughter group sang 'My life is in Your hands', reminding the women that no matter what might come their way, He is standing with them and holding them up. Additional songs by Natalie Dye and McKenzie Jones left everyone looking forward to the next conference in November 2015.
Marija Skobje-Pilley, a first time attendee stated, "Every woman has her story, or many stories which together have formed her unique life story. Through each presenter at Our Story. Our Song., we heard some of our own stories. Sometimes, we don't realise that telling our story can bring God's message to other women. It is inspiring how God allows you to find yourself in other women's stories, connect with them and realise that the connection you create is part of His bigger picture and the purpose of your life."

The conference concluded with a bake sale where men and children joined with the ladies, all together as part of the wonderful community called Newbold church.


[Fellowship and Farewell for Pastor Ron Clemow]

Joint worship was the secret excuse to organise a special farewell for Aylesbury and Oxford church pastor, Ron Clemow. The two churches met together for fellowship and worship on Sabbath, 18 October. Aylesbury church has been transformed as a building initially under the leadership of Pastor Ian Sleeman but taken to completion more recently by Pastor Clemow. This meant that the church could accommodate both congregations under the one roof.

An unsuspecting Pastor Clemow led out with others in the Sabbath School while Newbold
pastor, Patrick Johnson, gave an excellent sermon under the banner of 'God's enduring love'. On his final Sabbath before retirement, the two churches then broke away from the formally arranged programme and, for over an hour, took time to praise God for Pastor Clemow's ministry. Many heartfelt tributes were given and Pastor Clemow knows he leaves both the churches with a positive focus on winning souls for Christ.

Originally from Cornwall, Pastor Clemow both met his wife, Ruth, and found Christ while training as a nurse at Treliske Hospital, Truro. After several years as active members of the St Austell congregation the couple then took on the management of Broomhill Conference Centre – a role where they were much loved and appreciated by the members. However, Ron felt a strong desire to serve God as a minister and so left to train at Newbold College. Since then his ministry has taken him to the South Coast, back to the West Country and then more recently to the Slough and Maidenhead district, before finally concluding his more than 28 years of service in the Oxford and Aylesbury district.

In a 2008 interview for the Hope Channel programme, 'In Conversation', Pastor Clemow told how God led him from a world focused on laddish behaviour and the occult to one of service. Pastor Clemow may now be retired, but it is unlikely that his passion for serving his Saviour will be reduced.

[Nigel Nicholls]
her retirement in July, 2015. During her Newbold career she has raised £5,900 for the charity. The money has provided a variety of essential help for sick children.

Friday, 28 November was the final of her eighteen GOSH sales – one sale for each year of her teaching career at Newbold School. "The sale started so many years ago with just a few Christmas gift tags that my class made and sold for 2p each", Mrs Hudson commented. "The next year one of our children asked if he could have a stall to sell unwanted toys and with each year more and more stalls appeared as children from Year 5-6 were captivated by the event and wanted to help."

The final sale was a sparkling event in which children and parents had opportunity to buy some excellent Christmas bargains, all donated by generous friends of the school. In addition, games such as 'How Many Marbles?', 'Treasure Map' and 'Feed the Monster', could all be played, and Christmas gifts were wrapped for a small fee.

Newbold children have always been invited to go to the sale first so they can buy presents for their parents in secret. The atmosphere is always full of Christmas cheer and fun.

Great Ormond Street has always been a charity close to Mrs Hudson's heart. "My life's work has been all about making the lives of children better, helping them to achieve and shine", Mrs Hudson explained. "GOSH has saved and improved the lives of so many children that I felt compelled to do my part to help them. It is a truly worthy charity and I have been delighted that Newbold School's children have put so much effort into helping me raise so much money over the years."

Click here to watch a short promotional video of the GOSH sale.

Both children and staff say a great 'well done' for the determination, effort and generous community spirit that Mrs Hudson has shown over the years. For Mrs Hudson herself, the £828 raised in the 2014 sale is thanks enough.

[Jaki Crissey]

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"This isn't something I would have expected to do with an Adventist church!" explained Keith Stevenson, speaking of his outreach programme that centred on the milestone of 100 years since the outbreak of World War 1, at St Austell church, on Saturday evening, 29 November.

The timely programme, held just two weeks after Remembrance Sunday, was focused on the 100th anniversary of the beginning of World War 1. Keith, along with Pastor Chris Peake, invited people from the community who were interested in this period of history or simply wanted to share their own experiences.

"I've been watching many BBC documentaries and doing research about the war, so much so that I've got lots of the information planted in my mind", commented Keith. "This year is an important milestone and I felt it was important to recognise what men and women were prepared to sacrifice. It shouldn't go unremarked."

The programme was made up of a variety of elements, from sing-alongs to wartime songs, to stories of war experiences, to a sermonette focused on the hymn, 'Onward, Christian Soldiers!'.

During the sermonette, Keith spoke of the parallel between the soldiers of World War 1 and the role of a Christian soldier. He focused on how Christians across the word have instead been 'called to arms' by God, to share His message to the world and remind people of His return.

In one of the stories, Keith shared his amazement of finding out about an Adventist man who was a medic in World War 1. He described how horrific his experience was and yet, he was still able to cater for the wounded, even caring for a German soldier at one point.

"Everyone found it interesting and especially enjoyed the sing-alongs", enthused Pastor Peake, who played the drums during the musical segments. A member of the Worldwide Church of God, Keith began worshipping at the St Austell Seventh-day Adventist church, Cornwall, after moving to the area and finding there was no local church of his denomination. "What's great about having Keith organising this is that he puts us in contact with people who might never step inside our church. He has connections with the British Legion, for example, and even teaches ballroom dancing. It's great having someone so open to making connections."

Throughout the evening, church members and visitors alike were encouraged to donate to three selected charities, Macmillan Nurses, Help for Heroes, and Children in Need. The church found the programme so interesting that some of their members are now planning to take it into their community, to residential homes, hospitals and community clubs.

For more on Seventh-day Adventists and WWI visit the dedicated pages on the Adventist Church website.

[Katie Allen]
DOOR TO DOOR STILL WORKS

Some people call it old fashioned. Others argue that nobody wants a stranger witnessing on their doorstep. Yet during the 2014 'Mission to the Cities' initiative in Greater Manchester, strategically planned door-to-door witnessing around the neighbourhood of the various Adventist churches has proved a positive experience, enhancing other creative evangelistic projects. Members across the area have joined together on a regular basis engaging in door-to-door knocking. Members are now witnessing the fruit of this effort.

Take, for instance, the Manchester Moss Side church plant. Here members are actively engaged in door-to-door witnessing in this difficult neighbourhood. They met Isobel Castillian. She was invited to attend a 'Prophecy of Hope' series, presented by Pastors Mike Simpson and Ebenezer Daniel. Isobel faithfully attended the series and requested for one-to-one Bible study. Pastor Daniel and the church plant leader, Raymond Rooms, studied with her for 3 months. Now a friend both of the church family and of God, Isobel was baptized on Sabbath, 20 September at Manchester Central church. On the day of baptism, Isobel invited her teenage daughter and friends to witness the service.

Manchester North members have focused their doorstep witnessing around Cheetham Hill, inviting the local community to church sponsored events. Church elder, David Chithokomere, met Paul, a local postman who just lives near the church. Paul was grieving over the death of his dear son. He was truly in distress. He needed to speak to someone to pour out the pain that he was going through. David was that listening ear. He prayed with Paul and shared how God and His Word could be a real source of comfort to him. Paul is now currently taking Bible studies with Pastor Daniel and David. Paul finds such great comfort and hope in the written Word of God that he shares everything he is learning through the studies with his sister.

Many Isobels and Pauls live near our churches, but we will only find them when we go out and look for them. There are individuals, who are truly looking out for someone who will share the love of God. Church members are grateful for old-fashioned methods that still touch people's lives in 2014. The training and support provided by the IMPACT programme sponsored by the
North England Conference Personal Ministries department has been invaluable.

Pastor Daniel states, "The real measure of success in evangelism is not how many projects we do but encouraging and challenging our membership to go out and seek those individuals in our neighbourhood."

[Jaipaul Sundararaj]

'PRESENT TRUTH' IN AN AGE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

[A follow-up to the 21 November article, 'Nice, quiet people... but undoubtedly cranks'.]

One hundred years ago the Adventists of Stanborough Park, Watford, were described by Hertfordshire Constabulary as 'nice, quiet people... but undoubtedly cranks'. That description in the Home Office National Archive is far more polite than that of some irritated citizens of these Isles upset at the Present Truth magazines being sold at their door, or promulgation of Adventists’ 'strange ideas about the Sabbath and food and drink'.

While scholars such as Dr Bryan Ball have traced back the English connection of Adventist belief, it is understandable the people back then, with staunch Anglican, Methodist or Baptist backgrounds might be challenged by what they saw as a fairly recent, upstart, American religion. Today the world is very different. Religious belief has declined, and with it church attendance. Generally society is more tolerant of those who are different. Prejudice has reduced.

That presents two challenges to sharing 'Present Truth'. The witness to fellow Christians is more difficult both because there are less of them, but more importantly, those that remain tend to be more deeply committed. These are Christians that have made a positive choice to stay Christian whereas for their forebears Christianity and church attendance was the norm.
The second challenge is to that large group that makes up the 'post-Christian' or secular society in which we now live. Many are not anti-Christian, but they have little clue as to even the basics of belief and faith.

How do we reach out to these groups?

The current top favourite Ellen White quote in Adventist circles comes from her book, *Ministry of Healing*, pg 143: "Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, 'Follow Me.'"

This must be more than the door-to-door selling of *Present Truth* in 1914, or the large campaigns of the 50s, 60s and 70s. It is vital that we meet people where they are, and in the multimedia world of the 21st century the world that over half the UK population inhabits is one of social media. The likes of Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp, YouTube, Snapchat and a myriad more have totally changed the way we relate with others, and has even downgraded the meaning of the word, 'friend'.

At the same time it has given new opportunities for us to 'mingle… as one who desires their good'. Social media can be a positive tool for sharing but careful thought can enhance that witness.

There are three Bible texts that come to mind when sharing on social media. Romans 12:1-2 talks about taking your "everyday, ordinary life – your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life – and place it before God as an offering." *[The Message Bible]* This is exactly what happens on social media. It is full of pictures of people's cats, dinners, children, activities and gripes. It is their 'everyday, ordinary life' laid out for everyone to see. The difference for the Christian is that their presence on social media allows them to place that life 'before God as an offering' for people to see. People are watching… and what you place on Facebook, what you tweet, or the picture you Instagram may say as much about your Christianity as it does about your personality.

This leads to a second important text: "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone." *[Colossians 4:6 NIV]* Social media is renowned for its sharp answers and responses. Christians are not like that. Christians will ponder on a careful answer and respond with grace – even in the most provoking of situations. Sometimes, maybe often, that act of grace may be a delete key rather than an answer. Think carefully how you are going to respond. Think doubly carefully when you are responding to some posting that is attacking others, even others that you disagree with.
Adventist Church co-founder, Ellen White, could have been speaking about social media when she wrote these lines back in 1902: "I am instructed to say to our people: Be guarded. In bearing the message, make no personal thrusts at other churches, not even the Roman Catholic Church. Angels of God see in the different denominations many who can be reached only by the greatest caution. Therefore let us be careful of our words. Let not our ministers follow their own impulses in denouncing and exposing the 'mysteries of iniquity'. Upon these themes silence is eloquence. Many are deceived. Speak the truth in tones and words of love. Let Christ Jesus be exalted. Keep to the affirmative of truth. Never leave the straight path God has marked out, for the purpose of giving someone a thrust. That thrust may do much harm and no good. It may quench conviction in many minds. Let the Word of God, which is the truth, tell the story of the inconsistency of those in error.

"People cannot be expected to see at once the advantage of the truth over the error they have cherished. The best way to expose the fallacy of error is to present the evidences of truth. This is the greatest rebuke that can be given to error. Dispel the cloud of darkness resting on minds by reflecting the bright light of the Sun of Righteousness." [Evangelism pg 576]

Now consider that against a posting I saw on my Facebook feed this morning: "Hello friends hw are u? Do you know that anytime the beast is going to enforce Sunday law? Those who are observing the Sabbath are u ready for persecution? Coz it is now our time."

If every single one of his friends is an Adventist he may be making a point. But if he is truly 'mingling', what are his unchurched friends going to think? Is his 'beast' a reference to a satirical newspaper?

You may bask in the glory of your clever answers on the Sabbath, the mark of the beast, the horrors of modern sexual depravity, or the dangers of eating anything but a plant-based diet (and believe me you can find plenty of horrors on social media), but remember the words of Dale Carnegie, "A man convinced against his will is of the same opinion still." Far better, for instance, to share the joys of 34 years of positive marriage together than to attack those who live in relationships we disapprove of. Far better to show the benefits of a Sabbath rest than to attack those who worship on an alternative day. Far better for my faith to flow naturally through my interactions with others than for me to ram it thoughtlessly but hard down other's throats.

Compare the above posting with one from the previous week where an Adventist minister confessed to having been in a minor car accident. He finished his posting, "Felt sorry for the poor girl. Her first accident and she was in tears." Among the many comments, a non-Christian friend posted, "awww bless her. Lucky she went into you rather than some idiot who would get cross with her." Was that a successful method of 'mingling'? Was this a living out of 'by beholding we
become changed?'. [2 Corinthians 3:18]

That leads to perhaps the most important of my three social media Bible texts. 1 Peter 3:15: "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have."

This is sound advice in face-to-face conversations. It is even more important online. Being prepared to give an answer means that you are ready, but you have to wait until the person you are communicating with is ready. In every answer you give you are pointing them towards 'the hope you have within you'. Thus, in your responses you will always ask, "What is the redemptive, positive thing to say here?"

Here are some very simple rules I've learnt to live by when I go online:

- I do share my life online – but only share what will not come back to haunt me!
- 80% of my postings are my 'everyday, ordinary life'.
- 20% of my postings share my faith but in a non-threatening way.
- I'm open for discussion but not for argument.
- I will never be negative about those I theologically disagree with.
- I may suggest moving deep discussion from a public page to a private posting.
- Internet supplements but does not replace face-to-face.

For the Apostle Paul social media was a pair of feet and a voice (Romans 10:15-17). For the Reformation social media became a printing press with the Bible and Christian tracts allowing, according to William Tyndale, even a plough boy to know the scriptures. Since then the Word has been shared through print, radio, TV and now the internet. The phenomenal rise of social media over the past eight years gives Adventist Christians a new opportunity to be seen as quiet, peace-loving people, with a real, positive lifestyle, a valid point of view, and a hope for the future. And yes, if that leaves me looking slightly cranky, I guess I can live with that.

[Victor Hulbert]

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Rose Heather Barker on Wednesday, 26 November 2014. Rose Cooper was born on 11 September 1934 when her parents were serving in Nilgirl Hills, India. They returned to England where Rose attended the Heworth Village Primary School and later the Priory Street School for Girls in York. Rose joined the Adventist church in October 1949 in Leeds being baptised by Pastor John Handysides. In June 1954 she married Eric Barker, a Literature Evangelist from 1949 to 1969 and then gardener and maintenance man at The Dell Rest Home until 1983.

Rose and Eric had two children, Helen, born in 1955, and Paul in 1957. After the children started school Rose enrolled in Nursing School and became an SEN in 1965 and later completed her RMN training in 1969. It was later that year that Rose joined the staff at The Dell Rest Home as Assistant Matron, becoming Matron in 1972 until her retirement in October 1994. Sadly Eric predeceased his wife in September 1993.

Our thoughts are with her children, Helen and Paul and their families. We wish them the comfort of our Heavenly Father.

The funeral will take place at 12:30 pm on Monday, 15 December at the Basingstoke Crematorium, Manor Farm, Stockbridge Rd, North Waltham, Hampshire RG25 2BA. Donations in lieu of flowers can be made in favour of St Michael's Hospice, Basingstoke via The Co-operative Funeralcare Basingstoke, 1 Buckland Parade, Buckland Ave, Basingstoke RG22 6JW.

[Paul Lockham]

'NO ROOM IN THE INN?' – LATEST MESSENGER ONLINE

Learn about BUC President Pastor Ian Sweeney's claim to celebrity status in the 5 December edition of Messenger, the official journal of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the UK and Ireland. [Hint: It's something to do with Christmas.]

While the front page celebrates the conclusion of the 2014 ADRA-UK Gift Box Appeal, inside learn a lesson about 'Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red...', discover more about lunar Sabbaths, find out why Pastor Patrick Boyle has found a new passion for the city of his birth, and pick up a passion for mission in the West African country of Benin. Collect your copy from your local church or read it online now.
LIVING WITH CANCER AND HOPE: ADVENTIST TV THIS WEEK

Enjoy these special selections on Revelation TV and Hope Channel:

Thursday 4 December, 8:30 pm – Revelation TV (repeated Sunday 7 December, 1:00 pm). Though now remarkably cured, in this week's In Conversation, Karin and Llew Edwards openly share their moving and thoughtful views on living with terminal cancer. Their mixture of humour, honesty and a deep trust in God makes this compelling viewing. Revelation TV (Sky 581, Freesat 692, internet and Roku).

Thursday 11 December, 8:30 pm – Revelation TV (repeated Sunday 14 December, 1:00 pm). Richard Shaw was born with muscular atrophy, a congenital, degenerative impairment causing wasting of the 'voluntary' muscles. Despite having never effectively walked and been a wheelchair user most of his life, he shares how a thoughtful Christian carer helped him come to faith, and how living with a disability is no barrier to living a fulfilling life.

GET HOPE TV ON ROKU FOR CHRISTMAS. From just £49.99 you can stream all your favourite Hope Channel programmes plus an immediate selection of UK based 'on-demand' programmes straight to your TV. There is now an even greater selection of on-demand programmes available for you on Roku. A schedule, and a selection of ways to watch Hope Channel is available by visiting www.hopetv.org.uk. You can also watch all programmes direct from the Hope TV website.

[BUC news]
COMING EVENTS For a full and continuously updated listing of Coming Events please visit http://adventist.org.uk/events

Sabbath 6 December:

Saturday 6 December:
Marriage Enrichment Fellowship Dinner. An evening of fine dining with your partner and fellowship with other couples as you enjoy the wisdom shared by speaker on the night. Time: 19:00 - 23:00. Venue: The Park Inn Hotel, Bath Road, Heathrow, Middlesex UB7 0DU. Check link for prices and further details.

Sunday 7 December:
Cambridge Christian Book Sale. The Adventist Book Centre will be hosting a one-off book sale at Cambridge church. Books for all ages and several subjects including Christianity, Science and Philosophy. Time: 10:00 - 14:00. Venue: 15 - 19 Hobart Road, Cambridge CB1 3PU.

Area 6A, 6B, 6C & 6D Community Services Banquet. Times: Doors open from 4:00 pm. Venue: The Advent Centre, 37 Brendon Street, London W1H 5JE. Ticket prices: Adults (18-64 yrs) £20 / Senior Citizens (65yrs +) £15 / Children (4-17yrs) £15 / Children (under 4 yrs) free. To purchase tickets or for more info, please contact Daphne Dates on: 0207 7352251.

Thursday 11 December:
Stanborough Christmas Fair – Fun For The Whole Family. Time: 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm, with an entry fee of £1. The evening will be fun filled with lots of great activities for the whole family such as: A variety of games; General fun and laughter; Gifts to purchase; A secret gift room; A selection of refreshments. Venue: Stanborough School, Stanborough Park, Watford WD25 9JT.

Friday 12 - Sunday 14 December:
ZUSDAF Retreat. 3-day Zimbabwean Fellowship Meeting with back-to-back presentations from visiting and local preachers. Programmes for Youth, Singles, Children and Couples. Full board cost is £135 PP and £69 for children (6-16 years). Free for under 6 years. Venue: The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Alfreton, Derbyshire DE55 1AU.

Sabbath 13 December:
SEC Teens & Pathfinders Day of Fellowship. Time: 10:00 - 19:00. We are looking to provide lunch for all those who are coming but we will only serve those who have registered. If you think the food we will serve will not be enough for you please bring a packed lunch. Venue: Emmanuel Centre, 9-23 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 3DW. Price: Free (online registration). Contac: Dejan Stojkovic 07919 172 176 and Kevin Johns 01923 232728.

Saturday 13 December:

Youth Gospel Music Expo 2014. Harmony In’ Praise exists for the sole purpose of presenting the gospel of Jesus Christ through the presentation of competitive musical talent expos. Time: 19:00
Sunday 14 December:
**Deaf Banquet at Lewisham church.** An evening of good food, entertainment and fun for the deaf. Time: 2 pm - 8 pm at Lewisham Seventh-day Adventist church. We are inviting our deaf friends to join us for a social evening. For more details contact us at deafministries@lewishamadventist.org.uk.

Saturday 20 December:
**Night of Wonder, Night of Joy.** A unique performance of Night of Wonder, Night of Joy Christmas cantata will be held at the Filipino International Church (FIC) from 4:00 pm. For further details please contact Ishmael Baring, Music Ministry leader on 07838 115 416. Venue: Filipino International Church, The Church Hall, Brentmead Gardens, West Twyford, London NW10 7ED.

**Wimbledon Church's Christmas Concert.** You are invited to an evening of music and readings celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. Time: 18:00 - 19:30. All proceeds will go to Ebenezer Community Centre, a Zimbabwean charity seeking to help communities move from dependency to self-reliance. Contact Tammy Griffith: 07906 573 670. Venue: 11 Stanley Road, Wimbledon SW19 8RE.

**Tottenham Gospel Choir and guests.** This event was a great success last year with almost 200 people attending, so act quickly to buy your tickets at the early bird rate of just £3. Website: [http://tgchoir.eventbrite.co.uk](http://tgchoir.eventbrite.co.uk). Time: 19:00 - 21:30. Venue: John Loughborough School Hall, Holcombe Road, Tottenham, London N17 9AD.

Sunday 21 December:
**Hope Community SDA Church Banquet.** A winter wonderland banquet and fundraising auction, featuring a live band, game show entertainment and prizes, family quiz and children's competition, starlight photo booth and much more. Time: 17:00 - 22:00. A £10 deposit secures your ticket. Contact Michelle Richards on 07967 483 691. Venue: Club Langley, 2 Hawksbrook Lane, Beckenham, Kent BR3 3BE.

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**SMALL ADS**

WHEELCHAIR AVAILABLE. High quality, high spec wheelchair, well looked after, available for substantially reduced price of £100. Contact buc@adventist.org.uk for further details and photo. Will need to be collected from either Watford or Bracknell.

JOB VACANCIES: **Year 5 & 6 teacher, Newbold School** for commencement in September 2015. Closing date: 31 January 2015. **Volunteer Youth Worker, Stanborough Park church**, closing date: 19 December 2014. For these and other job opportunities with the Church visit the job vacancies page on the Adventist Church website.

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BUC News is a weekly news bulletin produced by the Communication Department of the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Items for inclusion should be sent to
bucnews@adventist.org.uk and need to be received by 6.00 pm on Wednesday. Coming Events should be submitted via the on-line form at: http://adventist.org.uk/events. The editor reserves the right to modify articles received to make them suitable for inclusion. The views expressed 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.

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