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

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

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This week's edition of BUC News comes to you early as the editor is joining with Scottish Mission youth in a fund-raising bid climbing Ben Nevis, Britain's highest mountain to support their ADRA project in Nepal. Find out more here. Pictured, the road to the highlands past Loch Lomand Wednesday evening on the drive towards Ben Nevis.

SUCCESS ON MOUNT FOLLY
Adventists love the biblical narratives of Godly
success on Mt Carmel, Nebo, and Sinai. They are stimulated by Jesus' teachings in the Sermon on the Mount, or the mountain top record of the transfiguration. But what do they make of 'Mount Folly'?

Mount Folly is not only the name of the main square in Bodmin, it is also where the Seventh-day Adventist church in this small Cornish town is based. For too many of the local inhabitants the name and the square had become synonymous. However, a two-day Health Expo in the square, 17-18 July 2015, has changed 'Mount Folly' into 'Mount Success' with hundreds of people in the town gaining a new perspective on what the church is all about.

Mount Folly Square is a prime location for special and important promotional events in the community. Such spaces often come with an expensive price tag and are often limited to exclusive users only. Wanting to reach out into the community, the church agreed to make an approach to the Council, giving plenty of advance notice, but realistically expecting either a negative answer or a positive one with an expensive quote. Surprisingly, not only did the Council say 'Yes', they also offered the use of the whole square free of charge, including the use of electric outlets.

The reason? The council appreciated what the church was planning to do and saw the event as a positive contribution to Bodmin. The answer to prayer did not end there. The church needed suitable shelters to host the free health checks. They approached a local tent hire company, again expecting a high quote. Instead they were offered two large gazebos at a third of the cost. Like the Council, the rental company appreciated what the church was planning to offer to the community.

Running the event took the combined talents of not just the Bodmin members, but also those from neighbouring churches. Children, youth and adults volunteered their time, armed with balloons for kids, free toothbrushes and toothpaste donated by a dental practice in Scotland, and all the necessary equipment to offer free health checks.

The event became one of positive engagement with the community. At times during the day there were queues outside the tent as news of the free health checks spread throughout the town. "At the end of the cycle of health checks, people happily took our health literature including some describing the beliefs of the church, especially that of the Sabbath", district pastor, Clifford Herman enthused. He was also delighted with the positive comments and appreciations from those who went through the Expo.
"There were sincere promises to visit the church", Pastor Herman said. "Others came to view Adventists in a totally positive light compared to what was previously understood." A recently retired nurse gave her address details and offered to volunteer with the team should they do a similar event again.

The volunteers on Mt Folly furthered a fulsome, holistic picture of what the church is and what it represents. Good will was created in the town and with the Council. Serving a community with a population of just 14,916, the volunteers of Bodmin church concluded that what seemed an implausible idea could become a positive reality, "if we offer to be of service to God and are willing to bless other human beings."

[Victor Hulbert with Clifford Herman]

OPENING THE DOORS IN DUBLIN PROVIDES AN ANSWER TO LONELINESS

Edith Samambwa reports on Dublin's 'Centre of Excellence' at the newly refurbished Ranelagh Adventist church:

It has been three months in the making and things are finally taking shape at the Cuisle Centre in Ranelagh Church Dublin. The name, 'Cuisle' was specifically chosen to represent the lifestyle centre wing of the church and means 'pulse' or 'life' in Irish. We believe that the centre will soon be the pulse of this community and help bring hope to many local people.

The church doors are wide open on Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Fridays, offering free health checks, cooking classes, parenting classes, depression recovery and massage therapy. Many people have stepped over the Adventist church threshold for the first time in their lives. They state, "We have walked past the church countless times, wondering what goes on inside this
brick building."

One senior citizen who lives in an Over 55's residence a few steps away from the church remarked, "We always see you having a good time with bake sales etc. and wonder if we can come in or if everyone is welcome?"

A young Muslim lady drops her children at the school opposite the church and since her first health check she stops by to say hello every time the doors are open. She's excited about the plans we have to start a Wednesday morning Socialisation Group for women. She has lived in Ireland for the past nine years and has few friends even among the Muslim community. All she longs for she says is "someone to have coffee with in town or go for a picnic with."

It seems the overwhelming need in this community is loneliness. Many of the people who have come to the health checks are exercising, trying to eat well but use alcohol as a companion when the noise of their daily lives has abated. Stress is a big issue for most people. Weekends are especially difficult, particularly Friday evenings. So our new friend from the Filipino community who lives a few doors away would like to start attending services with us on Saturdays and help out with the socialisation group so she can make some friends. She has seen a number of Filipinos coming in and out of the church building and even knows someone who attends here.

Some days it seems that all that people come for is a chat and to 'off load'. The health check is an excuse to take a break from 'life'. After the chair massage the relief on their faces is clearly visible.

Peter is homeless. He comes in every Tuesday and Thursday for a massage and a chat. He also comes for the potluck lunch every Sabbath. Kathleen, a retired teacher and a Nun comes in on Fridays for her massage therapy session with Patience, our massage therapist. She finds the atmosphere peaceful and the massages a wonderful relief for her as she is taking care of the more elderly nuns at the retirement home they live in. She loves the fact that it is the church facilitating these programmes.

An elderly gentleman with a walking stick comes in every Tuesday after his physiotherapy session next door to get his blood pressure checked. He says very little and "that's all he needs", he says. Maybe one day he'll want more but for now we are happy to give him just what he needs.

The cooking classes are especially popular. In the
most recent class seven visitors attended. Two of them had seen flyers we left in a Launderette and arrived half an hour early. Jocelyn and Ann are life-long friends and were once part of a Christian Fellowship in Cork. Since coming back to Dublin they have missed the fellowship and especially the prayer partners they had in that church. Jocelyn plans to be at church on Sabbath morning for the 9:00 am prayer group. She has also booked a massage session with Patience for the next week.

How many more people are out there like Jocelyn and Ann and Kathleen? People who are just waiting for the church to open its doors and welcome them in, not once a week, not to preach to them but to just be the space they need for friendship, belonging, a touch, a smile and a listening ear?

[Edith Samambwa]

GHANA'S OPPOSITION LEADER WORSHIPS WITH LONDON GHANA CHURCH


He was accompanied by a large entourage of his party's executives in the United Kingdom and Ireland, along with other well-wishers. The renowned lawyer and former Foreign Minister and Attorney General of the republic of Ghana took part in singing and prayers. He also listened to a sermon about Gideon by associate church pastor, Joojo Bonnie.

The Head Pastor, Fergus Owusu Boateng said special prayers for the statesman and also presented him with a book by Adventist Church co-founder, Ellen White.

In a brief response, Mr Akufo-Addo, who plans to run for President in Ghana's elections next year,
requested prayers to be said for the incumbent president of Ghana, especially for God's wisdom and direction to enable him steer the affairs of Ghana rightly.

He also requested prayers for the continued peace the country is enjoying. Mr Akufo-Addo expressed how much he enjoyed the service and praised the church for their contributions to the development of humanitarian and educational activities in Ghana.

Mr Akufo-Addo has long been an admirer of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, recently attending a session of the Agona East Conference in Ghana. He said, "I am a born Anglican but love SDA", noting that many top leaders in his party are also members of the Adventist Church.

Seventh-day Adventists traditionally take a neutral position in politics but are certainly willing and delighted to pray for wisdom for those in leadership.

[Nana Sifa Twum]

SEC STUDENT CAMP 2015

Ask yourself a question. Right at the peak of summer (or at least what we would like to call summer), where is the best place for students to enjoy great company, inspiring messages and have fun activities especially planned for them?

For just five days, 20-24 July, Pastor Dejan Stojkovic and his willing band of volunteers organised one of the most anticipated student events of the year, the South England Conference Students' Camp at the Chapel Port Adventist Campsite, Cornwall. It brought 55 university students together from Hertfordshire, Liverpool, Hull, Manchester, Cardiff, Buckingham, and many London universities. A few even came from France and Germany.

'Identity' was the main topic of the Camp – and an important one for Adventist students resident on secular campuses. The padre, Pastor Paul King Brown introduced the subject in a way that left students with peace in their hearts and ready to share Christ with others, living their lives fully identified with Jesus Christ.

Each day, following a morning message of encouragement - the perfect way to start the day -
students then headed out to paintball, bike-rides, exploring St Ives, to Chapel Port Beach, participating in an 'unofficial' UNO tournament, returning later to an epic bonfire, lots of other games or more 'chill activities' to help them recover from the pain of the paintballing or bike ride. To that you add the joy of the good food provided by the SEC treasury catering team - Aftab and friends.

Steven Hulbert, coordinator of the LIVE St Austell Church Plant led the praise and worship while Karen Plaatjes shared the benefits of becoming an Adventist volunteer – perhaps during or at the end of their university course. She answered questions as Coordinator of Adventist Volunteer Services for the Trans-European Division and a former volunteer herself.

"I think that this camp was one of the most amazing experiences in my life and I would do it all over in a heartbeat", Abigail Kabirou reflected at the end of the sun-filled days. "Everything I experienced was some part of what I needed to know -- that God is still in control and working in our hearts and lives", Adriel Mingo added, noting, "If you're around this time next year, do yourself a favour and go!"

Rachel Marie summed it all up: "If you want to meet awesome people, have a lot of fun, eat good food and share God's love, student camp is the place to go!"

[Graselda Rosales]

WORSHIP LEADER TURNS PREACHER AT YOUTH DAY

Loren Latchman is often to be seen as part of the worship team at Devon and Cornwall youth events, singing her heart out and praising God. On Sabbath, 25 July she swapped microphones to take on the role of preacher for a Youth Day of Fellowship in Paignton. Loren's roots are in Swansea and while she is most often seen at Newbold church she likes any excuse to 'escape to the country'.
Loren turned her hand to public speaking quite naturally. She shared a passionate message about identity and compared being labelled a Christian to the label of 'Trekkie'; both originally seen as negative labels but now often seen as positive. A self-confessed Star Trek fan, she highlighted how the show was ahead of its time, subtly tackling sensitive issues such as race and gender segregation, and discrimination.

One of her key points was to encourage youth to live as Christ wants them to. "Don't get bogged down by rules but concentrate on demonstrating the personality of Christ by being loving, caring and understanding to everyone we meet," she said.

That resonated with a member of the Plymouth church youth. Gemma Hall stated, "Loren's message was great. Showing that labels can sometimes define you no matter who you are. You just need to use that label as a positive rather than a negative and always be proud of who you are." She added, "I'm a Trekkie Christian and proud!" In addition to the preaching Gemma also said it was the fellowship of friends that she most enjoys about SEC Area 1 gatherings.

The afternoon was filled with praise and worship (where Loren could move back into her normal role), interspersed with the sharing of favourite poems and Bible verses. Jeremiah 29:11 was a particularly popular choice: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Youth were reminded that "remembering to trust in God can be difficult when we are trying to be independent". It is easy to forget that God is there always watching and willing us to seek him for help. To that they added Proverbs 3:5-6; "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight."

With such encouragement the youth of Area 1 left Paignton with their spirits refreshed and revived by the uplifting messages and warm fellowship.

Members of the nearby Torquay church provided support for the day which was organised by LIVE St. Austell leader
SMILES FOR SWAZILAND

It's that special time of year again, where both young and old can start preparing for the ADRA Annual Gift Box appeal! This year your gift boxes will be sent to Swaziland, a landlocked country in Southern Africa.

One of the towns where we plan to distribute the boxes is a semi-urban community known as Ludzeludze. In the heart of this community lives Mary, a widow and mother to six children and 14 grandchildren. Having lost her husband in 2004, this family is now in desperate need of help and assistance.

Mary, has not only become the head of the household but also the main breadwinner. As she is unemployed her only source of income is to sell fruits and snacks to children at the local school. The situation is further compounded by the fact that four of Mary’s children are living with physical and mental disabilities.

It is families such as Mary's that will be benefit from your gift boxes this year.

Please help ADRA to bring a smile to the boys and girls in the Ludzeludze community and some relief to the hardworking parents who are making daily sacrifices to provide for their children. We look forward to receiving your boxes this year. We also need volunteers to again help us with quality control. If you can help please contact volunteering@adra.org.uk.

Thank you for helping us to help!

[Fabrice Baker-Livingstone]
The 31 July edition of Messenger, official Journal of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the UK and Ireland highlights the Newbold College 2015 Awards Ceremony, retells the amazing adventures of British nurse, Katrina Walker in Cambodia, takes a candid look at Mission in Britain through the eyes of a 'foreigner', and does a double take on recent events at the General Conference Session in San Antonio, Texas. Pick up a copy in your local church this Sabbath or read it online now.

[Julian Hibbert]

ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS

Tune into Revelation TV or visit the Hope TV website or Roku for Animal Encounters, back by popular demand. Watch Adventist programming every Thursday night at 8:30 pm or Sunday lunchtime at 1:00 pm. Coming this week:

Thursday 30 July 8:30 pm (repeated Sunday 2 August 1:00 pm). Animal Encounters. Part 5: Meerkats.

Thursday 6 August 8:30 pm (repeated Sunday 9 August 1:00 pm). Animal Encounters. Part 6: Gabi, Kezia and Cassila experience God’s creation first-hand as they handle snakes and visit Cango Ranch.

[Victor Hulbert]

COMING EVENTS For a full listing of Coming Events please visit http://adventist.org.uk/events

Friday 31 July - Sunday 2 August: The Journey to Wholeness workshop will cover four areas: Biblical and Spiritual Concepts of Recovery and Healing; Understanding Addiction and Preventative Interventions; Adventist Recovery Ministries and the 12-steps as a Tool for Wholeness; Journey to Wholeness Effective...
Use. Registration packages are available from £75 (registration and all course materials) to £155 (registration, all course materials, meals, and accommodation). To register, or for more information, visit: www.newbold.ac.uk/centre-christian-leadership.

**Saturday 1 - Sunday 2 August:**

**All Night Prayer Meeting at Peckham SDA Church.** The Peckham Prayer Ministries department would like to welcome everyone to share with us an evening of prayer, praise and thanksgiving. Starting at 9:00 pm the meeting will include powerful testimonies, earnest prayer and words of meditation by Pastor Steve McKenzie. Please plan to be there with your family and friends.

Venue: Peckham SDA Church, Ivydale Road, London SE15 3DX.

**Sunday 2 August:**

**New Life Family Day Trip to Skegness.** Check link for full details.

**London Youth Federation Sports Day 2015.** Our annual sports day returns and promises to be better than ever! Join us as we see which church team will emerge victorious as they battle it out of the cup and shield. Check link for full details. Venue: Lea Valley Sports Centre, 61 Meridian Way, Edmonton, London N9 0AR.

**Monday 3 - Friday 7 August:**

**Hanwell Holiday Bible School 2015.** This is a community programme for children aged 5 - 12 years not to be missed! Interested? Please bring a packed lunch and come along and learn how you can conquer your mountains through songs, games, inventions and fun snacks. Places are limited, so please register by sending your request to HanwellHBS@gmail.com. Time: daily from 09:00 - 15:00.

**Friday 7 - Sabbath 8 August:**

**SEC Stewardship Summit.** Speakers: Dr Roland Hill & Dr Susie Hill. To book for this life changing stewardship event, please contact Mavis Bramble on: (t) 01923 232 728 or (e) mbramble@secadventist.org.uk. Venue: Holloway SDA Church, 381 Holloway Road, London N7 0RN.

**Friday 7 - Sunday 9 August:**

**SEC Prayer Conference.** Prayer plays a significant part of the Spiritual Ambassador programme. We will be spending quality time in prayer and there will be resources available to assist you in this ministry. Application Form | Invitation Letter. Check link for full details. Venue: DeVere Venues Latimer Place, Latimer, Chesham HP5 1UG.

**Sabbath 15 August:**

**Camp Hill 60th Anniversary Home Coming day** with Pastor Greg Nelson from Huntsville, Alabama.

**Bryon Taylor & Co.** Support the release of their first single. A fantastic concert. Tickets must be bought in advance.

**Sunday 16 August:**

**Gospel Roller Jam 'Summer Skate Fest'** organised by New Life church.

**The Rye Summer Festival** in High Wycombe. Family fun for all.

**Sunday 16 - Sunday 23 August:**

**Health Campaign with Dr Chidi Ngwaba** at Peckham Seventh-day Adventist church.

**Monday 17 - Sunday 23 August:**

**SEC Extreme Teen's Camp** at Chapel Porth Camp Site, Cornwall.

**Sabbath 22 August:**

**Rugby Youth day.** A day of drama, music, food, games and worship. Rugby Seventh-day Adventist church, 40 Hilmorton Road, Rugby, CV22 3LB.
**Sacrifice, Service and Praise.** An ADRA fund-raising concert at the Advent Centre, Brendon Street, London, W1H 5JE. Tickets £5.00 Early bird offers online.

Sunday 23 August:

**Trinidad and Tobago: Independence day celebrations.** Highland House School, Holcombe Road, Tottenham N16 9AD. £15 admission. In aid of children with scoliosis.

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**SMALL ADS**

**JOB VACANCIES.** [Head of Halls of Residence](mailto:), Newbold College of Higher Education. Closing date for applications, 12 August, 2015. [Human Resources assistant required](mailto:), South England Conference office. Application deadline, 31 August 2015. For more information about these and other jobs, please visit the [Job vacancies page](http://adventist.org.uk/get-involved).

**ADRA CONNECTIONS.** Why not travel to a different country with ADRA-UK? Ever thought about going abroad to help make a difference in the lives of others? If you answered yes, then look no further! In 2016 ADRA-UK will be travelling to Jamaica (Feb), Peru (July) and Rwanda. If you are interested in getting your hands dirty, actively working with developing communities around the world to create small changes that will last a lifetime then contact [volunteering@adra.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@adra.org.uk) to prepare for the trip of a lifetime! To find out more about our ADRA Connections trips visit us online at: [www.adra.org.uk/get-involved](http://adventist.org.uk/get-involved).

**AU PAIR OPPORTUNITY.** A top-grade student from Spain is taking a year before university to improve her English and expand her horizons. Dafne has a 4-year-old brother and so is experienced with children. Her hobbies include reading, singing and guitar playing. She would love to work with an English-speaking family as an au pair and is available immediately for up to 12 months. A pastoral reference can be supplied on request. For more information email [xxicadafnee@gmail.com](mailto:xxicadafnee@gmail.com).

**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](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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