ADRA AND THE REFUGEE CRISIS FACING EUROPE
DR RICHARD DE LISSE TO LEAD SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE
SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE VOTE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS
SPLIT BETWEEN 'THE SABBATH' AND 'THE MAT'
SEC SESSION HIGHLIGHTS
LATEST MESSENGER HIGHLIGHTS ISLE OF MAN, REFLECTS ON POPE'S VISIT
FINAL EPISODES OF ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS FOR REVELATION TV
COMING EVENTS

ADRA AND THE REFUGEE CRISIS FACING EUROPE

TV pictures of refugees fleeing Syria and other trouble spots are haunting the minds of the public, politicians and, in particular, those humanitarian organisations that endeavour to help people in crisis. It seems incredible that the war in Syria has now gone on for longer than the entire First World War.

Raafat Kamal, President of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Trans-European Division, said the migrant crisis revived memories of his own childhood in a Middle East war. He grew up in Beirut. He is urging Adventists to unite in prayer and support for ADRA and those Adventist churches that are assisting refugees.

"I personally see this challenge as an opportunity to help our guests and us become better people", Kamal
told Andrew McChesney, news editor of *Adventist Review*. He said, "This is the beauty of compassionate generosity and service to broken human beings."

"The migration of refugees arriving in Europe is a very complex issue that politicians across Europe are struggling with too", states Bert Smit, CEO of ADRA-UK. His office is receiving many requests for how church members can best help. Having also worked extensively in the Middle East, and with a deep understanding of the politics in the area, his suggestion is that help be primarily given to aid the millions of Syrians left in refugee camps in Turkey and Lebanon.

"We would suggest that the arriving refugees are less of a problem as most West European countries are, beyond logistical challenges, well capable of providing for the newcomers. Here in the UK, the government will use some of the development budgets to take care of the refugees over the next couple of years."

"However," he adds, "the millions of Syrians left in the refugee camps in Turkey and Lebanon face more hardship with food rations cut by the UN because not enough money has come in from its government support. This means more and more people are facing famine and thirst there rather than in Europe."

Nevertheless, there is real concern for those who have struggled to make their way to Europe. "Refugees are really exhausted when they reach Serbia", Igor Mitrović, ADRA country director in Serbia told *Adventist Review*. He helped open a small asylum information centre in the capital, Belgrade, in late August.

"They often say that the experiences along the way – the abuse, the extortion of money, the near-death situations, and simple hopelessness – turned out to be worse than the destruction and bullets at home", he reported.

While the news media talks of a 'migrant crisis', Pastor Ian Sweeney, President of the Adventist Church in the UK and Ireland brings the story to a personal level. "We must always remember that we are speaking about real people: mothers, fathers, siblings, children and babies who each have feelings and sensibilities." He adds, "I can only imagine as a parent fleeing from war that I would do my best to protect and make a better life for my family, seeking a better life in Europe. If I were fleeing from war, I would hope to be met by peace and Christ-like hospitality, which is my responsibility to exhibit."

As such, the Croatian and Slovenian branches of ADRA have been actively collecting in kind donations for refugees in Greece, Macedonia, and Serbia. They sent ten tons of humanitarian aid to Serbia by train, while 2.5 tons was delivered free of charge to Lesbos by Adria Airways, the national air carrier of Slovenia. Austrian, German and Italian branches of ADRA are equally working to help refugees, often partnering with sister organisations and local churches.

Newbold students are planning to provide some supplies to refugees in Calais, the camp there being more in the news due to disruption of rail and ferry services into the port, and a recent edition of the BBC programme, *Songs of Praise*, being aired from there. Some though are asking whether this is the best use of resources. While there are obvious needs in the camp, there has been a massive public reaction of giving, while the plight of refugees further from home has almost been ignored.
ADRA-UK is now accepting cash donations on their website to help ADRA partner offices on the continent to reach out to the refugees migrating across Europe and have made an initial contribution of £10,000 from their emergency fund. All money donated will be transferred to purchase aid goods or provide services to help refugees. Please donate on www.adra.org.uk.

ADRA-UK is continuing to watch developments and will act if and when possible and work with ADRA offices in Europe and the Middle East to support practical action to help those fleeing conflict and address longer term issues.

Pastor Sweeney concludes, "As Seventh-day Adventist Christians, we know that migration and displacement plays a key feature in the Bible narrative whether that is the migration of the Israelites into and out of Egypt, the wars and exile of Babylonian times, and even baby Jesus having to flee with his parents to Egypt to escape persecution at home. Above and beyond this, each nameless person we term as a 'migrant' is a person for whom Christ went to the Cross."

He pleads, "Let us by our giving in whichever appropriate way show that our character is fashioned in the likeness of our caring Saviour."

[Victor Hulbert]

DR RICHARD DE LISSER TO LEAD SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE

On Saturday evening, 5 September 2015, Dr Richard de Lisser was elected as President of the South England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists during a scheduled constituency meeting at Warwick University.

In accepting to serve in this position Dr de Lisser stated that he considered it an honour to serve in this capacity. He said, "God has given me grace and mercy. Thank you as members of our Church. Please pray for us. 'We have nothing to fear for the future except we forget how the Lord has led us in our past history.'"
Standing on the platform, accompanied by his wife Joanne, he acknowledged that there has been no secret with his health condition. Dr de Lisser suffers from early stage Parkinson's disease but is currently in remission. He was immediately sent to work sitting as an advisor with the Nominating Committee as duly approved by the delegation Friday morning.

Dr de Lisser is a fourth generation Seventh-day Adventist and was baptised in 1978. Having worked as an administrative assistant to the Secretary of State for Education, Lord Baker of Dorking, he responded to the call to enter the ministry and undertook his ministerial training at West Indies College, (now Northern Caribbean University) and graduated, in 1991, as senior class president with a BA in Religion. In 1993 he graduated from Newbold College with a MA in Religion from Andrews University.

He commenced ministerial service in July 1993 and was ordained to the ministry in 1998. In 1999, he completed his doctoral degree and graduated from North Park Theological Seminary, Chicago, Illinois, USA.

In terms of experience, Dr de Lisser has pastored six churches and has served as a district coordinator; Chairman of the London Area Advisory Council (LAAC); Personal Ministries, Sabbath School and Communication director. Up until the time of this call is has been serving as pastor of the Edmonton Church as well as the Stewardship and Trust Services Director for the South England Conference.

He is married to Joanne Graham-de Lisser, a health professional, and God has gifted them a young son, Akala Joshua Alexander de Lisser.

Dr de Lisser replaces Pastor Sam Davis who has just completed two terms of service as SEC President. Pastor Davis received a standing ovation on both Thursday evening and Sabbath morning following his own personal decision to return to pastoral ministry.

He stated, "There are exciting times ahead but there are other pastoral things I want to do that I can only do in a pastoral capacity."

Dr de Lisser paid tribute to the work Pastor Davis has done and the way he moved the SEC forwards over the past eight years. They will work closely together in the transfer process, as always, with a focus on mission: 'A waiting world, A willing Church'.
SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE VOTE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

During his President's report, Pastor Sam Davis, the outgoing South England Conference President, made reference to the racing prowess of sprinter, Usain Bolt. He might better have referenced Mo Farah as their 62nd constituency meeting was more a marathon than a sprint, faithful delegates keeping the debate moving until 4:30 pm Sunday afternoon.

The meetings started on Thursday, 3 September, with the expectation that at least the three officers, President, Executive Secretary and Treasurer, would be voted before Friday evening. That was not to be. The Sabbath break gave time for prayer, some excellent preaching and some glorious music, but at the back of delegates' minds was always the question, "Why was the nominating committee taking so long, and will we manage to get everything done before the close of business at 3:30 pm on Sunday?"

Action started in earnest Sabbath evening with both an extra business session and a special time of prayer led by the SEC prayer warriors team. Prayer paid off as an hour later the nominating committee returned, proposing the name of Pastor Richard de Lisser as President. His name had been proposed on the Friday but the nominating committee was requested to take a further prayerful look due to Pastor de Lisser's known health issues. Consultation done, the constituency were satisfied and warmly welcomed him as President. [See full report: Dr Richard de Lisser to lead South England Conference]
By start of business Sunday morning the committee was again ready to report. Looking for a man who can tell the difference between a 'point of order', a 'motion', or a 'recommendation', their eye turned to Pastor Douglas McCormac, best known at events such as SEC Session or Camp Meeting for his audiovisual skills, but known to advise even the parliamentarian on tricky constitutional matters. Currently pastor of the Southampton and Winchester churches, Pastor McCormac, originally from Belfast, agreed to accept the role of Executive Secretary.

With both a new President and Executive Secretary, continuity will continue with the return of Mr Earl Ramharacksingh as Treasurer. No one is more familiar with the workings of the SEC than this long-term treasurer.

Beyond a strong commitment to keeping the Conference solvent and using money wisely for mission, Earl is a practical treasurer who enjoys hands-on involvement within ministry, including acting as cook at Chapel Porth camps. [See SECMedia YouTube interview with newly elected SEC Officers]

With that vote at the beginning of the day the Nominating Committee went back to work – never to be seen again until almost closing time! They worked hard and prayerfully, yet even with that care there will be a few department directors or sponsors that will be appointed by the newly elected SEC Executive Committee.

By only 45 minutes past the agreed closing time, the marathon came to an end as the following names were elected as directors:

Children's Ministries & Community Services [100%]: Malika Bediako
Church Growth & Missions [50%]: Pastor Simon Martin
Communication [50%]: Pastor Sam Davies (Currently Bedford Central pastor as distinct from the former SEC President, Pastor Sam Davis.)
Family Ministries [100%]: Pastor Leslie Ackie
Health Ministries [50%]: Dr Chidi Ngwaba
Media Department [50%]: Pastor Vili Costescu
Ministerial Association [100%]: Dr Emmanuel Osei
Pathfinder/Prison Ministries Director [100%]: Pastor Kevin Johns
Personal Ministries & Sabbath School [100%]: Pastor Kirk Thomas
Stewardship [50%]: Pastor Todd Frias
Teens Director/Student Chaplaincy [100%]: Pastor Dejan Stojkovic
Youth Ministries/AVS [100%]: Pastor Anthony Fuller

To be appointed by the SEC Executive Committee: Women's Ministries, AMR, Music, Diversity coordinator, Property Development coordinator, Disability coordinator, Education director.

The following names were voted as the incoming Executive Committee that will guide the SEC for the next four years:

President: Dr Richard de Lisser
Executive Secretary: Pastor Douglas McCormac
Treasurer: Mr Earl Ramharacksingh
Church Growth & Missions: Pastor Simon Martin
Ministerial Association: Dr Emmanuel Osei
Youth Ministries/AVS: Pastor Anthony Fuller
Area 1 - Pastor Clifford Hermann
Area 2 Samuel Asamoah
Area 2 Pastor James Shepley
Area 3 - Judith Redman
Area 4 - Dominic Gyasi
Area 5 - Abigail Wright
Area 5 - Victor Barendese
Area 6 A - Derrick Morrison
Area 6 A - Dave St Marie
Area 6B - Pastor Ebeneezer Jones Larty
Area 6B - Dr Chris Levy
Area 6B - Stephen Weekes
Area 6C - Pastor Mohan Abbadasari
Area 6C - Esther Ayee
Area 6D - Eulalee Marshall Wigan
Area 6D - Gloria Christopher
Area 7 - Careen Hansen
Area 8 - Pastor Andrew Davis
In his closing remarks, and amidst the thanks for those directors and officers who move on, Dr de Lisser looked to the future, challenged delegates with thoughts of significant Church growth, as much as 20% in four years, encouraged youth to be actively involved in the evangelistic programme of the Church, and emphasised that our churches must be reclaimed as the centres of our communities, sanctuaries and places of refuge as we become "the hands and feet of Jesus Christ."

He concluded, "Be encouraged that this is God's Church! Be encouraged to do the work, to evangelise this Conference!"

[Victor Hulbert]

SPLIT BETWEEN 'THE SABBATH' AND 'THE MAT'

If diversity was 'the big issue' at SEC Session then Sabbath morning demonstrated it at its best. African a cappella, a Romanian duet, Bobby Carr's 'Father' medley meditational before the main sermon, even the varied styles of music during a dramatic presentation, or the powerful congregational singing of 'And Can It Be?', showed how diverse peoples could worship together, sing together, pray together, and be united in mission together.
The day also saw transformation – both in the use of a health related drama in the Sabbath School period, and then in the main sermon as Dr Brighton Kavaloh, devotional speaker for the weekend, turned life upside down in an awe-inspiring exegesis of John chapter 5 – the man healed beside the pool of Bethesda.

'The Rhythm of Life' was a piece of drama inspired by Mervyn Weir watching TV and discovering that 'the world' is enthused by the Adventist health message while as individual church members, we sometimes keep it at a low profile. "I don't like to be considered a Balaam", he stated, "but on August 18 last year I watched Dr Michael Mosley ask the question, 'Should I Eat Meat?'"

This was prime-time TV putting out a message to millions of people. Whether it touched millions is open to question, but it certainly touched Mervyn, especially when he watched Channel 4's 'The World's Best Diet', discovering that the world saw the Adventist diet up near the top, and other programmes featuring the Adventist community in Loma Linda, one of the 'blue zones' where people seem to live longer.

"What I'm seeing is that 'secular rocks' are crying out our message", Mervyn stated. He set about putting this right with a dramatic mix of music, superb acting, and real-life testimonies. It led the audience from God's ideal set out at Eden right down through the biblical narrative, to the health message becoming a part of our mission, and finally the reality of how that message can make an astounding difference in 2015.

Lifestyle doctor, and newly elected Health Ministries director, Dr Chidi Ngwaba, interacted with the drama to effectively demonstrate that the biblical principles of health are what he uses to heal people. "Even though I am a doctor it is not the 'doctor' doing the healing", he stated.
This was more emphatically emphasised as Lionel Featherstone shared his story of what Adventist health principles can do. He was 15 stone at 15-years-old. Challenges of home and work led him in a downward spiral that ended him up as a 22-stone prisoner on his knees and crying out to God, "If you don't save me, I am dead."

God led him back to what he knew as a youngster. With a vegan lifestyle the weight fell off. He became a walking testimony in prison, leading to him not just sharing his faith, but giving Bible studies. Lionel concluded, "If God can use me with the lowest of the low in prison, where on earth can He use you!"

**The Sabbath and the mat**

Dr Kavaloh added his own testimony at the beginning of his sermon, sharing his remarkable recovery after a severe stroke, and the care provided by church members, including the faithful visits of outgoing president, Pastor Sam Davis during his rehabilitation period.

Following the theme of the Session, 'A waiting world, a willing Church', Dr Kavaloh challenged in broad terms as to whether we actually are a willing Church. Using humour, and carrying the crowd with him, he pointed out that at the pool of Bethesda the crowd was waiting, but the church members were heading past them on their way to the temple, not willing to help. Jesus stopped and helped, telling him, "Rise, take up your bed, and walk."

"I wish that was the end of the story", Dr Kavaloh sighed, but sadly he noted the disdain of the church leaders, "It is the Sabbath day. It is not lawful to carry your bed!"

In other words, Dr Kavaloh explained, "Before extending the right hand of fellowship – there was condemnation." He then added, "The Church in Bethesda was split between a 'yes' vote and a 'no' vote! Christ says you can carry the bag on Sabbath. The Sanhedrin says no, you cannot carry your bag on Sabbath."

The crowd was split between the Sabbath and the mat – while the 12 male pastors abstained!

"Jesus could have said, 'I will heal you but leave the mat', but He didn't." Dr Kavaloh argued that he chose to break a 'Thus saith the Lord' rule: "Thus saith the Lord, take heed to yourselves and bear no burden on the Sabbath day." [Jeremiah 17:21] He contrasted this with the 'yes' vote: "The Sabbath was made for man and not
man for the Sabbath.” [Mark 2:28]

"How can people be asked to leave the Church over a mat!" he exclaimed, then asked, "Which Church will you vote for?"

The sermon spoke to heated arguments that have come since the General Conference Session in San Antonio, Texas, but even more strongly to the way we do mission in our communities today, or sometimes even the theological divides that crop up in our Sabbath School discussions.

"You cannot vote theological arguments", he stated. "Jesus was right but in the minority. On Mount Carmel – a minority was right. On the Plain of Dura, a minority of three was right. At the Crucifixion, the minority was right. Truth is not determined by statistics!" Dr Kavaloh instead concluded, "Being a Seventh-day Adventist is a way of life in Jesus." – His last words before picking up the mat and throwing it away! It is a sermon well worth hearing again.

**Afternoon evangelism**

The afternoon saw that 'way of life in Jesus' demonstrated via the lives of individuals who have chosen to serve God in various ways. A group of youth told of their experiences witnessing with the 'ShareHim' programme in Mexico, just before the General Conference Session.

Francisca shared how, for her, it was life-changing. "I am so excited to come back to England and to
preach Christ here." Vanessa the youngest preacher at just 16 said, "I didn't know what I would expect but I am sure I was in the right place. God helped me through."

Doreen recalled how one night her preaching brought the translator to tears, touched by the very message she was translating.

Reacting to the presentation, Pastor Aris Vontzalidis, outgoing Church Growth director stated, "My heart is thumping with joy." He then pleaded, "We desperately need young people to go out and plant churches across South England."

He then introduced Pastor Rosemary Lethbridge. She shared moving stories of lives being touched and changed as she leads an unconventional church plant on the south coast. "I plead with you to plant churches that are not clones! Plant what is needed in your community", she stated.

Pastor Simon Martin, who has just been elected to replace Pastor Vontzalidis stated, "It is very, very clear that if you want to see God working you have to be involved in mission." Speaking from his experiences in Dunstable, Leighton Buzzard, and other locations, he emphasised the need to "mix and mingle with our communities by sharing with them. Join in their activities. Share life… then you can share Him." He concluded, "You have to invest your life in people."

Sabbath vespers and other devotional periods

Other moving devotional periods during the weekend included BUC Health, Women’s and Disability Ministries director Sharon Platt-McDonald's testimony on Sabbath evening, when she emphasised the message of 2 Chronicles 20:17 "You have no need to fight in this battle, the battle is not yours it is the Lord's."

In taking up the right posture for battle she concluded, "Where do you position yourself? You need to be positioned in the position of prayer."

On Friday evening, Pastor Wayne Erasmus held his congregation spellbound as he described the virtues of light, and how we, together, bring our individual light into a dark world – again, a sermon well worth revisiting, and one that led
to late night discussions back at the accommodation.

Dr Kavaloh’s Thursday, Friday and Sunday morning devotionals, all carefully crafted to the theme of 'A waiting world, a willing Church', are also all available online.

[Victor Hulbert. Photos: Lara Zestic/Davis George]

SEC SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Delegates always head to a Conference Session with a sense of expectation. The 62nd South England Conference Session, held for the second time running at Warwick University was no exception. There was an expectation of change. After all, the President, Pastor Sam Davis, had made it clear on a number of occasions that he felt two terms of service was sufficient and that he would like to climax his ministry in a pastoral role.

Other changes were anticipated as well. Three departmental directors were retiring: Pastor Aris Vontzalidis, Church Growth and Global Mission; Mrs Elsie Staple, Health Ministries and Community Services; and Ms Opal Johnson-Christie.

However, the first major change was the introduction of an electronic voting system. This provoked some to a like or dislike of Marmite. However, it proved to be a very effective and reliable system giving accurate counting of votes and a level of freedom for delegates to vote according to conscience without any pressure from their peers. The green voting cards were still used for quick voting on simple matters.

Common practice is for a newly elected president to be invited to sit with the Nominating Committee. Though without vote, he can then give advice on the selection of the
team he will be working with. For the first time, this was rationalised by vote, with a motion presented by Pastor Chris Peake immediately following the appointment of the Nominating Committee. It was voted with a majority of 62%.

Also new at this Session was a recommendation to appoint a Diversity coordinator. While the position was not actually filled during Session and referred to the new Executive Committee, discussion over the role probably brought the most heated debate. What does the role entail? Who will it serve? How does it relate to our ‘ethnic’ churches? How does it connect to the SEC vision to evangelise the majority population? Rapid note taking by the recording secretaries will ensure all these points will be taken into account by the new Executive Committee.

Questions during the Secretariat report focused not just on growth but on the retention rate. More accurate record-keeping could help churches be more intentional in discipling and caring for new members.

The Plans Committee went radical. Perhaps they had to! Over 200 suggestions were made and recorded. Often these get buried after Session, but it is hoped that the many excellent points suggested by delegates, and especially the younger delegates who made powerful representation during the Friday afternoon session, would be noted. The Plans Committee report is online and challenges leadership and local members to "prayerfully and intentionally, implement leadership and behavioural practices that value: compassion, hope, integrity, unity, service and justice.”

Social media played an important part in reporting news from the Session as it happened. Using the hashtag #SECsession15, regular information and photos were posted on Facebook and Twitter with twice daily news reports being generated by the SECmedia team with joint hosting by BUC Communication director, Pastor Victor Hulbert, and SEC Teens director, Pastor Dejan Stojkovic. All the directors' reports, along with devotionals presented during the Session, are also available online. A stream of emails and social media contacts have praised the Media/Communication team for their creative coverage of the Session.

[Victor Hulbert]
LATEST MESSENGER HIGHLIGHTS ISLE OF MAN, REFLECTS ON POPE'S VISIT

The 11 September Messenger, official journal of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the UK and Ireland, is now available for download from the Adventist Church website, or to pick up at your local church. The Isle of Man is featured on the front page, with Julian Hibbert's editorial then taking a look at the Pope's forthcoming visit to Philadelphia. Find out about The 'Laughing Man' and thrill in baptism and evangelism reports.

[Julian Hibbert]

FINAL EPISODES OF ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS FOR REVELATION TV

September sees the conclusion of the ever popular 'Animal Encounters' series on Revelation TV as well as on Hope Channel via www.hopetv.org.uk, on Roku, on Samsung Smart TVs, and on the smartphone app.

Watch Adventist programming every Thursday night at 8:30 pm or Sunday lunchtime at 1:00 pm. Coming this week:

Thursday 10 September 8:30 pm (repeated Sunday 13 September 1:00 pm). Animal Encounters. Part 10: Gabi, Kezia and Cassila go ornithological as they experience God's creation first-hand looking at the world of Birds.

Thursday 17 September 8:30 pm (repeated Sunday 20 September 1:00 pm). Animal Encounters climaxes with a programme on Wolves.

Thursday 24 September 8:30 pm (repeated Sunday 27 September 1:00 pm). Another chance to watch our World War I documentary, 'A Matter of Conscience'.

Thursday 1 October will see the start of our brand new autumn series, Arnion, explaining the
grand themes of the Book of Revelation.

[Victor Hulbert]

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

**Continuing to Saturday 12 September:**
*Irish Mission: A Man for All Time – Mini Series*. International speaker and evangelist, Mark Finley, is back in Dublin. Come listen to the life story of Jesus as you’ve never heard it before. Check link for full details. Venue: Crowne Plaza Hotel, Blanchardstown Centre, Dublin 15.

**Friday 11 - Sunday 13 September:**
*Welsh Mission Health Retreat*. With Dr Christopher Levy. For further information contact Irving & Lil Saunders on: 01792 549412. Check link for full details. Venue: Hebron Hall, Dinas Powys, Glamorgan, CF64 4YB.

**Sabbath 12 September:**
*Upper Room 10th Anniversary*. Preacher: BUC President, Pastor Ian Sweeney. Time: 09:30 - 17:30. Check link for full details. Venue: All Souls Community Centre, Ilkeston Road, Lenton, Nottingham, NG7 3HF.

*Greenwich Visitors' Day*. A great day to fellowship and getting to know our community. We welcome one and all. Start time: 09:30. Check link for full details. Venue: Greenwich SDA Church, Devonshire Drive, London, SE10 8JZ.

*Camp Hill Health Ministries Day*. Speaker am & pm: Lifestyle doctor, Chidi Ngwagba. All welcome to attend. Bring your friends and family to let them share in the joy of good health. Check link for full details. Venue: Camp Hill Adventist Church, Stratford Road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham, B12 0JP.

*Irish Mission Day of Fellowship with Mark Finley*. One year after the inspiring Dublin City of Hope outreach with Mark Finley, we gather again in Dublin to reflect on successes and challenges that lie ahead. Check link for full details. Time: 10:00 - 16:00. Venue: Ballsbridge Hotel, Pembroke Road, Dublin 4.

*MEF*. The Marriage Enrichment Fellowship invites you to join their quarterly dinner event to enjoy a powerful presentation, a lovely venue, exquisite food and fellowship with other couples. Time: 19:00 - 23:00. Check link for full details. Venue: The Park Inn Hotel, Bath Road, Heathrow, Middlesex, UB7 0DU.

**Sabbath 12 - Sunday 13 September:**
*BUC Student Day of Fellowship and Training Day*. Be inspired by guest speaker Elder Johnny Wong who visits us from Melbourne, Australia to share his experiences of setting up 4 church groups on campus. [www.adventistyouth.org.uk](http://www.adventistyouth.org.uk) to BOOK NOW! Venue: Leicester Central Seventh-day Adventist Church, Corner of London/University Road, Leicester, LE2 1EF.

**Sabbath 12 - Sabbath 26 September:**
*The Price is Christ*. Don't miss this evangelistic campaign with Pastor Steve Riley along with singing evangelist Anthony Wigham, a recording artist from Dallas, USA. Check link for full
details. Venue: Brixton SDA Church, Santley Street, Brixton, London, SW4 7QG.

**Sunday 13 September:**

**Flowers for Worship.** Newbold's Centre for Christian Leadership is offering a half-day workshop on flower arranging for ministry. The workshop will be taught by Audrey Balderstone, who won a gold medal on behalf of the Watford Floral Society at the 2015 Chelsea Flower Show. Visit [www.newbold.ac.uk/centre-christian-leadership](http://www.newbold.ac.uk/centre-christian-leadership) to register, or for more information.

**I am getting there.** A musical comedy with a positive purpose. How would your journey to heaven be if you were on that special train?

**Thursday 17 September:**
**How To Become a Vegan.** Check link for full details. Time: 19:00 - 20:30. Venue: Diorama Arts Centre, 201 Drummond Street, London, NW1 3FE.

**Sabbath 19 - Sunday 20 September:**
**Parenting Emphasis Weekend.** Train up a child... an exciting parenting emphasis weekend. Full details in the poster or at [http://necadventist.org.uk](http://necadventist.org.uk).

**Sabbath 19 September:**

**Sunday 20 September:**
**Watford Town Health Expo.** Check link for full details. Time: 12:00 - 16:00. [Click here to register.](#) Venue: Broadword House, 1-5 Brixton Road, Watford, WD24 4AB.

**Tuesday 22 September:**
**A Diverse Future for a Diverse Church** – September Diversity Lecture. Speaker: Pastor Raafat Kamal, President, Trans-European Division of Seventh-day Adventists. Time: 19:30 - 21:00. Venue: Newbold College, Salisbury Hall, St Marks Road, Binfield, Berks, RG42 4AN.

**Sabbath 26 September:**
**Adventist Discovery Centre (VOP) 70th Anniversary (1945-2015).** A special service of thanksgiving and celebration. Entrance by ticket available from the ADC website [www.discoveronline.org.uk](http://www.discoveronline.org.uk). Time: 10:00 - 18:00. Venue: The Gaumont State Theatre, 197-199 Kilburn High Road, London, NW6 7HY.

**Welsh Mission Day of Fellowship 2015.** Our speaker this year is Dr Daniel Duda, Education director of the Trans-European Division. Check link for full details. Time: 10:00 - 16:00. Venue: The Albert Hall, Llandrindod Wells, Powys, LD1 6AA.

**Classical Concert – Hutton.** Join with the Hampstead Adventist Choral Society and Millennium Orchestra and Brass Ensemble for a powerful, moving and free concert. Time: 11:50 - 13:20. Venue: Shenfield Parish Hall, 60 Hutton Road, Shenfield, Essex, CM15 8LB.

**Sunday 27 September:**
**Sabbath School Teaching and Training Certificate (Part Two).** To register, or to find out more, visit [www.newbold.ac.uk/centre-christian-leadership](http://www.newbold.ac.uk/centre-christian-leadership). Time: 09:30 - 15:30. Venue: Newbold College of Higher Education, St Marks Road, Binfield, Bracknell, RG42 4AN.

**BUC Women of Virtue Business, Ministry & Personal Development Conference.** Time: 10:00 - 17:00. Download application form / e-version at: [www.adventist.org.uk/departments/women-ministries](http://www.adventist.org.uk/departments/women-ministries) and email to: dtompkins@adventist.org.uk, or contact Dawn Tompkins at the BUC,
Tel: 01923 672251. Venue: The Paragon Hotel, 145 Alcester Street, Birmingham, B12 0PJ.

Reserve your place now for this important event:

**Friday 20 - Sunday 22 November:**
National Lay Bible Workers' Convention, Northants. 'Empowered by His Word'. Book early for maximum discounted rate.

----------------------------------------

**SMALL ADS**

**JOB VACANCIES.**  Secretary required at the South England Conference office, Watford. Closing date, 30 September 2015.  Volunteer ICT technician required at Stanborough School, Watford. Closing date, 9 October 2015. For details of all vacancies visit our [Job vacancies page](#).

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 online 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.

You can manually unsubscribe from this mailing list by clicking on reply and including the word 'unsubscribe' in the subject line. The British Union Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church accepts no liability to any party for any error, omission or mis-statement by any contributor in any material published in this newsletter. Small Ads are provided as a service to members but, by their very nature, the BUC can take no responsibility regarding the accuracy of their content.
Kingdom