Edition #977 (3 June 2016)

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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GIFTS FOR... GHANA!
Deep in the rural north of Ghana we enter a small village.

We are far away from a town and have travelled over dirt road for miles. African huts are scattered around the village compound and smoke billows from the open fires cooking the day's meal. The men and women are attending a meeting arranged by ADRA to discuss how we can work together and help improve their harvests.

We gather around a small covered area: people crowding together and kids around the perimeter. The kids are buzzing around keeping a watchful eye on me and my camera. They love to have their picture taken and I oblige: when I walk around they follow me. Perhaps we are the most exciting thing that has happened in the village in a long time.

Kids don't have much here. Schooling is a privilege most parents simply cannot afford. They seem to be happy and having a good time.

And I can just imagine that receiving a gift box from ADRA-UK could bring a smile to many children here: some notebooks and pencils will be appreciated. Flip-flops will be a great help. But a really nice special toy would make their day! Perhaps a small doll, toy car; or even a game that they can play with together.

Just imagine: a small gift box from the UK could bring a little happiness to kids in Ghana.

This year ADRA-UK is proud to announce that we will be sending 6,000 gift boxes to Ghana in the autumn! You can now order your boxes online, via an online ordering form. You can order up to 75 boxes on a strictly first come first served basis.

To ensure that your church has an opportunity to take part in this family activity, order your boxes today!

[Bert Smit]
THANK YOU, PASTOR PERRY!

Balham church was filled with people whose lives were touched by Pastor Cecil Perry and his wife, Alma, for a special thank you programme on Sunday 29 May in recognition of the former British Union Conference and South England Conference President.

The event, organized by Mike Johnson on behalf of the SEC, was a mixture of tributes, thank yous for Perry's years of service and many heartfelt addresses.

Pastor Perry moved to England with his family in 1978, a time described by SEC Youth director Pastor Anthony Fuller as "society's troubling times" in his youth tribute to the Perry family. After the riots of 1980, Pastor Perry played an influential role during the restoration process.

"He was a man who was able to bring together warring parties", said Pastor Ian Sweeney, current President of the BUC. "But, he was always able to speak for and with both sides of the dispute."

Many other Church leaders, including General Conference President Pastor Ted Wilson, were able to send a message of thanks. The London Adventist Chorale, Golden Chords and London Adventist Male Voice Choir blessed the audience and the guest of honour with their talents.

Perry's children, Paul and Sheryl, also had a chance to share with the audience what life was like as pastor's kids, reminiscing on the many late board meetings and long journeys that often led to car breakdowns, but also the many valuable lessons they learnt.

"I'm very proud of my father. It's quite amazing that he's affected so many people and what he's contributed to the Church here. He's my big example", said Paul.

In his response, Pastor Perry said that he was humbled by the day's experience and jokingly mentioned that he would not need a funeral service anymore after the programme! However, Pastor Sweeney said he believed it is important to share kind words while people are living and that elders deserve to hear praises and have their contributions celebrated.
"We all say great things about people, when they cannot hear it. We'll talk about the contributions that they've made in our personal lives, when they're not able to hear it", said Sweeney. "It's important to deal with the important words while people are yet living and recognize their contributions while they can appreciate that."

In a later interview, when asked if 50 years ago he imagined that he would be so impactful, Perry answered: "No, because I didn't think of myself. I just think of serving, I didn't think about praise. I just wanted to win souls for Christ."

He continued to say that he hoped that the Thank You programme served as an example to others that the accolades should be given to a person before he or she passes on. As a last piece of advice, Pastor Perry said that service should be wholehearted: soul, mind and body. "Look to serve God!"

Once again: thank you Pastor Perry and Sister Alma!

[Natasha Mirilov]

THE LIFESTYLE DOCTOR WILL SEE YOU NOW IN PLYMOUTH

"Life Colours – a revolutionary way to reverse, improve and prevent the most common 'lifestyle diseases' and achieve permanent, healthy weight loss." This is the motto of Dr Chidi Ngwaba, the UK's high profile Lifestyle Doctor and SEC Health Ministries director. Between 21 and 27 May 2016, Dr Chidi provided the opportunity for Plymouth church to host his programme while providing a positive service to the community.

The programme offered three elements: a two-day Health Expo, evening lectures, and a vegetarian cooking class. On two days of the week, Plymouth City Council provided the church with prime space in the middle of the city in order to host the Health Expo. We believe this was providential because they provided this space, in the busiest part of the high street, at a seventy-five per cent reduced cost.
Armed with volunteers, beautiful sunshine for both days and Dr Chidi himself (who some passers-by recognised from television and YouTube), we ran a very successful campaign; allowing us to meet, share and engage with a large number of people, while at the same time making public the name of Jesus and the Church.

Every night Dr Chidi offered an hourly lecture session profiling the most common lifestyle diseases and advising how one could reverse, improve, and at times stabilise them by changing one's lifestyle.

Members and community attended from as far away as St Austell and by Tuesday everyone was buzzing about the changes they wanted to implement in their lives or had already started since the first session.

On Thursday Dr Chidi took a break and one of the teachers at our local Adventist school, Fletewood, hosted a vegan cooking class to demonstrate food that could help lower cholesterol and provide healthy weight loss. Gaynor Rowe became a vegan because of an illness her mother had years ago, and she eventually convinced her family and together they decided to make the changes by adopting a plant-based diet. Gaynor is not a fanatic, but she is passionate about health and sharing it. Her passion was evident in the way she made twenty-four people delight in the four simple recipes she demonstrated and served. Those who came loved her favourite smoothie, the green salad, the tofu stir-fry, and the homemade mango-and-banana ice cream.

Plymouth church and its community was truly blessed last week and our evaluation concluded two things. By the response we received, we realised that Ellen White was correct when she wrote: "When properly conducted, the health work is an entering wedge, making a way for other truths to reach the heart" (*Testimonies for the Church, Vol 6. Page 327*) while at the same time becoming the right arm of the gospel.

We also realised that being out in the community by positively serving, the opportunities to engage and talk about the gospel are enormously increased.

[Clifford Herman]
SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE'S WOMEN OF VIRTUE

The Women of Virtue programme, founded and organised two years ago by the British Union Conference Women's Ministries director Sharon Platt-McDonald, was launched as part of the South England Conference Women's Ministries programme at the SEC Women's Ministries retreat in South Croydon, over the weekend 27-29 May.

Over 150 women attended the weekend-long retreat, which was designed to inspire, encourage and educate through workshops and seminars; focusing on improving their physical, mental, spiritual, financial and emotional well-being. SEC Women's Ministries director, Pastor Maslin Holness, stated that she hopes the Women of Virtue programme would get the women who attended engaged and involved in mission and evangelism.

But, these women of virtue did not just attend lectures, they also had time to invest in themselves and in the Creator by relaxing at the hotel's swimming pool, going for walks and create new bonds of friendship.

"It is relaxing, and a blessing at the same time. It's time to come and worship together and to take a break from the busy schedules that we have", said Norma Zidlekhaya, a member from the Oxford church.

According to the organizers, the Women of Virtue programme was created when concerns about women's roles in the church, and as mothers, and wives arose. One factor drawn out of this, was that many women do not have the opportunity to address these issues.

Denzel McDonald, husband of Platt-McDonald and one of the few men helping at the retreat, said that women could come together and discuss in confidence areas where they feel their needs have not been met, in terms of spiritual growth and sense of direction.

"Coming together at a women's retreat like this one, has helped a lot of women unpack their concerns and it is where their worth has been realized", said McDonald. "They are women of value, as well as women of virtue."

Dr Olive Hemming, guest speaker from Washington Adventist University, enforced the idea that being a virtuous woman did not mean that a woman could not speak, or that she was oppressed, which are often considered traditional views. Rather, being virtuous means to realize one's full potential.
"I wanted to make it clear that to be virtuous, if we are evoking the ancient days of virtue, is courage and hope and love and knowledge, all those things, that's what we're talking about", said Hemming.

At the end of the weekend, the women of SEC left the retreat ready to continue God's work wherever they went, whether at home, at work, or within their churches.

[Natasha Mirilov]

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YAZIDI REFUGEES BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE

ADRA team members are working hard to help Yazidi refugees based in a remote refugee camp on the foothills of Mount Olympus in northern Greece. Stuck in the country since the northern borders closed, some 1,000 refugees who fled danger and persecution in Iraq and Syria now find themselves in Petra, literally rock, with nowhere to go and no safe home to go back to.

Frank Brenda, Programmes Director for Emergency Response at the German branch of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency is overseeing the ADRA response in the camp and in a video interview talks about the needs of the refugees who don't want to be there, the resulting psychological and health challenges, and how ADRA is working with the Greek government, UNHCR and other NGOs on the site, 130 km (80 miles) south-west of Thessaloniki.

This is the first of several video reports that will highlight the work that ADRA and AdventistHelp are doing in Greece and is part of the lead-up to Sabbath, 18 June when Seventh-day Adventists across the world will be focusing on the refugee issue. UN World Refugee Day is Monday, 20 June. Adventist World has also produced a special refugee edition of their magazine and resources for use in churches which can be found on the Adventist World Church website.

[The reports from Greece are a co-operative effort of the Inter-European and Trans-European
WORTH FIGHTING FOR: YOUR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

This May bank holiday weekend (27-29 May) 'Rekindle The Spark' welcomed over 240 people to the Daventry Mercure Court Hotel and Spa for this year's marriage enrichment focus weekend entitled 'Worth Fighting For'.

This is the fourth year the programme has been run and it continues to grow each year. Keeping in line with the South England Conference's motto, 'Evangelism, Everyone, Everywhere', we proudly welcomed a large number of Adventist and non-Adventist delegates to hear our well-seasoned speakers Errol and Paulette Nembhard, who were brought back by popular demand all the way from sunny South Africa to facilitate the discussion.

The weekend of prayer and reflection commenced with a Friday night emphasis on the importance of 'Know me – Know you', while Sabbath morning zeroed in on relationship topics such as; 'Priorities', 'Communication' and 'Conflict resolution'. Couples then prepared for 'Date Night' on Saturday evening when husbands and wives came out looking ravishing in their formal evening gowns and dinner jackets. It was a breathtaking sight; filled with love and great vibes!

Sunday morning concluded with 'Sex is so Good' and 'The Power of Forgiveness'. Linda Mukwada and her husband, who presented this topic, along with their planning team did not leave any stone unturned. "You could not remain the same after this refreshing, rejuvenating and renewing weekend", remarked one attendee.

Our sincere thanks go to the SEC, and our sponsors who have
worked tirelessly to make this event a great success. Plans are already in place for the 2017 couples' retreat.

[Varaido Mabvudzi / Nozi Connor]

NORTHFIELD CHURCH TWIRLED THE COMMUNITY TO GOOD HEALTH

As part of the Mission to the Cities health initiative in Birmingham, Northfield church strategically located their health expo stand close to a children's play area, in order to provide opportunities for the Victoria Common Park users to check their health while their children enjoyed the slides and frames on Sunday 29 May.

A surprise attraction was provided by a senior member, Yvonne Whittingham, who applied her long held skill of hula hooping to attract both young and old to the benefits of a healthy life.

Many of the people, who came from the Northfield area were astonished by her ability to twirl the hoop with such ease that it made them want to go through each health station to discover their health age relative to their biological age.

Having experienced the warm and friendly hospitality of the Northfield church members, some attendees asked "When will you have the next expo here?" whilst others rushed home to bring their parents and friends and some even accepted to be visited at home. Pastor Obi Iheoma, noted for his bread evangelism said, "This is an excellent start, I need to get busy baking some bread for these scheduled visits in the community!"

Northfield church's Health Ministries leader Claire Antoine said, "I have a very supportive team, I know we are ready for Mission to the Cities!"

[Obinnaya Iheoma]
ADVENTIST FAMILY RESOURCES EXHIBITION

Newbold College of Higher Education's Centre for Christian Leadership will host the Adventist Family Resources Exhibition from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on Sunday 3 July. The exhibition will be open to delegates and invitees of the BUC Session from 30 June - 2 July, and will be open to all church members on 3 July.

The exhibition will showcase a variety of Adventist ministries and business, such as the Stanborough Press, and will feature a series of free lectures from leading Adventist speakers, including Dr Chidi Ngwaba.

The most up to date information on exhibitors and speakers can be found on the Centre for Christian Leadership website.

Attendance is free but registration is essential.

Exhibition places for businesses and ministries are still available. To book as an exhibitor, please email the organizers.

[BUC News]

DEATH OF GILLIAN HUZZEY

It is with sadness that we report the death of Mrs Gillian (Gill) Huzzey on 26 May 2016.

Gillian Faith Willoughby was born in Watford on 5 June 1935, the youngest of three siblings. The family came into contact with the Adventist Church when Gillian's sister Margaret started to attend 'Sunday school on Saturday' with her friend. Gill attended Stanborough and Bushey Grammar Schools after which she worked from October 1951 to August 1954 as a secretary in the office.
at the Stanborough Press. After a year at Newbold she went to study in the United States at Columbia Union College in Washington, followed by a time working as a secretary for the US government in Washington, and as a credit secretary at New England Memorial Hospital in Massachusetts.

Gill returned to the UK at the end of 1958 and after working for a time in London commenced work as a secretary in the Division Travel office at the beginning of 1960 where she continued until her marriage to Newbold student, James (Jim) Huzzey in 1961. Jim started work in the Welsh Mission in 1962 and moved to the NEC Missionary Volunteer (MV) department in 1968. During this period the couple had three daughters born in 1962, 1963 and 1966. A call for Pastor Jim to the SEC MV department in March 1974 brought them back to Gill's home town.

From September 1974 through to November 1982 Gill worked as secretary at Stanborough Primary School, then as secretary for the Voice of Prophecy to March 1988. From 1989 to August 1995 Gill was a receptionist at the SEC office and after that she provided short periods of reception cover at both the BUC and SEC offices.

Like her mother Elsie, Gill was a musician and served on the team of organists at Stanborough Park church. Throughout their married life, Gill was a constant support and companion to her pastor husband and loving mother to their daughters and wider family. Our sympathy and prayers are with Jim and the girls Cheryl, Susan and Elisabeth.

The funeral will take place at Stanborough Park church on Tuesday 7 June at 12:00 noon. Donations in lieu of flowers are welcome in support of the Watford Peace Hospice.

[Paul Lockham]

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LATEST MESSENGER ONLINE

In this week's Messenger (3 June), the official journal of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the UK and Ireland, 'Winson Green church is organised', read the story of Birmingham's newest church.

Editor Julian Hibbert asks some searching questions about honesty with the help of an old church telephone!

Pastor John Surridge shares some 'Lessons from the cave' after an experience he had whilst in Iceland.

More churches share their innovative methods for sharing their faith in their communities. If
your church is doing something special or unique, why not send it in to the Messenger and share it.

Ángel Manuel Rodríguez, former Director of the Biblical Research Institute, helps readers understand the Holy Spirit and its role in the Trinity.

[BUC News]

VIEWPOINT – END OF LIFE CHOICES: ADVENTIST TV THIS WEEK

Also available on-demand on the Hope TV UK website and on Hope Channel via Roku and Samsung Smart TVs and the Hope Channel app.

Thursday, 2 June, 8:30 pm – Revelation TV (repeated Sunday, 5 June, 1:00 pm). VIEWPOINT: End of Life Choices – The Lord gives and the Lord takes away – but when it comes to end of life issues we are not always sure when that ‘taking away’ should happen. Victor Hulbert talks with three experts on this sensitive and controversial subject.

Thursday, 9 June, 8:30 pm – Revelation TV (repeated Sunday, 12 June, 1:00 pm). VIEWPOINT: Celebrating the Sabbath – The Sabbath for Jews and some Christians is a day that is set aside to rest and reconnect with God and the family. In an increasingly hectic world can the Sabbath tradition give the secular world some tips on how to keep the relentless demands on their time in perspective?

[BUC News]

COMING EVENTS For a full listing of Coming Events please visit http://adventist.org.uk/events
Friday 3 June:

**NEC Area 1-3: Appointed to Serve – Elders, Deacons & Deaconesses.** The training will be delivered by Pastor Jude Francis who is the senior pastor at the East New York SDA church in America. Time: 18:30 - 20:30. Venue: Manchester South SDA Church, 13 Wilbraham Road, Fallowfield, Manchester, M14 6JS.

Sabbath 4 June:

**Montserratians & Friends Day of Fellowship.** The Sixteenth Annual Montserratians and Friends Day of Fellowship – 'Invest! Eternal Joy Guaranteed'. Guest speaker: Pastor Jude Francis, pastor of the East New York Seventh-day Adventist church, USA. Time: 09:30 - 18:00. Venue: St Mary's Stoke Newington, New Church Rooms, Stoke Newington, Church Street, London, N16 9ES.

Sunday 5 June:

**NEC Big Six.** Big Six is the annual team sports event of the year. Football, basketball, netball, badminton and table tennis are the sports that will be contested on the day. Check link for further details including booking link and costs. Time: 10:00 - 17:00. Venue: Aldersley Stadium, Aldersley Rd, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, WV6 9NW.

**NEC Area 4-7: Appointed to Serve – Elders, Deacons & Deaconesses Training.** The training will be delivered by Pastor Jude Francis who is the senior pastor at the East New York SDA church in America. Please contact Yvonne Chambers at the NEC office on 0115 960 6312 for more information. Time: 10:00 - 13:00. Venue: Aston Newtown SDA Church, Lichfield Road, Aston, Birmingham, B6 5SX.


Monday 6 - Sunday 12 June:

**SEC Camp Meeting's Official Fitness Instructor & Personal Trainer.** Join Rachel, owner of El Barbelle Personal Trainer and SEC Camp Meeting's Official Fitness Instructor & Personal Trainer, for Personal Training, Daily Morning and Afternoon Classes. Check link for further details including contact details, costs etc.

**Sunday 12 June:**

**SEC's Campaign Champion's Day.** Wondering how you can be a part and get involved in SEC's ONE LIFE Campaign? Join us for our Campaign Champion's Day to find out! Come to any of the following days: 12 June | 17 July | 14 August. Time: 09:00 - 16:00. Check link for further details. Venue: Advent Centre, Crawford Place, London, W1H 5JE.

**NEC Bible Mentor Training Day – Wolverhampton.** Book now to attend the Bible Mentor
Training event at Wolverhampton church. Time: 10:00 - 14:00. Cost – free. Venue: Warwick Street, Horsley Fields, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, WV1 3SD.

Two Castles Team Aberdaron Run. The Two Castles run is a 10K run from Warwick Castle to Kenilworth Castle and this year the NEC Youth department will be coordinating a team that will be fundraising money for Aberdaron Summer Camps. If you are interested in joining the team then please email aramdin@necadventist.org.uk. Venue: Warwick Castle, Warwick, CV34 4QU.

Monday 20 - Sunday 26 June:

NEC Camp Meeting 2016 – Our Identity Our Mission. Check link for further information about this year's Camp Meeting. You must make your booking via the Butlins website, please follow this link. Venue: Butlins Holiday Park, Ingoldmells, Skegness, PE25 1NJ.

BOOK NOW:
SONGS OF PRAISE. Sunday 10 July, 6:00 pm at the Hackney Empire. Musical director Ken Burton and the Adventist Vocal Ensemble will lead the congregational gospel hymn singing.

ADRA TRIP TO CAMBODIA. 9-24 October 2016. Get involved in a real ADRA project and make a difference.

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SMALL ADS

ADVENTIST BOOK CENTRE CAMP MEETING SPECIALS. The Stanborough Press will be attending both the North and South England Conference Camp Meetings with special offers on evangelistic literature and the House of Natural Food will be selling their complete range of vegetarian products.

JOB OPPORTUNITY: Key Stage 2 Teacher at Stanborough Primary School. Application deadline, Friday 17 June 2016.

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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 online 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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