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Overlooked highlights of 2001

At least four times as much copy arrives for publication as there is room for in this little eight-page paper. As each year comes to an end heaps of news material is consigned to the file marked ‘the past’. We shall commemorate this new year by sharing some of the overlooked highlights of 2001...
Adventist delegates attend Annual General Meeting

On 20 November ADRA-UK director Raafat Kamal and BUC Communication director John Surridge attended the Annual General Meeting of Christian Aid, held this year in the Tower Room of the All Saints Pastoral Centre in London Colney, Hertfordshire. The Seventh-day Adventist Church is one of forty sponsoring Church organisations for Christian Aid and many Church members collect for Christian Aid on an annual basis.

Recently ADRA-UK has had talks with Christian Aid over a joint water provision project in Afghanistan, and a few weeks ago Raafat Kamal met Dr Daleep Mukari, director of Christian Aid, at a meeting of the House of Lords.

As well as receiving the Annual Report and an update on Christian Aid’s four-year strategic plan, delegates at the AGM heard about a new campaign entitled ‘Trade for Life’. This new campaign will build on the tremendous success of Christian Aid’s campaign to reduce Third World debt, which was responsible at least in part for reducing the total debt of some twenty-three countries by 100 billion dollars. The aim of the ‘Trade for Life’ campaign is to provide fair trade opportunities for poor people, and to raise considerably more money through changing market rules than was raised by the debt reduction campaign.

Commenting after the meeting Raafat Kamal said, ‘Although ADRA-UK is a completely separate charity from Christian Aid, we do appreciate the achievement and are happy to work with them in many situations.’

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A storm in a teacup?

Concerns have shifted from safety to peer review by other clinical and nutritional scientists or their experiment repeated. If eighty or eight hundred people had been affected, there would have been some effect on food quality and taste, according to Swiss food scientist Dr Hans Hertel, whose written report on denatured food was gagged by the industry that he worked for. He concluded that microwave cooking had an adverse effect on health by changing haemoglogin and cholesterel values and that white blood cells (lymphocytes) were decreased after microwaved food was eaten.

While some people would avoid microwaved food on the basis that questions were raised concerning health effects, it should be viewed in perspective. Hertel’s studies were conducted using only eight people of varying ages and having a particular dietary regime. His results were not open to peer review by other clinical and nutritional scientists or his experiment repeated. It is unlikely this might have on the health of the human body.

There are no clear answers to these questions. Consumer organisations around the world say that microwaved food is safe in all respects. Popular, as opposed to scientific, medical literature cites studies conducted by Swiss food scientist Dr Hans Hertel, whose written report on denatured food was gagged by the industry that he worked for. He concluded that microwave cooking had an adverse effect on health by changing haemogloin and cholesterel values and that white blood cells (lymphocytes) were decreased after microwaved food was eaten. While some people would avoid microwaved food on the basis that questions were raised concerning health effects, it should be viewed in perspective. Hertel’s studies were conducted using only eight people of varying ages and having a particular dietary regime. His results were not open to peer review by other clinical and nutritional scientists or his experiment repeated. It is unlikely this might have on the health of the human body.

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Mayor at Nursery Anniversary!

Edmonton church has been running a successful nursery for ten years. On 21 July the anniversary was celebrated. The current group of workers, Mrs F. McKean-Cook and Mrs Christine Napier, have been running the nursery for seven of its ten years. Each year the children who leave to go to school have a special graduation service in the church – complete with gowns! This year the anniversary and graduation took place together. Those present included the Mayor and Mayoress.

Thanksgiving at Tottenham

Sabbath 22 September was a day of thanksgiving for the Tottenham West Green Road congregation. It saw the return of one of our elders, Steve Hudson, who had been critically ill for three months. The church was packed with members, relatives, friends, and visitors who came to praise God for answering their prayers. Brother Hudson had been anointed. Sister Una Hudson refused to accept a negative diagnosis and had requested a second operation. On the day after being anointed, Brother Hudson was restored to health. During the special day of thanksgiving, as proof of his recovery, he gave the sermon.

Lives changed in Life Change series

As a result of the 11 September attack our speaker, Enrol Stoddart, was unable to come to conduct our Life Change campaign. Consequently, Carlos Ming of Jamaica spoke in the Bridge Park Complex, NW10, during our three-week campaign. At the conclusion – 20 October – twenty-seven candidates were baptised. Nightly attendance exceeded all expectations. One lady travelled 150 miles to be part of the baptismal class. District pastors are conducting follow-up studies at both the Bridge Park Complex and the North Edmonton Community church.

Smethwick: Men’s Ministries

Sabbath 3 November was historic! The men took over – from song service, through Sabbath school, divine service – and the preparation of lunch! We were blessed by the presence of a number of visitors, including a person from the community in search of a place to worship.

Different but one in Jesus

Sabbath 29 September was a day that Bristol Central celebrated and recognised the seventeen different nationalities within our family. Over the recent past, our church has been blessed with a diverse membership. Those who had national costume wore it. We shared the delights of foods from around the world and listened interally as people sang and prayed in their native tongues. In the afternoon, people sang songs in their native languages, gave testimonies, told stories of the history of Adventism in their country and showed slides of their home churches.

In his sermon, our South African pastor said, ‘We are all different, but are one in Jesus Christ.’

From the house to the hall

On 6 October the Burton church hosted a Visitors’ Day. On any other Sabbath Burton would hold its services in the home of one of its members. Though small in number, the membership wants to play a part in spreading the good news of salvation. A hall was hired and the Macedonia hall was extended to various friends of the Burton church ‘to come over and help us’. The members contributed to the worship by sharing their talents. Special note was taken of Sister Watson’s testimony, Sister Marlene’s meditational and Natasha’s story-time. Our day was greatly enhanced by the participation of guests such as Brother D. Reid, who brought our sermon of the day, the musical group vehemently and Natasha’s story-time. Our day was greatly enhanced by the participation of guests such as Brother D. Reid, who brought our sermon of the day, the musical group Windsor Wolverhampton. We were especially honoured by the presence and contribution of Pastor S. Palmer, Youth director of NEC. Dr P. A. Herbert, along with the Burton members, was pleased with the number of local visitors who attended.

Owens family baptism

Jane and Mark Owens have been attending church at Newold for several years, but Sabbath 6 October was a very memorable day – and such an important one that the Winchester funeral director and came to Newold. The occasion was the baptism of Jane and Mark. Mark is a fifth-generation Adventist, originally from Leeds. He moved to Basingstoke in 1992 and it was there that he met Jane, who comes from the town. Jane says that it was Mark’s mother, Ruth, who introduced her to Adventist teachings. After their marriage, Jane and Mark attended the Winchester church, but when their son Joshua was a year old they began bringing him to Newold church – for company with other children. Joshua is now 5. Elisha (20 months) attends Sabbath school and church at Newold too. So they were both there on 6 October to see their parents make that vital commitment to Christ in the baptismal service.

Jane, who is 28, had studied the Bible with Pastor Perry Messenger, so it was appropriate that he should be the pastor to baptise her – and give the sermon. Jane confesses that for two or three years she had been thinking about baptism, but had felt that her life ‘didn’t seem right’ and baptism appeared out of place, somehow. It was Dr Clancy Mitchell who prompted her to make the decision, by pointing out that baptism is not a sign of having become perfect but a signal of beginning of starting on a new path in life. And, once Jane had decided to take that step, Mark made his decision too. As a baby, he had been dedicated in Leeds by Pastor Denis Baliam, so it was a great joy for both Mark and Pastor Baliam, that they could be together again, as pastor and baptismal candidate, at Newold, thirty-three years later.
Obituaries

Pastor Bernard Kinman - d. 10 October

Bernard Frank Kinman died in Watford aged 92, after a long, active, full life. He was a well-known and respected figure in the Adventist community, particularly in the north-east of England. He was a stalwart of the Adventist church and a dedicated servant of the community.

Bernard was born in Manchester in 1929 and was baptised at the age of 13. He was called to the ministry at the age of 19 and served in the Adventist church for over 50 years. He was known for his strong faith and his commitment to the church and its principles.

During his ministry, Bernard was involved in many projects and initiatives, including the establishment of a church in Edinburgh in 1951, which he later went on to become the editor of the Adventist Review. He was also involved in the establishment of the Adventist College of Education in London in 1965.

In recent years, Bernard had been involved in the work of the Adventist Aid Society, a charity that provides aid and support to those in need around the world.

Bernard's life was one of dedication and service to his community, and he will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

Foster, a flying doctor and orthopaedic surgeon, Magdalene often visited Adventist-run hospitals. Fostering her career in the 1970s, Magdalene worked for the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society, covering the west-north-east section of Manitoba Province, sometimes flying up to the Hudson Bay area where polar bears roosted at dusk. Having raised a family of four in the Canadian Arctic, Magdalene returned to Grantham Hospital in Lincolnshire and, in 1989, moved to Scotland just across the river from Roundelwood. That's how she came to associate with the Adventist church, and for the past two decades has served as its spiritual leader.

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Massive response to Shoe Box Appeal

by Chantal Alen

Christmas cards attached to them and with all the fancy trimmings. The first despatch of these gift boxes, along with other humanitarian aid, went to ADRA-Belgrade in Yugoslavia at the beginning of November. The second truck left England on 7 December for ADRA-Hungary. Both of these ADRA offices were committed to following through this project and ensuring that the boxes were carefully distributed to nearby orphanages. The end result, hopefully, has meant that the children received at least a little sense of their worth and importance. At the same time it was an opportunity to teach our children the joy of sharing, giving and caring for other children like themselves.

On behalf of ADRA-UK I would like to say a big thank you to the leaders of the children’s Sabbath schools and the headteachers of our schools for motivating the young people. The givers and the receivers alike were blessed by this appeal and the words of Jesus Christ Himself couldn’t have been truer, that it is indeed better to give than to receive.

He just kept on smiling

On Sabbath 6 October the members of Bristol Lodge Causeway, together with family and friends, gathered to witness the baptism of Des Mills. All day Des had a big smile on his face, he was so looking forward to giving his life to Jesus publicly. There were special musical items and Des selected his own hymns and Scripture readings, but one reading was very precious to him - Romans 8 verses 1-17. He was immersed and welcomed into Fellowship by Pastor Ron Edwards. Our new intern, Clive de Silva, together with elders past and present, also welcomed him.

All advertisements for upcoming events should be submitted in this format.