need food because of prolonged drought periods, flooding, and disruption of farming. It has been observed that orphans are collecting rotten food from the bins of rich people.

Congo
In addition to supplying food to 13,000 people who were affected by the recent volcanic eruption, ADRA-UK, together with other ADRA donor offices, is supporting the building of a new school in the Birere sector of Goma. The new school will serve over 800 students.

Approximately 43 schools were destroyed when lava from Mount Nyiragongo covered up to 35% of Goma on 17 January 2002, leaving 23,000 students without a possibility of continuing their education.

Afghanistan
ADRA offices from Denmark and the UK have supported the rehabilitation of a primary school in Khogjani. The building was damaged in the recent fighting and required major repair. The school consists of 18 classrooms and meets the needs of 850 students. One of the main objectives of this project is to enable Afghan girls to attend school - a right they did not have under the Taliban rule.

Our UK office is also supporting a basic literacy and vocational training project for internally displaced girls and women in Northern Afghanistan. This project aims to support the education of 1,200 Afghan girls and women in the Mazari-Sharif region to enable them to integrate into mainstream society and improve their employment opportunities.

El Salvador
ADRA-UK has provided funds to rebuild 81 houses, following the powerful earthquake that hit El Salvador in 2001. The project is in its final stage and the last 7 houses are about to be completed - 117 families have benefited from this housing project.

Eastern Europe and the Balkans
ADRA-UK continues to deliver humanitarian relief items to Eastern Europe and the Balkans. By the time you receive this Messenger, our ADRA truck will be on the way to Yugoslavia driven by David Balderstone, our volunteer transport manager. The objective of this humanitarian trip is to deliver donated items such as medical supplies, hospital equipment, clothes and shoes to the largest psychiatric hospital in the region.

In March 2002, Harry Wilby, our volunteer driver, delivered relief supplies to our ADRA warehouse in Croatia. ADRA-UK is also in the process of shipping a container to Latvia filled with clothes, shoes and other relief items to meet the needs of the poor communities in Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania.

Development Projects
Haiti
This £1 million project enters its second year. The objective is to meet the health needs of 80,000 people with special emphasis on mothers and children. The targets set for last year, which included immunisation of mothers and children, health education in schools, and training of health agents and mothers from the local community, have been successfully achieved. This year the main emphasis is on empowering a local group and providing them with sufficient training that will help them to take over this large health project in September 2003.

Albania
In close collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO), ADRA-UK and ADRA-TED are supporting the rehabilitation of a TB health facility in Elbasan Region. This project aims to meet the health needs of 90,000 inhabitants through infrastructure improvement, training of health personnel and providing basic medical equipment.

Sudan
ADRA offices from the UK, Denmark and the Netherlands are funding the rehabilitation of a health centre to meet the needs of the population of Munuki - Juba, estimated to be around 91,000. This project

A DRA-UK is a humanitarian agency of the British Union Conference. ADRA’s ministry is based on its belief that Seventh-day Adventists are motivated by God’s love to help people. When we reach out in love to meet the physical and social needs of suffering and needy human beings, we do so to demonstrate God’s love towards them. Jesus tells us in Matthew 25:40, ‘Even as you have done it to one of the least of these, you have done it to me’. ADRA follows in the footsteps of Jesus Christ and his compassionate ministry and shares the Gospel in “work boots”.

Here is a summary of ADRA-UK activities for the first four months of 2002.

Relief and Rehabilitation Projects
Malawi
Together with its donor partners, ADRA-UK reached out to the poor communities of Malawi - a total of 16 villages - and provided 22,000 people, mostly pregnant women, breast-feeding mothers, orphans, and the aged with maize flour, beans, salt and other food items.

Malawi is currently experiencing one of the worst food shortages in recent years. Several million people

Both photos: Afghan refugee children on the border with Tajikistan. Continued on back page
Every church throughout the British Union is being encouraged to make 25 May a ‘Day of LIFEdevelopment.info’. With the help of Dr Richard De Lisser and Sister Heather Haworth, both members of the LIFEdevelopment Administrative Committee, materials have been prepared and sent to each church, which will help with the planning of this special day. We are requesting each church to pray at approximately noon on this day for the furtherance of God’s work through the LIFEdevelopment concept. Our prayer co-ordinator, Heather Haworth, states, ‘Prayer paves the way for the Gospel to be accepted’. We every member’s support and commitment as we pray, ‘LIFE connected’, and offers this flexible concept of making disciples for Jesus Christ. Let us make 25 May, the ‘Day of LIFEdevelopment.info’, an historic day for evangelism in every Adventist church throughout Britain and Ireland.

LIFEdevelopment.info is one way we can play a part in hastening the coming of Jesus. Pastor Cecil Perry and his team at the British Union Conference feel that this initiative is so important that Sabbath 25 May has been set aside as a ‘Day of LIFEdevelopment.info’. Jezus commissioned his followers to ‘go and make disciples of all nations.’ The challenge of LIFEdevelopment.info is to reach that major section of our society that we call ‘secular’. We believe that this biblically-based concept can be an important means of involving not only pastors and local church heads, but all our members in making lasting friendships with secular people. By catching the vision of this strategic plan we can all be involved in leading secular men and women to Jesus Christ.

The Adventist Television Network (ATN) World Weekly Broadcast will feature a dynamic sermon from Pastor Clifford Goldstein, in the sermon entitled ‘Cultural Clash’. Pastor Goldstein gives a glimpse into his past as a post-modern secular individual from a Jewish heritage. He shares his journey in search of truth, and tells why he is a Seventh-day Adventist today. Pastor Goldstein vibrantly seeks to distinguish between Adventist ‘truth’ and Adventist ‘culture’. You won’t want to miss this fascinating sermon.

Proceeding the sermon with Pastor Goldstein, there will be a short message from Pastor Jan Paulson which, along with Pastor Goldstein’s sermon, is part of the discipleship service for the Cross-cultural Conference held at the General Conference the weekend of 19-21 April.

Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me – watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freer and lighter. Matthew 11:28-30, The Message. Eugene Peterson, who produced the paraphrase of the New Testament known as The Message, was much struck by the fact that the original gospels and epistles were written in the street language of the day. There is little sign of the formal, lofty language of governments and philosophers. The Koine (New Testament Greek) reflected the rhythms and idiom of the marketplace. It was the language in which friends would discuss, not philosophers or courts.

Peterson has spent much of his life studying and teaching New Testament Greek. So, as a scholar, he’s no slouch. But the purpose of his paraphrase is not to replace any existing version, nor to produce a new version: but to make a New Testament accessible in the language of 2002.

What did Jesus offer to those ‘burned out on religion’?

Jesus offered an out from religious systems and an out from a religion based on Pharisaism. Scibrial or pharisaical religion was meant to honour God, but it condemned the ordinary Jew to a life of hard labour. That was bad news. Jesus offered good news.

And his good news was summarised in rest, grace and a well-fitting yoke. The rest Jesus offers is not a release from obligations. However, the demands of Jesus are such that to respond to him is rest. Jesus takes the desperation out of the search for righteousness. Religion is about rules. Christianity is about a day-by-day relationship with Christ.

Jesus offers the unfurled rhythms of grace. Grace is the essence of God’s character. It is God’s kindness to the undeserving. It is God’s saving love towards sinners. It is ‘lovingkindness’, it is ‘steadfast love’. Grace is love that cares and stoops and rescues. Law tells us we’re crooked; grace straightens us out. ‘By the free gift of God’s grace all are put right with God through Jesus Christ, who sets them free.’ (Romans 3:24, GNB.) Grace is not cheap, but free; but it cost Calvary. ‘My yoke is easy,’ Jesus said. As a carpenter Jesus knew that every yoke was different. Ox-yokes were made to measure. Then, when the yoke was completed, the ox was brought back for a ‘fitting’ and final adjustments. A story is told that Jesus had made the best yokes in all Galilee and that over his workshop had hung the sign ‘My yokes fit well.’ Though first-century Jews professed to be proud to bear the ‘yoke of the law’ it had, in fact, been made crushing and burdensome by the Pharisees. When Jesus said, ‘My yoke fits well,’ he meant. ‘The life to which you are called will not gull, frustrate or oppress you. It will fit your temperament, talents, strengths and gifts exactly. Obedience is the love-response to God’s grace. Love, after all, makes even a heavy burden light.’

Are you tired? Burned out on religion? Go on retreat with Jesus.
Admiral Black preaches at Dundee

With a string of honours, awards and letters after his name, Pastor Barry Black is first and foremost a servant of the Lord and secondly, the highest ranking Chaplain in the US Navy and the only Seventh-day Adventist ever to be admiral in the US Navy Chaplains Corps. On a visit to Scotland as part of the Conference in Edinburgh, Admiral Black accepted Pastor Marcel Ghioalda’s invitation to speak in Dundee church where the saints were waiting in anticipation. Though straight off the plane, tired and jetlag from a Transatlantic flight, Pastor Black delivered a challenging message during the question and answer session he set aside for his own oven. "It is not so much the greatness of God. With a smile on his face he said, 'God, like me!' He explained that he grew up in Cherry Hill (Baltimore, US) in an environment he described as ‘toxic, common, with little desolation’. "My home church cozened me from this toxic environment just like a caterpillar preparing to be a butterfly,” he stated.

Pastor Black based his afternoon sermon on Matthew 8:5-13, the story of his favourite centurion. He declined his illying methods for military reasons, explained, and stated, “Every time a centurion is mentioned, it is within a commendation!” He described how the centurion’s faith totally surprised Jesus. In the centurion, a Gentile believer, Jesus saw one who loved him, one of the three principles that enabled the centurion to be successful, Black Pastor challenged Dundee church to practice them:

- to develop the habit of kindness, the centurion, although a military man, was tender-hearted. By his faith he moved the arm of God on behalf of someone else – his slave!
- ‘Cultivate the spirit of humility. Before his downfall a man’s heart is proud, but humility comes before honour!” Proverbs 18:12.
- ‘But your total trust in Jesus. The centurion was in effect saying, ‘Jesus, if you don’t do it, it won’t get done.’

When he learnt from Pastor Ghioalda that there were fewer than 300 Scottish Adventists, Pastor Black surprised us with his response: “Praise the Lord! How exciting! No one, except God, will take the credit for the growth of the church.” Finally Pastor Black challenged the Dundee members to save the seeds, water the seeds (by being kind to people) and let God give the increase. Meanwhile he said, “Start a church building programme to cater for the inevitable increase in membership that will occur,” he said. “God is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think (Ephesians 3:20). If we can think it, God can do more. So name it, claim it, take it home and frame it!”

Northern Revival

The new year started well for Bradford with a baptism at the first Sabbath. We had three candidates, Silvan Burton, Nora Cabea and Sister Loping.

It was an especially joyous occasion for Brother Burton’s wife as she was being prayed for years as her husband to join her in her faith. They were joined by members of their family to witness his baptism. Pastor Paul Haworth performed the immersion, aided by our own pastor, Graham Allcock. There was a fellowship lunch, too, so there was plenty of time for friends to catch up with each other.

We have been blessed with the opportunity to pass on to children in Bulgaria. A friend of one of our members, had organised toys at Christmas for a local cause and those left over were offered to us to pass on, with the help of a lady from Nottingham. They were then to use to put smiles on the faces of children not as fortunate as ours.

We have a thriving chair in Bradford, and on 8 June they are organising a concert called ‘Northern Revival’. This will be at the Alhambra studio theatre and among the artists are the Crocodile 52who, just men, and Ken Burton. It is in aid of the Macmillan Cancer Relief fund so please pray for their success, and if you get the chance do come along. Tickets can be purchased from Graham Allcock.

CONTRIBUTION SECRETARY

Tottencan: Food left over

On Sunday 16 December, instead of going to central London to feed the homeless, the Community Services team of the Tottencan West Green Road and Harringay churches joined together to organise a Community Outreach Day for people living in the area.

Church members wanted to show the hospitality they would offer to those who were hungry for the Word of God, so we had a sumptuous three-course meal. Food was also taken to the homes of six needy families who were unable to attend. We were able to have their health checked – weight, blood pressure and sugar level – by Sister David from the Health and Temperance department of Holloway church. Clothes, books and toys were also available for those attending.

As 7pm when everyone had eaten, it was noticed that there was a large quantity of food left over. A church sister commented that the Lord had multiplied the little. "Did we know that the Lord had a plan for this food?"

It was decided to take the food to distribute to needy people living on the streets. The lady who organised the outing led us to Kentish Town where we gave food to a man beginning outside a shop who then went to call some children at the local service station who were hungry. We then met a man who was living in a hostel in Camden and that the men there would appreciate a hot meal. We met a man who was in need of something to eat, and we also helped him on his way to the hostel where he was staying. We were able to provide Fay with a Devon foodbank.

Fay was so moved by the event that we were so confident in the Lord that we would not have to rely on God. She said that she had not received a meal for years, and that this was the first time she had been able to eat such a substantial meal.

We were able to provide Fay with a Devon foodbank. Fay’s story was given to her own church, and Sunday service was extended to meet the needs of the people. Fay’s story was given a second airing. Fay’s story was given to her own church, and Sunday service was extended to meet the needs of the people.

It was with great joy that earlier this year the members of the Maidenhead church assembled for the baptism of Fay Fairchild. Last summer Fay came to England from Nantes in France. It was a huge decision for her as she left behind her fiancé, Miquel, as well as her family and friends. Her reason to come was to study in England, but she decided to leave home and find a new life for herself, explore her faith and take a wider view of life before her marriage. By moving away she knew that she would have to learn to rely on God. She wanted to develop a personal relationship with him so that she realised that she could not be converted.

Fay had left home to attend Maidenhead University. Living in the hall of residence opened up her world and for the first time she met people from other countries and came in contact with new traditions. She met Miquel and also became acquainted with other Adventists for the first time. On the day of her baptism Miquel was there and led her to the baptismal pool. Fay says of him, ‘He has always had the right attitude. He happily agreed with my decision. He always knew that eventually I would surrender to Jesus. He just patiently waited and prayed for me.’

The service was held in the Slough church with Maidenhead’s minister Glyn Marley and her husband Pastor Mark Marley. Fay’s tug-of-war between Europe and spending the year living with Leslie and Miriam Wood, Clare and Jean. God provided the time when Miquel read Fay’s request to live in England on the BBC email newsletter. ‘We get to know a lot through regular emails before I met her after the Easter,’ says Miriam. ‘We are very happy that Fay has found Jesus as our Saviour and that we have made her welcome in our church during her stay in England.’

The following Sabbath the Maidenhead church visited the Oxford church to present an afternoon programme entitled ‘The Witnesses’, June Barber, Matthew Sharp, Angela Sharp, John Warren, Will Sharp and Michael Lewis presented the worship of various Bible characters of whom we received our own testimonies. Linda Parker played a piano solo and Miriam sang a solo, accompanied. She wanted me to make my own decision. He always knew that eventually I would surrender to Jesus. He just patiently waited and prayed for me.’
Family Ministries Roadshow in the West Midlands

by Pastor Cyril Sewers, Family Ministries director, North England Conference

The Handsworth Family Ministries department, under the leadership of Euline and Oscar Stewart, in conjunction with the NEC Family Ministries department, held a weekend emphasis (19-21 April) on supporting the family by meeting its needs. 

The Friday evening seminar began with the writer looking at biblical foundations for positive family living. He also, during divine service, presented a power point sermon, knickknocks spirituality in the family and the importance of family devotions. A fellowship lunch was immediately followed by the leadership of Euline and Oscar Stewart, in conjunction with the NEC Family Ministries department, held a weekend emphasis (19-21 April) on supporting the family by meeting its needs. 

The next event in the Family Ministries Roadshow series will take place 17-19 May at the Huddersfield Church. Topics will include Courtship, How to Avoid an Affair, Marriage Enrichment, Diverse and Remarried, and Parenting in the 21st Century. Please contact the NEC Family Ministries department for further information.

Tom's deliverance

R
tired GC auditor Tom Miller lived in Watford, once a servant of the New England Conference and, as treasurer of The Stanborough Press. From Britain Tom was called to work in the General Conference (GC). He remained until some dozen years ago, when he with his wife Vera went to where his son Nick on Mammoth Mountain moved to the United States following the death of his wife. 

The improvement became remarkable. On 25 April Miller emailed Tom was beginning to respond to treatment could save his life. An intervention could save his life. An doctor acknowledged that only God's inter- 

Bibles for prisoners

Give an opportunity to read God's Word to those behind bars. (My) 'Word shall not 

Special price £6.25 while stocks last. Hooray!

What a wonderful way to evangelise.

NEC Teens' Day

On 9 March a multitude of teens packed the Wolfit Hall in Westminster. They came for the fourth annual NEC Teens' Day which was its most successful to date. The churches of the NEC were well represented.

Some highlights of the morning were a play by the churches of Westminster area, which was an amazing and insightful look into the problem of a punishable yet loving God, and a sermon by Tony Sawers.

The teens took over the afternoon programme, providing lots of fun, games and live music.

The day concluded with a concert with items displaying the many talents of the NEC's teens.
and Vietnam

and encouraging.

initial reports that we have received are very

article will be printed at a later stage. So far, the

Annual Appeal programme for this year – a separate

DFID Funding Applications for Nepal, Peru

together with ADRA-Netherlands. The Ghana project ad-
dresses integrated health issues and the Cambodia

proposal focuses on water and sanitation.

submitted two proposals to the European Union for

months of 2002. DFID has accepted the concept

notes to DFID (British Government) in the first three

Who Runs ADRA-UK?

ADRA-UK is a humanitarian agency of the British

Union Conference and is a registered charity in the

The membership of ADRA-UK consists of mem-

the secretary of the Board); Victor Pilmor

(ADRA-UK treasurer); Eric

Lowie (BIUC executive secretary); Alva Davis

(Reading Refocus charity director); Joan Saddler

(Warington Women’s Forum project co-ordinator);

Nigel Phillips (Granviiit Ltd director); Sam

Davis (Community Services director, SEC); George

Mboya (Business consultant for Shell); Cyril

Sweeney (Community Services director, NEC);

David Baiderstone (Glaston Garden Ltd director

direction for the ADRA-UK project. Each of these

Advisory Committee will meet to evaluate the

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In the first week of July 2002, our Annual Appeal

Advisory Committee will meet to evaluate the

progress of the Ingathering programme for this year.

We would like to include the contribution of our

church members and collectors in our discussion.

Please send your comments, observations, innovative ideas and/or constructive criticism in

to: ADRA-UK director, Stanborough Park,

Watford, Herts WD15 9JZ, or by email:

rkamal@adra.org.uk. The deadline for receipt of your

feedback is 10 June 2002.

Annual Appeal (Ingathering) 2002

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article will be printed at a later stage. So far, the

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encouraging.

In the first three weeks of April 2002, over 4,300

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