The weather threatened, the World Cup beckoned, but through it all the Spirit blessed the South England Conference camp meeting held at Pontins, Prestatyn, Wales. From Monday 10 June through till Sunday morning 16 June, all present were invited through the various programmes to get 'connected' with God, with the community and with one another. Around two and a half thousand men, women and children gathered together for a week-long programme of spiritual emphasis with an additional thousand joining us during the final weekend.

Early morning prayer session

If there is one service that is always well attended, it is the early morning Praise and Worship session. At 5.50am you can see many campers hurriedly making their way to the ‘main ballroom’ to catch the early morning blessings. And when you finally arrive, seats at the front of the hall are at a premium.

In previous years the programme only featured praise, prayer and testimonies. It was a programme for ‘the people’, and ‘the people’ made the programme. However, this year without...
How many people live a double life? [arine Forster did.

The case came to trial a couple of years ago.

The setting for the unusual crime was an idyllic village just south of the River Tees. The village of Manfield has a population of a few dozen. A cluster of houses around a church and a pub. No more.

The village of Manfield has a population of a few dozen. It's easy to imagine a time when the first of a series of anonymous letters dropped through somebody's letterbox. It was full of obscene accusations.

12 years before the trial the peace of the village was disturbed when the first of a series of anonymous letters dropped through somebody's letterbox. It was full of obscene accusations.

It became clear that the sender was a part of the community; one of those few hundred inhabitants.

Villagers began looking at another one in a new way. At first people shared their suspicions with one another. Before long, however, no one trusted anyone.

One poison-pen letter writer poisoned the atmosphere of a whole community.

The police caught the sender. He was put on trial.

do you think it was the weird, solitary man in the dirty mac? No. But then there was that other side to him... .


‘He was mad’ is the diagnosis we come up with to explain all kinds of badness that took over men like Hitler, Pol Pot... .

Do you think it was the weird, solitary man in the dirty mac? No... .

It’s the ‘other side’, the part of the self that is not acknowledged by us all the time. D Avatar.

Richard J. B. Willis, BUC Health Ministries director

Through the many years questions have been asked regarding the safety of powerlines running through communities and their possible role in contributing to the incidence of particular cancers. After several studies there is still no definite answer.

The issue has become literally come to a head in the debate over the health risks of mobile phones and, in particular, their use by children. The telecommunications industry on the one hand states that their phones are entirely safe, while a growing number of Health Ministries around the world argue that there is a risk and especially for children.

Health and Ministries find support for their concerns in no less a person than the Director-General of the World Health Organisation, Dr Gro Harlem Brundtland, who has publicly stated that mobile phones give her a lingering headache whenever she has to use one.

A UK inquiry headed by biochemist Sir William Stewart failed to find any adverse effects from the use of mobile phones, children may be more vulnerable because of their developing nervous system, the greater absorption of energy in the tissues of the head and a longer lifetime exposure.”

Sir William’s inquiry also recommends to the mobile phone industry that their adverts should not be targeted at children. An Australian consumer group is more forceful in its statement: ‘For the sake of the future our children’s health, we need to heed these voices.’

ADRA-UK will be despatching a container to Latvia in the autumn and there will be two more trips to the Balkan region this year. Each trip costs £3,000 (£1 per mile). Any financial contributions to these relief projects of ADRA-UK will be greatly appreciated.
Where can you go with such a personally humiliating, sensitive problem?  
by Gary L. Hopkins and Joyce W. Hopp *  

*The Internet is as persistent as it is potent, an indelible and uncontainable presence in the culture. All the trash, flotsam, and spillage of our society gets its moment there, and the tiniest obsession has its spot on the shelf, right next to Bach and charity and sunsets. The Internet lets a million flowers bloom, and a million weeds.*

The Pornography Addiction

Online porn has turned into one of the most profitable areas of e-commerce. Estimates of annual revenues run to billions of pounds. The number of people who visit sex sites each day has been estimated at 60 million. Together, the top five sex sites have more Internet visitors than MSNBC.com and CNN.com combined.* All of these sites are available to your kids every minute of their lives. And they are simple to find, only seconds away.*

Internet porn is so large that it is probably accurate to say that it is here to stay. It is unlikely ever to be blocked. Every day approximately 400 new pornography websites open on the Internet from locations such as Thailand and Russia.*

In the United States an estimated ten million children go on line every day. Many are eager to make ‘e-friends’ with whom they can chat. In a recent study of nearly 1,500 children aged 10-17, it was found that one in four had an unwanted exposure to some kind of image of naked people or people performing sexual acts.* One in 33 received an aggressive solicitation, meaning that some person on the Internet asked them to meet or phone, or sent them regular mail, money, or gifts.*

If you aren’t convinced that porn is a problem, keep an eye on your local newspaper. Newspapers commonly report incidents in which individuals, such as the Harvard University Divinity School dean, a Disney Internet executive, many college professors, school teachers, and other once-reputable citizens around the country are ‘busted’ for viewing Internet porn sites.*

In ‘Pornography, Main Street to Wall Street’, H. W. Jenkins reports that Dr Mark Lasher, a co-founder of the Christian Alliance for Sexual Recovery (and himself a recovering sex addict), had this to say at a congressional hearing last year: ‘Many in the medical community feel that for a substance to be addictive it must create a chemical tolerance. Alcoholics know, for example, that over the lifetime of their addiction, they must consume more and more alcohol to achieve the same effect. New research, such as by Drs Harvey Milkman and Stan Sunden, has demonstrated that sexual fantasy and activity, because of naturally produced brain chemicals, has the ability to create brain tolerance to sex. I have treated over a thousand male and female addicts. Almost all of them began with pornography.*

Jenkins goes on to report: ‘The Internet makes porn imagery even more easily available, and in virtually limitless varieties. It would be a minute if kids weren’t finding this stuff, even if it means going around the “filters” provided by their parents or their Internet service providers. … exposure builds up tolerance, and tolerance makes the problem worse, having unlimited porn imagery within easy reach of every computer is likely to produce social effects that we haven’t yet reckoned with.*

David’s story

One problem that David’s mum hadn’t faced was Internet pornography and whether or not David was spending time surfing through the many sites on the Internet where there are graphic images of people having sex. David’s mum, Janet, hadn’t thought about it much, though she had heard about it from time to time. She had certainly heard of people losing their jobs because of it. David’s relationship with his mum is great. It’s good enough so that he can talk to her about most of the challenges that he faces from day to day—including drugs and sex. But it’s good enough to talk about pornography? If David had a problem with porn, could he say, ‘Hey Mum, I need to talk to you about something that’s bothering me.’ Would he be too embarrassed? There is an excellent likelihood that he would hide the problem. Let’s go a step further. If your neighbour had a problem with Internet pornography, do you think he or she would come to you for help? How about your spouse? How about you? Could you even muster the courage to take it to the Lord in prayer?

Where do you go when you have a problem so sensitive, personally humiliating and degrading as the use of pornography? Is there anyone within our organization who would be willing to listen without criticizing or, more important, without gossiping about it? A church member with a pornography addiction would make for great behind-the-back chatter.

David’s mum couldn’t believe what she had just read—a 12-year-old boy and pornography? The next day after work she asked her daughter, Beth, if she had ever seen sex on the Internet. ‘Sure,’ Beth answered. ‘What did you see?’ Janet froze. ‘How did that happen?’ Beth’s story was similar to the one Janet had read about in the newspaper. ‘I was in the computer lab at school, looking for information on cancer. I had a report due and was just looking around to see what I could find on the topic. While I was surfing the Internet it seemed as though I came across more pictures of people having sex than information on cancer.*

Beth’s mum asked her to go to the computer and show her how it happened. She skipped over to the computer, clicked the mouse a couple of times, and clicked on a site that looked up at her mum, and said, ‘OK, what do you want me to do?’

With her arms crossed, Janet said, ‘You told me that you know how to find dirty pictures on the Internet, so show me!’ Beth shrugged her shoulders and said, ‘Mum, anyone can do it, it’s simple.’ Beth quickly typed a few words on her computer, and Bingo! One window after another started popping up even though Beth’s fingers weren’t on the mouse or the keyboard.

Automatically picture after picture appeared. ‘Turn it off, I don’t want to see that stuff,’ said Janet. ‘Beth did and swung around in her chair to face her mum. Janet asked Beth if she often went onto the Internet looking for people having sex. ‘Mum, I never do it. If you asked me to show you, and I did,’ Beth smiled.

‘Well, how did you do it?’ asked Janet. ‘Look, Mum,’ Beth explained, ‘just type in a word and hit the Enter key.’

It’s that simple. Our kids, our spouses, our employees, our kids’ teachers—all of us who have computers with Internet access have available to us so many different websites that contain sexual content. A person could spend 24 hours a day and probably not visit all of them in a year.

David’s mum just had to know if he was accessing Internet porn sites. For some reason she didn’t have the courage to ask him directly; although she had noted that he spent a lot of time in his room with the door closed while surfing the Internet. She hadn’t thought about porn until the experience with Beth.

One afternoon she asked Beth if there was any way to know whether someone has been looking at porn sites on the computer. Beth said, ‘Sure, nothing to it’, and proceeded to show her how to do it.

After learning how to look around on David’s computer to see what sites he had been visiting on the Internet, his mum went to his room one evening while he was gone. She did all the things that Beth had taught her to do and to her horror she learned that David had visited hundreds of different Internet sex sites. It took her a month to collect enough courage to talk to him about it, but eventually she did. David admitted it. He assured her that it wasn’t a problem. She asked him not to do it any more, and he assured her that he wouldn’t.*

The story isn’t over for David. Whether he will visit more porn sites or not is a question that won’t be answered until his mother commits to monitoring his
PROBLEM BEHAVIOURS REGARDING PORNOGRAPHY
by Gary L. Hopkins

Because of my association with the Institute for Prevention of Addictions at Andrews University, church members and coworkers have contacted me with questions regarding problem behaviours among their friends or family members, and sometimes regarding personal issues. One of the most common questions that I hear relating to personal behaviours is regarding the use of pornography. The following is a list of what I have learned from these individuals:

What people close to you might have noticed regarding your Internet porn use:

- Isolation – I spent most of my time alone (most common reply).
- I spent an extensive amount of time on the computer behind closed doors.
- I worked very, very late on my computer, sometimes until 2, 3, or 4am.
- I also spent as many as 10 hours or even more in a single day just searching for Internet sex sites. At one time I had as many as 50,000 sex sites looked at and still looked for more.
- My attention to family matters dwindled.
- My Internet provider charges increased. My credit card contained charges to unrecognized sources.
- My kids knocked on my door asking me to come out, but I would tell them, ‘in just a few minutes’, which would turn into hours.
- I became irritable and I was always tired.
- I did not meet commitments and was often late for work commitments.
- I often left committee meetings early.
- My relationship with my spouse deteriorated and our intimate relationship became ruined.
- I complained of headaches, nosebleeds, and backaches.
- I frequently purchased larger hard drives and memory for my computer.
- I lost the pleasant portion of my personality.
- I became financially irresponsible.
- I lied about everything.
- I lost enthusiasm for my job and spiritual things.

What do you suggest to anyone who has been searching the Internet for sites with sexual content?

- Make an honest inventory of how much money you have spent during the past year on hard drives, memory, new computers, a high-speed Internet connection, Internet sex site membership, pornographic movies and magazines, and any activity related to your sexual appetite. Be honest!
- Get help do whatever it takes to get professional help from a Christian counselor.
- Some people make themselves as Christian counselors, but aren’t. Be careful.
- Get counseling from someone trained in sexual addiction.
- Don’t expect your doctor to have expertise in the area of sexual addiction.

What should parents do regarding the home computer?

- Don’t allow your kids to use the computer in private. If they have a computer in their bedroom, make sure that they keep the door open when using it and that you can see the monitor from the door.
- Put the computer in the living room where it can be supervised at all times.
- Learn how to check the home computer to see what Internet sites have been accessed.
- If you check the computer and the ‘history’ folder is empty, this may be a sign that someone has been where they shouldn’t have, and know how to cover their tracks.
- Understand that once you learn how to search a computer for sites that users have accessed, they will learn ways of covering their tracks. There are programmes made specifically to erase traces of Internet access to sites with sexual content.
- Do not allow anyone to use passwords on the home computer.
- Do not let your kids run the computer without supervision.

Internet activities. Whether the exposure that he has already had to pornography will turn into a problem 20 or 40 years later in life is left to speculation. He has seen the images, and they will stay with him forever.

The scope of the problem

Pornographic Internet access is so extensive that if you shun it totally, you get shunned. By a survey by Media Matrix, Inc., an American Internet audience analysis company, found that in homes with Internet access, the following percentage of time was spent on pornographic sites during December 2000:

- Canada: 33
- Australia: 33
- US: 29
- Germany: 29
- France: 25
- Britain: 25
- Japan: 21

If our exposure to porn on the Internet seems wild, it isn’t. This is serious business, and we must come to terms with it immediately. Leaving children with unsupervised computer access may be as dangerous as expecting them to live inside an apartment without looking around. To put it another way, would you go to the local adult bookshop and purchase 200 pornographic videos and another 500 pornographic magazines, put them on the bookshelf in your child’s bedroom, and ask him not to look at them? Of course you wouldn’t! Should you do that with the Internet?

If your children have computers with access to the Internet, learn how to supervise their Internet activities. If you don’t know how to run a computer, then learn. Ask a friend to show you how to monitor Internet activities. Talk to your child. Plan what you will do. If you suspect that there is a problem with your spouse, ask him or her. Not critically, but lovingly. Ask if the two of you together can get help for this critical problem.

It’s a tough issue for husbands or wives whose spouses are hooked on porn. This sort of activity often results in the end of employment. What can you do? Whatever they do? Where does a church member go for help? Think about it very seriously. Pornography is available to everyone, even the clergy. It is treachery.

Research shows that the effects of porn are mixed. A recent study reported research conducted on young women aged 14-18. It examined pornographic exposure and subsequent behaviour and behavioural consequences. Of those students 29% had viewed X-rated movies, and this was associated with an increased risk of having multiple sexual partners, more frequent sex, less use of contraception, a strong desire to conceive, and even a higher rate of sexually-transmitted infection.8

Once you, your spouse, or someone you know successfully overcomes an Internet sexual addiction, consider that they still have to go back to their computer to work. How do you sit down and complete work on the very instrument that you know again have unlimited access to the thing that nearly ruined you? It’s like sentencing an alcoholic to work in a liquor store.

A call to action

The problem is not only about porn; it includes us. Recent research conducted on a Christian sample revealed that 36% had visited sex-related websites; almost half had visited them either weekly or a couple of times a month. Only half were aware that their spouses knew that they were accessing these sites.

Pastors need to be trained regarding the changes of pornography and sexual addiction. It is important to address the topic from the pulpit. We need small group sessions in which prayers of intercession are made to the Lord. We need to provide specific training for Christian counselors in our universities and colleges. We need to locate the resources to provide members, non-members, and even clergy with a hotline they can call to ask questions with absolute anonymity and get assistance. We also need to conduct research in this area among both our members and clergy to understand better the extent of the problem and learn the approaches that have been found to be effective.

Regarding our young people, the fundamental responsibility to protect children from online sexual abuse falls on parents. Seventy percent of sexual advances over the Internet occur on home computers. Such an infection threatens the body of our church, and it needs immediate treatment.


PORNOSOGRAPY AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

by Neils-Eric Andreassen, president, Andrews University

Pornography is terribly wrong, because it demeans people and ultimately destroys them. Worst of all, it is child pornography, for it vandalises the body and soul of children who have not yet experienced their own identity and sexuality. For these reasons every committed Christian will resist and confront all expressions of modern pornography, whether intended for public or private use. Christian education must use its considerable influence over the minds of students in both the lecture room and in the residence hall to affirm this Christian position.


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Family Focus
Family is important to Seventh-day Adventists. This is evident by the fact that we have a Family feature each year at camp meeting. Karen Hoford tells us about this special time with Bryan Craig. Family Ministries director of the South Pacific Division and director of Adventist Institute of Family Relations in Australia.

At camp meeting Bryan Craig shared his special understanding of relationships in his four morning presentations, helping us to understand more about ourselves, our relationships, and suggesting some simple ways we can begin to correct with each other more effectively. We can learn to listen more attentively, communicate more clearly, understand our differences, and work through our conflicts in ways that can deepen our intimacy instead of pushing us apart, and find new and more meaningful ways to show our love for one another.

Bryan also observed that our church has focused on reaching out to those outside the church, rather than nurturing those within the church community. But if we turn the focus around and nurture the people inside the church, we will be able to build a community of people who will have the emotional and spiritual strength to reach out to those outside. We will also be more effective at keeping our young people, new members, and those facing enormous personal struggles if we are a church that knows how to nurture one another.

Workshops
Workshops held in the afternoon between 3 and 5pm. This was different from previous years when they were held in the mornings. These workshops varied from Worship Renewal and Women’s Ministries to Building Healthy Marriages.

Special features
Prior to our commitment service each evening, a special feature was planned. Keith Davidson, Education director of the BUC, began the week with a feature on our schools, especially in South England. On Wednesday evening the congregation was blessed by the beautiful voices of a Welsh male voice choir. Singing hymns old and new in both English and Welsh, they thrilled the souls of all who listened. Unity in Diversity was the title of the Thursday evening feature. Under the theme of ‘Respect’, the Communication department of the South England Conference addressed this issue sensitively and with understanding.

Commitment service
The Commitment service has often been criticized for the loudness of the speaker. However, this year we were all in for a pleasant surprise. Our speaker, Pastor Solomon Maphosa, president of the Zimbabwe Union, was a man of immense dignity and spirituality. Standing 6’2” tall, he expounded the Word of God in a way that at present could not be appreciated. His introduction, though delivered gently, made an impact. After thanking the South England Conference for inviting him, he informed us that an African welcome often involved ‘four strong men tying a piece of rope around the legs of a cow and pulling’. It revealed his very dry sense of humour that was to pervade his sermon all week.

Just to highlight his popularity, we can reveal that all the tapes were sold out prior to the camp closing. God be praised for how he used Pastor Maphosa to minister to the adults at camp meeting!

Communion
Communion is always a moving time at camp meeting. This year was no exception. With the faces of deacons, deacons and elders enhanced the mood of the service.

Youth were featured during the programme – a special in-house presentation by visiting artists ‘Hands of Holiness’. Dr Richard De Lisser, in his short sermon, spoke about what often happens after communion. A musical rendition, ‘Calvary’, was sung by Beverly Copeland.

The service was simple but meaningful.

Ordination service
Five of our licensed ministers were ordained on Sabbath afternoon. Pastors Wilfred Blake, David Foster, Ebenezer Jones-Larby, Ferdinand Lombar and Everett Picart were accompanied by their spouses and Pastors James Philip, Ian Lore, Des Boisseau (BUC), Brian Martin and Richard Vina (BUC Mission). Pastor Eric Lowe, Executive secretary of the BUC, delivered the ordination message. Using modern illustrations he urged the ordinands to work for ‘the coming of the hour and the coming of the man’. Jesus Christ. The prayer of consecration was given by BUC president Cecil Perry.

Youth programme
Home grown talent featured in the ‘Powerng Up’ session. From 8.45 to 11am Olene Mckeezie, Gifford Riiame (Newfoundland), Arian Craig and Costa Vaggas showed that our young British Adventists are an equal match for their American cousins.

Highlights of the youth programme included a group seminar entitled ‘The Disconnected Generation’ by BUC Youth director Des Boisseau, two presentations by Pastor Kim from the Korean Language School, the ‘Weakest Witness’ organised and hosted by Debra Harris-Ugbomah and two video presentations.

One of the videos was talked about by the youth for several days. Centred around Singleness, it was, apparently, extremely frank in both content and delivery. On Friday morning the debate with Pastors Nigel David and Benny Hoford evoked strong emotions from some of those present.

Youth commitment service
The youth were given much food for thought by commitment speaker Pastor Keith Morris. Though a young man still in his early 30s, his method of delivery was extremely well delivered as if biblical research was his second nature. Pastor Morris did not preach, as such, but the Spirit moved through him so that he spoke to the heart.

It is not always easy to sit still for over an hour concentrating on a speaker, but Keith, a native of Jamaica, currently the associate pastor of the Toronto East Adventist church, made an hour seem short. I interviewed Pastor Morris and asked what drove him. ‘My passion for Jesus and for lost souls’, he replied. Keith also told me of one of his other passions: music. As a young man he wanted to become a reggae DJ (hard to believe now), but the Lord had greater plans for him. He began his studies in Business Administration at Northern Caribbean University, formerly West Indies College, but was encouraged by a friend to swap classes and study for the ministry. Hearing the call of Jesus Christ, he has won over 500 individuals to Christ in his ministry in Jamaica and a hundred since going to Canada.

Teens
Like some of our other programmes (Programme 3, early morning Prayer and Praise), for the first time the teens had an official speaker. Pastor Robert White reports on the week’s programme.

The Teen programme is always full of excitement and innovation. But it still remains one of the most challenging areas of ministry. Pastor Frankie Lazarus, Youth director for the Ontario Conference,rose to this challenge with a series of inspiring presentations around the theme ‘keepin’ it Real’. These gripped the teens’ imagination and caused some serious reflections on the real issues of life and how to keep the faith relevant. Sex, violence, drugs and faith in the twenty-first century were the topics that brought...
the Gospel to their hearts in a practical way.

The teen ministry programme has always been about balance; walking that thin line that separates two extremes, balancing the power of praise that can be heard and felt across the campsite and the essence of worship that draws the heart to God. Then ministry is about balancing the message and the medium. Walking this tightrope were Pastors Elyn Brooks, Paul Boland and Dayne Mathieu. Assisted by other pastors and youth they brought the Gospel message to the teens through a variety of media including dance, mime, discussion, sports, music and the spoken word.

The teens were encouraged to take part in their programme and many did so. They are so very talented in more ways than one can imagined.

The Sabbath’s programme was a high time of praise and worship. The teens brought their various forms of worship and adoration to the service, creating a real sense of expectation. The Spirit did not disappoint, and around thirty teens responded to the appeal made by Pastor Lazarus to have a real relationship with Jesus.

Programme 3: ‘The Unforced Rhythms of Grace’

Programme 3, billed ‘Not at all what you might expect’ was a contemporary programme that differed from the more traditional style of worship of the main adult service. Karen Holford reports on this service...

Grace is a vital component in nurturing a community of believers. Bryan Craig loves to preach on the incredible and surprising ‘unforced rhythms of grace’ that he has experienced in his journey with God. Grace is exciting, releasing and empowering. It’s something we need to experience more fully from God and with one another. When people come to our church they need to feel, through the worship service, how much God loves them, and how much others love them, by being accepted when they’ve failed, being comforted when they’re lonely or sad, and encouraged and supported when they are struggling. Bryan was the speaker at the Programme 3 contemporary service each evening, sharing openly, warmly and humorously his journey into grace, inspiring us and stimulating lively discussions around the candlelit café tables in the striped marquee.

Church Health before Church Growth

Asking Bryan to summarise, in a nutshell, the three things our church needs to increase its effectiveness as it considers the new LIFE development programme, he would say:

Inclusiveness, openness and togetherness. Three words that take a moment to say. But, if we take the time to consider how each of these attitudes could transform our lives, our churches and our communities, we might begin a new journey. We can each take responsibility for our own spiritual growth, then reach out to strengthen other church members and build a healthy church, able to inspire and transform whole communities for Jesus.

Church is made up of healthy relationships, and perhaps before we start a programme of Church Growth it would be a good idea to start a programme of Church Health. Outreach doesn’t start with a programme, it starts with us; building a healthy relationship with God and with each other. For Bryan, family ministries is about helping the church to be a happier and healthier place in which to grow, whether we’re stripping great trees or fragile seedlings. And that’s something of which we can all be a part.

Connected Through Prayer – The Prayer Chapel

In a corner of the Programme 3 marquee stood a newcomer to camp meeting – The Prayer Chapel. Designed to be a quiet place in the middle of the camp meeting bustle, it stood like an oasis, serene and refreshing. People came in ones and twos, and even as entire families, to find tranquillity and encouragement inside the muslin-covered white gazebo, sparkling with tiny lights. But it was not just an empty space. It was a place to take off your shoes and walk softly. It was a place to listen for the gentle strains of spiritual melodies. It was a place to discover new ways to pray and open your heart to God. You could be inspired by nature photos to take part in composing a psalm of praise. You could write your thoughts and concerns in a prayer journal. You could pin your prayer requests on a gold-coloured board, or hang your gratitude to God on a thinking line with a gold peg. You could read the Bible. You could take a piece of clay and mould it in your hands as you asked God to take your life and mould it in His hands. You could take a seed to remind you to pray for someone who needs to know Jesus. Or scatter scented petals over a friend as you prayed for them to be the fragrance of Christ in a hurting world.

And when you’d talked with God and listened to him and read the prayers of others, you could leave, carrying with you the serenity and the beauties of your time spent with Him, and share them with someone else.

As one person said: “I don’t always have the right words to pray, but when I came in here and read what others had written, I found it so much easier to pray. I have been so refreshed by discovering new and creative ways to pray. I want to bring all my friends in here to share this wonderful prayer place with them.”

Here is a sample of parts of the nature-inspired psalm written during camp meeting by visitors to the Prayer Chapel:

Hello, sweet rainbow love, God - unflattenable
Lord, thank you for loving me, a sinner. I am amazed at your love that touches the most sinful and reclaim them to your glory. Help us to stay connected always, just as I felt here when I called on you.

Thank you for being my Father. Please help me to see the evenings

Place your hand on our son Joshua. Bless him and keep him from harm, so he will be free from pain. Restore my nephew K. to full health. Deliver my brother from alcoholism, unemployability, smoking and a broken marriage and bring him your salvation. May my past be made into a full-time permanent position. Lord, give me wisdom, insight, energy and commitment to pursue my small group. Help me to be more patient. Please pray for our family. We pray that God will answer these prayers according to his grace and love.

through. I do hear your voice. Please help me to act on it wholeheartedly. O God, you are my light and my salvation. Help me to be a light to others, too.

God, you are so deep and rich. May your fragrance fill my soul. You are amazing. Everything you have created is so beautiful, the big and the small things. Thank you for your everlasting promises. And when I think of the ocean? The length, the depth, the extent, the tides, its ebb and flow. O Lord, the more I think how worthless I am, it’s for love for me – and so, as I am lost for words, I want to shout: ‘Glory! Hallelujah! Amen and Amen!’

Some requests from the prayer board:

Please bless Natasha who has kidney failure.
Lord, my three children need you very much. Please bless them individually, according to your measure.
Please let my husband come to you before it’s too late, and also my kids.
May I be the person, daughter and Christine you want me to be.

Please pray that God will answer these prayers according to his grace and love.

Music

Go to any camp meeting service and you will be greeted by singing. The singing evangelist this year was Theresa Morton, who is an accomplished vocalist, songwriter, arranger and director. Her voice at times sounded like Whitney Houston, and the songs that she chose were divine in

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"Wanganui" 11
Connected!
SEC Camp Meeting report continued from page 11

Additional music was provided by the harmonious group 3 in 1 from the Plumstead church.

CMTV
From Tuesday afternoon till Friday afternoon the Communication department ran CMTV around the site. Looped music was played throughout the day and night (when programmes were in progress). Dr Richard De Luyser and Rebecca Murray hosted the ‘Talk Back’ early afternoon slot, and Eddie Hypolite hosted ‘The Breakfast Show’ in the morning and the ‘Late Show’ during the evening. Mid-afternoon slots provided time to show pre-recorded videos from ‘Biggie Tales’ to the new Max Lucado video ‘Resurrection’.

Appreciation
On behalf of the president of the SEC, Pastor Don McFarlane, I would like to say thank you to all those who attended camp meeting. The faithfulness of our members each year is much appreciated. Thanks should also go to all the chairpersons of the various committees, especially the non-employed Maika Bedikko (junior youth), Hubert Greenaway (PA), and Maureen Redhead who so beautifully arranged the flowers for the adults, youth, seen Programme 3, communion and ordination services. Thanks to the workshop speakers. Thanks also to the staff at the SEC office – many of whom are new to the running of camp meeting – for their dedication and hard work before, during and after the event.

A special thanks to Pastor Humphrey Walters who so ably depuised in the unavoidable absence of the President during the week.

Finally, thanks be to God for another camp meeting. May we stay ‘connected’ with God, with our community and with each other till we meet again next year.

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Nec Camp Meeting - A miracle
A report on North England Conference Camp Meeting - Southport

by Des Rafferty, Christine Moses, Malcolm Watson, Fred Mapp and Paul Liburd

Cancelling was the hue and cry on the grapevine, concerning NEC Camp Meeting 2002, just months prior to the event. Because of events beyond the North England Conference’s control, cancellation seemed inevitable. However, God had other plans. He opened a line of communication that many had thought dead – and Camp Meeting 2002 became a miracle.

Amid the euphoria and high expectations of the World Cup, a caravan of more than six hundred people journeyed to Southport on Sunday 16 June for NEC’s annual Camp Meeting, President Pastor E.F. Francis said. Following the uncertainties surrounding this year’s camp meeting it was gratifying to see so many people checking in for a week of spiritual and physical revival.

Our heritage
Dr Don King (commitment speaker), president of the Atlantic Union Conference, accompanied by his wife Lois, demonstrated that he was a promoter of the one and only heavyweight of the world – Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Each evening under the challenging theme, ‘Our Heritage – Inspired by the Past to Shape the Future’, we were inspired through the remarks in the Word that ‘we too can experience relief in times of suffering’.

Pastor King, who carried his crown in his top pocket, immediately set about dispensing hope and reconciliation as found in the life and teachings of Jesus. One couple, Sonia and Chris Parnell of the Stafford church, were obviously impressed with the evening message. Sonia said, ‘I’ve never thought that Jesus was considered unclean in the eyes of the law. Thank God we can come to Jesus just as we are and he will accept us.’ Each night the congregation responded to Pastor King’s positive portrayal of our common heritage through the blood of Jesus. Many people made decisions that will last for eternity.

Power Hour
Pastor Dumiso Matshazi, director for Development and Public Affairs, Solusi University, the youth speaker, challenged everyone during Power Hour to know their heritage and to give full expression of their love in a joyful hymn of praise to God. Later in the week Pastor Matshazi had us speaking in tongues – when he taught us a song in the Shihadeh language. We were grateful for the interpretation ‘Holy Spirit fall on us’!

Bible study hour
Bible study hour was led by Pastor Gifford Rhamie, lecturer in Theology at Northumbria University, the Youth speaker, challenging us to a closer look at post-modernism and its effects.

Music
Among the many gifts that God has given to his church is the gift of music. That will last for eternity.

Workshops
Throughout the week there were a number of workshops and presentations available. Lifedevelopment info and small group ministries presentations were made by the ‘father of small groups’ BUC Church Growth director Pastor David Cox, assisted by NEC Church Growth director Pastor Paul Haworth. Mrs Lois King led in the Sabbath school and Family Life workshops in a refreshing challenging manner, and Ms Angela Parkins ran a Debt Management workshop for a second year. Dr and Mrs King led in the Health workshop, a topic very close to their hearts. Pastor Steve Palmer took

Every day of camp meeting was blessed with sweet singing and beautiful instrumentalists. Pastor Winston Hurford, a singing evangelist and international artiste, complemented the powerful presentations.

Communion
The high point of the week for many people was the Communion service held on Friday evening, where nearly seven hundred particitated in a truly moving and meaningful service. The carefully selected and skillfully presented ingredients of preaching and music, together with efficient marshaling, created a hushed atmosphere directing hearts and minds to heaven.

Sabbath
Sabbath 22 June was designated a day of fellowship in the NEC. The main hall filled to capacity with 2,000-plus people seated. Portico security staff commented that they had not seen so many people in their hall. Others, who could not be accommodated in the hall, watched the relayed service on CCTV from the restaurant area and still others from the comfort of their chalets.

Ordination
In the afternoon three ordinations were introduced and hands were laid on them, ordaining them to the Gospel ministry. The ministerial couples were Mike and Marlene Simpson and family, Roger and Marilyn Neal, and Andrew and Amanda Hewitt. A full biographical sketch of each of the ordinands and their families will be available soon on the new NEC website. Thanking their families, congregations and Almighty God, they pledged themselves in service. In summing up the week, Pastor Francis paid tribute to the speakers, and to the singing evangelist for their ‘excellent ministry’, campers for keeping faith and attending camp meeting, and ministerial colleagues who ‘faithfully contributed to the smooth running of the event’.

Following an appeal one evening Pastor King was approached by an 8-year-old boy who said, ‘Pastor King, I love your preaching. I want to be a pastor when I grow up.’ A little child expressed what many felt. We have been participants in a royal event where the King of Heaven has been
Christian Counselling course - first graduates by Velda Cox

On Sunday 12 May Newbold College held its first graduation for the new Christian Counselling course, when twenty-eight students received professional qualifications. The course, which started in September 2010, is accredited by the Association of Christian Counsellors and recognised by the Association of Christian Counsellors. This graduation seems to be particularly applicable to the work of Christian Counsellors. ‘This graduation seems to be a milestone in the development of the course. ’

The guest speaker for the afternoon was Raafat Elabady, who has completed level one and two of the course. Pastor Lucy and Steven Hall for their patience and hard work. ‘Not only did they teach us but they nurtured us’ he said. Pastor Elabady went on to say that ‘the mind is like a parachute; it only functions when opened. Our minds were opened and thus we functioned. Our core beliefs were sterilised décor of the Torquay church proved prophetic in the world-map he carved to offset the sterile décor of the Torquay church proved prophetic. Leslie had mastered the technicalities of the embroidered mosaics, and by the time the mosaic was complete, Leslie was able to see the potential of the mosaic to be used in churches. Leslie had been appointed the first president of the College and at the age of 21, he was the design master of the mosaic. Leslie had mastered the mosaic tradition and created a unique mosaic church.

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Dr ANDREW LUXTON - 9th August

Dr Andrew Luxton presenting the certificate to Peter

The younger children made a range of percussion instruments while the older ones carefully cut and varnished lengths of bamboo in order for each of them to make a set of pan-pipes. These activities developed manual dexterity as well as training the ear, which is necessary for tuning the pipes correctly. It was clear that children thoroughly enjoyed the week. The instruments made by them were of such high quality that they were able to use them to perform a musical item in the large hall prior to the ordination service. Each of the children left Southport carrying with them their handmade instruments, secure in the knowledge that they were at Camp Meeting 2002 they had succeeded in becoming self-motivated, hard-working high achievers.
Stanborough School in Top Ten

Tuesday 28 May at Chelsea Football Club - finals day for the ESFA u-13 London Schools Coca-Cola Cup, and Stanborough School had been invited to take part in a skills challenge prior to these matches. Jamo Parchus and Nathan Owusu represented their school in a fine showing of their individual and combined skills in shooting, running with the ball, dribbling, sprinting and passing.

by Russell McKie

against six other London schools.
The whole under-13 squad from school were there to support the boys and participate in this unique experience which included a tour of the Chelsea World of Sport and a chance to watch the boys' and girls' finals. The final results show Stanborough School ranking in the top ten Greater London schools and the top school in Hertfordshire.

Stanborough School in Spain

Thursday 16 May saw a group of thirteen students from Stanborough School embark on a monumental journey to our sister school in Madrid, Spain. Colegio Timon is located in central Madrid and houses 250 students from Spanish, Romanian and South American backgrounds. After meeting the students, and some sightseeing, we went home with our ‘families for the week’. Some of us lived 200 metres from the school, while others had a 2-hour journey by train or bus.

Our experience of different cultures enhanced our learning of the Spanish language and helped us to appreciate what we have in our beautiful school. We spent Sabbath with our respective families in their own churches around Madrid before meeting all together, after siesta time, in the park. We joined the Timon School trip on a cultural tour of Segovia, a town once submerged in water. Three large coaches took staff, students and parents from the school on a wonderful day out in the baking heat.

Our last day came so quickly and gave us a final chance to be part of the Timon experience - we even got to do some teaching of English. It was great to be a part of this trip. Our new friends and families were sad to see us leave - one young boy, Aarin, started crying in class as he did not want us to go. All the boys denied it, we were happy to be going to see our parents again.

Teacher Russell McKie says, ‘This was the first trip of its kind for the respective schools and has produced a wonderful link for future visits. We are currently looking forward to students from Timon joining us at Stanborough on an exchange visit and will be returning to Colegio Timon next year with a larger group to see our new friends and “families”.’

by Natalie Kamal

GC Women’s Ministries director brings joy to the UK

Heather-Dawn Small, associate director of the General Conference Women’s Ministries department, visited a number of BUC venues. Speaking at the Scottish Women’s retreat, the Stanborough Centre in Watford, the Handsworth church in London, and during worship times at the BUC and TED offices, Heather-Dawn focused on the necessity to hang on to Christian joy.

‘Satan is active; he does want to steal your joy, so hang on to Jesus.’ The BUC Women’s Ministries department has invited Heather-Dawn back in the spring of 2003 for a leadership training weekend.

For further details of Women’s Ministries events see the Women’s Ministries department page on the BUC website at: www.adventist.org.uk or email the Women’s Ministries department director, Mrs Heather Haworth, at: haworthd@adventist.org.uk.

Newspaper

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Visit the BUC website at: www.adventist.org.uk

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Upcoming Events

EVENT WHERE WHERE WHOM HOW

West Midlands Test Meeting, 9 Pavilion of Hope 6-7 July 2002 Birmingham, Summerfield/Park Dr Philip Willis (USA) Julee.jordan@boulton.ac.uk or phone 0115 960 6312

African Union and Reunion Day 27 July Winsonhampton, Oxford Street Pastor Malehaul (Africa) julee.jordan@boulton.ac.uk

Lay Evangelists Training Seminar 18-19 August Queen Conference Centre, Handsworth Pastor J. Zachrison, General Conference PM Dept. 0115 960 6312 admin@nsclarkchurch.co.uk or phone 07961 421798

Hope for a hopeless world 24-25 August 1997-24 September Handsworth church Handsworth, B21 3RD Pastor Randy Shultz (USA) karen@boulton-harman.churchof.co.uk or phone 07961 421798

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

Sunset

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Time Date Lat. Long. H.M.S. H.M.S. Lat. Long. H.M.S. Lat. Long. H.M.S.

JULY 19 - 24, 2002

Day Last

Sunset

Sunset times and positions are calculated from data supplied by the Science Research Council.

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