What can I do to entice you to read this item? You see, Sabbath 28 September is ADC Rally Day – an important event to the staff at the ADC for a number of reasons. We want to see people know Jesus and become His devoted followers. We want to help you to make this happen in your community. That's what the ministry of the Adventist Discovery Centre is all about.

But there's a feeling abroad that says, 'We've done that, but it didn’t work.' Maybe you are beginning to think that correspondence lessons are outdated and that we need something more effective for our present generation. You would not be alone.

Let me assure you, the people we call the field leaders in the British Union – the conference and mission administrators – do not have their heads in the sand! Nor do the other members of the ADC Board. We started last December to hold candid discussion about the contribution that the ADC makes to the evangelistic programmes of the units of the Union. Unfortunately, that dialogue was delayed by my lengthy absence during recovery from major surgery, but now that I am back the conversation is resumed.

The September meeting of the ADC Board continued the analysis of what we have been doing, and the assessment of new possibilities. Some of the work of our last five years is reported in the ADC 'IN TOUCH' newsletter that is being circulated to all churches. We will use the autumn period to clarify and firm up proposals to be presented at the BUC year-end meeting. I could summarise our planning as follows:

Plenty more of everything that we have been doing well. We will not abandon our tried and tested methods.

We have started work on the Internet. This shows positive signs of reaching places that cards and printed lessons cannot. We will be proposing to expand and improve our WebPages and related electronic ministry. We are thinking to develop complete courses that can be made available on interactive CD for the computer. In fact, any work we do to revise printed courses will be designed in the first instance for the CD format, using hypertext and links so that the user is free to explore at will. The CD could become our core ministry, from which new WebPages and new printed courses are derived.

We are thinking to make better use of the names of enquirers that come to us. I am suggesting that, once on our database, these people should receive a quarterly newsletter from the ADC, carrying a well-chosen variety of items to feed the devotional life and challenge spiritual thinking. Receiving this newsletter will not depend upon their completing Bible lessons, and they will continue to receive it until or unless they tell us to remove their name.

Options for courses:

1. An introduction to Christian faith – a newly presented revision of an existing course, which we will call NEW START IN LIFE.
2. An introduction to Adventist doctrine – a revised presentation of the DISCOVER Bible course.
3. A study of the major Bible prophecies – the FOCUS ON PROPHECY course introduced last year.
4. A new introductory course called SPADERWORK, based on the existing Digging Up The Past series, designed to provide a framework for belief in God and the Bible.
5. We expect to keep up our health education courses essentially as they exist, but presented in new formats.
6. A new kind of response pack to send to enquirers. This should be a complete pack, not just a joke book or readers' advisory card.

Printed Bible courses and health courses will be offered to the public as they have been since Pastor W. L. Emmerson launched the British VOP Bible School in 1945. We will modernise the presentation of courses, but our method of operation will remain essentially the same.

I am suggesting that, once on our database, these people should receive a quarterly newsletter from the ADC, carrying a well-chosen variety of items to feed the devotional life and challenge spiritual thinking.
The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is responding to the unfolding food insecurity crisis in Southern Africa with emergency food aid. Southern Africa - Malawi, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Swaziland - is in the grip of its worst food shortages in ten years. More than 2.6 million people are currently without adequate food supplies, causing mass hunger and starvation. What’s more, ongoing drought and flooding, depleted food stocks, and economic instability suggest that millions more are at risk of falling deeper into hunger, according to the World Food Programme (WFP). In many places farmers have been forced to harvest crops early, leaving families without food supplies for the coming months. If left unchecked, prolonged food shortages will see an already weakened population succumb to a variety of illnesses and disease. All the while, child malnutrition rates have doubled. So far ADRA has responded to the current food shortage crisis with the following actions:

**Southern Africa Famine Appeal**

**by Raafat Kamal, ADRA-UK director**

Legionnaires' disease is a particularly virulent form of pneumonia and not an exotic condition unsupportedly acquired from a holiday in North Africa as might be supposed from its name. What is now called legionella bacteria acquired its name in 1976 when around 221 American Legion veterans, out of a few thousand affected, acquired its name in 1976 when around 221

**Malawi ADRA** continues its distribution of emergency food supplies that has benefited 22,000 people in the districts of Blantyre, Salima, Dedza and Mzimba.

**Zambia ADRA** is working together with WFP on distribution of food to those affected.

Further proposals are being prepared for Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi to be submitted shortly to governments, WFP and the European Union.

Much more needs to be done to warn off starvation and death. **Will you help?** We must do all we can together while the need still exists. Please make a donation today.

Send your donation to: ADRA-UK, Stanbrook Park, Watford, Herts, WD25 9JL. If possible, Gift Aid your donation. Please make your cheque payable to 'ADRA-UK'. Alternatively, you can send your gift through the regular Church channels. In all cases, please indicate that the gift is for the **Southern Africa Famine Appeal**.

The world had been attacked by a frightening and unlikely enemy and we had the word of the US president that it would never be the same again. It is twelve months since 9/11. In some respects the intervening months have gone by in a flash. In other respects they seem to have taken a decade. As the BBC reviews the film footage of the impact of the jets on the Twin Towers, the attack is as if it happened yesterday. When we consider the full implications of what happened at Ground Zero; the declaration of the War Against Terrorism; and the subsequent hammering of Afghanistan; the diplomatic manoeuvres that took place to get key players on-side; the fall of the Taliban; the menace that seemed to loom when President Bush named the nations involved in the Axis of Evil; the apparently fruitless efforts to enter Al-Qaeda Bora, the revelation in Time of the ease with which nuclear devices could be smuggled into New York and the massive devastation that would have resulted from detonation; the evident attempts to prepare opinion in Western countries for a war on a war; the furthest revelations in Time of the advanced warning of the nature of the Al-Qaeda threat - the Clinton-Bush transition period in January 2001 – and the intelligence picture that was subsequently built up - why when we consider all that, the twelve months since 9/11 seem to have taken for ever.

How have Adventists responded to the attack and subsequent atmosphere of menace? Understandably everyone has had to have his say. How have we said it? Would it be an exaggeration to say that every preacher has tackled the subject head on at least once and, subsequently, alluded to it on a more or less weekly basis?

Internationally the houses that publish in English (and the others, too, I should imagine) have each issued at least one special publication for outreach featuring 9/11 and, in the case of Adventist Review, among others, a special for inreach.

Here in the British Union we have had both a special tract (by Mark Flinn) and a special magazine (on which I worked as soon as I was able to get back to base following the tragedy).

It has been interesting to monitor the extent to which congregations have responded themselves of these outreach materials. (We would not have been "monitoring" at all had we not been involved in an excursion into pseudo-market research on behalf of FOCUS magazine.)

The first print run went quickly, as did the second. And, when it was announced that there would be no more, a middling-sized congregation of saints in the Midlands ordered (and paid for) a special print run of 10,000 copies for its own outreach purposes - when 9/11 was already six months into the past.

What has been particularly interesting has been the pattern of magazine "consumption". The largest absorption has been on the part of 'small' churches, in which the distortion caused by sin on the human psyche has rarely been more shockingly evident than in the murthers of Holly Wells and Jessica Chapman. In a recent discussion of Adventist outreach I wrote down the words of a speaker: "To reach the secular mind we need to dumb down in the thought forms of the postmodern generation." But never has the outsourcing of sin appeared so great; never has the need of salvation appeared so obvious; never has the necessity of the Saviour been so achingly apparent.

Let Jesus have the last word. Knowing what was in our future, he said, "Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. "2 I am leaving you with a gift - peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give isn't the peace the world gives. "3 Here on earth you will have tribulation and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world," he said. (John 14:27, NKJV, NLT.)

Those are the words of the One who knows all things: past, present, future. My peace I give you. That peace is born from a living personal relationship with Jesus, and deepened through a growing surrender of life to his y vosus rule. The Gospel is this: Salvation from sin through the Saviour, and peace and freedom from anxiety in the Saviour. That's the message we live and preach. 9/11 showed us what is really important. Not economic systems, political structures nor military might; Trust in God. The message of God in the year since 9/11 has been: Time Special Report, 12 August 2002
Manchester Choir on Radio 4

The Manchester Adventist Choir, formed fifteen years ago, has sung to various audiences: inside and outside the Adventist church. Over this time the Choir has performed across the British Isles and has travelled to Spain, Barbados and Germany. A tour of Florida is planned for next summer.

However, on Monday 29 July they were faced with an entirely different audience. Following an invitation they made their debut radio performance for the BBC on Radio 4’s Morning Service. The broadcast went out live and was one of the programmes commemorating the Commonwealth Games. Led by Adrian Carello-Davies, the Choir sang three songs: I Go to the Rock, My Help, and Toti Praise. These were interspersed with readings and prayers. The whole experience was much enjoyed and something the Choir is unlikely to forget.

Two members of the Choir are also members of Just Men, an all-male quartet. They have done their part singing on radio programmes in which the Commonwealth Games were the main focus.

Choir sings at Civic Service

Sunday 24 July was an important day at St Peter and St Paul’s church, Drax, Seby. The sun was strong as it shone on this quaint little medieval building in the picturesque village. A civic service was held with church dignitaries, followed by a tour over Yorkshire to commemorate their service to the communities they represented.

The programme, led by Rev’d Joseph Munnings, was a collection of prayers, hymns, readings and a sermon, interspersed with these songs by the Manchester Adventist Choir which greatly enhanced the worship experience. At the end of the service the congregation met together to thank God for his love. The Choir was invited to sing in Seby next year. On that occasion they will perform at the cathedral.

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Scarbrough Day of Fellowship

On 18 May the fledgeling Scarborough church, started by members from York, enjoyed its first day of fellowship since it reopened. Kelvin Davis (York) got singing was the group 3D. Pastor Perry encouraged the members in the faith. He acknowledged the couple would be blessed with happiness during their stay in hire. Pastor Perry talks to the children

On 4 May ‘The Redemption Campaign’ began. Evangelist Robert A. Vassell from Montego Bay, Jamaica, was the speaker. The theme was ‘Christ is the answer’, and hearts were stirred with the knowledge that God cares, which resulted in youths giving their hearts to Christ at the end of a dynamic campaign. The baptism was a solemn yet happy occasion witnessed by relatives, friends and members of the Greenwich and Tottenham churches. The names of the candidates with the pastor and evangelist were (from left to right in picture): Pastor Terry Messenger, Michelle Hayward, Donovan Himmings (elder), Katigan Gibson, Yves Kavanen, Terry Meere, Alicia Richardson, Dwan Richardson, Alimee Messinger, Debbie Ojukwu, Debra Peddie, Michael Barton (elder), Opal Thomas, Karline Reader, Pastor Robert Vassell, Blast Messenger, and in the picture: Samsly Seele Jun, Daniel Whitier and Gary Richardson. 

Russian-speaking group: Three baptised

On 20 July, in the friendly environment of the Wildthorpe church, three people were baptised. These souls are precious to heaven - and to the Russian-speaking group organised one and a half a year ago. In the period since we were organised, many have been reached by the Gospel, a significant number through the New Life correspondence course. Each Sunday a five-minute Voice of Hope programme is broadcast in the Russian language.

Chelmsford: Flashback to March

March was a special month for the members and friends of the Chelmsford church. Among our visiting speakers was Pastor Cecil Perry, BUC president, who was accompanied by his wife. He spoke on the topic, ‘Does Jesus Care?’

In reference to 9/11 and other international and national issues, Pastor Perry brought home the assurance that we are not insignificant individuals outside God’s attention and care.

The day was further highlighted by the ordination of Ted Shirley as a church deacon. This is a role for which he has demonstrated a gift as one of our newest members. Fellowship Lunch was followed by an afternoon address in which Pastor Perry encouraged the members in the faith.

Later in March a special service of thanksgiving was held for answered prayer in the life of Wayne Hill. Diagnosed with cancer, he received inducement to treatment. Family and friends joined with members as Wayne testified to the impact this had on his faith, the concern of loved ones, and God’s leading through moments of despair.

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Ghanaian Group Witness in York

The York church played host to the “Ghana Group”. York members and Ghanaian Adventists from South East London led the city of York in praise in Samson Square on Sabbath afternoon 29 June, and a large crowd gathered. Performers included a 25-strong group hand-balled by Pastor E. Screke from a choir of about 150. They wanted to sing them all, but there were considerable logistical problems! Also singing was the group 3G.

The event was made possible by Neil Mackay, an Anglican minister who had been impressed by the weekly Adventist March of Witness in Begoro, a town in Ghana, that as soon as he knew we belonged to the

minister pastor Roger Neal organised the visit of the Ghanaians to the York church, which warmly welcomed them and is eager for more visits.

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ANDREW MACKLIN
Great Scottish Walk

For the first time, ADRA-UK was one of one hundred and eleven charities to participate in ‘The Great Scottish Walk’ this year. Twenty eight enthusiastic church members from most of the Scottish churches were joined by two from Walsall, and by ADRA director Raafat Kamal on 23 June. They completed either twelve or six miles around Scotland’s capital.

The weather stayed dry until the walk was completed. The route took in many of Edinburgh’s sights and its various architecture. A total of £1,420 was raised by sponsoring, and we hope to support the ADRA-UK Tuberculosis and prevention project near Elassa in Azerbaijan.

If you missed out on this opportunity to support your favourite charity, now is the time to plan for next year’s walk. Come and join us in Bonny Scotland!

Hyland House School Graduation

by Catherine Boldoza, SEC Communication co-ordinator

On 18 July the John Loughborough School was the venue for the Hyland House School Graduation Ceremonies. Special invited guests for the evening included SEC president Pastor Dan McFarlane, who presented the graduates with their graduating awards, and a special guest was a member of many, in a speech entitled ‘Follow the Leader’ the graduates were to make Jesus the Leader in their lives. The event was well attended and the hall was packed with friends, family members, teachers, and students serving governors.

The leaving class, Year 6 students, were dressed in royal blue graduation regalia and marched in at the beginning of the service. Under the leadership of Pastor Bernard, the school’s music teacher, they performed three items. ‘Walk in the Water’ (Cherokee traditional song) and the second, ‘O Happy Day’, was based on the arrangement from the film Sister Act II. The third item was the popular song by Beyonce, ‘I can fly’.

As well as awards for academic achievements, a special award was given to Year 6 student Donald Pemberton by the principal of an organisation called ‘Rice Management’ for the scoring of an outstanding number of goals in football. Donald is also being signed up by Fullham FC.

All Year 6 students were given an individual gift together with a Bible for their daily use. Of the nine students who graduated, eight will begin their secondary education at Stanborough School, and one will attend a grammar school in London.

The evening was ended with sadness at the retirement of Mrs Violet Hardy, ‘Aunty Vi’, as she is affectionately known to many, who has worked at the school for the past twelve years. Hyland House head Mrs Gina Abbequaye thanked her for her dedication and honest judgement.

Health Outreach

By CATHERINE RITTER

On 29 July the Health and Temperance Convention was held in South London, led by sister P Chambers, organised a Health Fair at which doctors, nurses and other health personnel were on hand to take blood pressures, urine samples, give advice on diets, and physiotherapy.

Many residents of the community benefited greatly and were thankful for the church’s interest in their wellbeing.

This venture made the community more aware of our presence and our commitment to their holistic life.

Newbold Pathfinder Investiture

by Sophia Nicholls

On Sabbath 27 July the Milton Keynes church was the venue for a special ASNA-Disabilities Awareness programme. In the morning, following aousing praise, testimony and worship service, ASNA chair Nigel Nichols presented a two-part Bible study.

The first part looked at the issues of tolerance versus acceptance, and examined how these two factors affect our ministry to others. ‘The way we value and treat others is dependent on whether we are accepting or just tolerant of their differences,’ Nigel said.

The afternoon programme, presented by the writer (ASNA) and Julia Saunders (RNIB), looked at practical aspects of making the Gospel accessible. In particular, it looked at the physical structure of our churches, and challenged widely held views of individuals with a disability.

The congregation was encouraged to see the Disability Discrimination Act (due to be enforced in 2004) as an opportunity to review current practices and ensure access. A final video presentation provided a moving insight into the lives and experiences of those living with disabilities.

The Milton Keynes congregation particularly enjoyed a presentation by Insignia, a group of young people from the_button church. Insignia minister to those who are deaf and hard of hearing through British Sign Language, and have recently been engaged on a project in the island of Dominica. Their rendition of the song ‘My life is in Your hands’ by Kirk Franklin, demonstrated the inspiration it gives to all who witness it. BUC communication director Pastor John Surridge offered the closing prayer and asked God for His blessing on the lives of those with disabilities and on all who are willing to see the needs of their Christian life.

Future ASNA training and awareness programmes include a one-day conference at Newbold College on 29 September and Plumstead on 12 October. There will be a celebration banquet at the Stanborough Centre on 3 December. For further information phone 01941 333195.

Time to review our attitudes to disabled people

by Catherine Boldoza

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Some 1,800 teenagers from across Europe met from 29 July to 6 August in mid-August. In ten days some of the worst and rebuilding effort since the floods of Zatonie, Poland, for one of the Church’s worst Russia, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, and rivers swollen by violent flooding on record in Europe destroyed known as a Pathfinder Camporee, the event is held by the Adventist Church in lands, Pakistan, and France.

Each of the goals of the camporee is to encourage friendships among its different nationalities. Say event организator. The young people were encouraged to complete the camporee friendship award by visiting every national camp and collecting a stamp to indicate that they had done so.

Paul Tompkins, Youth Ministries

Floods: Europeans count losses. Adventists in Central Europe have been involved in a massive cleanup and rebuilding effort since the floods of mid-August. In some days some of the worst floodings on record in Europe destroyed thousands of printing presses and computers. More than 900,000 people fled their homes and an estimated 109 people were killed. Rivers swollen by violent storms left paths of destruction in southern Russia, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Austria and Germany.

Adventist leaders in the region report that no church members were among those who died. But they say the flooding has inflicted immense damage among Adventist families, and church facilities. In the Czech Republic several Adventist churches were flooded. The Church’s publishing house in Prague was swept by floodwaters which destroyed more than half the stock of books, as well as a number of printing presses and computers. Church buildings in the German towns of Flora, Dobenau and Stebbingen are said to have sustained severe flood damage.

Church members in Dresden, Pisa, Gmerna and Leipzig are among the many thousands of residents evacuated to safety as floodwaters threatened their homes. In Austria a group of Adventist young people attending a Pathfinder camp were surprised by floods. Forty children were saved but their tents, belongings and four cars were washed away.

Adventists speak out. Seventh-day Adventists around the world held the first ever Autism Prevention Day on 24 August. They invited members of other faith communities to join them. The event, spearheaded by the Woman’s Ministry department of the world church, concentrated on promoting awareness of the issue and highlighted ways that abuse of women can be halted.

The theme of the event was ‘Abuse of Women: No more!’ and it was part of the Church’s regional initiative to help people who are being abused.

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New ABC

A new Adventist Book Centre was opened at the Adventist Centre, London, on Sunday 18 August. It will be open for business between 10am and 5pm on the following Tuesdays.

9 September
11 September
12 September
10 October
24 October
27 October
31 October

UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENT WHEN WHERE WHO HOW

Lay Evangelistic Campaign
23 Sept – 5 Oct
7.30 (not Thursdays)

Bread of Life Church

Bristol Church

Adventist Church

Bible Study

Area 1 Day of Fellowship
26 September

(ASN)
Area One-day Conference
25 September

Newark College

Sunset

Sunset, from an image by Damien Glezman, permission from image supplier supplied by A&G Image Research (Canada)

Sept 13 7.20 7.30 7.45 7.36 7.46
22 10.09 10.29 10.21 10.23
27 6.48 7.00 6.52 6.59 7.10

Money scam uses counterfeited church stationery. Church administrators and members should be aware of an attempted international finance scam using counterfeited church stationery. Robert W. Nixon, General Counsel of the Church’s General Conference, cautions warning comes after receipt of an offer from a person claiming to be a pastor in a West African country asking for assistance in raising several million dollars worth of gold he claims to have acquired from a Central African country.

The pastor’s assertion of wealth is suspected to be a fraud. The Seventh-day Adventist Church does not allow the name in the world church’s mission to be used on official correspondence. The mission address and phone numbers were not those listed in the Yearbook, neither did the name of the person giving the telephone number. The logo was not current. In short, Nixon concluded, the letterhead was counterfeit and the solicitation a fraud. Church workers and members must be alert to such attempts and check out suspicious communications.

Thomas E. Wetmore, Associate General Counsel, said US government sources indicate that such scams have netted criminals hundreds of millions of dollars. ‘If an offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is,’ said Wetmore. ‘Beware!’

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leader was the main organiser of the event. He says one of the highlights of the camporee was the Market Day, when Pathfinders raised funds for a mission project. Goods were brought and sold, and gates devised and services rendered with the aim of raising funds to build a church in the Padawars district of Poland, and also to provide playground equipment for the nearby Kot Sudni Adventist school.

At the end of the event the Pathfinders raised a total of 37,254 Polish złoty (equivalent to £5,800) for these projects. The goal I had in mind was £5,000, and it was absolutely amazing to see it come to fruition,” says Tompkins. It is planned that the church can be built next year and that a group from the TED region will be able to go on to help build the project.

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