I cannot deny that I used to dream of this new church and it is as good as my dreams,' said Dr Derek Beardsell, former principal of Newbold College, and first to preach in the new church on Sabbath 14 September. 'It is the fulfilment of a vision a long time ago by successive principals and those interested in the spiritual life of the college,' said Pastor Cecil Perry, British Union Conference president, who led the opening prayers during the church opening service at 3pm.

'We rejoice today because a dream has been fulfilled,' said Dr Bertil Wiklander, president of the Trans-European Division and chairman of the Newbold College Board, under whose leadership the new church has been completed. "Combining a feeling of spaciousness with generous natural lighting, the Newbold church is an outstanding addition to the South England stock of buildings," said Pastor Don McFarlane, president of the South England Conference, who gave the prayer of blessing for the new church.

The Newbold church and College community, together with church members from surrounding churches, Church administrators, local community representatives and alumni and friends of Newbold from different parts of the world, celebrated this very special occasion.

Administrators, church pastors, College staff, church members local and world-wide, and various individuals with a passion for the church, have contributed to keeping the flame burning over the years. More recent administrators include Dr Jan Paulsen, principal of Newbold (1976-80) and now General Conference president, Dr Bertil Wiklander, Pastor Cecil Perry, Pastor Don McFarlane, and Newbold principals Dr Steve Thompson (1984-90), Dr Derek Beardsell (1991-97), and Dr Andrea Luoton (1997-2002). Recent pastors, Gil Valentine, David Cox and Ian Sleeman, also played a part in keeping the dream alive and in bringing it to a successful conclusion as did Union and Conference presidents in the Trans-European Division by allowing annual offerings in their territory to be dedicated to the church.

LIFE.info
Get your FREE copies of the new LIFE.info magazine with this issue of Messenger
(There are enough for at least two copies for each member)
For more information contact the editor:
Lee Gallaher, LIFE.info magazine,
The Stanborough Press, Alma Park, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG31 9SL.
Email: lee_lifeinfo@mac.com
In short, report!

by John Surridge, Communication director, BUC

We all take news seriously. These days we have news for our breakfast, dinner and tea and still want more. We listen to it as we drive, and we can watch news programmes 24 hours a day if we want to. We can buy excellent newspaper today but nothing and, using the internet, we can download news from anywhere about anything.

Of course it is evidence of progress in the information world, but this over-supply of information has its downsides. One of negative aspect of the ‘too much news’ culture is that it brainwashes us into thinking that what is reported accurately reflects what is happening in the world. After all, if so many people are reporting it, it must be important and it must be true – mustn’t it?

Wrong. News is not what happens, it is what is reported to have happened. Important may happen in our world but they may not get reported. At best news agencies can only work with the information they have. At worst they may deliberately set out to obtain specific news, either because they want to portray the world in a certain light, or very simply because one news story is easier to get than another.

Now the Church media? Well I know from experience that we always try to report events fairly (though some may not think so) and, although we have a tendency to look on the bright side, we don’t hide any particular political agenda in the way that we compile news. However, this doesn’t mean that we cover everything. And it doesn’t mean that our publications accurately portray everything that is happening in the world.

The reason for this is simple. We can’t report what we don’t know about! Major events take place throughout the British Union and they never get reported for this very reason. As we sit in our pews, or our armchairs, reading about some terrible ‘travesty’, it’s easy to buy into it. Logically it makes no sense for an event which may have taken hundreds of people hours to put together, to go unreported. After all a report can be written in fifteen minutes.

But time and time again this is what happens. We work very hard to organise, promote, and execute an event, but once it’s over we forget all about it. This is bad practice for a number of reasons: Firstly it means that we are thinking short term. There is no better ad for an event coming up than a good report of your last event.

Secondly it means that we are not looking at the wider picture. An event which may inspire and uplift the 500 people who attend, may indirectly inspire and uplift 5,000 more who read the report and see the picture.

Thirdly it means that we’re not considering news as an evangelistic tool. We have been told to go into all the world and preach the gospel – literally the ‘Good News’. In the early days of the Church Christianity was spread very quickly by reports – eye witnesses who simply passed on what they had seen and heard – and the same can happen today.

In conclusion, if we want our Church media to reflect accurately what is happening in the Church, we need a change of mindset.

Communication needs to be included in the planning stage of all our major, and most of our not so major events. It’s not just the responsibility of Communication secretaries, who already do a very good job (often with very little recognition). It’s the responsibility of all leaders and organisers to make sure that the events in which they are involved are reported.

In short, report!
**In one year, a million!**

**NEWSBREAK**

In one year, a million!

**LIFE.info magazine**

Co-authors: A. Hodges – BUC Missionary Association director
D. Ellis – BUC LIFE/Development Promotion director

Today is the pre-launch of LIFE.info magazine. Be sure to collect your two FREE copies, which have arrived with MESSAGE.

Don’t just think magazine! Dream the dream of connecting with more than one million people for Christ. It’s not just a magazine but an exciting faith adventure. More than one million people in a year! It is a dream. LIFE.info magazine empowers the dream.

The dream is achievable. If every two months 4,000 Adventists across the world, and each department had distributed 50 LIFE.info magazines in one year, you would reach 4,000,000 people. It only takes 200 people to invert 50,000 monthly to invest £5 in LIFE.info magazine by standing order. Each investor would receive 400 magazines to give away creatively. Thousand of thousands would be reached. Two simple commitments make the dream possible:

1. To invest half an hour of our time every two months in the big adventure,
2. To invest £5 monthly in LIFE.info magazine by standing order.

What kind of magazine is LIFE.info? It is a magazine specifically designed for postmodern people. The articles are meant to deal with issues that are of interest to people who are unchristian and who have little or no knowledge of the Bible.

As a church we have a responsibility of reaching every section of society. Today only 27% of the population in Britain (81% in Ireland) attend church once a week. We need to reach the unchristian in our community. LIFE.info is a tool that can be used, as we ‘connect’ or make friends with men and women in our districts. It is the first step in the process of leading people to Jesus Christ.

Although there is a price on the magazine it is recommended that we give it away. With creative thinking there are many exciting ways of distributing the magazine. For example consider the following:

Door to door in your community
Doctor’s surgeries
Stands placed in shopping malls, bus and rail stations
Libraries
Former Adventists
Contacts, friends, relatives
Past to leads in our communities – government, business people and others

Hand out on the streets

In addition to the above, if you decide to sell the magazine we recommend that you sell it for a charitable cause such as ADRA-UK or ADRA-Ireland. You will be able to expand on these suggestions and use this tool in other ways. Our young people can be very creative!

---

**Splasht Radio launch:**

**The Good News comes first**

**WORDS:** Doreen L Fry, Secretary, Splash Radio

**PICTURES:** John Surridge

Friday 6 September was a major milestone in the history of Adventist Radio North London (ARNL). Splash Radio 87.7FM: ‘Radio for Everyone Where The Good News Comes First’, our station ID, was officially launched on this date. This recognition was given, not only by the Church at both the SEC and BUC levels of administration but equally important to us, by the local statutory and voluntary bodies in our Islington community. The remit given to us by the Radio Authority was to focus our broadcast output on youth culture with its drug use, crime and violence. This remit allowed the Radio Ministry to incorporate and involve the local community in our plans, directives and approach to the Islington modern society of the twenty-first century.

The launch ceremony was broadcast live on air and added a new dimension to Splash Radio professionalism.

**Church in the Mall**

Sabbath morning Open Church service in the local shopping mall was a great success. The aims and objectives were realised, (mainly) as it is only a selected group, in casual dress, attended from the area’s Adventist Community. As an outreach programme and to advertise Splash Radio, the Open Church service was to be informal, relaxed and friendly. The figures show that 500 balloons, 1,000 pens, and 1,000 pocket calendars, all bearing the Splash Radio logo, were handed out. In fact, we could have handed out many more, had supplies not run out. In addition, the Pathfinders gave out tracts and magazines.

The well attended service was Open Church service that welcomed and appreciated an oasis of hope and cheer to the Saturday mid-morning shoppers.

In conclusion, Adventist Radio North London is a vital and progressive element in our ministry to the local community and its environs. By giving and sharing of the best, each participant on the team is being blessed and empowered to do more and more for the cause of Jesus Christ.

---

**NORTHERN HIGHLIGHTS**

**60 baptised.**

We had the West Midlands tent campaign for three weeks recently, when the speaker was Dr Philip Willis. We baptised fifty-eight people and later another four, making sixty-two. Another sixty people are receiving Bible studies, with the hope of further baptisms.

**Randall Stafford campaign,** Randall Stafford conducted a two-week campaign at the Handsworth church and they baptised thirty-six converts.

**Church-based programmes,** Pastor Ian Sweeney, the Conference evangelist, has run a number of church-based programmes and has baptised twenty-six so far. There are others receiving bible studies, to be baptized when they are considered ready.

**Aberdeen programme,** There is a three-phase development programme going on at Aberdeen at present. We are now in the second phase. The first phase was to employ a Project Development manager to get the project in place and then to develop it. The second phase was to build a number of chalets on the site and restructure the camping programmes. So far we have built four two-bedroom, self-contained chalets, a fifth will be built in the next few weeks. Each chalet will have a veranda built on to it. The communal hall has been fully decorated and carpeted. All the old furniture has been thrown out and has been replaced with new items. The complete electrical system has been renewed; a great deal more has been done. Malcolm Hayles, the Project Development manager, is doing an excellent work.

---

**London Teens’ Day**

As a successful ‘Teens’ Day’ in early September at the Emmanuel Centre in London, attendance was close to a thousand, with young people coming from London, St Albans, Luton, Bristol and Wolverhampton, and other places. The day was planned and organised by Pastor Edjan Brooks and the Teens department of the South England Conference. This was the second time the event had taken place at the Emmanuel Centre.

It’s a church with a difference, in that there is no break and most of the congregation stays put for over three hours of singing (very lively), drama, musical items (including rap), mime, dance, and the spoken word. The Teens department invited Dr Emil Peeler from California, USA, who delivered a challenging message in a way that was relevant for the audience.

The final altar call saw over two hundred come forward, crowing the stage and aisles, with more than seventy leaving contact details.

**STEFAN BURTON-SCHNULL**

---

**Massive response to 9/11 outreach**

It seemed like an audacious idea, but it caught on with the Gloucestere community. The idea was to blitz the city of Gloucester, some 50,000 households, with a challenging leaflet campaign. We had a local police station, and Church house, with one of the PR packs recently remodelled, and beautifully decorated. twisted into the idea.

**Orthodontist needed**

For established Adventist mission clinic in Zambia. This fully equipped, recently remodeled, and beautifully landscaped clinic is busy and has an excellent reputation. The profits have provided help to many mission projects throughout this division. An ideal clinic, beautiful landscape, and the Government of Zambia are all a bonus for those called to serve in this country. For more information contact Clayton Nicola at ari@bkapplied.com.
Obituaries

BLACKWOOD, Iris Agatha – d. 25 July. Iris was born in Crooked River, Jamaica. She migrated to London in 1993 along with her husband George and cared for their family. One of her greatest joys was being surrounded by her children, her grandchildren and their families. Throughout her life, Sister Blackwood displayed a pleasant and caring nature to everyone with whom she came into contact. She was an active member of Brother church, serving as a deaconess, and was involved in community activities in the church. Those who knew her well recall her faithfulness, her kindness, and her ability to put others at ease. May the promises of what the future holds for God’s people be a comfort to us as they were for Sister Blackwood.

Joey Brouwer, recipient of the outstanding achievement award for the second quarter.

Achievement Awards

The children from the Holcombe Junior School were pleased and surprised during their 13th Sabbath presentation to the adult class. After demonstrating how talented they are by presenting their items – songs, recitals and sketches – a number of children were presented with certificates and, in one case, a shield for outstanding achievement.

Over the previous thirteen weeks the children had been graded on attendance, participation in class and extra-curricular activities, among other categories. They had no idea that an engraved shield was to be presented to the child with the most points, and certificates to the two runners-up.

The aim of the initiative devised by the Junior Sabbath school team is to cultivate interest not only in participation in the lesson studies but an interest in the Holcombe Road church as a whole. After the presentations were made a number of children were heard to say that they would be aiming to arrive on time for Sabbath school as the following week.

Stanhope Park baptism

On 31 August Aleta King and Samuel Twort were baptised at Stanhope Park Church. Two of many friends and well-wishers were Sam’s parents and sister Claire, and Aleta’s parents who came from Australia. Pastor Jeffrey Boateng and Pastor Dean conducted the service. Jeffrey had worked with both candidates and baptised Sam. David baptised Aleta. Aleta’s mother, Barbara, sang during the service. Others who sang were four members of the London Adventist Chorale: Trevor and Joan Johnson, and Naftali and Pamela Maxwell. They were accompanied by Nathan Roberts on the piano, and Sam’s cousin, Daniel Thompson, on the bass guitar. Fifteen-year-old Sam said, ‘I have realised that Jesus is the only one who can really help me in my life’.

Aleta said, ‘I have been amazed at how God has always been there for me in the past, even when I was not aware of it at the time.’ Jeffrey challenged us to get connected ‘with an infinite Being and to stay connected.’

Sam says, Jesus can really change your life in a better way. We have to guide you through the all small steps, and when you need someone to talk to and there is no one around, he is always there.’

SEC introduces new lay preachers’ course

By Catherine Bolode

The Ministry of the department of South England launched its Lay Preachers’ Certificate course in the early autumn. The first course started on 22 September and will run until 1 December every other Sunday at Stoke Newington church.

As the venue for the course is situated in North London, it is anticipated that members from these churches, and those from the East London area will be able to attend. This does not exclude members attending from other parts of London.

In order that the entire conference receives the benefits; course will be held throughout 2003 in various areas. The proposed schedule is as follows – Areas 1 & 2; Cornwall & Devon, February 2003; Areas 3 & 4; Hants, Dorset, Kent & Sussex, April 2003; Areas 6B & 6D; South & West London, May 2003; Areas 8; Essex, Norfolk & Suffolk, July 2003; Areas 5 & 7. Bucko, Birds & Herts, October 2003.

The course, ‘Herald of God’s Word’, was written by Pastor Mike Stickland while he was the minister of the Nottingham Burleigh church and the North England Conference Ministerial Association secretary. The General Conference Ministerial Association, after reading the manuscript, chose to publish it as one of their resources in the training of lay preachers. The contents of the course will be taken from this manual. However, an additional lecture has been added and one of the tutorials customised for our Conference.


The cost of the course is £14, which includes materials that will be supplied. Mrs Vivienne Evers, secretary to Pastor Kavahilu, Ministerial secretary at the SEC office (phone 01393 237278), will provide application forms and any other information that you may need regarding the course. At the end of each session there will be a graduation ceremony for those who have successfully completed their assignments and have attended sufficient lectures.

ASCA Family Fun Day at Woburn

On Sunday 18 August, ASCA (Adventist Special Needs Association) members and friends had their first family fun day at Woburn Safari Park. We were blessed one around, he is always there.’

BRONWEN ATKINSON

The children from the Holcombe Road church filled almost to capacity with church members. They came from other churches in area 4 and from other areas. They came to pay their last respects. They came from other churches in area 4 and from other areas.

Some of the organs said, ‘The programme is designed to help people of any age or ability to lose weight, get fit and gain confidence for ever – not just temporarily.’

‘There is nothing new in what we do, but we offer people a tailor-made training plan with a fully qualified dietician, and an exercise programme from a qualified personal trainer – and the combination of the two seems to work very well.’

‘Many of the results have been stunning, and not only have the people lost weight as predicted, they are also feeling so much better. And, just as importantly, who folks who have been suffering from high blood pressure have seen it come down.’ Sharon Brown, dietician, said, ‘The programme demonstrates that diabetes is not as effective as the combination of exercise, eating and regular; challenging exercises.

Sonia Grant, the gym manager, added, ‘We are taking this scheme to our local GPs, hoping that they might refer their patients, rather than initially providing medication. It would be great to be part of an overall prevention emphasis rather than cure.’

Gloucester: Four men baptised

On 31 August Gloucester church experienced a colourful and emotional day as four men were baptised. It was colourful because three of the candidates were from the beautiful island of Fiji and they certainly brought candidates were from the beautiful island of Fiji and they certainly brought...
Newbold church opened 14 September
Continued from page 1

Speaking at the meeting of alumni and friends of Newbold that was held after the service, the writer highlighted the significant contribution made by alumni and friends who had helped to bring the project to a successful conclusion. “When I started working on the project nine years ago when I first came to Newbold, it was the gifts made by individuals, some of whom are present here today, that gave us hope and courage and the determination to continue with the project. This support and passion for the church from many different parts of the world helped to regenerate the vision for the church.” The writer went on to explain how easily donations from Audrey and Jud Wilius, who had come from the USA especially for the event, had provided “concrete evidence” on which to base hope that the dream might indeed become a reality. A donation from McKee Foods, USA, also provided a similar secure foundation. “Then donations started coming in from all over the world.”

Reflecting on the opening service, Dr John Baildam, Newbold director of Academic Affairs, said, “What I think was exciting was the different mix of people who were there, from the college community, from the wider community, from the borough community, from all walks of life, reflecting the 65 different nationalities we have at the College.” Pastor Perry summed up the feelings of many when he said, “The service of blessing and praise spoke of a joy of accomplishment that comes after years of yearning to have a house built unto our God. The occasion was uplifting and will be long remembered by those who participated in the service. It is my desire that all those who worship in the building in years to come will experience the presence of God.”

The new church is a contemporary building that engages and integrates with the landscape to promote a feeling of openness and transparency. To ensure that the view of Moor Close, the original manor house located on the property, remains unobstructed, the church has been built with the contours of the gently sloping land, with the largest elements towards the boundaries of the site. One of the building’s most innovative features is the grass turf-covered flat roof over the café area operating. It will be a great place for the community, church and college to meet.”

The final comments on the new church lie with Pastor McFarlane. “This new church is built with both the church members and the community in mind. The design in many ways sets the standard for church buildings that are intended for worship and service. With my Conference administrator’s hat on, I am delighted that the whole project has kept to budget. At the outset there were some who were of the view that the budget was too conservative and would certainly fall short of what it would take to complete the building. Well, they have been proved wrong. Careful examination of the Conference’s records might show that this is one of the few building projects of this proportion to have kept to budget. On behalf of the Conference I wish to thank all those who have contributed in one way or another to the construction of this beautiful facility.”

Mr and Mrs Dorothy Hayes, with two members of Newbold Church