At the age of 4 I contracted a life-threatening disease. The GP who prescribed the remedy, told my mother that if it did not work I would die. It didn’t. What worked was the intervention of a woman who was moved with compassion for a 4-year-old boy who was always crying whenever he and his mother passed by. Doesn’t the cry of a child tug at your heartstrings? Every year innocent, suffering, crying children drive me to leave my comfortable suite and hit the street to collect funds for the ADRA-UK Annual Appeal.

World-wide, yearly, 630 million children under 5 go to bed hungry, and 6 million die of starvation. In Brazil the one million orphan children living on the streets get their food from dustbins. It gives some relief to know that through ADRA-UK we can be part of the humanitarian aid, probably, to the most vulnerable section of society.

Children prioritised

Last year a proportion of the £523,887 raised would have helped children in Guyana, Cambodia, Gates, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Sudan and in the popular Special Needs Camp in Wales. There were nine special projects that we focused on during the ADRA-UK Appeal. In some way every one touched the lives of children. I would like to add my word of appreciation to that of the ADRA-UK director, Raafat Kamal, for the sterling and enduring work that our members have done.

In 2003, once again, all eleven projects selected will in some way respond to thousands of crying children. Tears will be wiped away because of our contribution to ADRA-UK Annual Appeal.
The bitter end

H ave you ever sunk your teeth into something unappetising, anticipating a delicious response only to find that your teeth are set on edge, your hair curls and your skin breaks out in goose-flesh? The taste is unpleasantly bitter. An American biotech company is rushing to control HIV will be made more palatable and increase the likelihood that they stick to their pre- scripts. Patents have been granted to develop further the range or ‘family’ of blockers are required to have the desired effect. Currently a major food group and a leading pharmaceutical required to have the desired effect. Currently a major food group and a leading pharmaceutical company are testing the blockers across a wide range of products. Independent research has confirmed that the science behind the innovation is good. So for the future, we won’t need a spoonful of these crying children, let’s increase our primary objectives; because in the ‘mutual counselling session’ that conversation they have given the signal, ‘Destruction is good’ – and the person at the other end of the exchange will hear and respond accordingly.

Be big enough to build, rather than destroy! Be generous enough to give, to dish out praise (in place of blame)! God will use you to make your congregation, family, work group, whatever, so a much better environment. Darwin didn’t put it wrong, didn’t he? Society isn’t really about the survival of the fittest. Right? Right? So prove it by the way you behave! A word fitly spoken is like apples in settings of silver. (Proverbs 25:11, NIV)

What a picture! The word translated ‘apples’ could just as easily have been rendered ‘oranges’ or ‘grapes’. And, ‘settings of silver’ means ‘silver baskets’. The overall impression is the attractiveness of the (appropriate) spoken word. The way we use words is important.

Wordsmith Mark Twain once wrote: ‘The difference between the right word and almost the right word is the difference between lightning and a lightning bug’. Some words just hit the mark, others float like thistledown, still others threaten like the cold, steel barrel of a .38 Smith and Wesson. Words can purify our thoughts, trans- porting us, if only for an instant, to heavenly life and even death. Of course, they do not even succeed in penetrating the fog of self-doubt? Who has not heard words deflate. A wise man once wrote, ‘Many weight of an ill-chosen word? And who has not

W arren was a Javanese woman who, after a hard life featuring divorce and isolation, was in a hospice in the final stages of cancer. One came from a Christian woman who, after a long-term illness. Most came from ordinary people who felt that they had been given ‘a leg up’. Having poured years of effort into right – for which little thanks had been received – I was tempted to be a tad irritated by this ‘bump’ all around. But, what is it? A collection of 126 encouraging Bible verses. Clearly the operative word was encouraging. In the majority of lives encouragement is a commodity in short supply.

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Stephen is well known in the London area, where he works as a Senior Lecturer and Consultant in Biomedical Marketing at Middlesex University Business School. He is also a renowned lay preacher and lay evangelist.

Betty-Ann is a Nurse Specialist with the City and Hackney Primary Care Trust, specialising in blood disorders. Back in February of 2001, while completing her doctoral research and consultancy programme with the governments of the Eastern Caribbean, Stephen was approached by the South Caribbean Conference and asked if he would be willing to assist them in developing a marketing strategy to improve the Adventist Community Hospital. Although the hospital is located in a wealthy area of Port of Spain, and has over the years become a popular holiday destination for educational and health institutions. But financial and physical.

For any further information, visit: www.euko.org or call Malcolm Haynes, Project Development Manager, on 01758 614334 or 01758 706281.

Please note: If you require qualifications in sailing, canoeing, or rock climbing, and are interested in helping at Adventist, please contact Malcolm Haynes on 01758 614334 or Pastor Peter Vanier on 015 5600 6312.

If you like the idea, telephone 01758 614334.

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A beautiful mother

It is a blessing from God to live to reach your 100th year. On Sunday 2 February 1998, the Reverend Dr Ruby Santinor, a seemingly endless stream of guests came and went to celebrate with Sister Victoria Ruth Clemonds this most wonderful event.

Sister Clemonds came to England in 1795 to live with her daughter Ruby Santinor. It was a lovely tribute to Sister Clemonds that her son Leonard of the northern Irish church, two daughters, Ruby and Florence, plus three of her grandchildren, Herschel, Hugh (better known as Florence, plus three of her grandsons, and Norma Kent were united in marriage

In the afternoon, the visitors who had set foot in an Adventist church.

Pastor Julio’s studies inspiring.

Pastor John’s mother, Regina, was the daughter of Italian immigrants to America. She met an Adventist friend, Pastor James, and the two had married in 1920. Their daughter, Regina, was born in 1924.

In 1844, a year after her ordination, her friend, Pastor James, died. Later, in 1856, Regina married Pastor James’s brother, Pastor Samuel Neves. Regina was a member of the Riverway church in London, and she had been a member of the church since 1844.

Pastor Samuel Neves was ordained in 1856. He and his wife, Regina, were both members of the church. Pastor Samuel Neves died in 1862, and Regina continued to be an active member of the church until her death in 1901.

Regina’s body was taken to the church where it was laid to rest. The church was filled with people who had come to pay their respects. The service was presided over by Pastor J. Elliott, who had been the church’s pastor for many years.

The funeral was a beautiful service, and many people came to pay their respects. Regina’s body was taken to its final resting place in the churchyard, and the service ended with a prayer for the departed.

Regina Clemonds was a true mother to her family and friends, and her love and devotion will be remembered by all who knew her. She will be greatly missed by everyone who knew her, and her memory will live on for years to come.

Barry Stokes from Liverpool preached a sermon entitled, “Mother’s Love.”

For the third year running our church has been involved in this scheme through Link Romania, part of Partnership for Growth – an inter-denominational charity based at Worthing.

This year, because we were one of only three area collectors in Dorset, the boxes were brought to the church from several groups including Brownies, Guides, WIs groups and other churches, as well as from our own church’s members and Mother & Toddler Group.

Let’s praise the Lord for this generosity shown towards our brothers and sisters in Romania.

J. ELLIOTT

Baptism at Bolton

On Sabbath afternoon 8 February Bolton church was packed to its full capacity as friends and relatives gathered to see Hilda Lawrence and Mark Prescott make public the declaration of faith in Christ their Saviour. Pastor Barry Stokes from Liverpool preached a sermon entitled, “Mother’s Love.”

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Women’s prison witness

When Pastor Roger Neal asked the members of Kirk church what they thought about ministering to the people at Askham Grange Women’s Open Prison, there was a very encouraging response. Unfortunately, there were only twelve places available and the proper authorities had to be notified a week in advance.

New converts at Nottingham

Dr Patricia Herbert (left) and ministerial intern Pastor Selon Kyagakya (right) of Nottingham Central pictured with new converts who have given their lives to Christ. These members have completed intensive Bible studies with dedicated Bible scholars of Nottingham. They are Pauline Smith (seated left), Valerie Forbes, Leslie James (standing left) and Lockyemane Masau.

Teenagers commit

Reading district experienced a wonderful baptism at Central church on 7 December. The Holy Spirit reaped a bumper harvest of six—two young men and four young women. The main item in the service was the Malawi Group, comprised of an older man, John Gwiruka, his wife Leah, his sister Gloria, with her husband and son, Richard and Michael, and Pearson’s brother Harry, with his wife Joyce. Norman Koyu sang a solo, and the service finished with “Crown Him” in at least two languages (it has been done with fuel). Around fifteen people turned up, but we made sure we were heard by many more.

Churches with heroes valiant for Christ

President, Llewellyn Edwards

Recently I attended a small group discussion at Parkway, our attention to the passage in 1 Chronicles 12:2-22, where a list is made of heroes who bashed the bad but valiant efforts of the future king of Israel – David. How like the church in Scotland this passage is! We are small but as I go from church to church I hear of the heroes in each church – valiant for King Jesus.

This report inevitably will not list every name – indeed just as Hebrews 11 fails to list all – but we can read that roll of faith as parts of all the unseen, unknown heroes whom God Himself will commend with His ‘well done’. My sincere apologies go to each of these unnamed valiant heroes – they are, in modern parlance, stars!

There are Pastorist leaders like Josephine Sikum, Andrew McKe, Malcolm and Angela Langan, Claudette Gwilliam, and Obieta Hakan, who give so much time, patience and huge doses of love to win the hearts of our youth to the King.

There are the leaders of small groups like Eli Quin and Stacey Friend’s John Wilby and John Martin, who provide ministry within their groups and search for that deepening fellowship that marks the family of God. There are children’s Sabbath School leaders in each of our churches like Mural Logan, Jane Walton, Margaret Lesar and Jennifer Okoro, pouring information, time and energy into the lives of teachers and the children.

There are mighty prayer warriors like Edith Perry – typical of individuals and groups, gathering together to call upon the name of the Lord. And of course the leaders of church groups like Grace Bold, Andy McKe, and Margaret Edgar, railing the hearts of God’s children to faith each Sabbath.

There are also the Away and Aunty and Carol Peacock who add their expert touch and create attractive bulletins each Sabbath that keep the church informed and in communication – such an important part of fellowship. I saw recently the work of some unseen hero who had created a commendation certificate for his pastor to express the church family’s appreciation for his work. These little things illustrate the truth that big doors turn on little hinges. There are people like the Olugbade, Mural Logan, who prepare recordings of sermons for distribution to isolated and shut in folks that keeps them established in Christ. Oh, yes, and folks like Alan McGurk, who will teach a football class for kids.

And I cannot forget people like Judith Martin – rallying women to faith and courage in the Lord through Women’s Ministries.

And I must mention people like Rudolf Berki, distributing thousands of pieces of literature from house to house and doing house-to-house surveys; and discovered on the island, that area in which he chose to work was the area where the church could find a new location.

Then there were the folks in our churches like Christine Donald, making sure that the fellowship lunch is organised and sumptuous, that all may eat their ‘bread’ with gladness each Sabbath and visitors are made welcome.

What of folks like Beverly and Owen Anderson and Mural Logan and Akuamoah Dwamema, Benedicta Dwamema, Vanessa Dwamema, Sarah Keir, Sarah Dwamema, Benedicta Dwamema, Daniel Kangethe, Claire Constantine, Andy McKie and Margaret Edgar, rallying the hearts of our youth to the King.

ADRA-UK is launching its biggest shoebox appeal yet for orphaned children living in Albania. We are aiming to send 2,000 shoeboxes in the first week of July 2003 to benefit orphans 2-14 years, demonstrating to them God’s love and compassion. ADRA-UK’s past shoebox appeals were a great boost to their morale and our hope is to continue this positive impact and bring smiles to their faces.

Information on how to pack the boxes has been sent to all Personal Ministers Leaders. The ADRA-UK truck will be parked at the following venues for collection of your shoeboxes:

2,000 shoeboxes for God by Chantal Allen

- Stanborough Park Church, Watford Sunday 15 June – 10am to 1pm
- Camp Hill Church, Birmingham Sabbath 26 June, 10am to 1pm
- Askham Grange Women’s Open Prison Church, Monday 27 June, 10am to 1pm

If you are unable to bring your shoeboxes to these venues, please arrange either through your minister or other contacts to bring them to the BUC office in Watford.

ADRA-UK is proud of the support given by the Church of England’s Churches with heroes valiant for Christ. We are grateful for the prayers and support of our partners in the UK and overseas. We are grateful for the prayers and support of our partners in the UK and overseas.
Wimbledon’s Golden Anniversary

by Asha Wije

Sabbath 12 October 2002 marked the Golden Anniversary of the Wimbledon Adventist church building which was rebuilt after being bombed during the Second World War.

The original brick church, known as ‘Stanley Hall’, was erected in 1924 following a series of public meetings conducted during 1923 by the evangelist Pastor Maudsley, as a result of which approximately 150 people were baptized. This was a time when one could walk safely across Wimbledon Common and only one person in the church, a dentist, owned a car.

Wimbledon, which approximately 9 miles from the centre of London, was a small village in the eighteenth century and, at the time of the Great Fire of London in 1666, was incorporated into the parish of Putney. The population was 1,474 in 1861. The church was the focus for community activity, a place for religious worship and the location of an annual agricultural show.

The church was originally a Congregational church. When the adventist movement spread to Wimbledon in 1893, the church was sold to the adventists. The original building was used as a chapel, but by 1912 it was too small to accommodate the growing membership. Thus began a series of public meetings to raise funds for a new building.

The fund-raising drive resulted in the construction of a new building on the same site. The new church building was dedicated on 12 January 1912.

For the rest of the war and up to the end of 1919, the membership was up to 500, and worship was held in a building belonging to the Second Advent Church in Merton Road. Members were very welcome there. At the time, church membership was approaching 150 and there were enough Adventist children to run a small school in a hall at the rear of the Second Advent Church. There were two teachers, Miss Thomas and Miss Uffindell and, for a time, a third teacher, Miss D. Hear. There were about 25 pupils in total from 4 to 11 years old. Unfortunately, despite strenuous efforts by staff, church and conference, increased government requirements made it impossible to continue to finance the school and, in 1915, it was closed.

Help from Sir Cyril

The members continued for over ten years to raise funds for rebuilding.

Wimbledon had an international church architect friend, worked on the plans for the church. Sidney Rose supervised the building of the new church at the same time as doing a full-time job. When completed, local papers reported the new structure as having been built ‘on far more imposing lines than the original’. Compliments were made in the building trade on the clean, modern lines and first-class construction of the new church.

A dedication service for the new church was held on 12 January 1952, attended by Pastors W. W. Armstrong (BUC president), J. A. McMillan (SEC president), A. C. Vine (resident pastor 1932-1942) and G. M. Hyde (resident minister). The service paid special tribute to Sidney Rose for his particular efforts towards rebuilding the church. In the words of Pastor Hyde he had ‘done so much to make this building a reality’. Also praised were Hubert Cowen, head deacon, for his unselfish efforts in helping to rebuild the church, and all the members and friends for their faithful support and prayers.

A triumph of freedom

At the dedication ceremony Albion C. W. Black JP MP (later Sir Cyril) gave an exhortation to the church on the importance of freedom of worship ‘which’, he stated, ‘was one of the essential freedoms for which the democracies had fought in the war’. They had been opposed by a nation which did not believe in freedom of worship and he stated that he believed that, in a very near and significant way, the great principles for which the democracies had fought were being vindicated in the reconstruction ceremony.

Fifty years later, Althea Somasundram, pastor of Wimbledon church, welcomed past and present members and friends to mark the golden anniversary of the new building. Special guests included former general secretaries of the church, David Cox (1979-1986), Brian Martin (1986-1994) and Vlado Godina (1997-2002). Another very special guest was Sidney Rose himself, who spoke in the afternoon of his childhood memories of attending the evangelistic campaign conducted by Pastor Maudsley and his involvement with the construction of the new building. Also in attendance was John Wilson of Canterbury church, whose parents, Adrian and Mary, were the first to be married in the new building. John was also the first baby to be dedicated in the new building and he was also baptised and married in the church. Robin Cowen of Stanborough church, a former pupil of Stanley Hall whose father Hubert Cowen was head deacon at the time the church was dedicated in 1952, also attended, bringing with him a collection of memorabilia including a copy of Messizicz which reported the dedication service in 1952.

Additional greetings were sent by former pastors of Wimbledon church, including George Oosthuizen (USA), James Collins, Robert Surrage (USA) and Drene Somasundram (Australia). Freda Sprang, daughter of former Wimbledon pastor F. A. Sprang, also sent greetings.

Memories

Margaret Campbell, a member of Wimbledon church and a former pupil of Stanley Hall School, provided much of the detail as regards the history of the church for the anniversary celebration, including photographs of the former building. She said, ‘Everyone enjoyed the fellowship and worship of the anniversary celebration. Those of us who go back a long way really enjoyed meeting old friends again and reminiscing.’

The new church building was constructed upon the foundations of the original building which had remained relatively intact after the bombing. This experience was used as a basis for the design by the guest speaker for the day, Pastor D’Arcy Duff, who said that the original foundation had been securely built and that we should likewise build our hope and our salvation on the firm foundation of Jesus Christ.

God has blessed Wimbledon church with musical brilliance and its name was praised at the golden anniversary celebration of the church’s mini-orchestra as well as its wealth of vocal talent. The children also made a very special contribution to the day with their own orchestra, special singings, songs and items. The afternoon programme, which followed a sumptuous lunch, was entitled ‘Wimbledon Church Through the Ages’. Sidney Rose and Richard Parr (elder) were presented with plaques for their contribution to Wimbledon church through the years, and the day ended with the cutting of a specially iced anniversary cake in traditional style, with thanks to God who says: ‘I know the plans I have for you... plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future’. Jeremiah 29:11.

Wimbledon church is down, but our spirits are up.

The present Wimbledon church was dedicated on 12 January 1952.

John Wilson was the first baby to be dedicated in the new church.

The old Wimbledon church, blitzed on 6 November 1940.
The production started with the song, “We only have a few more miles to go” by Take 6, playing softly in the background as we were introduced to the six main characters. There were songs to pull at your heartstrings, but the most moving moment was when Jane Rowe, as the cast danced. Another memorable moment was when Nathaniel, the ‘engaged’ couple. The Voice Choir thrilled everyone. Before the evening was Louise Clarke, whose special guest soloist Sophia Hawkins of the church brought the meditation and appeal song. The series ended with a celebration of the ‘Spirit of the desert’ in which one of the cast members had transformed, bringing a little taste of heaven down to Earth. The youth hall was transformed, bringing a little taste of heaven down to Earth. The youth hall was transformed, bringing a little taste of heaven down to Earth. The youth hall was transformed, bringing a little taste of heaven down to Earth. The youth hall was transformed, bringing a little taste of heaven down to Earth.

Chorale at the Park
Last June, before HM the Queen at Buckingham Palace, ‘At Pen of the Palace’, the London Adventist Chorale sang a traditional Afro-Caribbean gospel song. On 1 February at the Bath Abbey, the church’s new extension, The Chorale at the Park church the music of ‘Great Getting Up Morning’ was heard again. The choir was giving a fundraising concert to offset the cost of the church’s new extension. The Chorale at the Park church is a church in the West End of London that is associated with the London Adventist Chorale. The Chorale at the Park church is a church in the West End of London that is associated with the London Adventist Chorale. The Chorale at the Park church is a church in the West End of London that is associated with the London Adventist Chorale. The Chorale at the Park church is a church in the West End of London that is associated with the London Adventist Chorale.

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East Meets West

by Dubhla Mashi, Naomi Watson, inter alia

One Saturday evening in February under the auspices of Leamington Spa Mission social committee the inaugural programme of HELP (Health, Education, Library Programmes) India took place. The aroma of Indian, vegetarian food teased the palates of 100-plus people in The Mission, George Street, Leamington Spa. The prospect of culinary delights encouraged attendance that, unusually but wonderfully, included Caucasian women in beautiful, brightly-coloured, feathered saris and Indian-held/purchased shawls/khuris. Leamington Spa Mission pastor Alan Conroy welcomed everyone, particularly our guests from the local Asian community. The youth from the Sikh community centre, under the directorship of Pam Nagi, enthralled our audience. The Sikh young men and boys overawed our ears with inimitable rhythmic sound from the ‘Dhol’ (Indian drums). The young women and girls entranced the eye with the lilting, same beauty of their ‘Bhangra’ (Indian dance).

East Meets West was also enabled by the loan of tables and a large food warmer from the Hindu community centre. The Sikh temple cooked the delicious vegetable samosas we ate. By these gestures, and the presence of the performers, the level of ‘Oneness’ between the Mission and its immediate community centre, under the directorship of Pam Nagi, was enhanced. For over a year she has struggled more or less by herself, as the Wellingborough church in 1972. A simple faith and his personal reasons, with examples from his personal life, with his friend Graham Catlin, who he came into contact with while at Oxford. As a lay preacher he travelled a lot up to the West End and Heath, Manchester. There he met Lillian who became his wife and they had four children; Roger, daughter-in-law Ann and three grandchildren. Kathleen and Roger, and in 1957 they fostered four children; Roger, daughter-in-law Ann and three grandchildren. Kathleen and Roger, and in 1957 they fostered

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New Treasury info on web. The BUC Treasury department has this week released a brand new magazine explaining many of the financial issues which raise questions among church members. All the treasury workers in the Conference and Union offices are listed, along with their email addresses, and there is also a list of the treasury staff at various church institutions, ranging from the John Loughborough School to the General Conference.

In an article entitled ‘Tithe: How is it used?’ BUC treasurer Victor Pilmoor explains how important it is for members to understand the principle of tithe giving. Those who do not give are challenged to ‘consider their own potential for evil nature of mankind and the potential for evil which exists within each one of us. We know that many thousands of Seventh-day Adventist church members died in the Rwandan conflict and, sadly, some were also murdered in the fighting. As a Church we see members acting in ways that are contrary to the high ideals of the Church it is very disappointing. However we sense a God of forgiveness and reconciliation and although we would not wish to go unpunished we rejoice in the fact that the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Rwanda has moved on and church membership has increased again.

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