HAVE YOU SEEN IT?
DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S FOR?

In brief: LIFE.info is a magazine to help you make contacts with your non-church-going friends, neighbours and work colleagues. LIFE.info is a conversation starter, it really can help you to build relationships. Give it a try!

LIFE.info magazine is only 20p a copy! In other words you could get hold of three copies of the magazine for the price of a loaf of bread! (However, if your neighbour needs bread maybe you would be better off buying that first.) If you are ordering in quantity, you can now have any number of magazines you like in incremental steps of 25. (25, 50, 75 etc.)

To order your copies contact: Pastor Dalbert Elias: 01923 672251.

An Update by Alan Hodges
Executive secretary LIFEdevelopment, BUC

The LIFEdevelopment.info team has had a busy time over the last few months, developing resource materials, preparing for special rallies in the Conferences and Missions, conducting training seminars and most importantly emphasising the need during 2003 for every member, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to ‘Get Connected’ and seek to make three secular friends in preparation for ‘The Evidence’ media event in March 2004.

Media event
The ‘Evidence’ event of ten television programmes to be presented by Pastor Dwight Nelson, will be an opportunity for LIFEdevelopment groups from all over Britain and Ireland to watch and discuss issues on topics such as God, the Bible, Suffering, Hope, Justice, etc. Sally Salmond, television producer from the Adventist Media Centre in Sydney, Australia, has joined the LIFEdevelopment team and will be in the UK for eighteen months researching and preparing materials for the media event, which will be transmitted via satellite.

Special days of fellowship have been held in Belfast (Irish Mission), Crieff (Scottish Mission) and Cardiff (Welsh Mission). Pastors Miroslav Pujic, Dalbert Elias and the writer were the speakers at these well-supported events.

Twelve videos
Resource materials have been distributed to every church in the British Union: a set of twelve video tapes, which includes twelve episodes of ‘Chasing Utopia’, a series especially designed for young secular adults, and twenty-four programmes in the Lifestyle Magazine series covering areas such as health, youth issues, family issues, the environment, self help and social welfare. These programmes, dealing with various topics, are provided so that as a particular issue arises in discussions with secular friends, programmes can be shown on that specific issue.

We encourage every member to catch the vision, to join the team and together reach secular men and women with the good news that Jesus is the answer to our every need.

New Books for 2003

Just five of the twelve brand-new books for 2003. Order through your PM secretary or direct from the ABC. 01476 539900.
**Guest Editorial with C. R. Perry**

**Was war necessary?**

_Why? with regard to previous conflicts. But often subjectively. We tend to judge right and wrong by a gut reaction to what we perceive to be fair or reasonable_.

The seventh-day Adventist position on war is generally neutral or pacifist. We do not approve of wars especially when patient negotiations can preserve the peace and save lives. We still encourage our members to be non-combatants and that our servicemen accept other support roles in past wars. Some paid the price for refusal to co-operate with the military authorities with imprisonment. During this year’s Iraq conflict, three different views emerged from our Adventist community:

1. War is not part of God’s redemptive plan.
2. War is inevitable in a world of sin and perversion.
3. Christians should be peacemakers and peacekeepers. They should do everything to promote peace positively, irrespective of their personal feelings. In a conflict situation where there are casualties they should do their Christian duty to the hurt and dying.

9. God’s ‘final act’ will be to restore harmony to the universe. This will come at the second coming, and when, sin, Satan and his angels and sinners are destroyed when the holy city descends.

* Here our Union president takes up the issues not dealt with in the last message.

It was easy to criticise those with a different viewpoint from our own. Whatever the perspective, we can agree that wars cost lives and unnecessary suffering.

What is the conclusion if any?

1. War is not part of God’s redemptive plan.
2. War is inevitable in a world of sin and perverted human conditions. In Matthew 24: Jesus said, ‘Such things must happen.’ (John 17:1.)

**Why?**

3. God’s Kingdom of Grace is a no-fight zone. ‘My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews.’ (Jesus said. (John 18:6.)

4. Christians, like their Master, seek to save lives.

5. Old Testament history is littered with the activities of wars during the theocracy. God’s purpose was clear. ‘The Lord will fight for you.’ (Deuteronomy 14:14.)

Israel’s attitude made the difference, especially when they chose a king and fell into apostasy. It would appear that the healthiest nations, on most occasions, brought the battle to God’s people with the purpose of contesting or eliminating them. God’s purpose was that his people would be a kingdom of priests to the other nations to bring them into harmony with God’s will.

6. There is a realism about conflicts which comes from unresolved tensions. Here, it is territorial and born with an innate desire to enforce his will on others.

7. Sin is the basic cause of wars and conflicts.

8. Christians should be peacemakers and peacekeepers. They should do everything to promote peace positively, irrespective of their personal feelings. In a conflict situation where there are casualties they should do their Christian duty to the hurt and dying.

9. God’s ‘final act’ will be to restore harmony to the universe. This will come at the second coming, and when, sin, Satan and his angels and sinners are destroyed when the holy city descends.

It is not the God of macro- or micro-creation that I find all-awful. Theologically, it is that God is a Father who was beaten that we might have peace. He was whipped, and we were healed! … We have left God’s paths to follow our own. Yet the Lord laid his hands on the fount and sins of us all. (Isaiah 53: 2-6)

F. C. Jennings wrote, ‘How clear are the rays of sanctuary- light that these words throw on human events by the three hours of darkness on Calvary, so clear that it is difficult to realise that the words were written more than seven hundred years before the fullfilment.’ As the seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary (volume 4, page 293) has it. These verses ‘emphasise the vicarious nature of Christ’s sufferings and death. The fact that it is for us, and not for himself, that he suffered and died is reiterated nine times in these verses. His suffering and death. The fact that it is for us, and not for himself, that he suffered and died is reiterated nine times. midst the people, said to them, “Him that sineth against me, and can ever hope to be. ‘For God’s paths to follow our own. Yet the Lord laid his hands on the fount and sins of us all. (Isaiah 53: 2-6)

* But the bottom line on the all-awful is reiterated nine times. midst the people, said to them, “Him that sineth against me, and can ever hope to be. ‘For God’s paths to follow our own. Yet the Lord laid his hands on the fount and sins of us all. (Isaiah 53: 2-6)

**Editorial with David Marshall**

All out awesome!

Teddy Roosevelt and Bill Beebe were two very powerful Galapagos in Andromeda. It is as large as our Milky Way. It is one of a hundred million galaxies. It consists of one hundred billion suns, each larger than our own. Then, apparently, Roosevelt would grin and say: ‘Now I think we are small enough! Let’s go to war!’

In the universe together.

The mid-ground pacifist who would make love.’ And Hosea bought Gomer back. It (Loizeaux, The Sinless what makes God all-out awesome?

or an ‘unjust’ war. The question is, Is there such a Christian leaders discussed whether it was a ‘just’ ethical and moral dilemmas?

asking the question, ‘What is truth?’ How do we nature. We are almost in the same position as Pilate considering our finiteness and confused, perverted by humanity, are in our genes and, therefore, our conscience is placed on the altar, and burned.

enforcing UN will to safeguard the global community?”

before dealing with evil? Was Israel’s period of injustice? I mean, with regard to previous conflicts. But often subjectively. We tend to judge right and wrong by a gut reaction to what we perceive to be fair or reasonable.

the enemy with a view to avoiding destruction of life especially – by the sheer extravagance of God: ‘There was nothing beautiful or majestic about his appearance, nothing to boast about anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Galatians 6:14.)

God’s ‘final act’ will be to restore harmony to the universe. This will come at the second coming, and when, sin, Satan and his angels and sinners are destroyed when the holy city descends.

* F. C. Jennings wrote, ‘How clear are the rays of sanctuary-light that these words throw on human events by the three hours of darkness on Calvary, so clear that it is difficult to realise that the words were written more than seven hundred years before the fullfilment.’

**References**


* Bible quotations are taken from The Holy Bible using Truncklation (Trunckhouse Publishers) unless indicated is given to the contrary.
Irish Mission Day of Fellowship

We have to mix with the world, not to lose our identity . . . so to influence it. These were the words of the worship speaker, Pastor missliv Josue, as he introduced all over guests and participants at the Irish Mission Day of Fellowship in Belfast on 8 March, which focused on the concept of LIFEDevelopment. Representatives from every Adventist church in both the North and the South gathered together with BUC and TED workers not only for worship and to talk about LIFEDevelopment, but also for the ordination of Pastor Mart de Groot, senior pastor of the Belfast and Larnie churches.

Family members from as far away as Spain, Honduras, the USA, Canada, Brazil or Australia to see their new son ordained. A number of Christian ministers from different denominations, who are friends of Mart’s, also attended the ordination, which included a number of musical items by his friends and family. Overall, the day was a great encouragement to those who came, with the LIFEDevelopment emphasis and ordination resulting in a full-packed programme.

Dublin: ‘Women in Christ’

What happens when a group of women get together in Ireland? Why, they sing, talk, praise, talk, and pray, and of course... This is precisely what happened at the Women’s Ministries Weekend in Dublin on 8-9 February. Co-organised by Betty Sisson, Women’s Ministries co-ordinator in Dublin, and Sandi Cullen (Banbridge) and Linda Six (Belfast), this was a fantastic three-course dinner followed by a social evening that was absolutely one of the best cultural experiences to be had anywhere in Ireland.

The weekend programme continued on Sunday morning when Vicki Murphy led a worship service. This was followed by a workshop led by Linda Six and Betty Sisson to look at the future of Women’s Ministries in the Irish Mission.

The weekend can extremely smoothen due to the leadership skills of Betty Sisson, as well as the hospitality skills of Millie Millan who organised all the food, thanks to the kind contributions from the women in the Dublin church. Perhaps one of the most important lessons of the weekend, however, was that Women’s Ministries can only happen first and foremost when the women in the church get to know one another and are friends.

Marianne
Busi Msipha
Messenger

Roses on Mothers’ Day

Southall church distributed a rose with a token of their appreciation. Among his many compositions is the invocation, ‘It’. The track for this album was written, arranged and produced by Alden – locally and internationally. His musical accompaniment supports groups, soloists, choirs and several bands.

Alden Clarke is the fourth child of Brother and Sister Desmond H. Clarke (first elder) and was brought up in a family that is rich in musical talent. From an early age he demonstrated his skill at the piano and with the help of his mother, and maternal grandmother (now deceased) to whom he was greatly devoted, has developed this talent. He has played the piano and the organ at various

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BUC

Unused WMD found at the VOP!

by Mike Stickland, director, ABC/VOP

Did you notice that terminology— that men may be deceived, deluded, or more species of animal life on earth have their own unhealthy? excuse me, is this healthy? healthy?

BUC is excited to announce the discovery of an unknown virus that has been found at the VOP! This virus, known as the ‘VOP virus,’ has been identified through a series of scientific investigations and has been designated as a potential threat to human health.

After some initial challenges in identifying the virus, scientists have determined that it is capable of causing serious illness in humans, particularly in those who have not been vaccinated against it. The virus spreads rapidly through close contact and can be transmitted through respiratory droplets, making it particularly dangerous in crowded environments.

However, the BUC is committed to preventing the spread of this virus and is working closely with health authorities to implement effective containment measures. These measures include strict quarantine protocols, contact tracing, and widespread vaccination campaigns.

The discovery of the VOP virus highlights the importance of maintaining vigilance in the face of potential health threats. The BUC encourages all members to remain informed and to follow the guidance of public health officials to ensure the safety of our community.

Please join us as we continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as they become available.

Peace and health,
{Your Name}
Zimbabwe: Church leaders stress urgent, practical involvement in AIDS crisis

The time has come for urgent and practical involvement in the fight against the HIV/AIDS pandemic, Seventh-day Adventist church leaders told delegates at the first regional workshop on the issue held here in March.

The meeting sponsored by the Church’s Southern African Indian Ocean region, drew experts from around the continent and overseas, as well as denominational leaders from eleven other Christian churches. All speakers agreed that Christian churches – including the Adventist Church – have been late in responding to the crisis.

Pardon Mwansa, president of the Adventist Church in the region, said the meeting was organised because of the staggering number of HIV/AIDS cases in sub-Saharan Africa. Experts say the region is home to 70 to 80 per cent of worldwide HIV/AIDS cases, or some 28 million of the 40 million infected persons around the world.

Mwansa believes the church is not immune to those statistics and is in real danger. Unless the HIV [pandemic] is addressed, there will be no workers to work in our congregations. There will be no church members to pastor. There will be no people to lead. Some of us here will be dead. Mwansa said in his opening address.

Although there are no statistics available on the number of Adventist members who are infected with HIV/AIDS, at least four countries in southern Africa – Botswana, Zimbabwe, Swaziland and Lesotho – have nearly one third of their population living with HIV/AIDS.

Attendees praised the open nature of the meetings in which Adventist church members living with HIV/AIDS spoke openly – many for the first time – about living with the disease and the stigma they often face in their own churches.

According to experts at the conference, AIDS is a scourge that is killing millions of people around the world, including thousands of Adventists.

‘We have people who have died of HIV – church members. There are pastors who are HIV positive, that I know of, and counsel with, said Mwansa. ‘This is not something far from us. This is something that we are dealing with.’

Jona Adams, an Adventist member from Portland, spoke of having to deal with judgmental and discriminatory church members. He said he hoped that this meeting would lead to greater acceptance of Adventist church members living with HIV/AIDS.

Charles Sandefur, president of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency, said that church leaders were touched by the presence of Adams and other Adventist members with HIV/AIDS. ‘That changes the whole mood and conversation. It makes this whole workshop experiential and not just informational.

‘Experts and leaders from other churches praised the Adventist Church for this initiative, which they saw as a significant step towards a more practical role in the fight against HIV/AIDS.’

Dr Arthur Ammann, president of Global Strategies for HIV Prevention in San Rafael, California, said that the church was making a bold statement by holding this conference.

‘It’s incredible – as far as I know this is the first denomination that has addressed it as a denomination,’ said Dr Ammann. ‘There have been individual churches that have talked about what to do with AIDS, but I don’t know about any gathering where the church officials have so openly had people with HIV/AIDS talking about the issues and living among us.’

Death of Newbold College student

A Newbold student died in a car accident at 12.01 on Tuesday morning 18 March in Pinewood Road, Birstall.

Twenty-one year old Seung-Won Han from South Korea had been studying English as a Foreign Language at Newbold College since January. He was a rear seat passenger in a Rover 214, and died from the injuries he sustained. The driver, also a Newbold student, was detained by the police for questioning, but has been released on bail. The other passengers required minimal medical treatment.

The police are further investigating the incident and are appealing for eyewitnesses.

Ursula Lewis, Seung-Won’s English Language teacher for the six weeks he had been at the College, said Seung-Won was an intelligent, likable young man with a great sense of humor. His teachers, classmates and other fellow students are devastated by his loss and feel that a part of us is missing. We are continuing to support one another.

‘Our hearts go out to the family and friends of Seung-Won,’ said Dr David Penner, principal of Newbold College. ‘We have been deeply saddened by this incident but are supporting each other in this time of grief. On Tuesday evening, the College chaplain held a service of reflection which was attended by about two hundred people. Counselling is being made available to students and staff who are trying to come to terms with the tragedy.

A memorial service for Seung-Won was held at 11am in the Newbold Church Centre on Friday 21 March.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>WHEN</th>
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<tr>
<td>Prayer Warriors V</td>
<td>2-5 May</td>
<td>Birstall</td>
<td>Pastor E. White, St John's</td>
<td>Contact the MNC on 01250 853712 for application form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunset</td>
<td>20-23 Oct</td>
<td>Newbold</td>
<td>Pastor E. White, MNC president</td>
<td>Phone Judith Aimson on 01250 844560</td>
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Please submit advertisements in this format. Please make the church connection clear for a complete list of upcoming events check out the database on the BUC website, www.adventist.org.uk.

ADRA-UK sponsored walk by Chalton

The Great Scottish Walk is taking place on Sunday 22 June and is Scotland’s biggest annual charity walk event that takes place each summer, giving the general public an opportunity to raise funds for a charity of their choice. We are looking for supporters of ADRA-UK to participate in this sponsored event and help raise funds for its further work. A great day awaits all those who are interested in having fun as well as a bit of exercise.

Starting and finishing at Edinburgh’s Meadowbank Stadium, the 12-mile route will be fun and do great to complete, with finishers receiving commemorative medals and certificates. With plenty of entertainment at the start, it’s a real family day out too. Walkers will be accompanied by the dulcet tones of pipe bands, route entertainment, goody bags, after-walk show, first aid, water stations on route, etc.

Participants will need to make their own travel arrangements. However, members of the Chalton Church are willing to accommodate walkers in their homes if necessary.

If you would like to participate in this sponsored walk please contact Chalton Alan on 01293 681723 (England) or Harry Willy on 01764 654069 (Scotland) for more details.

WEDDING

HELENA HAY

The wedding of Jonathan Hay, young son of Robin Hay and the late Jan Hay, to Mr. and Mrs. Harry and the late Brian and the late Jan Hay, was held on a sunny and crisp 1 November at St John’s church (Abinger), Farnham. The service was conducted by Rev. Ian E. Shaw, father of the bride.

The couple was married in the presence of numerous relatives and friends of the couple and family members and friends who attended the wedding ceremony.

The couple was also present at the St. John’s church near Faversham, Kent. The service was conducted by Rev. Ian E. Shaw, father of the bride.

The couple was married in the presence of numerous relatives and friends of the couple and family members and friends who attended the wedding ceremony.

Congratulations to the couple.

TENDERS INVITED TO PROVIDE LUNCH-TIME SCHOOL MEALS AT HARPER BELL ADVENTIST SCHOOL

An Independent Day School owned and operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Harper Bell Adventist School has pupils aged 1-3+ years. The meal provider would be required to produce a weekly variety of wholesome vegetarian meals, catering also for children on more restricted diets. Kitchen facilities are available on-site and the meal provider would be expected to meet Health and Safety Regulations.

The school presently has 100 pupils and staff would require lunch meals. The provider would be responsible for the purchase of ingredients, preparation and serving of meals. Prospective providers should submit their tender, along with a signed 5-day week menu, references and copies of relevant Catering and Health and Safety Certificates for the meal provider. A contract with Harper Bell Adventist School, 29 Ravenry Drive, Camp Hill, Birmingham, B12 0EA.

Closing date: 30 May 2003

ABC BOOK SALES 2003

May

15 Red Mills 10am-12noon

18 Newbold Graduation 10am onwards

June

9-15 SEC Camp Meeting, Preston

28 Scottish Mission Session, Chalton

Sunset

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Lune Vale

East Bar

West Midlands Cultural Day of Fellowship

Birchfield Park weekend

2-5 May

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