Why can’t we have the picture of “the nurse” back again? Collecting for Medical Missions was so much easier.

Yes, I remember those days – the air was clean, missionaries were heroes and the needs of the ‘heathens’ were obvious! But the world has changed. Imperial type-casting is cruel. The virtue of foreign mission workers is no longer presumed and our capacity to service quality schools and hospitals less feasible, not that poverty, famine, disease and disaster have been eliminated.

The best charities have come to realise that an ounce of prevention is better and cheaper than a pound of cure. We seek to offer hope through developmental programmes that have a long-term effect, that restore dignity and self-sufficiency to people. ‘Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day. Teach them to fish and you feed them for a lifetime.’

The chosen image this year encapsulates our mission and our method. Both the child and the seedling are young, beautiful and potential-filled. The child is filled with awe and is learning through the experience of encounter. The plant is a source of health and sustenance. The relationship between mankind and plant is the source of economic stability.

Our spiritual response should be, ‘as much as you have done it for one of the least of my children, you have done it unto me.’

Readers ask how we select the projects from the many requests we receive.

- The first criterion we use is the quality of a proposal. Does it make business sense? Does it address real need? How many people will benefit? Will there be lasting benefit? Does the church have a support network to sustain the legacy? Is it run by nationals for nationals? Is it affordable?

- The second criterion we use is ‘marketability’. Will the project be easily recognised as a need among the British public? Will our Adventist constituency be sufficiently connected to want to embrace the appeal? Is there sufficient diversity to satisfy the aspirations of our diverse membership without alienating their emotional affiliation?

- Thirdly, we have an undertaking to support church-sponsored humanitarian work within the Trans-European Division. The British Union has undertaken to focus support on requests from Pakistan and Sudan. In a similar vein we will be supporting a hospital project in Ghana that will be implemented by young volunteers from our own churches.

During recent months we have been preparing materials to equip, inform and motivate donors and collectors more than ever. Our hope is that every member will recognise their need to respond to the Grace of Christ who gave everything for our happiness and eternal salvation. Our offer of hope for humanity is not optional – it is precisely what we are called to do. Healing, Prosperity and Entrepreneurship are the consequence of spiritual hope – not the source.
Have you seen The Evidence?

Hosted by Dwight Nelson and Gillian Joseph (BBC Television presenter) … and featuring music, art, and stories, from guests with the UK and abroad.

The Evidence TV series is part of LIU and will start broadcasting 1-5 March and 8-12 March at 8pm in Hotbird Satellite in Europe. The series, which will cover basic biblical values, is geared to attract secular, unchurched people in Europe. The Adventist Hope Channel is now available in Europe. In the past 12-18 months, 300 Adventist Britain Mas has had a satellite dish installed so that they can access the Adventist satellite TV channels - The Hope Channel and JSD.

Both channels provide a large selection of programmes including Healthy Cooking Tips, Children’s programmes, Teens’, programmes, Body & Spirit, Arena, News and Lesson Study, plus much more. The Hope Channel will feature The Evidence series, which aims to reach a secular audience. It will be hosted by Newald Cobb.

Should you wish to get a dish installed or make further enquiries about receiving the Hope Channel, email info@jsdsatellite.co.uk or log on to www.jsdsatellite.co.uk.

Live from the British Union

The Hope Channel learned from the Hotbird satellite opens up a communication pathway for our very first ever linked satellite in Europe. The Hope Channel with the British Union with the 10-programme series Evidence hosted by Dwight Nelson and Gillian Joseph.

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Speech Day at JLS

by Bridget Taffe

T he Mayor of Haringey, Councillor Enrine Prescott, was among the dignitaries who acknowledged the outstanding achievements of John Loughborough School at the annual Speech Day exercises. It is important that a school should celebrate the success of its students, she said. Sharon Shawcross, director of Education for Haringey, like the Mayor, voiced strong support for and commitment to JLS. She commended the students for attaining the greatest improvement in the GCSE results in the borough of Haringey. The main address was given by Tolu Oni, a chartered certified accountant who manages his own business and is currently employed as a consultant for a London law firm. A former student of class of ‘91, M. Oni reflected on his memorable firm. A former student (class of ’91), as a consultant for a London law business and is currently employed as an accountant who manages his own firm. Tolu Oni reflected on his memorable firm. A former student (class of ‘91), as a consultant for a London law business and is currently employed as an accountant who manages his own firm.

Northampton choir visits Grantham

Just great!

A n thirty-nine Northampton Male Voice Choir gave a sacred concert at the Grantham church on 31 January. In the last year the choir has been to Malta, France and many parts of the UK. Conductor Richard Christopher led the choir through a two-hour programme of new and old well-loved songs. Soloist Kim Bennett gave a stunning performance. The concert was in aid of Dudley House School building fund and was sponsored by Grantham UK.

Jannette Joseph completes charity run

O n 23 December Peterborough church celebrated a baptism, gathering around Corrina into fellowship. Pastor Amaud Bujarage led the service and baptised Corrina. We were delighted that her husband John and several of her friends joined us on that special day, which included a fellowship lunch. In 1999 Corrina was impressed by a Christian work colleague’s meekness and severity and listened carefully when she shared her faith with him. At that time, in her search for truth, Corrina was deeply involved in a pagan religion called Shamanism, but she began attending a nearby Anglican church, studying the Bible and praying to God for guidance. In 2002 she asked another work colleague why she left early on Fridays, and so learned of the Sabbath truth. She checked this against the Bible and immediately began to keep the Sabbath day of rest each week.

Northampton choir visits Grantham

The forty-three months or more than twenty-five years, the choir has been singing in various churches and at local events, and has performed across the UK. The choir is under the direction of Richard Christopher, who has been leading and directing choirs for many years. The choir consists of male singers from various age groups, and they perform a wide range of music, from traditional hymns to contemporary songs. They have a reputation for their high-quality performances and have gained a loyal following in the community. The choir is proud of its history and continues to strive for excellence in its musical performances. They are always looking for new members, and anyone interested in joining is encouraged to contact the choir director for more information. The choir is a testament to the power of music to bring people together and to share the love of Jesus Christ.
Youth Congress is back!
by Paul Tompkins, TED youth director

International Youth Congresses have been part of the youth scene for many years. Whenever I ask ‘Where were you there?’ faces light up as mem-
ories of back-stands from events such as the Youth Congress in 1969 or, more recently, Troop (Norway) in 1979, Enter 1984, Åhus (Denmark) or Stuttgart (Germany) in 1972.

But there the trail stops – there has not been an International Youth Congress for youth in our Division for more than a decade.

This year is different! Not only will there be a Youth Congress but it will be a Pan-European event involving youth from both the Trans-European and Euro-Africa Divisions.

The Congress will be held in the centre of Europe and therefore will be a great opportunity for travel. Please apply for BUC are offering a Congress and travel package. Please apply for details. Application forms are available from each conference office or for Youth Sponsor in the Missions and you can find more information by looking up on the Youth Congress website HYPERLINK info to go to the Youth page on the BUC website: www.adventist.org.uk.

So now it is down to you. The Youth Congress is a very exciting opportunity and we are inviting all Adventist youth aged 16-35 to be there from 4-8 August.

Each Union is handling the applica-
tions and co-ordinating the outreach arrangements. Applications need to be in by the end of April and the good news is that the cost has been kept to a very reasonable level.

The BUC are offering a Congress and travel package. Please apply for details. Application forms are available from each conference office or for Youth Sponsor in the Missions and you can find more information by looking up on the Youth Congress website HYPERLINK info to go to the Youth page on the BUC website: www.adventist.org.uk.

Tell your friends about ‘The Evidence’ featuring Dwight Nelson

Get your copies of LIFE.INFO

Contact Faye Weekes on: 01923 672251

AMA launch new logo by Trevor Johnson, Events and Publicity manager

We are constantly seeking to improve on corporate image and to present ourselves generally. AMA has no exception and we launched our new logo in the New Year 2004. In keeping with the ethos the association has a subtle musical theme. The logo was tactfully designed by Becky De Oliveira who was also responsible for designing the programmes for the Wembley Arena event.

Look out for information on our new programme of events for the forthcoming year that includes our first ever Awards Ceremony in November 2004. Should you have any ideas or questions do not hesitate to contact us by email: ask@ama-fed.net.
Adventist World Radio
by Liilia de Oliveira, secretary, AWR-Europe

Frequently asked questions

How can I hear AWR programmes?
Adventist World Radio is the mission radio arm of the Adventist Church. Our mandate is to enter the hardest-to-reach places on earth, and we focus on broadcasting to people groups that are difficult to reach in other ways. There are countries where mission workers cannot be sent because of political, religious, or geographic barriers.

North America does not have those restrictions, and many Adventist media ministries are already active there, so we concentrate on broadcasting to other areas. However, if you have a shortwave radio, you may occasionally be able to pick up an AWR signal. Now, more and more of our programmes are accessible through Internet audio, at www.awr.org.

Why do you use shortwave? Isn’t it obsolete?
AWR broadcasts many hours on shortwave radio because it is the most widely heard broadcast vehicle in the world. More than 2.5 billion people, using 1 billion shortwave radio receivers, tune in to shortwave radio somewhere in the world on a regular basis. Research shows that shortwave listeners are growing globally, with shortwave penetration at its highest level in developing countries. For example, 96 per cent of households in Zimbabwe have shortwave radios. People in North America don’t list to as much as shortwave because of the widespread availability of local AM and FM stations.

In addition to shortwave, AWR also broadcasts programmes via ATM-FM networks, direct-to-home satellite, and the Internet.

How many languages do you broadcast in, and how many countries do you cover?
We currently produce programmes in 55 languages, such as Amharic for people in Ethiopia, Kirghiz for residents of Kyrgyzstan, Malayalam for listeners in India, and Spanish for the population of Cuba. Our non-internet broadcasts cover 70 per cent of the world, through shortwave, AM and FM stations, and satellite. It is a challenge to broadcast in the exact number of countries we reach, since signals fluctuate and radio stations access our down-links throughout the year.

How are gifts to AWR used?
All gifts made directly to AWR go to advance our broadcast ministry. For example, AWR uses direct gifts to cover the costs of air time and add new languages in areas such as the Middle East, Africa, Russia, and China. Operating expenses are covered by appropriations from the General Conference and other sources of income, such as investments, endowments and estate gifts.

Symposia

Sponsorships

Cost: to sponsor/advertise in bulk to churches £6.00 per insert. For information contact: O. H. Phelan, Tehran, contact for special packages, Sunday, 21 April 2002

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ABC Book Sales

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