Some years ago, the World Church issued plans for a global evangelistic strategy. 2004 is the Year of Evangelism. However, as a church membership, have we grasped and embraced this concept? What are we doing to bring the community into our churches, fellowship groups and other meetings to share our knowledge and experience of Jesus? Matthew 28:18-20 leaves us in no doubt about the primary role of the Church, the Great Commission from the Messiah’s own lips. Any hesitation in implementing that Commission can only lose opportunities to save souls for the Kingdom.

Hence, the vision of the Young Soulful Messiah, a concert that through the efforts of laity inspired by the Holy Spirit, combined the gift of music with evangelism in order to touch the community outside and unite the skills of members from both the North and South England Conferences to ‘preach Christ and him crucified’.

The Young Soulful Messiah is a selection of arrangements from two albums which represented contemporary reworkings of Handel’s Messiah. The sixteen pieces included large choir support for at least three of the chosen songs: Pastoral, Overture – A Partial History of Black Music, and The Hallelujah Chorus.

The idea originated to create a community choir to work with other established Adventist choirs and community choirs. The Nottingham Community Gospel Choir, although still small in size, began life in July 2003 and contains a representative mix of Adventists and non-Adventists. Taught by Kelly Christie-Phillips and Shaun Douglas, they learned not only the words and music, but also the ethos behind the music. It was great to see the commitment shown by these young people attending every practice, enthusiastic for the day when their labours would be acknowledged, and all the while learning about the God who inspired the classic.

When setting up the choir, the aim was to have at least 80 people singing on stage. At first the choir did not reach this size. But the aim, tied in with a promise that had been made to the new recruits that they would get to work alongside established choirs and chorales and professionals in the music business, made us press on. How the Lord blessed us! In came the youth choirs of Chiswick, Willesden, Camp Hill, Leicester and Tamworth, with the support of the Northampton praise team. These took us to a total of 110+ choir members to perform on the night. In addition we were blessed by an ensemble of musicians in the IGM Band the IGM Chorale and the string section of the International Adventist Symphony Orchestra, led by Chris.
Time 4 Action
International Adventist Youth Congress
by Des Boldeau, BUC Youth director

Something strangely exciting is going to happen in Poland this summer. Youth Congress!

Youth Congress? Who needs it? Isn’t it just for a select few and those who belong to the club? I’m too old for that sort of thing now I can’t afford the cost or time away from work.

Are you quite finished dribbling out the excuses? May I speak? What Is a Youth Congress? We are talking ‘world event’ A mega-spiritual, social, fellowship, getting-to-know-others event! Workshops designed with you in mind. We’re talking a culturally-diverse, interactive experience! Music of a wide variety and taste. Live bands, deeply spiritual worship, and inspiring messages to warm your hearts and stir your souls.

Are you afraid of having your soul stirred? God wants to speak to you at this event, so please don’t miss the opportunity to hear what he wants to say to YOU!

We are expecting about 4,000 young people from the Trans-European and African Divisions, but in addition there will be folk from other parts of the world. You just have to plan to be there!

Youth congresses have not been very well supported in the UK for a while now, but we are hoping to change this trend, so please take some time to get on the BUC youth webpage at www.adventist.org.uk and download the application form, complete it and post it with your cheque to the BUC Office, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts, WD2 1JZ. Or you can email me on dboldeau@adventist.org.uk.

How do you get there? You can choose to fly with us to Berlin, then catch on to Poland, or you can make your own way there.

The city of Wroclaw is a university city and very beautiful for sightseeing in your spare time. Travel in the city is very expensive and food is also very reasonable. The congress fee includes your accommodation and food, but you can make your own arrangements for food and accommodation if you wish.

The choice is yours, though we would prefer that you buy into the package that has been worked out for the event.

So what are you waiting for? Who knows how many new friends you could make? Go on! Do it now. And we’ll see you there!
Weymouth Centennial

20 March, members of the Weymouth church celebrated the one hundredth anniversary of the coming of Adventists to Weymouth. In 1914 a couple arrived to live in the town and carry the Advent message to the surrounding area. His work bore fruit and a steady flow of believers kept the message alive to this day. Home meetings were held until members increased and halls were hired. During this period pastors and lay preachers ministered from Weymouth. He and his family visited the church and, above all, the response was huge to his call to attend the Israeli Conference Owusu-Boateng, as the new associate pastor. As a minister of religion and literature-evangelist, Pastor Owusu-Boateng has worked in a good number of communities in Ghana and elsewhere. Near the end of the first year of his work, he established either solely by himself or with others. He has enviable experience in the field of health care, where he has worked in various capacities for nearly ten years, and he is an international volunteer with interests in visitation, travelling, reading and singing.

Second Pastor for London-Ghana by Nana Sifa Twum

From the pulpit on 14 February, SEC president Pastor Don McFarlane expressed the need for an associate pastor for the London-Ghana church, a ‘flock’ with nearly 500 members and only one shepherd.

When the president announced a very familiar, beloved and senior associate pastor, Pastor Owusu-Boateng, as the new associate pastor, the response was huge and enthusiastically joyous. The applause was too short to last.

On 4 April Pastor Owusu-Boateng picked up his ‘rod and staff’ and got behind senior shepherd Emmanuel (not the Master Shepherd, but the learner), seriously, and will work with him for the five-year development plan for this church and, above all, the job of being the Master to be accomplished.

Pastor Boateng arrived from Tel-Aviv, to take on his new office, but he had to return to attend the Israeli Conference session, where he gave account of his stewardship over the previous year and enthused his care in that area.

In an interview with the Communication department, Pastor Emmanuel Owusu-Boateng, in working with a renowned and experienced senior pastor like Pastor Emmanuel G. Daniel, he observed that much can be achieved in the area of soul winning and church building in the light of church members’ enthusiasm for work. He said he has closely followed the activities of almost all Ghanaian churches in Europe and is impressed by the unity, hard work and commitment of the young men in building churches. There is no doubt that the presence of the new associate pastor will continue to work to the second coming of Christ. Pastor Owusu-Boateng was born in the second largest city in Ghana, on 24 September 1962. He is married. He is a product of the Church of Christ and Lissala College, Valley View College, Accra, Ghana (1989-91), where he obtained his first degree, in Business Administration, and Newbold College, Andrews University (1997-99), where he obtained his BA in Religion, and in the latter, he started his MA in Pastoral Ministry, which has now been completed successfully.

As a minister of religion and literature-evangelist, Pastor Owusu-Boateng has worked in a good number of communities in Ghana and elsewhere. Near the end of the first year of his work, he established either solely by himself or with others. He has enviable experience in the field of health care, where he has worked in various capacities for nearly ten years, and he is an international volunteer with interests in visitation, travelling, reading and singing.

Family Life Day in Portsmouth

On Valentine’s Day the Portsmouth Family Life team gave the first of what is planned to be a series of programmes throughout the year. Since Health and Temperance has a close connection with family life, the same team acts as leaders of both groups, and therefore it intends to combine aspects of both in these presentations.

The day got off to a bright start with hymns that contained messages, setting out the secrets of a happy family life. The theme of the Sabbath School, led by the writer and Andrew Chenge, was ‘learning lessons from long ago’. This was followed by a lesson study of John’s gospel, well planned by Tony Mendez.

The day continued into divine service, taken by Pastor Robert Long. This included all the young children of the congregation, and during the dedication time past three pairs of glasses. Lauren Chenge, Neil Kangangara, and Thabo Ndlovo.

Chelmsford: 50% growth in six months

What does a church do when its membership grows by 50% in six months? Chelmsford Adventist church has been blessed with an influx of Indian nurses who have come over to work in the local hospitals. A ‘Thank you’ India event, which we have already suggested, and ‘curried’ favour with all those asked. As well as introducing members (and friends) to India, there was the chance for the homemaker to get a taste of home.

A date of 6 March at 7pm was set. Tickets were made out on a ‘First Come, First Serve’ basis at £2 (to cover the cost of the evening)

After the food was cleared away, the cultural entertainment began. Items of music and dance were performed, representing the various regions covering the length and breadth of the Indian subcontinent. As well as wearing appropriate regional dress, descriptions were given of the people who were there, customs and food delicacies enjoyed. What a diverse range of cultures, languages and peoples co-exist in this mighty nation! And finally, a powerful and moving rendition of the Indian national anthem brought the evening to a close.

 Altogether it was an evening that will live long in the memories of all who attended. Our thanks to those who worked so hard to make the event a success.

 Fletcher and Newbold College/Andrews (1989-91), where he obtained his first Associate Degree in Theology, with which members are looking forward. We’re looking forward to seeing you at our events.

Pastor Owusu-Boateng was born in the second largest city in Ghana, on 24 September 1962. He is married. He is a product of the Church of Christ and Lissala College, Valley View College, Accra, Ghana (1989-91), where he obtained his first degree, in Business Administration, and Newbold College, Andrews University (1997-99), where he obtained his BA in Religion, and in the latter, he started his MA in Pastoral Ministry, which has now been completed successfully.

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Friends baptised in St Albans

On Sabbath 27 March two young men stepped out in faith and received into the fellowship of the St Albans church family. Nineteen-year-old Benson Ferrari comes from a Baptist background but was educated at Stanborough Primary and Secondary schools, where he excelled and was made head boy in his final year. He has attended Adventist churches for eight years and has been coming to the St Albans church for the last four. Active in the youth group, as well as playing the organ, he enthusiastically takes part in InGathering. Currently Benson is working at the South England Conference office in the accounting and IT departments.

Daniel Surridge (16) is a fifth generation Adventist whose great-grandfather, two grandfathers, uncle and father, either were, or still are, Adventist ministers. In his younger years Daniel was active in the Pathfinder groups of the Carmathen church and then the St Albans church. In 2001 he went on a short-term mission project to Albania with the St Albans young people, and last year went on a similar project to Romania, this time with the Scottish young. This year he is planning to go to India with Stanborough School’s- ‘Stop International’ project.

Benson and Daniel have been good friends for a number of years and have travelled together since Benson was 16. They were baptised simultaneously by Pastor David Neal, six months at Chelmsford, and then again by Pastor John Surridge. Daniel’s father: Both pastors praised the young men for their independence and their commitment in coming to a decision to follow Christ.

Chelmsford Community Commission

As part of the ADRA campaign there was also a banquet held on 27 March, which brought in more than £1,000.

For more great events keep an eye on the Leamington website. We plan to give the bandstand a good run with music and events, and will keep you informed of future dates. If you’re interested in information about Avenue bookings, please contact Anne Simmons on 01908 330 442.

BRENDA-LOUISE PRETORIUS
Residents at The Dell care home and flats are amazed and delighted with the Hope Channel. Irene Osborne was halfway through her life when TV was invented in 1947, aged 101, she says, ‘Who would have thought that I would be able to watch an Adventist Church programme just by pressing a button on my TV remote control. Sometimes, in the night when I’m not sleeping, I switch it on and it’s still going 24 hours a day!’
I asked Frances Pickwick, a resident in the retirement flats, if she understood the technology that allows us to watch Adventist programmes that are beamed by satellite around the world. ‘My mind boggles,’ she said. ‘I just don’t understand anything technical, but I think it’s wonderful and I love the title, Hope Channel. Hope boosts us up and it’s for all people, not just Adventists.’

As I sat with one of the ladies as she watched a Hope Channel programme about a young man whose life had been saved from alcohol and drugs, she said, ‘This is a God-inspired idea. What the world needs is hope. It comforts me. Jesus said that his Gospel would go into all the world, and it is today. There is hope for the future, no matter what age we are.’

The Evidence at Newbold School
Pastor Dwight Newton came all the way from America to the Evidence series at Newbold School. He was amazed and delighted. ‘I have been in the business of evangelism for many years and to come to Newbold School and tell a story of a fabulous story. He even acted it out. Later in the day, Ken Burton and Martin Harm (two of the musicians) came to do a brilliant musical item for us. Martin Harm played three musical instruments – the jazzy saxophone, classical flute and the cool clarinet.

Katya Markachouk, Reu-el Fleary Griffiths and Laurent Bouchereau were interviewed on the Hope Channel. Katya Makarchouk, Reu-el Fleary Griffiths and Laurent Bouchereau were interviewed on the Hope Channel. Katya Makarchouk, Reu-el Fleary Griffiths and Laurent Bouchereau were interviewed on the Hope Channel. Katya Makarchouk, Reu-el Fleary Griffiths and Laurent Bouchereau were interviewed on the Hope Channel. Katya Makarchouk, Reu-el Fleary Griffiths and Laurent Bouchereau were interviewed on the Hope Channel.

Mel Gibson in Sweden
As Bracknell cinemagoers left the first public viewing of Mel Gibson’s The Passion of the Christ, they were met by Newbold Ministerial Association student Bernard Akakpo, Boubakar Sanou (not pictured), Conrad Vine, and Stephen Wilson, accompanied by Dr Roland Karimian. This was an unusually silent group of filmgoers as they walked inside the cinema, said Dr Karimian. ‘Some people were just crying and could hardly speak.’

Dr Karimian and his student friends, however, were silent. On three Decembers, one Saturday and one Sunday after the film, the group handed out brochures entitled: just a Gory Story or Real Life? – brochures offering New Start correspondence courses. On the four occasions when they went out, the group also distributed specially published books containing parts of Desires of Age and entitled The Passion, or copies of Steps to Christ.

We were inspired by the example of the youth and members of the Irish Mission, explained Irishman Stephen Wilson. ‘In Ireland the film was released earlier than in the UK, and the Irish youth have reported very positive responses to their work.’

The students continue their evangelistic efforts. Praise the Lord for such a wonderful evangelistic opportunity, and pray that the seeds sown will produce fruit worthy of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

GERTHIE BROOKS (1994-2003) 4 December. The membership church is said to record the deaths of Gertie Brooks by a few weeks. The news will cause much grief to Gertie’s mother, who was a member of the church for many years. Gertie was a very kind and loving person and many will remember her kindness.

Gertie was known for her sense of humour. She was a very kind and loving person and many will remember her kindness. She was a very kind and loving person and many will remember her kindness.

When the news was received, the church was stunned. Gertie’s mother, who was a member of the church for many years, was very saddened. She was a very kind and loving person and many will remember her kindness.

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See previous page for more information.

**Introvert evangelist?**

Graham is an introvert. At his neighbourhood Christmas party he did his usual introvert thing: ‘qualify conversations with a few people rather than trivial ones with everyone.

His neighbour Harry commented in passing that praying was like talking to Santa. Graham said, ‘Do you think so? I pray’. Harry asked why, and whether it achieved anything. Graham answered in his logical, respectful way, mentioning prayers that had been answered for him. He was ‘feeling shy and scared open and didn’t want to push’, but Harry kept asking, the questions getting less critical and more open.

Harry said, ‘I’ll try that.

After many trials, discussions, reties, borrowed videos, small group Bible studies and, above all, clear answers from God, Harry is attending church – and witnessing to his family.

He says, Graham was my kind of person. No argument, no salesmanship. He just told me his own stories, quietly and factually with no hype. I trusted him.

Graham was so encouraged. He says, ‘I barely tried evangelism before, because I’m not the shameless extrovert who’d sell beef to Hindus. But it’s a gift God gives to all personality types.’

Graham is the introvert evangelist, quietly confident to tell his story to anyone. ‘I did not come with eloquence or superior wisdom as I proclaim to you the testimony of God. I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power, so that your faith might not rest on men’s wisdom, but on God’s power.’ – Paul to recent converts in Corinth, 1 Corinthians 2:1, 3a.

**Upcoming Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>WHEN AND WHERE</th>
<th>WHO</th>
<th>HOW</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Family Services</strong></td>
<td>Children’s Fall Spring Meeting</td>
<td>9 May (Nuneaton)</td>
<td>Sister E. Staples, CS director</td>
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<td><strong>Lone Parents’ Family Day</strong></td>
<td>10 May 10-4</td>
<td>Abertillery, Mid Glamorgan and South Wales</td>
<td>Graham will be in attendance. For further information, contact the local church</td>
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<td><strong>Keeping the church open – Policy training day</strong></td>
<td>15 May 10-11, 2pm</td>
<td>Huddersfield church</td>
<td>Pastor C. Swain at 01159 666 312</td>
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<td><strong>Spring Family Camp</strong></td>
<td>16 March</td>
<td>Abertillery</td>
<td>Pastor Patrick Boyce</td>
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<td><strong>Special needs Day of Fellowship</strong></td>
<td>22 May</td>
<td>Llanelli</td>
<td>ASMA/Llanelli</td>
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<td><strong>Brothers Family Camp</strong></td>
<td>30 May</td>
<td>Abercorn, North Lanarkshire</td>
<td>Pastor I. James</td>
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**ABC BOOK SALES**

- 5 John Loughborough 16th Newbold Graduation 23 West Midlands 10am-2pm
- 9 John Loughborough 10am-2pm
- 11 John Loughborough 10am-2pm
- 16 Newbold Graduation 10am-2pm
- 23 West Midlands 10am-2pm

**SITUATION VACANT**

The Stanborough Press Ltd has a vacancy for an Administrative Secretary at its Grantham offices. Applications, together with CV, should be submitted to: The Financial Director, Stanborough Press Ltd, Alma Park, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG31 9SL. Tel: 01476 571449. Email: stanborg@aol.com. Salary in accordance with denominational wage scale.

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See previous page for more information.