A report on the SEC camp meeting
by Catherine Anthony Boldeau

It was while driving along the M4 in heavy traffic listening to a news report of an accident at Junction 17, that a wave of tiredness suddenly overtook me. Camp Meeting had not officially begun and I was wondering how I was going to maintain any semblance of composure and authority, when I wanted to sleep for the week. The thought of waking to attend morning prayers at 6 to retire to bed at around 11 made me feel even more tired. So, when I drove through the gates at Pontins, Brean, at approximately 4 in the afternoon, I could have slept for Britain.

But even before I stepped out of the car, I felt the buzz of anticipation and activity in the summer afternoon sunshine. People were everywhere, smiling, hugging, checking in, carrying or wheeling luggage around. Unlike me, they were excited at the blessings they hoped to receive over the next week. Would they be disappointed?

Having seen the line up in the ‘hall of fame’, I knew that they were in for a treat. America provided us with the seven special guests chosen for this event. However, two of the guests represented examples of home-grown talent, who, having chosen America as their place of residence, still maintained their links with England. Other guests included Cecil Perry (BUC president), Reinder Bruinsma (Netherlands Union Conference president), John Arthur (TED Publishing director), Keith Davidson (BUC Education director), David Cox (BUC Personal Ministries director). Other visitors from the ‘higher’ organisation were Victor Pilmoor (BUC treasurer), Eric Lowe (BUC Executive secretary), John Surridge (BUC Communication director), Heather Haworth (BUC Family Ministries director) and Des Boldeau (BUC Youth director).

Special guest speakers
Pastor Henry Fordham III was the speaker for the evening commitment service. Even before he reached the pulpit, his presence was obvious by his distinguished dress. Instead of the usual British ministerial costume of the dark suit and white shirt, his nightly attire was a suit with a long jacket, matching waistcoat, cowboy boots, tie and handkerchief. To say the least he was immaculately dressed. In Exodus 26-31, God instructs Moses on the building of the tabernacle. In 28:2, he gives specific directions for Aaron’s clothing: ‘Make special clothes for Aaron, to indicate his separation to God – beautiful garments that will lend dignity to his work’ (Living Bible).

Pastor Fordham certainly lived this text. The outward adorning was a reflection of the inner spirit of authentic leadership and...
Animal Crackers

There is no mention in the Biblical account of any carnivorous birds or foxes that are predators of parakeets on the ground. We would never encounter such a situation in the natural habitat of the bird.

With Richard J. B. Willis, BUC Health Ministries director.

Dealing with our doubts

I n case you missed the news: they're wanting to teach atheism as part of the religion syllabus in schools. 'Why not?' I pondered. 'It's taught in every other subject.'

I fitted with atheism myself when I was 18, but then I was much more involved with the work of the Enlightenment philosopher David Hume. And I was an atheist for the greater part of an afternoon. God let me get away with it all. Today, that attitude is the result of the many years by over forty different authors and cohering around a predominant phenomenon of the Bible: written over sixteen hundred years by over forty different authors and cohering around a predominant subject.'

There is no mention in the Bible of the meaning of the term 'atheists.' The term is not used in the text of the Bible. In the New Testament, the word 'atheist' is not used at all. However, the words 'agnostic' and 'agnosticism' are used in the Bible. The word 'agnostic' is derived from the Greek word 'agnos,' meaning 'without knowledge.' The word 'agnosticism' is derived from the Greek word 'agnos,' meaning 'without knowledge.'

For years to come Lewis continued to experience constant struggle. Readers who find it hard to get their heads around the idea of a man who still believes in God but cannot find evidence for the existence of God. In "A Grief Observed," Lewis often struggled. Readers who find it hard to get their heads around the idea of a man who still believes in God but cannot find evidence for the existence of God. In "A Grief Observed," Lewis often struggled. Readers who find it hard to get their heads around the idea of a man who still believes in God but cannot find evidence for the existence of God. In "A Grief Observed," Lewis often struggled. Readers who find it hard to get their heads around the idea of a man who still believes in God but cannot find evidence for the existence of God. In "A Grief Observed," Lewis often struggled. Readers who find it hard to get their heads around the idea of a man who still believes in God but cannot find evidence for the existence of God. 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March and April were busy months for the logistical section of ADRA-UK. The truck went to Crieff in Scotland, where the trailer was loaded by volunteers from the church with aid accumulated by Mike Thompson for an orphanage in Ukraine.

On arrival at Stanborough Park headquarters this was transferred into a container for transport, and the ADRA truck was released and left for the Easter weekend for Serbia and Kosovo. Half the aid was destined for distribution by ADRA-Serbia to refugees and the poor. The rest was medical equipment and general aid for a 700-bed hospital for mentally and physically impaired children in the village of Kulina in the south of the country. Meanwhile, ADRA-UK received a request to assist ADRA-Serbia by transporting food to Kosovo. Their truck was too small to carry the 15 tons of food specially purchased for the many Serbian families made homeless in the recent fighting when their houses were burnt down by Albanian Kosovars.

**Tragic faces in Kosovo**

by Harry Wilby

Our truck is too big and heavy for the country road which leads up through the hills to Kulina, so the aid was transferred to the smaller ADRA-Belgrade truck. Belgrade is 300 km from Kulina and 240 km from the border. On arrival at Kulina and then went by car to assess the further needs of the hospital.

I will never forget the next few hours. I have seen physically and mentally disabled children before and seen many things in years of nursing which would upset most people. But Kulina has its 700 residents, from infants to young adults, and about 200 staff. The ailments range from severe deformities and brain damage through hydrocephalus, spina bifida, and anything else you can think of, to simpler things like club foot or Down's syndrome. Most of these kids would be cared for at home in loving families and with reasonable medical support systems in many countries. But in these lands where families are very large and poor, it is common practice to send the weakest or least attractive to orphans or relevant institutions.

The staff at Kulina are devoted to their patients, but it would seem that lack of equipment, facilities and staffing levels have denied the children the level of care which would in many cases have produced improvements to their quality of life. The older and more able-bodied adolescents labouriously and noisily helped to unload the boxes, blankets, clothing, shoes, bicycles, occupational therapy equipment, and other goods from the truck. But as we inspected the wards we saw hundreds of children who had spent their entire lives staring up at a white ceiling, with only the stimulatory equipment, and other goods from the truck.

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**Peckham Baptism**

On 22 May three candidates decided to give their lives to Christ and to be a part of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Those candidates were: Elize Wilson, Enos Henry and Valentine Blake. It was a wonderful and emotional time for many as loved ones and friends gathered around the baptismal pool.

Elize had prayed for God to know the truth, and was led to the Peckham Church. Enos felt that he had reached the age where he needed to commit fully to God. Valentine had always had a place in her heart for the Lord and decided to accept him fully as her personal Saviour.

Read their stories:

**Elize Wilson**

‘Some say that ‘ignorance’ is bliss, but Jesus said ‘You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.’ A few years back I prayed for God to the truth and he took me on an amazing journey. I thank God for the way he placed me in a life and future for him ‘with his unconditional love.’

**Valentine Blake**

‘I started to attend Peckham last year; I was not invited; just went on my own – and I was made to feel so welcome. I have decided to accept the Lord fully as my personal saviour and be baptised.’

**Enos Henry**

‘I promise to serve God for the rest of my life and do his will and obey him. He is working in my life.’

The background to Enos’s attendance at Peckham was a testimony in itself. Another of our members, Leonie Stanley, had been feeling the need to do something for God. Then, one day, God sent her out shopping (in a direction she hadn’t planned to go) and she met a friend she hadn’t seen for some time. The friend spoke about his parents, his father in particular, who hadn’t been a Christadelphian for some years because he wanted to be an Adventist church. Surprise! Leonie replied, ‘I am an Adventist.’ She went to visit Enos that evening, and they both wanted to meet with a fellow Adventist. The rest of the story, as we say, is history.

**What do a baptism, a band, and a big screen have in common?**

The answer! Charlotte Jane Dust, aged 11, who was baptised at Totteridge Road Baptist church on 27 March, and welcomed into membership of ‘The Church’, Enfield Town.

The Church normally meets at Kingsmead School in Enfield, but a new venue had to be sought for the day of her baptism. Due to its central location, Charlotte chose the Baptist church near her home, so that her family, friends, neighbours and teachers would be able to attend.

On the day, sixty turned out to watch and take part in the happy event. Of these, only eighteen were Adventists and the remainder mostly unchurched. When the invitations went out, no-one was surprised ‘Exactly what is a baptism?’ Others thought it meant a christening! However, all their questions were answered; that the Holy Spirit had been at work in their hearts as they came face to face with the joy God can impart to his people. The whole service was so moving; ‘it touched my heart, “I didn’t think church could be like this,”’ “will you come and visit me at home,” “Can I visit your church?” just some of many comments expressed over the good refreshments that followed.

The Church band played a large part in the day’s events and contributed greatly to the joy felt by many. Charlotte worships and plays in the band, which uses contemporary worship songs in keeping with the nature of The Church.

And the big screen? Charlotte was part of the ‘think tank’ that came up with the idea of advertising on the big screen. Following a number of consultations between Pastor Gonde and the representative from Pearl and Dean, an advertisement featuring The Church is now showing in the local TV centre, next door to where The Church meets.

**Mauritian adventure**

by Bronwen Atkinson

Thirteen people – nine from Stanborough Park church, one from Luton church and three from Newbold College – left for Mauritius on Sunday 3 May. They flew from Heathrow and stayed until 20 June. They expected lots of sun and sea, but did not go on holiday!
The John Loughborough School celebrates its 100th anniversary on Sunday, 10 July.

The school’s history dates back to 1913, when it was founded by the late Rev. John Loughborough, a noted educationalist and pioneer in the field of special education. The school has maintained its commitment to providing a comprehensive education for students with special needs, and continues to uphold the highest standards of academic excellence and character development.

The year 2023 marks the centenary of the school, and a number of events and celebrations are planned throughout the year to commemorate this significant milestone.

ABC BOOK SALES

John Loughborough School

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Sarah Malcolm

A deep-seated spirituality and knowledge of God. Without the one, the other is empty. parade of history and redoubling its efforts to build a world in which all people have dignity, freedom, and the opportunity to fulfill their potential. The school has always been committed to providing a holistic education that equips students with the skills and values they need to succeed in life.

The school has a long and proud history of achieving excellence in all areas of academic and extracurricular activity. It has a strong tradition of producing successful and talented graduates who go on to make a positive impact in their chosen fields.

The school is currently led by Mr. John Loughborough, who has been a dedicated and inspiring headmaster for many years. He has been instrumental in shaping the school’s success and ensuring that it continues to meet the needs of its students.

The John Loughborough School continues to set the standard for educational excellence and social responsibility, and it looks forward to another century of success and achievement.

Thank you to our sponsors:

- John Loughborough
- Manchester City Council
- The Loughborough Trust

For more information, please visit our website at www.johnloughboroughschool.com.
of the church. However, the morning saw us cater for everyone. Credit should be given to Cynthia Arthur and Olga Budrova for their hard work in launching this project.

Let's make a difference
Sabbath at camp meeting is always a high day in Zion! This year was no exception. Sabbath School was led by Aris Vontzalidis, Conference director. Two audio-visual presentations made a difference to the service.

Let's Make a Difference was the title for one of the videos and is the theme for the month of September when the members of the church are encouraged to get involved in their community, without any other agenda except help for help’s sake. Jesus went about doing good and we as his followers should do the same.

More information will be available shortly and a copy of the DVD will be sent out to each church.

Sabbath highlights
Sabbath highlights this year began on Friday evening with the communion service. Pastor Steve McKenzie spoke with power and conviction about the meaning of the service to Christians. With a mix of humour and provoking thoughts, our minds were drawn to the throne of God to find mercy and grace.

On Sabbath afternoon three young men were formally ordained to the Gospel ministry. Nathan Stickland is an Associate Youth director in South England with responsibility for the Pathfinders and Adventurers. He is the eldest son of Pastor Mike and Mrs Sheila Stickland and is married to Emma (née Davidson). They have three children. Nathan is outgoing, hard-working and thorough.

Frislon Todd-Frias also followed in the footsteps of his father in accepting the call to ministry. He serves the Filipino members in London. He has introduced a number of innovative evangelistic programmes and visual presentations made a difference to the service.

Pastor Steve Eastwood has trained his members for service. He recently married Joy Lopena.

Michael Njagi Mburu was born in Kenya and became an Adventist in 1982. After graduating in 1998 he entered ministry and subsequently served as the associate chaplain for the Central Kenya Conference and the district pastor for Emu Town. He is the pastor of the Maranatha Hayes and Maranatha Beckton churches. He is married to Nancy Njagi and they have two daughters.

In conclusion, I feel like Paul at the beginning of Hebrews 12, ‘surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses testifying to the glory of God, knowing him and making him known at SEC camp meeting 2004. Many other things happened at camp meeting, but you really needed to be there…

On behalf of the officers of the South England Conference, I should like to thank those who faithfully support camp meeting each year. Sincere thanks to all those who voluntarily come each year and serve in various capacities to ensure the smooth running of the programme. Appreciation to all the charter persons and worship leaders for the events, and to all the workshop presenters. And finally, thanks be to God for another camp meeting. I hope and pray that those who attended know God more and will spend time in making him known to others.

See you at camp meeting next year where I hear we will be joining with our northern members….