New schedule for ‘Mind the Gap’

TV transmission

by Alan Hodges, BUC Ldi co-ordinator

‘Mind the Gap’ is the third stage in the exciting process of LIFEdvelopment.info. There is no greater joy than leading men and women to a knowledge and acceptance of Jesus Christ as their Saviour. The Church needs you (and every member) to play your part in reaching the thousands of unchurched throughout Great Britain and Ireland. If you have been through level one, ‘Get Connected’, and made friends with an unchurched person, and then shared with them the ‘Evidence’, which is level two, you are ready to introduce them to ‘Mind the Gap’ by sharing with them the basic, but wonderful truths of Christianity. The ten programmes presented by Pastor Dwight Nelson are part of a number of resources being made available to church members, which are designed to prepare postmodern people to receive the Gospel message.

In Messenger, 16 July, we reported details regarding the recording at Newbold College from 11 to 15 July. Plans at that time were to transmit the programmes on the Hope Channel during the first two weeks of October. In order to allow more time for this important resource to be available on video tape and DVD, and for members to have a little more time before introducing their unchurched friends to the basics of Christianity, it has been decided to reschedule the transmission of the ten programmes to February 2005. Details of the programming are as follows:

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<td>Tuesday 8 February</td>
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<td>Thursday 10 February</td>
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<td>Friday 11 February</td>
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A 28-minute programme entitled ‘LIFEdvelopment... the story so far’, has been produced by the British Union Conference Media Centre. The programme reports on the three levels of LIFEdvelopment produced to date, and will be shown on the Hope Channel during October, and then distributed to churches throughout the BUC on DVD. This documentary programme covers ‘Get Connected’, ‘Evidence’, and ‘Mind the Gap’. If you would like a free copy of this DVD then write, telephone or email the LIFEdvelopment.info office, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts, WD25 9JZ. Tel 01923 672251, ask for LIFEdvelopment.info.
Pavilion of hope
by Natasha Gunter

There was much rejoicing at the end of the West Midlands campaign as over 35 people publicly gave their life to Christ. The area of tent campaigns in the West Midlands was first introduced in 1988, and on average approximately forty individuals have been baptised during each campaign. A large part of the success of the campaigns over the last sixteen years has been the way that pastors and lay members from the three local churches have continued to join hands to organise the events.

For this year’s campaign, “There is Hope for You,” and the popular location of Summerfield Park was once again selected. This marks in the 16-19 age groups where many claim to be willing to participate, but not do so. This subconscious mind – into which sinks everything we do, think or suffer – certainly forgets nothing. The subconscious mind doesn’t just hold memories. It also holds memories of things we do or don’t do, the subconscious mind – into which sinks every-thing we do, think or suffer – certainly forgets nothing. The subconscious mind doesn’t just hold memories. It also holds memories of things we do or don’t do, which is why many of us are afraid to make mistakes or do things that might cause us pain. Memories are stored in the brain as patterns of nerve activity, encoded in a way that allows us to recall past experiences. These patterns are not permanent; they can be changed or forgotten through a process called memory extinction.

For the weakened will, beset by habits and emotions too strong to break, he offers double cure: the expulsive Calvary and the creative new self. He offers salvation and new life. The Holy Spirit can give us a new heart and a new spirit. It is not enough to know about Jesus; we must experience Him in our lives. It is not enough to know about salvation; we must live it. It is not enough to know about the Holy Spirit; we must be filled with Him. It is not enough to know about forgiveness; we must ask for it. It is not enough to know about God’s love; we must show it. It is not enough to know about the afterlife; we must live for it.

Gold Standard

In sports, the fact that Great Britain managed to get nine gold medals in the Olympic Games, which put it joint third in the medal table, is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the athletes. It is not just the athletes themselves who have benefited from this success; the whole country has shared in the excitement and pride of seeing our athletes bring home the gold. This is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the entire team, from the coaches and support staff to the athletes themselves. The Olympic Games are not just about winning; they are also about inspiring others to achieve their own goals and dreams. It is a testament to the power of hard work and determination. And it is a reminder that we can all achieve great things if we put our minds to it.

References:
**Newbold’s Chapel Porth weekend by Timothy Puko**

Staff and students from Newbold College spent a weekend in Cornwall, 24-26 September, flying kites and fellowshipping as part of an annual tradition to help the new students grow together with existing members of the college community. Community building is a main focus at the College this year.

About eighty students and ten staff members huddled into minibuses for a five-hour ride to South End. The College’s Porth campsite in Cornwall featured Sabbath worship services and campfire conversations along with trips out. Chaplain Henrik Jorgensen has been organising these trips for five years.

While leading a service on Friday evening, dean of men Geert Tap emphasised that ‘grace costs everything for the giver and nothing for the recipient’. Then he gave out kites that had been partially prepared in places where God might have met them. On Sabbath morning he asked students to share descriptions of special places from their lives – for Ken it was the farm where he grew up, for David her husband, has been asso- ciated with the Doncaster church for over thirty years) established a colporteur, now Bible worker, Inez Zilpah Hadden.

What a privilege to be the serving pastor when a company is organised into a church, and its new building dedicated simultaneously. For Adrian and Iris Broome this landmark occasion in the history of the Doncaster church held an even greater significance: for Doncaster was the very small group of consecrated brethren who met on Sabbath mornings in the town centre by evangelist Fred Pearce with ministerial interim Clive Harwood. As a result of that a group of members was established, Revival Press, in 1980.

Thus by the end of 2000 ground was broken to build a new church; and Mary 2003 saw the final regroupment to the Conference. The impossible had been accomplished. ‘It was by faith that this church was built, together with the prayers and hard work of a lot of persons,’ concluded Sister Hadden.

The history of the Doncaster group since it was re-established in 1982. But Doncaster church has a history longer than the memories of any of its present members. The first seeds were sown and harvested in 1863, when a public campaign was held in the town centre by evangelist Fred Pearce with ministerial interim Clive Harwood. As a result of that a group of members was established, Revival Press, in 1980.

When the Mayor came past, Colin Woodford (Kolobesthrough church) made a point of handing him some of our literature and was even able to chat to him for a couple of minutes on The Passage of the Christ.

**LIFE**

Making new friends!

*Mk 10:21* says, ‘*Life development.* How do you do that and have fun at the same time? ‘The Church’, Enfield Town, thought, ‘a great day would be to take everybody to the zoo. After much planning, a sunny August day soon dawned and it quickly became apparent how good an idea it was. The animals were truly a delight - proving how wonderful and varied is God’s creation. Many of those who came asked about ’The Church’ and what we believed, and if they could be informed about future events. Our mission was accomplished. We are now hoping that many will attend the Aldersgate Course which begins on 22 September and will run until Christmas.

Make new friends!

‘Make new friends,’ says Pastor R. V Edwards

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**LIFE**

**Valerie Moodie**

Woodford Green baptism

Budding flowers and the sweet perfume of fragrant air is indicative of springtime, a season of growth and new birth. It was indeed springtime in the Woodford Green company on Sabbath 29 March, as the seeds sown in four previous souls germinated and cultivated in baptism.

The candidates were baptised by Pastor Michael Hamilton, and the occasion was unique because not only was it the last baptism at the convets but also growth of the newly formed Woodford Green company.

The company has been blessed with two baptisms since its inception, in which families have united together in giving their lives to the Lord. On the last occasion it was Donna and Dominic Williams, and on this occasion it was father and daughter, Karl and Candice Dixon. Karl had recently traveled down from Jamaica to join his wife Lorraine, a teacher, and had no idea that, like Paul, he too would have a Damascus Road experience.

Nine-year-old daughter Candice, after witnessing the last baptism, was determined that she too should be baptised as a testimony of her faith. Also baptised were Cheryl Banarby and Rory Williams. All the candidates had been attending regular Bible studies led by church elder Lawrence Beliz.

**ERMA BELLOT**

**Pastor Michael Hamilton admonished all to be ready in life and let nothing deter us from reaching our goal, which is heaven.**

*Valerie Moodie*
In these days of fast food, fast cars, fast tracking and fast forward, it is so refreshing to read a book about someone who shows his readers down, presenting the unfailing tale in such a way that they feel they are actually part of the story. Crossing Jordan by Dr Roy Adams is just such a book. As Dr Adams says, “we miss the full impact of these biblical stories unless we pause long enough to live through each episode in its original setting.” And, though his knowledge of that “original setting” is encyclopaedic, his language is so easy to read!

It’s often said of books that they are “unputdownable.” I am frequently taken into books, but rarely kept there, in such a personal and faith-enhancing way.

I was with Joshua when he heard the news, straight from the Lord, that “Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore get up, cross over the Jordan” (Joshua 3:1). I felt the water round my feet as the priests entered Jordan’s waters. I saw the waters piled up in a heap. I felt the elation and awe as the first footsteps were taken into the Promised Land. But this book is more than just a journey from the wilderness to Canaan. It is a journey through the faith of a great man of God, explaining as it does, the reasons behind God’s keeping his people wandering about in a desert for forty years, and his attention to such details as the timing of their arrival in Canaan - when there was food, it was harvest time. When the miracle of the crossling could be seen as such - it was floodtime! The Author explores fully the question of whether the drying up of the Jordan was a natural occurrence which God used for his own purposes. So many aspects of the story are explored.

Later on, when retelling in awe of the detail of the Jericho story, Dr Adams says, “Hampered, for example, by our prior knowledge of how the story ends, we do not often capture the sense of total helplessness that must have gripped the Israelites . . . . at the sight of that well-defended fortress. Dr Adams’ book reveals an author who is extremely widely read. The references and sources at the end of each chapter are very ample. The reflections and conclusions are full of wisdom. The author has taken time to lead me to a satisfactory answer. I’m not going to say whether or not he did. You will have to make up your own mind by reading his arguments for yourself.

In the meantime, one of the most encouraging of Dr Adams’ statements shines forth (interruption from Joshua 10): ‘When God’s people seek his counsel before engaging the obstacles in their way, He will reveal the forces of evil in their behalf!’

I crossed a few of my own obstacles during my reading of this book. If you embark on the same journey, taking your time, and savouring the full implications of each sentence, you might find yourself crossing one or two of your own.

Eric Hand
Time 4 action
by Pastor Paul Tompkins
TED Youth director

Over two and a half thousand Adventist youth met together in Wroclaw, Poland, for an International Youth Congress this summer. The event was extra-special in that it was the first International Youth Congress held in the Trans-European Division for twelve years, the last being in Budapest, Hungary, in 1992. It was also very memorable because, as the TED and Euro-Africa Divisions joined together to run the Congress, it featured youth from all over Europe, reviving memories of past European Youth Congresses.

The programme was held in and around the Hala Ludowa hall, a major feature of the city of Wroclaw. Those attending the Congress stayed in university dormitory accommodation and, for four days, the city was alive and buzzing with our young people. Inside the hall was a massive domed-shaped auditorium, which on Sabbath held about 4,000 people. Around the hall were many exhibition stands and workshop venues. For the entire length of the Congress there was a real hive of activity in and around the hall as this became the focal point of all that was happening.

Outside was a beautiful park area which featured "The Street of Nations": an event designed especially for the 2004 Year of Evangelism. The outside area was also the starting point for "The Run for Life" – a fun run that featured the Adventist healthful lifestyle and ended in another park in the centre of the city. The day closed each evening with groups performing on the art stage, singing into the night air on a stage positioned by the lake.

"The theme of the Congress was "Time 4 action" and this has become a reality for many. "It has been a European eye-opener" said Annalene from England. "By this I mean it has been a great experience meeting so many passionate individuals – youth about Christ. I came here knowing I needed to do more for Christ. Thankfully I will be leaving here knowing how and what I need to do in the UK."

Youth came from over thirty different countries, representing a variety of different cultures and speaking so many different languages, yet united in purpose and action.

Festival of Song at Smethwick

On Sabbath 14 August the Sabbath School department organised a Festival of Song as a means of outreach. All visitors were presented with a copy of Steps to Christ. The children’s choir from Camp-Hill sang beautifully, and the message for the day, presented by Pastor Gary Gordon, was also very uplifting.