On Boxing Day 2004 the world witnessed one of its greatest natural disasters. We were touched by the pain and suffering of the victims of the tsunami. The humanitarian response from organisations, the public, and governments was overwhelming. As I write, the total raised by our own Church members in the United Kingdom and Ireland has passed £170,000. The need is great and thankfully the response has been in proportion to the need. But the world moves on and once again we are reminded of other needs in the world. Will the public outpouring of giving that we have seen in response to the tsunami disaster lead to donor fatigue, or will recent events have softened the hearts of an already generous public so that even greater funds can be released to relieve the suffering of the world?

Growing needs

On Sabbath 26 March ADRA-UK will launch its 2005 fund-raising appeal. Once again Adventist church members throughout the UK and Ireland will be working together to raise funds to help address the growing humanitarian needs around us. It is my view that, once again, we will find the public to be extremely generous. I believe that the tsunami disaster has awakened people to the needs around them and that this year they will be more willing to give than ever.

However, in order to make the most of this favourable situation for charity donation we need to recruit more volunteer collectors from our churches, especially from among our young people. Every year some of our old stalwarts find that due to declining health they are no longer able to cover the territory they once did. The fertile ground that they have cultivated for so long now needs to be worked by new labourers.

Project selection

ADRA-UK is very careful in its selection of projects. Factors such as sustainability, local impact, and long-term efficiency are all taken into account. Again this year there is a balance in the range of projects that has been chosen. Some deal with the alleviation of poverty, others concentrate on working with children, while still others address medical or educational needs. Every year a percentage of money is also put aside for emergency disaster relief – a provision which proved its worth in the tsunami disaster. All of these factors can give us confidence as we approach the public in their homes. The money that they give will be going to genuinely good projects and, as less than 10% of what they give will be used for essential expenses, they can be sure that the vast...
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The astonishing story of an African village boy who had one asset: a remarkable singing voice.

A ‘truly inspirational story.’ How God led from the first in the life of Charles Ngandwe, winner of ‘Stars in Their Eyes’.

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www.adventistsinglesconnection.com
This is a site where single Adventists can meet other single Adventists. The staff at adventistsinglesconnection monitor the site and endeavour to delete anything untoward.

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Please help us over £50,000 to support last year’s projects – an increase of more than 7% over the previous year. May God bless you as you assist in the ADRA UK Appeal again this year.

LET’S CONFERENCE
Pentoncote 2
23 April 2005
Aston University Central Hall, Birmingham.
All NEC lay members who are running or have run a successful evangelistic outreach should send details to Pastor Roy Morgan, 22 Zula Road, Wasperley Park, Nottingham, NG3 5DB.

British Union Conference
a majority of what they give will reach the end recipient.

Sponsored events
We are looking for door-to-door collectors ADRA-UK needs volunteers with other skills. The past few years have seen the rise in popularity of sponsored events which run according to the traditional fund-raising methods. These additional funds can help to raise public awareness as well as boost the total amount of money raised. Once again this year BUC’s Personal Ministries director Pastor David Cox will be promoting the ‘13 Miles for Good’ sponsored run and other events on 20 March, and we are looking for further initiatives from other creative people who are keen to broaden the range of ingathering activities.

The exceptional amount of money raised specifically for the tsunami disaster appeal showed how committed our church members are and there is no doubt that once again members will be making personal financial contributions to the ADRA-UK Annual Appeal. Whatever we do as a Church or individually, either through door-to-door collecting, participating in sponsored events, or giving of our personal resources, let us make this appeal the best ever.

In closing may I say a big thank you to the many volunteers and supporters who helped us collect over £50,000 to support last year’s projects – an increase of more than 7% over the previous year. May God bless you as you assist in the ADRA UK Appeal again this year.

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In early January the editor asked thirty Adventist thought leaders - in Britain and overseas - to attempt an answer to the question ‘Where was God?’ in connection with the tsunami. Most of the responses were published in the last two issues of Missionsex. Here are two ‘late entries’.

Pastor Vontelida: Like every one of us I was also shocked and horrified by what I witnessed through the media. And yet reporters kept saying that the TV images did not capture the sheer enormity of the devastation and deep trauma that the tsunami caused.

As a Christian, I have often struggled, and still do, with the question of suffering, asking where God was when our human perspective in the light of the great controversy between God and Satan.

I have often wondered; if our human suffering is ever present, very near to those caused by man or nature, he was not absent when the tsunami struck? The howling cry of the crowd that might have saved him came back, away with him. The hurricane of the Father never stands back, thorns were crushed into lies and anger carried a spear into his side, thorns were crushed into his bleeding forehead, nails pierced his mangled body as he hung in torturous agony before he expired in the most brutal murder of all time.

The Father never stands back isolated from man’s suffering. In all the测试, he is affected.'

C. O. Watson is a retired president of the Afro-Mid East Division and lives in Florida.

Do your ‘Potlucks’ cause food poisoning?

by Elsie Staple, Health Ministries sponsor, SEC

Those were the thoughts of the attendees at the Essential Food Hygiene Course training day, which was held at the Advent Centre. Fourteen persons attended, and the session commenced with a discussion on the definition of Food hygiene – making sure food is safe when storing, preparing, cooking and serving.

Some of the attendees shared their experiences of food poisoning, and attendees were informed of one particular food item from the ‘high risk food’ list. Many were shocked to know that this item could easily cause food poisoning if it was not properly stored after cooking. The food in question was cooked rice.

Do you ever wonder what can be done to alleviate the pain of those suffering with AIDS? Is there anything you can do to help better the lot of impoverished people? Are you ready to do your part for the kingdom of God?

** Wash your hands thoroughly, using warm water and soap after using the toilet and before handling food after handling food after food handling rubbish
** Do not handle food if you are suffering from diarrhoea and/or vomiting
** Do not spit, smoke, eat or chew gum when you are handling food
** Make sure your clothes are clean
** Keep your workplace, especially surfaces and utensils, clean
** Store food at the correct temperature

In a manner totally unforeseen and unanticipated, religion has come to the fore in the modern world. A generation ago students of history were dismissively asked to try to enforce their will. Which is exactly what Adventists have said would try to negotiate between Jews and Arabs with an even hand: Israel must be given priority, the interests of Israel. Forget about attempts to negotiate between Jews and Arabs with an even hand: Israel must be given priority, because of its role as end-time prophecy.

This coupling of religion with a political agenda bears the seeds of ill for the future. How make absolutely clear that any time church and state team up, bad things happen for people of conscience.

The future seems loaded with uncertainty. We can expect that the catastrophic events of 9/11 startled and shook the nation. As leaders of the future are loaded with uncertainty. We can expect that the potential for terrorists to succeed threatens the stability of nations and the world. We must be prepared for the future. How make absolutely clear that any time church and state team up, bad things happen for people of conscience.

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Street Pastors take risks

At Balham the Street Bible led to ‘Street Pastors’. They are predominately lay people who give up their time and go out late at night on the streets of our major cities to offer help and intervene in potentially serious and dangerous situations. At times they are the only people who stand between the police and people involved in often highly charged situations. The Street Pastor team are trusted and known in the community and this gives them credibility between law enforcement teams and the ordinary people out in the late hours of the night.

At times the task of Street Pastors, who go out in groups, is simply to offer words of comfort and advice to a confused and seemingly hopeless people found every night in our major metropolitan cities such as London and Birmingham. Where the opportunity arises people are directed to a church, should they wish to visit. More often, a prayer is what is needed to inspire hope. The concept comes from Kingston, Jamaica.

Because of the dangerous nature of the job, all Street Pastors are trained first, for a number of weeks, before they become fully fledged Street Pastors. Balham held a recent graduation ceremony where eleven Street Pastors graduated. The impressive ceremony was attended by Leroy Logan, chair of the Metropolitan Police Association, and the President of Operations in North Hackney, Leroy is London’s highest ranking African-Caribbean police officer. The Executive of Lambeth Council, and the Director of the inter-denomination Accession Trust Pastor Les Isaac, who pioneered the Street Pastors project, were among the dignitaries at the ceremony. Also in attendance was the newly formed Street Pastors Project.

It was lovely to see those familiar faces supporting the evening and making it a success. It was beautiful to see the children as they chatted away oblivious of the adults, and to hear the laughter from all the tables as everyone made the most of a super evening. Of course, it flew by all too quickly and it was time to next part company and head for home, but not before gifts, hugs and kisses were exchanged and photos taken just to remind us all of the truly wonderful evening.

DAVID NATION

Kids’ Café

On Sunday afternoon 31 October the St Albans church held a Kids’ Café in its Life development centre. Approximately twenty children attended the event, ranging in age from 9 to 13, and the group was supervised and catered for by a team of ten adults and teenagers. Activities included a wide range of games as well as crafts, which were provided by Mrs Carolyn Schulz. Following the recreation the children enjoyed a party meal in the carefully decorated café environment of the centre.

The ‘Kids’ Café’ was more than just a spoiler for Hallowe’en, according to Mrs Maria Suridge who helped to organise the event. ‘We wanted to provide an environment where our kids could feel happy and safe without a church background begin to become a reality,’ she said. ‘I am committed to this ministry, and look forward to its development over the next few years.’

Other Life development events have been run recently in St Albans, including Men’s and Women’s evenings, and more are being planned in the near future.

SPEECH NOTEPAD

Speech Night: Stanborough School

On Thursday 21 October Stanborough Secondary School celebrated the academic and sporting achievements of its pupils during the Speech Night festival.

Headteacher Mr S. Rivers gave the welcome to an audience packed with parents, teachers, pupils and former pupils. For the fifth year running, Stanborough School pupils outperformed pupils nationally and achieved higher marks than local schools of mixed ability, Stanborough pupils achieved GCSEs A to C pass rate of 87% – the highest of any mixed-ability school in Hertfordshire.

60 Glorious Years

On 24 September, Jim and Joan Frost celebrated sixty years of marriage. Happily married to the Lord, in a special celebratory service held at the St Albans church, their son Pastor Jim Frost, who is vice-president (Administration) in the George –Cumberland Conference in the USA, came over specially for the occasion and organised the biggest family gathering since before the children left home. As the loving couple renewed their wedding vows, the church was filled with extended family and well-wishers, who followed them on to a reception in a lounge overlooking the Broad itself. After the celebrations the couple were whisked off by their family to a manor house in Cornwall where they were treated to a night in the bridal suite.

Joan first caught Jim’s eye in September 1942 at Upper Holloway Baptist Church, which Jim was acting as an usher with his friend Andrew Farting. After an amusement-filled wedding, following their marriage, their courtship developed, despite their being busy and separated by a number of miles, Joan having moved from the Granose factory to nursing near Bramette, and Jim working as a conscientious objector-nurseryman growing tomatoes in Waltham Cross. They were eventually married one Sunday by Pastor W. W. Armstrong at the Walthamstow Adventist church.

During their married life the couple have worked closely together in the Adventist ministry, and as lay evangelists in many places. Jim has become well known for his programmes about archaeology and the Bible, and guided tours of the British Museum. ‘We’ve often felt that in our work and in our evangelism the Lord has been leading us,’ Jim says. ‘Everything seemed to work out as we operated businesses to pay for the evangelistic programmes.’

Today they live happily in very active retirement, Joan supporting ADRA with her knitting, and Jim preaching regularly around East years of service, owing to illness. A tribute was also given to Mrs K. Best, receptionist, who retired this year.

Mrs Jacqui West, a parent and member of the PTA, was awarded the PTA Cup for her invaluable service to the association. The cup was presented by Mrs Lesley Deane, president of the PTA.

Tottenham: fifteen baptised

There was great rejoicing at Tottenham West Green Road church on Sabbath 9 October, the final day of the evangelistic campaign, www.it’s time.com, as fifteen souls were baptised. Their families and friends came to witness this special event and the church hall was full to capacity. However, one man missed out as the baptism was shown live on the screen in the sanctuary upstairs.

An emotional presentation was made to Mrs K. Best, receptionist, who retired after over twenty-five years of service, owing to illness. A tribute was also given to Mrs K. Best, receptionist, who retired this year.

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A dead man checks out of a guarded grave. A village child’s lunch feeds over 5,000 hungry people. The visually impaired yet 2020 vision – without a trip to Specsavers or Boots! And much more besides. Miracles: they happened back in Bible days, but more are in store for God’s work in these times. Like Lights Across London – the South England Conference’s exciting church growth initiative to raise up twenty new churches in the Greater London area. It’s all part of a wonderful evangelistic MIRACLE which we’re expecting to happen, just around the corner. And, what’s more, members of the British Advent family can all be part of it.

Why London? Months ago the General Conference took a decision to sponsor intensive church planting work in certain strategic urban zones around the world. The Trans-European Division selected London as the urban centre within its territory where this initiative would happen. Lights Across London is the name given to this unprecedented church planting programme for England’s famed capital city. The official launch date of this programme, as well as for other such projects around the world, is 9 July of this year, during the General Conference Session.

Unreached
Central to the launching of new churches is obviously the preliminary task of sharing the Gospel. But more than this must be claimed for Lights Across London. Although we’re living in the Information Age, many people have absolutely no information about where hope can be found. Hence, Lights Across London will establish communities of hope, faith and love that will be accessible to those whose lives are devoid of such advantages. But yet more than this must be claimed for Lights Across London. As a pebble dropped in a pond sends ripples far and wide, so in coming years the effects of Lights Across London will positively impact areas far beyond metropolitan London. And if yet higher claims than these are to be made, Mrs White must have the final say: ‘The light radiating from London should beam forth in clear, distinct rays to regions beyond.’ (Evangelism, p. 415, emphasis added.)

Targetting the secular
In many ways Lights Across London will be utilising tools, principles, and approaches provided by the widely celebrated LIFEdevelopment initiative. By such means, many secular and postmodern people will be led to Christ. The two initiatives are not in conflict; rather, they complement each other.

Targetting non-Christians
Under the Lights Across London programme churches have been planned that will (a) appeal to Hindus, (b) folk from an Islamic orientation, (c) the white population – inasmuch as currently less than 2% of the membership of the Adventist Church in London is comprised of individuals from a similar background to the city’s majority people group. These communities are only mentioned here as examples, given that additional churches are also envisaged. What should be noted, however, is that in the final analysis Lights Across London will be planting churches that will prove impactful among ordinary, rank-and-file Londoners.

Three special Sabbaths
So, the vision is to raise up twenty new churches in order to reach the millions of lost people in London. A bold and exciting vision such as this comes at a sizeable cost – multiple thousands of pounds is required. As part of the funding arrangements for global church planting, the General Conference designated three Sabbaths on which a special world-wide offering is to be collected. One of the dates has already passed; the other two are 9 APRIL and 9 JULY of this year. ALL churches have been encouraged both to promote and give generously to this major evangelistic project.

In relation to the two forthcoming offering appeals, Dr Bertil Wiklander, Pastor Cecil Perry, and Pastor Don McFarlane join me in kindly requesting as big-hearted and open-handed a response as possible from the BUC family. Additionally, your prayers are also requested for the success of this bold mission venture. Thank you for what has already been contributed. As mentioned in the opening paragraph, through your financial support and prayers, all can be a part of the evangelistic miracle that Lights Across London is destined to become.

The language of ‘miracles’ wasn’t intended to be the preserve of so-called faith healers or persons of dubious repute. If anything, it’s a language that’s more appropriate for Adventists on the cutting edge of evangelism! Reread the book of Acts; the church presented there was one extended miracle from start to finish. Despite the passing of many centuries, God is far from being finished with the miracle business – as Lights Across London is about to prove.
Four baptised at Lewisham

Heaven rejoiced with Lewisham church on 17 July as four souls stood firm for Christ in baptism on Sabbath afternoon. Family, friends and church members gathered to celebrate and sing songs of praise as these candidates made a public declaration of their faith and tied their lives to God.

Pastor Ellis Guthrie reassured the candidates that even when situations are desperate Christ will not abandon us. Candidates were continually reassured of God’s protection and ownership, and his promised provision for his people. Encouragement was given to all present, to think on God and dig deeply into his Word.

Finally, all were inspired to look forward to a future where God’s family will dwell together in peace; totally reunited in heaven. The baptismal candidates were Audrea Utter, Josephine Bibby, Julia Hunter-Yuang and Lourina Edwards. May God’s family continue to increase!

West Country news

On 9 October Area 1 had a day of fellowship at Goldway Mansion, Paignton. It was one of the best attended days of fellowship, and we were happy to see many of our Cornish members. Our speaker was Pastor Bob Rodd and he exceeded our expectations. For the first time the Area 1 members heard our new group called ‘Musicalie’ give us a few special items with their Bell Plates.

The group was started in Torquay church. The youngest member is probably not much older than 10 years old javi and 8-year-old Selina approached the elders of the church to ask if they could be baptised.

Another evidence of the Holy Spirit’s work was when Len, who had attended Friends’ Haven Jesus our Friend, during September 2003, returned for this series and on the morning bright though his wife Silvia, son Gavin and daughter-in-law Flawon (pictured above). That weekend we not only enjoyed spiritual blessing together but celebrated Lem’s birthday and Lem and Silvia’s 39th wedding anniversary in every company of our growing church family.

Leon’s award

The Stoke Newington church members would like to congratulate Leon Johnson, picture here, on obtaining a mayoral award certificate in recognition of his high academic achievement. Every school in the London borough where Leon lives was asked to nominate two pupils from their schools who did outstandingly well in the last school year, to receive awards in various categories from the mayor.

Ten-year-old Leon has been attending our church since he was four, and was baptised last summer. He was presented with his award at a special award ceremony in front of a very large audience of headteachers, school governors, parents and senior management from his local authority.

Church packed but only two Adventists

The Ipswich church was full to bursting point for a superb musical outreach programme. About 150 contacts, friends and members filled the building to overflowing to hear a Gospel concert in which the musicians responded to the programme title ‘Why We Sing’. With members giving seating priority to our guests, the sanctuary was soon completely filled with only two of the seats occupied by Adventists. The foyer was packed with extra chairs and it was standing room only upstairs as church members tried to find space to enjoy the concert. The occasion was the Gospel concert by the Advent Singers and friends on Saturday night 16 October.

The Advent Singers were supported in the concert by ‘Sisters in Christ’, a trio made up of Natalie, Gwen and Tricia, and also soloist Nicky Saunders. A combination of traditional and contemporary music and personal witness really moved the listeners. The response was so positive and the excitement so genuine that at the close it took three encores before the musicians were allowed to leave the platform.

The Advent Singers, made up of people from around the globe, all worship at the Adventist Church in Ipswich. There has been a church choir for around twenty-five years with different leaders and members over the time, which has enhanced the worship experience in the services, but this was the first concert. Over the years they have received numerous invitations to sing in community civic celebrations, public concerts, shopping centres and even on a boat where, to raise money for charity, they sang to people lining the quayside.

Meticulously planned, prepared and executed by Tricia Evely, our choir leader, Nicky Saunders, our associate choir leader, soloist and accompanist Angela Gitis, chair members and Paul King, our technician, the whole programme went brilliantly and was a tribute to the huge amount of time and effort everyone put into it.

The artists sang their hearts out, in praise and worship not forgetting God who had answered all prayers out, in praise and worship to their Lord. The day concluded with a video clip about the inauguration of the , Broadening Network (3ABN) in the Philippines, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, president of the Philippines, greeted the congregation with ‘Happy Sabbath evening to all of you.’ She continued, ‘Through your programmes on health, education, community services, science/technology, family counselling and Christian ministry, you offer Filipinos what we need most, a healthy mind in a healthy body anchored on faith in God.’
mural group with a male chorus, a mixed choir and an instrumental ensemble. They presented a canta-canta at Newcastle, and have performed at the Filipino International Church in London, in Middlesbrough, South Shields and Witton Le Wear during a north-east England fellowship in September. Special needs incident to growth and movement also allowed the associations to organise formally and draw up by-laws, which were ratified on 28 August in a general membership and subsequently endorsed by the Newcastle church leadership on 3 October. An interim set of of- ficers was designated to serve till the first annual general meeting and election of officers in January 2005. On 13 November LIFELINE was consecrated for service through a dedicated prayer offered by Pastor Ron V Edwards, the north-east England senior pastor.

Baptism in Preston

On Sabbath 23 November friends and family gathered to witness the baptism of Vinicia Rebecca Dyer, affectionately known as ‘Betty’. Betty, a mother of five, was born in Montserrat and has been living in Preston for the past seven years. On many occasions, Betty turned down the invitation to attend church meetings.

\[\text{Hannah’s baptism} \]

On Sabbath 4 December Hannah Patrick was baptised by Pastor Desmond Rafferty, assisted by Hannah’s father, David. Friends and family celebrated this joyful occasion in the beautiful sanctuary of the Bamsley Baptist church. Hannah has been raised in an Adventist family and is very musical. Her favourite instrument is the saxophone, which she enjoys playing in special services. She also sings in the Bamsley church choir. Deciding that she want- ed to be baptised at some point in the future, it was Pastor Ron V Edwards who encouraged her to make her commitment to Christ. Bible studies within the family followed. Hannah is planning to start university later this year.

During the uplifting and encouraging service, Pastor Rafferty counselled Hannah and all of us to be strong for Jesus.

\[\text{Weekend: Inreach/outreach} \]

Between 11 and 25 September the Wolverhampton Wednesfield church held an inreach/outreach evangelis- tic campaign. There were times for seminars on practical topics and eye-opening messages on signs of the times. Special items showcased local musical talent, and members from sister churches Bilston and Pendeford participated.

The speaker was Pastor Allen of the Western Union church, whose presentations were entitled ‘Victory in Jesus’. Wednesfield is a relatively new church with a membership of 118. A few minutes’ walk from Wednesfield town centre.

\[\text{Weekend: Inreach/outreach} \]

On Sabbath 10 December Aiden Dacosta, a 26-year-old man who was diagnosed with bowel cancer last month, was baptised by Pastor Ron V Edwards. Aiden was brought up to the church by his grandmother, Maxine Dacosta, and his mother, also called Maxine. Aiden had spent time in hospital and was finding it difficult to come to church. Pastor Rafferty assured Aiden that he would be there for him. Aiden was comforted by Pastor Edwards and his parents.

\[\text{Eileen Lenton} \]

On 13 November, the Newcastle church leadership ratified on 28 August in a general assembly to organise formally and draw up by-laws, which were ratified on 28 August in a general membership and subsequently endorsed by the Newcastle church leadership on 3 October. An interim set of officers was designated to serve till the first annual general meeting and election of officers in January 2005. On 13 November LIFELINE was consecrated for service through a dedicated prayer offered by Pastor Ron V Edwards, the north-east England senior pastor.

\[\text{Crisis team training} \]

A training workshop was organised by SEC’s Communication department in conjunction with the BUC on 11 January at the Middlesbrough Centre. The purpose was to provide training in crisis manage- ment for the official spokespeople of the Adventist Church in South England. Co-organisers were Chris Doggett and Matthew Talks from The Media Suite.

\[\text{A good year for Enfield} \]

Pastor Roy Chiholtm baptised five people at Enfield church on 16 October. Three members of one family were baptised: mother Maexne Daocto and her two sons Simon, 15, and Alexis, 13. Watching was Patsby Patricia Powell who was baptised two years ago.

\[\text{Communication Sekretaries} \]

Invisibility in news items and news coverage on the television has an associated great deal of space normally reserved for coveraging church events. There is an immense backlog of church news. Please be patient, and as much as possible, practice brevity in reporting. Thanks for your understanding and co-operation.

\[\text{Editor} \]

Acknowledgement

The editor acknowledges the Adventist Discovery Centre thanks with a donation of £100 received in January from the Watford area.

\[\text{Congratulations to Wendy Dennis-Gordon for her MA in the University College London (2002-2004), in Social and Historical Sciences MA, University College London.} \]

\[\text{COMMUNICATE} \]

13

NewsAge
Messenger was a makeshift First World War army hut in 1910 a young girl of 9, Florence Norris, employed at the then recently-established Minchin, Jean Buzenet. By no means the least of new location after the dislocation of World War II were collectively the greatly beloved teachers S Pastor Ernest and Mrs Gwendoline Marter<br><br>When, with his wife and two young sons, husband Ernest, only the two youngest were spiritually present, their marriage of almost seventy years stood, their marriage of almost seventy years was exclusively a theological seminary. Exemplary to several generations of students was its maintenance engineer – no one could have been its builder – no one could have seen him, but exercised a definitive influence on the follow-<br><br>When he served as interim principal at<br><br>In 1968/69 the Marters were back under African<br><br>himself a Londoner. His grandfather was a Londoner by trade, 'turned his back on progress' and<br><br>his days and preserved his ramrod straight silhouette. A daily sight in Binfield in recent years was Ernest, then well into his eighties, passed on top of one of three wooden sheds in Binfield village centre, brandishing a roll of turned felt, one wondered what he was about – sold 'job' money for Kevers, of course!<br><br>In a strange but no doubt providential manner, that short Ethiopian experience yielded Gwen and Ernest a wonderful gift which would crown their united ministry in an unexpected way. Missionaries who serve the Church overseas have a small percentage of their salaries paid into a household account. While they were in Ethiopia the Marters received household allowance. With retirement looming a decade or so away, they needed to think about both their present and also their future dwelling. Back in Binfield Ernest was approached by the village street-<br><br>behind the memorial. A kind of memorial to a re-<br><br>and an energetic one at that! This was Angela, deal more than an education – an angel, no less, and an MTh at Andrews University. Much of his higher education was fuelled by his prowess as a gifted teacher. Even when a very mature lady<br><br>Behind every great man is a good woman, and ‘Mrs Marter’ as Ernest invariably referred to his wife, was indeed a very special person and a great teacher. Even when a very mature lady<br><br>skilled like the Carpenter from Nazareth, their<br><br>their dad’s study. Ernest struggled with that com-<br><br>ly and ‘Mrs Marter’, as Ernest invariably referred to<br><br>the Benetfeld silhouette. A daily sight in Binfield in recent years was Ernest, then well into his eighties, poised fire, Ernest raised several thousand pounds of<br><br>to nudge her husband and hiss ‘Look at that man<br><br>that small 12-year-old would be back with qualifica-<br><br>the Sailor's family in 1911 – then the centre of Southern Rhodesia (now Harare the Zimbabwean) – where Ernest was em-<br><br>keeping an eye on the backs of those lovable young people. After<br><br>and Nancy finally prevailed upon their aged parents to 2010 to join them and occupy a small purpose-built annexe to their Washington home, doing service that was not necessarily demonstrably affectionate, her two boys recall a very caring home influence. Among her own sons Lyndon’s boyhood memories was the presence of his mother sprouting along the road holding on to the saddle of his first two-wheel bicycle until he learned to balance. Both Lyndon and younger brother John parted from their home scene in their teens to follow their educational aspirations and noted their parent’s apparent self-control at that time’s ways. Not until Lyndon and Nancy finally prevailed upon their aged parents in 2010 to join them and occupy a small purpose-built annexe to their Washington home, doing service that was not necessarily demonstrably affected by their ‘silent’ home over many months that they had turned their dear sons over to the care of others, plus the church and community. Lyndon became a noted surgeon, currently at the Washington Adventist Hospital, and John was a Clerk of Works. Thus for three generations America as a Primary School principal. Back at the ‘empty nest’ Gwen channelled her maternal gifts into her teaching ministry and, through that stewardship, the short stone’s throw from Newbold College. Gratitude was the name they gave it – feeling that it was truly a gift from God. Ernest and Gwen had taken a trip to the Ideal Homes Exhibition at London’s Olympia and returned with several ‘self-build’ house plans which they proceeded to turn into a single ‘Marterplan’, incorporating the preferred features of each. Stage by stage as finance became available, the structure grew. The local tradesmen, who offered to contract laying the bricks, pouring concrete and plastering the walls. Ken Hayes offered his serv-<br><br>institutions. Local churches benefited – Bracknell<br><br>When in 1930 Ernest had completed his Bible course at Helderberg College he acquired a great deal more than an education – an angel, no less. poster of the Church in an open-air meeting last year. As a child and later in<br><br>to nudge her husband and hiss ‘Look at that man<br><br>probably modest sum the work was completed. Indeed it is an unique structure, a kind of memorial to a re-<br><br>of children’s garments. The charity Kuyera, the Ethiopian Training College. Although<br><br>in 1910 a young girl of 9, Florence Norris, employed at the then recently-established Minchin, Jean Buzenet. By no means the least of these was the young Bible teacher and College pastorteacher. Ernest W. Marter<br><br>When, with his wife and two young sons, he arrived on the new Newbold campus, Ernest Marter was thought by the hundred of students to be the Londoner, having come from Helderberg College: but he was undoubt-<br><br>Londoner. His grandfather was a Londoner by trade, ‘turned his back on progress’ and<br><br>No doubt being so physically active prolonged his days and preserved his ramrod straight sil-<br><br>pastoral typewriter for scholarly publications (several volumes of his biblical works are currently on the Stanford Press catalogue).<br><br>14
Croydon concert raises £5,000 for tsunami

On Saturday 15 January the Croydon church was packed as people flocked to attend a concert given in order to raise money for the tsunami disaster in South East Asia. ADRA-UK representative Mr David Baldeston gave a stirring presentation about reaching out to those in need. His words were accompanied by a selection of video clips of the work being done by ADRA globally. These video clips were projected on a state of the art big screen in the church. Various musical artists participated in the concert - Ken Burton, the Croydon Adventist Choir, and many others whose talents were impressive and much appreciated. A total of £4,500 was raised at the event, with some £500 still to come, bringing the total to £5,000. The concert organiser, Clive Couttet, a member of the Croydon church, was personally thanked by Mr Baldeston for organising this event and for the major contributions that will help to alleviate the plight of the people in the aftermath of the South East Asia tsunami disaster.

Raafat meets Gordon Brown

On Wednesday 26th January ADRA-UK director Raafat Kamal was one of 120 guests to attend a joint DFID and United Nations Development Programme seminar at Lancaster House in London. The seminar, entitled ‘Words into Action in 2005’, was introduced by the Secretary of State for International Development Mr Hilary Benn, and the keynote speakers were: the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Rt Hon Gordon Brown; the Rwandan Minister of Finance His Excellency Dr Donl Kaberuka; and the Swedish Minister of Finance H E Per Nuder.

The seminar aimed to discuss issues of development finance, debt, and trade, and to focus media and public attention on the actions needed to achieve the Millennium Development Goals set out by the international community. Among the participants were members of the Make Poverty History coalition, www.makepovertyhistory.org, of which ADRA-UK is a founder member, NGO’s, trade unions and faith groups, foreign dignitaries, academia and London-based international media.

During the course of the seminar Raafat Kamal had the opportunity to speak with Gordon Brown, who had recently returned from a four-day fact-finding visit to marginalised communities in Kenya and Tanzania. He also spoke with Hilary Benn and other key people who were present. ‘The meeting was very good,’ said Raafat. ‘We made some useful contacts and it was very good to hear about the efforts that are being made to tackle the issue of world poverty and fair trade. The UK has a long-term goal of allocating 0.7% of its Gross Domestic Product for overseas development, and in the short term we heard that the UK and Swedish finance ministers are allocating large amounts of money for health and education projects, particularly vaccination programmes for children.’

‘Mr Brown has a very good grasp of the global issues involved,’ Raafat continued. ‘On his visit to Africa he got first-hand experience of some of these issues. Among others, he met Nelson Mandela, whose son died of AIDS, and it seems that he is very keen that the UK uses its money and influence to make a real difference in the most disadvantaged parts of the world.'

Last year ADRA-UK received UK government funding of more than 1.8 million pounds. Already this year it has submitted proposals to the Department for International Development totalling 1.6 million pounds.

Newbold’s newly returned tsunami aid worker

by Helen Pearson and Tim Puko

‘Witnessing the aftermath of natural disaster is a grim reminder of just how little human beings have,’ Newbold College student Conrad Vine told about 150 staff, students and friends in the Newbold Church Centre at the first vespers service of the new semester on Friday evening 28th January.

Conrad, a 32-year-old postgraduate Newbold theology student, has nine years of experience of working for ADRA (Adventist Development and Relief Agency) in nine different countries on three continents. The day after the tsunami struck he was asked by ADRA to join the agency’s tsunami-relief effort in Sri Lanka. During January, rather than take his vacation like other students, Vine worked sixteen hours a day in Colombo, co-ordinating and fundraising for various aid programmes. He described for his audiences the scenes of total devastation that he had witnessed. Among destroyed villages and beaches, debris, corpses and organic waste had contaminated the water supply. ADRA led the effort to acquire and use the machines that purified the water for drinking, Vine said. He also helped instruct soldiers on decontaminating corpses so that they could be properly relocated without posing a health threat.

‘As I witnessed the effects of the tidal wave, I realised the futility of our human pretensions, our arrogance, our pride,’ Vine said. ‘When you see a disaster like this, you realise how fragile life is and how strong is the common humanity which transcends the accidents of birth that seem to separate us by culture, religion or ethnicity.’ Conrad advised his fellow students to remember that as they make plans for professional success and fulfilling relationships, it would be wise to ‘make room for God’. On Sunday morning Vine was a guest on Clare Crawford’s religious programme at BBC Radio Berkshire. He talked about his plans to interrupt his postgraduate studies at Newbold to return to Sri Lanka for four months with his pregnant wife, Lusi, and their two-year-old son Peter. BBC Radio Berkshire has plans to keep in touch with him and interview him regularly down the line from Colombo.

We do not have any Conrads.

In our operation who are multi-skilled and can work and provide leadership under a great deal of pressure,’ said ADRA-UK director, Raafat Kamal. ‘These kinds of specialised and talented people are indispensable to such important efforts.'

ABC BOOK SALES

February
7 John Loughborough 10am-2pm
March
6 John Loughborough 10am-2pm
25 Pooleham 10am-2pm
April
4 John Loughborough 10am-2pm

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