On 15 September a special reception marking the twenty-fifth anniversary of the John Loughborough School was held in the House of Commons Pavilion. The event was hosted by Diane Abbott, Labour MP for Hackney North and Stoke Newington, and organised by former John Loughborough student Anthony Roberts.

More than a hundred guests and dignitaries were present as Ms Abbott began proceedings by asking BUC Education director Dr Keith Davidson to open with prayer. She then commented on the general state of education in the United Kingdom and the relatively poor performance of black students, particularly boys. However, she went on to say that the John Loughborough School set different standards and had given black young people the belief that they could do well: "John Loughborough has given us a way of looking at our children in a way that values and respects them," she said.

Ms Abbott praised the many practical steps that the School had taken in order to change the pattern of black education, and highlighted its standards, targets and monitoring. However, the key point for her was belief — belief in the children by the parents, and belief by the children in themselves. "The educational community has a lot to thank the Seventh-day Adventist Church for," she said.

Responding to Ms Abbott's address, Pastor Orville Woolford, the founding head teacher twenty-five years ago, acknowledged the help of many individuals in the success of the school. "As a Church we know the worth of..."
**ADRA-UK Vacancy**

**Executive Director**

**General information**

*Title:* ADRA-UK Executive director

*Function:*

ADRA-UK is a registered Charity, one of the largest ADRA offices in the world.

**Location:**

UK, Overseas

Full-time

Date profile revised: August 2005

**Philosophy of ADRA**

ADRA’s development and relief Agency (ADRA) is an international non-government, non-profit humanitarian agency established in 1964 by the Seventh-day Adventist Church for the purpose of providing disaster relief, health, food, and agriculture assistance. ADRA-UK is an integral part of the ADRA International network of 20 overseas offices.

**Duties and Responsibilities**

1. **Job Summary**
   - Strong networking abilities to liaise with ADRA offices, government offices, embassies, and other agencies.
   - Passionate supporter of the Annual Ingathering Appeal.
   - Loyalty and commitment to work harmoniously with ADRA’s parent body, the Church entities and entities, locally and internationally.
   - Strong organizational skills.
   - Effective communication and comfortable with operating in public.
   - Passionate supporter of the Annual Ingathering Appeal.
   - Lucrative and challenging.
   - Strong networking abilities to liaise with ADRA offices, government offices, embassies, or entities.

2. **Job Description**

   **Overview**
   - **Personnel and administration.**
   - **Executive administration.**
   - **Programmes and operations.**
   - **Humanitarian aid.**
   - **Programme management.**
   - **Fundraising.**
   - **Staffing.**

3. **Additional information**
   - The person will be required to work within the provisions of the Constitution and/or as required by law.
   - All duties listed are subject to change, and may be required to work additional hours in order to carry out the job successfully.
   - ADRA is committed to equal employment opportunities for all individuals. ADRA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, marital status, handicap/disability, or any other characteristic protected by law.

4. **Reporting**
   - The position reports as necessary to the Board of Directors and/or the Chair.

5. **Requirements**
   - College or university degree – preferable.
   - Strong cross-cultural and human interpersonal skills.
   - Strong networking abilities to liaise with ADRA offices, government offices, embassies, or entities.

6. **Closing date**

   **Deadline for receipt of applications is 30 November 2005.**

   **Interviews will be held in December 2005.**

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**Health-wise Watch-dog**

It is said that man’s best friend is a dog, but that friendship is all too often limited to those who would wish. The dog’s question in a highly sophisticated version of Sony’s robot dog Aibo, and the dog is being enlisted in the fight against obesity.

The dog, while not being able to talk, responds in various ways to the dog’s programme. It is important for the dog to be a loyal and patient companion.

In this case such sounds like a short story, and that is exactly what it is. The idea originated from the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston University School of Medicine has also experimented with an animated computer ‘company’ has shown that the programme encouraged people to exercise more. So the concept of a dog associated with a human task seems to have some merit.

It seems that people have to rely on computer images and robots to help them stick to weight management, especially when it is in their own interest. That thought was born when Dr. Richard J. B. Willis, BUC Health Ministries director.

—from the moment the leaves gave way, it was assumed that Katrina would mark another of those disastrous events in American history that would stand alongside the San Francisco Earthquake, Pearl Harbour and 9/11. Katrina caught people and Government unaware and brought them home to us to a truth that we should all live with all day. Mankind and its creations, even the bravest, are vulnerable to sudden destruction.

The fate of New Orleans entered my imagination, perhaps because, in population and in vulnerability to the sea, it is astonishingly similar to the port city which made its way down main street and Boulevard, housing, carrying cars, creating corpses and bursting seams, I was imagining the destruction taking place in even more familiar surroundings.

But New Orleans was only part of the disaster. Katrina’s destruction slotted itself neatly into one of our larger port cities, but the size of the whole of the United States.

The Hope Channel broadcast the Air Katrina Relief Television Special. ‘Thousands of Seven-day Adventists, their churches and institutions are among the millions of people suffering in the Gulf Coast region of the United States following Hurricane Katrina . . . Churches had been wholly or partially demolished. Basic Memorial Yosemite in Mississippi had suffered severe damage.

In the Katrina confusion in New Orleans a woman was seen carrying her baby who has been covered. At a street corner her body was covered by tarpaulin. Not her friends, her grieving husband, nor her mother, no one. She persuaded the authorities to take her corpse away. Reported the Independent. The body was left to decompose through the heat of five September.

Katrina . . . ’1

The need is not so much for a watch-dog, but that friendship is all too often limited to those who would wish. The dog’s question in a highly sophisticated version of Sony’s robot dog Aibo, and the dog is being enlisted in the fight against obesity.
On Sabbath 6 August the Pavilion of Hope, Birmingham’s annual evangelistic programme, began in a large tent in the middle of Summerfield Park, located in the Ladywood area of Birmingham. The main speaker for the 25-night series was Dr Ivan Warden, Associate director of the Ellen G. White Estate in the North American Division, supported by health lecturer Dr Norman Knight from California, and singing evangelist Jerry Herbert, also from America. A small army of local ministers and church members handled all the practical and logistical challenges posed by such a major event.

In addition to the twenty-five evening programmes the 800-foot tent was used each Sabbath morning of the series, and on the opening Sabbath was filled to capacity. Attendance kept up well with some 500 people present for Dr Warden’s presentation on ‘The Sin Vaccine’. Dr Warden and his team used an entertaining and challenging, but also straightforward, approach. The theme song, ‘Step Up to Happiness’, told visitors what they could expect from the series: an improvement of their lives here on earth and an eternity in heaven. Dr Knight gave a no-nonsense talk on drugs, emphasising that in dealing with drug-using family members we can easily contribute to the problem if we are not careful. ‘Tough love is going to be tough on you,’ he said, ‘but it’s got to be tough if it’s going to help your loved one get better.’

For the spiritual message guests were given simple worksheets containing a list of Bible texts. During his presentation Dr Warden worked through these systematically and announced several times that at the end he would be calling people to the front to show their commitment to Jesus Christ. About 100 people, ranging from the grey-haired to young children, made their way to the front where they were welcomed by the team and prayed over.

After the official conclusion of the evening meetings Dr Warden invited his ‘special guests’ to have further Bible studies in a smaller adjacent tent and there was considerable interest.

The tent housing the ‘Pavilion of Hope’ stood out prominently against the green of the park. With its ancillary vehicles, catering equipment, portable toilets and 12 kilowatt generator, it attracted the attention of thousands of people in the local area. Some of these joined the regular attendees, made up mainly of church members and their friends, and it is hoped that the warm welcome they received, along with the shining messages from the front, will have encouraged them to make a life-long commitment to Jesus Christ.
Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service

The London Romanian church

The London Romanian church (URSA) came into existence on 9 April. On 6 August we had our official inauguration service. Over a hundred crowded into All Souls parish church, Harlesden, to witness the event. His Excellency Dr Mihai Delcea, Head of the Consular department of the Romanian Embassy in London, was present for the occasion, as was Pastor D. W. McFarlane, outgoing SEC president. Translations into both English and Romanian were provided when necessary.

Liz and Chris Tudor, veteran members, gave a presentation on the coming of Romanian Adventists to Britain. Pastor McFarlane’s sermon was translated into Romanian by our minister Pastor Nick Butzi. Pastor McFarlane superintended the official organization of the church and Pastor Vladimir Grozea gave the prayer of dedication.

The day was marked by wonderful music from talented soloists Alina Serban, Noemi Cosma, Madalina Tudoran and Lujca Stanciu. What made the day of fellowship complete for the LRSDA was the fellowship lunch around ‘a pot of Romanian food’, a tradition followed since the beginnings of Adventist history in Romania

A new Adventist doctor

Congratulations to Northampton church member Sarah De Vet, who graduated in June from Royal Free & University College Medical School, London, after completing a 4-year course in medicine. She now works as a junior doctor at the Luton and Dunstable Hospital in Bedfordshire. Many thanks for all the prayers and support of the church family, particularly Northampton, Kettering, Grantham, Rugby, Chatham and Riverway churches.

Karen’s baptism

On Sabbath 14 May Leamington church was blessed to witness the baptism of Karen Jameson. Karen started coming to the Leamington Mission in October 2003 and soon became a regular smiling face, helping out in children’s Sabbath school classes and around the church generally. The members of Leamington were delighted to welcome Karen officially on her special day. There to share in the joyous occasion was her husband Richard, their two daughters Alix and Robin, and many friends and family.

Pam and Bill moved to Grantham, Lincolnshire, from Wafford in 1974. Bill set up his own engineering business in the town. Pam had a pen pal in the States with whom she corresponded regularly. Her friend was an Adventist, and through her and the Pastor Curry campaign meetings, Pam became a member of the church!

Eight years after coming to Grantham, Bill, who was beginning to lose much of his sight, was approached by a local social worker with the suggestion that he might be the best person, with his business experience, to organise and set up a Talking Newspaper for the Blind and Partially-sighted in the area.

This was a big decision which Bill and Pam spent some time considering and, more to the point, finding out what a Talking Newspaper actually was! They made the decision to go ahead and were immediately faced with the task of raising £3,600 needed to purchase the recording and high-speed copying equipment recommended by Mike Cowen of the Grantham church, which would be needed to get the project ‘on the air’.

A meeting was called in December 1982 which included a social worker, three young people from the Young Members’ Blind Club, a rehabilitation worker for the blind, Pastor Eric Lowe the Adventist church pastor, David Marshall the Press editor, and Mike Cowen, technical officer.

Eventually a committee was formed with Bill Cross as chairman, Maureen Hammond, secretary, Pam Cross, treasurer, and Mike Cowen, technical officer.

With the help of Pastor Eric Lowe, the young people and some church members, the Talking Newspaper was recorded using a Fun Run over ten miles using wheelchair-barrows with passengers. The £3,300 raised was a real boost, and the Young Members’ Blind Club and the Grantham Rotary Club, among others, made a big contribution.

Now, twenty-three years on, some eighty volunteers are involved, of all faiths and none. Some two hundred tapes are produced each week. Side ‘B’ comprises a magazine of items of interest to our blind friends. A different group produces this each week through the month. When the Grantham Journal comes out at the end of the week, four people read the main events in that newspaper’s own format as a Talking Newspaper.

It was announced by Buckingham Palace on 2 June, that the Grantham and District Talking Newspaper for the Blind would receive the Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service. We are the only group in Lincolnshire and one of only five in the East Midlands to be so honoured this year. All workers must be unpaid volunteers to qualify. Through the years a number of the volunteers have been members of Grantham church. Our present minister, Pastor John Ferguson, has been a regular reader on the news side of the tape.

On 6 September, the Lord-Lieutenant of Lincolnshire, Mrs Bridget Croath-Cleary, representing the Queen, came down from Lincoln to present the Talking Newspaper with a piece of engraved crystal and a certificate signed by Her Majesty. The event was held in the Chairman’s Room of the South Kesteven District Council offices in Grantham. Bill Cross, president, and Bannmore Bell, chairman of the Talking Newspaper, received the Lord-Lieutenant and were presented with the award.

Another present were the High Sheriff of Lincolnshire, the Chairman of Lincolnshire County Council, the Chief Executive of South Kesteven District Council, the Chairman of South Kesteven Council, and the Mayor of Grantham, all with their wives. We had not seen so many people all together wearing chains!

As Adventists we feel that work for the Talking Newspaper is an excellent activity in which we can mix with many hard-working volunteers and, at the same time, provide a much-appreciated service for our blind listeners. The literature hand-outs that are given to interested people make it clear that the Adventist church in Grantham played an important part in setting up the Talking Newspaper twenty-three years ago.

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Patricia’s baptism

Patricia Ford was received into membership at the Stoke Newington Community church, at her own request, on 3 September after attending and being baptised at the Family Life Evangelistic Campaign held at Finsbury Park, conducted by American evangelist Dr Phil Willis. Patricia was received into fellowship by Pastor Richard Dennis and all the elders of the church. The Elder Basílo Corea was especially glad to welcome Patricia as he told us about her growing up in Harrow and knowing her since she was small, and how happy he is that she has decided to join us at Stoke.

Bury St Edmunds church rededication

Sabbath 22 October at 11am.

Pamela Bunyan, a member of the church after being first to request baptism during the campaign.

Memorials

We warmly invite you to join with us and local religious and civic representatives in our service of rededication.

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Manchester Asian church
by Wilfred Masih

On 16 July the Manchester Asian church was officially welcomed into the sisterhood of churches in the North England Conference.

The special event attracted various Christians of Asian origin from other denominations around the UK as well as the regular membership and visiting Adventists. The programme started with a lively song service by Diamond Sathe, and the guest of honour was Pastor E. Francis, president of the NEC. He addressed the congregation during divine service and encouraged everyone to be of good spirit, even in the hard times, because God has a definite purpose for His Church.

Guest speaker was Pastor F. Mapp from Bolton and Pastor Punjai, a visiting Bishop from India.

The afternoon was a real blessing as a special concert of music and praise brought everything into perspective as all the participants gave praise in the various Asian languages. Among the participants for the afternoon of music were: Crystal Masih, John Timothoeus, Asha and Merlin, Pastor Punjai, Elizabeth Masih, Bina Shaner, Brother Mammon, Brother Rex, Amber, Brother Mukshe, Brother Sujan, Pastor Francis and many more. The afternoon was hosted by Wilfred Masih.

‘We must all work together for the church to be a shining light in this area so that more souls may be won for the kingdom of the Lord from Manchester. In particular we have a responsibility to reach out to those especially in the Asian community who need to know the truth about salvation,’ said Pastor D. Masih, the minister of the church.

Also attending were Pastor F. Mapp from Bolton and Pastor Punjai, a visiting Bishop from India.

‘For us now,’ Dr Davidson said, ‘the challenge is to allow John Loughborough to continue to be a leader. Pointing out the relatively poor performance of black students in most schools across London, he said, John Loughborough provides the best deal for our children… but we need a belief that all our children can succeed. John Loughborough should be an inspiration for other black children in our community.’

Other speakers at the event included the current head teacher Dr June Ailes who, while admitting that there were still challenges, condemned those who were negative about the School. ‘The media are saying to our children over and over again that they are at the bottom of the pile… don’t be negative, come and help.’

BUC president Pastor Cecil Perry praised the achievements of the school over the last twenty-five years, and SEC president Pastor Humphrey Walters spoke to the students past and present, saying, ‘John Loughborough School gave you the light and launched you on your way, but the brightest days of the School are ahead.’

JLS Anniversary celebration continued with a Day of Fellowship on 16 September at St Stephens Church, Enfield, and a banquet at Lords Cricket Ground the next day.