Thanks to your great effort in 2006 ADRA-UK was involved with 14 development and 17 relief projects around the world, varying from small to large. During the year we have provided emergency assistance when disasters struck Indonesia, Lebanon, Vietnam, Somalia, the Philippines and other countries. Larger ongoing development projects in Nepal, Sudan, Peru, and new projects in Madagascar and Papua New Guinea, are making a lasting impact in whole communities to alleviate poverty.

To help us continue these and other new projects ADRA-UK is asking you again to help raise funds in 2007.

Without your support we cannot do this work that the church has asked us to do. You can help us in many different ways to raise funds: opt to become a sponsor for a specific project; make a monthly donation by standing order; adopt a project as a church group or family; organise or take part in a sponsored event; and traditionally, donate time to collect door-to-door during our Annual Appeal.

Anytime disasters strike, ADRA will be there to help, but we need your financial support to continue to do this.

The Annual Appeal will start on 31 March and will end on 15 April (22 April in London). The promotional materials have been prepared for printing and projects have been geared up.

The aim of our work is to make a difference to the lives of the poorest people of the world and help them to break the cycle of poverty. This year we are again emphasising that together we can ‘make a difference’.

The 2007 promotional materials will feature the face of a Peruvian little girl. Rosita* is 5 years old and lives with her parents in a community that has benefited from the work ADRA has done in cooperation with the Department for International Development in a remote area of Southern Peru.

Little Rosita tells how her life has improved since ADRA started work in her community, targeting domestic violence and improving the conditions of women and children. She explains, ‘The Community Defenders teach our parents how to behave with us at home. My parents don’t punish me anymore and don’t even shout at me.’ Her parents affirmed that, thanks to ADRA, their lives have changed and Rosita’s father no longer hits his wife as he used to. He has learned new coping skills. This project started as there were no social or counselling services in rural Peru. Community volunteers, called Community Defenders, are trained in counselling and mediation skills and provide free training, mediation, counselling and support in violence-related problems. This helps families in this community in Peru stabilise and slowly break the cycle of domestic violence and poverty in their lives.

ADRA will continue to show our faith in action. Thank you for planning to help ADRA to raise the funds needed to continue to ‘make a difference’!

Information about this and the other projects is available on our website, www.adra.org.uk.

* We have changed the name to protect her identity.

ANNUAL APPEAL
31 March – 15 April
(22 April in London)
Pictures have reached me of Pastor John Arthur’s encounter with Her Majesty the Queen on 21 November. Study the glorious picture on the bottom right page and you will conclude that it was a joyous meeting. Pastor Arthur returned his OBE for his services in Albania, Kosovo and Sarajevo on behalf of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA).

John and Her Majesty

Do you ever feel that the tide of human affairs is running clear contrary to the Cause of Christ? What would the upshot be were you to analyse a typical evening’s TV viewing? Indecency as the spice of life. A world empty of all but anger. The notion that Christ will return to judge and cast all the wicked to the fire is but a basis of the even the best of the science programmes. Are the papers any better? The big screen. The worldwide web?

And how does Christianity fare in the world of ideas? Christianity certainly doesn’t get much support in the daily papers. And when a crusading atheist like Richard Dawkins releases a new diatribe against faith it receives such positive exposure in the media that hundreds of thousands of people are happy to shell out £20 for the hardback edition! Ever heard of The God Delusion? Does being a Christian make you feel impossibly retro?

What’s new?

The Cause of Christ was against the tide of the 60s, too. Then the crusading atheist was Bertrand Russell. A very earlier Christianity was marginalised in the Age of Revolution.

In the Middle Ages, when Christianity was theologically central to European culture, its manifestation was mixed with superstition, distanced from life by formalism, and was the playing of princes.

Was the world of ideas peculiarly receptive to Christianity in the first century of the Christian era? The universality of Greek language and culture, together with Roman roads and Roman order, made possible its rapid spread. ‘The world was ripe for the coming of the Deliverer’, but the realm of ideas could not have been more hostile to the Christian message.

Listen to Paul: ‘The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, . . . Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles.’ (1 Corinthians 1:18-23, NKJV)

That was how it was!

The world was ripe for a Deliverer but the realm of ideas (contemporary wisdom) could not have been more hostile to the Deliverer sent to or called ‘God the Son’ who offered, Christianity, Tom Wright, ‘was, and is, the craziest message anyone could imagine’. In the first century the problem was the crucifixion with the message against. What was that? Check out the sermons reported in the book of Acts. ‘God’s time had come. . . . God had been on earth and been manifest in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. . . .’ It is because of that he is known as Jesus Christ, who has become for us wisdom from God – that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.’ (1 Corinthians 1:22-30.)

Following his temptation, Jesus launched his ministry by entering the Nazareth synagogue on the Sabbath (‘as was his custom’) and reading a passage to demonstrate that he had come to ‘preach good news to the poor’. Thirty years on, Paul had no problems with that. The good news was grounded on ‘Christ and him crucified’ and its benefits were offered freely to ‘whosoever believes in him’. God saved believers; not those who were clever or proud.

Few societies outside of Rome were more vicious and corrupt than that of Corinth. The only evidence of new life, new hope and new love in that society was in the persons of power, influence and proven cleverness, Paul felt that the Christian community could live with that approach.

Why?

God had not only found the standards of the world false – he had turned them upside down. How!

By offering salvation, not to the well-born, the wealthy and the articulate, but to ‘whosoever believes in his Son – who has become for us wisdom . . . righteousness, holiness and redemption. Therefore, as if it, let him who boasts boast in the Lord.’ (v. 30, R.S.V.)

Do you ever feel ‘out on a limb’ as a Christian, or even less than ‘a Christian’, as an Adventist? Remember Who is your Wisdon. On the receiving end of academic argument, do you ever feel ‘at a loss’? Respond by telling your protagonist – calmly and with a smile – what Jesus has done in your life.

When the world is worn out from big words and argumentative schemes, there remains one unsayable argument for Christianity. A living and lovable Christian. A Christian who, through God’s grace, has become gracious. Such a person boasts only in his Lord. Fifty years on, Richard Dawkins will be forgotten, but there will still be millions who will testify, as we do today, to the life-transforming Gospel of Christ. In Jesus there is power.
**Dawkins Reviewed**


The God Delusion is already the publishing success of last year, having sold over 170,000 copies to date and still in wide demand. It is an important but tragic book. Why important? Because Professor Dawkins seeks to underline the fundamental reasons for our existence from a Darwinian viewpoint. The dust cover tells us that he presents a hard-hitting, impassioned rebuff of religion of all types and does so in a lucid, witty and down-to-earth language for which he is renowned. But why tragic? Because he denounces the central truths of Christianity and basing an atheistic stand on fatally sciencistic assumptions is a tragedy.

Professor Dawkins is Simony Professor of the Public Understanding of Science at Oxford University, Fellow of the Royal Society and holder of numerous honours and awards. The God Delusion follows books on evolution, Christianity and science, including The Selfish Gene (1976, 1989), The Extended Phenotype (1982), and The Blind Watchmaker (1986), but goes beyond them in directly facing the religious issues that challenge the evolution theory. It is beautifully written, lucidly argued and accessible to the lay person but is not well-received. It uses rhetoric as much as science. It is more dogma than argument; and even has a feeling of desperation about it.

The book is a question-marking read, for whom The Da Vinci Code throws up a range of issues that need a convincing answer. The author attacks DVC’s (Leigh Feigl’s) implications of the key conspiracy claim that at Nicaea in AD325 the Church ‘upgraded’ Jesus from mortal prophet to Son of God to hide the truth of his marriage to Mary Magdalene. Dan Brown (through Teabing & Robert Langdon) seeks plausibly in history, clarifying the Bible is merely the ‘product of man’, and that the Church Fathers destroyed true records like the Gnostic gospels, which show us the real human Jesus. By contrast, the New Testament gospel narratives are the Church’s ‘cover-up’ conspiracy.

It is a question-mark, The Da Vinci Code (DVC): apologetic first cites New Testament evidence for Jesus divinity, his earthly life, death and resurrection; DVC’s secular contemporary records on early Christianity. Then follows a careful analysis of translation decisions and of the formation of the canonical gospels. DVC, aware that the divine blood-line story demanded reducing the Bible’s status to fit the ‘conspiracy’ theory, cites the prophecy of Daniel 9 on the coming of the Messiah to provide ‘solid reasons to believe the Bible is accurate’. Dan Brown’s novel Da Vinci Code is a ‘sex as religious devotion’ (DVC) and states: ‘the Church cover-up’.

Beyond The Da Vinci Code – Is Christianity ‘The Greatest Cover-up in Human History?’

The Da Vinci Decoded – Is Christianity ‘The Greatest Cover-up in Human History?’

Grenville Kent and Philip Rodisnow (Giga Publishing Company, Victoria, Australia) 2001

Review by Brian Martin *

This book asks at a Quintessential readership for whom The Da Vinci Code throws up a range of issues that need a convincing answer. The author attacks DVC’s (Leigh Feigl’s) implications of the key conspiracy claim that at Nicaea in AD325 the Church ‘upgraded’ Jesus from mortal prophet to Son of God to hide the truth of his marriage to Mary Magdalene. Dan Brown (through Teabing & Robert Langdon) seeks plausibly in history, clarifying the Bible is merely the ‘product of man’, and that the Church Fathers destroyed true records like the Gnostic gospels, which show us the real human Jesus. By contrast, the New Testament gospel narratives are the Church’s ‘cover-up’ conspiracy.

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There is no case to answer; Gnostic gospels are not to be taken as history, and the pivotal claim for Jesus and Mary as lovers is merely part of modern fiction. Moreover, the New Testament gospel narratives, and later literary evidence, make out a case for Mary Magdalene, the ex-prostitute, as an ‘honoured role’ among the believers through the restoration ministry of Jesus. Nonetheless, some excellent research gives us a clear and persuasive answer to the fact/fiction mosaic of Dan Brown. In 120 pages (with the last 10 as References and Further Reading) DVC comes in a user-friendly format of 7 short chapters (supplemented with 6 related features) and 2 Appendices (Daniel 9, and Mary Magdalene). DVC’s ‘be the advocate’ of a ‘Church cover-up’ conspiracy is clearly evident in your face, and genuinely evangelical.

DVC is a ‘Sex as Religious Devotion’ (DVC) by Professor Dawkins. The book is a question-mark, ‘The Da Vinci Code’ (DVC) apologetic first cites New Testament evidence for Jesus divinity, his earthly life, death and resurrection; DVC’s secular contemporary records on early Christianity. Then follows a careful analysis of translation decisions and of the formation of the canonical gospels. DVC, aware that the divine blood-line story demanded reducing the Bible’s status to fit the ‘conspiracy’ theory, cites the prophecy of Daniel 9 on the coming of the Messiah to provide ‘solid reasons to believe the Bible is accurate’. Dan Brown’s novel Da Vinci Code is a ‘sex as religious devotion’ (DVC) and states: ‘the Church cover-up’.

The Forgotten Stewardship

By John E. Warren

On Sabbath 4 November several other Adventists and the writer (an appointed investigator) took the time to stop and reflect on the very real possibility that the Christian, Muslim, political and international development and conservation organisations were present, and the aim was to persuade the UK and other governments to agree to act on climate change.

Most scientists agree that climate change is taking place. The evidence is from diverse fields of research from temperature measurements to changes in forest growth.

The British Trust for Ornithology reports that breeding success for British birds for 2005 and 2006 was very poor. The decline in House Sparrows has been in the news recently and is now known to, in part, cause by bad weather. According to Tim, has started the trend for an earlier spring in the UK, and causing such situations as species nesting within the urban areas, are around, and that the number of baby species.

Farming is also being affected. The 2006 wheat crop was one of the poorest on record, it is so light it will cost by at least two weeks. Animal numbers are still adults as through the winter, increasing pesticide costs. The effects of climate change will be greater in the future.

The UN Environment Programme has published several reports predicting that if nothing changes, the world’s ecosystems will collapse with disastrous consequences for humans.

The UK government has just published the Stern Report, which says that we have years to stop climate change. If not, the world’s economy will suffer and 10% of GDP will be lost by 2050.

The Adventist Church is called ‘the silent church’ on this and other issues, but protecting the environment is a God-given command. Adam was given stewardship over Creation (Genesis 1:28). The Israelites were given several environmental commands (Deuteronomy 22:9, Leviticus 25:11, 12, 18-22, etc). The Stern Report says that doing nothing will result in the destruction of the Earth (introduction of extinction (11:18)).

How can we obey God’s command to protect the environment?

The Adventist Stewardship Department could promote ‘Stewardship’

Church business should be by teleconferencing rather than delegates travelling.

The Church’s Publishing Houses should use only recycled or FSC certified paper.

ADRA should have projects to slow down climate change.

Members could buy hybrid cars as these reduce fuel consumption. Members could install solar panels and wind turbines, which, after five years’ use, both make a profit.

Members could use energy-efficient light bulbs and appliances.

We could turn off appliances when not in use. If all appliances were turned off, the equivalent of one power station’s electricity could be saved in Britain alone.

We could favour conservation charities.

We could purchase Brazu nuts as they can only grow in tropical rainforests.

Bees must be saved. To grow food for a vegan uses one eighth of the land of a meat eater; to produce a day’s food for a vegan uses 10,000 calories, while for a meat eater, 34,000 calories, 1,150 litres of water for a week’s vegetables, and 1,150 litres of water for the sheep produce.

The sheep produce methane during digestion, which significantly adds to global warming. One third of wheat grown is fed to farm animals, which could feed people.

I appeal for the Adventist Church and its members to take immediate action and lobby decision-makers to do the same.

John E. Warren is a deacon and a keen amateur naturalist, environmentalist and a vegan for over fifteen years.

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P+P
Dan-Rev Emphasis
Southern Asian evangelism
A group of four committed laymen have formed an organisation to work among the people of Southern Asia resident in the UK. The Southern Asian Evangelism Foundation, Adventist International Everlasting Gospel Ministry (AIEGM), is led by the Reverend and Lowell Freeman from Manchester; Prem Wilson from Bolton and Matthew Daniel from Lewisham. Last July they started a study group in Watford with six people. That group has grown and today fifteen families and their children attend the study every Saturday evening. As the group requested to learn in their mother tongue AIEGM invited Pastor Memen Meman for three months from the Southern Asia Division. He concentrated on the books of Daniel and Revelation. This was all new information for the group. As the people found the messages interesting they started telling their friends and other doors have been opened in Basildon and Brentford. Calls are now coming in from many people in different parts of the UK and small groups in south London, Croydon, Bishop's Stortford, Hertford and Brentford eagerly wait for us to teach them. Studies are currently happening in the Malaysian, Tamil, Kannada, Telugu, Marathi, Gujarati, Hindi, Punjabi and Urdu languages. It is planned for Pastor Matthew to return to February and, with further visits from Pastor Maywald Jesus in March and Pastor Thomas Anthony, the aim is to expand these study groups. Pastor O. F. Kumaran from Ashford church, The Thrusian Group from Bethel church, the members of the Canterbury church, and others. Ralph also took the opportunity to give details of a large number of the LIFE info magazines at the concert.

Preston: Eleven baptised
Sabbath 16 November proved to be an extra-special day in Preston church. The coldness in the air and the constant showers did not dampen the spirits of the members as they assembled for worship. For the afternoon service, the main hall had been furnished with approximately 300 chairs. A glass fibre pool was situated on the stage, and stage, and family, friends, guests and members from far and wide gathered to witness the baptism of eleven young people. A baptism on this scale had not been witnessed for many years. Pastor John Lascu, past Romanian pastor in Israel, was undertaking his first baptism since his ordination. Amongst the baptismal candidates was his 11-year-old son Dwight. The congregation were filled with emotion as he stepped into the pool with his father. Pastor shared with the audience how he had raised his son to the Lord. As a thank you, they presented his parents with a £50 gift card.

Micklefield – Evangelistic success
The Amazing Truths 2006 outreach campaign, conducted by Indian evangelist Thomas Gill, culminated with the baptism of three candidates at the High Wycombe Micklefield church on 23 September. After Pastor Gill’s first visit to the town in 2005, the Micklefield members unanimously agreed to invite him back, together with his wife and daugther. The result: an explosion of the Gospel in the district!

Tottenham: Eyes on Israel
Sabbath 16 September was a special day at Tottenham church. Pastor John Lascu, a Romanian pastor in Israel, served a spiritual feast to the visiting congregation. He was ably assisted by his brother, Titus luideman from the Romanian church. Pastor Lascu spoke about communicating God’s love to the world. He said communication was not about words, but demonstrating love through action. Worship saw the sick, the feeding the hungry, the naked and visiting those in prison.

Plaistow Prayer Tower
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Journey of Hope

You would be right in thinking the title ‘Journey of Hope’ sounds famil-

iar. As Bristol Lodge Causeway held their weekend retreat at the end of the week of prayer, Pastor Victor Hulbert continued with this theme. Making good use of the electrical equipment provided, he guided us through ‘Real Worship in the Real World’, Galatians 5, the Ice Maiden and the traditions of the Inca tribes. Plenty of food for thought there.

Yasmin and Pete Davies lived up to their ‘baptised’ title this week. Yasmin thanked God for the courage to take the step from one place of safety to another and Pete praised his wife’s courage. Both paid tribute to the church’s much loved organist and30-year member, Pat. Pete said that “the primary reason for consulting the church was the Sunday service, which was lacking for me.”

Re-birth of young and old

packed church and a packed pro-

gramme of praise when the mem-

bers of our mother church, Milton Keynes Central, kindly permitted us the use of their church building for the event.

The last time West Bletchley community church had met under such a circumstance was in February 2005 when we had the baptism of our first community mem-

ber, Peter. It was particu-

larly touching when he paid tribute to Molly. Following his baptism, Peter had knocked on her door with an invitation to church. However, Molly had not intended to attend church the first time she came. She had boarded the bus and before she knew it, she had come off at the stop right outside the Community Centre where we wor-

ship – and has kept coming back ever since! It was a joy to have Molly’s son and daughter-in-law with us for the celebration.

Pastor Patrick Boyle, a former minister of the church, provided the brief but thought-

ful meditation. Having dedicated baby Lillee Sawyer, whose mother Sue (née Bennet) was once one of our Stanborough Park church members, Pastor Boyle reflected that, although only 10 years old, he would often ‘pick up his Bible and read it’.

The baptism was conducted by Pastor Colin Stewart, who was ministering in the area when Molly began attending church.

From the right: Pastor Michael Hamilton, Claire Stewart, Gifford Rhamie, Robert Hines, George Ratn and Steve Palmer (far left) with candidates.

Heaven came down and glory filled the souls of those at the baptism of Molly Morris and Aaron Bayley of the West Bletchley Community church.

Friday evening, 24 November, saw a packed church and a packed pro-

gramme of praise when the mem-

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From the right: Pastor Michael Hamilton, Claire Stewart, Gifford Rhamie, Robert Hines, George Ratn and Steve Palmer (far left) with candidates.
‘Thank you’ Sabbath

The local minister and family for the district of Milton Keynes shared their last Sabbath with the West Bletchley Adventist Church members on Sabbath 25 November, having been called to the role of Youth director for the SEC in August.

It was the vision of Pastor Colin Stewart and a group of core members that caused the setting up of what is now known as the West Bletchley Adventist Community church in December 2003. Since its inception, each community-focused event organised by the church has seen Pastor Stewart involved and befriending young people in the community.

Under his leadership, the church changed its status from a church to a company on Sabbath 19 June 2004. Throughout Pastor Stewart’s ministry he has been ably assisted and supported by his wife Pat, who was happy to serve wherever it was needed most. On their last Sabbath here, the family were presented with an award that will serve as a constant reminder of their time with us.

Our warmest wishes go with Pastor Stewart, Pat and their children Dion and Brandon, with God’s richest blessings.

 Celebration concert at Ystrad Mynach

Celebration concert at Ystrad Mynach by John Surridge

On Saturday evening 25 November more than 100 church members, family members and friends of Pastors Brian Phillips and Richard Vine, gathered at the Ystrad Mynach church, near Caerphilly in South Wales, for a celebration concert. The concert was organised primarily by the members and minister of the church as a tribute to Pastors Phillips and Vine, both of whom retired from their official duties earlier this year. As a mark of their respect for their colleagues, the three administrative officers of the Adventist Church in the United Kingdom and Ireland, Pastor Don McFarlane, Pastor Eric Lowe, and Mr Victor Palmer, together with the current president of the Adventist Church in Wales, Pastor John Surridge, were all present.

Pastor Brian Phillips joined the ministry in 1989, having already had a career as an engineer, he was serving in the Herford, Ystrad Mynach, Rhyl and Colwyn Bay districts before becoming the president of the Adventist Church in Wales in the late 1990s. Brian’s wife Joyce, who comes from a Salvation Army background, has also been very active in the church over the years as a lay preacher and leader. They have been married for 38 years and their daughter Jane currently serves as a lay preacher and administrative secretary in the church.

Pastor Richard Vine, whose Adventist heritage goes back five generations, grew up in the Adventist church. His father and two uncles were ministers. Richard himself began his ministry in 1965 in the Birmingham area but came to Wales in 1972 when he has remained ever since. His ministry has focused in four main districts: Newport, Swansmore, Shrewsbury (within the territory of the Adventist Church in Wales for administrative reasons), and Ystrad Mynach. He has been married to his wife Pam for 39 years and they have three children, Douglas, Daniel and Anna.

The concert was hosted by Brian Watkins, elder of the Ystrad Mynach church and brother-in-law of Pastor Brian Phillips. The Brecon Women’s Institute Conductors, conducted by Peggy Mason, performed the majority of the pieces, which included some modern gospel songs and Christmas carols. Their ‘Sung of the Hebrew Slaves’ went down particularly well. As Peggy Mason pointed out, it was a new venture into more operatic pieces for the choir but, judging from the applause, it won’t be the last.

Barnie Wynne Rees, who has performed at the church before, sang a number of favourites including ‘My Welsh Home’ and ‘If I Can Help Somebody’. Saxophonist Ian Mason, who is a member of the Ystrad Mynach church, performed ‘Mylovery’.

During the interval tributes were paid to the two retiring ministers. Pastor Don McFarlane highlighted the qualities that he had appreciated in Pastor Phillips over the years, particularly his encyclopaedic knowledge of church history. Pastor Eric Lowe, who had shared a room with Pastor Vine when they were at college together, shared some anecdotes from that time and also commended him for his faithful ministry in Wales.

Incoming president of the Adventist Church in Wales, Pastor John Surridge, spoke of his experience with Brian and Richard when he began his ministry in the early 1980s. ‘When I first visited Brian in his home I expected to have a brief conversation and a prayer,’ he said. ‘Three hours later I was still sitting enthralled as he related stories about Wales, the mines, and the church in years gone by.’ Speaking of Richard he said, ‘When I first stayed in his house I was struck by the quiet Christian atmosphere in the home. He and his wife and children were so hospitable and seemed so loving that I decided then and there that if ever I had a family, this was the example that I would try to follow.’

Although officially retired, both Pastors Phillips and Vine are currently continuing to serve the Adventist Church in Wales, preaching regularly and carrying out numerous other duties.

Eight baptised at Coventry Central

Sabbath 18 November was a special occasion for the members and visitors of a packed Coventry Central church. Eight candidates were baptised: Sipho Tshuma, Siphamiswe Tshuma, Sonile Mopu, Mary Ndama, Alusha Mbuya, Sindisise Mkhwanazi, Janet Bula and Hongezile Moyo—all immersed by Pastor Steve Palmer. Most of the candidates came to this commitment through the Coventry district evangelistic campaign which had the theme ‘People need the Lord.’ It was held at Central church between 10-20 and 30 September. Responses came to the nightly call from Pastor Palmer after each of his eighteen inspirational messages. Bible studies were given by Lloyd Lambert, Bible worker for the campaign, Pastor Palmer and church elder Darcy Blake.

Our special guest speaker, Mike Baker, gave a powerful address on the ‘power of love’. Before the candidates were immersed, a favourite scripture passage was read and a stanza from their favourite hymn was sung. Janet Bula had her family members, who are also part of the church singing group ‘Joybells’, to sing her special song, ‘He touched me’.

Four of the candidates were from Zambia and it was Pastor Palmer who encouraged them to become Christians. He also spoke about his own baptism in Zambia and reminded the congregation of how he felt at that time.

On 25 September at 10.30am, the Women’s Ministries Team of the Great Brick Kiln Street church, Wolverhampton, staged the Women’s Ministries Team of the Great Brick Kiln Street church, Wolverhampton, staged the...
The Kettering church was officially organised on Sabbath 18 January 1886 with a membership of seventeen. This important fact was discovered by Dorothy Tangye as she researched the old church records. The current church board felt that this was a date to be remembered and celebrated, and commissioned Dorothy to present a programme to tell a little of the history of the church and combine it with a Christmas Carols service.

The first Adventist church in the UK was established in Kettering, once the site of a Wesleyan church and now the location of a Presbyterian church. The church was originally a preaching place for the Wesleyans, and their founder, John Wesley, would often visit the area to preach to the local people. The church was eventually sold to the Adventists in 1906, and it remains an important landmark in the history of the church in the UK.

Kettering: 1886-2006

by Tony Welch

The Kettering church was officially organised on Sabbath 18 January 1886 with a membership of seventeen. This important fact was discovered by Dorothy Tangye as she researched the old church records. The current church board felt that this was a date to be remembered and celebrated, and commissioned Dorothy to present a programme to tell a little of the history of the church and combine it with a Christmas Carols service.

The first Adventist church in the UK was established in Kettering, once the site of a Wesleyan church and now the location of a Presbyterian church. The church was originally a preaching place for the Wesleyans, and their founder, John Wesley, would often visit the area to preach to the local people. The church was eventually sold to the Adventists in 1906, and it remains an important landmark in the history of the church in the UK.

The programme was funded by the Connect Ghana – Connect Jesus exercise books were donated to ten schools in the Kumasi area by Sylvia Bernard and her team of helpers. Over 300 souls were baptised as a result of the way in which the Holy Spirit worked with the five speakers, Julia Smith (Old Tabo), Pastor Maslin Barnes, Pastor Dorothy Taylor and Pastor Edward. (Bremang), Lucy Acquaye (Sooame) and Pastor Eleazer Ennis-Laffey (Borisum) and their able inter- preters, the district pastors of the local church.

The programme opened up a long-held passion for women to utilise their skills, knowledge and experience, and it has sparked a desire to do more. Many of the programme participants, like the woman in John 4.39, are spreading the news, not only about the programme, but about the remarkable way in which the Lord was able to use them in bringing about something great in his name.
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Death announcement

PASTOR RON SURRIDGE

Freda, daughter of Pastor Frederick Albert Spearing, one-time president of the South England Conference, and sister of ... equipped her well to be a Primary school teacher: her first post in the Brighton area was in West Hove Infants where

MARTYN BENTON

day when our magical Grandma passed away after a long illness. It’s been a while since Gran passed away but it’s given us ... some great friends which were perfect for the time, and the members of the Weston church were very warm and friendly.

AGNES MAY RICHES (1911-2006)
d. 1 October.

TONY WELCH

family wish to express their thanks and appreciation for the many letters of support and sympathy they have received. A significant sum of money was given to the designated charity STOP International (supporting orphans in India).

Joan, Kathryn, Richard and the wider family learned the news that Audrey had passed to her rest on Sunday 5 November. ... before her death she was ever present at church and had a loving smile for everyone despite her increasing pain. She will

AUDREY PATRICIA LEWIS (1937-2006)
d. 5 November.

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FLORENCE TAYLOR (Flo) (1917-2006)
d. 21 June.

without Grandma’s influence and her accom-

Dr Terry rests from his labours and quiet and gentle, the characteristic man of the order that he never once com-

Terry was appointed voluntary Health director for the British Union. In this capacity he was a tireless worker of the Adventist church; he served on the executive and was a con-

florence Taylor (flo) (1917-2006)

21 June. It was a beautiful midsummer’s day and the sun shone brightly as we crossed the fields and walked through the village where Terry had grown up. The service was held in the village church and was attended by many of Terry’s relatives and friends. The service concluded with the singing of “We shall overcome” by the congregation.

Terry was a man of clear speech. He was never speechless. He was strong in his beliefs and always stood up for what he thought was right. He was a loving husband and father, and a dedicated member of the church.

PASTOR TERRY GALLIVAN

SCHOOL TALE (Flo) (1917-2006)

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New Online Resource

Helen Pearson, PRO

A new page of weblinks just launched by the Newbold College library is particularly helpful for students in Biblical Studies, Church History, Systematic Theology and Pastoral Studies.

Hard-pressed Newbold students looking for online help with essays and papers are finding it on the library page of the College’s own website. There students can find immediate access to primary documents, glossaries of specialist terms, help with grammar for biblical language study, and links to online versions of the Bible. An impressive aspect of this resource is that the annotated links give students an indication of the content, scope and usefulness of the sites.

The resource has been created by Tom De Bruin, himself a postgraduate theology student, who has worked with several lecturers in the Department of Theological Studies to ensure that the material there is relevant to classes taught in the Department.

The great advantage of the Internet for theologians, he says, is that it makes research a much easier and more exhaustive process. And, of course, in one sense, they are less expensive. But, through there are a lot of resources for theological studies on the web, they vary in quality. We want to help our students to access good quality material as opposed to the bad or indifferent.

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Calling all health professionals!
The BUC Health Ministries department would like to make contact with all Adventist health professionals. If you currently work as a doctor, nurse, dentist, paramedic, medical student, therapist, alternative therapist, health researcher, or are a retired medical/health professional, interested in forwarding the work of health ministries in the British Isles, please contact: Fay Weeks, Secretary, Ministries Department. British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Stanborough Park, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD25 9JZ. Tel: 01923 695 546. Fax: 01923 893 312, Email: fweeks@adventist.org.uk. Please state your name, position, contact details, (telephone, address, email) and church.

We are developing a database of all health professionals and would like to keep you informed of the health ministries work in the British Isles. We would also like to invite you to participate in some of the opportunities (training, etc) as they arise and contribute (if you wish) to the implementation of the health ministries strategy for the next 5 years.

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