What do these three words ‘water, rice and pens’ have in common? They describe some of the elements that feature in the development projects with which ADRA-UK is involved in 2007. Let me take you on a brief tour of the projects that ADRA-UK is planning for the year ahead.

Water? Mali is the largest country in West Africa and one of the poorest nations in the world. Many do not have access to clean water resources, especially in rural areas. ADRA will work to improve access to safe drinking water, hygiene and sanitation practices for ten villages, benefitting almost 50,000. This will be achieved through drilling and rehabilitating wells and hygiene and sanitation education.

Rice? Madagascar is the world’s fourth biggest island. More than 70% of the Malagasy people live on less than 75 pence a day. With support from the European Commission, ADRA is working in one of the poorest rural areas of the island, helping to reduce poverty through improved rice production. Rice is the staple food in Madagascar and yet at the moment the country can only grow 60% of its own needs. Using new planting methods crops can increase by 400%. This means people not only have enough rice to eat but also surplus rice to sell (thus generating some income).

Pens? Papua New Guinea is a country with good natural resources but over 37% of the population are living below the poverty line. Poverty mostly affects those who live in rural areas. ADRA is working on a project that is already helping 25,600 people to learn to read and write. Most of the participants in this project are women. Reading and writing skills enable them to earn more money and have better health for themselves and for their children. They can participate more effectively in the community and can more successfully influence public authorities on issues that affect their lives.

So you see, three simple words that tell a story about ADRA: water, rice and pens!

Please help us to raise funds for these projects!

Your support in raising funds is of vital importance for our work. ADRA will continue to show faith in action. Thank you for planning to help ADRA to raise the funds needed to work to ‘make a difference’!

For more information:
http://www.adra.org.uk.

‘Thanks to ADRA, my parents don’t beat me anymore.’
Rosita.
Reports from the Chinese community in China in 1984 asserted that Liu Zhenying (aka Yun) had survived for seventy-four days without food or water. The Chinese authorities had not deliberately starved Yun. Yun’s ‘hunger strike’ was a course of action that he had followed in a sustained period in which every retirement of torture available in the Nanyang Prison had been used to make him divest himself of the names of those whom he had worked with him to evangelise China’s Henan Province. It is likely that Yun chose to go on hunger strike to divert the attention of the Public Security Bureau from a course of action that would have destroyed his sanity. He may even have feared that he was close to divulging names.

Is it possible to survive for seventy-four days without food or water? That was the question I asked myself when the fact first reached me. The answer has to be ‘No.’ I assumed, as did many other Christians in the West, that a great Chinese Christian had made a heroic stand for the faith but that an element of exaggeration had crept into the telling of his story.

Escaped from a high-security Zhengzhou Prison and, with another man’s passport, caught a plane from Beijing to Frankfurt. From Germany, Yun, his wife Deling and their two young children continued their involvement in an international Christian ministry. There, too, Yun, with the help of Paul Hattaway, has written and published his story. From 25 January to 7 April 1984 I ate and drank nothing. The testimonies of witnesses (many of them hostile) that this was, in fact, the case oblige me to consider seriously Yun’s response to the claim that this begging belief, ‘With man, yes, impossible. With God all things are possible.’

If the hunger strike was intended as a diversionary tactic to halt the famine, it was not successful. The torture continued. In the end, the conscious of the international interest in Yun’s case, the Chinese authorities permitted his wife, his mother and his sister to come to prison to plead with him to end the hunger strike. This is Deling’s description of what they found:

‘We first saw him, none of us recognised him as Yun. We thought it was some kind of trick by the authorities. I declared, “This is my hus-bond, my brother.”’

Medical science now believes that we have the potential to live to 128 years. God said it first in Genesis 6:3. Lifestyle change programmes like the Adventist Coronary Heart Improvement Project (CHIPS), have proven to add years to your life and life to your years. CHIPS has its launch in the British Isles in March. May we experience good health and the blessings of longevity!"
Ten years on from the Stephen Lawrence murder Autumn House did a reprint of David Collinson’s Encounters with Darkness of which Christian victims of violence tell their stories. How can the Church help in a society increasingly inclined to violence towards Church-member attitudes towards victims of violence have been unhelpful: How can we help our people understand? Teach them to be healers, not hurters?

There are some things that Adventists don’t want to know about. They will read about violence in faraway places against people with strange-sounding names. But many want to shut out all knowledge of violence in their own communities, close to their own church members — and in their own homes.

From time to time information comes our way, instances of child abuse ... people who have abused positions of authority ... little-battering.

But just talk about it, right? “Ignorance and it will go away, right? Right? No! Wrong! Wrong! Wrong!” That attitude is friend to the abuser and permits the culture of abuse to exist and to spread.

Adventist Review adopts an upfront approach to such issues. In its pages sins are called by their right names. It has, for example, addressed the issue of addiction to internet pornography. Oh yes, we have issues that would make the Christian Church blush. In Paul’s day a balance has to be struck between, on the one hand, a stress on forgiveness and grace, and, on the other hand, an emphasis on Christian living. We must be alert to prejudice and violence in our communities. To know what has happened to others enables us to pre-think in our attitude in case it happens to us or to people we know. It is important to grasp that violence, and that prejudice can be practised by the forces of law and order.

The Apostle Paul was one of the most effective evangelists in history. He knew how to proclaim the good news of the Gospel to people of many different cultures. He was able to do this because he was familiar with the values and ideas that were important to the Jews, Christians, Greeks and Romans. If we are going to reach people in our world today, we need to understand what is important to them, what interests them, and how they think. A wise use of TV can help children develop cultural sensitivity and thinking skills and the ability to make wise choices.

Some parents choose not to have a TV, but those who watch television, watch news, stories and cultural events from newspapers, or radio broadcasts, to develop their children’s thinking skills.

In his book David Marshall’s Encounters with Darkness is available through the Adventist Book Centre at £5.95. Drawing the blinds on the violent world will not do. We need help to be healers.

We need our children a balanced media diet to strengthen their character and their faith. A balanced media diet can be very destructive, but here are some helpful ways in which Christian families can constructively manage the TV in their home:

- Only have TV in shared living spaces, not in bedrooms.
- Work with your children to agree how much time they can spend each week watching TV. Help them to plan a balanced schedule of homework, healthy exercise, hobbies, chores and family time.
- Be good role models, being selective about the quality of the programme you watch. Parents can be very destructive, but here are some helpful ways in which Christian families can constructively manage the TV in their home.

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The London Gospel Music Festival

It is really happening. This has never been done before and it’s going to happen this year!

You’ve seen open air music concerts before. There’s Glastonbury, T4 on the Beach, The Prince’s Trust Concert in Hyde Park, the Reading Festival and so many others. In fact, the summer seems to have a host of these events. And they are mostly all the same: a large stage with a booming PA system, lights, bands and thousands of young people enjoying the music and the atmosphere.

Now we’re going to have our own music festival called The London Gospel Music Festival. It will give our young people the opportunity to share their talents and their faith with their peers. Our young people are certainly talented and that’s a shame to have all this talent locked up. This festival will give them an opportunity to sing of their faith and to play to their peers. They can try, they can witness and share their faith, and it’s in the sharing of their faith that’s so crucial to this event. It is not just a free concert, it is an evangelism. We want other young people to come and see what we have been experiencing and then come together and worship our God. We are going to give young people an idea as to the difference that God can make in their life and the opportunity to sign up to participate.

This festival is being held in a gospel music festival and we’ve used gospel in the context of ‘good news’ rather than a genre of music. In fact there will be all types of Christian, God-centred music at the festival, all geared towards young people. This is not a church. There will not be a platform, button or offering. This is just praise and worship in the open air from 11am to 8pm.

The festival will be held on the Shootbredon Park in Hackney, London, and it will run from 7-8 June. Put this date in your diary.

Here is how you can participate and contribute to the vision:

- We need at least 500 volunteers to help us manage, witness to and worship with the 5,000 young people who will be there. Volunteers are needed from 6-7 June. Volunteers will be half a day’s work.
- We are looking for talented and dedicated musicians, singers, praise teams and bands who can perform to a high standard and share their faith.
- We are looking for society to help us with PA, lighting, visuals, website, photography, security, First Aid, marketing, video, editing, catering and journalism.
- We are looking for people / organisations / companies to sponsor this event. Whether it is a small donation of £20, £40, or every £1.

However you wish to get involved please contact me. Robert Hines, using my email rhines@secatechristian.org.uk or by phone at the SEC.

Here are some of you who may just wish to attend. That’s fine. We want you there, but please don’t come along, bring your friends. All you have to say is, ‘Come and see’. And the great thing is it won’t embarrass you.

Pray for us as we do something that hasn’t been done before and pray for the lives of those young people who will attend.

Help for the Compton Hospice

On 20 August young people and adults from the Wedsfield church went on a sponsored cycle ride. Max Thompson (head deacon) and Sam Walters (Youth Committee) organised and motivated the participants, encouraging them that their pursuit was for a very worthy cause. In total, they covered a distance of 20 miles from Wolverhampton to Kingswinford, taking the old train line as their cycling route. At the end of the ride, they drew down their towels, in good spirits, they had finally reached their given target. No one was faint and weary along the way, but all reached base knowing that their object had been achieved which was to collect money for the terminally ill cancer patients of the Wolverhampton Compton Hospice.

Consequently, those very young were rewarded for their cycling escapade. On 7 October Ray Colymore, employee from the Compton Hospice, actually attended the school and gave a presentation for the work that the young people had done and the interest they had shown. Certificates of achievement were presented to all participants. They are Dan Maunder, Ellis Thompson, Alex Williams, Cristabel Baker, Kiergan Baker, Hanzel Baker, Sam Walters and Max Thompson. In total £440 was collected and presented to the hospice.

Pastor Richard Jackson, the serving pastor, was present on the day in order to thank Mr Colymore for attending. As the representative of the church, Pastor Richard Jackson was happy that Wedsfield church could help the hospice.

Mr Colymore gave an emotional response by confirming that without the help of such volunteers, that is to say people working with a willing heart, the hospice as a corporate body would certainly struggle. He concluded that Compton Hospice is doing a great job for all terminally ill cancer sufferers and solicited the continued prayers of the church.

Thank God for young people and willing volunteers.

A special celebration was held at Newbold School on Wednesday 24 January when ages 5 and 6 were excited at having such a variety of stories to listen to. The head teacher, Elaine Emmerson, was presented to all participants. They are Dan Majaducan, Ellis Thompson, Grant Cummings, Alex Williams, Cristabel Baker, Kiergan Baker, Hanzel Baker, Sam Walters and Max Thompson. In total £440 was collected and presented to the Wolverhampton Compton Hospice.

At a subsequent service, Ruth Farrer who took funds to the Chesau Old People’s Home, was able to report by means of pictures the tremendous help the £5,000 has been to that home. Already it is paying the salary of a full-time nurse and has built and equipped a new kitchen and bought a second-hand car in good condition to replace the twenty-year-old Lada car. Also all the residents and staff were adopted by members of the Compton congregation who gave money to Ruth to take to Romania to buy Christmas presents for them. The expressions of joy and thanks from the staff of the hospital and from the staff and residents of the home were more than enough reward to the Crieff church.

In Memory of Elaine

Elaine Emmerson (née Bunker) was born on 21 July 1941 to Glen and Eileen, members of the Plymouth church. A product herself of the Adventist education system, Elaine attended Fleetwood School in her early years, and later, Newbold School. During her nurse’s training in Walford, Elaine attended lectures given by the Medical Registrar, Dr Ronald W. Emmerson. There Ron and Elaine cemented a friendship that had ‘budded’ in their earlier years, and they were married on 1 January 1963. There was a very loving and close partnership and they were blessed with two children, Judy and David, both of whom attended Newbold School.

Elaine’s life was lived for others; she always demonstrated love in action in the practical care she gave. To those around her, expressing her greatest love in caring for Judy when she became so seriously ill, and when it was through a deep trust that Elaine and Ron were able to survive the loss of their beloved daughter. David describes Elaine as ‘the perfect mother who devoted her life to her family, and gave time, encouragement and love from the day she was born until her very last day’.

Friends from far and wide gathered at Newbold School on 12 October to bid Elaine farewell. Tributes of love and affection, as well as donations, poured to the family and to the school from all parts of the globe, leaving tangible evidence of Elaine’s life and character. The school expresses its love and sympathy to Ron, to David and Anne, and to the grandchildren. Sarah and James, together with the wider circle of family and friends who knew and loved Elaine so much, it was in the spirit of Elaine’s life that such kindness to the school has been shown, and the children and staff of the school express their deep gratitude for this wonderful gift.

The generosity of Crieff

One of the most exciting and emotional services took place at South Africa’s in the Crieff church a few weeks ago. Through a telephone link-up, the church pastor, Lyn Hurlow, was able to attend the worship service at the church in thex during the worship service by Lynn Hurlow who is the wife of Dr Hurlow, through the use of a telephone link-up. Pictures were shown on the screen of standing babies and children who are now being fed, a pathetic little house that has been renovated for a boy of 13 who looks after his two younger siblings so they can live in more comfort and warmth. The money donated has also helped to pay the salaries of extra staff. After seeing and hearing of the work of the hospital and extra work being done by the church gift there were not many dry eyes, and everyone felt it was worthwhile stepping in faith to adopt such a worthy project and especially considering how well off they are. The sermon on the following Sunday was delivered by the Rev. Mr Farrer who took funds to the Chesaui Old People’s Home, was able to report by means of pictures the tremendous help the £5,000 has been to that home. Already it is paying the salary of a full-time nurse and has built and equipped a new kitchen and bought a second-hand car in good condition to replace the twenty-year-old Lada car. Also all the residents and staff were adopted by members of the Compton congregation who gave money to Ruth to take to Romania to buy Christmas presents.

Death announcement

It is with sorrow that we announce the death of Pastor Thesni du Buisson. Pastor and Mrs du Buisson passed the Wahr/Voors a very difficult time prior to their retirement in 2006. However, in July 2006, Pastor du Buisson was killed in a road accident on 2 February. Mrs du Buisson is still in hospital with multi-

The principal of the Adventist Discovery Centre (WDP) acknowledges with sincere thanks a donation of £300 received in January.
Jesus Is The Answer

This was the title Dr Patrick Herbert chose for the outreach programme which was run in the Long Eaton church from mid-October 2006 to the middle of January 2007. The meetings were held on Sunday mornings and Elder Tony Smith from the Bethel church in Derby ably assisted throughout the series. Each week there were special items, gifts and surprises and a quiz on the previous week’s presentation. The titles and messages for each study were interesting and appreciated by all attending, both visitors and members alike.

Pastor Herbert’s message on the last Sabbath, ‘The Best Thing That Ever Happened To Me,’ was very moving and inspirational. As the service closed he invited all who felt the need for special guidance and prayer to join him at the front of the church.

This was also the last service for Dr Herbert in the Long Eaton district, and we wish him well and God’s blessings in his future ministry in the Lord’s service. At the close of the meeting a fellowship lunch was enjoyed by all.

Happy New You – Baptism

Sharon and Peter Barnes hold the distinction of being the first two people to be baptised in the newly acquired church building at Mandeville Road in Aylesbury. On 6 January, the first Sabbath following the consecration of the building this year, Sharon and Peter demonstrated their commitment to Christ and to the church by being baptised by Pastor David Spearing. Recently married, Sharon and Peter felt that this was an even bigger day than their wedding!

In his introductory remarks Pastor Spearing spoke about the miracle of finding and being able to purchase the church at Mandeville Road last year. He also spoke about how providential it was that this church came with a baptistry already to use. The young people sat gripped as the sermons unfolded. Special features included quizzes and inspirational music either by visiting or home-grown singers. All who attended gained not only a better insight and knowledge of our all-powerful God, but also an understanding of what is expected of us and the part we may play in the experience if we come to Christ and obey His Word. Each night, after his sermon, Nicardo made an altar call. The inspiring messages led many members to a deeper commitment to Christ. Some came to commitment for the first time. Sixteen were baptised.

The divine service on the Sabbath was filled to capacity so that our mothers’ room had to be opened for extra seating to be placed to accommodate the overspill.

Family, friends and church members attended the Sabbath afternoon baptism. A short sermon entitled ‘Be Faithful’ by Nicardo, encouraged the candidates to be open and ready for the blessing that was to be given to each candidate as well as the usual baptismal packages.

Marketing success at ABC

Your Adventist Book Centre team: (l to r) Ian Clutton, Barry Mallinson, Keith Mosedale (Manager), Alison Jeens and Graham Cox.

The ABC has enjoyed considerable marketing success with David Collinson’s Miracles Happen: A Guide to Healing the New Testament Way. It has had rave reviews in the Christian press, including The Methodist Recorder. Most recently Professor J. Howard Marshall, Professor of New Testament at the University of Aberdeen, emailed his namesake, the Stanborough Press editor, to say, ‘This is the most attractively produced and simply presented survey of what the New Testament has to say about healing that I have ever encountered.’

If you would like to buy a copy, telephone the ABC credit card hotline on 01476 539900.

Falling in love with Jesus

minister Pastor Mazid Holness. The baptised candidates were Shirley Maxwell, who joins the West Green road church; Adrian Lee and Anthony Allen joined the Edmonton church.

Thirty new members joined the Stoke Newington church: sister and brother Courtney and Joshua Whitby, who join their sister, brother and brother who are already members; brother and sister Kamara and Nayoki Bernard who join their parents. Lamar Smith also joins his parents. Lamar’s cousin Raquel Smith, Monifa Doely joins her parents, older brothers and sisters; mother and daughter Christine Phillips and Caroline Nsibati, who have been attending church for about a year now. Karmal Douglas, who joins his mother and brother who were baptised in September. Diane Brown who joins her mother who is our local treasurer, and Esmer Gustave and Henny Vigo who were baptised as a result of attending the campaign.

Stoke Newington also gains another member, Winston Russell, baptised in the New Life campaign at John Loughborough School last September, and he was received into membership.

Spiritual guardians were allocated to each candidate as well as the usual baptismal packages.

Banbridge baptism

On 3 February Banbridge church saw the baptism of Heather Wells. Heather first became acquainted with the Adventist Church as a child while attending Sabbath services with her grandmother Mrs Dinah Mitchell, who was a member of the Portadown church based in West Street at that time.

Heather’s grandmother came into the church in the early 1950s through reading literature sent to her by an Adventist aunt in America. Finally, but the location of the Portadown Adventist church from Mrs Agnes Magee who was inquiring at that time. Mrs Mitchell attend- ed church, had Bible studies and was baptised in 1954 by Pastor William Frazier who was minister in the Portadown area then.

Following the death of Mrs Mitchell in January 2004, Heather’s mother, Mrs Joyce Best, was bap- tised in March 2005 by Pastor Kim Papioannou. One Sabbath Heathter Heathter turned up at church with her sons and sat with her mum. She has faithfully attended ever since, and this was a double celebration for Fiona who also celebrated her birthday on the same day.

Enfield baptism

On 4 April the Lord added two more souls to the Enfield church. Pastor Steve Roberts baptised Fiona Okonkwo and Kelly Msimanga at Edmonton church under the watchful eye of their friends and families. Both women are assured that God loves them, therefore all heaven is rejoicing over these two souls. It was a double celebration for Fiona who also celebrated her birthday on the same day.

NEC Pathfinders: Lots happening

NEC Pathfinders hit the ground running at the beginning of 2007. On 14 January we had the largest attendance at our Annual General Meeting held at Derby Bethel church, with 85 club directors and staff present to receive pro- fessional updates and training. On 21 and 28 January we ran the Basic Staff Training at both Huddersfield church and Harper Bell School for 95 candidates. In addition our PLA team also ran this course in their clubs and to date another 40 candidates have completed the course. On 2-4 February we ran both the Pathfinder/KY Level 1 (off-site) School Management courses for 36 and 9 candidates respectively at the International Adventist Centre at Quen Hall, Loughborough. We are now preparing for the beginning of the camping season and our outdoor training programme. We will be out camping on 2-4 March at Beaudesert Park Scouts camp- site, where this year’s programme will include: Master Guide, PLA, Fanning, First Aid, Drilling and Machining and the BEL Award.

We are also preparing for the summer camporees. Adventurer Camporee will be over the weekend of 25-28 May with the theme ‘Hearts Touching Hearts’. Our Pathfinder Camporee will be from Tuesday 29 May to Sunday 3 June with the theme ‘Eagles’ Wings’, and our speaker will be Pastor Jonathan Tejel, Global Pathfinder director.

Baptism

Heather was baptised by Pastor Kim Papioannou who, in his address, invited those present to give their lives to Christ.

The baptism was followed by a fellowship lunch which was enjoyed by all present.

PEC STREVES: NEW NEC Pathfinder director.

F.sharing a love for Jesus, a joyful moment, Pastor Steve Roberts, Fiona Okonkwo and Kelly Msimanga.
Newport church plans for Life Development Centre

Following a weekend of discussions about outreach and evangelism, the Newport Adventist church is planning to develop a LIFE Development Centre during 2007. Initial plans include the creation of a multi-purpose café area within the existing youth hall.

“We plan to hold six Café Evenings, one every two months, annually, as the basis of an ongoing community outreach programme,” says local minister Pastor Jan McKenzie. “These events will be a combination of inter-church and community resources, providing a relaxed environment for informal gatherings. Apart from these events, we will use the Centre to foster our current friendships with the two A4 groups that have been meeting with us for two years, as well as the already established community youth interest, and the frequent gatherings that are drawing more unchurched friends.”

The Newport church has a long history of community involvement and Pastor McKenzie himself has many personal contacts within the community. It is expected that other church members, many of whom work in the medical profession, will use their skills to help run various programmes in the LIFE Development Centre.

Much refurbished and improved over the last few years, this latest development within the Newport church is mostly being funded by a generous donor.

Note that Pastor McKenzie runs his own website and blog at: www.themierichorad.od

The smallest Adventurer club

Jesus said that where two or three are gathered together in his name he would be in the midst of them. We have certainly found this to be true at the Maidenhead church where we have the smallest Adventurer club in the UK – with only two members. However that constitutes 100% of our church’s children in attendance at the club!

On 8 July Daniel Hanna was invested as a Helping Hand with 15 awards to his credit and Michael Hanna was invested as a Sunbeam with 13 awards gained. The investment was conducted by Pastor and Mrs Bernie Holland who had previously pastored at Maidenhead. They reminded the boys of the special gift that God has given them and the children were invested by Pastor John Mackenzie, Pathfinder Area 5-Co-ordinator. The boys took an active part in the service announcing hymns, doing an interactive Scripture reading with Karen Holland, helping out in the sermon and singing a song written by Daniel as part of his Adventurer coursework. The boys expressed their thanks to their church for the support that they have been given and they renewed their pledge – ‘Because Jesus loves me, I will always do my best.’

Holloway Prayer Campaign

‘Living the dream’ was the title of the Week of Prayer campaign held at the Holloway church from 4 to 11 November. Our speaker was our head elder Androy Adonis whose name literally means ‘Double Joy’. Day after day we received powerful yet simple messages focusing on great biblical characters such as Jacob, Joseph, Jabez and Mephibosheth. We received encouragement not to give up on God but to be persistent in our spiritual lives.

An unusual aspect of the week was that Holloway church was open from 10.30am to 5pm every day making it extremely accessible to people from the community who wanted to receive intercessory prayer. It was also possible to send prayer requests by fax or email or ‘call in’ with requests. Health checks and health seminars were also incorporated in the programmes. It was refreshing to see new faces in the congregation every evening.

On the first night we were challenged to be a blessing to others when God fulfils our dreams. We looked at the life of Meshach, Shadrach and Abednego and were encouraged that even though we may be spiritually, emotionally or physically ‘coped’, we still have value. We are still ‘in it’! It was uplifting to hear that even though we may be in difficult situations, we must shake off our disappointments, stamp on them and rise a little higher! Each night concluded with a special prayer focusing on a specific need such as ‘Overcoming an addiction’, ‘Overcoming family and marital problems’ and ‘Praying for a partner’.

The highlight of the week was Wednesday evening when the congregation experienced a special anointing service led by Pastor Sam Davis, Pastor Sam Neves and the elders of Holloway. Over 130 people attended this midweek service and we were blessed with a special item from Praise Choir. We were also blessed to have a full band and a Praise Team leading us into worship every evening.

Holloway Prayer Campaign

Weekend revival

The weekend began on Friday 5 May when the members of the Manchester South church were blessed by the visit of Brutius Habwangabwanga. Originally from Zambia, Brother Habwangabwanga currently lives in Glasgow with his wife and two sons. He informed the congregation that he became an Adventist in 1974 when, while resident in a dormitory, he was approached by an angry man who asked why he was sweeping the floors on Sabbath when he should be in church. Not knowing what the Sabbath was about he decided to stop his work and get to the church to find out.

On Saturday morning, Brother Habwangabwanga reminded the congregation that God protects, trains and supports us just as the eagle does her young. His main text was taken from Deuteronomy 32:11 which was used to illustrate how the mother eagle takes her young on her wings and gets to a great height before allowing them to drop, in order to teach them the skills of flying. She then swoops down and catches them and repeats the whole process until they learn. Brother Habwangabwanga then showed how God would not allow us to crash but would bear us on his wings, just like the eagle.

The afternoon session was filled with more wisdom and insight from Brother Habwangabwanga into the depths of God’s love. He showed how symbols were used to assist in our understanding of God’s love. From this understanding God could then show us his love which would enable fitness and growth to take place in our lives.

Ballinasloe and the New Irish

It is a 40-mile trek from Galway on the West Coast of Ireland to the small town of Ballinasloe, a journey made each Friday evening by Pastor Steve Wilson and his wife Linda.

After catching a flight on a crowded turbo-prop plane from Dublin to Galway, the writer travelled with them as they joined with Galway elder, Tony O’Rourke, in a house full of warmth, worship and hospitality. The sound of the guitar playing and the loud conversation and laughter immediately alerted you to the fact that neither English nor Irish is being spoken here. Jammed into a kitchen converted into an impromptu worship room are up to twenty Brazilians. As much as half the group are non-Adventists but have come to appreciate the warmth of this ‘home from home’. Led by Francesco DaSilva, they all participate in the singing and prayer time.

Tony O’Rourke is delighted. He has lived in Ballinasloe much of his life and has longed for a significant Adventist presence in the town. These ‘New Irish’ are turning his dream into a reality. Francesco’s wife, Gilma, coordinates an interdenominational prayer ministry. The Adventist presence is growing and plans are now under way to move worship from the ‘House church’ into a larger rented hall. The evening progresses with music, prayer and worship. As speaker for the evening, the sermon time turns into an interactive mixture of English and Portuguese focusing on discipleship and the need for the group both to support and encourage themselves and to be a focus of sharing the Good News of Jesus with their Irish neighbours and work colleagues. A closing song and there is time for more conversation and fellowship.

Irish Mission president, Pastor David Neal, is encouraged by new groups like this. He told me that ‘the New Irish’ are lending a fresh impetus to church growth.

This was evidenced the next morning in the Galway church where the special Communication day brought together the Galway and Longford churches. A mixture of language was heard with special music from Ghana as part of the family service. As covering morning, the issues of communication in the twenty-first century, much of the informal discussion focused on how to capitalise on the skills that have come into the church with the ‘united nations’ that now make up the Adventist Church.

Undoubtedly these are churches that have a vision and that will make an impact in the West of Ireland. This was evidenced this last weekend as Pastor Wilson reported that two 14-year-old Irish boys joined their Brazilian friends at the Friday meeting. This is encouraged by new groups like this. He told me that the ‘New Irish’ are lending a fresh impetus to church growth.
Adventist youth excels in Art Exhibition

The fifth floor of the ING Bank located in the City of London buzzed with excitement and anticipation as over 100 people took the opportunity to be the first to view the art exhibits on display. Every available space on the walls had been taken by a variety of paintings and prints suitably framed and ready for the occasion. Karl Adams, an 18-year-old member of the Muswell Hill church, was one of the seventeen contributing artists on the ING CTLC Diploma course at BSIA, a sixth form college in Hackney, East London, whose work had been commissioned by the ING Bank. The Project was entitled ‘Dark River’, which is a translation of an old Celtic word, and the students had to produce work which conveyed the sense and feeling of darkness surrounding the River Thames. To achieve this, the students each had to create a variety of prints plus a painting. The inspiration for their work came from a series of visits to Tower Bridge, Tate Modern and other key landmarks near and around the Thames. Karl was happy to see that his print was used for the front cover of the invitation to the planned exhibition, and was told that it had been chosen as it summed up fully the Project’s theme.

Karl had entered five pieces of work into the exhibition, and he was genuinely surprised and delighted when he arrived at ING Bank on 13 December to hear that his main painting and one small print had been sold even before the exhibition had opened. All the students were encouraged to mingle with the crowd, which included bankers, CEOs and even the president of a bank. Karl had entered five pieces of work into the exhibition, and he was genuinely surprised and delighted when he arrived at ING Bank on 13 December to hear that his main painting and one small print had been sold even before the exhibition had opened. All the students were encouraged to mingle with the crowd, which included bankers, CEOs and even the president of a bank.

 phone of ‘The Rose’, which he dedicated to his ‘lovely wife Elizabeth’. Of excellent hot and cold food there was an elegant service and a lovely time was enjoyed by us all.

SUE INGRAM

Motorbikes for Pakistan and help for Jengre

Christmas is traditionally a time for giving and receiving gifts and members of Stanborough Park church witnessed an unusual exchange during Sabbath School on 30 December. The event was held in response to directions to two missions projects.

One of the projects, Motorbikes for Pakistan, is a TED promotion initiated by BLC president, Pastor D. McFarlane following a visit to that country. Although Pakistan is the largest country in the Division there are only 10,000 Adventists out of a population of over 150 million. Christian missionaries are banned from preaching the Gospel. This means that pastors have to care for several widely scattered churches and few have reliable transport. The project aims to raise £40,000 to provide equipment for a motorbike with casting approximately £500. Pastor McFarlane reports that he is currently half way towards achieving his goal.

Pastor Patrick Boyle, Stanborough Park church’s outgoing Sabbath School superintendent, is very sympathetic towards this project, having been involved in similar projects in other campaigns in Pakistan. He persuaded his committee to take up a special offering for the project which raised the magnificent sum of £1,550.

Another project close to Pastor Boyle’s heart is the Jengre Hospital in Nigeria which he visited in February 2003 while conducting evangelistic meetings in North East Nigeria. The hospital has long-established links with Stanborough Park church as some of its former members, including the late Dr John Hyde, were involved at its foundation stage and for many years it came under the care of the Division office at 20 Alibens when it was known as the Northern Europe and West Africa Division.

An employee Pat Walton was moved by the consideration of Charles London’s photographs of the dilapidated state of the Jengre Hospital buildings brought back after the evangelistic campaign. A fearless fundraiser for good causes, and aware of the historical local links to the hospital, she decided to do the proceeds of one of her regular ‘Pat’s Sales’, amounting to £1,023, towards the cost of replacing the hospital roof.

So, during the last Sabbath School of 2006 Pastor Boyle presented Pat with a cheque to pass on to the TED for the Motorbikes for Pakistan project. Pat, in turn, presented him with £500 towards the cost of replacing hospital roof. The student’s project planning for 2007 was discussed and the phrase ‘Fresh Expressions’ was introduced to the dress code for both men and women. The dress code, plus the timing for Sabbath would be included in a new Handbook at a members meeting on 17 February. At this meeting departmental heads informed the members of their plans for 2007.

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A report on Tottenham’s Officers’ Planning Day

T he pastoral team at Tottenham, keen to see that God’s work be done decently and in order, organised a training day for all new and existing heads of departments on Sunday, 1 January. However, these plans had to be postponed when the president of the SEC called in early January inviting all board members to Stanborough Park church for Leadership Day on 14 January.

Fired up by the presentation by Pastor Balvin Rahnen, Associate Minister (Secretary Under-American Division) at the Leadership Day, the pastoral team set the new date for Sunday 4 February. This time a conference room was booked at the Royal Chase Hotel in Edifield and all the pastors’ and their assistants were invited.

Tottenham’s theme for 2007 was “We are ‘Building the Life of the Church’”. The programme started with a devotional conduct by Pastor Balvin.

We were introduced to the Mission Statement, which read: The mission of Tottenham Seventh-day Adventist Church is to build a community where people experience love, share, care and fellowship with Jesus, each other and the community.

The first elder, Dr. Balvin, gave a presentation on Accountability, Communication, Structure and Transparency. In his presentation he covered the organizational structure of the church by department, general criteria for post holders and their responsibilities, and the protocol for new proposals. This was followed by a presentation on ‘Spiritual Leadership’, by Pastor Keith Davidson. He reminded us that though our task was solemn, it was also humbling. We need to keep our focus on the mission, the big picture. To be equipped to be spiritual head of departments we have to be in relationship with Christ, study the Bible and be empowered by the Holy Spirit.

After lunch we discussed the quality board members should possess. We were reminded of Nolan’s ‘Seven Principles of Public Life’: leadership, accountability, openness, honesty, selflessness, integrity and objectivity.

The prevailing plan for 2007 was discussed and the phrase a paradigm shift as major shift from the present way of thinking was repeated several times. We were reminded that we do not serve a village God. Our Sabbath services and other activities were not about entertain- ing the members, but introducing others to the Master. One paradigm shift was that departments to complement and support the programmes of other departments. Another shift was the timing on Sabbath, which at present was described as ‘very elastic’. A workshop followed and we were introduced to the dress code for both men and women. The dress code, plus the timing for Sabbath would be included in a pack sent to all visiting speakers. Members were informed of the changes at a meeting of the team on 17 February. At this meeting departmental heads informed the members of their plans for 2007.

Before the closing prayer by Patrice Gordon, the pastoral team was thanked for organising such an informative and Spirit-filled day.
Mansel and Doreen: married for 65 years

January was a high achievement month for Mansel and Doreen Jones of the Halifax church. Special mention must go to their thanksgiving day. Mrs. Doreen Jones, who is an important figure in the church. My mother, who is a long-time member of the church, It was a great day for the family. We all enjoyed the day together. I was happy to see all of my relatives and friends. It was a day to remember. There were speeches and the presentation of gifts. Anyone who knows Mansel Jones only is able to say that his Welshness is well-known to all of us. He was always smiling and happy around the church. He is a member of the Welsh language group, and he is well-known for his singing. He is a great singer and his voice is always beautiful. He was a great example to all of us. He is a great man and we are all proud to have him in our church family. We all love him and we are all happy to have him in our lives. He is a great man and we are all proud to have him in our church family. We all love him and we are all happy to have him in our lives.
The John Loughborough Seventh-day Adventist School

Teaching Staff

The governors and headteacher wish to appoint a number of teachers for the Spring Term 2007. The school is a co-educational Seventh-day Adventist Christian Voluntary Aided School for students of all faiths between the ages of 11 and 16. The school’s motto is SPIRITUS, MEMIS, CORPUS indicating that students will be encouraged to aim at the good ideal of spiritual maturity, mental excellence and physical well-being. As an integral part of its mission, the school seeks to be a ‘Leading Edge Institution’ for raising the achievement of all students within the goal of Education Inclusion, irrespective of social, economic, cultural, racial or religious backgrounds.

These posts provide opportunities for ambitious, innovative and enthusiastic Christian teachers and support workers to make their mark by contributing to a dynamic, improving and forward-looking school. The successful candidates should have a track record of success in their subject specialism; commitment to the highest standards of learning and teaching; and must subscribe to the values of the school.

We are seeking to appoint:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Post</th>
<th>Appointment Status</th>
<th>Salary</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food Technology Teacher</td>
<td>Full Time</td>
<td>MPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History/RE Teacher</td>
<td>Full Time</td>
<td>MPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Teacher</td>
<td>Part Time</td>
<td>MPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Teacher</td>
<td>Full Time</td>
<td>MPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Teacher</td>
<td>Full Time</td>
<td>MPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICT Technician</td>
<td>Part Time</td>
<td>NLC 16 – 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Teacher</td>
<td>Part Time</td>
<td>NLC 14 – 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Technician</td>
<td>Full Time</td>
<td>NLC 14 – 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Support Assistant</td>
<td>Full Time</td>
<td>NLC 16 – 21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further details and application forms are available from:

The John Loughborough Seventh-day Adventist School
Holcombbe Road, Tolworth, London KT6 7AD
Headteacher: Dr June Alexis
Telephone: 020 8801 7837, Fax: 020 8801 6719

Closing date: 9 March
Interviews week beginning 19 March

NEWBOLD COLLEGE

AHEAD OF RESIDENCE HALLS

To commence on 1 August 2007

The successful candidate will have:

• A real concern for the general welfare of resident students
• A strong spiritual commitment and willingness to uphold the College ethos
• An ability to work with sensitivity in a multi-cultural community
• A range of good communication skills
• An interest in the practical management of the residence halls

The successful candidate will:

• Provide leadership in the residential department of the College
• Act as an informal support for a small team of colleagues
• Perform a range of administrative activities

Further details may be obtained from the College website www.newbold.ac.uk.

Salary will be according to the denominational scale.

A letter of application together with a current CV and the addresses of two referees should be sent to the Principal by 30 March 2007.

Dr David Penner, Principal
Newbold College
39 Mark’s Road, Birstall, Birstall, Berks, England RG42 4AN
Tel: +44 (0)1344 407 407
Fax: +44 (0)1344 407 404
email: dpenner@newbold.ac.uk

Headteacher for Grianach House School, Galway, Ireland

Required for September 2007

Grianach House School is an independent Christian school owned by the Emerald Foundation (USA) and administered by the Irish Mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Located in the increasingly prosperous city of Galway, on the West coast of Ireland, the school currently has an enrolment of 25 pupils aged between 5-11.

Applications are invited for the post of Head Teacher. The successful applicant should have at least five years teaching experience. The ability to teach the Irish language would be an advantage but not essential. An understanding of, and commitment to the Seventh-day Adventist philosophy of education essential. Salary package in line with British Union Conference determination.

A letter of application together with a current CV and the addresses of two referees should be sent to: Pastor David Neal, President, Irish Mission, 9a Newry Road, Bangor, Co Down, BT19 2HJ
Tel/Fax: 44-28400-28031
david Neal@adventist.ie

NEWBOLD COLLEGE HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT ‘DAY SCHOOL’

Sunday 14 March, 2.30-9.00

Salisbury Hall

The Lord of the Rings and The Chronicles of Narnia

Christianity, Popular Culture and Mythology

Three seminar sessions presented by Newbold Lecturers in English

Peter Galdstone and Rod Rosenquist will discuss questions about the major works of J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis.

Fee for the day: £25; concessions £15, payable on arrival.

The fee includes tuition, handouts, afternoon tea and a light supper.

For registration or an informal enquiry, contact: Dr Rod Rosenquist, Tel: 01444-424742
Email: rossmqsquf@newbold.ac.uk

Closing Date for Registration Friday 9 March

Limited number of places. Please book early.

NEC LETS Day of Fellowship

‘Programme A’

Date: 25-26 July

Venue: Salford University, Manchester

Guest Speaker: Garry Gibbs, from the General Conference, and writer of Winsome Witnessing

Applications are invited for the post of Head People and Lay People, NEC LETS Training Workshop for

‘Programme B’

Date: 15-19 August

Venue: Suffolku University, Manchester

Guest Trainer: Terry Morgan, NEC LETS

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Newbold College Humanities

Department ‘Day School’

Sunday 14 March, 2.30-9.00

Salisbury Hall

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