The 2006-2007 academic year saw the launch of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma course at Stanborough School. The high-level academic content of the IB is rationally balanced with a blend of non-academic activities designed to develop the whole person. The non-academic segment is called CAS: Creativity, Action and Service.

As part of the CAS element, eleven students and three teachers planned a project involving the BESSO orphanage in India from 11 to 25 February. The BESSO orphanage is sponsored by STDP International. In preparation for their part in this, Karen Cho and Neha Patel researched and designed murals suitable for a boys’ dormitory. These designs were taken to India and the team worked together, carefully applying them onto the dormitory walls. The finished product added a sense of warmth and cheerfulness to this much-needed orphan dwelling.

In order to pay for their travel to India, the IB students raised funds by participating in a twenty-four-hour sponsored badminton session, a gospel concert, food sale, carol singing in ASDA, Watford, and Brent Cross shopping centre, London. Substantial funds were raised to supplement their costs.

After eight days of hard work, the building glowed in its pristine perfection in the bright Indian sunshine. On the final Sabbath of the project, the dormitory was dedicated by the newly-appointed Hussar church pastor who was the guest of honour. He encouraged the little children before offering the dedicatory prayer, followed by the cutting of the ribbon. The building was then open to viewing and it did not fail to impress. The spacious five-bedroom accommodation, with en suite bathrooms painted in magnolia and decorated artistically with beautiful murals, was a sight to behold. As a touch of ownership, each Stanborough volunteer left a painted silhouette of their hand on the stairwell wall with their name beside it. It was moving to watch the orphans, in what seemed to be a gesture of appreciation and bonding, touching each hand while reading out the name under it.

So how did the IB students benefit? Firstly, as a requirement for graduation, each student is expected to complete fifty hours in each of the elements of CAS, totalling 150 hours. On completion of the orphanage project, the IB students painted forty-five hours each on average. Secondly, the greater benefit was undoubtedly the feeling of fulfillment in helping disadvantaged fellow humans. This was further amplified by the personal hands-on involvement in the project and time spent bonding with the orphan children. The added bonuses were the lasting memories, the development of an altruistic attitude, the experience of a new culture, the excitement of international travel, working as a team to complete a project, learning self-discipline and the thrill of partnering with a powerful God.

Does CAS fulfill its objectives? The evidence speaks for itself. If you are completing your GCSEs this June and are looking for an option, try IB at Stanborough. If you are a parent, do you remember the text in Ecclesiastes 11:1 which says, ‘Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days.’

For more information on IB contact the registrar at Stanborough School, Stanborough Park, Watford, WD25 9JT, or call 01923 673268/9.
Did the destruction of Jerusalem see off the Sabbath day a symbol of ‘galling religious bondage’ when Jesus began his ministry. By his teaching and his campaign of conspicuous Sabbath healings Jesus liberated the Sabbath. He did so for our benefit. For the benefit of mankind.’

The Chemical
Dr Paula Baillie in her book fuller, more complete. It exists to elevate us to God’s presence and promote our spiritual growth. Jesus told the Pharisees ‘that in their [spiritual] blindness they had mistaken the object of the Sabbath’.

The Sabbath exists to make man’s life richer, more productive, and more prosperous. It exists to make man’s life more enjoyable. It exists to make man’s life more fulfilling. It exists to make man’s life more meaningful. It exists to make man’s life more spiritual. It exists to make man’s life more natural. It exists to make man’s life more healthy.

Upon one Sabbath day, as the Saviour and his disciples met in that room, he said: ‘I will teach you what the Sabbath means.’ He told them that the Sabbath was not a day of rest, but a day of work. He told them that the Sabbath was not a day of worship, but a day of prayer. He told them that the Sabbath was not a day of fasting, but a day of feasting. He told them that the Sabbath was not a day of leisure, but a day of labor. He told them that the Sabbath was not a day of idleness, but a day of industry.

Jesus said: ‘The Sabbath was made for man. It is not a day of rest, but a day of work. It is not a day of worship, but a day of prayer. It is not a day of fasting, but a day of feasting. It is not a day of leisure, but a day of labor. It is not a day of idleness, but a day of industry.’

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**Gwyneth – The Dell’s second centenarian**

The Adventist group and their friends at the Dell care home in Lowestoft enjoyed a remarkable celebration on 11 May, when Gwyneth Mudford reached her 100th birthday. The day was marked by a party at the home organised by the management, and on Sunday the 13th, a group of friends from further afield joined Gwyneth’s daughter Sue Ingram in the Lowestoft church hall for an afternoon to mark the occasion.

Gwyneth (née Johns), who spent her youth in Plymouth and South Wales, is a wonderfully active and alert centenarian who would have approved of it. The special afternoon service spoke about his father and told of how he had been an active lay preacher in the Welsh valleys. Among the anecdotes he shared was that of how the church was split as to whether or not to cancel or postpone the programme. ‘This project came along at just the right moment,’ said Mrs Gallivan, ‘and I’m sure he would have approved of it.’

The special afternoon service included a talk by former Welsh Mission president Dr Brian Phillips, who spoke about the history of the Newport church and the key role it played in the early work of the Adventist Church, both in Wales and further afield. Adventist work first began in Newport in the 1880s through the literature ministry, and the church itself was organised in 1904. A key figure in the establishment of the church was the highly successful evangelist A.F. Babinger, and other famous names associated with the church include W. E. Reid, A. A. Canscallen and A. T. Bird. Terry Gallivan’s name first appeared in Messenger on 26 May 1939, in a report of a Missionary Volunteer Investiture at the Newport church, where he is listed among the ‘friends’, along with six others. Dr Richard Gallivan, son of Terry, spoke about his father and told of how he had been an active lay preacher in the Welsh valleys. Among the anecdotes he recounted was one about a service that he had organised in a disused signal box by a railway line. All went well until a train went by, filling the meeting room with steam and smoke. When he was a student, Terry worked as a window cleaner with Harold Baker, whose family are still in the Newport church, and he later worked on an evangelistic team with George Emm.

On Sabbath 12 May members of the Gallivan family joined visitors from several South Wales churches at the Newport Seventh-day Adventist church for the Dedications of the Gallivan LIFE Development Centre in Newport. Construction of the centre was funded by Mrs Joan Gallivan in honour of her late husband, Terry Gallivan, who attended the church in his youth and had made it clear in his will that he wanted to support some kind of project there. This project came along at just the right time, said Mrs Gallivan, ‘and I’m sure he would have approved of it.’

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Current Mission president John Surridge, and Newport minister Jan McKenzie, spoke about the philosophy of LIFE Development and how the centre will be used in the future. One of the first programmes to be run will be a lecture for the community by health professionals on the subject of breast cancer, and various other lectures as well as social and youth events are planned. The Gallivan family, as well as Mrs Sharon McKenzie, added to the programme with musical items and Mrs Gallivan was presented with a bouquet as a token of thanks from the Mission and the local church. The Gallivan LIFE Development Centre comprises a lecture and social area above a new storage facility within the existing youth hall of the Newport church. The Gallivan LIFE Development Centre comprises a lecture and social area above a new storage facility within the existing youth hall of the Newport church.

On Friday 11 May forty guests gathered to celebrate. Gwyneth arrived on the arms of two very tall gentlemen – Benjamin Ingram and Dennis Porter. The former was a wonderful active and alert centenarian who would have approved of it. The special afternoon service spoke about his father and told of how he had been an active lay preacher in the Welsh valleys. Among the anecdotes he shared was that of how the church was split as to whether or not to cancel or postpone the programme. ‘This project came along at just the right moment,’ said Mrs Gallivan, ‘and I’m sure he would have approved of it.’

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Bournemouth Mother & Toddler Group

On Thursday 5 April the Mother & Toddler Group at Bournemouth church – The Sunshine Club – met to celebrate Easter with a PowerPoint presentation by Pastor Leigh Sherman telling the Easter story. This was followed as usual by the toddlers receiving Easter eggs from the church, together with a little book of the Gospel of John. This year, however, was different. For the first time we invited back former members of the Sunshine Club who now attend school – the Club has been running for almost eight years. We had two regular transporters drop off members who couldn’t come into the church this year.

This year’s event was a delightful and uplifting occasion. The children were well looked after and clearly loved the stories, songs and songsheet, which included a特別的音乐活动。The children’s singing was melodious and varied, and the stories were told with enthusiasm.

The event was a great success and a great encouragement to all those involved.
Stanborough School Teachers’ retreat

School had finished for the week at 1pm on Friday 22 April and the announcement requested that all teachers and staff meet outside the school at 1.45pm in order to make it in time to catch the 5 o’clock ferry. This was the day we had all looked forward to: the first Stanborough School Teachers’ Spiritual Retreat. Two minibus loads of teachers and staff from Stanborough School drove down to Portsmouth, drove onto the car ferry and sailed to the Isle of Wight. We had all been booked in to the Sherwood Court Hotel in Shanklin for the weekend. Our rooms were ready and very welcoming. Before the evening meal, some of us went for a stroll by the beautiful beach and promenade to take in the fresh sea air and scenery. After a hot meal we began the weekend with the first of many inspiring Spirit-filled devotions. Pastor Bobbi was the padre for the weekend. He encouraged us all to trust God and rely wholly on his power in the challenging task of the teacher. We brought in the Sabbath with singing led by Anthea Davis and Natasha Taylor, accompanied by Chudi Ughbornah, Paul Lettman and Raymond Dakas on their musical instruments.

Sabbath began with a glorious sunrise, a hearty breakfast and more spiritual food. The Holy Spirit seemed to be touching the hearts of us all deeply and an awareness of divine peace was binding us with each other and heaven. After the Sabbath lunch we took a six mile walk in the country.

Together the group closed the sacred Sabbath hours and after supper went for an evening walk before continuing the fellowship with games till bedtime. After a good night’s rest, some started Sunday with an early morning walk and then breakfast and a final devotion of prayer and inspiration, sharing what the weekend had meant to each of us. It was a very welcome break from the busy teaching schedule and it had a tonic effect.

Pastor Nester Bruno, the school chaplain, who organised the retreat, blessed us with the announcement that he was going to stay on another year at Stanborough. After bidding farewell to our hosts, we drove to The Needles, had a picnic lunch and headed for home.

KISH PODDAR, assistant head

Welsh Mission Triennial Session
Notice is hereby given that the Triennial Session of the Welsh Mission of Seventh-day Adventists will be held on Sunday 28 October 2007 in the Cardiff Seventh-day Adventist church. Registration will take place in the church from 9.30 to 10.30 am, and delegates must register before participating in the proceedings of the Session. J. Sumpter, President, and K. Pilmore, Secretary/Treasurer